# **Council Study Session**

March 20, 2017

Title: Team Ashland

Item Type: Informational

Requested by Council? No

From: John Karns Interim City Administrator

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### **Discussion Questions:**

Does Council have questions regarding the proposed Team Ashland program?

### **Resource Requirements:**

The cost for the program will be minimal. The program will provide T-shirts for the members and some of the sessions will have refreshments provided. There will be staff time involved, and perhaps some overtime incurred, depending on the time or day of the week for the presentations. The Mayor and Council will be asked to participate during the first team meeting and are invited to attend the last meeting (graduation).

## **Suggested Next Steps:**

Staff will proceed with promoting the program and soliciting applications. The Mayor, Council and previously identified community stakeholders will identify participants in the Team Ashland program. Staff will begin developing and scheduling the agenda for the program. Staff recommends starting the program at the beginning of the next fiscal year.

### **Policies, Plans and Goals Supported:**

- 2. Promote effective citizen communication and engagement
- 2.1 Engage community in conversations about core services, desired service levels, and funding mechanisms
- 2.3f Expand and promote those tools that are most effective, meaningful, and efficient for the public to use for understanding an issue (fact gathering), enabling, participation, providing avenues for input to Council and being made aware of decisions made.

### **Background and Additional Information:**

Team Ashland is a program intended to educate and inform residents about their local government representatives, departments and programs; community associations; and current community issues. The Program is designed to create an environment that would nurture and encourage leadership, participation and responsibility by the City's citizenry. The vision of Team Ashland is to develop and maintain an informed, energetic and diversified resource for community leadership.



Through an application process, 18 residents (selected by; the Mayor (2), City Council (2 each), Ashland School District (1), Southern Oregon University (1), Oregon Shakespeare Festival (1), and Asante Ashland Community Hospital (1)) will form Team Ashland. Over a period of five months Team Ashland members will meet on approximately eight occasions (evenings and weekends) and actively participate in a variety of tours, presentations and demonstrations.

As residents are educated through the Team Ashland program, the positive results will benefit the entire community as Alumni continue to seek out opportunities to participate and assist existing civic and community organizations and agencies as well as City of Ashland commissions and committees. The long-term benefits will embody an ever-expanding network and resource of community leaders, as well as assist in building a stronger bridge of mutual trust and respect between the community and its government.

### **Attachments:**

Team Ashland promotional flyer





Team Ashland is being developed to educate and inform residents about their local government representatives, departments and programs; community associations; and current community issues. The Program is designed to create an environment that would nurture and encourage leadership, participation and responsibility by the City's citizenry. The vision of Team Ashland is to develop and maintain an informed, energetic and diversified resource for community leadership.

Through an application process, 18 residents (selected by the Mayor (2), City Council (2 each), Ashland School District (1), Southern Oregon University (1), Oregon Shakespeare Festival (1), and Asante Ashland Community Hospital (1)) will form Team Ashland. Over a period of five months Team Ashland members meet on approximately eight occasions (evenings and weekends) and actively participate in a variety of tours, presentations and demonstrations. Highlights of the program include:

- Lectures by City officials and representatives (Mayor and City Councilmembers, City Administrator, City attorney, City Department Heads from Community Development, Police Department, Fire Department, Administrative Services, Information Technology/AFN, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, the Municipal Court, and Electric departments); as well as community, and local business leaders
- Open dialogue with City officials, City representatives and community/business leaders in order to enable and offer participants an understanding of issues, opportunities and challenges facing the City
- Presentations and interactive demonstrations
- Walking and driving tours of City facilities
- Informal gatherings (for networking between Team members, City officials and representatives, and community/business leaders)
- Recognition and graduation program for current Team members

### Objectives

- To build a resource of involved citizens for future commissions, committees, programs and projects for the benefit of the Ashland community.
- To develop, nurture and utilize leadership potential within the community.
- To familiarize residents with all aspects of government, business, and service industries.
- To involve residents in community activities, projects and endeavors.

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Date:

# 2017 APPLICATION

		Date
Name		
Address (no P.O	. Box)	
Email		
Evening phone		
Fax		
How long have y	you lived in Ashland	
Occupation		
	service within Ashland over the last five	
Why would you	like to participate in Team Ashland? _	
How did you hea	ar about Team Ashland?	
Please send	d applications to:	
Annlication	ns are due no later than:	



# **SCHEDULE**

July 00 - Orientation with Mayor Stromberg, City Councilors, City Administrator

July 00 - Public Works

August 00 - Administrative Services and Community Development

**August 00** – Police Department and Municipal Court

**September 00** – Fire Department

**September 00** - IT/AFN/Electric Department

October 00 – Parks and Recreation

October 00 - Program Conclusion and Graduation



# **Frequently Asked Questions**

### FAQ - How many people are there on Team Ashland?

**Answer:** Through an application process, 18 residents are selected to participate. The City Council and community stakeholders select team members. Approximately eight "sessions" occur from approximately July through October

### FAQ - Where can I get more information about Team Ashland?

**Answer:** A description about Team Ashland can be found on the City's website <u>Team Ashland</u>. If you have additional questions, please email: <u>diana.shiplet@ashland.or.us</u>

#### FAQ - What criteria are used to select members for Team Ashland?

**Answer:** Each applicant must submit an application, and ONLY residents are allowed to participate in Team Ashland. Being an Ashland resident is the only requirement for participation.

### FAQ - How many meetings are there in the Team Ashland program?

**Answer:** Team Ashland participants are asked to attend eight sessions (Monday - Thursday weeknights and/or weekend days) over a period of approximately five months). Each class/session is approximately 3 hours. The last session includes a "graduation" ceremony.