



North Plains Connected

A monthly newsletter from the City of North Plains - September 2023

City of North Plains

31360 NW Commercial St.
North Plains, OR 97133

City Hall is open
8:30 am to 4 pm
Monday - Friday.



(503) 647-5555



www.NorthPlains.org



Contact Your Council:

Mayor Teri Lenahan

Robert Kindel

Russ Sheldon

Cameron Martinez

James Fage

Rickey Smith

Trista Papen

Mayor's Corner: Preparedness is a Shared Commitment

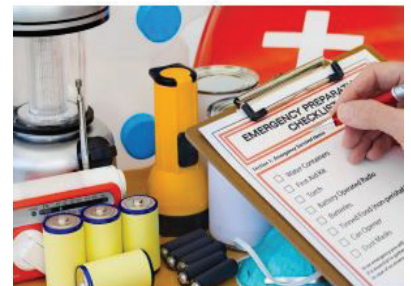


September is National Preparedness Month! As your Mayor, one of my priority responsibilities is supporting the safety and well-being of our community. While we take pride in our vibrant and resilient town, disasters can strike at any moment – from earthquakes, floods, and wildfires to power outages or industrial accidents. We cannot prevent all disasters, but it is essential that we all take steps to be as prepared as possible and minimize their negative impact on our lives.

The City has an Emergency Operations Plan and is a partner in the Washington County Emergency Management Cooperative which works to develop and maintain a county wide, integrated system for preparing and responding to disasters. However, it is very important that we all individually take steps to be ready in case of an emergency. Preparedness is a shared commitment to safeguarding our families, neighbors, and the entire community, and I urge all community members and businesses to be prepared.

Here are five easy steps you can take:

- 1. Create an Emergency Plan:** Sit down with your family and discuss an action plan for various scenarios. Identify meeting points, contact information, roles and responsibilities, and necessary supplies.
- 2. Build an Emergency Kit:** Work toward having at least a two-week supply of non-perishable food, water, and emergency supplies including first aid items, flashlights, and batteries. Don't forget supplies for your pets. A well-equipped emergency kit can sustain you during the critical initial hours of a disaster.
- 3. Support Vulnerable Neighbors:** Reach out to elderly neighbors, individuals with disabilities, or those who may need assistance during an emergency. Building a strong network of support within our community is crucial.
- 4. Learn Lifesaving Skills:** Enroll in first aid, CPR, and other relevant training courses. These skills can make a significant difference in critical moments.
- 5. Secure Important Documents:** Keep important documents such as identification, insurance papers, and medical records in a safe and easily accessible place.



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Mayor's Corner - continued from page 1

A helpful source of information, including resources like sample plans and emergency kit content lists, is www.ready.gov.

The City's website also has an emergency management page under the "Community" and "Public Works" sections.

Disaster preparedness is an ongoing effort and by being prepared, we contribute to a safer, more resilient community. By preparing today, we can ensure a brighter, safer tomorrow for us all.

~ Mayor Teri



North Plains Awarded State Grant for UGB Concept Planning

The City of North Plains has been awarded a \$210,000 grant for Urban Growth Boundary Expansion (UGB) area concept planning from the Oregon Transportation and Growth Management Program (TGM), a joint program of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCDD).

Concept planning for the approved UGB expansion area will begin this fall and will identify residential and employment land areas and uses, the transportation network, utilities, parks and trails, and funding sources. Throughout this process, ODOT, DLCDD and Washington County will support the City in planning for the future growth. Robust community engagement with a variety of in-person and online opportunities for community input, as well as continued communications with affected landowners, will also remain priorities.

"Our decisions on how to expand the UGB have been thoughtful and deliberate," said North Plains Mayor Teri Lenahan, "Some of the original community members who planned the last UGB expansion in the early 2000s have been a part of this current process, and we have and will continue to work with residents, as well as local, regional and state partners to ensure that our vision meets the needs of a city our size."

North Plains is the fastest-growing city in the Portland area, and the PSU Population Research Center, the state-recognized population forecaster, predicts that North

September City Calendar

Public meetings and events take place in person and many offer virtual options.

Visit www.northplains.org/calendar for more details on these events and more.



- 9/4 City Hall and Library closed in observance of Memorial Day
- 9/5 City Council (w/6pm work session) - 7 pm
- 9/6 Economic Development Committee - 6 pm
- 9/9 Concert in the Park - 4-6 pm
- 9/11 Parks & Recreation Board - 6 pm
- 9/11 NP Historical Society Meeting - 1 pm
- 9/13 Planning Commission (w/ 6pm work session) - 7 pm
- 9/18 City Council - 7 pm
- 9/20 Library Board - 7 pm

Plains will grow from the current 3,410 residents to 7,076 by 2040. All Oregon cities are required by state law to plan for and accommodate a 20-year supply of land for predicted population growth.

"We are thankful for the state and local partners who support North Plains' balanced UGB planning," said North Plains City Council President Russ Sheldon, "This important planning process will ensure that, as our population expands, we have a good balance of affordable housing, accessible neighborhoods, job centers, proper zoning, street connections, water delivery, parks, and trails."

"As part of Washington County's silicon forest economy, North Plains has the unique opportunity to contribute to the state's and the local economy, and to also do residential concept planning that provides high livability and multi modal connectivity between neighborhoods, places of employment, recreation opportunities, and needed commercial services for this community," said North Plains City Manager Andy Varner.

Get more background, current UGB Expansion project news, upcoming public meetings, and answers to frequently asked questions at www.northplains.org/UGB.

News From Your Library

***If accommodations would help you to attend any library programs - contact us!**

Author Event - Find Your Voice!

Join us Tuesday, September 26th at 7 pm in the Library for an enchanting evening with three award-winning Oregon authors - Kesha Ajoose-Fisher, Laura Stanfill, and

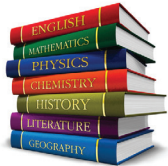


Joe Wilkins. They will share insights on discovering their way to the creative expression that gives a true voice to the

inner person. Hear captivating readings from their works and engage in an enlightening Q&A. No registration needed.

Homework Help each Monday at 5 pm & 5:30 pm.

It's back! We're happy to offer free homework help at the Library. Homework Help is offered for all subjects, specializing in English, French, Math and Science for all grade levels K through College level. Tutoring with Jenna W., PhD is offered for all subjects. Sessions are a half hour each, and reservations must be made ahead of time. Register online at wccls.org/events. No library card needed to register.



Storytime is on a planning break and will resume September 13th at 11 am.

Time for stories, bubbles and songs! Following storytime Mrs. Emily will teach children to identify and sound out letters of the alphabet and counting basics. Parents and caregivers learn meaningful techniques that will help expand learning experiences at home with your child.



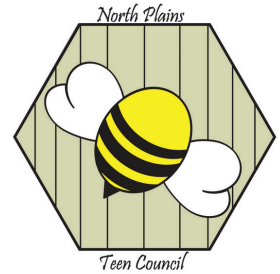
Bookbabies is on a planning break and will resume September 15th at 10 am.

Note: no Bookbabies storytime on September 22nd. Miss Chris guides parents and caregivers through some inspirational early development activities for babies and toddlers. Adults learn techniques that help expand learning experiences at home with your child.

Bonus: Visit with other parents and care givers while entertaining and educating your little one.

Teen Council - Friday, September 8th at 4:30 in the library.

Do you want to connect with other teens? Are you a teen that wants to make a difference in our community? Do you have some ideas on how the North Plains Public Library could better serve teens? We want YOU to join. Drop in, no registration required.

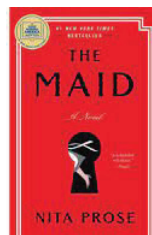


Craft Guild - Tuesday September 5th 5:30 pm at the Library.

Join our informal group of knitters and quilters from 5:30-7 pm on the first Tuesday evening of each month. Anyone Interested in gathering for camaraderie as you work on your individual projects is welcome to join this informal get-together of crafters with no formal instruction. Drop in, no registration required.



Book Club - Wednesday, September 27th at 7 pm.



Join us at the library or via Zoom for a discussion of *The Maid* by Nita Prose. New patrons are invited and welcome to join the North Plains Book Club. To receive a link and a passcode please email Carolyn @ carolyn@markleavitt.com.

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City Capital Improvement Projects Coming Soon

We are currently working on four Capital Improvement projects from the City Council-adopted 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP includes budgeted road, water system, park/trails, sidewalk, and facility construction projects and system improvements. The CIP program dedicates revenues and expenses and is a long-term investment in City facilities and infrastructure. The funding sources are diverse and are a combination of fuel tax revenues, State and Federal grants, user fees (water rates), system development charges (fees on new construction), and more.

Here are the four current projects:

- **New Public Works Facility and Emergency Operations Center**

What: Construction of a new 12,000-square-foot Public Works Facility and Emergency Operations Center adjacent to the recently completed water reservoir on West Union Road.

Timing: Design/development began in August 2022; Construction ground-breaking anticipated in late summer 2023.

- **313th Avenue Improvements (from Pacific to Commercial)**

What: New sidewalks, ADA ramp improvements, partial pavement replacement, new storm drainage with curb and gutter, and upgrade to existing water main from 6" to 8".

Timing: Currently finalizing permits, construction is anticipated to start late summer/early fall.

- **Commercial Street Sidewalk Project**

What: Sidewalk construction on both the north and south sides of Commercial Street between Main and Glencoe Streets, mostly infilling missing sidewalks.

Timing: Currently finalizing permits and bid documents and construction is anticipated to begin this fall.

- **Glencoe Sidewalk Project**

What: Sidewalk construction from the NW Corner of Glencoe/Commercial to railroad crossing, and Hillcrest intersection towards existing sidewalk just South of North Avenue.

Timing: Currently finalizing permits and bid documents and construction is anticipated to begin this fall/winter.

The status of active projects can be found on our city website "Public Projects" page: <https://www.northplains.org/publicworks/page/public-projects>.

The City's full 2022-2027 CIP projects list (including funding sources and individual project descriptions) can be found on our website Capital Improvement Program web page: <https://www.northplains.org/finance/page/capital-improvement-program>.



**CONCERT
IN THE
PARK**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

4 - 6 pm
Sunset Ridge Park
10315 NW 293rd Avenue

Bring your chairs or a blanket and a picnic dinner, and enjoy live music from Bootleg Ridge, Portland's premier provider of Outlaw Country music for all audiences. Hear high energy hits from Dwight Yoakam to Wild Cherry and more!

Presented by:

NORTH PLAINS
PARKS & RECREATION

Chief's Corner: Back to School



Chief James Haxton

As students prepare to head back to the classroom, it's crucial to prioritize their safety, especially during their commute to and from school. To ensure the safety of everyone involved, keep these tips

in mind:

Driver Safety:

- Yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection when the flashers are blinking.
- Be prepared for kids appearing in unexpected places, and never block a crosswalk.
- Slow down and drive extra cautiously around school crossings – some kids may not be paying attention to their surroundings.
- Always stop when a school bus has its stop sign and red flashing lights activated.



Pedestrian Safety:

- Always stay alert - avoid distractions such as wearing headphones or looking at your phones when walking to school.
- Only cross the street at crosswalks or intersections, and never in the middle of the road.
- Walk on the sidewalk whenever possible.
- Before crossing the street, stop and look both ways to ensure there aren't any cars coming towards you.
- Never play around traffic or push/shove others when walking around traffic.

Even though the start of school days may be a little hectic for pedestrians and drivers, we can work together to keep students safe as they return to the classroom.



Mayor Lenahan Named Recipient of 2023 PDX Hip Hop Week "Trailblazer Award"

Mayor Teri Lenahan has been named a recipient of the 2023 PDX Hip Hop Week "Trailblazer Award." She was nominated by Abbey Creek Winery's Bertony Faustin for this award which recognizes individuals who have made a positive impact on Hip Hop Culture through art, music, education, philanthropy, support, community or business.

"I am deeply honored to be among this amazing group of people," said Mayor Lenahan. "In my seven years as Mayor here, I have worked to build a community where people from diverse cultures and viewpoints can participate because more people should have access to opportunities to do the things they care about and everyone deserves to be who they are."

The award was presented to the Mayor at the "Hip Hop, Wine & Chill" event on August 24, 2023, at Abbey Creek Winery in North Plains. This event celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Hip Hop while honoring 10 individuals in the Portland area who have helped elevate the culture through business, leadership, and advocacy work.

Portland Hip Hop Day was founded in 2015 to bring together divided communities through the platform of Hip Hop. In 2018, Hip Hop Day was extended to a week-long celebration from August 20th to August 26th with a goal to unify, amplify, educate, and elevate the Hip Hop culture. For more information about PDX Hip Hop Week, please visit www.pdxhiphopweek.com.

Parks & Recreation Board Vacancy - We Need You!

Parks & Recreation Board Vacancy

Be a part of overseeing park development and maintenance, and making recommendations regarding park projects and fees in your community. The City of North Plains is seeking applicants (must live inside the North Plains city limits) to fill this vacancy for a term that runs through June 30, 2024. Learn more: www.northplains.org/bc-parks



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