

The Boones Ferry Messenger

Monthly newsletter of the City of Wilsonville

January/February 2026



Extending a Warm Wilsonville Welcome

Mayor Shawn O'Neil broke out the big scissors for a late-November ribbon cutting celebration with members of the Wilsonville Chamber of Commerce and employees of the new Wilsonville branch of Oregon State Credit Union, located in Argyle

Square.

Looking to learn how to bring a new business to Wilsonville? The City's Economic Development division offers a step-by-step guide in this month's Groundwork column (see page 7).

SMART to Bring New Routes to Woodburn, Clackamas

On Jan. 5, South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) is introducing its new 12X route, which takes travelers to and from Woodburn.

SMART's 12X buses will service the Wilsonville

Transit Center, the Woodburn Memorial Transit Center, and the new Amazon Fulfillment Center.

The new service is geared to help move more than 2,000 Amazon employees to and from

the 3.8-million-square-foot warehouse, which opened in June. Route times are designed to coordinate with shift changes at the facility.

"This free route promises to be a valuable amenity for riders working at the Amazon Fulfillment Center, or who just want to get to Woodburn quickly and comfortably, without the stress of driving," says Diana Kotler, SMART's Transit Operations Manager.

Providing new transit services helps keep single-

passenger cars from clogging an already busy stretch of I-5 over the Boone Bridge and extends SMART's growing service area. At the Woodburn Memorial Transit Center, SMART 12X service provides connections with transit services operated by the City of Woodburn and Cherriots.

The 12X bus route will operate each weekday, starting at 4:45 am and continuing to 7:50 pm. Schedules may eventually be adjusted and/or Saturday service may be added after SMART staff can track and analyze ridership data.

The 12X route and schedule can be found at RideSMART.com/12X.

More New Services on the Way

Woodburn isn't the only new location SMART begins serving in 2026. This spring, SMART is debuting another new route to/from Clackamas Town Center. The 10X route includes an extension of SMART's Bus on Shoulder program, which allows SMART buses to

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Garbage and Recycling Rates to See Small Increase in 2026

Pollowing the annual financial review of operational income and expenses as required by the solid-waste franchise agreement between the City and Republic Services, the City Council adopted a new rate schedule for 2026.

Effective in January 2026, the monthly residential rate for waste and recycling services will climb for 20-gallon service (up \$1.83 per month), 35-gallon service (up \$2.09) and 65-gallon service (up \$2.76). Despite the increase, Wilsonville is expected to maintain the lowest residential collection rates in Clackamas County.

Per the franchise agreement, the City must approve a rate increase that provides Republic Services with a projected operating margin of 10%. The

increase is defined by the agreement as "extraordinary" because it exceeds the 3.3% adjustment to cover wage increases as a result of significantly increasing expenses, particularly disposal costs, labor costs, and the elimination of federal tax credits for alternative fuels.

For more information, visit wilsonvilleoregon. gov/recycling

Waste Collection Concerns?

The City of Wilsonville and Republic Services are committed to making sure local waste/recycling customers receive great service. If a bin gets damaged, home service gets skipped, or a collection concern needs quick attention, visit wilsonvilleoregon.gov/collection to request service.

Public Hearing to Consider Utility Rate Hikes Continued Until Feb. 2

At the Dec. 15 meeting of the City Council, a public hearing was held for the Council to consider an increase in the City's stormwater and sewer utility fees in order to fund about \$240 million in new projects outlined in recent updates to the Stormwater Master Plan and the Wastewater Treatment Plant Master Plan.

A significant year-to-year increase was proposed by City staff and project consultants to help fund these capital projects over the next 5-20 years in order to maintain and improve these critical systems for the health and safety of the community.

Following an outpouring of public testimony from residents concerned about the scale and timing of the

proposed fee increases, the hearing was continued until the Council's scheduled meeting on Monday, Feb. 2, at 7 pm. This action provides an opportunity for staff to consider possible alternatives for the Council's consideration at that time.

"I want residents to know this Council is committed to listening, doing the necessary work, and making the most responsible decisions we can in a difficult economic environment," Mayor Shawn O'Neil said to residents who packed City Hall to share their testimony.

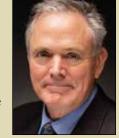
For more information on the project to review and revise current rates, visit wilsonvilleoregon.gov/ratereview.

Mayor's Message

Developing Town Center With Future Generations in Mind

It's hard to imagine now, but when the 21st century began, it was difficult to buy a new pair of pants in Wilsonville. Fred Meyer, Target, and Costco had not yet arrived.

I mention this only to make a simple point: Wilsonville will look very different in 2050 than it does today. Our city's future will be shaped by new technology, artificial intelligence, online shopping, climate change, income inequality, population



growth, state housing mandates, the economy, and many other forces beyond our direct control.

What is within our control is how we plan for that future. Cities that fail to adapt do not stand still — they fall behind. Across Oregon and the country, communities that did not respond to changing retail patterns, economic shifts, and population needs have seen their downtowns hollow out, businesses leave, and public spaces lose vitality.

As we have throughout our history, Wilsonville must continue to adapt in ways that reflect our community's values. I want Wilsonville to remain a place where our children and grandchildren want to live as adults — where they can afford to rent or buy homes, find good jobs, gather with neighbors, and feel a sense of belonging.

That long-term responsibility is precisely why the Wilsonville Town Center Plan (TCP) exists.

Adopted in 2019 after years of community engagement, the TCP provides a thoughtful frame-

"I want Wilsonville to remain a place where our children and grandchildren want to live as adults." work for redevelopment within roughly 100 acres in and around the Town Center Loop. It seeks to reimagine an area originally planned decades ago — at a time when retail, transportation, and daily life looked very different.

The Town Center Plan reflects what good city planning should be. Hundreds of residents, business owners, employees, service providers, regional and state partners, city boards, and elected officials participated in shaping it. The TCP was designed by our community, for our community.

Since its adoption, we have experienced a global pandemic and the closures of major anchors like Fry's Electronics, Regal Cinemas, and Shari's — changes not unique to Wilsonville, but common in cities that relied on outdated commercial models and did not evolve quickly enough. These shifts have only reinforced the need to thoughtfully reinvigorate our Town Center.

During the mayoral campaign, I was clear and consistent about one thing: before making further decisions, we must listen carefully to the community, answer questions honestly, and ensure people understand both the Plan and the tools proposed to implement it. That remains my commitment today.

Last fall, nearly 600 community members participated in focus groups and additional outreach through the City's "Let's Talk, Wilsonville!" platform. The feedback was candid and constructive. In broad terms, here is what you told us:

• There is strong support for new, locally owned restaurants and retailers — more places to gather, eat, shop, and spend time close to home.

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City of Wilsonville 29799 SW Town Center Loop East Wilsonville, OR 97070 PRSRT STD U.S. Postage Paid Wilsonville, OR Permit No. 104

Postal Customer



Clackamas County to Advance Roundabout Design Project at Feb. 10 Public Meeting

In partnership with the City of Wilsonville, Clack-Lamas County is undertaking a project to design and construct roundabouts to improve traffic flow at the three-way intersection of Stafford Rd., Elligsen Rd., and 65th Ave.

This project widens travel lanes and adds bike lanes to reduce congestion and improve safety for

all travelers. Additionally, to provide safe passage for fish and other wildlife, the

65th/Elligsen/Stafford **Roundabout Design Open House** Tue, Feb. 10, 5-7:30 pm Wilsonville City Hall 29799 SW Town Center Loop E.

culvert at Boeckman Creek is being replaced with a fish-passable culvert.

Estimated to cost \$14 million, this project is to be funded primarily by Clackamas County Community Road Fund and Transportation System Development Charges, with contributions from the City of Wilsonville and Washington County.

To inform this project, which is scheduled to begin construction in 2027, Clackamas County and its project consultants are hosting a public open house event at Wilsonville City Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 10, from 5 to 7:30 pm.

Community stakeholders are invited to drop in to learn more about the project, ask questions, and hear directly from project managers about the project's short- and long-term impacts.

Learn more about the project, timelines, and initial designs, visit bit.ly/3MGz61n

Snow and Ice Control Plan Guides City's Winter Response

n the event of severe winter Lweather, the City's Snow and Ice Control Plan guides the City's work to provide the community with reasonably safe road surfaces on the City's major collector and arterial roads.

When severe weather is forecast, the City monitors conditions around the clock to respond immediately as needed. Two trucks are equipped as snowplows, and also conduct sanding operations. A third truck serves as a deicing unit; deicing may take place prior to a weather event to prevent or minimize the formation of ice upon a roadway.

Informed by the February 2021 ice storm, the City's plan articulates

debris removal protocols. City crews are to prioritize debris removal along designated plowing routes. Debris generated from private property, including street trees, must be cleared and collected for disposal by home/property owners.

Public Works crews begin plowing and sanding roadways after two inches of snow has accumulated. The City prioritizes the clearing of primary roadways to ensure access to essential facilities, such as schools, fire stations, public transit facilities and the police station. Afterward, the City clears or sands roads that provide secondary connectivity and/or help mitigate problem areas. Due to limited staffing and equipment, residential roads are not serviced.

City Code stipulates that property owners must clear ice and snow from sidewalks adjacent to their property. For sidewalks located adjacent City property, crews clear a path at least four feet wide and may apply deicing product to reduce the accumulation of ice.

To support an effective community-wide response



In the aftermath of severe winter weather, City crews prioritize the removal of debris from major roadways to ensure access to essential facilities.

to severe weather, please remember:

- No parking is allowed along the City's snow and sanding routes.
- Snow and ice must be cleared from sidewalks and driveway approaches.
- Snow should never be heaped over catch basins or culvert pipe openings in order to prevent flooding, unsafe driving conditions and/or property damage.
- The City recommends that residents clear their frontage after the City snowplow has passed.
- Though it is uncommon, residential property owners can be sued in civil court by pedestrians who fall and suffer injuries on unsafe sidewalks.
- Debris generated from private property, including street trees, are the responsibility of property owners.

To review the City's Ice and Snow Control Plan, including snow removal route maps, please visit wilsonvilleoregon.gov/snow



8200 SW Wilsonville Road 503-682-2744 WilsonvilleLibrary.org

Ready to Read? Participate in the Winter Reading Challenge!

This winter, read books and discover new library services with our Winter Reading Challenge. Complete the BINGO game board to receive entry to our prize drawing!

The all-ages challenge begins Jan. 2. Pick up a BINGO game board at the library or download one from our website. The last day to turn in

Program runs Jan. 2 through Feb. 28.

A Celebration of India: Arts, Culture, and Food

Experience the vibrant rhythms of India at this program, at which local dancers perform

the Kuchipudi, Bharatanatyam, Dandiya, Sambalpuri, and Bollywood dances. With free Henna, crafts, and food samples (while supplies last), guests can celebrate



the rich cultural heritage of the region.

Saturday, Jan. 17, 2-4pm.

Join Us for a Bridgerton Tea Party

Dearest gentle readers: Step into the world of Bridgerton at our enchanting **Bridgerton Tea Party!** Enjoy themed activities, tea and refreshments, and take some Regency-



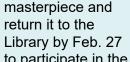
inspired photo ops. Regency-era or characterinspired attire is encouraged!

Saturday, Jan. 24, 2-4 pm.

The Tiny Art Show is Back! Supplies Available on Feb. 1

Display your artistic talents in our fourth annual Tiny Art Show! Starting Feb. 1, pick up a mini art kit (while supplies last).

Create your masterpiece and return it to the



to participate in the March Tiny Art Show and competition. Open to all ages.

Starting Feb. 1, while supplies last.

Upcoming Library Closures

The Library is closed the following dates:

- Thursday, Jan. 1
- Monday, Jan. 19
- Monday, Feb. 16

To renew items, select "My Account" on the Library website or call the automated phone service at 503-659-8634.

Upcoming Classes and Events



Computer Classes

Free drop-in classes about computer basics, Microsoft Word, Gmail, and online job searching. Mondays, 11 am-noon

WilsonvilleLibrary.org/space

WIC Pop-Up Clinics

The WIC program helps income-eligible women, infants and children up to age 5 by providing food, health care screenings, and referrals to resources. First & third Friday, 10 am-noon and 1-4 pm

WilsonvilleLibrary.org/WIC

Book Notes Concerts

Enjoy free performances by local musicians. Second Saturday of the month, 2-3 pm WilsonvilleLibrary.org/concerts

Youth Programs Return Jan. 9

Join our Youth Services staff with fun programs for all ages, from newborn to high school graduate.

> Visit our website for more events: WilsonvilleLibrary.org







Winter Storm Preparedness: It's Wise to Know Your Neighbors!

Severe winter storms — with accompanying snow, freezing rain, ice, and high winds — can disrupt utilities and essential services and impact households,

neighborhoods, or the entire city and region. **WILSONVILLE**

In this event, while first responders are

using their limited bandwidth to respond to the community's most urgent needs, bouncing back from a severe storm quickly might rely on your own knowledge ... and neighborly kindness.

Research shows that people with connections to neighbors fare better in the aftermath of an emergency. A collective response means more labor, more supplies, and more know-how are available.

Many people — including older neighbors, those with disabilities or medical conditions, and individuals living alone — may find it particularly challenging to cope with severe storms. Checking in on vulnerable neighbors, helping with snow removal, gathering needed supplies, or providing other small acts of kindness can lessen the burden on first responders and help the whole community recover more quickly.

Weather Alerts

Singing up to receive alerts at **publicalerts.org** can provide you with critical information in the event of

an emergency. Weather alerts have different meanings; understanding what's coming can help you be prepared.

The Oregon Health Authority defines its watches and warnings as follows:

- Winter weather advisory: Expect winter weather conditions to cause inconvenience and hazards
- Frost/freeze warning: Expect below-freezing temperatures
- Winter storm watch: Be alert; a storm is likely
- **Winter storm warning:** The storm is in or entering the area
- **Blizzard warning:** Seek refuge immediately! Snow and strong winds, near-zero visibility, deep snow drifts, and life-threatening wind chill

If a storm warning is issued, FEMA recommends heading indoors. Return home or find shelter quickly and stay off roads to avoid being stranded.

The following actions are recommended:

- Be prepared for power outages.
- Use generators outside only.
- Look for signs of hypothermia and frostbite.

For more information on winter storm preparedness, how to make emergency supply kits for your home and car, and other winter emergency preparedness tips and tools, visit wilsonvilleready.com



SMART's new 12X route will deliver employees to and from the new Amazon fulfillment Center in Woodburn.

SMART Service to Woodburn

Continued from Page 1

drive on a dedicated portion of the highway's shoulder when traffic slows to 35 miles per hour. The route provides more reliable travel times and reduces congestion for travelers to and from Clackamas.

Funding to operate SMART's two new routes comes from Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF) allocated to Oregon transit providers by the State. Additional state and federal grants are funding SMART's purchase of four new compressed natural gas (CNG) buses to service the routes.

Both 10X and 12X operate from the Wilsonville Transit Center, which will benefit residents of Vuela, the newly-constructed, 121-unit transit-oriented development project that is opening soon to provide housing for residents making between 30% and 80% of Area Median Income.

Vuela's ground-floor amenities will include a SMART Welcome Center, which will provide information for local passengers and regional users of the Westside Express Service (WES) train.

The Transit Center will have new bus stop banners, signage, and can restore a full bus turnaround; no longer will smaller buses be run through the parking lot.

"We are excited to welcome new and existing riders to the Transit Center with new amenities," Kotler said.

All SMART routes, with exception of the 1X route to/from Salem, continue to be provided to riders free of charge. For more information about transit services, visit RideSMART.com.









Put on your snow or rain boots and enjoy a wintertime walk or roll to school on Feb. 4. The annual Winter Walk+Roll to School Day is a great way to get active in the winter and learn how to travel safely in snow, ice, and winter darkness.

Reach out to SMART's Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Wyle O'Neill, with any questions on how to participate; woneill@ridesmart.com

Holiday Reminder!

SMART buses will run regular service Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Jan. 19) and President's Day (Feb. 16) so you can ride as usual!

New Year, New Commute

SMART Rewards are BACK for 2026, and better than ever!

We're thrilled to kick off another year of FREE commuter rewards for choosing smarter, greener ways to get to work.



Starting on Jan. 5, participants can find the new challenge waiting in the Rewards & Challenges tab on Get There Oregon!

Track your walk, bike, bus, train, carpool, vanpool, or remote work trips and earn up to four \$25 e-gift cards throughout the year!

New for 2026: with every 45-point redemption, you'll score a special achievement puzzle piece. Collect them all!

Here's to a new year of smarter, greener, and more rewarding commutes!





Community Enhancement Project Funding Applications Due Jan. 9

The City seeks to learn about community projects that may be eligible to receive funding through the Wilsonville-Metro Community Enhancement Program.

For consideration, a project must meet at least one of the following goals:

- Improve the appearance or environmental quality of the community.
- Reduce the amount or toxicity of waste.

Metro Community Enhancement Grant Application Deadline Fri, Jan. 9, 5 pm

- Increase reuse and recycling opportunities.
- Result in rehabilitation or upgrade of real or personal property owned or operated by a nonprofit organization.
- Result in the preservation or enhancement of wildlife, riparian zones, wetlands, forestlands and marine areas, and/or improve the public awareness and the opportunities to enjoy them.
- Result in improvement to, or an increase in, recreational areas and programs.
- Result in improvement in safety.
- Benefit youth, seniors, low income persons or under served populations
- Foster and enhance community enrichment through educational programming, arts and cultural projects.

Applications may be submitted until Jan. 9. The City receives \$1 from Metro for every ton of wet waste processed in Wilsonville at Republic Services. As much as \$90,000 may be available to re-invest in community improvement projects nominated and led by non-profits and/or City committees.

The Community Enhancement program has funded several significant projects, including the Nature Play Area at Memorial Park.

To learn more, contact Zoe Mombert, Assistant to the City Manager, 503-570-1503, mombert@wilsonvilleoregon.gov.

Annual #BestofWilsonville Photo Contest Returns in February

The "Best of Wilsonville" Photo Contest is back! Photos may be submitted Feb. 1-March 15.

Now in its fifth year, this annual contest celebrates the beauty of our community by inviting amateur and professional photographers to share a look at Wilsonville through their lenses.

Prize-winning submissions and other selections are featured in City publications, including the Annual Report, the 2026-27 Budget and the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Original, previously unsubmitted photographs shot in Wilsonville are eligible for prizes, including a \$100 gift card to a Wilsonville retailer for the photo judged Best Overall. Winners in nine categories receive prizes.

Last year, more than 350 photos were uploaded to the contest page at **LetsTalkWilsonville.com**. Entries are judged by a panel of City staff; criteria includes quality, creativity and how well a photo captures Wilsonville.

Entering is simple. Anyone may post their photo on Instagram with the hashtag #BestofWilsonville or submit their photos directly at LetsTalkWilsonville.com.

There is no fee to enter; entrants may submit up to 20 photos. Find rules and additional information about the contest online. Visit **LetsTalkWilsonville.com**.

Last year's "Wilsonville Wildlife" category featured submissions by (clockwise from top left) David Abrahamson, Jorge Gonzalez, Pierette Lo, and Marcus Schwing.









Council Appoints 21 Members to City Boards & Commissions

In December, Mayor Shawn O'Neil recommended 21 individuals for appointment to City Boards and Commissions. Each individual's appointment was confirmed by a City Council vote (R = reappointment of an existing committee member):

- **Budget Committee:** Synthea Russell (R), Adrienne Scritsmier
- **Development Review Board:** John Andrews (R), Kamran Mesbah (R), Megan Chuinard (R), Mitchell Cooper, George Dunn
- Diversity Equity, and Inclusion Committee: Fiona Huston (R, student position), Avani Patel

(student position), Elisabeth Garcia Davidson (R), Iona River, Jenna Barruga, Jennie Kime, Natalia Oguilve Araya

- **Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board:** Devan Olmstead (R), Ami Keiffer, Elliot Porter
- **Planning Commission:** Andrew Karr (R), Jeffrey Zundel, Tabi Traughber, Rob Candrian

Applications for future positions on the City's boards and commissions may be submitted year-round.

Visit wilsonvilleoregon.gov/bc_apply to learn more and/or apply.

WILSONVILLE PARKS & RECREATION

WilsonvilleParksandRec.com

Parks & Rec Administration 29600 SW Park Pl. 503-783-7529 Community Center 7965 SW Wilsonville Rd. 503-682-3727

Winter/Spring Class Registration is Open!

A wide variety of winter classes, programs and special events are now open for registration! Visit WilsonvilleParksandRec.com/Register.

Get the latest updates by following us on social media. Find us @WilsonvilleParksandRec on both Facebook and Instagram.

Free AARP Tax Assistance is Available

Free AARP Income Tax assistance is being offered at the Wilsonville Community Center. Income tax preparation and electronic filing for both 2025 Federal and State Returns is provided by trained and certified IRS-AARP Tax Aide Volunteers.

Appointments may be scheduled beginning on Monday, Jan. 5. Call 503-682-3727 to schedule an appointment on an upcoming Tuesday, Feb. 3-Apr. 14.

Join Us at Daddy Daughter "Neon Night"

Join Wilsonville Parks and Recreation for a night of dancing and snacks at the Daddy Daughter Neon Night event on Friday, Feb. 20, at the Community Center.

Wear your best neon-colored attire and light up the night with glow sticks. The evening features a DJ, a photo booth, and snacks! Bring a non-perishable food donation for Wilsonville Community Sharing and get an additional prize ticket!

Tickets are \$20 per person; pre-registration is required. Come dressed in your most magical fairytale attire! Register online at WilsonvilleParksandRec.com, (class #11283).

'Sweet' New Cake & Cookie Decorating Workshops Offered in January, February

The Parks & Recreation Department is excited to collaborate with two local Wilsonville small-business owners to offer cake and cookie decorating workshops.

Luttrells Little Cookie Company is hosting a Winter Ski Lodge-themed cookie decorating class on Sunday, Jan. 25. Participants get to decorate and take home six ski-themed cookies.

Cakes by Kayla is hosting a Valentines-themed Sweetheart Cake Club on Sunday, Feb. 8. Participants get to take home their finished masterpiece: a chocolate dream cake with raspberry filling.

See their epic creations on Instagram (@ Luttrells_ littlecookiecompany, @ CakesxKayla). To register, please visit WilsonvilleParksandRec.com/Register

Park Shelter Rentals Begin in March

Looking for a spot to host your next gathering? Picnic shelters at several local parks are available to rent for private events from mid-April to mid-October.

The Splash Shelter (capacity = 20) and Grove Shelter (48) at Murase Plaza are great for smaller events. The Forest Shlelter (up to 150) and River Shelter (up to 200) in lower Memorial Park and can accommodate larger parties.

Shelter rental applications are accepted according to the following schedule:

- Mar. 2: Government/Schools
- Mar. 9: Residents (including non-profits)
- Mar. 16: Non-residents (including non-profits)

Reservations will also be available for the Stein-Boozier Barn (96), a popular spot for weddings, receptions and other parties.

Two indoor venues, the Tauchman House (40) and the Community Center (150) are available for rental year round.

Please contact 503-783-7529 to learn more

Upcoming Parks & Recreation Programs

Beginning Tai Chi Session I

Tuesdays, Jan. 6-Feb.26 2-2:45 pm Community Center Cost \$85 Course #: 11689

Oil Painting- Cardinal in the Window

Tuesday, Jan. 6 5:30-9 pm Parks and Recreation Admin. Bldg. Cost \$50 Course #: 11667

Restorative Yoga Session I

Ages 13+
Thursdays, Jan. 8-Feb. 26
7:15-8:15 pm
Community Center
Cost \$85
Course #: 11657

Stained Glass Workshop

Ages 18+
Fri., Feb. 6
5:30-7:30 pm
Parks and Recreation Admin. Bldg.
Cost \$85
Course #: 11685

Visit our website for more events:

WilsonvilleParksandRec.com

POLICE CHIEF'S CORNER

Stay Prepared, Exercise Extreme Caution When Driving in Inclement Weather

With winter upon us, snow, ice, wind, rain, and other adverse conditions can make driving more challenging and dangerous. Nationally, thou-

sands of crashes and hundreds of fatalities every year are related to the presence of snow, sleet, and/ or ice.

Oregon's varied winter weather can create slick road conditions even at relatively low elevations. Ice and black ice form easily on Oregon roads and can be nearly invisible, making travel unpredictable and hazardous.



Police Chief Jed Wilson

Unfortunately, our officers

often have to deliver the tragic news about crashes to loved ones. We'd much prefer to see everyone arrive safe, dry, and warm at their intended destination.

The best advice for driving in bad weather is simple: if you don't have to drive, stay home or use transit. SMART buses are a safe alternative to driving in severe weather.

If driving is your only or best option, here are actionable tips to help keep you and your family safe:

Before Your Trip

- Check current road and weather conditions before you leave. Visit TripCheck.com or dial 511 for up-to-the-minute travel info.
- Clear all snow and ice from your vehicle, including windows, mirrors, lights, and roof. Not doing

- so can reduce visibility or send snow flying into other drivers' windshields.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full to help prevent fuel line freeze and ensure you have enough fuel if you're delayed.
- Keep an emergency kit in your car that includes water, non-perishable food, warm blankets, a first-aid kit, flashlight, jumper cables, shovel, and traction aids (like sand or kitty litter),
- Carry tire chains or traction devices that fit your vehicle and practice installing them in dry conditions before you need them.
- Consider snow-rated or winter tires, which offer better traction in snow and ice than all-season

While on the Road

- Leave early and allow extra time. Driving in winter is slower and more unpredictable.
- If you must install chains, do so in a safe, level area away from traffic. Use a waterproof tarp and have good gloves and lighting to keep yourself dry and safe. After installation, pull over safely and recheck that the chains are snug.
- Drive slowly and smoothly, increase your following distance for extra stopping space, and accelerate and brake gently to avoid skids. On icy roads, it can take up to three times the normal distance to stop safely.
- Never exceed 30 mph with chains installed, and avoid sudden steering inputs or wheel lock-ups.

- Be extra alert for black ice, especially on bridges, overpasses, shaded areas, and early morning or nighttime driving when temperatures are lowest.
- If you need to pull over for any reason, always move off the traveled roadway to the right and as far away from traffic as possible.
- During nighttime driving or heavy precipitation, turn on your headlights to see and be seen.
- Turn off cruise control you need full control of speed and braking on slippery surfaces.
- · Report suspected intoxicated drivers immediately by calling 911, especially in hazardous conditions.

If You Get Stranded

- Stay with your vehicle if it's safe to do so. Your car provides shelter and is easier for responders to locate.
- Use your emergency flashers and keep your phone charged, but conserve battery.
- If temperatures are extremely low, run the engine intermittently to stay warm, ensuring the exhaust pipe is clear of snow.

Remember, these tips are not just about comfort they're about safety. Slow, cautious driving and a little preparation can make all the difference.

Drive safely this winter, don't quit on those New Year's Resolutions and on behalf of all of us at Wilsonville Police, have a safe and prosperous New Year.

Jed Wilson, Chief of Police

Mayor's Message

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- Many people like the idea of new parks, open spaces, and walkable areas that connect shops, restaurants, and gathering places.
- At the same time, there are real concerns about traffic, parking, housing scale, building height, and preserving Wilsonville's small-town feel.
- There was confusion about the timing of development — some believed major changes were imminent, while others understood the Plan as a long-term, multi-decade vision.
- There is also widespread misunderstanding about urban renewal and tax increment financing, including the incorrect belief that it would increase individual property taxes.
- Perhaps most importantly, many residents said

they want clearer information about timelines, costs, and impacts before any future vote related to urban renewal or other implementation tools. This feedback matters. Thank you.

While vacant storefronts in the Town Center reflect short-term challenges, they also serve as a cautionary signal. Communities that ignore these warning signs risk long-term decline.

I believe deeply in Wilsonville's vision for a vibrant, connected downtown — and in our ability to adapt before stagnation takes hold. The City Council has directed staff to return in early 2026 with a communications plan that responds directly to the questions, concerns, and input raised by the community.

Consistent with what I said during the campaign, I also look forward to a Council discussion about

establishing a representative task force to help guide this next phase — bringing together residents, businesses, and other stakeholders to provide practical, grounded input on how we move forward.

By its nature, the Town Center Plan is not static. It is meant to evolve as community needs change, guiding growth that is manageable, fiscally responsible, and reflective of Wilsonville's character.

I remain committed to an open, transparent process — and to working with the community and my colleagues on Council to ensure we are planning wisely, not just for today, but for the generations that follow.

Shawn O'Neil, Mayor

Schedule Set for May Meetings to Approve 2026-27 City Budget

The City's Budget Committee has scheduled ▲ meetings to review current financial operations and to consider and approve a Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27 budget for the City Council to consider for adoption.

Wednesday, May 6, 6-10 pm, City Hall (Council **Chambers):** The Budget Committee convenes for an initial review of the City's proposed budget. It scrutinizes aspects of the budget, hears public testimony and completes initial review and deliberation.

Tuesday, May 12, 6-10 pm, City Hall (Council Chambers): Review and deliberation on the budget continues; the City's Urban Renewal Agency budget is also considered. The public may address

2026-27 Budget Meetings May 6, May 12, May 14, 6 pm Wilsonville City Hall 29979 SW Town Center Loop E. the Committee regarding either budget. The **Budget Commit**tee may approve

and recommend the budget for City Council adoption at the end of this meeting, or convene a third meeting. If necessary, the third meeting would take place on Thursday, May 14.

Once approved by the Budget Committee, the City's annual budget is forwarded to the City Council to consider for adoption at a June public hearing.

The Budget Committee consists of Wilsonville's five City Councilors and five appointed citizens at large (Larisa Byers, Christopher Moore, Tyler Beach, Synthea Russell and Adrienne Scritsmier).

For more information about the City's budget and fiscal planning, see wilsonvilleoregon.gov/Budget

Enjoy Those New Lithium-Ion-Battery-Powered Gifts Safely

As you enjoy the spoils of gift-giving season, be aware that any new devices that are powered by lithium-ion batteries require battery safety. One unsafe battery in a residential neighborhood can start a fire that could spread quickly and endanger lives.



Lithium-ion batteries power phones, laptops, scooters, and more. Tualatin Valley Fire & Tualatin Valley Rescue wants residents to know the risks, prevention steps, and safe purchasing practices to

protect their households and community.

Many fires start with poorly made batteries and chargers sold online. Lithium-ion battery operated devices should only be purchased from reputable retailers. Look for UL or other recognized safety certifications on packaging. Avoid counterfeit items or cheap knockoffs.

E-bikes and electric scooters pose the highest risk of fire because of their large battery packs. Ideally, these should be charged outside of home and should never block exits in the home or in residential hallways in multi-family housing. Your designated charging/storage area for e-bikes and electric scooters should be a safe place away from extreme temperatures, direct sunlight, heating sources, and flammable materials.

Charge devices or batteries safely by following manufacturer guidelines. Remove devices from chargers once they are fully charged. Make sure all devices are matched to their proper charger. Using the wrong charger can overheat a battery and trigger a fire.

Never use batteries that appear damaged or defective. Stop using a battery if it smells odd, leaks, changes shape, overheats, or makes unusual noises. Regularly inspect devices for swelling, punctures, or other signs of damage.

Thank you for making safety a priority! For more fire and life safety tips, visit **tvfr.com**.



LuxSucre.com

A Festive Posada to Celebrate Christmas

The City's third annual Las Posadas celebration at the Wilsonville Community Center brought together community members for a traditional Christmas-time gathering as celebrated in Mexico and other Latin American countries.

Presented by the City's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, the event featured performances by the Wilsonville Folklorico Dancers (near right) and the Woodburn High School Mariachi Band (far right).

Guests also enjoyed crafting; traditional treats, including tamales, hot cocoa, and pan dulce; and breaking a piñata.





Notable Actions: City Boards and Commissions

City Council	Action	What it Means
Dec. 15	The Council continued a public hearing to the Feb. 2 meeting rather than adopt an in- crease in sewer and stormwater utility fees.	The action provides time for the Council and staff to seek alternatives to the proposed rate schedule.
Dec. 15	The Council adopted a 2026 rate schedule for the collection and disposal of solid waste, recyclables, organics, and other materials.	For typical 35-gallon residential service, residents should expect to pay about \$2 more per month when rates become effective in January.
Dec. 15	The Council approved a \$350,000 contract with Andersen Pacific., Inc. to design, build, and install a new operating system for the Town Center Park water feature.	The project replaces an aging system that frequently makes the feature unavailable for public use and requires signifi- cant staff maintenance hours. The new water feature will be open for summer 2026.
Dec. 15	To advance an upcoming project to replace a failed backup ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Council approved the sole source selection of Trojan Technologies to supply the new system.	This action is to simplify the design and lock in the purchase price in advance of soliciting construction bids.
Dec. 15	The Council authorized a \$1.7 million agreement with WSP USA, Inc. to remove and replace failing stormwater infrastructure on Miley Road, which drains a significant portion of the Charbonneau community.	More than 4,000 feet of storm sewer main is being replaced to provide an accessible, maintainable system that alleviates the risk of costly repairs and property damage due to pipe collapse.
Dec. 15	The Council appointed current City Manager Bryan Cosgrove as City Manager Pro Tem, effective January 1, for a period of up to three months while Council completes the recruitment process for his successor.	This action ensures that Cosgrove can facilitate the advancement of the 2026-27 fiscal year budget process and support an efficient transition of staff leadership.
Dec. 15	The Council renewed the City's employment agreement with Municipal Court Judge Fred Weinhouse.	Under the new contract, Weinhouse will continue to serve as the City's muni court judge through Dec. 2027.
Dec. 1, Nov. 17	The Council adopted an ordinance that establishes a new process for City staff to seek administrative warrants from the City's municipal court judge.	This action allows staff to enter private property when there is probable cause to investigate possible violations of Wilsonville Code.
Dec. 1	The Council adopted a resolution to acquire wetland property from the Brenchley Estates Owners Association, in lieu of a stormwater easement, to advance the Boeckman Creek Flow Mitigation Project.	The Project will contribute to restoring natural drainage patterns in the Coffee Lake and Boeckman Creek drainage basins in Wilsonville.
Dec. 1	The Council adopted South Metro Area Regional Transit's (SMART) Public Trans- portation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP).	The plan must be updated and re-certified by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) annually in order for SMART to receive federal funding
Dec. 1	The Council approved a \$617,888 contract with R.A. Gray Construction to complete safety improvements at the City's Elligsen (B Level) and C Level reservoir sites.	These improvements protect the City's water system in compliance with the 2018 American Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA).
Nov. 17	The Council approved a sub-recipient agreement between SMART and TriMet that allows SMART to receive its allocation of Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) money for 2026 and 2027.	This State funding source is expected to provide about \$6.7 million for projects and services outlined in the Transit Master Plan.

How to Get City News:

•E-mail: wilsonvilleoregon.gov/subscribe

•Social: Follow City of Wilsonville: Facebook, Instagram and NextDoor

•Web: LetsTalkWilsonville.com or wilsonvilleoregon.gov

•Watch City Council meetings:

YouTube: youtube.com/cityofwilsonville Xfinity: Channel 30 I Ziply: Channel 32





Five "heARTs of Wilsonville" to Go to Auction in February

Anyone who hasn't already adventured out to discover all 10 hand-painted heart sculptures displayed in Wilsonville is running out of time.

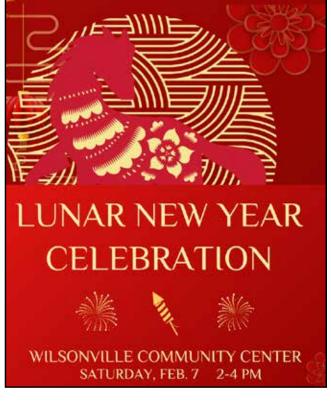
The City's Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC), which commissioned the "heARTs of Wilsonville: Many Cultures, One Heart" project with funding from the Wilsonville-Metro Community Enhancement Committee, is putting up five hearts up for auction. The other five will remain on display in the City's public art collection.

A silent auction, to take place online in February, will help offset the cost of future public art projects.

By late January, the link to the auction portal will be posted at **bit.ly/heartauction**. Visit now to see which hearts are to be included in the auction and/ or to download a map that shows where each heart is currently displayed.

Each heart displayed was painted with a unique design by one of 10 local artists or artist teams. The hearts were installed at parks or near City facilities last May for the community to enjoy.

For more information on the auction, contact Erika Valentine, the City's arts & culture program coordinator, at 503-570-1629, evalentine@wilson-villeoregon.gov.



Is Starting a New Business Your 2026 Resolution? Here's a Step-by-Step Guide



groundwork | noun | graʊnd-wərk

- a foundation; basis
- work that is done as a preparation for work that will be done later

How would I get started if I wanted to operate a small business?

Occasionally, the City's Economic Development division hears from community members who have an idea for a new business, but don't know what to do next.

Like any problem, this one is less overwhelming when handled one step at a time. For anyone considering taking a leap this year, here's a practical roadmap to help you move from idea to action.

Step 1: Pressure-test the idea

Before spending money, validate your concept. Talk to potential customers. A few honest conversations can save months of guesswork. The library, coffee shops, and networking events are great places to start these informal interviews. Ask yourself:

- What problem does my business solve?
- Who is willing to pay for this solution?
- What makes my idea different from existing options?

Step 2: Get free expert guidance

You don't need to hire a consultant to get sound advice. Oregon's **Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs)** provide free, confidential one-onone advice on business planning, market research,

licensing, and financial projections. Low-cost classes can help you develop a business plan and important skills.

Additionally, volunteer-led SCORE Oregon (Score. org) provides free mentoring from experienced business owners and executives.

Step 3: Learn the basics

You don't need an MBA to start a business. Many entrepreneurs underestimate how far these free tools can take them. Look for:

- Free workshops and webinars from SBDCs, SCORE, the chamber of commerce, and other nonprofit organizations supporting small businesses
- Online tools from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) covering topics like business structure, taxes, and hiring
- Free resources on the internet! It's true, you can learn anything on YouTube—including how to start a successful business.

Step 4: Understand licenses, permits, and structure

This step sounds intimidating, but help is available. Getting this right early prevents costly corrections later. Free advisors can help you:

- Choose a business structure (LLC, sole proprietorship, corporation)
- Register your business name
- Identify required state, county, or city licenses
- Understand basic tax obligations

Step 5: Explore low-cost funding options

You may not need outside funding right away, but it's smart to understand your options. Advisors can help you determine whether your business is "funding-ready" and what lenders typically look for. Common early-stage sources include:

• Personal savings or "bootstrapping"

- Microloans and community lenders, for example: MESO, and the Mt Hood Economic Alliance
- Pitch competitions and startup challenges

Step 6: Plug into the local business community

Starting a business can feel isolating—but it doesn't have to be. Often, the most valuable advice comes from someone who recently navigated the same challenges. The chamber of commerce, industry associations, entrepreneur meetups, and incubators provide:

- Networking opportunities
- Peer learning
- Exposure to customers, partners, and suppliers

The bottom line

You don't need to have everything figured out to begin. The most successful entrepreneurs take small, informed steps—learning, testing, adjusting, and building momentum over time. The support system already exists. Your job is simply to take the first step.

Contact the City's economic development staff at ecdev@wilsonvilleoregon.gov for relevant contacts and connections!

Groundwork sheds light on the behind-the-scenes efforts shaping Wilsonville's economic future. From business growth and job creation to community investments and long-term planning, this periodic column explores big questions and ongoing work that makes Wilsonville a great place to live and do business

Visit LetsTalkWilsonville.com to let us know what topics you'd like to hear more about. You can find past Groundwork columns at wilsonvilleoregon.gov/groundwork

For more information, contact Economic Development Manager Matt Lorenzen, 503-570-1539, mlorenzen@wilsonvilleoregon.gov.



Residents Donate 1,000+ Toys to Holiday Drive

As usual, the Wilsonville community showed its generosity with the donation of an estimated 1,000 or more new, unwrapped toys to be distributed to area youth in need by Wilsonville Family Empowerment Center and Clackamas County Compassion in Action.

Additionally, the Stockings for Seniors program received more than 150 stockings, which were graciously received by participants in the Home Delivered Meals program and seniors enjoying lunch at the Community Center.

The City thanks community members for the tremendous support of these programs!



Briefs



Do Good to Feel Good: Volunteers to Plant Trees at Arrowhead Creek Park

This Valentine's Day, Friends of Trees and the City of Wilsonville is hosting a volunteer tree planting for residents who support the creation and maintenance of healthy streams and beautiful parks!

The planting event takes place at Arrowhead Creek Park on Saturday, Feb. 14, from 9 am to 1 pm.

Enjoy planting native trees and shrubs with neighbors along Arrowhead Creek and be back in plenty of time for date night.

Tools, snacks, and plants are provided. To register, visit **friendsoftrees.org/event-calendar** or contact the volunteer team at volunteer@friendsoftrees.org.

Youth Baseball, Softball Registration Open at Wilsonville Little League

Wilsonville Little League has opened registration for its baseball and softball programs for boys and girls ages 5-14. Registration continues through Friday, Feb. 13.

The non-profit, volunteer-based Wilsonville Little League invites participation from youth in and around Wilsonville. Players are placed in divisions after a skill assessment; all players are offered a team to play on, regardless of skill and/or experience. Each players team hat and jersey are included in the registration fees.

More information and/or a link to the online registration, visit wilsonvillelittleleague.org.

LUNAR NEW YEAR **CELEBRATION**



n Saturday, Feb. 7, the City is inviting residents to attend the City's second annual celebration of the Lunar New Year, a holiday observed in China and throughout the world.

The celebration takes place from 2-4 pm at the Wilsonville Community Center.

Curated and hosted

Lunar New Year Sat, Feb. 7, 2-4 pm Wilsonville Community Ctr. 7695 SW Wilsonville Rd.

by City staff in partnership with the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, this family-friendly event welcomes The Year of the Snake with live performance, traditional treats and other activities. All are welcome.

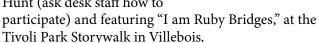
For more information, contact Zoe Mombert, Assistant to the City Manager, at 503-570-1503.

Celebrate Black History Month in February at the Library

In recognition of Black History Month, the Wilson-**▲** ville Library is providing residents with opportunities to enjoy entertaining and informative program-

ming that acknowledges the struggles and contributions of Black Americans.

Throughout February, the Library is hosting a Black History Scavenger Hunt (ask desk staff how to



Additionally, the following events are planned: Wednesday, Feb. 4, 11 am-12:30 pm: Profiles

The Library's online presentation explores the life and impact of Harriet Tubman, who dedicated her life to creating safe passages for slaves to escape to freedom.

Monday, Feb. 9, 6-7:30 pm: "A Man Called York" Oregon Black Pioneers presents the story of an enslaved man who took part in the Lewis and Clark Expedition from 1803-1806. The presentation includes a detailed biography of York that reveals his experiences, his life before and after the Expedition, and his place within African American history.

Black History Film Series (films at 3 pm)

- Friday, Feb. 6: "John Lewis: Good Trouble," is an intimate account of legendary U.S. Representative John Lewis' life and legacy.
- Friday, Feb. 13: "Ruby Bridges" tells the inspirational story of young Ruby Bridges, one of the first African-American children to attend an integrated school in the Deep South.
- Friday, Feb. 20: "Loving" tells the story of Richard and Mildred Loving, an inter-racial couple first jailed and then banished by the state of Virginia.
- Friday, Feb. 27: "Fences," details the story of sanitation worker Troy Maxson, who is bitter over missing his opportunity to play in the major leagues before baseball was integrated.

Learn more at wilsonvillelibrary.org.

Wilsonville HS to Stage Sherwood, the Adventures of Robin Hood

The theater department at Wilsonville High School is staging a rollicking, inventive play from comic mastermind Ken Ludwig.

Sherwood, the Adventures of Robin Hood Feb. 26-28 & Mar. 5-7 Wilsonville High School Performing Arts Center

Sherwood, the Adventures of Robin Hood is being staged at the school's Performing Arts Center for six nights, Feb. 26-28 and March 5-7. All shows begin at 7 pm.

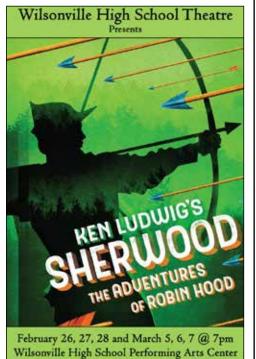
Robbing from the rich has never

been so fun! A greedy prince has taken control of England, and it is up to Robin Hood and his band of Merry Men—and women!—to fight for justice and champion for the underdog.

Packed with delightful thrills, amorous exploits, contagious laughs, and beloved heroes like Little John, Friar Tuck and Maid Marian, the production features fight choreography taught by the Fake Fight Company out of Salem. Cast members will learn fight choreography and participate in onstage battle sequences.

Get ready to dodge an arrow or two — you won't want to miss a moment of this swashbuckling adventure!

The show is recommended for ages 8 and up. When tickets are available, they can be purchased online at teachtix.com/wilsonville.



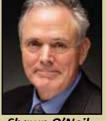
The City's DEI Committee Recognizes the following Jan./Feb. Events:

- Jan. 1: Emancipation Proclamation Day
- Jan. 4: World Braille Day
- Jan. 19: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February: Black History Month

Gultural Galendar

Wilsonville City Council

The City Council typically convenes on the first and third Monday of each month at City Hall, with a work session generally starting at 5 pm, followed by a meeting at 7 pm. Meetings are broadcast live on Xfinity Ch. 30 and Ziply Ch. 32 and are replayed periodically. Meetings are also available to stream live or on demand at wilsonvilleoregon.gov/WilsonvilleTV. Public comment is welcome at City Council meetings.



Shawn O'Neil Mayor oneil@wilsonvilleoregon.gov



Council President berry@wilsonvilleoregon.gov



City Councilor

Anne Shevlin City Councilor



Sam Scull City Councilor cunningham@wilsonvilleoregon.gov shevlin@wilsonvilleoregon.gov scull@wilsonvilleoregon.gov

City Calendar

- 1 Thu New Year's Day SMART, Library, City offices closed
- 5 Mon City Council Meeting, City Hall 5 pm-Work Session, 7:30 pm-Meeting
- Municipal/Traffic Court 2 pm, City Hall
- 12 Mon Development Review Board (Panel A) Mtg 6:30 pm, City Hall
- 14 Wed Tourism Promotion Committee Meeting 10 am, City Hall
 - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee 10 am, City Hall
 - Planning Commission Meeting 6 pm, City Hall
 - Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board
- 19 Mon Martin Luther King Jr. Day City offices, Library closed
- 20 Tue • Municipal/Traffic Court 2 pm, City Hall
- 21 Wed Arts, Culture & Heritage Commission Mtg TBD, Parks & Rec. Admin. Bldg.
- 22 Thu City Council Meeting, City Hall 5 pm-Work Session, 7 pm-Meeting
- 26 Mon Development Review Board (Panel B) Mtg. 6:30 pm, City Hall
- 28 Mon Library Board Meeting 6:30 pm, Wilsonville Library

FEBRUARY

- Mon City Council Meeting, City Hall 5 pm-Work Session, 7 pm-Meeting
- Municipal/Traffic Court 2 pm, City Hall
- Wed Tourism Promotion Committee Meeting 10 am, City Hall
- Lunar New Year Celebration 2-4 pm, Community Center
- Mon Development Review Board (Panel A) Mtg 6:30 pm, City Hall
- Stafford/Elligsen/65th Roundabout Open House. 5 pm, City Hall
- 11 Wed Planning Commission Meeting 6 pm, City Hall
 - Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board
- 16 Mon Presidents' Day City offices, Library closed
- Municipal/Traffic Court 2 pm, City Hall
- 18 Wed Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission 5 pm
- 19 Thu City Council Meeting, City Hall 5 pm-Work Session, 7 pm-Meeting
- 23 Mon Development Review Board (Panel B) Mtg. 6:30 pm, City Hall
- 25 Wed Library Board Meeting 6:30 pm, Wilsonville Library

All dates and times are tentative; check the City's online calendar for schedule changes at wilsonvilleoregon.gov.

City Manager Bryan Cosgrove

503-570-1504 cosgrove@wilsonvilleoregon.gov

Wilsonville City Hall

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