



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

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To: Mayor Ken Williams & Oregon City Council

From: Darin J. DeHaan, City Manager & Staff

DATE: Apr 14, 2026

I am pleased to provide Mayor Williams and the Oregon City Council with the following synopsis of City Business for – Mar 21, 2026 – Apr 10, 2026

Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Manager

- Congratulations to Chief Matthew Kalnins on his 20th Work Anniversary with the City of Oregon. I appreciate his dedication, loyalty, and service to our community and citizens for the past 20 years!
- We held our annual TIF Annual Board of Review meeting. We continue to strategize on re-development projects, infrastructure planning, as well as support for existing business expansion. A few TIF projects we currently have going is the engineering study for Oregon's eastside looking at storm water drainage. We are also working to incentivize new business prospects for the Kunes property. Lastly we continue working with existing building owners for property improvements for our downtown and other areas.
- I attended a webinar on Sticky HR issues as a learning exercise of any HR challenges for municipalities.
- Cheryl and I held our Pre-Audit meeting with our Auditors.
- I have completed the initial budget projections for FY27 and am currently working closely with each department head to prioritize capital projects and planned purchases for the upcoming fiscal year. At the same time, we are reviewing FY26 expenditures and fund balances to ensure accuracy and fiscal alignment.

Our goal is to responsibly fund and accomplish as many initiatives as possible that benefit the community, while maintaining a balanced and sustainable budget.

- As part of the requirements for the Safe Routes to School Grant we held our required Public Meeting for the Safe Routes to Schools Grant. Thank you to Corey Buck for coordinating this meeting. This project is still under IDOT and Federal review.
- I attended a webinar titled “It’s Complicated: Learn the Truth of ADA Website Compliance and How to Do it Right.” We are starting to work on our existing site to bring it into ADA compliance by the required 2027 date. I’m working with staff as well as with our Webmaster to work through this.

- Liz Hiemestra, the Mayor and I met with a local downtown building owner in an attempt to help them get the empty space rented. We will continue to work with them to help market the space as well as help to facilitate things where we can.
- Follow up meeting with John Dickson Chairman of the 250th Committee. Completed several tasks as it relates to the planning of 250th events.
- Coordinated some items and responses related to the No Kings rally on March 28th.
- Met with a local business owner to discuss City incentive programs as well as go over how TIF works.
- Met with EPA for a walkthrough of the Paragon Foundry for their additional testing. Thank you to Bill, Jordan and the Public Works team for working to clear space they required for accessing the property. This is the next step with the Brownfields project there.
- Attended the 250th Anniversary Committee meeting. Still a work in progress, more information will be shared very soon.
- Follow up with a5 for our upcoming marketing campaign. I've begun coordinating additional marketing efforts as well.
- I contacted a few citizens to work through some minor complaints they had.
- I'm working on updating our Liquor License Municipal Code and continue research and conversations with Mayor Williams.
- Nearly 20 years ago the City Council worked up a new subdivision ordinance that was never codified at the time. I'm in the process of getting a fresh review of that ordinance from a qualified consultant firm before presenting it to the city council for final adoption. Obviously there are no current plans for any additional subdivisions, but this ordinance should be passed and codified for any future potential.
- I continue to research and prepare for the potential Mainstreet program for Oregon. The council will be asked to make a final decision on the potential new position. I've heard from several area business owners that support the decision to move forward.
- I completed several follow ups on potential new business development. Nothing to announce but I'm hopeful we can facilitate a location that meets the standards they are looking for.
- I received a final rendering from the Public Art Committee. Thank you goes out to the entire committee and a special thank you to Randee Mennenga for pulling together the concepts for council's consideration. This will be presented to the council at the next meeting.
- We finalized the State Tourism Grant paperwork. Thank you to Cheryl for all her work coordinating with the DCEO on this.
- I attended the Ogle County Economic Development Corporation Executive Committee meeting. We continue to strategize and work on projects on behalf of Oregon and Ogle County communities.

- I want to recognize all of our Water/Waste water employees who work so hard. I wanted to take a second for a special shoutout to Scott Wallace for his efforts during the recent storms. What he does to keep our waste water plant running smoothly and within EPA compliance is always “behind the scenes” but he is constantly working to maintain those high standards and certainly a huge influx of rain water does not make his job any easier. Thanks Scott for your continued expertise and dedication!
- A quick reminder to the public that the Oregon Chamber of Commerce was the organization that put together the Citywide Garage Sale Events. That is not a City event. City Hall staff have been fielding a lot of questions about it. Other than providing your garage sale license we do not organize or advertise that event. This is something we will look into for the future depending if we move forward with a Mainstreet position. That is something that person might be able to coordinate.
- I asked the Public Works Department to repair the walls in the Coliseum basement. I appreciate the fact that we can do this work inhouse which saves the City money. We put new gutters on the building which should stop any further wall issues. Once they finish the project I’ll share some new pictures of the project. Jordan also found that some water was getting into the North stairwell so we are having that looked into.



- A big thank you to the Public Works department for their continued efforts in planting new trees along our beautiful streets. We have had several residents take advantage of our matching funds program for terrace trees. The City of Oregon has a tree replacement program where we will pay 80% of the cost up to \$100.00 with residents for trees planted in the terrace.



<https://cityoforegon.org/tree-related-permits-and-tree-planting-guide/>

“As always I want to remind the community that I am always open to hearing your perspectives if there are things you feel need addressed. I’m available via phone, email, or you can always message me via facebook messenger from the City page. We work for you and your input and communication is vital for our success.” - Darin DeHaan

City Hall - Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk

MEETING INFORMATION

Public Art Commission:

Next meeting TBD at Oregon City Hall Council Chambers. I am working to find an artist to complete the new city sign rendering for Council consideration.

250th Anniversary of US Ad Hoc:

Next Meeting **Apr 23, 2026 5:00 PM** Oregon City Hall Conference Room. The committee is working to finalize some plans for the 250th celebration event centered around June 14th Flag day. The idea is to have something on Friday, Saturday and Sunday that weekend. More information to come soon.

Sustainability Committee:

Next meeting Monday **May 11, 2026 9:00 AM** Oregon City Hall Conference Room.

City Council Meeting:

Next meeting Tuesday **Apr 28, 2026 5:30 PM** Oregon City Hall Council Chambers.

Planning & Zoning:

Next meeting Tuesday **Apr 21, 2026 5:30 PM** Oregon City Hall Council Chambers. A public hearing is scheduled for April 21st. The public hearing is in regards to adding hotels as a permissible use in commercial zoning.

Tree Board:

Next meeting Wednesday **May 20, 2026 4:00 PM** Oregon City Hall Conference Room.

Arbor day tree planting near the N. Rt2 welcome sign April 24th. Time: 10:00 a.m. We will be planting a Niobe Weeping Willow behind the sign.

Oregon Police Department

Police Department Submitted by Chief Matthew Kalnins

- From March 29 through March 31, Chief Kalnins attended the Annual Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) Conference in Springfield, Illinois. During the conference, Chief Kalnins participated in a series of professional development seminars covering topics such as Katrina's Law, the Valley Covenant Church shooting, and the Las Vegas music festival shooting.

The conference also provided a valuable opportunity to collaborate and network with law enforcement professionals from across the state. On Tuesday morning, a regional breakfast meeting was held to discuss local events, Mobile Field Force operations, and any equipment-related concerns.

ILEAS was established in 2002 with the original purpose of protecting pharmaceutical stockpiles in the event of a large-scale emergency. Since its inception, the organization has expanded its role to provide mutual aid and support during incidents involving civil unrest, natural disasters, and specialized training initiatives.

The ILEAS Mobile Field Force has been deployed to numerous high-profile events and incidents, including the Republican National Convention (RNC), Democratic National Convention (DNC), G20 Summit, G8 Summit, Hurricane Katrina response efforts, and various regional mutual aid requests. Chief Kalnins served as a member of the Mobile Field Force from 2008 to 2020, during which time he was deployed to both the G8 Summit in Chicago and the G20 Summit in Pittsburgh.



- On April 1, 2026, the Oregon Police Department conducted Active Threat Training at Oregon Elementary School. This training provided officers with the opportunity to enhance tactical response skills while becoming more familiar with the school's layout and environment. The department would like to thank OCUSD for providing the opportunity to conduct this important training.

Public Works

Director of Public Works Submitted by Bill Covell

Daily Tasks

- Help Schedule
- Approve Bills
- Purchased supplies
- Monthly Fuel Reports
- Safety Training

Projects

- Headworks
 - Project–nothing new
- Lead Service Inventory
 - Updated Lead Line Inventory
- 2026 Local Road Projects
 - Approve project book
- 2026 MFT Project
 - Reviewed engineers cost estimate
 - Added parking lot area
 - City Hall Parking Lot
 - Street Garage Parking Lot
 - Review site drainage
 - Adams Street
 - Double checked measurements
- 2025 East Side Sidewalk
 - Followed up with Fehr Graham
- Pedestrian Crossing
 - Nothing new
- Assisted in demolition of building
- Helped install cameras a WWTP
- Designed layout of potential future parking lot
- Produced floor plan of building in town
- Start the auctions for city property disposal auction
- Conference in Peoria

Meetings

- Department Head
- Safety Meeting

Miscellaneous

- Worked on Fulcrum report

Street Department Submitted by Jordan Plock

Daily Tasks

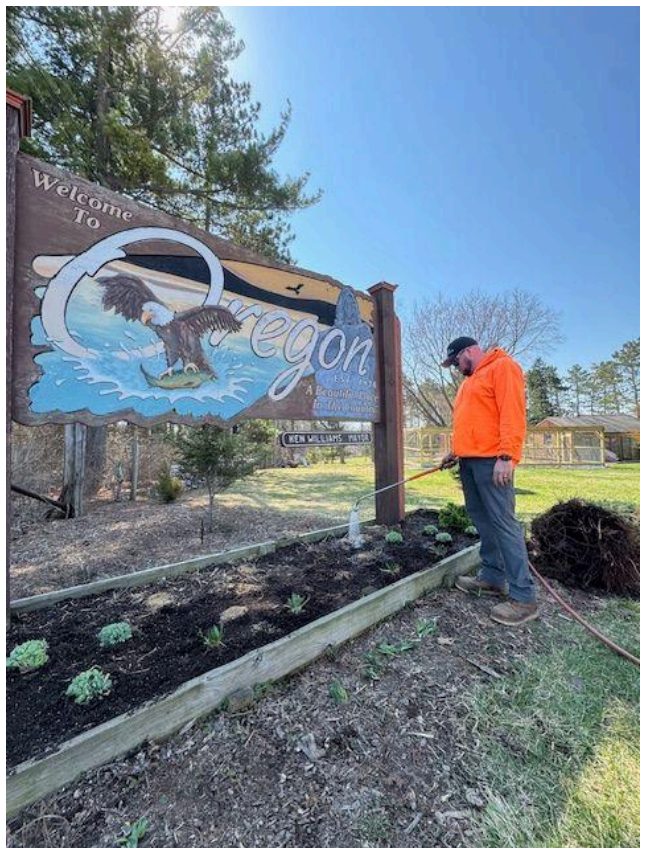
- a. Trash pickup of city trash cans
- b. City mechanic working on daily maintenance tasks

Projects

- a. Crew worked on cleaning up some areas around the Paragon Foundry to facilitate the EPA work.
- b. Crew completed the first brush pickup of the season.
- c. Crew cleaned all of the storm sewer catch basins of debris. This is a much needed task every spring to keep the storm sewers flowing smoothly.
- d. Crew has planted 3 trees so far this spring within the city terrace.
- e. Crew removed the arborvitaes from the uptown planters and re planted them at the Sewer Plant to continue the green screen.

Training

- a. Street Foreman led safety classes on HazCom.
- b. Worked on weekly safety training
- c. Foreman worked on continuing education classes
- d. Worked on updating our list of required OSHA training for the year.



General

- a. Street Foreman attended the department head meeting.
- b. Street Foreman along with the Public Works Director held one interview for a summer help position.
- c. Street Foreman along with Bill Covell and Darin DeHaan met with EPA to go over what was needed for them to complete their work.



Sewer Department Submitted by Scott Wallace

Daily tasks

- a. Daily chores
- b. Testing full set (process control/EPA Required Monitoring)
- c. Half testing (process control)
- d. Pumped Sludge
- e. Cleaned bar screens, netting of tanks, multiple times daily due to rags, debris
- f. Daily reporting of National Weather Service recordings
- g. Lift Station usage recording
- h. Assisted the Water Department
- i. Monthly reports to the EPA
- j. Generator/ Well checks
- k. Worked with various customers on water and sewer issues (leaks, sewer backups)

Head Works

- a. Nothing new at this time

Scada Upgrade

- a. Metro Cloud is up and running! Working on switching everything over

Training

- a. Attended Illinois wastewater professionals conference last week

General

- a. Washed tanks when weather allowed
- b. Cleaned Effluent channel and contact basin
- c. Byron outage has continued with daily hauling to treatment plant
- d. Weather Related Issues (Higher flows due to rain, lots of leaves with the wind)
- e. Multiple power outages due to wind
- f. Seasonal chemicals were delivered March 30th
- g. Street department made improvements to project green screen



Water Department Submitted by Jeff Pennington

Daily Tasks

- a. Chores
- b. Daily Testing
- c. Julie Locates
- d. Final reads
- e. Water turn-ons
- f. Water shut-offs
- g. Generator checks

Wells

- a. Repaired Chemical feed pump parts as needed
- b. Received Chemical delivery from Hawkins for process/control
- c. Replaced bad chemical feed pump with new at Well #4

Meter Replacement Program

- a. Been scheduling and replacing meters as time allows

EPA compliance

- a. Completed Monthly Bac-t/ Fluoride sampling for Epa compliance
- b. Completed Radium Sampling for Well#5 compliance
- c. Completed Radium Sampling for Well#3 compliance
- d. Completed Radium Sampling for West Reservoir per Public Works Director
- e. Completed Radium Sampling for 901 Daysville Rd per Public Works Director
- f. Submitted Sample Demand Letters to Lab for Epa compliance sampling.

Training

- a. Worked with Aidan on properly filling out and submitting Monthly Epa paperwork.
- b. Worked with Metro cloud on new Scada software

General

- a. Department head is on Intermittent leave for Family medical needs starting 2/2/2025. Will continue to work with the Public Works Director to meet needs for EPA compliance and ensure the department is fulfilling tasks to operate properly.
- b. Assisted the Sewer department when needed
- c. Worked with customers on water leaks and sewer issues.
- d. Worked with customers on meter repairs, and replacement of meters.
- e. Flushed Hydrants in some trouble areas
- f. Cleaned Sewer on S. 2nd St due to homeowner having issues in their line to be proactive to avoid any back-up in the City line.
- g. Aidan worked with the Public Works Director and Railroad to be able to obtain water through a backflow/rpz and meter for metering water use.

