



Housing Policy Questionnaire



The Comprehensive Plan is the guiding document for directing future land use within the City of Ashland. The Plan incorporates specific elements related to the appropriate arrangement of and process for evaluating land uses including: citizen participation, environmental resources, population projections, urbanization, growth, housing, economy, aesthetic resources, public services, transportation, and energy. The Comprehensive Plan recognizes the idea that over time the City will continue to grow and change, and that the Plan will serve as a guide to make sure that the growth and changes are in the best interests of current and future Ashland residents. This Plan is required to acknowledge Oregon's Statewide Planning Goals and insure that the decisions made in the present do not eliminate future planning options.

The Comprehensive Plan addresses several interrelated elements of the Community. Currently the City is undertaking an update of the Housing Element of the City's Comprehensive Plan, which has not been revised in many years. The current policies have resulted in many concrete actions that have served to promote a range of housing types commensurate with income levels within the community. The City has been vigilant in its effort to plan for needed housing through implementation of its Housing Program, including the establishment

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Sanding and Snow Removal

Following a snowfall, streets are cleared and sanded in the following order:

1. Arterial streets, including Siskiyou Blvd., North Main, Ashland Street (Highway 66), Lithia Way, Maple Street (hospital), school zones, etc. are always cleared first.
2. Collector streets, such as Mountain Avenue, East Main, Hersey Street, Park Street, and Beach Street are cleared next.
3. Residential streets are cleared last and are prioritized based on volume of vehicular traffic and grade. Residential streets with heavy volume, such as Morton Street, Strawberry Lane, Wimer Street, Church Street, and Granite Street are attended to first. Low priority is given to streets with low vehicular traffic.

The Street Division reminds motorists that a plowed and sanded street is not guaranteed to be free from ice. Motorists should exercise caution when traveling on both cleared and non-cleared residential streets. Tire chains are always a good idea on ice and snow. When in doubt, chain up.

For more information, contact the Street Division at 541-488-5313.



Public Input Requested for Theater Corridor Art Project

The Theater Corridor public art project was conceived by the Downtown Beautification Committee and approved by the City Council in September 2014. The Public Art Commission (PAC) was asked to oversee the project. The intent of this project, located in the walkway between Earthly Goods and Starbucks, is to enhance a currently barren pedestrian corridor and transform it into a lighted artful walking experience encouraging exploration and use of the walkway both day and night. See the photo below for a recent view of the project location.

In March of 2016, the PAC issued a Call for Artists/Request for Qualifications (RFQ). This RFQ invited professional artists with experience in public art to submit responses. The artists were required to have experience in the public art process, experience integrating lighting, and experience in fabricating and installing permanent artwork suitable for the outdoor environment.

Twenty-eight qualifying submittals were received. The PAC carefully reviewed each submission to determine if all criteria stated in the RFQ were met. The PAC reviewed the submissions individually and collectively during five separate meetings. After review, discussion, and phone interviews with four of the artists, the artist selected was Gordon Heuther.

Mr. Heuther will visit Ashland in February to tour the site and develop an understanding of the community. The answers to the questions listed below will be provided to help him learn about the community and the proposed art location. He will develop two concepts for the space and present those concepts to the public and the City Council in September of 2017. Installation is anticipated in early 2018.

The City of Ashland Public Art Commission invites Ashland citizens to respond to the following questions. Answers will help to inform Gordon Heuther, the selected artist of the Theater Corridor Project, to develop concepts.

- I am drawn into a walk space, day or night, that is inviting because (describe why)...
- Ashland is often touted as having a “unique identity,” what does this mean to you?
- What should the artist know about downtown Ashland?
- What might draw you to use the theater corridor pedestrian walkway more than you do now?

Please send your answers to Ann Seltzer, staff liaison to the Public Art Commission. Responses can be sent via email to ann.seltzer@ashland.or.us or by mail to City Hall, 20 East Main Street, Ashland, OR 97520. To read more about this project or to complete the answers online please visit www.ashland.or.us/theatercorridor.



Housing Policy

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of a Housing and Human Services Commission and the development of numerous tools and incentives targeted at providing a variety of housing options. As an integral part of this Plan update, the City is asking the community to provide ideas and opinions to shape the housing goals and policies to benefit its residents.

The City is asking citizens to fill out a brief questionnaire (5-10 min.) regarding the current goals and policies. Further opportunities to provide public comment will be offered in the next couple of months. The questionnaire and future meeting opportunities can be found on the City's website at: www.ashland.or.us/housingelementupdate.

For questions or comments regarding the Housing Element update please contact Linda Reid, Housing Program Specialist, at 541-552-2043 or email at reidl@ashland.or.us.

Personalize Your Water Plan in 2017

We are so thankful for all the rain and snow that has been coming our way. Even so, it's a common misconception to think that rain means we are drought free. While that might be true, we won't really know how much water will be available for summer use until May! So now is a good time to consider scheduling an indoor water use evaluation, or taking advantage of our water and energy efficient appliance rebates. The cold, rainy months are also a great time to think about changes to your landscape. Rebates are available for transforming your lawn to a water wise landscape. For inspiration or to learn more, visit Ashlandsaveswater.org.

Sign up for the Ashland Saves Water Newsletter

New this year! Receive timely, relevant water efficiency information and personalized watering schedules based on Ashland's current weather conditions. Visit Ashlandsaveswater.org and click on the Outdoor Water Use Calculator to sign up.

Save Money!

Your sewer rates are reset each year typically using your average water use for the months of January,

February, and March. This means the more efficiently you use water now, the more money you will save throughout the year.

Request a FREE Indoor Water Use Evaluation

This free service helps you identify water saving steps you can take in your home. And, as an Ashland resident, you are eligible for free low flow showerheads and faucet aerators.

Rebates

Rebates offered for EnergyStar and WaterSense appliances make it easy to update older fixtures to lower water use models. For more information visit: Ashland.or.us/consERVE.

Make your new year bright with freebies!

City of Ashland is giving out low flow aerators and showerheads to all Ashland residents. A family of four could reduce their indoor water use by up to 60% when replacing old toilets, showerheads, bathroom aerators, and washing machines.

For more information on simple ways to save water or to learn about current giveaways and rebate programs visit ashland.or.us/consERVE or call 541-552-2421.

Ashland Police Volunteer Program

The Ashland Police Department is currently looking for people interested in joining our Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program. Volunteers are a vital resource to the daily operations of the Police Department. Some (but not all) of the services the VIPS provide include:

- Daily mail runs to the District Attorney's office, Circuit Court and other law enforcement agencies in the valley.
- Internal delivery of mail between various City of Ashland departments.
- Coordinate and conduct the vacation house check program.
- Provide staffing to assist with traffic and crowd control for major events and parades such as 4th of July and Halloween.

If you are interested in become a VIPS, please contact Tony Abshire by phone at 541-482-5211 or by email at anthony.abshire@ashland.or.us.

News Notes

First Aid/ CPR Class Calendar

Everyone should know how to perform CPR because everyone has a heart. Visit ashland.or.us/cpr for a schedule of classes and more information regarding all the first aid and CPR courses available.

Seed Swap

Are you planning your garden? Before you order a long list of seeds from catalogs, you might want to try acquiring seeds locally at North Mountain Park's seed swap. You can save money, grow plants adapted to our local climate and exchange information with other gardeners. It's fun and simple - just bring seeds you have saved from your garden and some bags or envelopes for taking seeds with you. The Nature Center will also sell low-cost seed, harvested at the park by volunteers. **Pre-registration is not required for this program.** For more information call the North Mountain Park Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

AGE All ages welcome
DATE February 2, 2017
TIME 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
PLACE North Mountain Park
COST Free

Mortgage Education Series – Home Loans 101

Learn the anatomy and time frames of the loan process. Topics include: understanding your income, assets, credit score, the importance of a home inspection, title and escrow, down payment, assistance programs, homeowners' insurance and the appraisal. **Pre-register online at ashland.or.us/register.**

AGE 18 & up
DATE Session 1: February 7, 2017
Session 2: March 7, 2017
TIME 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
PLACE SOU Campbell Center
COST \$10 per session

INSTRUCTOR Michael Sallee is a native Oregonian who began his mortgage career in 1997. He has a passion for helping people succeed and reach financial independence through home ownership.

The City offices will be closed
Monday, February 20, 2017
for the Presidents Day holiday.

We apologize for any
inconvenience this may cause.

February City Calendar

City Council

Business Meetings: Feb 7 & 21 | 7:00 p.m.
Study Sessions: Feb 6 | 5:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

Business Meeting: Feb 14 | 7:00 p.m.
Study Session: Feb 28 | 7:00 p.m.

Airport Commission

Feb 7 | 9:30 a.m.

Conservation Commission

Feb 22 | 6:00 p.m.

Forest Lands Commission

Feb 14 | 5:30 p.m.

Historic Commission

Feb 8 | 6:00 p.m.

Housing and Human Services Comm.

Feb 23 | 4:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: Feb 27 | 7:00 p.m.
Study Session: Feb 13 | 7:00 p.m.

Public Art Commission

Feb 17 | 8:00 a.m.

Transportation Commission

Feb 23 | 6:00 p.m.

Tree Commission

Feb 9 | 6:00 p.m.

Wildfire Mitigation Commission

Feb 15 | 11:00 a.m.

▲ Meetings are held at Council Chambers, 1175 East Main or at 51 Winburn Way and are open to the public. ▲ TTY 1-800-735-2900. ▲ City Council and many other city meetings are broadcast live on channel 9. Charter Communications customers will find city meetings on channels 180 and 181. Meetings also stream live on the internet at rvtv.sou.edu.