

Council Agenda Packet

Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024 | 7:00 p.m. | Council Chambers

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Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024

Location: Council Chambers

AGENDA

Regular Session

7:00 p.m.

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) ROLL CALL
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 4) ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA
- 5) MINUTES: September 24th, 2024
- 6) PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS:
 - A. Brownsville Art Association Annual Report | *President Dr. Garcy*
 - B. Chamber of Commerce Annual Report | *President Jenna Stutzman*
- 7) DEPARTMENT REPORTS:
 - A. Sheriff
 - B. Public Works
 - C. Administrator
 - D. Planning | *Elizabeth Coleman*
 - E. Library | *Sherri Lemhouse*
 - F. Office | *Jannea Deaver*
 - G. Council
- 8) CITIZEN COMMENTS (Non-agenda & Agenda items)
 - ★ Council asks that comments be limited to three minutes per audience member. Please state your name and address prior to commenting for the public record.
- 9) LEGISLATIVE:
 - A. **Ordinance 806:** Parks & Open Space Advisory Board Code Language (*Second Reading*)



10) ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Spaulding Avenue Closure | *Home for the Holidays*
- B. Approve Council Meeting Schedule | *2025*
- C. Appointed Officials | *Openings & Reappointments*

11) DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. SMAC Session Updates
- B. James Lease | *North Wastewater Treatment Plant*
- C. September Financials

12) CITIZEN QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

- ★ Council asks that comments be limited to three minutes per audience member. Please state your name and address prior to commenting for the public record.

13) COUNCIL QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

14) ADJOURN

Please visit www.ci.brownsville.or.us for the meeting agenda, agenda packet and other City information.



September 24th, 2024

ROLL CALL: Mayor Craven called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. (technical difficulties) with Council President Chambers, Councilor LaCoste (online), Councilor Humphreys, Councilor Hansen, Councilor Winklepleck, and Councilor Solberg present. Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman, Administrative Assistant Jannea Deaver, Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink, Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow, and City Administrator Scott McDowell were also present.

ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC: Rod Souza, Larry (Mike) Lake, Troy Jones, Steve Hood, Arnie Kampfer, Brenda & Dace Phearson, Allen Buzzard, Steve & Nan VanSandt, Kris & Pamela Solberg, Don Lyon, Cindy Thibedeau, Betsy Ramshur, Tia Parrish (*The Times*), Felipe Eversull, Katy Kallai, Rege Rippee, Barbara Anderson, Dan Murphy, Nichole Solberg, Michael & Sharon Rodolf, and Sergeant Steve Frambes (*Linn County Sheriff's Office*).

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: Item 11) A. Per Councilor Winklepleck's request, this item will be deleted tonight. Also, Mr. McDowell stated that there are three handouts on the desk tonight that include a Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) TMDL rulemaking communique and a proposed Canal Company calendar.

MINUTES: Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve the July 23rd, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Councilor Winklepleck abstained due to his absence at that meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING | PRESENTATIONS:

- 1. Central Linn School District | David Karo and Halsey Mayor Jerry Lachenbruch.** Representatives from the Community Bond Advisory Committee (CBAC), CLSD Board Chair David Karo and Halsey Mayor Jerry Lachenbruch, reviewed the committee's findings and proposals. Karo & Lachenbruch highlighted many concerns about both Elementary School and the High School including electrical, HVAC, ADA, security, among a host of others. Mayor Lachenbruch pointed out that both facilities are well past their intended, useful life. The CBAC has developed three proposals, the Foundation proposal, the Heritage proposal, and the Legacy proposal. Please find more information on the District's website at <https://www.centrallinn.k12.or.us/about-us/community-bond-advisory-committee-proposals>. The website shows background information, associated costs, and an assessment calculator to verify the annual cost to you, the taxpayer. The CLSD is asking for public comment on these proposals. Please review the information at the link above and make your voice heard. The group is soliciting public comment through November. At the conclusion of the presentation, the group gathered in the Community Room to field public questions.
- 2. Planning Commission | Variance Appeal | Mike Lake.** Council heard an appeal by Mike Lake for a variance to retain the location of a RV cover located on the south side of his property. Mrs. Coleman presented information as it was presented to the Planning Commission. Mayor Craven read the rules for the quasi-judicial hearing. Basically, Mr. Lake is asking for a variance to reduce setbacks from 5 feet to approximately 1.5 feet for a structure (RV cover) near the current property line. Council had several questions and asked for clarifications.



Councilor Hansen made a motion to approve the variance with the condition of when the property is sold, the RV cover will be removed. Councilors Solberg, Hansen, LaCoste, and Winklepleck voted in favor of the variance with conditions. Councilors Chambers and Humphreys opposed the variance. Motion passed, 4-2. Public hearing adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. **Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Report | Sergeant Steve Frambes.** Frambes shared that the LCSO continues to juggle personnel challenges. He reviewed the recent statistics stating that a 21-year old was ticketed for doing 71 mph on a 35 mph roadway. Frambes was happy to note that crime numbers are extremely low in Brownsville. With the start of the school year, the deputies have been spending a lot of time in area schools for both good and not so good reasons. National Night Out was on August 4th, 2024 and the event turned out great. LCSO will also hold a Coffee with a Cop at Randy's Main Street Coffee in the near future; this gathering will last about 2 hours.
2. **Public Works.** Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink reported that the GR12 project was wrapping up. Contractors and subcontractors are ironing out electrical and communication issues. Rec Center landscaping is slated to start as early as this Friday. Public Works has fixed lighting issues, security issues, and has secured furniture that is compatible with the new flooring surface. McDowell added there are still a few outstanding issues the City continues to finalize with J. E. John Construction. The gym floor warranty was extended for one year at the request of the City. Public Works has taken over duties in Pioneer Park. There have been two new water services installed over the last few weeks. Frink is also reporting on service connections as required by the Lead & Copper Rule enforced by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on all 876 connections the City operates. Public Works has replaced a few trees around town recently.
3. **Administration.** Administrator Scott McDowell recapped the Rec Center project, stating that the landscaping will be starting soon. Several issues still need to be resolved including lighting issues, windows, painting, and flooring. The building is open for the volleyball season. Equipment has been ordered, including new tables and chairs, a volleyball referee stand, etc. McDowell secured an extension for the floor warranty for an additional year. The City is still waiting for as built plans and other manuals.

Mr. McDowell reported that the City's email has been down since September 21st, 2024. McDowell has been in contact with web.com, and they basically decided to delete our email. McDowell is hopeful the situation will resolve shortly, but all bets are off.

McDowell briefly highlighted concerns with the migration of the City's website to a new platform. The reservation system the City currently uses will be changing soon; McDowell is researching best options.

He provided Council with an updated schedule for the Canal Company partnership currently being explored. McDowell has completed an informational video and is working on for tentative dates for public town halls around the issue.

The draft audit has been delivered by email, but Staff cannot get to it. Staff will be working on reviewing the draft and returning it to the auditor soon.

Open enrollment for CIS is happening soon. Staff will be completing those enrollments soon. Mr. McDowell reported that Linn County is offering free HIV tests.

The fall newsletter will be coming out in early November. Staff will put a QR code in for the Fire Department to help in fund raising efforts for the Fourth of July fireworks display.



On page 72 of the packet, Council will find information contained in a July 15th, 2024 letter from Pacific Power highlighting additional safety precautions being taken, and the possible need for generators for folks with medical needs requiring power. More information can be found at PacificPower.net/Ready.

Mr. McDowell reminded folks that it is likely that the vineyard wind machines in the south of town could be running soon to prevent frost damage.

McDowell included the annual letter sent to the River's Edge Homeowner's Association in the Council packet. This letter shares background information detailing the Homeowners Association's and the City's present and future responsibilities. Basically, the City is in charge of streets, trees, and underground utilities. The parks, basins, and holding areas are the HOA's responsibility. McDowell said this was related to complaints recently made against the City.

The Chamber of Commerce will host a Candidates Forum in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. on October 24th. The City will be a Linn County Official Ballot Drop site for the upcoming election. City Hall will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on November 5th. Campaign signs are allowed unless there is a vision clearance issue. ODOT has stated that they will not allow them on their right-of-way. The City is always dragged into these situations, but we are trying to avoid this with these communications with Council and then in the synopsis. All candidates running for Council have been made aware of this policy as well.

McDowell reported that complaint levels are high right now. McDowell discussed the ongoing riverbank erosion concern in Pioneer Park, and the current condition of the main playground unit. The replacement slide has been ordered, but the unit has been discontinued, so it is unlikely that the equipment can be repaired any time soon. Superintendent Frink continues to work on this issue.

McDowell recounted the Calapooia Riverbank erosion issue. When the bank initially gave way, five State and Federal agencies are involved in the situation. The City hired River Design Group, and they prepared the first option was \$600,000 construction cost with a 50% failure rate. The second option was prepared by the Army Corps of Engineers and was \$2.2 million, which would be closer to \$3 million in today's standards, but would stand the test of time. The City just does not have this project funding capability, and made the decision to retreat to the prairie. Folks can find all this information on the City's website for review.

McDowell shared a host of concerns about the importance of advocacy. He shared many examples of regulations and rules being forced on local governments and the public that go by unnoticed. He encouraged everyone to pay attention to these rule changes and public comment periods. All these regulations cost each and every taxpayer. The State Legislature will shortly consider over 4,000 bills during their upcoming legislative session. McDowell is attending a SMAC (Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition) meeting tomorrow, and will activate the City's LAPC (Legislative Advocacy Policy Committee) group soon. McDowell shared concerns about the LOC's (League of Oregon Cities) recent legislative aims. Nearly all of the topics are not priorities for the City of Brownsville or most of the other small rural cities. McDowell talked briefly about the *Grants Pass v. Martin* decision, and the *Chevron* decision. McDowell discussed DEQ rulemaking, HB 3610 task force on alcohol pricing, OLCC Hemp implementation, DEQ recycling updates, DLCD rules, and FEMA, Waters of the US (WOTUS). There are a lot of compliance issues, and lots of the rules are completely arbitrary, and done through administrative code. Recently electric and gas bills are up 34%. All these rules and laws are having a tremendous impact on Brownsville as well as all of the citizens. It is way past time to mobilize and engage for our City and ourselves. The most recent impact has been the CLRC project. This \$2.1 million dollar project extra costs include required \$800,000 in extra BOLI wages, a family bathroom costing \$180,000, a fire suppression system costing \$280,000, creating an extra exit costing \$160,000, incorporating low voltage lighting at the cost of \$65,000, among other requirements. If added all together these costs total \$1,485,000 added cost to the project.



These costs dramatically impact the City when doing projects, and ultimately the taxpayers as funding needs increase.

4. **Planning.** No comments.
5. **Library.** No comments.
6. **Office.** No comments.
7. **Council.** Councilor Winklepleck stated that Linn County District Attorney Doug Marteeny was the guest for the latest meeting with the Linn County Sheriff's Office. Councilor Winklepleck was impressed with the work he does for the County and his belief in justice.
8. **Citizen Comments.** Mike Rodolf shared concerns over a recent auto-shop application that has been tabled by the Planning Commission. Rodolf feels the City should put a stop order on these activities immediately because he claims that the electrical is not up to current Code requirements along with other issues. Rodolf claimed that city of Brownsville Staff stopped Linn County from inspecting the building.

Allen Buzzard passed out copies of the U.S. Constitution courtesy of the American Legion highlighting September 17th as the official ratification date of the Constitution 237 years ago.

LEGISLATIVE:

1. **Resolution 2024.13 | Public Works Rates.** *Councilor Hansen moved to approve R 2024.13 as presented. Councilor Solberg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.*
2. **Resolution 2024.14 | Planning Fees.** *Councilor Hansen moved to approve R 2024.14 as presented. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.*
3. **Ordinance 806 | Parks & Open Spaces Advisory Board Code Language | (First Reading).** *Councilor Hansen moved to read by title only. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mayor Craven read by title only. This ordinance will come before Council next month for the second reading.*
4. **Kaye Fox Proclamation.** Mayor Craven read the Kaye Fox proclamation for the record.
5. **Arbor Day Proclamation.** Mayor Craven read the proclamation.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Central Linn School District (CLSD) & Central Linn Recreation Association (CLRA) Agreement.** The City, CLSD, & CLRA are working together to create a reciprocating agreement for the use of public property for youth sports programming. Discussion ensued. McDowell was asked to develop a few options to review with Dr. Pelt or her Staff. *Councilor Winklepleck moved to send Mr. McDowell back to negotiate with the CLSD. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.*
2. **Friends of Gap Road | Troy Jones.** Troy Jones asked Council to support their efforts in opposition of the Muddy Creek Solar Farm. Jones made it clear that the Friends are in favor of solar energy, but the proposed location and size of the installation have too many environmental



concerns. Councilor Hansen moved to authorize Staff to draft a letter of support for Friends of Gap Road. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

3. **Authorize Planning Commission Member Vacancy.** Councilor Winklepleck moved to approve this advertisement. Councilor Solberg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
4. **Streetlight Request | Jim & Sue Smith.** Council asked McDowell to further investigate the installation of a new streetlight in the 300 block of Spaulding Avenue and to require the applicant to canvas the neighbors for their approval.
5. **League of Oregon Cities (LOC) Priorities | Final Selection.** Council discussed the current LOC priorities and how they align with the City's priorities. There is only one priority that Council can support at this time. McDowell reported that the City has been trying to work with the LOC for a couple of years, and the direction they continue to go is not supportive or conducive to our small City. Council sent McDowell forth by consensus.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Nuisance Abatement Modification.** This item was deleted from the agenda tonight.
2. **Fall Newsletter.** Staff will be working on the Fall newsletter soon. No email has been difficult to work around.
3. **July & August Financials.** The bond payment seems to have been recorded twice, in July and August. Staff will research and submit revisions in the next Council packet.

CITIZEN QUESTIONS & COMMENTS. No comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilor Chambers stated that she appreciates Mr. McDowell's quotes featured each month in his City Administrator's Report. This month the quote by Ludwig Von Mises, Economist, "*Worship of the state is the worship of force. The worst evils which mankind ever had to endure were inflicted by governments*", is particularly timely.

Councilor Winklepleck shared that his neighbor is a teacher in Harrisburg, and they have been celebrating, focusing, and learning about the Constitution on *Constitution Day*. He feels it is so important for our youth to reconnect to the basic premise this country is built on.

Mr. McDowell commented next addressing the comments made earlier tonight about Staff and civil liberties; the bottom line is the City has 60 years' worth of precedence on the matter that is currently in front of the Planning Commission. It is important to note that the City of Brownsville does not enforce Linn County electrical codes, nor does Linn County in this situation. The City has allowed auto shops throughout town for decades. The Planning Commission granted the applicant more time to investigate a few of the issues. The findings of fact that Mrs. Coleman put together is very clear in stating that it is the applicant's responsibility to comply with all State and Federal laws and local regulations. Any agreement between the owner of a property and a renter is between them, the City has nothing to do with it. Staff did take a 45-minute meeting with Mr. Rodolf to discuss his concerns and the situation. Staff then contacted Linn County for verification, and was told the direct opposite information that Mr. Rodolf had claimed. The allegations Mr. Rodolf made tonight are serious. And, again, the City has always allowed the continuance of use until a final ruling is issued. Perhaps this practice may be a



discussion at the next goal setting session, but the City is abiding by current policy and practice. The Planning Commission will be meeting in October to issue a final ruling on the matter.

Mayor Craven shared his concern about community division that has been endured by Council and Brownsville. Craven said that Brownsville seems to be a microcosm of the national political scene. He cited several attacks defaming his character that he has suffered during his tenure on Council and as Mayor. Craven was seriously concerned about the threatening letter the City recently received targeting himself, Councilor Solberg and Mr. McDowell, threatening them to choose wisely, or else. Mr. Craven condemned these kinds of tactics. Craven stated that the seeds of division have been sown here in Brownsville, and a certain group is continuing to promote this division. Craven stated that intimidation will not work, and it is time to stop playing defense, and play offense. It is time for constitutionally minded people that have common sense to start going on offense as well. Mayor Craven has gotten a lot of great feedback in the last few weeks supporting him and this path forward. Mayor Craven stated that he was duly elected by the citizens of Brownsville, and he is on a mission to protect and save this City, our State, and this country. He stated that every one of us is born with kindness; we don't need to be told to choose it. Mayor Craven cited recent assassination attempts on former President Trump that show a serious and troubling development in America's political scene, enflamed by the news media. Threats, violence, and attempted violence is not the way to handle political differences and should not be tolerated in America.

Councilor Solberg said that he was contacted by concerned citizens about the appearance of blue dots around the community. He encouraged folks to do the research to explain what it signifies.

Councilor Hansen wanted it noted for the record that a recent Albany Democrat Herald news article stated that he had called the audience members "intolerable." Hansen clarified for the record that the work he used was "intolerant." Councilor Hansen stated that he understands the concerns of the audience; it seems there is clearly a political agenda here.

Mayor Craven addressed the host of articles that have been published and rumors that have been promulgated as fact, when in fact they are lies or innuendos. He would like to see things chill out a bit. Brownsville has always been a very welcoming place, and we need to get back there.

Councilor Chambers commented that we should all choose kindness, and practice what you preach.

ADJOURNMENT: *Councilor Humphreys moved to adjourn at 9:59 p.m. Councilor Solberg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.*

City Administrator S. Scott McDowell

Mayor Adam Craven



October 22nd, 2024

From: S. Scott McDowell
To: Mayor & Council
Re: General Business

Note: The first section of this report follows the Council meeting agenda and provides an overview of topics to be discussed the night of Council. If an item title is **highlighted in green**, that means the item is part of Council Goals. When you see this symbol, ☒, it means more information will be provided at the meeting.

“One who makes himself a worm cannot complain afterwards if people step on him.”
~ Immanuel Kant, *Philosopher*

“The forest was shrinking but the trees kept voting for the axe, for the axe was clever and convinced the trees that because his handle was made of wood, he was one of them.”
~ *Turkish Proverb*

“Knowledge isn’t free. You have to pay attention.”
~ *Professor Feynman*

“There is nothing noble in being superior to you fellow men. True nobility lies in being superior to your former self.”
~ *Ernest Hemingway*



AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSION

The following items follow the order of the Agenda

6) PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS:

- A. **Brownsville Art Association Annual Report** | *President Dr. Garcy* – Dr. Garcy will give a brief annual report on Association activities.
- B. **Chamber of Commerce** | *Jenna Stutsman* – Chamber President Jenna Stutsman will give a brief annual report and request the closure of Spaulding Avenue for *Home for the Holidays*.

What is Council being asked to do?

Consider the closure of Park Avenue for the annual tree lighting event.



Jenna Stutsman

9) LEGISLATIVE:

- A. **Ordinance 806: Parks & Open Space Advisory Board Code Language (Second Reading)** – The Parks & Open Space Advisory Board is recommending language changes. Below is an excerpt from their September meeting:



Coleman shared Chapter 2.30.010 and Chapter 2.30.020 that contain language that the Board should review for relevance. Chapter 2.30.010 requires a member of the Park Board to also serve as a member of the Central Linn Recreation Association Board. McDowell shared historical reference for this practice. In 2007, Brandie Simon served as the liaison and later Betsy Ramshur served in this role. Leadership has changed through the years from Tim Marchbanks to George Frasier to Blaine Cheney to Sean Johnson and, now to Katy Kallai. Council charged the City Administrator to be involved with the Central Linn Recreation Association to help facilitate the relationship. Council also appoints a liaison.

McDowell talked about Chapter 2.30.020 that established the Park Board. The old origination language is still in the Chapter and is unnecessary.

Coleman and McDowell showed which language needed to be removed from these Chapters to make the Code current.

A motion was made by Rick Morrow, seconded by Betsy Ramshur to recommend the modification as presented and send to Council.

What is Council being asked to do?

Give the language a second reading. Decide whether to pass the ordinance modifications.

10) ACTION ITEMS:

- A. **Spaulding Avenue Closure | Home for the Holidays** – Chamber is requesting closure of Spaulding Avenue for their event. Council has approved this item for many years. Usually, the Chamber invites the Mayor to the event to welcome guests, and Christmas carols are sung while the tree is lit across from Armando’s restaurant.



What is Council being asked to do?

Approve the request provided Chamber representatives provide the necessary documentation.

- B. **Approve Council Meeting Schedule | 2025** – Council annually adopts their schedule for the upcoming year. Please note that August is a recess month.

What is Council being asked to do?

Council is being asked to approve the 2025 Council calendar.

- C. **Appointed Officials | Openings & Reappointments** – Annually, Staff reviews appointed official’s terms and the following members would like to be considered for reappointment:

Planning Commission

Gary Compton

Parks & Open Space Advisory Board

Pat MacDermott | Pam Solberg

Budget Committee

Don Andrews | Rick Dominguez



Openings

One (1) for Parks & Open Space Advisory Board, one (1) for Budget Committee, and one (1) for Planning Commission that was already approved.

What is Council being asked to do?

Consider the reappointment of these officials and authorize Staff to advertise for openings.

11) DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. **SMAC Session Updates** – Staff will provide a quick update on issues being actively pursued.
- B. **James Lease | North Wastewater Treatment Plant** – The City has had a lease with the James family to farm the irrigation pivot acreage at North Wastewater Treatment Plant since 1979. Recent developments require Council discussion.
- C. **September Financials** – Staff made necessary adjustments as pointed out by Councilor Winklepleck at the last meeting.

UPDATES, INFORMATION & HAPPENINGS

SingerLewak (FY2023.2024) – Staff reviewed the audit and is awaiting from final issuance from SingerLewak.

From 09.24.2024: Staff are reviewing the draft audit. Once reviewed, SingerLewak will publish the final audit report. Staff will then submit the audit to the necessary reporting agencies.



Planning Commission – Mike Rodolf has indicated that he will file for appeal on a recent Planning Commission decision. Council will again act as a quasi-judicial body for this appeal. Date to be determined.

From 09.24.2024: Staff has been busy working on a tabled matter before the Commission. Staff are also working to resolve other outstanding development issues. City Attorney Ross Williamson has been consulted on a couple of these issues to provide interpretation and to clarify steps the Staff can legally take.

517 Averill Street – Staff entered into a contract with Curtis Excavation for the cleanup. The contract amount will be liened against the property upon completion.

From 09.24.2024: Staff met with the owner to discuss the cleanup of the property after the fire last year. The property owner is working well with the City to resolve this issue.

Weeds & Nuisances Update – Staff is resolving several items around town which will more than likely continue until Thanksgiving this year.

From 09.24.2024: Staff continues to work on several nuisances throughout town. The City has been very fortunate to have had good citizen/owner/renter cooperation this year. Many citizens have taken care of items brought to their attention. Staff is grateful for this response. Staff is working on a situation on Elm Street involving a RV and Priscilla Vanderark, a vehicle cleanup at Bill Hand’s



property on 717 Kaye Avenue, and Ben Maude’s property clean up at 517 Averill Street following the fire last August to name a few.

Canal Company Agreement Update ☒ – Stalled this month.

From 09.24.2024: Staff finished the explanation video for the Town Hall meetings to be hosted this Fall. The Canal Company and Staff are targeting the end of October, first two weeks of November for these community presentations. The City will host four (4) total explanation sessions that will be the same presentation to ensure people have ample opportunity to attend one of these meetings. After those Town Hall meetings, the Canal Company membership will vote on whether to enter into an agreement with the City for the maintenance of the Mill Race.



From 07.23.2024: Council moved forward with Staff collecting information for presenting at a series of joint Town Hall meetings with the Canal Company.

From 06.25.2024: The agreement may not be in it’s absolute final form, however, most of the major tenets have been addressed. Council is being asked to review the agreement and consider moving forward with the next steps of the plan as previously presented to Council.

From 05.23.2024: Councilor Chambers and I met with the Canal Company Board on May 16th. The general agreement has been reviewed, and terms have been agreed upon. I have sent the agreement to City Attorney Ross Williamson for review. The tentative plan is for Council to review the agreement as early as the June meeting.

From 05.23.2024: The City verified through HUB International that coverage is in place for the Mill Race. Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink has started operations.

REAL Meeting – McDowell will provide an oral update.

From 09.24.2024: Recently launched a survey with the help of JayRay to further address the goals of their five year plan. More to follow.



GR12 Waterline – Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink reported that the project has officially been finalized.

From 09.24.2024: The City made Payment #4 toward the completion of this project. Public Works Superintendent Frink and City Engineer Ryan Quigley are working with the contractor to resolve electrical issues. Once this is completed, final testing will commence.

From 07.23.2024: City Engineer Ryan Quigley reports that the project should be wrapping up the third week of July. Public Works Superintendent Frink and I will have an update for Council Tuesday evening.

Woodblock Architecture | Rec Center Renovation Project – Staff processed the final payment for J.E. John. Several items remain under warranty.

From 09.24.2024: Staff has been working with J.E. John’s Kyle Marston to finalize outstanding details. Continuing concerns include windows finish work, HVAC issues, and requesting an extension for the flooring system through August 2025. Staff has ordered special chairs and a new volleyball stand for the floor surface in accordance with Tarkett’s specifications. Public Works has installed and prepared these items for use. Administrative Assistant Jannea Deaver is preparing the rental forms



City Administrator Report

to match the new requirements of renting each space. Public Works Superintendent Frink has finalized many items including buildings security issues and fixing several of the ongoing lighting issues.

Active: Central Linn School District & Central Linn Recreation Association IGA – Staff is currently negotiating with the District as directed by Council.

From 09.24.2024: Please see the agreement that is part of the agenda packet. Below is an excerpt from the recent Park Board meeting explaining the agreement details:

McDowell reported on the August 12th, 2024, Central Linn School Board meeting he attended with Central Linn Recreation Association President Katy Kallai and Councilor Sean LaCoste. Betsy Ramshur was also in attendance. The intention of the agreement was to simply formalize the use of public spaces historically used by the Rec Center and City property used by the CLSD. McDowell shared the picture and story of the soccer field in Pioneer Park being used for the Central Linn Middle School.

McDowell said the concern is that personnel changes frequently at the CLSD and the Rec Center and it is important for everyone to be on the same page. Coaches are interrupted by various personnel being asked to move and being told they are not authorized to be in certain places, which causes a lot of unnecessary disruptions. The hope is that this agreement will create a better, more consistent outcome for all participants. It is also important to note that the City nor the Rec Center will have to go through the formal process the School has for use of their spaces.

CLSD Superintendent added conditions of the use of the new synthetic turf field that includes a reduced charge for the use of this field. Board member Tony Isom provided several reasons why the CLSD is charging for this field. I countered with the fact that the City updated the Rec Center at the cost of \$2M, but we do not intend to charge the CLSD for occasional use. The discussion was turned back to Pelt and McDowell.

McDowell will take the agreement to Council in September for review. If anyone has anything they would like to say, email, send me a letter or show up to the next Council meeting.

McDowell is hoping that we can work with CLSD to host exhibitions in the new gym like basketball scrimmages or other community events involving sports.

From 06.25.2024: Dr. Candace Pelt plans to finalize the agreement at the August School Board meeting. The City initiated this conversation hoping to create a cooperative agreement between the School District, the City, and the Central Linn Recreation Association for use of public green spaces for youth sports programs.

Linn County Sheriff's Office Monthly Report | [G1] – The City is under contract for 200 hours per month. The eighteen-month average looks like this:

LCSO Month-to-Month Comparison (18 months)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Citations</i>	<i>Warnings</i>	<i>Hours</i>
2024	September	15	17	202
2024	August	17	17	201.75
2024	July	15	23	296.75
2024	June	33	51	200
2024	May	36	32	200



City Administrator Report

2024	April	10	22	201.25
2024	March	17	28	209.25
2024	February	19	66	212.75
2024	January	13	34	204
2023	December	11	20	218.25
2023	November	11	25	221
2023	October	26	33	210
2023	September	15	19	203
2023	August	17	12	210.5
2023	July	10	20	208.25
2023	June	7	11	202
2023	May	6	12	224.5
2023	April	6	19	200
	<i>Subtotal</i>	284	461	3825.3
	Total Average	15.78	25.61	212.51

LCSO Quarterly Meeting – *From 09.24.2024:* Linn County District Attorney Doug Marteeny attended the September meeting to discuss Measure 110, deflection, recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions, and to review crime statistics and major law enforcement trends in Linn County and the State of Oregon. Councilor Winklepleck and I will provide an oral report. Sheriff Duncan indicated that staffing continues to be a major concern. Duncan is committed to ensuring that contract cities receive their hours. She listed a myriad of reasons for staffing shortages. Overall, the cities were very satisfied with the service received from the LCSO.

Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC)

Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC) ☒ – Mayor Craven recently attended a meeting with communities showing interest in joining SMAC.

From 09.24.2024: Cities are meeting Sean Tate at the end of the month to discuss priorities and look for common platform issues. Brownsville will review policy positions after the review. Tate will provide some insights on current committee issues and what is being discussed in Salem. Recreational Immunity and H.B. 3115 will be closely followed along with a number of other issues that are unduly impacting local communities.

From 07.23.2024: The City will soon begin activating the Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) to review policy positions and prepare for the upcoming long session of the State Assembly.

From 06.25.2024: The City recently extended the agreement with Tate Public Affairs. Planning meetings will be happening over the summer months in preparation for the long-session of the State Assembly.

ACTIVE, PENDING, STALLED & COMPLETED

Active: State Agencies – *From 09.24.2024:* The City received a new TMDL certified letter. I have included the letter as part of the agenda packet. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) finally addresses NPDES permittees in the letter. Staff expects this to extend to Brownsville as soon as the City has a NPDES permit update. Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) also forwarded a packet



City Administrator Report

of in stream water rights that will make it even more difficult for cities and water districts to obtain permits from the State according to Dyer Partnership.

Active: TMDL Report – *From 04.23.2024:* The City received approval for the required DMA Plan just before last Council meeting. Karl Frink and I will give an overview Tuesday evening. The email notification is in the agenda packet for your review.



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

From 12.19.2023: The Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Priscilla Woolverton has contacted the City about the most recent edition of the TMDL. We are awaiting further information.

From 11.28.2023: Twice a year the City is required to report on TMDL. The requirements stem from the Clean Water Act passed by the United States Congress. In Oregon, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) administers the program. The basic premise of TMDL contends that stormwater runoff is negatively impacting fish habitat and making fish unsafe to eat in copious quantities by humans. In March of 2021, the City was deemed a Designated Management Agency (DMA) by the DEQ which required the City to complete a new, more rigorous TMDL plan. DEQ approved the City's plan earlier this year.

TMDL Five-Year Review: The City is required to file a five-year report to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on the TMDL plan. I have placed the questionnaire on the City website at: <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/citycouncil> under Supporting Documents. [...]

Active: Water Management Conservation Plan – *From 07.23.2024:* Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink is working on installations and repairs to address the adopted plan.

From 05.23.2024: Money has been budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year to begin to address the requirements of this plan.

From 04.23.2024: Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink and I have budgeted funds for the implementation of this plan. The City has a required timeline for implementation.

From 01.23.2024: Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink is working on valve replacements and meter replacements at key points before doing system-wide leak detection project.

From 10.24.2023: Staff will begin implementing items as identified by Staff and approved by Council. Items include the adoption of a water conservation ordinance, auditing the water distribution system, and the creation of water filling station.

From 09.26.2023: The City finally received the final requirements from the Oregon Water Resources Department for the City's newly adopted Water Management & Conservation Plan (WMCP). [...] The plan can be found in its entirety on the City website at: <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/citycouncil> under Supporting Documents.

This is an unfunded mandate. [...]

Active: Linn County Housing Rehabilitation Program (LCHRP) – *From 10.24.2023:* The City collaborates with the communities in Linn County to help low-income homeowners to make improvements to their houses using Federal money (HUD). The City has been a member of this organization for over forty years. Cities take turns being the lead recipient and DevNW manages the funds received. Brownsville had its turn a few years ago. Currently, the City of Lebanon is taking the lead on the current funding request.



- ★ **Active: Central Linn School District (CLSD) Bond Committee** | *From 09.24.2024:* CLSD representatives shared three proposals, the Foundation proposal, the Heritage proposal, and the Legacy proposal. Please find more information on the District's website at <https://www.centrallinn.k12.or.us/about-us/community-bond-advisory-committee-proposals>. The website shows background information, associated costs, and an assessment calculator to verify the annual cost to you, the taxpayer.
- ★ **Completed: Planning Commission** | *Variance Appeal* | *Mike Lake* – *From 09.24.2024:* Council granted this variance.
- ★ **Completed: Resolution 2024.13: Public Works Rates** – *From 09.24.2024:* Rate increases were approved.
- ★ **Completed: Resolution 2024.14: Planning Fees** – *From 09.24.2024:* Fee increases and clarifications were approved.
- ★ **Active: Friends of Gap Road** | *Muddy Creek Solar Farm* – *From 09.24.2024:* Troy Jones provided a letter of support as approved by Council.
- ★ **Active: Streetlight Request** | *Jim & Sue Smith* – Pacific Power confirmed the pole is viable for a streetlight. Mr. Smith is now getting signatures from area residents.
From 09.24.2024: Council sent Staff to investigate this item and to require additional research of the applicant.

Respectfully Submitted,

S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator

Please visit the City website at <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us> for all kinds of information pertaining to the City's business & operations.

★ *Kirk Avenue History* ★ *Calapooia Riverbank* ★ *Plus much more*

PLANNING AT A GLANCE

October 2024

Permits *Building, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fence, Etc.*

• Mechanical	Install Wood Insert	702 School Ave
• Structural	SFD w/attached Garage	784 Pebble St
• Mechanical	Install 4' Class One Hood & Rooftop Units	203 Bishop Way
• Plumbing	Replace WH & Install Sinks	203 Bishop Way
• Mechanical	Replace Mini Split	203 Bishop Way
• Plumbing	Backflow Device	145 Park Ave
• Mechanical	Install Gas Stove, Venting, Gas Piping	552 Spaulding Ave
• Construction	Accessory Structure	317 Walnut Ave
• Fence		731 Templeton St

OTHER:

River's Edge Phase 3: Staff have completed three more onsite setback verification for homesites.

Staff continues to be approached by property owners regarding the private drainage and other factors as stated below. The answer has been the same.

In short, 1) the developer was required to follow Floodplain Development requirements for elevating the property per FEMA guidelines & City of Brownsville Municipal Code, 2) the developer met the home design criteria determined by the Planning Commission in 2018, 3) staff contacted the developer, who now understands the Brownsville Municipal Code requirements as they pertain to noise & construction, 4) staff visited the site; the developer is not obstructing the private drainage ditch that abuts the properties along the east side of Depot Avenue (within the subdivision).

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission met on October 14th to hear a continuance related to the August 26th hearing for a Conditional Use Permit request. The Planning Commission requested additional information from the applicant. The outcome was an approval of the use.

The Planning Commission will be working on the Zoning Ordinance in the near future, this is considered a land use change and submission to the Department of Land Conservation & Development will be required.

Elizabeth E. Grewson



Library Advisory Board


Librarian's Report

September 2024

Here are a few facts about our Library for the month of September 2024. We have received 43 new books for the library. Volunteers donated 100.25 hours to our library. There were 1,10 materials checked out. 316 adult fiction books; 91 adult non-fiction books; 64 audio books; 353 children's books; 186 junior books; 36 junior reference books and 64 large print books.

There was a total of 230 electronic materials checked out. 150 adult fiction books; 41 adult non-fiction books; and 39 junior books. Of these 80 were eBooks and 150 were eAudiobooks.

In September, we held 4 children's programs with 29 participants. There were 7 programs for adults with 82 participants. World Cultures & Travels opened with Don Lyon speaking about Galapagos. Vanport Traveling Exhibit opened at the Library on Tuesday, September 24. This Exhibit is courtesy of the Oregon Historical Society and with the support and cooperation of the Linn County Historical Museum. The Library hosted a talk that was very successful featuring Carolyn Pearce and Sonja Compton. The Exhibit runs through Saturday October 12 in the Kirk Room.



Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Lemhouse,
Librarian



ORDINANCE NO. 806

AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING SECTIONS 2.30.010 & 2.30.020 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE, OREGON

WHEREAS, Title 2 of the Brownsville Municipal Code (BMC) defines Administration & Personnel for Parks & Open Space Advisory Board, and;

WHEREAS, Council wishes to clean up language that is no longer necessary; and,

NOW THEREFORE, the City of Brownsville ordains as follows:

Section 1. The following Section 2.30.010 is modified as follows:

Currently Reads:

2.30.010 Establishment of the Brownsville Parks and Open Space Advisory Board.

The City Council of the City of Brownsville hereby establishes the Brownsville Parks and Open Space Advisory Board (hereafter, the “Board”). The Board shall consist of seven members to be appointed by the Mayor. Two members of the Board may be nonresidents of the City of Brownsville, provided they shall be residents of the Brownsville Rural Fire District. The Board may appoint a third nonresident member provided the member owns property within the City limits and resides within the Brownsville Rural Fire District. At least one member of the Board shall also be a member of the Central Linn Recreational Center Board. Board members shall receive no compensation.

Modified to Read:

2.30.010 Establishment of the Brownsville Parks and Open Space Advisory Board.

The City Council of the City of Brownsville hereby establishes the Brownsville Parks and Open Space Advisory Board (hereafter, the “Board”). The Board shall consist of seven members to be appointed by the Mayor. Two members of the Board may be nonresidents of the City of Brownsville, provided they shall be residents of the Brownsville Rural Fire District. The Board may appoint a third nonresident member provided the member owns property within the City limits and resides within the Brownsville Rural Fire District. Board members shall receive no compensation.

Section 2. The following Section 2.30.020 is modified as follows:

Currently Reads:

2.30.020 Terms of office – Vacancies.

At the first meeting of the Board, the seven members shall choose their term of office by lots as follows: two for one year, two for two years, and three for three years. Immediately



thereafter, the members shall notify the Mayor and Council in writing of such allotment. Members shall hold office for three years. The Mayor shall fill any vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term, after advertising in local newspapers and the posting of public notice. Re-appointment is allowed. [Ord. 686A § 2, 2004.]

Modified to Read:

2.30.020 Terms of office – Vacancies.

The Mayor shall fill any vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term, after advertising in local newspapers and the posting of public notice. Re-appointment is allowed. [Ord. 686A § 2, 2004.]

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR,

this _____th day of October, 2024.

Attest:

S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator

Adam R. Craven
Mayor



2025 Council Meeting Schedule

Calendar for Year 2025 (United States)

<p>January</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Su</th><th>Mo</th><th>Tu</th><th>We</th><th>Th</th><th>Fr</th><th>Sa</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>6:● 13:○ 21:● 29:●</p>	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		<p>February</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Su</th><th>Mo</th><th>Tu</th><th>We</th><th>Th</th><th>Fr</th><th>Sa</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>5:● 12:○ 20:● 27:●</p>	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		<p>March</p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Su</th><th>Mo</th><th>Tu</th><th>We</th><th>Th</th><th>Fr</th><th>Sa</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>6:● 14:○ 22:● 29:●</p>	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
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Regular Council Meetings

August | Recess

Budget Meeting | May 1st, if needed.



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SEPTEMBER 27,
2024
BY WFM STAFF

EPA to provide technical assistance to rural, small and Tribal communities



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced the availability of \$49 million in new technical assistance funding to help rural, small and Tribal communities address critical wastewater and water quality challenges.

The new funding will be awarded to technical assistance providers who will help communities identify their water infrastructure needs and guide them toward appropriate funding options. The agency said the action advances the [Biden-Harris administration’s commitment to environmental justice](#).

Many rural, small, and Tribal systems face unique financial and operational challenges, including aging infrastructure, workforce shortages, increasing costs, and declining rate bases. EPA’s grant funding will be used to assess the most pressing water challenges in communities, provide training on water infrastructure and management best practices, help communities navigate the federal funding application process, and strategically invest in reliable infrastructure solutions.

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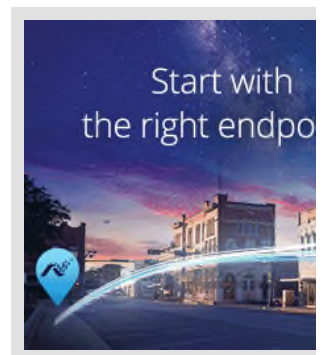
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AWWA updates national cost estimates
SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

The Rural, Small, and Tribal Technical Assistance providers are important in helping to ensure that these communities receive help accessing resources to support infrastructure improvements. These providers can provide direct support to help build technical, managerial, and financial capacity to operate centralized and decentralized wastewater management systems.

“Our nation’s water infrastructure delivers clean drinking water to homes, schools and businesses and safely returns wastewater to the environment. But there are far too many people in this country dealing with broken, old or simply non-existent water infrastructure,” said EPA Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water Bruno Pigott. “This \$49 million will help more rural, small, and Tribal communities address pressing water challenges while advancing the Biden-Harris Administration’s efforts to close the water equity gap in our country.”

EPA’s notice of funding availability identifies four priorities for this funding:

Acquisition of Financing and Funding: These applicants will help rural, small, and Tribal communities plan for and access funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) and other sources.

Protection of Water Quality and Compliance Assistance: This funding will help rural, small, and Tribal communities improve their technical, managerial, and financial capacity and maintain compliance.

Tribal Wastewater Systems: This area provides training and technical assistance to tribes across all areas of their Clean Water Infrastructure.

Decentralized Wastewater Systems: More than one in five households in the United States rely on septic systems and other decentralized systems, and this priority area focuses on assistance to those communities. EPA is accepting applications until November 25, 2024.

Information about how to apply is available on EPA’s [Training and Technical Assistance Program for Rural, Small, and Tribal Wastewater Systems webpage](#).

Background

The Rural, Small and Tribal Clean Water Technical Assistance Grant Program was established by the America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018. The program aims to provide technical assistance and training to improve rural, small and tribal wastewater system operations and management practices, making them more sustainable and resilient, and supporting EPA’s mission to protect public health and the environment. [Learn more](#) about the tools, training, and resources for small, rural, Tribal wastewater systems. Communities can request assistance by visiting the agency’s [Water Technical Assistance webpage](#).

Tags: [EPA](#), [rural water](#), [water finance](#)

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AUGUST 19, 2024
BY CONTRIBUTING
AUTHOR

What to Look for When Replacing Lead Service Lines



By Marcus Elmer

The EPA has proposed updates to the Lead & Copper Rule Revision (LCRR) to enhance protection against lead in drinking water, aiming to simplify rules, improve corrosion control, boost public education, and enhance safety in educational facilities. The implementation of the Lead & Copper Rule Improvement (LCRI) could significantly advance public health by mitigating lead contamination and prioritizing safer drinking water across the U.S. through clear regulations, increased awareness, and expedited service line replacements.

Cities and communities vary in handling lead service line replacements; some replace the entire line, while others involve homeowner financial responsibility for private property portions. This article discusses key considerations for replacing lead service lines, including Denver’s plans.

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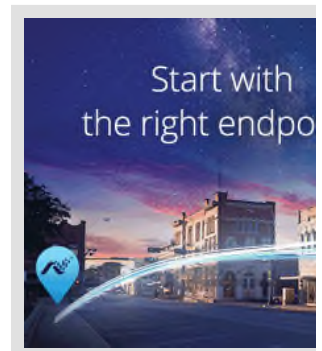
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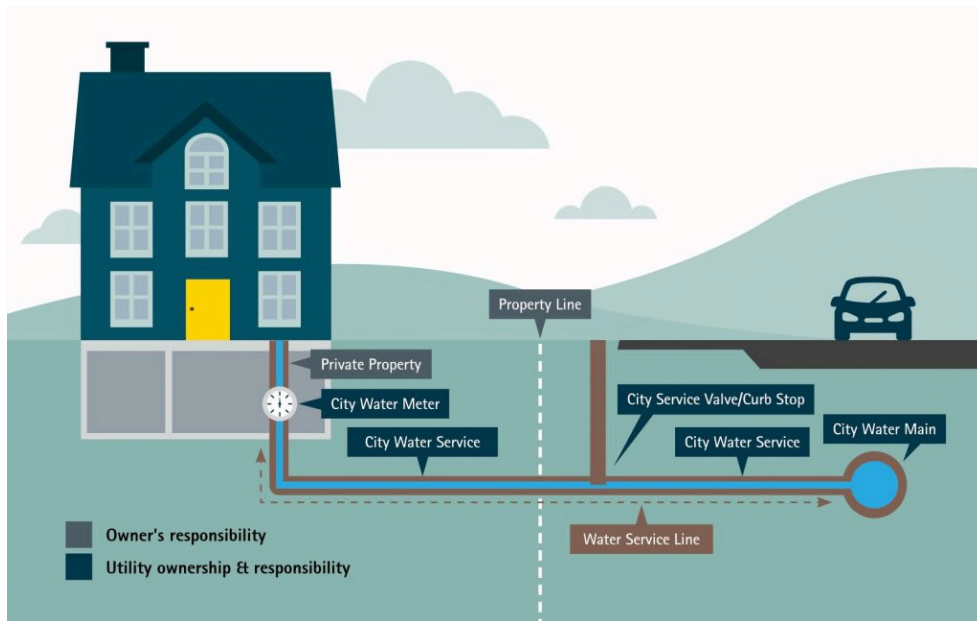
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When replacing lead service lines, it is crucial to do a complete service line replacement. Both the city and the homeowner lines. A partial replacement will exacerbate the issue and likely elevate lead levels due to disturbance of the line.

When using copper for replacements, it's advised to select Type K annealed coils, ensure proper sleeving and wrapping if required, and use flare fittings for connections. Importantly, position the copper tube in the "3 o'clock" position coming off of the water main to prevent loosening during backfill and compaction.

Key Visual Indicators

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For proper copper service line installation, adhere to the following directives. Improper installation techniques can lead to failure or unnecessary repair:

1. No material pipe-joint compound should be applied to mating surface for flare fitting and flared tube before attaching flare nut (See Figure 1).
2. Position the copper piping in the “3 o’clock” position (also known as a gooseneck or pigtail) coming off the water main to ensure the backfill and soil packing process does not loosen flare connection (See Figure 2).
3. The best option for installing copper underground is to bury it in direct contact with the soil or bedding. If wrapping is required, ensure proper sealing and protection are applied to prevent any water or moisture from getting trapped between the wrap and copper service line.
4. Directional (trenchless) boring or pulling diameters are as close as possible to the outside diameter of the copper tube.
5. In open trenching/excavation, the copper service line should not lay directly on undisturbed or unexcavated soil at the bottom of the trench (See Figure 3).
6. Sleeving through foundations and walls must be sealed watertight (See Figure 4). Do not use caulks or spray insulation that contains ammonia or methanol. Sleeves can be sealed with Fernco™ electrometric clamps or electrician’s duct seal.



Figure 1



Figure 2

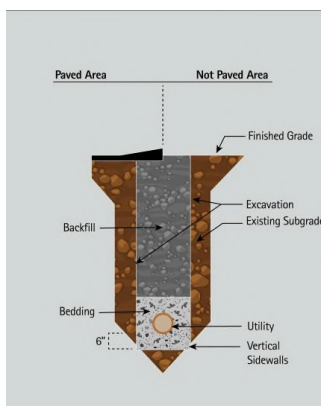


Figure 3

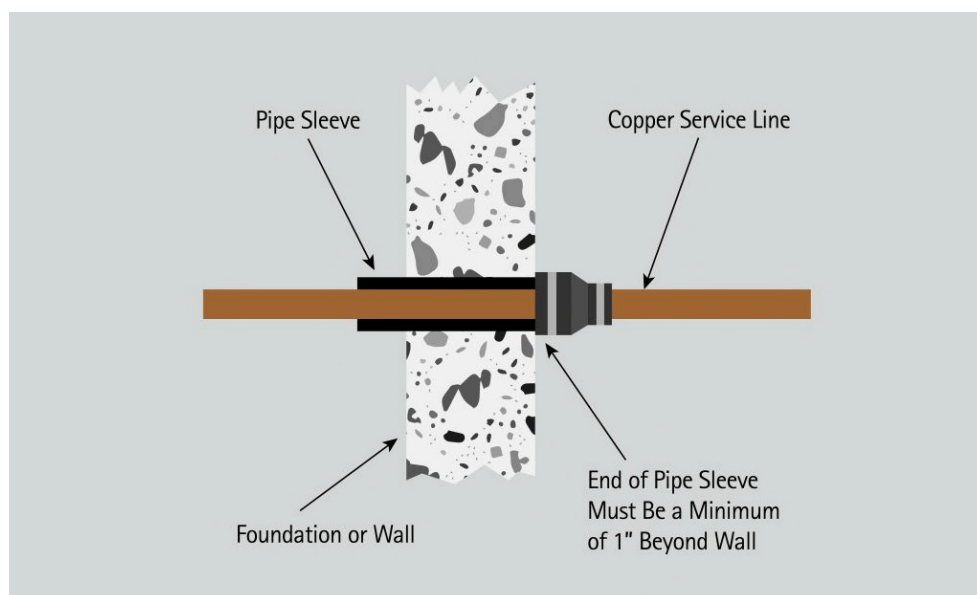


Figure 4

Denver Water Pulls Out Lead, Pulls in Copper

Unfortunately, tens of thousands of older homes in Denver use lead service lines to connect with the water main.

Denver was founded in the 19th century and has grown steadily as railroads connected the east with the west. Service lines from that era were commonly made from lead pipes. Lead was readily available, easy to work with and health hazards associated with lead were not well known.

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Growing concerns about the toxicity of lead were raised after WWII, but it wasn't until 1986 that the installation of new lead service lines was banned by an Act of Congress. And yet, the existing lead service lines continue to be in service to this day.

Denver Water estimates that 64,000 to 84,000 properties may have lead service lines in its service area. Homes built before 1951 are especially likely to contain lead pipes in their service lines. The number of homes likely to have lead service lines in Denver is vast. The cost to replace all the lines could potentially be hundreds of millions of dollars. Legally, the service lines are the responsibility of the property owner. However, since lead in drinking water is health hazard, Denver Water aims to replace all the lead pipes at no direct cost to homeowners.

Denver Water Leads the Way

The dividing point between the public water system and private property is marked by the service line, installed at the property owner's expense. Denver Water commits to replacing discovered lead service lines with copper ones at no charge during pipe replacement operations. Those not replaced during such work are covered under the Lead Reduction Program, ensuring replacements are still made at no direct cost. Denver Water, a leader in clean water management, actively informs residents about these initiatives, identifying homes likely containing lead service lines.

Estimated to affect 64,000 to 84,000 homes, the program also includes health protection measures like water filters and pH adjustments in the water supply to reduce lead exposure. A laboratory supports this effort by studying how pH levels affect lead release. Homeowners opting to undertake lead service line replacement independently may receive up to \$3,800 in partial reimbursement.



Prioritization

Realistically, as with many large cities across the United States, it will take 15 years to replace all the lead service lines. One might look at the 15-year program and wonder why it will take so long. Before the acceleration was implemented, Denver Water was replacing service lines at a rate of about 1,200 per year. Initially, data on the number of existing lead service lines was unclear. Once the total numbers were realized, it was obvious that the pace was too slow.

At the original pace, it might take 50 years or more to replace all the lines. The current program will replace about 5,000 lead service lines per year. That means that 60,000 service lines could be replaced in a dozen years or, practically speaking, Denver could be lead-free in just 15 years. Denver Water's model for prioritization determines replacement areas based on several factors, including the likelihood that lead service lines are in a given area and how many properties in a given area are identified as either having or likely to have lead service lines.

The identification of elevated blood lead levels can be a factor as well as the number of critical facilities (e.g., childcare facilities and schools) identified as likely to have lead service lines. The replacement work is also coordinated with other efforts to minimize or avoid multiple disruptions to the same community.

Now with several years of experience in prioritization, the model used by Denver Water is of great interest to other communities seeking to provide the maximum health benefits as quickly as possible.

Digging, Boring and Pulling Through: What to Expect

Denver Water uses copper pipe for replacement pipes because it is durable, reliable, and long-lasting. Denver Water has produced several excellent videos to inform its residents of the replacement program and what to expect once work begins.

Especially informative is the video simply titled "How does Denver Water replace lead service lines," which describes two pipe replacement methods: The first is the pull-through method, which involves passing a cable through the old lead service line to the water main, attaching the cable to the copper pipe and then using an excavator to pull the lead pipe and copper pipe through to the water meter.

Another pipe replacement method utilized is the directional boring technique. The lead pipe is left in place and new hole is bored through the ground from the meter to the basement of the home or from the meter to the water main.

Connections are then made. Both techniques avoid having to dig a trench for the length of the pipe resulting in cost saving.

Roya Alkafaji, Manager, Healthy Communities, summarized the work of Denver Water in a blog for the Environmental Defense Fund as follows: “Denver Water has one of the most successful lead service line (LSL) replacement programs in the country. Since it began the program in 2020, the utility has replaced nearly 14,000 LSLs — prioritizing lines to buildings serving vulnerable populations, such as child-care facilities. Denver Water has also distributed over 102,000 filters to local residents. EPA should continue to support their innovative approach.”

Why Copper?

Copper has been the preferred water service line material for over a century due to its durability, versatility, and reliability. The most common service line material is Type K annealed (soft) copper tube. Copper is impermeable, maintaining water quality by preventing contamination and inhibiting microbial growth, thereby promoting health. It is resistant to corrosion, high pressure, and stress and unaffected by UV rays and disinfectants, minimizing failure risks. Copper is also fully recyclable, supporting a sustainable economy. As a lead-free option, it’s ideal for safe, durable water service lines.



Marcus Elmer is vice president of the Copper Development Association. He is a seasoned professional with more than 15 years of experience in the plumbing and mechanical industries. He leverages his expertise to identify and influence market trends for copper tube and fittings products, driving strategic programs that encompass technical research, codes and standards, advocacy and education.

Tags: [Denver Water](#), [Drinking Water](#), [lead](#), [Lead and Copper Rule Improvements](#), [lead service line replacement](#), [lead service lines](#)

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SEPTEMBER 4, 2024

Preparing for Impact: The Need for More Resilient Water Infrastructure

By Jordanna Rubin



Rubin

EVIDENCE HIGHLIGHTING THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE – AND ITS INCREASING IMPACT ON OUR SOCIETIES – IS INDISPUTABLE. 2023 SAW A FLURRY OF EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS ACROSS THE WORLD. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recorded 28 weather and climate disasters in the United States alone, topping the previous high of 22 events during 2020; these disasters also left a huge economic toll – to the tune of at least \$92.9 billion spent on disaster recovery. As scientists predict a potentially even warmer climate in 2024 (and beyond), we face an imperative to make significant investments in disaster resilience projects and planning to protect the people living in these vulnerable communities and the infrastructure they rely upon.

Disaster resilience encompasses much more than building flood walls in coastal cities or thinning dense forests in California. It requires a holistic planning and vulnerability assessment process that considers social and economic factors to prepare communities to mitigate impacts from storm events and other disasters. This diligence is critical due to the unpredictability of extreme weather and the urgency to prevent irrevocable marks from climate change. These efforts are swiftly needed in many places, including essential water and wastewater infrastructure.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) identifies water systems as a “community lifeline,” meaning a “fundamental service that enables all other aspects of society to function.” Because of the criticality of water and wastewater assets, it’s doubly important to properly plan for potential risks and impacts. In the event of a disaster, water infrastructure has two resiliency considerations: obviously the first goal is to keep the assets operational, but the second is to maintain continuity of service in times of emergency, when increased demand is likely. Even if a water treatment facility isn’t harmed



directly or indirectly, the increased need for the resource can place stress on the operations and infrastructure.

Take California, where on top of planning for seismic and wildfire events, water resiliency is a key consideration. In January 2024, San Diego experienced over a month’s worth of rain in the span of three hours, causing Southern California to brace for even more rain stemming from the El Niño climate pattern. These intense rain events increase the likelihood of flash flooding, which poses severe risk to existing infrastructure, while the extreme heat and drought that also often hits the region brings its own concerns. This variance often leaves cities and asset managers in a difficult position, trying to predict the unpredictable.

So, how should water and wastewater decision makers build resiliency into their systems and infrastructure?

First, create a full risk profile. This means not only understanding potential hazards, but also potential community fallout and the needed response. Then, ensure your response design is based on community need, particularly considering those who are the most vulnerable or disadvantaged. For example, securing emergency water supply – by storing water reserves, identifying alternative sources of water in the event of infrastructure damage, or investing in mobile water purification systems – ensures that a community lifeline stays online.

Second, facilitate strong engagement across public and private sectors. Without

this open dialogue, decision makers lack the inputs to adequately fulfill the needs of the community and draw on the appropriate technical expertise. Multiple government agencies deal with and are impacted by water and wastewater risks, so inter-agency and inter-stakeholder collaboration is key.

Finally, strengthen and build energy resiliency. In California, for instance, AECOM is designing a microgrid system for the City of Rialto’s wastewater treatment plant outside of Los Angeles. Once completed, the microgrid will allow the plant to be entirely self-sufficient from an energy perspective, resilient to disasters and efficient in service delivery. Projects like this ensure the plant can run amid power outages, avoiding negative community outcomes such as damaging leaks or releases that impact natural habitats and human health.

These three considerations and actions will help prepare water and wastewater decision makers for the moments when communities need them most. If assets are built thoughtfully with intelligent resiliency planning in mind, projects have staying power. With an increasingly volatile climate that disproportionately hits the underserved and disadvantaged, thoughtful water infrastructure planning has the opportunity to impact lives and make a real difference. 🌱

Jordanna Rubin is vice president, disaster resilience and equity at AECOM.



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Spend a Little, Save a Lot: Why Piloting a PFAS Treatment System Makes Good Financial Sense

AUGUST 21, 2024
BY **CONTRIBUTING**
AUTHOR



By Tom Muilenberg

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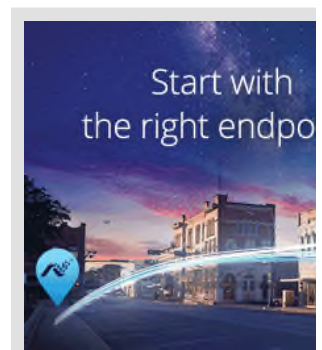
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As of June 2024, public water treatment plants have five years to comply with legally enforceable maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for six common per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). In addition to this new National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has designated two PFAS – PFOA and PFOS – as “hazardous substances” under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA, also known as Superfund), which specifically targets companies that release additional PFAS in wastewater.

In the wake of these new regulations, U.S. water and wastewater treatment plants are collectively considering their testing and treatment response and the investments they will need to make to achieve compliance. At an EPA-estimated \$1.5 billion annual cost for capital, operating and maintenance expenses, treatment plants should thoughtfully consider their next steps.

Tight Timeframe, But Still Time to Pilot

Under such a time constraint, facility managers may worry that there isn’t enough time to conduct a PFAS pilot, but this is not the case. Given the significant investment of new treatment technology, it’s critical that plants make the right decisions to avoid finding themselves with expensive equipment that cannot achieve compliance or technology that was cheap to buy but expensive to operate. A PFAS treatment pilot study is arguably the best way to design a system that is affordable, meets the specific needs of the plant and can achieve compliance by the June 2029 deadline.

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GAC and IX: Remediation Media Tested During Piloting

Currently, the most common solutions for PFAS removal are granular activated carbon (GAC) and ion exchange (IX) resin.

Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) is a long-proven technology for removing a wide range of contaminants, with strong market acceptance and a low operating cost. Able to reduce PFAS to non-detectable levels, GAC works best with long-chain PFAS. Compared to IX, it is better able to remove additional organic contaminants and disinfection by-products. At 10-20 minutes, its empty bed contact time (EBCT) is longer than IX and the filtration rate (linear velocity) is lower, which means the equipment will have a larger footprint and taller tanks than IX, which increases initial capital expenses. Re-agglomerated carbon from specialty grade bituminous coal has proven to provide the optimal performance for PFAS capture.

Ion Exchange (IX) uses anionic resin media that specifically targets PFAS, as IX is negatively charged to attract the positively charged “head” of the PFAS compounds. It offers better removal of both short- and long-chain PFAS than GAC and can reduce PFAS to non-detectable levels (as much as 99.99% removal) using a very short (2-3 minutes) EBCT, allowing for a smaller installation and a reduced capital expense. This single-use media offers the longest life of its kind on the market. On the downside, IX doesn’t perform as well in environments with high total organic content (TOC), which can greatly shorten media life and drive up operating expenses.

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With both IX and GAC, spent media must be removed and sent off-site for thermal destruction, which currently is the most common option for destroying PFAS.

A Safe Place to Fail

When designing systems, care is always taken to provide the best design possible. However, sometimes unforeseen issues may arise which can create unexpected performance and hence cost issues. In full-scale installations, these issues may be quite expensive. Pilots provide a golden opportunity to make mistakes on a small scale, when course correction is cheap and easy. Through piloting, plants can test various options without worrying about the cost of failure. This allows utilities to optimize a system and reduce the total cost of ownership – upfront capital expenses as well as long-term operational costs.

Piloting helps manage total costs and reduce financial risk in four big ways.

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1. Providing a Clear Picture of Source Contaminants and Water Constituents

Not all public water systems deal with the constant, stable types or concentrations of PFAS. In addition, other non-PFAS contaminants may be present in the water only periodically, or at low enough concentrations to be considered “not there”. A pilot unit operating over months and through various seasons must cope with these changes and may reveal challenges not predicted through a few water quality reports or via in periodic testing. In other words, a pilot study can reveal unknown and “slow to appear” problems, allowing the design team to ensure that the full-scale system will be appropriately designed to account with those problems. In the context of short-chain vs long-chain PFAS, this aspect is especially relevant because not all technologies can remove both kinds equally well.

For example, in the southeastern United States, a water treatment plant wanted to test ion exchange resins to determine how to optimize its system for the smallest footprint. Just a few days into the pilot, the IX media started turning purple, indicating that the source water had a strong concentration of manganese. This trace mineral had not been identified among the chief concerns at the facility because manganese is more prevalent in groundwater, and the source water for the facility was surface water from a nearby lake. When the pilot revealed the presence of manganese, plant operators had an “ah-ha” moment, acknowledging that every spring when air temperatures rise and ice melts off the top of the lake, the lake inverts, churning up the manganese- and iron-

rich bottom levels to the surface. This phenomenon happens only for a few weeks each spring, and therefore would have easily bypassed detection with a short pilot (or no pilot). Designing the full-scale system with a manganese pre-treatment system ready for service during the annual lake inversion was far more cost-effective than it would have been as a retrofit.

2. A Chance to Interact with the Technology

A pilot can serve as a test drive for plant staff to discern if a potential system is a match for their protocol, space constraints and other unique site and staff characteristics. Oftentimes this insight can only be gleaned through actual, hands-on interaction with equipment over a long stretch of time. This benefit is key to cost savings and can prevent facilities from selecting equipment that ends up breaking the budget due to avoidable, expensive modifications during construction.

3. An Accurate Forecast of Media Life

Media life is a major component of the total cost of ownership and is best understood by subjecting the media to local conditions over many months. How long media will last depends on several factors – levels and kinds of PFAS, TOC, competing contaminants which may be present and other water characteristics.

One valuable piece of information that a pilot can deliver is which PFAS species breaks through the media first. Some utilities are thinking proactively about their PFAS treatment strategy, designing systems that will remediate all species of PFAS in an attempt to get ahead of future regulations, rather than limit their system to currently regulated PFAS. A pilot can show the full extent of the presence of PFAS in the source water and allow a plant to make a cost-benefit decision on where they want treatment to kick in.

For every facility, fully understanding the water's makeup over many months is critical to predicting media life and determining which media is the better fit.

4. A Low-Risk Opportunity to Test Something New

Innovations in water treatment are at an all-time high, and through piloting, facilities may discover a superior product that performs well and reduces costs. The small relative cost of piloting is a great low-risk opportunity for plants to take a chance on new technologies or creative configurations of proven technologies. For example, a plant might combine GAC and IX in a way that optimizes the benefits of both treatments – a scenario that can be tested during a pilot.

“It’s critical that plants make the right decisions to avoid finding themselves with expensive equipment that cannot achieve compliance or technology that was cheap to buy but expensive to operate.”

For the Best Results...

Ideally, a pilot should last 12 to 18 months. This is usually long enough to completely exhaust the initial media and capture a full year of changes to the water, minimizing the chance of surprise contamination spikes (such as those that happen seasonally or irregularly because of extreme weather or occasional nearby industrial activity). One key learning is a plant's exposure to specific

PFAS compounds, because there are differences in approaching short-chain vs. long-chain PFAS removal.

While a pilot of three to six months can provide some insight, data from a short pilot will need to be extrapolated. When facilities do this, the data tends to forecast media life with less accuracy, which may lead facilities to overestimate how much life they will get out of their media and be disappointed by higher-than-expected actual operation costs.

Pilots can be conducted on a very small scale or through portable 20-foot containers that are a better simulation of a full-scale installation. While both will reduce the total cost of ownership, small scale pilots cost less, while full-scale pilots provide more detailed and complete information.

Achieve Compliance and Water Quality, Minimize Costs

The costs of a pilot pale in comparison to the potential expenses resulting from poor planning and deploying treatment equipment that has not been tested by actual, localized conditions. Removing PFAS from the water supply to below MCLs while minimizing capital and operating expenses is the chief goal of running a PFAS treatment pilot.

Only about half of treatment plants consider pilots. Across the nation, utilities are racking up major financial losses through avoidable mistakes and incomplete planning. Without a pilot, an investment on this scale can end up needlessly costing the plant millions of dollars over the life of the equipment.



Tom Muilenberg is a global product manager for De Nora Water Technologies. He earned a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering Degree from the University of Minnesota in 1992 and has been working in the water treatment industry for more than 30 years. At De Nora, he focuses on filtration and contaminant removal technologies.

Tags: [Drinking Water](#), [Energenix](#), [GAC](#), [PFAS](#), [PFOA](#), [PFOS](#), [wastewater treatment](#), [water quality](#), [water treatment](#)

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Leave a Reply

S. Scott McDowell

From: Lynn Maxwell <ratings_content@spglobal.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 5:43 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Going Beyond Net Zero Targets: Climate Transition Assessment Launch Webinar

S&P Global Ratings

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Ratings

Dear Scott,

Net zero targets set in the distant future are now commonplace, but they can be misleading, and they provide minimal insight to market participants on the company's individual, realistic transition trajectory.

To fill this information gap, we created the [Climate Transition Assessment](#) (CTA), which is a qualitative opinion of how consistent with a low carbon, climate resilient future we expect an entity's economic activities will be once their planned transition changes are realized. The output of the assessment is a single shade from our Shades of Green spectrum which ranges from Dark Green to Red.

On Thursday October 10, we are hosting two launch webinars, where we will present an overview of our analytical approach, highlight key areas of our analysis, and how we communicate our views on a company's transition plan.

Go Beyond Net Zero Targets: Climate Transition Assessment

Option one – 10:00 am CEST / 9:00 am BST / 4:00 pm SGT / 6:00 pm AEST - [Register here](#)

Option two – 12:00 pm EDT / 5:00 pm BST / 6:00 pm CEST - [Register here](#)

In the meantime you can find out more about our Climate Transition Assessment [here](#).

If you would like to discuss the CTA in more detail, please [get in touch](#).

Sincerely,

Lynn Maxwell
Chief Commercial Officer
S&P Global Ratings



Largest External Review
Provider in Number of Deals for
Shades of Green

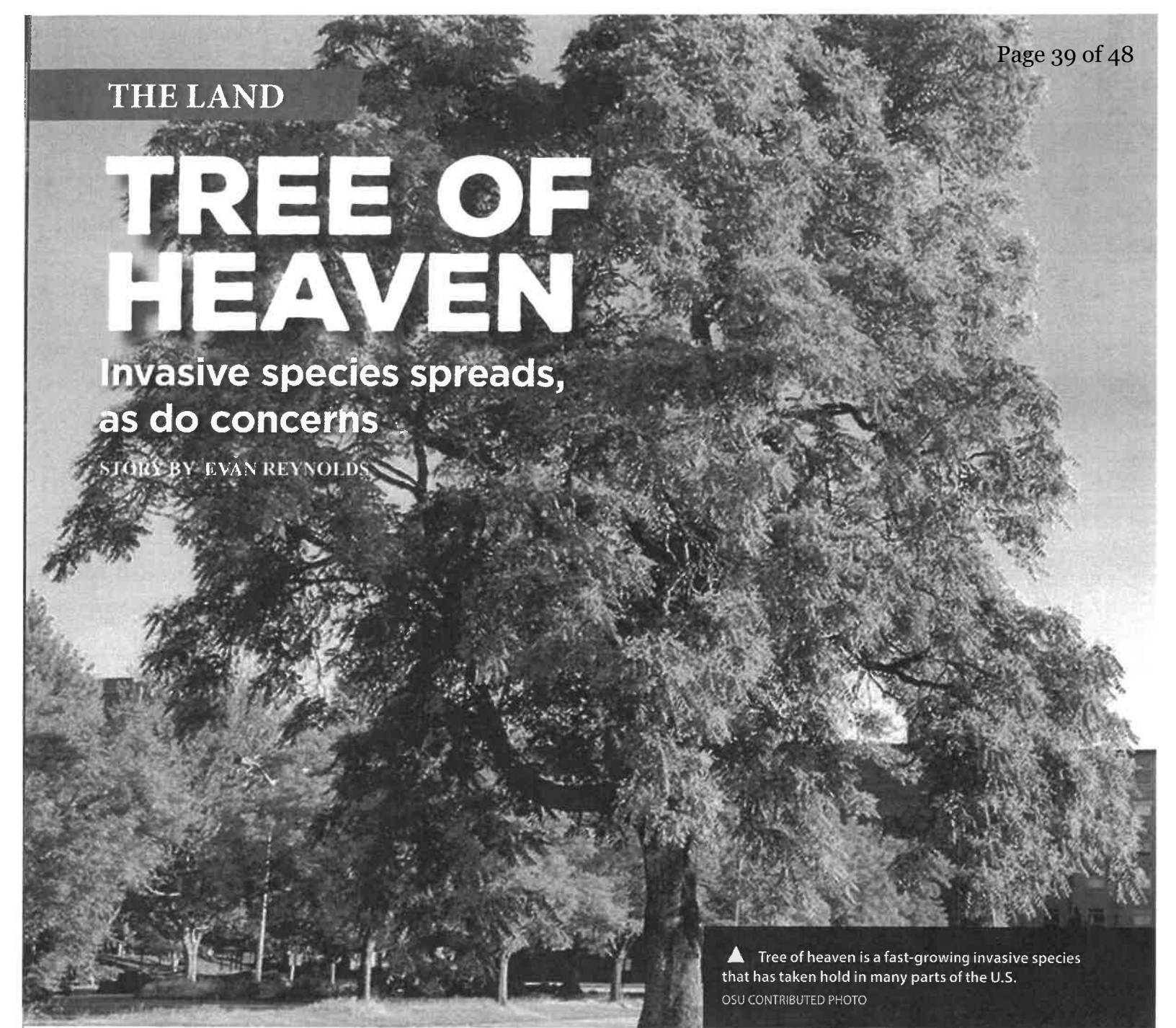
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THE LAND

TREE OF HEAVEN

Invasive species spreads, as do concerns

STORY BY EVAN REYNOLDS



▲ Tree of heaven is a fast-growing invasive species that has taken hold in many parts of the U.S.

OSU CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tree of heaven, a noxious weed and invasive tree, is making an indelible mark on the Pacific Northwest — and confounding the officials attempting to control its spread.

“Something is definitely triggering more fecundity, and we’re not sure what it is,” said Beth Myers-Shenai, a noxious weed specialist at the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

A female tree of heaven can produce more than 300,000 seeds annually, and the trees can’t be removed via simple cutting methods. Their roots will sucker into the soil, resprouting as far as 50 feet from the parent tree. It is native to China and Taiwan.

When crushed, its leaves produce a smell comparable to rotten peanut butter.

The tree has spread to the Pacific Northwest, where it is commonly found along riverbanks and is especially prevalent along the Interstate 5 corridor and east of the Columbia Gorge, Myers-Shenai said.

“As a non-native to the northern U.S., it doesn’t have a natural enemy, so it doesn’t have any natural controls keeping it in check, like other native plants do,” Myers-Shenai said.

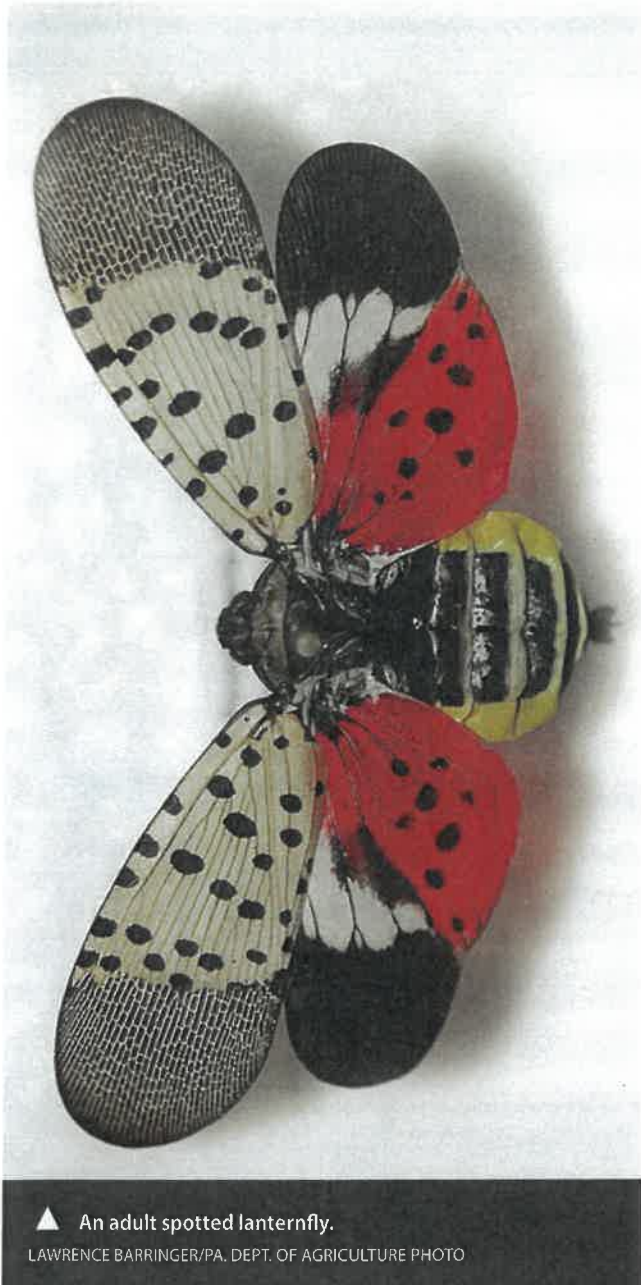
Tree of heaven was first added to ODA’s noxious weed list in 2013, as the weed became more prevalent across the state. It’s listed as a “B” weed — more intended to raise awareness about the plant than to control or eradicate it, given how widespread it is throughout the region, Myers-Shenai said.

Nevertheless, some jurisdictions have made attempts to combat the plant, like Wheeler County, home to the John Day River Basin.

Cassandra Newton is the district manager of the Wheeler Soil and Water Conservation District.

Newton submitted a grant application to ODA that attempted to eradicate tree-of-heaven in Wheeler County, but was denied.

“Compared to other areas in Oregon, we felt we had a small enough infestation that it was able to be eradicated,” Newton said.



A female tree of heaven can produce more than 300,000 seeds annually, and the trees can't be removed via simple cutting methods. Their roots will sucker into the soil, resprouting as far as 50 feet from the parent tree. It is native to China and Taiwan.



“In the Columbia Gorge area, or over near Umatilla on Highway 730, those infestations are so massive that you’re talking millions of dollars and multiple years of work.”

Newton did say the county has used some of its Bureau of Land Management funding to treat tree of heaven, in collaboration with ODA.

Complicating efforts to fight tree of heaven is the spread of the spotted lanternfly, which has been detected in at least 18 states as of 2023. The invasive insect can infest and destroy numerous crops, including stone fruit orchards and vineyards — and tree of heaven is its primary host.

While there have only been isolated sightings of the spotted lanternfly in Oregon and Washington, some officials say its arrival is a question of “when” — not “if.”

“It’s estimated that (spotted lanternfly) will be here in two to four years,” said Renee Hadley, the conservation district manager in Walla Walla County, Wash. “We don’t want to have it find the tree of heaven and propagate like crazy.”

Hadley recommended eradicating any tree of heaven within half a mile of orchards and vineyards to provide a future “buffer” against the spotted lanternfly.

While solutions for tree of heaven infestations are slim, a new approach could soon be introduced, said Joel Price, a biological control entomologist with ODA. Introducing the snout weevil, also native to China, could do significant damage to the tree — its larvae tunnel underneath the bark and help it become susceptible to disease. The weevil is currently in the federal permitting process, Price said.

“There is an added importance to controlling both an invasive weed species and insect pest all at once,” he said. ■

Evan Reynolds is a Snowden intern at the Capital Press.



Goals 2023-2024 *(Compilation Date: February 2023)*

1. Focus on the Fundamentals.

★ *Protect & manage Brownsville's treasury.*

- ▶ The City fielded a full Budget Committee with the addition of Felipe Eversull & Matt Schoemaker. Staff shared the audit findings from the previous fiscal year. Council executed gap financing for the completion of the Rec Center Renovation project. Government Capital Corporation was able to find a great rate given market conditions. Council passed a supplemental budget in February 2024 to appropriate the funds for expenditure. Council received a good price for the completion of the GR12 Waterline & Pump Station Improvements project. Council passed ordinances to push back against Salem for unfunded mandates that continue to take away local funding for local projects.

★ *Foster cooperative and productive relationships both internally & externally.*

- ▶ The City continues working closely with the State of Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD), the Linn County Commissioners Office and several other agencies. Regional efforts including Rural Economic Alliance (REAL), RAIN, the Sheriff's Office contract, the Planning & Building Department contract, and the development of SMAC. Connections have been maintained with the League of Oregon Cities, the Cascade West Council of Governments, and CIS. Local agreements have been extended with the Calapooia Food Alliance (CFA), Sweet Home Sanitation, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Central Linn Recreation Association.

2. Advocacy Plan.

★ *Create an advocacy committee charged with developing an advocacy strategy complete with written policy statements as an effort to participate in the State legislative process and in the Federal legislative process when appropriate.*

- ▶ Council created the Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) through ordinance early in 2023. The Committee made several framework recommendations that were passed and implemented by Council. Position papers on key advocacy items were created for internal use and provided to the other members of SMAC and to Sean Tate.

★ *Focus on home rule with other stakeholders, partnerships, and other regional efforts to strengthen City policy positions.*

- ▶ Council attended several meetings and continues to stay connected to key issues facing the City through the League of Oregon Cities and Sean Tate. Staff have communicated through partnerships the path for execution. Mayor Craven met with House Representative Jami Cate on several occasions and attended a luncheon with Governor Kotek to express the City's policy priorities and concerns.

★ *Monitor new laws, tort limits, and recreational immunity protections for local amenities.*



- ▶ Cities in Oregon received bad news in the case, *Fields v the City of Newport*. The City has been active in working toward a fix with CIS. SB 1576 is currently being voted on in the House for passage. If this loophole cannot be closed with this legislation, the impact on the City park system will be devastating. The State's raising of the tort limits is wreaking havoc with the insurance rates. Property & liability insurance has risen nearly 60% due to these limits being raised and the continued passage of terrible public policy that is dramatically impacting cities and counties across the State.

3. Capital Improvements Plan.

- ★ *Complete Rec Center Renovation project.*

- ▶ Open House was held in February. The City has successfully completed this important project. Staff continue detailed work to prepare the facility for public rentals.

- ★ *Complete the GR 12 Waterline extension.*

- ▶ The project is underway and progressing nicely overall. Staff hopes the project will be completed by the end of March 2024.

- ★ *Plan for new sewer lagoon along with operational improvements.*

- ▶ The City Engineer continues to work on the initial planning for a new sewer lagoon. The City is also looking into making a chemical change at the Treatment Plants. Any formal plans will have to be rolled into a bond with the improvements planned for the Water Treatment Plant. The City will have some high cost items that must be addressed per State Law and to continue providing critical services to the residents.

- ★ *Plan for construction of new pavilion and relocation of the playground.*

- ▶ Funding will delay these projects. Council will need to reassess during the upcoming Budget Season FY 2024.2025.

- ★ *Analyze new TMDL plan.*

- ▶ Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has not officially approved the City's new plan. Council approved submitting the edited report at the January 2024 Council meeting.

4. Community Development Plan.

- ★ *Refine Brownsville Municipal Code to better reflect actual practice.*

- ▶ Council passed several ordinances including parking, towing, curfew, camping, and administrative laws toward this effort. Council authorized Staff to review the nuisance abatement process for repeat offenders at the February Council meeting.

- ★ *Adopt building rules and standards to preserve and promote the historic aesthetic.*

- ★ *Continue the local & regional emergency preparedness efforts.*



- ▶ Council supported the EPC who has been sending stand alone newsletters twice a year to all residents in Brownsville, Halsey, and the corresponding fire districts. The City ordinance is centered around public education and individual preparedness efforts.

- ★ *Support youth activities with community partners.*

- ▶ Council spent over \$2M renovating the Rec Center, adopted a new agreement and helped with organizational development and custodial services. Staff continues to assist the Central Linn Recreation Association with operational issues.

5. Economic Development Plan.

- ★ *Participate in regional efforts and opportunities with partner cities.*

- ▶ Council finalized the financial agreement with Business Oregon for the partnership with REAL. Council entered into a new agreement with RAIN through the end of 2025.

- ★ *Support and implement the Rural Economic Alliance's 5-year strategic plan.*

- ▶ The group continues to prioritize items in the strategic plan. REAL is close to signing a deal with JayRay Marketing to survey regional businesses to get a better understanding of needs and priorities. This survey will be done in partnership with Business Oregon.

- ★ *Complete and implement the Land Use inventory.*

- ▶ Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman, Planner Dave Kinney continue work with Linn County's GIS Department preparing for this process.

6. Water Rights.

- ★ *Explore possible additional water source options.*

- ★ *Continually work on monitoring and perfecting City water rights.*

- ★ *Implement the State required Water Management & Conservation Plan.*

- ▶ Staff are actively working on the implementation of the items identified in the Plan.

7. Organizational Development.

- ★ *Review Council rules and policies.*

- ▶ Council passed a new officials handbook.

- ★ *Focus on Council leadership development & training.*

- ▶ Council met several times throughout 2023 to work on group dynamics and interactions. Great progress was made in the overall cooperation of the Council. Council held a Staff appreciation dinner for Staff.



- ★ *Foster positive and effective working relations between Council and Staff.*
 - ▶ Council held a Staff appreciation dinner for Staff. Staff & Council held a volunteer appreciation party in September at the pavilion in Pioneer Park. Mayor Craven and Council have increased their efforts in working with Staff and are maintaining extremely effective relationships with Staff.

- ★ *Maximizing social media efforts to promote City projects and events.*
 - ▶ Council revisited this item. The City will not publish Council meetings in a television format. Council members are doing a great job monitoring social media conversations without creating more community drama and turmoil.

- ★ *Focus on recognizing volunteers, meeting training and procedures for all official boards & committees.*
 - ▶ Council held both a volunteer appreciation cookout & a Staff dinner this past year as mentioned above. Librarian Sherri Lemhouse also does a very good job recognizing Library volunteers with appreciation events during the year.



2023-2024 Council Values

Council Vision Statement

The Brownsville City Council works collaboratively and effectively with each other, staff, and community partners to preserve the historic character and economic health of our town and to create a high quality of life for our citizens.

A Vision for Brownsville

For a tiny rural Oregon community, Brownsville has a huge presence. It is well-known throughout the state for its friendly welcome and for being a safe, clean, and attractive town. It is clear that residents value its historic character and make special efforts to preserve and enhance it. Talk to business owners in the thriving north and south business areas and you will find that it is the creative working relationships between city government and private, county, state, and federal partners that sustain our economic health and well-being. Residents participate in Brownsville's inclusive process of growing and enhancing our high quality of life. Brownsville citizens care about healthy city finances, they expect infrastructure that delivers, and they elect a City Council that works for the benefit of the community. Public spaces are a vital part of Brownsville's sense of place; citizens' and city government's attention to the appearance and cleanliness of parks, streets, and neighborhoods adds to the town's livability.

Tag line

Brownsville: Where People Care, Business Thrives, and History Lives

Who we are?

Brownsville is a City that is proud of its past while constantly improving toward the future for the benefit of our citizens. We are a group of citizens that honor each other by carefully balancing the social contract (Brownsville Municipal Code) to keep peace and order. The Brownsville Municipal Code and Comprehensive Plan help define the role of the City. Organizational transparency is a focus of Council. Council is working closely with Staff, volunteers, civic organizations, appointed officials and the citizenry to execute identified goals and carry out the responsibilities of the City.

Brownsville has a tremendous sense of place and synergy between City Hall and our residents. Active citizens are the true strength of Brownsville as evidenced by the volunteers who give freely of themselves to provide many municipal functions and civic services. Many civic organizations implement their missions actively in our community which provides a quality of life and vibrancy that is uncommon. Community events are planned and designed to invite people into town to share what Brownsville has to offer.

Council recognizes that many civic organizations and the City government are working diligently on implementing organizational development concepts in order to more efficiently provide services. Council recognizes that we are in a transition period between an authoritative model and are collectively moving toward a new, participatory approach within the organization and throughout the community.

What do we want for Brownsville?

Brownsville should honor the past, maintain a healthy present and strive to assure a dynamic future by focusing on fundamental municipal services such as:



- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Treasury Health | 7. Contract Administration |
| 2. Water | 8. Personnel |
| 3. Sewer | 9. Police Protection |
| 4. Capital Improvements | 10. Municipal Court |
| 5. Parks | 11. Library Services |
| 6. Streets | 12. Planning & Zoning |

Organizational Development

- Elected & Appointed Officials.* People who understand their role and responsibilities for the City as policy & decision makers. People who have a tremendous amount of pride and caring about the future of Brownsville. People who understand the financial nuances of local government in Oregon. People who understand and respect the significant contributions of Staff. People who are focused on the greater good they can collectively make in the community. People who understand the mission of the City and who can explain City policy and issues with the general public. People who represent Brownsville citizenry as well as City Staff.
- Staff.* People who understand their multiple roles and responsibilities. People who love coming to work. People who are interested in creating the best possible work environment that is full of respect and compassion for the citizens and is honest and trusting among all the ranks of the organization. People who don't complain about what they cannot control but people who are interested in creating practical, cost-effective solutions for those issues they can control. People who expect more than the ordinary from themselves and from each other.
- Organizational Axiom.* Creating, developing and maintaining effective relationships with individuals, other civic organizations, County, State & Federal government personnel. Understanding that the number one priority of the City is relationship building. The City shall honor relationships and the ordinances and laws of the land. The City shall be ever mindful of the importance of the social contract of government and the order that it strives to preserve for the sake of freedom.
- Civil Rights Act of 1964.* The City creates an environment of equal access to opportunities for all individuals in Brownsville. The City is committed to equal access through Federal and State laws, but also through local practice principled in the elimination of bias and barriers that may exist in the community and from developing in the City's organization. Council shall continue to consider implications of new and past policies that may create unnecessary barriers for members of minority groups, women, veterans and vulnerable populations.

NOTES: Council has discussed many organizational theories & objectives as well as identifying important critical thinking models that will serve as a guide for making better decisions. Below are a few of those models:

THE PROCESS OF PROGRESS

1. Recognize & Identify
2. Accept & Agree
3. Strategize & Develop Action Steps



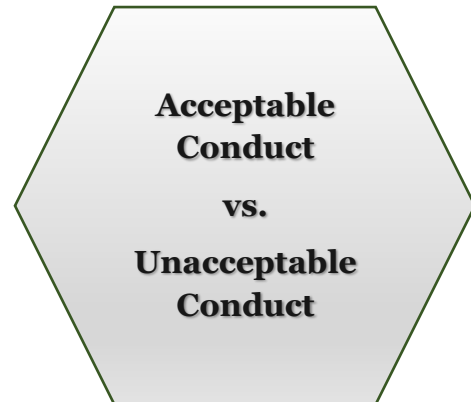
- 4. Implement & Execute
- 5. Review Outcomes

LEXIPOL’S 10 FAMILIES OF RISK MODEL

- 1. External Risks
- 2. Legal & Regulatory Risks
- 3. Strategic Risks
- 4. Organizational Risks
- 5. Operational Risks
- 6. Information Risks
- 7. Human Resources Risks
- 8. Technology Risks
- 9. Financial and Administrative Risks
- 10. Political Risks

How are expectations set in City Government?

- ◆ Laws & Municipal Code
- ◆ Standards
- ◆ Requirements & Rules
- ◆ Memoranda of Understanding
- ◆ Contracts
- ◆ Agreements
- ◆ Employee Handbook
- ◆ Societal Norms
- ◆ Cultural Nuances
- ◆ Public Opinion



Decision Making

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. General Liability | 6. Need or Want |
| 2. Legal Implication | 7. Political Lift or Will |
| 3. Legality | 8. Support or Lack of |
| 4. Precedence | 9. Resource Management |
| 5. Staff Capacity | 10. Community Implications |

MONTH END FINANCIAL RECAP

		SEPTEMBER 2024					
		REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	YTD	%	Unexpended	
1	GENERAL	\$ 26,444.15	\$ 66,995.96	\$ 289,012.59	7.99%	\$ 3,329,842.41	1
2	WATER	\$ 57,690.23	\$ 113,033.38	\$ 209,243.63	18.58%	\$ 917,156.37	2
3	SEWER	\$ 43,070.86	\$ 17,340.17	\$ 89,863.71	8.04%	\$ 1,032,936.29	3
4	STREETS	\$ 19,545.85	\$ 11,413.65	\$ 52,933.58	12.95%	\$ 355,916.42	4
5	WATER BOND	\$ 217.23	\$ -	\$ 33,587.40	66.64%	\$ (18,187.40)	5
6	SEWER BOND	\$ 981.05	\$ -	\$ 203,537.59	41.31%	\$ 289,162.41	6
7	SEWER DEBT FEE	\$ 12,247.12	\$ -	\$ 40,229.44	26.57%	\$ -	7
8	BUILDING & EQUIPMENT	\$ 624.47	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 191,600.00	8
9	WATER RESERVE	\$ 2,646.98	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 204,000.00	9
10	HOUSING REHAB	\$ 752.04	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 231,100.00	10
11	WATER SDC	\$ 763.16	\$ -	\$ -	-82.66%	\$ 62,500.00	11
12	SEWER SDC	\$ 2,528.05	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 793,500.00	12
13	STORMWATER SDC	\$ 928.11	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 291,000.00	13
14	BIKEWAY/PATHS	\$ 219.63	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 69,070.00	14
15	LIBRARY TRUST	\$ 25.93	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 7,920.00	15
16	CEMETERY	\$ 528.24	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 98,292.00	16
17	TRANSIENT ROOM TX	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	17
18	SEWER CONSTRUCTION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	18
19	LAND ACQUISITION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 9,985.00	19
20	COMMUNITY PROJECTS	\$ 250.62	\$ 230.00	\$ 4,099.36	5.38%	\$ 72,100.64	20
		\$ 169,463.72	\$ 209,013.16	\$ 882,277.86			

Key Bank Account

General Checking \$ 215,276.59

Oregon State Treasury

General Account \$ 4,537,900.32
Community Improvements \$ 41,875.24
Project Escrow Holding \$ 106,725.51
CLRC Renovation Acct \$ 638,928.48
TOTAL OST / LGIP \$ 5,325,429.55

Annual Bond Payment

Water \$ 45,167.05
Wastewater \$ 307,259.95
Total \$ 352,427.00

2024-2025	YTD	% of Total
Appropriated	\$ 491,050.00	9.90%

Total Bonded Debt (Principal Only)

\$ 6,142,195.00
Total Bonded Debt is \$8,691,081 (Principle & Interest)

ARPA Funds | SLFRP \$ 404,801.67 Total Funds Received
 (American Rescue Plan Act) \$ 202,457.75 Funds Disbursed

Previous Month Court Revenue \$ 1,459.50