



North Bend Citizens Academy 2026

UNDERSTANDING HOW THE CITY WORKS





COURSE SCHEDULE

Welcome! City History & Operations Overview	February 2
Records, Law, Open Government, Administration & Public Information	February 9
Community & Economic Development	February 23
Fire & Emergency Management	February 28
Police Services	March 7
Finance & Budgeting	March 16
Public Works, Infrastructure & City Emergency Management	March 23
Local Parks Tour & Discussion	March 30
Meet Your City Council & Academy Recognition	April 7

WELCOME!



Introducing Mayor Mary Miller

- **North Bend resident for 34 years**
- **Elected 21st mayor; term began January 1, 2024**
- **Service to Community:**
 - ✓ Served on City Council from 2019 to 2023
 - ✓ 2023 Community and Economic Development Chair
 - ✓ 2023 Transportation and Public Works Committee Chair
 - ✓ 2023 liaison to the Economic Development Commission
 - ✓ Served on the Planning Commission from 2016 to 2019
 - ✓ Served on the North Bend Downtown Foundation
 - ✓ Serving on the Northwest Railway Museum and Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum
 - ✓ VP of the Snoqualmie Valley Governments Association
 - ✓ President of the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
 - ✓ Avid volunteer for SVSD, community events and more



MAYORAL ROLE & DUTIES

Mayor-Council Form of Government

- CEO
- Official and Ceremonial Head of City
- Ensures laws, ordinances and finances are enforced
- Presides over city council meetings
- Proposes Biennial Budget
- Veto! (except ordinances, grants, revocation of franchises/licenses, payment of money)
- Appoints all city commissioners



NORTH BEND CITY COUNCIL

Meet Your Councilmembers



Christina Rustik
Position #1



Rob McFarland
Position #2



Heather Koellen
Position #3



Errol Tremolada
Position #4
Mayor Pro Tem



Brenden Elwood
Position #5



Mark Joselyn
Position #6



Suzan Torguson
Position #7

CITY LEADERSHIP

Serving Responsibly



- Choice and responsibility
- Perspective: To every choice, there is an opposing viewpoint
- How local law fits into property ownership:
What a city can and cannot do
- Growing communities:
 - ✓ How we grow
 - ✓ Why we grow
 - ✓ What new neighbors bring us
 - ✓ What existing neighbors bring us



PICTURED HERE: Councilmembers, Suzan Torguson, Heather Koellen, Christina Rustik, Mayor Mary Miller, Mayor Pro Tem Errol Tremolada, and Councilmembers Mark Joselyn and Rob McFarland hold the January 6, 2026 North Bend City Council meeting.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Working Together for Community



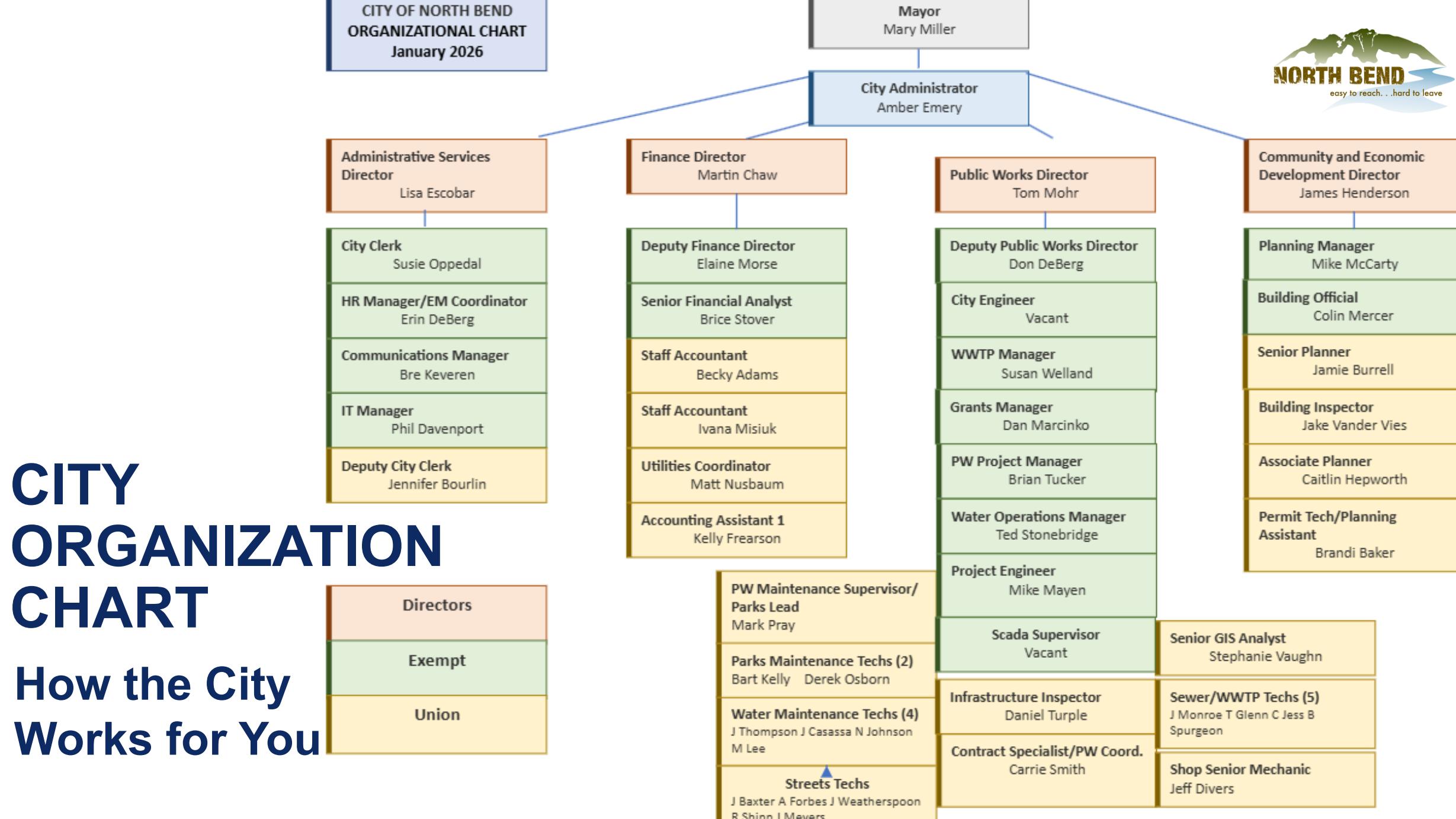
The importance of civic engagement:

- ✓ Community connectivity: Learning from multi-generational mentors
- ✓ Uniting under a shared purpose
- ✓ Improving the well-being of our community
- ✓ Essential part of exercising your voice
- ✓ Promoting positive change



CITY ORGANIZATION CHART

How the City Works for You



INTRODUCING AMBER EMERY

City Administrator

- Appointed July 2025
- 17 years of experience in public and private sector:
 - Deputy County Executive for Clark County, WA
 - Court Executive Officer for Clark County District Court
- Master of Advanced Study in Criminology, Law and Society
- Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Sciences in Criminal Justice and Sociology
- Member of the International City and County Management Association
- Member of the League of Women in Government



CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Roles & Duties

- Chief Operating Officer of the city
- Is the primary interface between councilmembers and staff
- Monitors the city's financial condition
- Oversees:
 - ✓ City operations
 - ✓ Personnel functions
 - ✓ Contract negotiations in conjunction with Mayor
 - ✓ Preparation of Council meeting agendas
 - ✓ Prep for annual operating budget
 - ✓ Intergovernmental relations
- Provides citizen awareness of city goals, operations
- Recommends committee and commission appointments to Mayor



CITY OF NORTH BEND

Mission, Vision, Brand



Vision

The vision the residents of North Bend put forth is one of preservation and enhancement.



Mission

The mission of the City of North Bend is to create a highly livable community by working in partnership with its citizens to blend and balance the following principles:

- ✓ Provide high levels of police, fire, and emergency medical services
- ✓ Build and maintain a healthy infrastructure
- ✓ Deliver quality public services
- ✓ Encourage a strong local economy
- ✓ Preserve the small-town character of the community



Brand

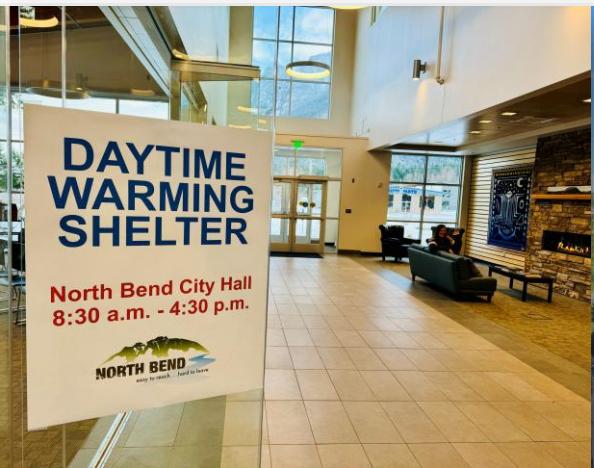
We are a highly livable small town that is the premiere outdoor recreation destination in the Puget Sound region.

NORTH BEND CITY HALL

A Gathering Place for Everyone



- Council meetings
- Town Halls
- In-person customer service
- Blood donation events
- Veterans Memorial Garden
- Commission meetings
- Educational tours, meetings with elected officials
- Public hearings
- Citizens Academy
- Warming and cooling shelter
- Public Hall, art, wi-fi and a view



INTRODUCING CRYSTY LAKE

Executive Director, Snoqualmie Valley Museum

