



City's Longest-Tenured Employee to Retire After 30 Years of City Planning

April presents two significant career milestones for Chris Neamtzu. The City's community development director celebrates 30 years with the City of Wilsonville on April 17. Two weeks later, on April 30, he is retiring.

"I knew that I wanted to achieve the 30-year milestone," said Neamtzu, the City's longest-tenured employee. "I contemplated going longer, but I think the time is right. Life is so short; you've got to do what you want to do while you still can."



Chris Neamtzu

A career in public service wasn't Neamtzu's original plan. He aspired to be a planning consultant, shaping projects throughout many communities.

"It didn't take me very long to figure out that city planning at local level, where you can actually influence change and see things happen over a period of time, is far more gratifying," Neamtzu said.

Neamtzu has worn a number of hats in Wilsonville, rising through the ranks from assistant planner, to long-range planning manager to planning director, to director of community development. For three decades, he's played a major role in the layout and design of the City's neighborhoods, parks, and commercial/industrial developments.

"Trees have always been a special part of my assignment here in Wilsonville, and something I'm deeply passionate toward."

"Chris is one of the finest public servants I've had the pleasure to serve with, and his contributions to Wilsonville's livability will live on for decades," said City Manager Bryan Cosgrove. "His collaborative, service-driven approach endured him to his colleagues, the City's executive team, and every customer that walked into City Hall."

From start to finish, Neamtzu has led City efforts to support the health and protection of Wilsonville's trees.

He wrote the application that first earned the City recognition as a "Tree City USA," a distinction now earned for 27 years and running. He was among the designers of Graham Oaks Park, the linear parks of Villebois, and virtually every other City park. His 2001 Natural Resources Protection Plan has ensured the protection of countless acres. More recently, he has led the City's work to combat the invasive

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Last year, about 80 volunteers participated in Wilsonville Environmental Resource Keepers Day (a.k.a. WERK Day), an annual event to clean up Memorial Park ahead of the summer season. One of many City volunteer opportunities, this year's WERK Day takes place on May 10. Learn more about City volunteer opportunities at ci.wilsonville.or.us/volunteer

Mayor's Message

The Spirit of Volunteerism is Alive and Well in Wilsonville

Those willing and able to consistently make time and effort to give back to their community deserve our gratitude and admiration.

Time is a limited resource, yet so many Wilsonville residents give their all to lift City programs, schools, communities of faith, youth sports teams, local non-profits, and other local service organizations.

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, and this feels like an appropriate time to express my thanks to the many selfless, inspiring volunteers who build community here in Wilsonville. It's a big part of what makes this place special.

At any given time, 200-300 people are actively volunteer to support City of Wilsonville programs. These volunteers clean up roads, shelve Library

When parents and grandparents volunteer, they set a positive example that can inspire our children and grandchildren to follow in their footsteps.

books, deliver meals to homebound seniors, and complete countless other duties that make life better for their neighbors. About 80 of those individuals serve as members of one of the City's boards and commissions. Volunteer board members help provide oversight of City land use planning, budgeting, tourism strategy, parks and recreation programs, and much more.



Soon I'll begin to conduct interviews to place new members on the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission, the Library Board, and the Tourism Promotion Committee. I encourage you to apply by April 30 at ci.wilsonville.or.us/boardapply if you'd like to be considered.

Mahatma Gandhi said it best: "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Research shows that volunteerism improves our mental and physical health. When parents and grandparents volunteer, they set a positive example that can inspire our children and grandchildren to follow in their footsteps. Volunteering can provide a sense of purpose; foster new, stronger friendships; and greatly bolster a résumé or college application.

From my experience on the Budget Committee and the Development Review Board, I've seen first-hand how people with vastly different viewpoints and experiences can come together to serve the greater good. I look forward to interviewing applicants, and am eager to identify people ready to put their diverse work histories and life experiences, empathy, and passion to work for Wilsonville.

If you'd like to learn more about some of the City's volunteer opportunities, visit ci.wilsonville.or.us/volunteer. Or ask an organization you support if they need volunteers.

Helping others feels good, and I appreciate that the spirit of service is alive and well in Wilsonville. Thanks for all you do.

Shawn O'Neil, Mayor



Back-to-Back 5A Football Champs Pay a Visit to City Hall

Wilsonville High School's football players, coaches and team managers recently visited City Hall to celebrate the Wildcats second consecutive Oregon School Activities Association 5A State Championship.

Just the third team ever to win back-to-back 5A football titles, the Wildcats concluded their 11-2 season with a 56-35 win over previously unbeaten Mountain View. Quarterback Mark Wiepert was named Oregon's 5A Player of the Year.

City of Wilsonville
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Wilsonville, OR 97070

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Councilor Cunningham Gets Off Sidelines, Into Governance

Adam Cunningham says his decision to run for City Council this summer was motivated by a desire to help facilitate the changes he was hoping to see.

“Anywhere you live, you’re going to have gripes and not agree with everything,” he said. “I decided that rather than just complain, I would throw my hat in the ring to be part of the process of finding solutions and not just sit on the sidelines.”

His first impression of public service?

“In the past several weeks, I have grown extremely optimistic of what this Council can accomplish,” Cunningham said. “If we continue to listen to the voices of our citizens and honor the will of our voters, it will ensure that we are truly a representative body reflective of the needs of our unique community.”

Cunningham’s guiding principles may sound familiar to some long-time residents. They were borrowed with permission from former City Councilor Scott Starr.

“Are we being responsible with our neighbors’ money? Are we respecting neighbors’ property rights? And are we being open and transparent in the process?” Cunningham said.

“In the past several weeks, I have grown extremely optimistic of what this Council can accomplish.”

“I shamelessly have stolen those three guiding principles while adding one of my own — are we doing the best thing for the

current residents of Wilsonville?”

Cunningham’s decision to run for City Council was made with his family’s urging, though his wife, Stephanie, was reluctant when he initially expressed his interest in running.

“It’s a big thing to put yourself out there like that,” Cunningham said. “She was a bit hesitant, but she’s fantastic. She’s always got my back, always, always supports me.”

Sons Caden (15) and Kyle (12) took a little less

convincing.

“They’re both fantastic human beings and confident young men, and they’re excited to see their dad taking on this responsibility,” Cunningham said. “I think it’s a great example for my sons, to have the willingness to take this on.”

In 2016, the Cunninghams found their way from El Cajon, Calif., to Wilsonville, where Stephanie had attended high school. Her parents now live in Charbonneau.

“I brought it up to her, the idea we should move to Oregon,” Cunningham said. “The kids weren’t super established into activities yet, so it was a nice time to make that transition.”

A big part of Wilsonville’s appeal to Cunningham, a former Marine and police officer, is the relative peace and safety the community provides.

“I love that it is the exception to the rule when we have something that goes a little haywire here,” he said. “My kids can go outside and play, and I don’t worry about them for a second. We knew it was where we wanted to be.”

Cunningham quickly found community within the Wilsonville Little League organization, where he has umpired and served in several capacities on the organization’s Board of Directors in addition to supporting two young ball players of his own.

“So much time and effort and energy goes into creating a successful Little League Baseball season,” Cunningham said. “And, for the past couple of years with Caden out of Little League, we’ve spent a lot of time at weekend tournaments.”

His commitment to baseball has meant less time for deer and elk hunting and camping, two activities the Cunninghams enjoy in their spare time. Now those activities are also competing with his new responsibilities as a City Councilor, but Cunningham is excited to be in his chair.

“Government’s role is to make sure that people have a safe place to live and that they have a good quality



Councilor Adam Cunningham, at right, with Caden, Kyle, and Stephanie.

of life,” he said. “If we can increase the quality of life here over the next four years, that will definitely be a success for me.”



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

Fines for Food: 50% off Late Fees

Lend your neighbors a helping hand, and get a great deal!

From April 1-30, overdue fines are 50% off at Wilsonville Public Library (for in-person payments only).



Every dollar paid is donated to Wilsonville Community Sharing to fill the food bank with fresh, healthy supplies.

Library Giving Days, April 1-7

Support your library on Library Giving Day! Your donation helps fund free programs, technology, and books for our community. Any donation, even \$1, stays 100% local and directly helps our community.



Go to wplf.org to show your support!

History Talk: San Francisco 1906

Local historian Sig Unander presents this program about the destruction of San Francisco over four tragic days by a Magnitude 8 earthquake that struck without warning and the firestorm that followed.



This epic event changed the city forever and holds lessons as we prepare for the Cascadia quake.

Tuesday, Apr. 29, 6-7:30 pm

Bring Broken Items to Our Free Repair Fair on April 26

Take advantage of this free community event, which brings together skilled volunteers and people with broken items.



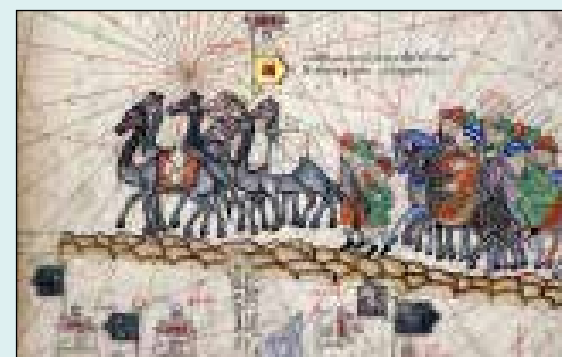
The repair fair takes place on Saturday, April 26, 10 am-1 pm at the Library. Bring these items in for free repairs:

- Clean clothes and textiles
- Bicycles
- Small electronics
- Small home appliances
- Tools or knives to be sharpened
- Jewelry

We’ll repair what we can. Some repairs may require parts or tools we don’t have.

To ask if an item you want to bring can be repaired, please e-mail sustainability@clackamas.us.

Upcoming Classes and Events



Profiles: The Silk Road

This online presentation looks at the ancient network of trade routes connecting the East and West.

Sign up online for the Zoom code.

Wednesday, Apr. 3, 11 am-12:30 pm

WilsonvilleLibrary.org/classes

Space Talks

Learn the history and science behind our space exploration. This month: The Very First Launch of the Space Shuttle

Saturday, Apr. 5, 11 am-12:30 pm

WilsonvilleLibrary.org/space

STEAM Stuff

Drop-in hands-on STEAM activities for elementary age children with a grown-up.

Wednesday, Apr. 9, 2:30-3:30 pm

WilsonvilleLibrary.org/steam

Book Notes Concerts

Enjoy free performances by local musicians.

This month: Picante, Latin jazz,

Saturday, Apr. 12, 2-3 pm

WilsonvilleLibrary.org/concerts

Visit our website for more events:

WilsonvilleLibrary.org



Spring Cleaning is a Perfect Time to Take Steps Toward Preparation

Spring cleaning can be more than just sprucing up your home's appearance if you take the opportunity to protect your home to become better prepared for emergencies.



This month, Wilsonville Ready offers a few tasks to consider taking on to boost resilience against weather events, fire, and other emergencies as you tackle your spring cleaning.

Maintain your Roof

Your roof is a first line of defense against nature's elements. Experts recommend inspecting your roof at least twice a year — once in spring and again in fall. The time is right to inspect and replace any loose or missing shingles, clean your gutters, and check for leaks or damage from winter weather. Preventative maintenance can safeguard your home from future storm damage and also improve fire resilience.

Trim Trees and Shrubs

Overgrown or dead shrubs and trees can be more than an eyesore. They can prove hazardous during storms and wildfires. Trimming back shrubs and dead

or overhanging tree branches makes your yard more inviting and reduces the risk of dangerous falling branches. Make sure to cut back bushes so they do not touch your home or other structures, as this helps lower fire risk. Removing dead plants, grass, weeds, dry leaves, and pine needles from your landscape reduces fuel for fires as well.

Plant Fire-Resistant Plants

With wildfires becoming more prevalent, choosing fire-resistant plants for your landscape is a smart way to boost curb appeal and your home's safety. Fire-resistant plants are those that don't readily ignite from a flame or other ignition sources. The Oregon State University Extension Service provides a guide on attractive plants to include for a more fire-resilient landscape.

If you've completed these tasks, you're a step ahead. Don't stop now; spring is a great time to review and update your emergency preparedness plan and supplies.

For more emergency preparedness resources, visit WilsonvilleReady.com

Apply by Apr. 30 for Vacant Seats on Three City Boards

The City of Wilsonville is recruiting applicants interested in serving on three of the City boards and commissions that provide guidance and oversight of City programs.

Board members typically attend evening meetings once a month and assist in making policy recommendations to the City Council.

Seats are to be filled on the following boards:

- Arts, Culture & Heritage Commission (3 seats)
- Library Board (1 seats)
- Tourism Promotion Committee (2 seats)

People of all races, genders, ages and nationalities are encouraged to apply.

Qualified applicants are to be interviewed by Mayor Shawn O'Neil, who makes appointment recommendations to City Council that must be approved by a majority vote.

The deadline to apply is Apr. 30. Applications may be completed online at ci.wilsonville.or.us/boardsapp

For more information, contact Kimberly Veliz, City Recorder, at 503-570-1506; cityrecorder@ci.wilsonville.or.us.

Library Giving Day: Support Programs with Donation, April 1-7

The Wilsonville Public Library is joining a nationwide movement that is raising funds for local libraries. Library Giving Day serves to remind people of the role libraries serve as a cornerstone for healthy communities.

The Wilsonville Public Library Foundation is leading a week-long Library Giving Day fundraising event, and is encouraging patrons and library lovers to provide the gift of a donation. Visit the Library April 1-7 to make a donation or donate online at wplf.org. Every dollar donated stays local and directly supports Library programming.

Every donation is an investment in a brighter,

more connected future for the Wilsonville community. In addition to well-loved books, Wilsonville's library offers innovative programs that promote lifelong learning, connect patrons to technology, and support career development.

The Wilsonville Public Library Foundation plays a crucial role in enhancing the library's programs, services, and resources, ensuring that everyone — from children to seniors — has access to a wealth of educational opportunities, cultural events, and community-building activities.

For more information, visit wplf.org.



SMART

SOUTH METRO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT
503-682-7790 RideSMART.com
28879 SW Boberg Road



April is Earth Month, an opportunity to build the habit of engaging in alternative transportation to reduce energy consumption.

Bike, carpool, and use SMART. Try biking or busing to work one day a week, or form a carpool to ride with coworkers.

Public Transit: Use SMART instead of driving to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

Carpool: Reducing the number of cars on the road can help reduce air pollution and contaminated runoff.

Bike: Riding is a great way to celebrate Earth Month and get some exercise. May is bike month, so log your trips on the GetThereOregon.com website to have a chance in some raffles!



Vanpool Options Available to Wilsonville Commuters

Rely on SMART to provide assistance in establishing a vanpool, and to provide up to \$500 each month to support vanpool costs!

Any group of four or more people can start a vanpool if they share a trip that starts or ends in Wilsonville. A wide selection of low-mileage SUVs, crossovers and vans are available to choose from.

Driving duties can be shared by vanpool partners age 25 or older.

Monthly vanpool costs depend on the vehicle type, amenities, and commute distance. Vanpool members split rental and fuel costs.

Lease is month-to-month, and can be canceled anytime.

For more information, e-mail marston@ridesmart.com

Earth Day: Celebrate Our Planet at an April School Event

Earth Month is a celebration of the planet we live on. Wilsonville schools can host Walk+Roll to School events all month or choose a specific day to celebrate.

These events are designed to help encourage students to learn more about how they can be kind to the Earth.



In April there are several days schools can celebrate:

Wednesday, April 22

National Walking Day

Thursday, April 4

National Walk Around Things Day

Tuesday, April 22

Earth Day

Join us as we take steps to make our community and Earth healthier for all by walking and rolling to school! Contact your school to get involved.





Mayor’s State of the City Address to Be Delivered at City Hall on May 5

Wilsonville Mayor Shawn O’Neil is scheduled to give his first State of the City address at the regular meeting of the City Council on Monday, May 5, at 7 pm.

O’Neil’s address is to be informed by a recent two-day City Council work session, March 14-15, to identify the Council’s two-year goals. At the session, the Council spent considerable time with the City’s executive staff discussing existing political and financial climate, technology, customer needs, and uncertainties related to the global economy, cost of construction, and supply chain challenges.

State of the City Address
Mon, May 5, 7 pm
 Wilsonville City Hall
 29799 SW Town Ctr Loop E.

Specific goals were identified under four broad themes:

- Public Health, Safety and Welfare
- Financial Outcomes
- Communication / Community Engagement
- Parks Maintenance

The 2025-2027 Council goals, which will be adopted at an upcoming City Council meeting, guide City staff with actionable goals to complete over the next two years.

The State of the City address is streamed on the City’s YouTube channel and broadcast on public television (Xfinity Ch. 30, Ziplly Ch. 32) for those interested but unable to attend.

**“Many Cultures, One Heart”:
 New Public Art Installation
 to Be Unveiled in Early May**

A city with a lot of heart is about to become a city with a lot of hearts.

Ten large fiberglass hearts, painted by local artists, are going to be displayed at public sites throughout Wilsonville. This public art project was spearheaded by the City’s Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) and funded through the Wilsonville-Metro Community Enhancement Program.

The project’s theme — “Many Cultures, One Heart” — aims to represent the distinctive artistic and cultural framework that makes Wilsonville a wonderful place.

A Call for Art last year solicited applications from talented emerging or professional artists; more than 30 artists submitted unique design concepts for the 4.5’ by 4.5’ hearts. Artists were encouraged to incorporate themes around diversity into their designs, to celebrate many cultural communities within the City.

Submissions were reviewed by members of the ACHC and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee to select the project’s 10 featured artists. One heart was awarded to Wilsonville

**“Many Cultures, One Heart”
 Artists’ Reception**
Wed, Apr. 30, 5-7 pm
 Stein-Boozier Barn
 8300 SW Memorial Drive

High School art teacher Angenette Escobar, who is collaborating with her students to complete her heart.

“The project is a great way for emerging artists and students to gain experience with public art and installed works,” said Erika Valentine, the City’s Arts and Culture Program Coordinator.

The hearts are being installed in public locations near City parks and facilities in early May and are expected to remain on display for at least a year. This outdoor public gallery provides an opportunity for



Ten large fiberglass hearts are being displayed at locations throughout town in May. Elle Knight, one of 10 featured artists, works on her creation at her home studio.

residents and visitors of all ages to appreciate new public art from local artists.

On Wednesday, April 30, the City is hosting opening reception at the Stein-Boozier Barn at Murase Plaza from 5 to 7 pm to celebrate the featured artists and provide a sneak peek at their creations.

Participating artists include: Elle Knight, Zak Ostertag, Cathy Rowe, Charlie Corrales, Triesta Zuber, Abhinaya Sudharsanam, Angenette Escobar (with Wilsonville High School art students), Addie Boswell, Eileen Begley, and Lonnie Garcia.

To learn more about the project, contact Erika Valentine, Arts and Culture Program Coordinator at EV Valentine@WilsonvilleOregon.gov or visit ci.wilsonville.or.us/hearts.



WilsonvilleParksandRec.com

Parks & Rec Administration
 29600 SW Park Pl.
 503-783-7529

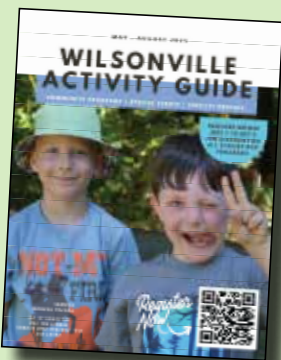
Community Center
 7965 SW Wilsonville Rd.
 503-682-3727

Summer Registration Opens April 7

Registration for summer activities, including youth summer camps, opens on April 7!

Wilsonville Parks and Recreation is excited to partner with several new camp providers, including Timbers Soccer Camp, and Play-Well TEKologies. Beloved favorites also return, such as Jordan Kent Sports Camps, YMCA, Skyhawks, Coyle Outdoors, Chess Wizards, Soccer Shots, and STARS Camp.

Many programs fill to capacity, so early registration is encouraged! Register by May 1 to receive a 10% discount (excludes Skyhawks and Jordan Kent camps). Browse activities and register online at WilsonvilleParksandRec.com/Register



Community Egg Hunt Takes Place on April 19

The annual Community Egg Hunt takes place at Memorial Park on Saturday, April 19, at 10 am. About 20,000 eggs are dispersed on sports fields, with egg hunters divided into age categories. The Egg Hunt is for ages 1-11 years old; there is no charge.

Several prizes and gift baskets are being given away, so grab a basket and come hunt! Learn more at WilsonvilleParksandRec.com/EggHunt. Thank you to J. Hill Property group, this year’s title sponsor; and Nichols Family Agency, our Silver Sponsor!

W.E.R.K. Day Returns on May 10

Wilsonville Environmental Resource Keepers’ annual WERK Day returns on Saturday, May 10. Volunteers complete several park clean-up projects at Memorial Park, such as bark dusting and invasive species removal from 9-11 am. A complimentary breakfast for volunteers is served 8-9 am at the Wilsonville Community Center, courtesy of the Wilsonville Rotary Club.

Goat petting is offered during and after the event from 10 am-noon near the Stein-Boozier Barn. The goats, contracted through “Go Goat LLC,” are doing parks clean-up work of their own by eating their way through invasive blackberry.

Pre-registration is encouraged for WERK Day. Each volunteer participant receives a \$10 Fun Card to Bullwinkle’s. Register at WilsonvilleParksandRec.com using course #11282. No registration is needed for goat petting.

Learn AARP Smart Driver Skills on April 22

The Community Center is presenting the AARP Smart Driver™ classroom course on Tuesday, April 22, 9 am-4:30 pm at the Wilsonville Community Center. Cost is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members.

Participants learn techniques to handle left turns, navigate right-of-way, proper following distance, and roundabouts, with tips on how to reduce traffic violations, crashes, injury risk, and learn Oregon specific items.

The program shares driving methods that help keep participants and their loved ones safe on the road; attendees may be able to save money on their auto insurance with successful completion of the course. Call 503-682-3727 to pre-register as this course will sell out.

Upcoming Classes and Events

Watercolor Impressionism
 Sundays, April 6-27
 Ages 15+
 12-2 pm
 Parks and Rec Admin Office
 Cost: \$120
 Course #: 11321

Life 101- Long Term Care
 Monday, April 7
 10:30 am
 Wilsonville Community Center
 No Charge

**Bob Ross Style Oil Painting-
 “Moonlit Seas”**
 Saturday, April 12
 Ages 12+
 10 am-2 pm
 Parks and Rec Admin Office
 Cost: \$50
 Course #: 11310

Life 101- Estate Planning
 Monday, April 28
 10:30 am
 Wilsonville Community Center
 No Charge

Baking with Sam - Perfecting Scones
 Wednesday, April 30
 Ages 16+6
 6-8 pm
 Wilsonville Community Center
 Cost: \$52
 Course #: 11289

Visit our website for more events:

WilsonvilleParksandRec.com



(Photo by Jenn Koenig, 2023 #bestofwilsonville entry)

For 27th Straight Year, Wilsonville Earns “Tree City USA” Status

The City of Wilsonville was recently notified that — for the 27th consecutive year — it has achieved “Tree City USA” status, a recognition bestowed by the Arbor Day Foundation that reflects Wilsonville’s continued commitment to maintaining and promoting its urban forest.

To earn the coveted Tree City USA designation, a City must have a comprehensive urban forestry program consisting of a tree ordinance, a City

department responsible for trees, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an annual Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

“The Tree City USA designation is a badge of honor that we always wear proudly,” said Community Development Director Chris Neamtzu. “It’s a wonderful, symbolic reminder of our ongoing commitment to always be working to grow and protect Wilsonville’s trees.”

Neamtzu Earns President’s Award for Urban Forestry Advocacy

The City’s Community Development Director, Chris Neamtzu, is the recipient of the 2025 Oregon Urban and Community Forestry President’s Award.

Since 1994, Oregon Community Trees (OCT) and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) have recognized individuals, communities, and organizations in Oregon who demonstrate outstanding accomplishments and leadership in urban and community forestry.

“You are indeed an Oregon urban and community forestry leader. Your actions align with the missions of OCT and the ODF Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program by promoting healthy

urban and community forests in Oregon through education, awareness, and advocacy and helping Oregonians improve their quality of life by promoting community investment in our urban forests,” said OCT President Jim Gersbach in a letter notifying Neamtzu of the award.

The President’s Award is being presented to Neamtzu at the 2025 Oregon Urban & Community Forestry Conference in Eugene, Ore., on May 15.

Previously, OCT has recognized the City of Wilsonville (2024) and former Mayor/City Councilor Charlotte Lehan (2021) with awards for ongoing work to support a healthy urban forest.



Neamtzu (left) who initiated Wilsonville’s participation in the Tree City USA program, visited Council Chambers in 2008 to recognize the City’s 10th straight year as a Tree City. Neamtzu is retiring on April 30.

Neamtzu: City’s Chief Planner Set to Retire on April 30

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Mediterranean Oak Borer beetle that threatens Oregon white oaks.

“Trees have always been a special part of my assignment here in Wilsonville, and something I’m deeply passionate toward,” said Neamtzu, who was recently recognized by Oregon Community Trees with the 2025 Oregon Urban and Community Forestry President’s Award (see sidebar above).

Retirement, he says, opens a number of new doors, including traveling with his wife, spending time with his college-aged son, golfing, hiking and creative pursuits, such as drawing and writing. He may also take on some part-time consulting and/or volunteer work.

Saying goodbye won’t be easy.

“The people in this organization are truly remarkable,” Neamtzu said. “Wilsonville’s always been a place that has been able to draw the very best of the

best in their fields. I’ve been exposed to a lot of really talented and amazing people, and they’ve all rubbed off and shaped me into the person that I’ve become.”

Neamtzu is grateful for the continuity of vision throughout his tenure. In three decades, he’s worked with just five mayors, two city managers, and three city attorneys.

“That consistency in leadership has resulted in an incredibly well-oiled machine with everyone rowing in the same direction,” he said. “We have been able to accomplish so much more because of that.”

He hopes that will continue, he says, and is grateful for the opportunity to help shape Wilsonville.

“I feel tremendous sense of pride when I say Wilsonville, think Wilsonville, drive around Wilsonville,” he said. “I’m super proud of the work we’ve done to build this incredible, vibrant city for the 21st century.”

As City Flushes Water Mains, Rust-Colored Water May Appear

Public Works utility crews are scheduled to complete the annual flushing of the City’s water mains this month.

Flushing water lines scours out mineral deposits to ensure optimal water quality and helps to maintain the City’s infrastructure by exercising hydrants, valves and blow-off assemblies and verifying their operability.



Water flushed from fire hydrants often appears to be orange or rust-colored. The discoloration is caused by iron deposits stirred up and removed during the flushing process.

After crews complete flushing in your neighborhood, it is recommended that you wait 20-30 minutes or more to greatly reduce your chance of pulling discolored water into your home plumbing system.

Discolored water poses no health threat if consumed. This water has been fully disinfected.

When discolored water appears, the following steps are recommended:

- Run cold water fixtures for several minutes.
- Flush toilets multiple times.

Typically, water begins to run clear within minutes. Avoid washing light-colored laundry during and immediately after lines are flushed; discolored water may cause these items to stain. As a precaution, wash a load of dark clothes first once water runs clear.

When crews are flushing in your neighborhood, please give them room to work safely.

Questions? Please call the Public Works Department at 503-682-4092.

To see an interactive map of approximate dates in each Wilsonville neighborhood, visit bit.ly/COWwater or follow the QR code above.

See when work is happening in your neighborhood



Natural Area Management Plan Under Development; Input Sought

The City of Wilsonville is developing a comprehensive Natural Areas Management Plan to guide future management and enhancement of the City’s natural areas.

On April 23, 6-8 pm, the City is hosting an Open House at City Hall to provide details about the

project and allow the project team to gather feedback from community stakeholders to inform the final plan.

Public input is crucial as the City develops a guidelines to ensure future enhancement and management of the City’s natural areas.

The City’s partner on this project, and Ash Creek Forest Management, LLC, specializes in natural area evaluation and vegetation management. Ash Creek has conducted vegetation surveys across the City’s natural areas to assess habitat conditions; details have been presented to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and the Wilsonville City Council.

Once public input is analyzed and incorporated, a final plan will be completed and available for review before it is scheduled for adoption by the City Council.

Interested parties are invited to attend the April 23 open house or complete a short survey at LetsTalk-Wilsonville.com/natural-areas-management-plan. The project page also includes Frequently Asked Questions and more information about the project.

For more information, contact Natural Resources Manager Kerry Rappold, 503-570-1570, rappold@wilsonvilleoregon.gov.

Survey Open Now

POLICE CHIEF'S CORNER

Mentorship Plays a Rewarding Role in Policing

Enforcing the law is just part of what law enforcement officers do. So often the job provides an opportunity to do much more to positively impact lives in the communities we serve.

This month, the Wilsonville Police Department takes great pride in highlighting the exceptional work of Deputy Chris O'Connor, whose dedication and compassion are making a lasting difference in our community.

For the past five years, Deputy O'Connor has been a steadfast mentor to Shelby, a community member who has faced significant challenges — including isolation, mental health struggles, and other barriers resulting from a 2014 criminal record.

Deputy O'Connor has provided compassionate mentorship, recognizing Shelby's potential and helping him rebuild his life by assisting with essential steps like reconnecting his utilities, regaining his driving privileges, securing medical insurance, and enrolling in college.

Shelby's partnership with Deputy O'Connor was



Police Chief Rob Wurpes

made possible through Prosperity 10,000 (P10K), a state initiative that is providing \$35 million investment that empowers Local Workforce Development Boards (LWBs) to expand critical workforce services to Oregonians facing unique challenges.

The services made possible through this program include fostering relationships, dismantling barriers to education and employment, and other holistic, wrap-around services that help individuals thrive.

Shelby's story is featured in Oregon Workforce Partnership's Prosperity Programs Report. Deputy O'Connor's mentorship is a big part of it. When the COVID-19 pandemic threatened Shelby's initial progress, Deputy O'Connor stepped in, partnering with Clean Slate Clackamas, a P10K initiative, to clear Shelby's record and help him in pursuit of educational and employment opportunities that would provide fresh start.

"I love to see different teams come together and actually solve something," said Deputy O'Connor, reflecting on Shelby's journey. Today, Shelby is thriving — a testament to Deputy O'Connor's unwavering belief in second chances and the power of partnership.

To learn more about the Prosperity 10,000



Shelby, left, has rebuilt his life with help from Deputy Chris O'Connor, who has provided invaluable mentorship.

initiative, visit oregonworkforcepartnership.org/prosperity-10000/. Join us in celebrating Deputy O'Connor's dedication to making a difference and helping Shelby improve his life.

Chief Robert Wurpes

Schedule Set for May Meetings to Approve 2025-26 City Budget

The City of Wilsonville's Budget Committee has scheduled upcoming meetings to review current financial operations and to consider and approve a Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 budget to be forwarded to the City Council for adoption.

Wednesday, May 7, 6-10 pm, City Hall (Council Chambers): The Budget Committee convenes for an initial review of the City's proposed FY 2025-26 budget. The Committee scrutinizes aspects of the budget, hears public testimony

2025-26 Budget Meetings
 May 7, May 13, May 22, 6 pm
 Wilsonville City Hall
 29979 SW Town Center Loop E.

and completes initial review and deliberation.

Tuesday, May 13, 6-10 pm, City Hall (Council Chambers): Review and deliberation on the proposed FY 2025-26 budget continues; the City's Urban Renewal Agency budget is also considered. The public is welcome to address the Committee

regarding either budget. The Budget Committee may approve and recommend the budget for City Council adoption at the end of this meeting, or convene a third meeting if further deliberation is needed.

Thursday, May 22, 6-10 pm, City Hall (Council Chambers): the Budget Committee completes the review and approval of the FY 2025-26 budget during this final meeting, held only in the event the committee needs additional time after the May 13 meeting.

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

The Budget Committee consists of Wilsonville's five City Councilors and five appointed citizens at large (Tyler Beach, Christopher Moore, Alicia Moulton, Synthea Russell and Tabi Traugher).

For more information about the City's budget and fiscal planning, see ci.wilsonville.or.us/Budget



City Seeks Additional Input to Inform Climate Action Plan

The impacts of climate change are becoming more evident in Oregon and beyond, as wildfires, extreme heat, and heavy rainfall occur with increasing frequency and severity.

To address the causes of these effects, the City of Wilsonville is developing a Climate Action Plan (CAP) that identifies how best to reduce Wilsonville's greenhouse gas emissions and increase resilience.

The plan will incorporate goals and outcomes, a greenhouse gas inventory, forecasted emissions, and focus areas and strategies for mitigation.

Survey Open Now

While this plan has been informed by community engagement, more input is sought. Visit LetsTalkWilsonville.com to take the Climate Action Plan survey.

When complete, the City's CAP will build upon existing work completed by the City, Clackamas County, and the State to mitigate the effects of climate change. The Plan will inform future projects outlined in Wilsonville's Comprehensive Plan and other Master Plans.

For more information, contact Natural Resources Manager Kerry Rappold at 503-570-1525; rappold@wilsonvilleoregon.gov

Notable Actions: City Boards and Commissions

City Council	Action	What it Means
Mar. 17	The City Council renewed annual property-tax exemptions at five local multi-family facilities — Autumn Park Apartments, Charleston Apartments, Creekside Woods LP, Rain Garden LP and Wiedemann Park.	The action provides the community with 365 residential units of affordable housing, as these exemptions allow the facilities to provide lower-cost rent to families, seniors and individuals meeting income qualifications.
Mar. 17	Council adopted City Legal staff's interpretation of City Code (chapter 3.340; chapters 4.300-320) pertaining to the presence and expansion of utilities, and, particularly, new utility poles, in the City right-of-way.	Portland General Electric is disputing the City's position that it is prohibited from installing new above-ground transmission poles.
Feb. 20	The Council approved an amended employment agreement with City Manager Bryan Cosgrove that extends his tenure an additional six months, through Dec. 31, 2025.	Cosgrove intends to retire from public service in December. He has served as Wilsonville's City Manager since June 2011.
Feb. 20	The Council adopted a supplemental budget agreement.	This action funds \$965,000 in services and improvements previously unanticipated or rolled over from the previous fiscal year.

How to Get City News:

- E-mail: ci.wilsonville.or.us/subscribe
- Social: Follow City of Wilsonville: Facebook, Instagram and NextDoor
- Web: LetsTalkWilsonville.com or ci.wilsonville.or.us
- Watch City Council meetings:
 YouTube: youtube.com/cityofwilsonville
 Xfinity: Channel 30 | Ziplly: Channel 32



What is Economic Development? How Does it Benefit Wilsonville?



groundwork | noun | graund-wærk
 - a foundation; basis
 - work that is done as a preparation for work that will be done later

What exactly is economic development? What does City staff do to develop the local economy?

Economic development is the practice of creating policies, programs, and partnerships, and projects that improve the economic well-being and quality of life within a community or region.

Generally, economic development involves efforts to:

- attract and grow businesses (that in turn create jobs)
- enhance infrastructure (that spur private development)
- support entrepreneurship

- develop a talented workforce

A complete economic development program focuses on both the local sector — locally-owned businesses that serve local customers (such as cafés, pet stores, etc.) — as well as the traded sector, composed of industries and businesses (manufacturing, software development, aerospace, logistics/wholesale trade, etc.) that export products and services beyond the immediate community. The traded sector is important for economic development because it drives economic growth, increases productivity, and generally creates higher-wage jobs.

Because the City is a provider of tax-funded public services (such as law enforcement, the library, parks, etc.), Economic Development staff focuses primarily on activities that lead to new property tax generation, which can be realized through the improvement of existing buildings, the addition of new buildings, or the installation of taxable machinery and equipment.

Two recent examples demonstrate successful economic development at work locally:

- Several years ago, staff began meeting with Precision Countertops, which specializes in fabricating and installing custom countertops for both residential and commercial applications. Precision, a long-time lessee, wanted to build

and own their own facility. Staff helped them identify land and understand the city development approval process, and the company is now constructing a state-of-the-art fabrication facility and showroom on Garden Acres Road in the Coffee Creek area.

- California-based Twist Bioscience has invested more than \$80 million in fixed assets and real estate in the City, and delivered over 200 new high-wage jobs. They were recruited to Wilsonville by the City, in collaboration with partners at Oregon Bioscience Association and Greater Portland Inc. (the regional economic development organization). The City’s “Wilsonville Investment Now” (WIN) program provided a short-term tax rebate incentive that tipped the scales in Wilsonville’s favor.

Business recruitment, retention, and expansion are a critical part of the City’s work to support and grow the Wilsonville economy.

Stay tuned to this space to learn more, and visit LetsTalkWilsonville.com to let us know what topics you’d like to hear more about.

For more information, contact Economic Development Manager Matt Lorenzen, 503-570-1539, mlorenzen@ci.wilsonville.or.us.

Briefs

County Board of Commissioners to Appoint New Member

The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners is seeking applicants for Position 4, recently vacated by the resignation of former commissioner Melissa Fireside.

A replacement will be appointed by the Board of Commissioners, which is accepting applications for the vacant seat until 5 pm on April 9.

In order to serve as a County Commissioner, a candidate must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age, and a registered voter who has resided in Clackamas County for a minimum of 12 months.

The Board may consider additional criteria, including geographic area of residence, elected experience, community service, policy expertise, and a desire to run for the seat in the next election.

Visit clackamas.us/bcc/appointment to review application materials and instructions.



Grants to Support Arts & Culture Projects Available in Clackamas County

Project-based grants of up to \$5,000 are now available to organizations for projects and general operating related to arts, heritage, or humanities!

Clackamas County Cultural Coalition is offering a special competitive spring grant cycle to distribute a generous financial award from the Clackamas County Commissioners.

Projects and organizations interested in applying should focus on supporting/growing local assets and removing barriers to cultural participation. All projects must result in at least one measurable outcome.

The Coalition supports innovative approaches and projects. Grant applications must be received by April 17 for consideration. For eligibility requirements and/or to learn more, visit clackamasculturalcoalition.org/grants/project-grants/



Metro Seeks Racial Justice Advocates to Apply to Join Advisory Committee

Metro is seeking individuals to bring racial justice values and lived experience to local government decision-making as members of its Committee on Racial Equality (CORE), which advises Metro decision-makers on how to center racial justice while developing policies, programs and investments.

By advising Metro on issues related to housing, transportation, land use, waste management, and other areas, CORE members influence policy and affect change.

Former Mayor Among Finalists for Rotary’s First Citizen Award

The Rotary Club of Wilsonville has announced finalists for its First Citizen Award, bestowed annually to a community member (or couple) for exceptional volunteer service.

This year’s finalists, selected from a pool of nominees, are Julie Fitzgerald, Lyn Whelchel, Mary Fieweger, and Stan and Julia Satter.

The First Citizen is to be announced at the Wilsonville Rotary’s annual Heart of Gold Gala and Auction on Friday, April 18, 6 pm, at the Wilsonville Holiday Inn. This year’s event, themed “The Magic of Service” celebrates the Club’s 50-year anniversary.

Fitzgerald, Wilsonville’s former mayor, has been an adviser, employee or volunteer for a range of local agencies. If selected, she would join John Ludlow, Charlotte Lehan, and Tim Knapp as mayors named First Citizen.

Whelchel directs non-profit Heart of the City, which provides food, clothing, financial assistance and other services to residents in need.

Fieweger organizes many community activities in Charbonneau and is a member of the Charbonneau Arts Association Board.

Stan and Julia Satter have been volunteers at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility since the facility opened in 2001.

For additional details on the contributions of this year’s First Citizen nominees and/or to buy tickets for the April 18 Heart of Gold Gala and Auction, visit wilsonvillerotary.com.



TVF&R Seeks Volunteer to Join Civil Service Commission

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue is seeking to fill one vacancy on its Civil Service Commission, which oversees TVF&R’s civil service system to ensure uniform standards in hiring, promotion, and tenure for employees.

The five-member volunteer commission meets quarterly to review actions related to employee classification, examinations, eligibility list management, appointments, appeals, and other matters.

An ideal candidate has the following attributes:

- Lives in an area served by TVF&R or owns property within the service area
- Understands and is committed to the general purposes of the District’s civil service rules, including providing equal opportunity to qualified persons in all aspects of employment in civil service positions and increasing effectiveness and efficiency in the administration of personnel processes.
- Can make high-quality decisions based on a mixture of analysis, wisdom, experience, and judgement.
- Is comfortable dealing with concepts and complexity
- Can view a situation with a broad perspective
- Can commit to a four-year term as an unpaid volunteer, with attendance at quarterly evening meetings in Tigard and special meetings as needed.

For more information and/or to apply, visit tvfr.com. Applications may be submitted April 11-27.

Preferred candidates will be interviewed on Monday, May 5. An orientation will be held prior to the first commission meeting on June 11.

TVF&R provides service to 548,000 residents in a 390-square-mile service area that includes 11 cities and parts of four counties. Nearly 600 TVF&R employees operate 28 career fire stations and one volunteer station. Almost 80% of employees are in positions governed by the District’s civil service system.

Community Egg Hunt Returns to Memorial Park on April 19

Wilsonville Parks and Recreation is hosting the annual Community Egg Hunt at Memorial Park on Saturday, April 19, at 10 am.

About 20,000 eggs are being scattered around the Memorial Park fields. Young hunters (ages 1-11)

Community Egg Hunt
Sat, Apr. 19, 10 am
Memorial Park Athletic Fields

are divided into groups according to age, and sent onto the field for

the annual hunt for prize eggs.

There is no charge for this event. Parking near Memorial Park is limited; visitors should arrive early or use SMART transportation services.



Prizes, including gift baskets, are being handed out to several lucky participants.

A big thanks to J. Hill Property Group for sponsorship of this event!

Grab your kids and your baskets, and don't miss this springtime tradition.

WCSI Hosts Bingo Night on Apr. 5

Wilsonville Community Seniors, Inc. (WCSI) is hosting a Bingo Night fundraiser on Saturday, April 5, 6:30-9 pm at the Wilsonville Community Center (7965 SW Wilsonville Rd.) Doors open at 6 pm.



Play Bingo (12 games) for a chance to win gifts cards or prizes. The cost is \$25; anyone over the age of 18 may play. Proceeds support WCSI's activities for local seniors.

Daubers and raffle tickets are available for purchase. Seating is limited; tickets may be purchased at the Community Center, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, between 9 am-noon), until sold out.

WCSI Bingo Night
Sat, Apr. 5, 6:30-9 pm
Wilsonville Community Center
7965 SW Wilsonville Rd.

For more

information visit wsci.info or e-mail Donna at wilsonvillecsi@gmail.com

Apr. 3: A Celebration of Cultures, Held Through the Art of Dance:

The City's Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) is hosting Wilsonville's first Multicultural Dance Celebration, a free event to be held April 3 at McMenemy's Old Church, 6:30-8:30 pm, to entertain and educate about culture through dance.



Dance is a form of expression that transcends language barriers and embodies the history, traditions, and emotions of a culture. Across the world, various dance forms have been passed down through generations, each carrying its own unique story and significance.

Multicultural Dance Celebration
Thu, Apr. 3, 6:30-8:30 pm
McMenemy's Old Church
30340 SW Boones Ferry Rd.

Eien Hunter-Isikawa, Shishimai is performing the Ryomen Odori (double mask dance) and a traditional Japanese Lion Dance; Jayanthi Raman Dance Company is performing Classical Dances of India.

Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Erika Valentine, evalentine@ci.wilsonville.or.us.

Celebrate Our City of Trees!

The City of Wilsonville and non-profit Friends of Trees are teaming up for the City's 2025 Arbor Day Celebration and a neighborhood tree planting.



The celebration takes place at 9 am on Saturday, April 5, at Town Center Park. The event acknowledges Wilsonville's commitment to maintaining a thriving tree canopy and the great value that trees add to our lives.

Arbor Day Celebration
Sat, Apr. 5., 9 am
Town Center Park
29600 SW Park Pl.

As a part of the celebration the City is announcing the dedication of a new Heritage Tree! We hope to see you there!



Wilsonville High School to Stage Satirical Comedy in May

The Wilsonville High School theater department is scheduled to stage "Once in a Lifetime," a play By Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman.

This satirical comedy sheds light on the massive impact talking pictures have on the established entertainment industry.

Directed By Jason Katz, "Once in a Lifetime" is being staged at the school's Black Box Theatre on the following dates: May 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, and 24. All shows begin at 7 pm.

Tickets coming soon at TeachTix.com. The show is recommended for audiences ages 12 and up.

The City's DEI Committee Recognizes the following April Events:

- Deaf Heritage Month
- Arab American Heritage Month
- April 12-20: Passover

Cultural Calendar

City Calendar

For the most up-to-date information, visit wilsonvilleoregon.gov/calendar

APRIL

1 Tue	• Municipal/Traffic Court 2 pm, City Hall
3 Thu	• Multicultural Dance Celebration 6:30 pm, McMenemy's Old Church
5 Sat	• Friends of Trees Arbor Day Celebration 8:45 am, Town Center Park • WCSI Bingo Night 6:30 pm, Community Center
7 Mon	• City Council Meeting, City Hall 5 pm-Work Session, 7 pm-Meeting
8 Tue	• Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Committee. 6 pm, Wilsonville Library
9 Wed	• Planning Commission Meeting 6 pm, City Hall • Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board 6 pm, Parks & Rec. Admin Bldg.
10 Thu	• Parks and Rec. Advisory Board 6 pm, Parks and Rec. Admin. Bldg.
14 Mon	• Development Review Board (Panel A) Mtg 6:30 pm, City Hall
15 Tue	• Municipal/Traffic Court 2 pm, City Hall
16 Wed	• Arts, Culture, Heritage Commission Mtg. 5 pm, City Hall
17 Thu	• Community Enhancement Committee Mtg. 6 pm, City Hall
19 Sat	• Community Egg Hunt 10 am, Memorial Park Fields
21 Mon	• City Council Meeting, City Hall 5 pm-Work Session, 7 pm-Meeting
23 Wed	• Library Board Meeting 6:30 pm, Wilsonville Library
24 Thu	• Community Enhancement Committee Mtg. 6 pm, City Hall
28 Mon	• Development Review Board (Panel B) Mtg. 6:30 pm, City Hall
30 Wed	• "Many Cultures, One Heart" Reception 5-7 pm, Stein-Boozier Barn

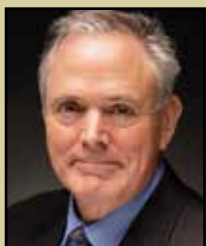
MAY

5 Mon	• City Council Meeting + SOTC Address 5 pm-Work Session, 7 pm-Meeting
6 Tue	• Municipal/Traffic Court 2 pm, City Hall
7 Wed	• Budget Committee Meeting #1 6 pm, City Hall
8 Thu	• Parks and Rec. Advisory Board 6 pm, Parks and Rec. Admin. Bldg.
10 Sat	• WERK Day Volunteering Event 8-11 am, Community Ctr./Memorial Park
12 Mon	• Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Committee Mtg. 6 pm, Wilsonville Library • Development Review Board (Panel A) Mtg 6:30 pm, City Hall
13 Tue	• Budget Committee Meeting #2 6 pm, City Hall
14 Wed	• Planning Commission 6 pm, City Hall • Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board Mtg. 6 pm, Parks & Rec. Admin Bldg.
19 Mon	• City Council Meeting 5 pm-Work Session, 7 pm-Meeting
20 Tue	• Municipal/Traffic Court 2 pm, City Hall • DEI Speakers Series "Jewish American Heritage Month" 6 pm, Wilsonville Library
22 Thu	• Budget Committee Meeting #3 (if needed) 6 pm, City Hall
26 Mon	• Development Review Board (Panel B) Mtg 6:30 pm, City Hall
28 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/calendar

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 Ziplly Ch. 32 and are replayed periodically. Meetings are also available to stream live or on demand at ci.wilsonville.or.us/WilsonvilleTV. Public comment is welcome at City Council meetings.



Shawn O'Neil
Mayor



Caroline Berry
Council President



Katie Dunwell
City Councilor



Adam Cunningham
City Councilor



Anne Shevlin
City Councilor

oneil@wilsonvilleoregon.gov berry@wilsonvilleoregon.gov dunwell@wilsonvilleoregon.gov cunningham@wilsonvilleoregon.gov shevlin@wilsonvilleoregon.gov

City Manager

Bryan Cosgrove
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City Council: 503-570-1501; council@wilsonvilleoregon.gov

Police Non-Emergency Dispatch: 503-655-8211