



*Our Mission: To foster an environment of economic growth and opportunity through effective partnerships with our citizens, businesses, and visitors while maintaining a high standard for quality of life in a progressive community which embraces its heritage.*

## **CITY OF OREGON**

**115 N. 3rd Street, Oregon, IL 61061**

**Phn: 815-732-6321/ website: [cityoforegon.org](http://cityoforegon.org)**

To: Mayor Ken Williams & Oregon City Council

From: Darin J. DeHaan, City Manager & Staff

**DATE: Sep 9, 2025**

**I am pleased to provide Mayor Williams and the Oregon City Council with the following synopsis of City Business for – Aug 24, 2025 – Sep 5, 2025**

**Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Manager:**

- I met with Liz Hiemstra, the Director of Economic Development for the Ogle Co. Economic Development Corporation. We toured Oregon and discussed economic development opportunities in Oregon. I also updated her on current projects. We then met with Mayor Williams to discuss his vision and strategies for Oregon moving forward.
- I continue to work with the a5 team as we start winding down the summer marketing campaign and shift to year end festivals and events.
- Happy One year work anniversary to Officer Taylor Buckwalter!
- Continue work on TIF projects and potential developments.
- I see we had a great turn out for the Dust at Dusk road night bike event. Thanks to the organizers and supporters of the fun event! Great way to continue to show off the great things Oregon and Ogle county has to offer!
- We held an Autumn on Parade safety planning meeting. I appreciate the Oregon Police Department, Oregon Fire Protection District, Ogle Co. Sheriff's Dept, Oregon Public Works Dept and the AOP members that attended the meeting. I look forward to a safe and happy 2025 Autumn on Parade.
- We are working on the change out to fall decor around the City welcome signs. Tyler will provide some options for consideration. I know he always does a great job on design and implementation!
- We continue to work on the development of the old Hunt Club and are thankful for Matt Pendergrass and his commitment and investments in Oregon. I look forward to the new business on the east side of our community!
- I have had a lot of questions about Kunes closing here in Oregon. I wish I had all the answers, but I don't. I do know that we have already started to strategize and work on this issue on behalf of our community. The loss of a car dealership, jobs, access to service, and the loss of sales tax is devastating to a small community. We will work diligently to figure out what's next for that space.

- We continue to coordinate several smaller private events. Some were cancelled, some continue as planned. Huge thanks to our Public Works Department for always being agile in providing services for these events when needed.
- I'm excited to attend the Chamber dinner again this year. It's always a great time networking, honoring individuals and businesses that deserve recognition and supporting our Oregon Chamber of Commerce. Clearly there are some financial issues facing our Chamber. I continue to coordinate with Chance Monroe and some board members to provide city support where we can.
- We put together a two page flyer with information on our leaf vac program this year. We are still waiting on our leaf vac to be built so we will be renting equipment again this year. The flyer will go out to every home in Oregon. We also included some information on Chip Seal vs Slurry vs. Resurfacing that we hope citizens find informative.

**City Hall - Cheryl Hilton - City Clerk:**

- The next brush pickup is scheduled for September 29th.
- 7 building permits were issued for the month of August.

**MEETING INFORMATION**

**Tree Board:**

Next meeting Sep 16, 2025 at 4:30pm at Oregon City Hall Conference Room

**Planning & Zoning:**

Next meeting Sep 16, 2025 at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers

**City Council Meeting:**

Next meeting Sep 23, 2025 at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers

**Sustainability Committee:**

Next meeting: Oct 13, 2025 at 9am Oregon City Hall Conference Room

**Economic and Community Development Committee:**

Next meeting TBD

**Public Art Commission:**

Next meeting TBD

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

**Director of Public Works Submitted by Bill Covell:**

- a. Help Schedule

- b. Approve Bills
- c. Purchased supplies
- d. Monthly Fuel Reports
- e. Safety Training
- f. Train Summer Help

## 2. Projects

- a. I Fiber
  - i. Nothing new
- b. Headworks Project
  - i. Reviewed plans
- c. Lead Service Inventory
  - i. Updated spreadsheet
  - ii. Worked through the public notice with residents
- d. 2025 Local Road Project
  - i. Punch list
  - ii. Final Pay Request
- e. 2025 MFT Project
  - i. Punch List
  - ii. Final Pay Request
- f. 2025 East Side Sidewalk
  - i. Followed up with Fehr Graham
- g. Pedestrian Crossing
  - i. Work with Fehr Graham to get exhibits for IDOT

## 3. Leaf Pick-up Program

- a. Review other municipality leave pick-up programs
- b. Make leaf pick-up informational mailings
- c. Set a schedule for this year's program

## 4. Meetings

- a. Department Head
- b. Safety Meeting
- c. AOP meeting

## 5. Miscellaneous

- a. Design graphics for Slurry Seal work





**Street Department Submitted by Jordan Plock:**

**1. Daily Tasks**

- a. Street sweeping on the rotation of city streets
- b. Watering of trees planted by the city
- c. Trash pickup of city trash cans
- d. City mechanic working on daily maintenance tasks
- e. Mowing and maintenance of city-owned property.

**2. Projects**

- a. Crew removed and replaced 85 feet of sidewalk on Madison and 8th st.
- b. Crew patched areas of S 2nd and N 7th st
- c. The crew put in an asphalt approach in front of the city fuel tanks
- d. Crew removed 100ft of sidewalk along N 6th and Jackson st
- e. Crew removed sidewalk and installed a drainage pipe at the corner of Jackson and N 7th.
- f. Crew has been striping parking stalls and painting curbs throughout the downtown area.

**3. Training**

- a. Worked on Illinois Extension training for pesticide applicator license.
- b. Worked on weekly safety training
- c. Foreman worked on continuing education classes



#### **4. General**

- a. The crew removed and restored four stumps in the city terrace.
- b. Street Foreman attended the department head meeting.
- c. Spot-sprayed pesticide for weeds in the city right-of-way.
- d. Crew worked on boarding up a house on S 3rd St that was purchased by the city.
- e. Street Foreman attended a meeting at City Hall to finalize everything in preparation for the AOP festival.

#### **Sewer Department Submitted by Scott Wallace:**

##### **Daily tasks**

1. Daily chores
2. Full testing (process control/EPA Required Monitoring)
3. Half testing (process control)
4. Pumped Sludge
5. Cleaned bar screens, netting of tanks multiple times daily due to rags, debris
6. Daily reporting of National Weather Service recordings
7. Lift Station usage recording
8. Assisted the Water Department when needed
9. Monthly reports to the EPA
10. Generator/ Well checks
11. Worked with various customers on water and sewer issues (leaks, sewer backups)
12. Washed clarifiers and tanks
13. Chemical Delivers

##### **Head Works**

1. No new updates at this time

##### **Training**

1. Continued training the new hire on wastewater tasks
2. Heavy Equipment Safety

##### **General**

1. Pulled and fixed RAS pump #2 due to rags
2. Pulled and swapped out RAS pump #1 due to rags
3. Fielded phone calls regarding lead and copper
4. Cleaned rags from mixers
5. Troubleshooting and adjustments to the digester level radar

#### **Water Department Submitted by Jeff Pennington**

##### **Daily Tasks**

- 1.) Chores
- 2.) Daily Testing

- 3.) Julie Locates
- 4.) Final reads
- 5.) Water turn-ons
- 6.) Water shut-offs
- 7.) Generator checks

#### **Wells**

- 1.) Repaired Chemical feed pump parts as needed
- 2.) Took Chemical delivery from Hawkins for process/control

#### **Meter Replacement Program**

- 1.) Been scheduling and replacing meters as time allows

#### **EPA compliance**

- 1.) Took monthly Bac-t samples, DPD Samples, and Fluoride samples for EPA compliance.
- 2.) Collected samples for Lead and Copper Sampling, we have received 28 samples out of 40 so far.

#### **Training**

- 1.) No current training

#### **General**

- 1.) Repaired the Chain on our trailer vector. Found a valve that had rusted out in an Air relief tank. Will look into getting it repaired.
- 2.) Assisted the Sewer department when needed
- 3.) Worked with customers on water leaks and sewer issues at numerous locations.
- 4.) Lowered valve boxes in multiple locations around town to meet grade
- 5.) Attended meetings with the Public Works Director and City Manager
- 6.) Worked with the crew at the Fire Station project to identify pipes in the ground.
- 7.) Collected Fire extinguishers to have Getz Fire Service recertify and tag for 2025.

**Oregon Police Department Submitted by Chief Matthew Kalnins**