

Monday, August 4, 2025

NORTH BEND neighbors

Welcome to the latest edition of North Bend Neighbors, your source for city information, community events and local updates

Mayor Miller shares city accomplishments from the past few months, while looking forward to upcoming projects and goals

Happy Summer, North Bend Residents!

Every season has its unique characteristics, but there is something extra special about our mountain town summers; the blend of changing weather and local activity in North Bend brings us a renewed sense of community. In this way, we flourish.

It was on one of those days in June, when spring rain mingled with the annual open-air art festival, Art Off the Rails, that I was reminded of the positive impact community events have on North Bend. Surrounded by colorful art and live music, with rain dripping down our umbrellas onto happy dogs, I knew it. This very deep and very strong small-town sense of care for one another is what I believe keeps us connected, and it shows itself in many ways.

Our commitment to the livability and character of our small community continues, and I am pleased to share with you a positive look at these last three months along with future goals.

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IN THIS ISSUE

- Mayor Miller's Quarterly Message
- City updates
- Local events
- Infrastructure projects
- Public meetings
- Wildfire Preparedness
- Water Conservation Ordinance



Message from Mayor Miller continued

Community Engagement

With a community as active and engaged as North Bend, it is no surprise that summer is full to the brim with events, both new and historic.



Supporting our local events strengthens our connections with one another and it helps our local nonprofit organizations, farms and local businesses that nurture and strengthen our community.

Public Safety

Reliable, collaborative police and fire departments are crucial to our highly livable community. The Snoqualmie Police Department and Eastside Fire and Rescue serve a variety of roles here in town, as emergency management team members, problem-solvers, educators, and protectors.



In 2024, the North Bend City Council began work with city staff to obtain a new police services contract, as the current contract with the City of Snoqualmie was coming to an end. Focusing on long-term financial sustainability and predictability, transparency and quality policing services, the process was thorough and data-driven. At the March 18 City Council meeting, we were guided through a police services study provided by the Center for Public Safety Management (CPSM). It analyzed three options: creating our own police department, starting a new contract with Snoqualmie, or contracting with the King County Sheriff's Office. Following the study, the city released a Request for Proposals (RFP), a critical component to ensuring our next contract matches our community's needs.

On April 8, community joined the Council and staff for a Special Workstudy, where responders to the RFP presented their departments as potential fits for North Bend.

At the May 6 City Council meeting, councilmembers voted to approve a motion authorizing negotiations for an interlocal agreement (ILA) with the King County Sheriff's Office. Increased involvement in administration, input on decisions that affect growing costs, and clear communication were a few of the reasons for the decision. Learn more about the process by visiting our [Police Services webpage](http://www.bit.ly/452lvHa) (www.bit.ly/452lvHa).

The Council and I are grateful for the work the Snoqualmie Police Department has provided our community for over a decade, serving us well and keeping us safe. The new contract with the King County Sheriff's Office is tentatively set to begin in the fall of 2026. We look forward to welcoming new faces and access to a variety of emergency services that will provide added public safety for our community.

On the emergency management side of public safety, Eastside Fire & Rescue has sprung into collaborative action with regional and state organizations this summer. They are working hard to empower us to protect our homes and neighborhoods from the increasing threat of wildfire. On June 25, nearly 100 people showed up for Wildfire Movie Night at the North Bend Theatre! A panel of experts from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Eastside Fire and Rescue, Valley Regional Fire Authority, Kittitas County Emergency Management, King County and North Bend led discussion afterward.

Education is power, and your willingness to learn and participate in wildfire preparedness is another key component to our healthy community.



Parks and Trails

We are working hard to improve outdoor access and recreation. In June, we shared information about "Bike North Bend," a plan to assess and evaluate our cycling landscape, and an opportunity to make recommendations to enhance rider confidence and safety.

Message from Mayor Miller continued

We are looking for community feedback and welcome you to participate in the plan by taking a brief [survey](#) – open through August 13. We are also in the process of launching an interactive cycling map in partnership with our Economic Development Commission, with funding from the Port of Seattle Partnership Grant.



Take the survey here!

Following a full Shoreline Public Access and Trail Plan workshop with residents this winter, staff took feedback from the community and the Community and Economic Development (CED) and Parks Commissions, preparing a final draft for the Council's approval in July. Once complete, the plan will share a cohesive network of access points and trails, with the goal of enhancing recreation opportunities while protecting the shoreline from recreational use impacts and degradation.

Infrastructure & Transportation Improvements

Two significant investments in our infrastructure are sidewalk repairs and extensions ("gap closing"). North Bend residents can expect improved walkability this summer with four new Sidewalk Gap Removal projects. At the June 3 City Council meeting, councilmembers approved a resolution awarding bids and a construction contract, allowing work to officially begin!

Projects this summer include:

- Portion of the north side SE 140th Street
- North side of North Bend Way, from Dahlgren Family Park to the Snoqualmie Valley Trail
- North side of North Bend Way, from Tanner Road to SE 140th Street
- East side of Thrasher Avenue, from NE 2nd Street to the Forest Service Ranger Station



We are working hard to modernize, and in some instances, transform our infrastructure to fit our community's needs. Following two public hearings, the Council voted unanimously to approve a resolution adopting the 2026 through 2031 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) on June 17.

The TIP lays out a short-range, six-year plan for improving and maintaining the city's multi-modal transportation infrastructure and prioritizes projects by need and availability of funds. All cities, towns, and counties are required to develop and adopt a TIP.

Another integral part of local infrastructure was addressed at the June 3 City Council meeting; councilmembers approved a resolution that will allow the Meadowbrook Sewer Utility Local Improvement District (ULID) to continue moving forward, bringing public sewer to the western portion of North Bend.



This will provide property owners in the Meadowbrook area with development opportunities that align with city zoning, incorporating a mix of commercial and residential land uses. Currently, these properties rely on septic drain fields.

Construction of the ULID will occur in stages over a period of 12 to 14 months. By 2027, we anticipate residents and property owners will have the opportunity to install sewer connections and convert aging septic systems to this new, modern and environmentally sound system.

Water Conservation

Water conservation is an essential part of nurturing our infrastructure. We do this in a variety of ways: through ongoing distribution system leak reduction, customer conservation education, watermain replacement, and what began in 2020, the Water Conservation Ordinance (WCO). The WCO is a program built on education and awareness, with a simple set of water use guidelines for homeowners, business owners, and property owners to practice during summer months. Our actions benefit not only our neighbors, but the Snoqualmie Valley as a whole. **Beginning August 15, Stage 1 of the City's WCO will go into effect.**

Housing

Also important to our environmentally conscious community are diverse housing options that serve people of all income levels. With the city's purchase of 230 Main Avenue, we are doing exactly that. The property will provide 40 apartment units for local workers, affordable to families making not more than 60 percent of King County Average Median Income.

Message from Mayor Miller continued

Following a pre-application meeting with Related NW, the developer for the project, the city will hold an open house later this summer to provide community members the opportunity to view architectural renderings and share feedback. I hope you will join us for this important discussion.

Community Development Projects

In addition to multi-family housing, several light industrial and commercial business projects made forward momentum this quarter. Knowing that new projects will bring with them living wage jobs, enhanced services and amenities, is both a local achievement and an expectation of your elected officials.

- The Si View Administration Building will house full-time staff while also providing community meeting space.



- The Wyndham Hotel will bring much-needed lodging opportunities to North Bend. Right now, we are awaiting a resubmittal of plans. The applicant is revising the proposal to be a four-story hotel, removing the originally proposed fifth floor.
- 302 W North Bend Way is located at a unique gateway entry point in Downtown North Bend. Residents and the Council recognize that what is currently an unused 1,400 square foot building surrounded by asphalt, could be so much more. Last summer, nearly 800 residents participated in a survey to share feedback on potential uses for this property, and this year, the city was awarded a US Environmental Protection Agency grant through the WA State Department of Ecology.

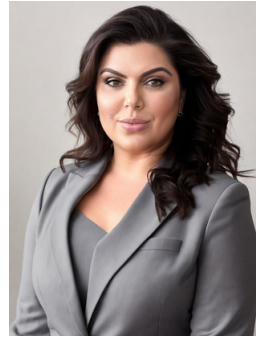


- The funds will be used to test for soil and groundwater contaminants on the site to determine what, if any, remediation needs to take place to make the site ready for redevelopment.

Our interactive [Development Map webpage \(www.bit.ly/452uEk6\)](http://www.bit.ly/452uEk6) is a great way to keep up with other local projects. If you have not yet had a chance to check it out, please do so!

Government Organization Update

Following an in-depth recruitment and interview process, I was thrilled to welcome our new city administrator, Amber Emery at the June 17 City Council meeting.



Amber has served as the Deputy County Manager for Clark County and the Criminal Court Operations Manager for Multnomah County Circuit Court in Oregon. She holds a Master of Advanced Study in Criminology, Law, and Society from the University of California, Irvine, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Sciences, Criminal Justice and Sociology from Washington State University, Vancouver. She is also a member of the International City and County Management Association and the League of Women in Government.



Amber had the opportunity to join me for a Farmers Market stroll recently. She appreciated our small town, North Bend welcome, complete with warm greetings from many community members and of course, their dogs! Her first day on the job was July 21. Amber loves North Bend, and I think you will appreciate the dedication, experience and passion she brings with her to this position.

As always, thank you for being an active part of North Bend. When we gather – whether it is at a City Council meeting, a local park or one of our cherished festivals – we strengthen our community.

Warmly,

Mayor Mary

Wildfire preparedness:

Know your community evacuation levels: READY, SET, GO!

1...READY

Be aware of the danger in your area and start preparing to evacuate. Monitor local media and check on neighbors, update your GO! kit, check evacuation routes, prepare your home, and leave if you feel unsafe.

2...SET

Be prepared for sudden evacuation. Ensure your evacuation checklist is complete, that your GO! kit is in your vehicle, monitor local media, and leave if you feel unsafe.

3...GO!

Leave now! Danger in your area. Follow directions from police or fire departments, and do not return home until officials have determined it is safe.

Stop by City Hall to make your own free emergency information pack, with a detailed guide, lists, and fun emergency management tools to take home with you! Look for the Emergency Management table in our public corridor.



ANNUAL BURNING MORATORIUM

**NO RESIDENTIAL AND
YARD WASTE BURNING
JUNE 15 - SEPTEMBER 30**



It's wildfire season, and our local and regional fire departments are working together to reduce the risk of fire and poor air quality. Eastside Fire & Rescue (EF&R) began the seasonal burning moratorium on June 15.

Not sure if your home resides within EF&R boundaries?

For a clear picture of all the communities they serve, visit their [Service Map](https://bit.ly/4l6P7cd) (<https://bit.ly/4l6P7cd>).

Information on local and regional air quality: Contact the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, at (800) 595-4341 or www.pscleanair.org.

Download a burn permit: www.eastsidefire-rescue.org

Recycle your North Bend yard waste: Stop by the Public Works Department for a Yard Waste Recycling event. It is free to North Bend property owners and residents residing within the 98045-zip code (www.bit.ly/3DqoGyu).



Download the Ready, Set, Go! poster:
<https://bit.ly/3UcvgNP>



Festival at Mt. Si returns to town

The volunteer-led festival will be in North Bend August 8 through 10!

Festival activities include the Grand Parade, the 5k Fun Run, live music, a vendor fair, community contests, hoop shoot contest, live music, food trucks, a downtown music crawl, the annual fireworks display and more.

Road closures

- *Grand Parade* - **AUGUST 9 (9:30-12 PM)** - North Bend Way, from Torguson Park to Bendigo Blvd
- *Festival headquarters* - **AUGUST 9 (7 AM) - AUGUST 10 (7 PM)** - Healy Ave S/SE Orchard Dr, from Stow Ave S to North Bend Way

The Festival at Mt. Si will be at Si View Park, located at 440 SE Orchard Pl.

www.festivalatmtsi.org



Seeking community input on ways to improve local cycling access and mobility

An opportunity to share your thoughts.

Bike North Bend is a program to assess and evaluate our cycling landscape to make recommendations for future improvements that could enhance rider confidence and safety.

North Bend is looking for community feedback via a survey on improvements or programs with the greatest impact, and concerns residents may have about our existing infrastructure and policies.



Take survey by Aug. 13!
www.bit.ly/44Vj22k

Learn more by visiting the Cycling and Mountain Biking Mobility Plan webpage (www.bit.ly/3GPmWAI).



Questions? Reach out to Caitlin Hepworth, Associate Planner



cheppworth@northbendwa.gov



(425) 888-7668



Free yard waste recycling events

The 2025 North Bend Yard Waste Recycling Program is an affordable way to easily recycle yard waste, such as grass clippings, leaves, weeds, and branches up to 3 inches in diameter and up to 3 feet long.

The program is open to North Bend residents with a 98045-zip code.

Simply stop by the Public Works building, located at 1155 E North Bend Way, on select Saturdays between now and October.



Schedule & details:
www.bit.ly/3DqoGyu

Remaining Yard Waste Recycling dates

- **AUGUST 16:** 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **SEPTEMBER 13:** 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **OCTOBER 11:** 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.



STAY INFORMED, GET INVOLVED!

Upcoming City of North Bend public meetings

August 5, 7 p.m.	City Council meeting
August 6, 6:30 p.m.	Public Hearing & Planning Commission meeting
August 11, 3 p.m.	Salary Commission meeting
August 13, 3 p.m.	Salary Commission meeting
August 19, 7 p.m.	City Council meeting
August 20, 6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission meeting
August 26, 7 p.m.	City Council Workstudy meeting
August 28, 12 p.m.	Economic Development Commission meeting



08
AUGUSTmonthly
calendar of
COMMUNITY EVENTSAUG 05
5 - 7 PMNATIONAL NIGHT OUT
Snoqualmie Community ParkWEDS - FRI
11 - 1 PMFREE SUMMER MOVIES
North Bend TheatreTHURS
4 - 8 PMFARMERS MARKET, SUMMER CONCERTS
Si View Park (starting Aug. 28: 3:30 - 7:30)

AUG 08 - 10

FESTIVAL AT MT SI
Si View Park & Downtown North BendSAT - SUN
9 - 5 PMU-PICK SUNFLOWERS
Tollgate Farm (every Sat, select Sun)AUG 08
4 - 5 PMMEET-UP CLEANUP
North Bend Train DepotSAT - SUN
10 - 5 PMSEASONAL FARM STAND
Tollgate FarmAUG 10
5 - 7 PMTUNNEL VISION MARATHON & 1/2
44502 SE North Bend Way & the SVTAUG 14
5 - 7 PMCOMMUNITY AFTER HOURS
North Bend Farmers Market, at Si View ParkAUG 21
8:20 PMMOVIE IN THE PARK
Si View Park

North Bend's Water Conservation Ordinance

What it means, why we have it, and how to comply with each stage

As climate change continues to impact King County and the Pacific Northwest region, more communities are participating in water conservation. The City of North Bend is at the forefront of these efforts.

The city pursues conservation in a variety of ways: through ongoing distribution system leak reduction efforts, environmental Wastewater Treatment Plant infrastructure upgrades, customer conservation education, watermain replacement, and what began in 2020, the Water Conservation Ordinance (WCO).

The WCO is a positive way to actively make a difference in water conservation. The preceding winter had a lower snowpack than average in the Snoqualmie River Watershed. With warmer temperatures at higher elevations this spring, snowpack throughout the upper watershed of the Snoqualmie River melted faster than usual.

Additionally, the past few months have had very little precipitation.



Read the WCO, full requirements for each stage, FAQs and more:
www.bit.ly/3UeCrVU

Beginning Friday, August 15, Stage 1 of the City's WCO will go into effect.

The WCO pertains to all property owners inside city limits and all City of North Bend water customers inside or outside City limits. For some, this ordinance is an anticipated seasonal practice in our community, and for others, the WCO is new and as a participant, we understand new residents want to ensure they have all the information they need to join in water conservation efforts.

Stage 2 of the WCO is anticipated to begin earlier than usual in 2025 and may begin in mid-to-late August or early September.

Your work to help conserve water and protect the Snoqualmie River is appreciated!

Stage 2

- Water between 6 p.m. & 10 a.m.
- Irrigate 3 times weekly
- Water only served upon request at restaurants
- No city water will be used for construction purposes without prior approval

Stage 3

- Water between 6 p.m. & 10 a.m.
- Irrigate 3 times weekly
- Water use for ornamental features prohibited unless required to sustain life
- Flushing of sewers/fire hydrants will be allowed only in an emergency

- What to do at Stage 1 - Water Conservation Ordinance

- ✓ Irrigate between 6 PM & 10 AM
- ✓ Hand/manual watering can be done at any time throughout the day
- ✖✖ Do you use drip irrigation only? *If so, you are exempt from the WCO*
- ✓ Short-term recreational water usage is okay

Infrastructure Projects

North Bend transportation improvements to watch for this month



Night work along Bendigo Blvd/SR 202, between North Bend Way and the Northwest Railway Museum's railroad tracks. Once a small sliver of walkway, there is now a safer, ADA-accessible sidewalk along this busy stretch of WSDOT-owned road in Downtown North Bend.



DECK REPAIR PROJECT: Traffic control continues on North Bend Way, near and around the crossing over the South Fork of the Snoqualmie River and Ribary Creek.

Crews are repairing bridge decks, cleaning, laying fresh asphalt, improving the guardrails and concrete barriers. The project is expected to wrap up by September 30.

Learn more: www.bit.ly/450TctA



5TH, 6TH & MAIN AVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: On August 18, crews will start work in the Old Silver Creek neighborhood: a sidewalk for 5th St, 6th St and Main Ave.

The project will include storm drainage and conveyance pipes, curbs, gutters and longer lifespan ductile iron water pipes and valves to replace outdated water mains.

Learn more: www.bit.ly/4fm4YTb



SE 140TH ST SIDEWALK GAP REMOVAL PROJECT: Crews are hard at work, improving connectivity and walking conditions along SE 140th St. Watch for a new sidewalk with curb and gutter between Eagles Nest Pl and 457th Ave SE on SE 140th St.

The project is expected to wrap up by the end of August, just in time for school to start.

Learn more: www.bit.ly/471igCv

Want to stay in the know on local transportation projects and other city updates? Notify Me is a free, online subscription tool featured on the city's website (www.northbendwa.gov/list.aspx).

Subscribe to the topics that you care about most and receive updates in your inbox or via phone!