



CITY OF BEND

# City Manager's Report

Information and Updates for the Mayor and City Council

January 3, 2025

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

MEETING/EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Council Meeting	January 8	7 p.m. Regular Meeting - <b>Not a regular business meeting</b>  <i>Swearing in of New City Councilors and selection of Mayor Pro Tem</i>	Council Chambers / Virtual
Council Meeting	January 22	3 p.m. Work Session  7 p.m. Regular Meeting	Council Chambers / Virtual
Council Goal Setting Retreat	February 3-4	8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. February 3  11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. February 4	OSU-Cascades Obsidian 207

[VIEW THE FULL COUNCIL SCHEDULE](#)

## PUBLIC AGENCY AND COMMUNITY PARTNER UPDATES

### Housing Works' Cleveland Commons Grand Opening

Housing Works is holding a grand opening for **Cleveland Commons** on January 9 (2:00). They are also inviting city managers and elected officials from around the region to tour and ask questions (1:00).

### December ICMA Publication

**Attached** is the latest monthly publication from the International City/County Manager's Association (ICMA) that focuses on effect City Council-staff relations and includes articles around goal setting,



Council orientation, effective Council meetings and more. All of these topics are relevant and timely as we begin our work together with Council Goals in January. I especially want to draw your attention on the article entitled “Goal Setting for Traction” where you’ll find a sample template for effective strategic plan. We’ll be discussing the process for the new Councilors during the last Orientation Session scheduled for Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

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## DEPARTMENT UPDATES

### Launch of the site-specific Tax Increment Financing Program

The Bend Urban Renewal Agency and the City of Bend has announced the Tax Increment Assistance for Housing Affordability and Employment Growth Policy is now accepting applications. Adopted on October 16, 2024, the program is aimed at incentivizing area livability through tax increment financing to encourage more affordable housing options for low-to-middle income residents, foster higher wage employment opportunities, and revitalize neighborhoods.

**Housing Affordability:** The Tax Increment Assistance for Housing Affordability Program (TIA-HA) may provide eligible multiunit residential rental projects assistance with BURA’s portion of taxes on increased assessed value from structural improvements. Projects must include three or more residential units and provide at least 15% of units for rent to households at or below 90% area median income with rental increases below the statutory maximums for the duration of assistance. Base assistance will typically last 12 years; and, expanded assistance may be up to 30 years.

**Employment Growth:** The Tax Increment Assistance for Employment Growth (TIA-EMP) may provide eligible businesses assistance with BURA’s portion of taxes on increased assessed value from structural improvements. Projects must commit and annually certify that at least five new full-time employment opportunities were created and maintained with an average salary of \$72,000 for the duration of assistance. Assistance will typically last 12 years.

To learn more about these programs, please visit [Bend Urban Renewal Incentives](#).

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### December Social Media and Media Report

For the month of December, the top community topics and themes observed in media and social media by the Communications & Engagement Department included:

- **Googly Eyes:** Numerous media outlets from around the world picked up the social media posts about googly eyes on roundabout art.



- Housing and Growth: Coverage of the 100-acre UGB expansion approved by Council.
- Transportation: Multiple updates on the various construction projects taking place around town.

For more information, including media coverage of the City and social media engagement, see the **Monthly Social Media and Media Monitoring Report**.

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#### **VIEW PREVIOUS CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS**

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#### **Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities**

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc., please contact Michelle Driggs at [mdriggs@bendoregon.gov](mailto:mdriggs@bendoregon.gov) or 541-678-6596. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.