



North Plains Connected

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

City of North Plains

31360 NW Commercial St.
North Plains, OR 97133

City Hall is open
8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Monday - Friday.



(503) 647-5555



www.NorthPlains.org



Contact Your Council:

Mayor Teri Lenahan

Robert Kindel

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City Manager's Message: A look at 2022

From City Manager Andy Varner

It is an exciting time to be in North Plains as we have a lot going on in our small yet evolving community. To guide us through changes, the City Council held a goal-review retreat in early 2022 and developed a vision and set of goals and outcomes to keep us focused on serving and growing our community in a healthy and sustainable manner. I'll provide a brief recap of progress below.

VISION: North Plains, the crossing of community, economic opportunity, and a destination experience.

GOAL 1: Community engagement that brings people together.

Outcome: A social infrastructure that fosters involvement, community pride, and volunteerism. Create a pipeline of engaged community members.

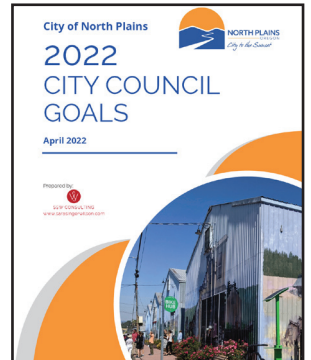
Progress in 2022: The City partnered with the North Plains Events Association to hold ten community events, which were well attended after the pandemic.



The Elephant Garlic Festival alone had record numbers of attendees. The City developed a community priorities survey to help us gather feedback on where to prioritize our resources in budgeting. We installed a new HVAC unit in Jessie Mays to make the space more usable in the summer, including as a cooling shelter. We saw increased social engagement with more app downloads and social media posts. The City hosted several public meetings for UGB expansion and downtown planning with strong attendance, including a downtown open house with food trucks.

Ahead for 2023: Jessie Mays Park improvements will wrap up in early 2023 and the community will have access to a new and expanded active play area to convene, including a covered shelter. We allocated a good portion of ARPA dollars for additional improvements in the community center, for hot spots and other supports in the library, to leverage community events, new banners and signage, and a revamped City website. The RARE Coordinator will be examining a new downtown association to convene businesses focusing on downtown improvement.

Continued on pg 3...



News From Your Library

**Unless otherwise noted, programs are drop-in, no registration required.*

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



Craft Guild - Tuesday, February 7th

Join our informal group of knitters and quilters from 5:30 to 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested in gathering for camaraderie as you work on your individual projects is welcome. It is intended to be an informal get-together.

Writing Your Life: Introduction to Writing Memoirs

Turn your unique life experiences and memories into well-written stories with Marie Buckley, a writer and writing teacher. Four sessions will be held on Saturdays, January 14 & 28, and February 11 & 25, 2023 at 10 am at Jessie Mays Community Center. Register online [wccs.org/events](https://www.wccs.org/events). Please note that registration is for the full program series, not individual sessions.

Storytime at the Library - Wednesdays 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 - Fridays at 10 am

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.

Kindergarten Continuation Class Wednesdays at 4 pm on Zoom. FREE academic enrichment class for kindergartners. Whether your child needs a learning boost or seeks more of a challenge, this class is a great way to supplement your child's education. Get them ready for success and inspire a love of lifelong learning with Mrs. Emily! Register online at [wccs.org/events](https://www.wccs.org/events). No library card required to register.

OBOB Book Club for 6th-8th graders Thursday, February 9th at 4:30 pm in the library



The Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB) is a statewide voluntary reading motivation and comprehension program. Join us to create art, discuss the book, AND THEN BATTLE! We'll be discussing *The Girl from the Sea* by Molly Knox Ostertag.

Teen Council - February 17th at 4:30 pm

Are you a teen who wants to make a difference in our community and connect with other teens? Do you have ideas on how the Library could better serve teens? Please join us at the library every 3rd Friday of the month!

Book Club - Wednesday, February 22nd at 7pm

New patrons are welcome to join the North Plains Library Book Club. The group meets at the library or if you choose, on Zoom. The 2023 Book Club list will be announced at the January 28th meeting. To see the list Visit <https://www.northplains.org/library/page/book-club>

Tai Chi & Qigong Class Fridays at 8 am February 3rd - February 24th at Jessie Mays Community Center. This entry-level program combines breathing and movement exercises from Qigong and elements from Yang-style Tai Chi. Suitable for all ages. Please join us to increase your energetic vitality, rejuvenate your mind, body and soul, and improve agility and flexibility.



February City Calendar

Public meetings and events below are taking place in-person and many offer virtual options. Visit www.northplains.org/calendar for more events and details.



- 2/2 Urban Growth Boundary PAC - 6 pm
- 2/6 City Council (w/ 6 pm Work Session) - 7 pm
- 2/8 Planning Commission - 7 pm
- 2/13 Parks & Recreation Board - 6 pm
- 2/15 Library Board - 7 pm
- 2/20 City offices and Library closed (President's Day observed)
- 2/21 City Council - 7 pm (Tues due to Mon Holiday)

City Manager's Message - continued from pg 1

GOAL 2: Intentional and managed growth.

Outcome: Attract targeted growth that supports economic opportunity, fiscal sustainability, a distinct community identity, a vibrant downtown, and overall community livability.

Progress in 2022: The City applied for and was awarded a \$210,000 grant from the State to do concept planning of our UGB expansion areas. After much work with agencies, industrial lands developers, and site selectors, the Council adopted a new Economic Opportunities Analysis (EOA) that is targeted on reversing the jobs-housing mix in North Plains to create a more balanced tax base.

Ahead for 2023: The city will work closely with agency partners and targeted industry development on concept planning the expansion areas using the State grant dollars. After a development pause in 2022, we have plans to advance to an agreement this year for the Glencoe Opportunity Area grocery center. We will



wrap up the downtown plan and have a full short-/long-term implementation strategy, including code recommendations to consider. The Economic Development Committee will work on a Roadmap utilizing the EOA, downtown plan, and other Council objectives.

GOAL 3: City services aligned with community growth.

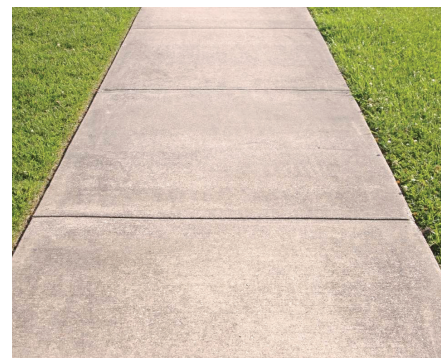
Outcome: Increase the level of City services to align with growth projections, improving health and safety services, and providing shared community spaces.

Progress in 2022: Continued progress on the recently adopted capital improvement plan, including commissioning a new water reservoir and pump station, a complete overhaul of Jessie Mays Community Park active spaces, and new paving and waterline replacements. We conducted the first phase of a community-wide broadband feasibility study to analyze a city broadband service. We were awarded a \$250,000 grant from ODOT to install infill sidewalks on Commercial Street downtown.

Ahead for 2023: We will initiate phase II of the broadband study, which includes a financial analysis and business plan. The City has several infill sidewalk projects designed and ready to bid in 2023, using fuel tax dollars. We will construct an arsenic removal system at the backup water well for emergency use. A successful local option levy would determine any enhanced police and emergency management service levels. We are exploring partnerships to bring new recreation and program opportunities to residents and families. The public works facility will be designed and ready to bid for construction, and a new city hall and library expansion schematic design will follow in 2023 or 2024.



Visit www.northplains.org to see a 2022 by the numbers infographic!



American Rescue Plan Act Spending Framework Set



In December 2022, City Council approved a 12-18 month spending plan for the remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds allocated to the City by the federal government as part of the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery. In total, the City received approximately

\$490,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 as well as \$1.8 million in ARPA funding from the State Legislature for parks and trail funding (\$2.29 million total).

In 2021, North Plains allocated nearly \$1.4 million of the funds to help with important projects including the West Union Pedestrian Path and Jessie Mays Community Park improvements.

The 2023-24 approved spending framework totals \$450,171. All of the ARPA funding allocation is focused on achieving Council goals, helping community organizations, improving safety, and pursuing some longer-term projects like a new city hall and downtown improvement.

The allocations (seen below) outline broad categories and there is also a reserved amount of unallocated contingency for other projects, programs, or priorities. The amounts are spending guidelines for staff and for the Council and they can be subject to change if priorities shift. Progress updates for this spending framework will be shared with City Council at least 2-3 times per year.

- Public Safety/Traffic Safety \$120,000
- City Hall/Library Facilities \$75,000
- Council Goals \$45,000
- Education & Training \$45,000
- Downtown Improvement \$35,000
- Parks & Recreation \$32,500
- Community + Social Services \$30,000
- Economic Development \$21,000
- Library \$20,000
- Unallocated Contingency \$27,171

Stay tuned for progress updates on the valuable community projects made possible by these funds.

Chief's Corner: Emergency Shelter Safety



Chief James Haxton

When dangerous winter weather arrives, what resources are available for unsheltered people?

When winter weather is imminent, deputies remain vigilant for unsheltered people in danger of experiencing the effects of cold weather. Deputies

often strive to connect those in need with resources and encourage them to seek shelter.

Washington County has a variety of shelter resources available solely during severe winter weather. These resources are available from November through May at various locations, including the Hillsboro Cloverleaf building and Beaverton Community Center. Washington County also has limited motel vouchers for families and medically fragile individuals.

Washington County Sheriff's Office deputies on the Houseless Outreach Programs and Engagement (HOPE) team build relationships and work to connect vulnerable people to available services. With forecasted freezing weather, the HOPE team will actively engage with houseless individuals to inform them of shelter locations and hours, encouraging individuals to stay safe.

North Plains Police encourages community members to call 9-1-1 if they see someone in immediate danger, or call the non-emergency number at 503-629-0111 to request a welfare check.

To access shelter and housing resources, contact Community Connect at 503-640-3263 or email communityconnect@caowash.org.

For more information about the severe weather program, please visit <http://bit.ly/3itZEnA>.



City 101: A Treasure Trove of 20 Educational Topics (so far!)

For the past few years, we have been featuring "City 101" topics in this newsletter and the City's web page. There are now 20 different topics - see the full list below. We created this series to help explain many of the priority initiatives and services we provide. If you have a topic you'd like to see covered please let us know!

- Boards, Commissions and Committees
- Land Use and Development
- Who Provides Services in North Plains?
- Budget Perspective Parts I, 2 & 3
- Solid Waste and Recycling Services
- Streetlights Illuminate Our City
- North Plains Underground - Decoding Utility Markings
- North Plains Rail Line: Then and Now
- Floodplains Explained
- City 101: How Does the City "Work"?
- The What & Why of Economic Development



- Emergency Preparedness Month: Emergencies Happen. Preparedness is the key.
- The Library Has Something For Everyone
- Where Does my Water Come From?
- Down the Drain: Where Does my Used Water Go?
- North Plains Exploring Urban Growth Boundary Expansion
- North Plains Property Tax Explained
- City Budget 101
- Did you know? Property owners responsible for sidewalk & street tree maintenance

If you think it's a heart attack - Call 911 right away!



During American Heart Month, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue invites you to join us in raising awareness of the signs and symptoms of a heart attack and the importance of immediately calling 911 if you or someone nearby experiences symptoms.

Unlike a sudden cardiac arrest that strikes and includes a loss of consciousness, a heart attack can develop slow enough that you're not aware you're having a medical emergency. A heart attack occurs when blood flow that brings oxygen to the heart muscle is severely reduced or cut off completely. Symptoms typically include:

- Chest discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts for more than a few minutes or goes away and returns. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness, or pain.
- Upper body discomfort, such as pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw, or stomach.
- Shortness of breath before, during, or after other discomforts.
- Other signs, including breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea, or lightheadedness.

The most common heart attack symptom is chest pain or discomfort. However, women are more likely to experience other symptoms, particularly shortness of breath, nausea or vomiting, back or jaw

pain, pressure in the lower chest or upper abdomen, dizziness, fainting, or extreme fatigue.

The heart is a muscle. It can deteriorate with each passing minute you delay medical treatment. Don't ignore your symptoms, and don't drive yourself to the hospital. Firefighters often hear heart attack patients say, "I wasn't sure it was a heart attack," or "I didn't want to bother anyone."

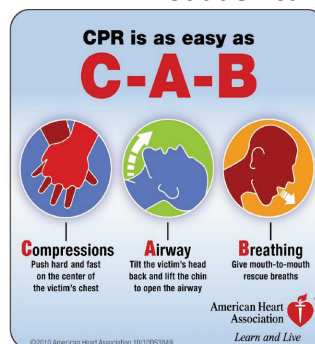
Remember, TVFR crews are here for you. Our highly trained firefighter paramedics can diagnose a heart attack and start treatment right away. Crews can also relay your EKG info to the hospital, enabling its staff to activate special heart teams and prepare for your arrival.

A heart attack can cause sudden cardiac arrest when the heart malfunctions and stops beating unexpectedly. Sudden cardiac arrest leads to death when the heart

stops working properly. This can be reversed if CPR is performed and a defibrillator is used to shock the heart and restore a normal heart rhythm. Studies show that CPR can double or triple a cardiac arrest patient's chance of survival.

Your assistance in performing hands-only CPR until crews arrive can make a difference. There are two easy steps: Call 911 and push hard and fast in the center of the chest to the beat of the disco song "Stayin' Alive."

More info: www.tvfr.com.



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