

# City

**S O U R C E**

THE CITIZEN'S SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE CITY OF ASHLAND

## State and Local Laws Govern Growth

*Local-level growth management in Oregon is determined largely by statewide legislation.*



In 1973 the Oregon legislature passed Senate Bill 100, a statewide land use planning law — a landmark piece of legislation. With this law, Oregon set itself apart from other states and began an unprecedented effort to control the impacts of growth in the State. As a result of Senate Bill 100, the legislature established the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC). Since its establishment, the goal of the LCDC has been to ensure that growth and development in Oregon are (See *State and Local Laws Govern Growth*, Page 2)

## Passport Services

The Ashland City Recorder's Office now offers Passport Services every Tuesday from 9 am to 4 pm (Office is closed 12 pm - 1 pm). The City Recorder's Office is located on the first floor of City Hall, 20 East Main Street.

The following items need to be presented when applying for a passport:

Proof of Citizenship — Certified Copy of Birth Certification, a previously issued Passport, or a Certificate of Naturalization.

(See *Passport Services*, Back Page)

## Dog Owners Be Responsible

Dog owners are reminded that the Ashland Municipal Code (AMC) requires that all dogs must be on leashes when out in public spaces and owners must clean up after their dogs.

City Hall has been receiving numerous complaints of dog waste on school playgrounds, sidewalks and walking and hiking paths. Please, CLEAN up after your dog and be considerate of others who also enjoy and respect the outdoors.

Citizens have also expressed dismay at the number of dogs that are tethered either on private or public property and unable to reach shelter or food and water.

Dogs not on private property must always be attended by the responsible party. Dogs may not be tied to any tree, hydrant, railing or other object.

Section 9.16 of the AMC which relates to all dog issues can be viewed on the city's website at [www.ashland.or.us](http://www.ashland.or.us).

(See *Dog Owners Be Responsible*, Back Page)



## State and Local Laws Govern Growth

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managed in a way that protects farmlands and forestlands, ensures “good” urban and rural planning, protects natural resources, and provides opportunities for citizens to be involved in any planning processes. Specifically, the legislation aims to ensure maximum efficiency of land use, to ensure that housing and employment needs are met, and to ensure that growth occurs within urban areas, rather than encroaching on natural areas or farmlands and forestlands.

Based on 19 statewide planning goals, the LCDC established overall rules and regulations for planning. Local governments are required by State law to develop comprehensive plans that reflect

the statewide goals, and to design and administer local land use regulations in compliance with these goals.

### **GOAL 14: Sprawl & Urban Growth Boundaries**

The tool Oregon chose for preventing urban sprawl — called “Goal 14” — was the urban growth boundary (UGB). Each city and county had to establish such a boundary, and any future development could occur only within the UGB. Outside each UGB, farmlands and forestlands are protected. Today, all 240 Oregon cities have UGBs. Cities must provide a 20-year supply of developable lands within the UGB.

Cities may extend their city limits only to the border of the UGB. Therefore the available existing land within the UGB limits potential growth areas for the City

of Ashland. UGBs can only be amended following analyses of growth rates and inventories of vacant land.

Many cities changed their zoning ordinances to remove zoning obstacles for smaller lots, smaller houses, attached homes and new housing types. These changes meant more homes could be built on the same amount of land, which previously had accommodated fewer homes. Urban infill, higher housing density, and more compact cities are all a result of the UGB requirement. Because the urban containment strategy of SB100 has been effective, growth is filling in neighborhoods, not sprawling across distant farmland and mar- rying scenic vistas. It may mean the loss of vacant lots, as lots with smaller yards and closer neighbors become more common; but it also preserves the views, a sense of open

## Volunteer Spirit Community Service Award

Each year the Mayor and Council award the *Volunteer Spirit Community Service Award* to a deserving Ashland individual or organization. The award, created in memory of James M. Ragland, recognizes the volunteer spirit, dedication and community contributions of Ashland’s numerous volunteers. A committee of the Mayor and Council reviews the nominations and then determines the award winner. The award will be presented at the regular City Council meeting on April 18.

Nominations are now being solicited and forms are available at City Hall, by calling the Mayor’s office at 488-6002, or e-mail to [shplettd@ashland.or.us](mailto:shplettd@ashland.or.us), or on the City’s Website [www.ashland.or.us](http://www.ashland.or.us)

**All nomination forms must be turned in to the City Hall, 20 East Main Street, Ashland by March 10.**



## *Rebates to Businesses for more Efficient Lighting*

The City of Ashland can provide rebates from the Bonneville Power Administration to businesses replacing or retrofitting lighting that reduces energy use by 30 percent or more.

Contact Larry Giardina in the Conservation Division at 552-2065 for the program details and to arrange an audit of your existing lighting.

space and the valuable resource lands that make our region desirable.

Goal 14 has been adopted as an Oregon Administrative Rule governing land use. The other administrative rules and statutes that most directly govern local-level growth management within the State of Oregon are outlined below.

### ***Population Forecast***

By State regulation, each County government, in coordination with the local governments within their boundaries, must establish and maintain population forecasts for their regions. These forecasts serve as the foundation for all land use decisions pertaining to growth, and local governments are required to accommodate and plan for the projected populations. Ashland's projected population growth is approximately 1.5% per year.

### ***Long-term Supply of Land for Residential Development***

State law requires that local comprehensive plans provide enough land within the urban growth boundary to accommodate housing needs for 20 years, based on the coordinated population forecast. If periodic review (every five to seven years) determines that a community's UGB does not contain sufficient buildable land to accommodate a 20-year supply of housing, the local government must remedy the situation by amending its UGB or enacting measures to increase density. In addition to overall land supply, local governments are required to conduct analyses of need for different housing types and to enact mea-

asures to ensure that a mix of housing types will be available for 20 years. Ashland assessed its buildable lands in 1999 and determined that a 20-year supply of land in all classifications indeed exists within the current UGB. The buildable land inventory was updated in 2005.

### ***Long-term Supply of Land for Economic Development***

Similarly, Oregon Administrative Rules require that local comprehensive plans estimate the projected need for land to accommodate industrial and commercial use for 20 years (based on the coordinated population projections) and to designate enough land within the urban growth boundaries to meet that need.

### ***Approval of Permit Applications***

By State law, a local government must approve any permit application for development that is consistent with the local ordinances or that can be made consistent with these ordinances. If an application is not consistent with these ordinances, but can be made consistent through the addition of conditions, the local government is required to approve the application.

### ***System Development Charges***

Oregon land use law allows local governments to charge builders or homeowners for the impact of development upon the community's transportation, water, sewer, storm drains, and park systems. These charges,

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called system development charges (SDCs) in Oregon, may be applied only to capital improvements in one of these five areas of development.

### 120-Day Rule

State law requires that a local government must approve or deny an application for a permit, land use, or a zone change — including resolution of all appeals — within 120 days from the date the application is deemed complete. If the 120-day deadline is not met, an applicant may apply to the Circuit Court of the County to compel the local government to issue an approval, unless the local government can prove that an approval would violate land use regulations.

The challenge for Ashland and all Oregon communities is to find an acceptable balance between the State and local land use requirements and growth standards.

## Dog Owners Be Responsible

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Violators of this code or any portion of the AMC are subject to fines of \$500.

Dogs are not permitted in Ashland parks. The Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission has adopted a policy permitting dogs on leashes in the following parks, open spaces and trail areas.

- Hald-Strawberry Park
- Siskiyou Mountain Park
- Oredson-Todd Woods
- Cottle Property
- Liberty Street access
- Greenway trails
- Granite Street property
- Burnson property
- Lawrence property
- TID easements that are currently in place
- The southern-most trail at North Mountain Park

Dogs may be off leash in the Dog Park located on Nevada Street.

The Parks Department will be installing disposable bag dispensers for dog waste in selected locations in the near future. ▼

## Passport Services

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- Current Identification — Valid Driver's License or other acceptable picture identification.
- Two Identical Passport Photos — Photos must be 2" x 2" in size and have a plain white or off-white background.
- Completed Application — Applications are available at the City Recorder's Office or can be downloaded at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov)
- Fees — Adults: \$67.00 Passport Fee plus \$30.00 Execution Fee. Children: \$52.00 Passport Fee plus \$30.00 Execution Fee. The Passport Fee must be in the form of Check or Money Order, payable to the US Department of State. The \$30.00 Execution Fee can be paid by Cash, Check or Money Order, payable to the City of Ashland.

For additional information regarding Passport Services, please contact the City Recorder's Office at (541) 488-5307. ▼

# CITY OF ASHLAND City Calendar

February 16	Bike and Pedestrian Commission	5:15 p.m.
February 17	Public Arts Commission	8:15 a.m.
February 21	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
February 22	Conservation commission	7:00 p.m.
February 23	AFN Programming Committee	5:30 p.m.
February 23	Traffic Safety Commission	7:00 p.m.
February 27	Housing Commission	6:30 p.m.
February 27	Parks and Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.
February 28	Planning Commission	7:00 p.m.
March 7	Airport Commission	9:30 p.m.
March 8	Forest Lands Commission	4:30 p.m.
March 8	Historic Commission	7:00 p.m.
March 9	City Council Study Session	5:00 p.m.
March 9	Tree Commission	7:00 p.m.
March 14	Planning Commission	7:00 p.m.

◆ Many of the above meetings are cablecast live on channel 9 and replayed on channel 30. ◆ Meetings are held at Council Chambers, 1175 East Main or at 51 Winburn Way. ◆ For information about all City meetings please call City Administration at 488-6002. ◆ Back issues of the City Source are posted under "Documents" on the City's Website, [www.ashland.or.us](http://www.ashland.or.us). ◆ TTY 1-800-735-2900

