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CITY OF NORTH BEND

BUSINESS BULLETIN

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY
2023

Striving to support a strong local economy and the unique character of the North Bend community.

2022 in review: creativity, sustainability, and digital advancement

"This last year reintroduced a sense of pre-COVID normalcy with the return of in-person shopping and indoor dining. But behind the scenes, our small businesses continued to battle with a host of supply chain shortages, inflation, and staffing challenges. North Bend businesses are a case study in creatively adapting to every obstacle, sustaining their own economic growth, and pivoting toward new ways to reach customers." Mayor Rob McFarland



Pet Place Market celebrates expanding at 213 Bendigo Blvd N.



Kings Quality Auto Repair celebrates opening at 1208 Bendigo Blvd N.



Quill & Ink tattoo celebrates opening at 111 W North Bend Wy.



Columbia Factory Store celebrates opening at North Bend Premium Outlets.



North Bend Trading Co opens at 111 E North Bend Wy.

APRIL

JUNE

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

DECEMBER

Arete Coffee Bar celebrates opening at 112 W 2nd St.



Sweet Honey Esthetics celebrates opening at 213 Main Ave N.



SnoFalls Plumbing opens in the Sunset Garage.



Vintage Baristas celebrates opening a drive-thru at 742 SW Mt Si Blvd.



Valley Realty Group makes the big move to 601 W North Bend Wy.



TO OPT OUT, OR ADD A MERCHANT FRIEND
Email: bkeveren@northbendwa.gov
(425) 888-7669



Quarterly Message from the Mayor



Happy New Year, North Bend Residents,

A few weeks ago, as I walked up the short trail leading from West Ribary Way to the site of the future Tennant Trailhead Park, I had a moment.

There among the trees and our crisp, dappled, January sunshine, were parks enthusiasts, mountain bikers, volunteers, elected officials, and staff. They all played a part in making the vision of a multi-use park for mountain biking, hiking, and trail connectivity a reality. I took in the view, and I was proud.

The Tennant Trailhead Park project is one example of a civically engaged community. It also reminded me of my goal to further engage and grow participation in the public process here in North Bend. The success of government at any level depends on the active involvement of our citizens.

So, how can you jump into civic action today?



- Sign up for “[Notify Me](#)” on the city website. Doing so will deliver City news, events, and public meetings to your inbox. Simply pick your chosen subject matter and Notify Me will deliver.
- Join us for city council meetings. Stop by City Hall at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month, and you will find Council, staff, citizens, and me here in Council Chambers, discussing local issues that affect all of us.
- Occasionally, vacancies open on a commission. I encourage you to learn more about our Economic Development, Parks, and Planning Commission because one of these could likely use your skillset and experience.

In February, I have the pleasure of introducing our city's inaugural [2023 North Bend Citizens Academy](#)! This seven-week interactive course will give participants an in-depth look into city operations, and hopefully, open a path to civic engagement that fits everyone. Registration filled up quickly this year, but we plan to offer more opportunities so keep an eye out.

At that, please enjoy my musings on this last quarter here in North Bend, where I continue to learn from the many voices in our community.

Mountain Town Climate

What a winter thus far. With two snowstorms and an unprecedented ice storm, Public Works crews worked day and night, logging 700 hours of overtime including plowing 88 travel lane miles. They have attended to more than 200 fallen or severely damaged trees and repaired frozen water meter boxes, water service lines, and other water apparatuses. Much of this labor was performed in the middle of the night during the holiday season. Public Works crews' service to our community is truly admirable. I thank those of you who reached out to show support for them, as well as the many residents I saw out there shoveling sidewalks and supporting neighbors. We are a community of helpers, and it shows in our staff, our elected officials, and our residents.



We are always evaluating where and how we can improve within the constraints of our budget, such as focusing more heavily on roundabouts and switching out rubber blades with ceramic blades, which can provide heightened scraping and faster replacements.

I am happy we were able to offer a Special Yard Waste event on January 21st as part of our contract with Republic Services. This city-staffed event served many residents in clearing wood debris from the storms. Our Public Works team saw over 102 vehicles that day, many of which were full of groups of neighbors' storm debris.

As we work to clean up the havoc wreaked by weather, it can be difficult to imagine drought conditions in the valley, but it is a reality we must contend with by creating policies that support the safety and health of our community. In that vein, the use of aerial fireworks has been a subject of discussion in town for years. Last year, our Public Health and Safety Committee delved into this subject, listening to residents, Eastside Fire and Rescue, medical professionals, and neighboring cities. The feedback helped shape the amendment to our Fireworks Code and in December 2022, Council approved an ordinance banning the personal use of aerial fireworks within city limits. Effective December 2023, the City will join a growing number of jurisdictions doing the same thing, including King County, Snoqualmie, and Kirkland.



Infrastructure & Transportation Improvements

The City was recently awarded \$1,380,610 in a grant that will provide for the design of a roundabout at the intersection of State Route 202 and Mt. Si Boulevard. The project will enhance access to the outlet mall and new hotel. It will provide a scenic landscape for our visitors, as well as shared-use pathways.

In November, Council approved two resolutions accepting grants totaling \$1,925,000 for projects that preserve flood storage, provide for a healthier riverbed, and add transportation enhancements. The South Fork Avenue Extension and engineering of the South Fork Snoqualmie River Levee Setback Capital Projects are expected to begin this year, with construction in 2025, subject to the success of construction grants.



The South Fork Avenue Extension and engineering of the South Fork Snoqualmie River Levee Setback Capital Projects are expected to begin this year.



In December, Sallal Water Association lifted its temporary water moratorium, noting a mechanical error from their primary production water meter at their well source as the cause. This is a positive development in a challenging issue, which is so key to the future of our community. The City remains highly concerned with water availability, and it is something we are continuing to work on to help ensure we can service all property owners who rely on local water.

I look forward to engagement opportunities with both Sallal members and City water customers on solving water for the region. Please stay tuned for opportunities to meet and discuss. In the meantime, visit our [East North Bend Water Update](#) webpage to stay informed.

Quarterly Message from the Mayor

...continued

This quarter, Phase 2 of the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) High Priority Improvements continued to make forward momentum with the start of the new headworks facility installation, nearing completion of the concrete oxidation ditch, and continued staff safety improvements. The updated plant will be prepared to accept new capacity such as the Meadowbrook ULID, as well as the potential conversion of older septic neighborhoods.

Community Housing & Business Projects

Essential to a healthy community is a diverse array of housing. Needs such as these are at the forefront of councilmembers' minds and my own. This fall, we joined a housing task force, made up of Umpqua Bank, the SnoValley Chamber of Commerce, many other local organizations, and City leaders in the Valley. We are meeting quarterly and by the end of the year, we plan to present our findings to you.

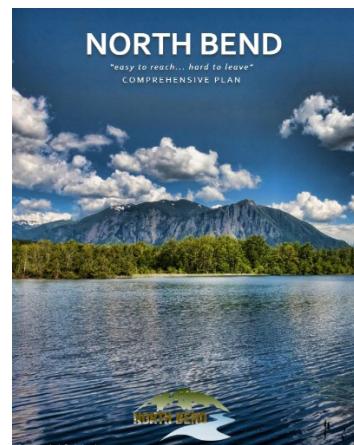


Work on the Housing Needs Assessment/Action Plan, a collaborative grant project that incorporates North Bend, Carnation, Duvall, and Snoqualmie, is coming along nicely. Now that the valley-wide Housing Needs Assessment portion is complete, staff will work on the Action Plan with the Planning Commission and Council this spring. Stay tuned for participation opportunities.

Living wage jobs, enhanced services and amenities are all part of community development. Several projects that address these needs moved forward recently, and are now ready for or being constructed, including:

- Alpental Logistics
- The SeaCon Industrial building
- The King County LOOP Maintenance Facility
- The Youth Activity Center (YAC) Barn and Patio

You may have seen or participated in sports at the Snoqualmie Valley Athletic Center (SVAC). While the field is operating, work continues. We recently issued the Certificate of Occupancy for Phase 1 and look forward to next steps.



Work continues with the Comprehensive Plan as well, chapter by chapter. In November, Council adopted the Transportation Element (TE) Update of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan, which provides a framework to guide transportation investments over the next 20 years. These investments are in line with our community's vision and goals, and the Update is vital to maintaining the City's eligibility for grant funding.

Another integral part of the Comprehensive Plan is the Parks Element. It establishes levels of service and policies relating to park and trail planning and development. Like the TE, the Parks Element guides park improvements in 20-year increments. In November, we held a Parks Workshop, where citizens met with staff and Parks Commissioners, learning and sharing feedback. Many aspects of the Element were gleaned from the popular Parks Survey held in the fall. For details as we move forward with the different elements of the Comprehensive Plan, visit our [website](#).

This month, we held two park planning events on the Riverfront and Taylor Park design projects. Public meetings such as these are crucial to guiding our work. Our park planning events were well attended, and thanks to you, we gained more valuable insight.



Complete Streets is also an essential part of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Staff is working right now with a \$300,000 grant for the North Bend Way corridor. We look forward to providing you with enhanced lighting, accessibility, and incredible connectivity.

New Businesses

We have had the pleasure of welcoming several new businesses to town this last quarter, including:

- Columbia Sportswear Factory Store
- The North Bend Trading Company
- Main Street Pilates
- Sno Falls Plumbing

Budget

In December, Council adopted the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget Ordinance. The \$104.5M (2023) and \$101.7M (2024) budget reflects Council's investment in community priorities, and multiple ongoing and new infrastructure improvements.

This is a milestone in that the City's budget has reached the \$100M level and reflects the growing needs and expectations of our residents. An overriding theme for these next two years is one that honors our commitment to maintaining our small-town character while enhancing the quality of life for all residents.

The budget includes an increase in investment in human services funding, dedicating \$498,000 over the next two years. I am particularly proud of this commitment as it is a stretch for small communities to support social services among other required services.



This was possible because of Council's commitment to supporting a fiscally sustainable city. It also highlights our work to increase staffing, and in turn, move some services in-house, which will provide long-term strategic cost savings in areas such as public works, finance, and IT technical support.

In addition, Council has been working with staff on a community investment plan for the \$1.1M in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds which will be disbursed over the next two years. These funds will be used to support:

- Economic development and tourism
- Public facility improvement
- Direct aid to the community
- Internal services, such as financial technology

In 2020, the City funded the federal CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) to help small businesses and community organizations impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, working with approximately 50 local grantees. We recognize these funds represent a once-in-a-generation investment in our community and an exciting opportunity to strategically invest in initiatives that will have a positive, long-term impact.

Community Engagement

Looking back at this quarter, I am reminded of the abundance of our community spirit. The North Bend Downtown Foundation hosted a full Trick-or-Treat Street on October 29th, and despite being in the final throws of our first snowstorm of the season, on December 3rd, you persevered, joining us for Holly Days, along with a tree lighting, crafting, and performances emceed by Councilmembers Alan Gothelf and Mary Miller. Events such as these are always free to the community and in the center of our historic downtown.

My connection to North Bend is rooted in the people here, and I would not be your mayor had I not had the opportunity to serve the City, share my voice, and absorb our local history by learning from mentors devoted to our mountain town. Civic engagement leaves a legacy that benefits all of us. My hope is that you take the opportunity to do the same.

Sincerely,

Mayor Rob

A letter from the North Bend Downtown Foundation

Thank you to all who came out to celebrate the Holly Days Old-Fashioned Festival with us on December 3rd. Despite the wildly cold wind, it was a wonderful, heart-warming event with purely local entertainment, Santa, smiles for miles, crackling fires, and gooey s'mores. Thank you to all our valued sponsors, City of North Bend, QFC, Republic Services, PSE, 4 Culture, R&R Rentals, North Bend Theatre, and Simpson Group Real Estate...not to mention all the partners and participating businesses who all helped make this a magical holiday event! We are already thinking about next year and how we can continue to expand and improve.

This last year was a busy one for your Downtown Foundation. We are proud to have produced all our events at full capacity, including the annual Downtown Block Party, which was bigger and better than ever! We look forward to the year ahead and continuing to grow the foundation, its partners, members, and volunteers. You all play an important role in strengthening our downtown and making North Bend an exceptional place to live, work, and play.

As you enter this new year, and you're looking at your 2023 commitments, we invite you to consider joining our team! The NBDF is a volunteer-driven organization that counts on enthusiastic individuals, businesses, and property owners to help us achieve our mission and do great things in our community. If you'd like to learn more about opportunities, email us at info@northbenddowntown.org.

Sincerely,

Your Downtown Foundation



Light-Up NB:

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ENTERED LIGHT UP NORTH BEND
lights...camera...JINGLE BELLS!



LIGHT UP NORTH BEND WINNERS

Residential, VMA Division Winner.....Hansen Home
Residential, Hollywood Division Winner....Isaacson Home
Residential, Griswold Division Winner..Olmschenk Home
Residential, Griswold Division Winner #2....Hutsen Home
Business, Hollywood Division Winner....The Daily Grind 12
Business, Griswold Division.....Vintage Baristas

Downtown Block Party: Join the celebration!

Our biggest downtown festival - North Bend's Downtown Block Party - returns on Saturday, July 15, 2023

This popular festival fosters community pride and engagement, while providing an economic boost to our downtown businesses by bringing in more foot traffic to the downtown core and North Bend in general.

One big thing Block Party does, is it supports the [North Bend Downtown Foundation](#), a local non-profit organization that is working hard to create and promote a vibrant downtown. To learn more about your NBDF, visit their [Facebook page](#) and their [website](#).

Want to participate as a vendor? They want to hear from North Bend businesses! Vendors can fill out [this form](#). Interested in sponsorship? [Here is some helpful information](#).

Have questions? Or a neat, new idea for Block Party? [Email your Downtown Foundation!](#)



Local Entrepreneurs

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

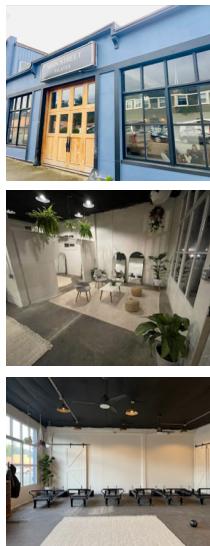
Main Street Pilates opens in historic district

It was a big month for North Bend resident, Kerri Roberts. On January 4th, she opened Main Street Pilates in the historic Sunset Garage, at 201 W North Bend Way.

"I wanted a place to do Pilates where I live, and friends have been asking me to teach in the Valley for a few years now," said Kerri. In 2022, she collaborated with Twin Peaks Nutrition and Wellness owner, Sharon Hockenbury, offering locals a trial series of classes in downtown North Bend. The classes were successful. Soon after, Kerri found her dedicated space just down the street.

Natural light, high ceilings, beautiful doors and windows drew Kerri in - not to mention the central location. "I'm hopeful the studio will become a gathering place for residents and visitors to the area," she said.

Kerri opened her first Main Street Pilates in Bellevue in February 2020. The Bellevue location continues to operate today. Learn more about Main Street Pilates by visiting www.mainstreetpilates.com.



Continuing its legacy: New owners honor North Bend Bar & Grill as a local staple

This winter, the North Bend Bar and Grill sold to new owners, local to the Pacific Northwest and longtime enthusiasts of the cherished restaurant.

Ken Hughes and his neighborhood-focused restaurant group are also owners of Jak's Grill, Sunset Alehouse, and El 42 Cantina. They are excited to carry the 25-year-old North Bend Bar and Grill's torch, planning to honor its legacy of delicious food and a warm, inviting atmosphere. "The Bar and Grill has been here for a long time and is many things to many people. We want to honor that," he said.

While the feeling and much of the program will continue to reverberate throughout 145 E North Bend Way, small changes will pop up, such as linen napkins replacing paper ones, and perhaps adding a popular Jak's item or two to the menu. "We have had a number of requests," Ken said. Learn more about the Bar and Grill by visiting www.northbendbarandgrill.com.

The team also hopes to add additional outdoor dining options that will coincide with the City's Taylor Park redesign project, located behind the Bar and Grill. Plans for the park include better connectivity to downtown, a community gathering space, more efficient parking along McClellan Street, and possible improvement/location for the railroad tracks and depot.



ALL WE NEED IS LOVE
ORDER YOUR Kiwanis heart
BY JANUARY 30!

All are invited to purchase a personalized message for an 18"x18" heart sign, displayed in town.



03

Innovation Center Meet-up

Join a weekly meet-up for inventors, innovators, entrepreneurs, mentors, and community supporters. Connect with Innovation Center mentors in tech, legal, marketing, and research. Attend in-person at the Umpqua Community Room or live via Zoom: www.snovalleyinnovation.com.



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Citizens Academy

The City of North Bend is pleased to present its inaugural Citizens Academy. This free, seven-week interactive course is designed to provide an in-depth look into how your local municipal government operates! Though registration is now full, stay tuned for more courses.

Locally owned SnoFalls Plumbing opens in downtown North Bend

In 2014, Tina and Blake Kinghorn launched SnoFalls Plumbing, a company that specializes in plumbing for high-end custom homes. They began their business in Auburn, and while they still operate that division, their dream of expanding to their home community of North Bend became a reality in the spring of 2022. They found their place in the Sunset Garage, located at the corner of Bendigo and North Bend Way.



The Kinghorns appreciate the Sunset Garage's historic architecture and large windows. "We quickly moved in and have fallen in love with being in the vibrant heart of downtown North Bend and all the lovely neighboring businesses," Tina said.

"Our biggest hope," she added, "is to become the go-to plumbing company in North Bend. We want the community to know that we are here and ready to serve them when the need arises."

Learn more about SnoFalls Plumbing by visiting www.snofallspiping.com.

New to downtown: North Bend Trading Co

In early December 2022, as the Northwest's first snow storm of the season blanketed North Bend, Heather Dean, Julie Chung, and Cheri Buell worked tirelessly to prep their beautiful new storefront for opening at 111 E North Bend Way.

Collaboration and determination got them to the finish line, where they opened in downtown North Bend just in time for the annual Holly Days festival, which took place directly outside their new storefront doors. "We saw an opportunity to create a place to be in community with our neighbors, as well as visitors to the Snoqualmie Valley," Heather said. "In doing so, it also provided an opening to support and showcase the amazing works of so many other talented small businesses."

The team also owns the Snoqualmie Trading Co. Of their expansion to North Bend, their biggest hope is "to represent North Bend with the same pride and enthusiasm that each of its residents does, and to be a place that contributes to that sense of community we desire every single day."

While their website is under construction, follow the North Bend Trading Co on Facebook to learn more.



Housing in North Bend

As a highly livable small town that values community, the City of North Bend agrees that every city should share the responsibility for achieving equitable distribution of diverse housing to meet the needs of a wider range of incomes. Here is what North Bend is working on.

Housing work on the State level

Housing availability and housing affordability is a statewide issue. Washington State has passed [House Bill \(HB\) 1220](#) to start addressing those concerns. Along with HB 1220, there are many bills being introduced each year to increase housing, and although most did not pass last year we expect them to come forward again. The City of North Bend recognizes today's housing crisis and its impact on people, jobs, and job creation. If people cannot afford to live where they work, finding those willing to commute further distances becomes increasingly challenging.

Housing work on the City level

In May 2020, the City of North Bend passed an ordinance to capture a portion of the 6.5% sales tax allowed by HB 1406. Doing so allowed the City to start a fund at a City level, rather than the funds going to the County. This fund is for the acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of affordable housing and other applicable uses ([North Bend Municipal Code 3.10](#)).



The City of North Bend also took advantage of a Department of Commerce grant to hire a consultant who is preparing a Snoqualmie Valley Regional Housing Needs Assessment, a North Bend Needs Assessment, and a North Bend Housing Action Plan. This winter, staff completed the Snoqualmie Valley Regional Housing Needs Assessment, and they are working now on the remainder of the project. Learn more by visiting the City's [Housing Element webpage](#).

Comprehensive Plan

This process is not only needed to understand housing, but it is also a requirement of the Comprehensive Periodic Update.

The Comprehensive Plan organizes goals, objectives, policies, actions, and standards that help guide the day-to-day decisions of your elected officials and City staff. Please see the City's [Comprehensive Plan webpage](#), and sign up via "Notify Me" to get more information on the comprehensive plan update.

Makers Meet Up

FEB 15
Calling all makers! Connect with other makers, creators, and artists at the North Bend Train Depot, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Bring your own projects, and enjoy working in a collaborative environment. This is a recurring event, the third Wednesday of every month. Visit www.northbendartandindustry.org.

Business Outreach Meeting

FEB 16
Calling all North Bend business owners! Connect with your business community and City staff at City Hall (7:30 a.m.). Learn about actions the City is considering that impact commercial and business property, and discuss other topics that matter to local businesses. Email [Mark Noll](mailto:Mark.Noll@NorthBendWA.gov) to join.

The Real Twin Peaks Days

FEB 24 thru 26
The Snovalley Chamber and North Bend Downtown Foundation are bringing a real Twin Peaks celebration to town! Cosplay, dinner and dance party, a charity auction, and more: www.thereal twin peaks.com.

City seeking your input: Housing Action Plan Survey and March 1st Open House

Do you live or work in North Bend? Do you **want** to live or work here, but have encountered obstacles?

The City invites you to share your experiences by participating in a short [North Bend Housing Action Plan Survey](#). The survey is part of the Housing Action Plan (HAP), a policy document that will outline how to meet North Bend's housing needs. It is an essential part of the City's Comprehensive Plan and will be supported by data and public input, much of which will be gathered from this survey.

Take the Housing Action Plan Survey [here](#). Your voice is a crucial part of this plan and will help shape the future of housing in North Bend.

Following the survey, the City invites you to participate in a Housing Action Plan Open House, on Wednesday, March 1st, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the North Bend City Hall.

The HAP is being funded through a series of grants awarded through Washington State, [House Bill 1923](#), the objective being to plan for the future by increasing North Bend's supply of homes in a way that supports our community's diverse housing needs. Learn more about the HAP on our Housing Element webpage.

To ensure the survey provides a realistic picture of community needs, please limit submissions to one survey per household.



Stay up to date on this topic by signing up for "Notify Me," and selecting "2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update." Receive news alerts from the City of North Bend. For questions about the survey or the HAP, contact Senior Planner Jamie Burrell via email, or by phone, at (425) 888-7642.

Updates from the City

City Council adopts 2023-24 Biennial Budget, reflecting community priorities and infrastructure improvements

The North Bend City Council adopted the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget Ordinance at the December 6, 2022, City Council meeting. The City's budget reflects Council's investment in community priorities, and multiple ongoing and new infrastructure improvements.

A detailed summary of the \$104.5M in 2023 and \$101.7M in 2024 Preliminary Biennial Budget can be found in the December 6 Council Packet. The budget includes an increase in investment in human services funding, dedicating \$498,000 over the next two years. This was possible because of the City's continued approach to fiscal conservatism in the budget process. In his Biennial Budget Message, Mayor McFarland commented, "The City's tradition of fiscal conservatism will continue as Council recognizes it is a necessary aspect of providing for fiscally sustainable and sound city operations."

The budget highlights also the City's work in increasing staffing, and in turn, moving some services in-house, with the intention of providing long-term strategic cost savings in areas such as public works, finance, and IT technical support. Another budget highlight includes preparation for the



completion of the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). By the end of 2022, the City will have made significant progress toward the completion of WWTP High Priority Improvements. The WWTP is anticipated to be completed within this next biennium and bring much-needed safety and redundancy improvements for our community and our environment.

Mayor McFarland presented the Biennial Budget Message at the November 15, 2022, City Council meeting. Read his message [here](#) and view his presentation by visiting www.northbendwa.gov/civicmedia, and selecting the November 15th Council meeting.

In his Biennial Budget Message, Mayor McFarland shared that an overriding theme for these next two years "is one that honors our commitment to maintaining our small-town character while enhancing the quality of life for all residents. We do this by completing projects that move our community forward through investments in critical infrastructure and by supporting business and economic development. The balance of fiscal sustainability and investment ensures a healthy future for our city."

Housing Action Plan Open House

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Join friends, neighbors, business owners, the Planning Commission, and City staff for the Housing Action Plan Open House at City Hall, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Share your experiences and learn about housing issues in North Bend, and what the City and others are doing to make positive changes.

Questions? Email [Jamie Burrell](mailto:Jamie.Burrell@northbendwa.gov).

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03

Resilience Rising Conference

Empower Youth Network presents their third annual conference, from 8 to 3 p.m. The free, virtual conference will include speakers presenting on topics related to building resilience and becoming a trauma-informed community. Visit www.empoweryouthnetwork.org; email Claire.

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Trail of Hope Fundraising Banquet

Join the Trail Youth for their biggest fundraiser of the year. Funds will go toward key programs that remind youth they are loved, valuable, worthy, and here for a purpose. From 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Club at Snoqualmie Ridge, enjoy dinner, music, prizes, and more. Visit www.trailyouthcoffee.org.

City Council adopts Transportation Element Update to the City's 2024 Comprehensive Plan

On December 6, 2022, the North Bend City Council unanimously adopted the Transportation Element (TE) Update to the forthcoming 2024 Comprehensive Plan, providing a framework to guide transportation investments over the next 20 years that are in line with our community's vision and goals.

"The adoption of the Transportation Element is both an accomplishment and an essential part of how our city continues to be a highly livable community," commented Mayor McFarland. "Moreover, it is vital to maintaining the City's eligibility for grant funding."

The City is required to update the Transportation Element by 2024 to align with the adoption of the City's Comprehensive Plan and comply with the State's Growth Management Act (GMA). View the resolution and the Transportation Element by referring to pages 333 to 410 of the City Council Packet [here](#).

Goals of the 2022 TE Update include:

- Developing a multi-modal transportation system, with attention to the pedestrian, bike, public transit, and vehicular modes.
- Developing public and private transportation improvements that support healthful mobility options including walking and biking, while minimizing adverse impacts on the natural environment.
- Creating a bicycle and pedestrian-friendly environment that connects neighborhoods to the downtown and provides better connectivity to cultural, historic, recreational, and transit opportunities, including neighboring cities such as Snoqualmie.
- Developing traffic improvements that ultimately minimize trips by single-occupant vehicles.



- Increasing access to public transportation.
- Establishing appropriate levels of service for transportation facilities to adequately serve existing and future development.
- Beautifying North Bend streets while also helping to preserve the historic downtown and neighborhoods.

The approved resolution follows a series of interviews and public meetings that began in 2020, with consulting firm Fehr and Peers. The process involved interviewing local stakeholders for perspectives on transportation priorities, and this year, the City led a Policy Workshop with City staff in March. Staff introduced the update to the Planning Commission in May and held a Draft Transportation Element Review and Public Hearing at the Planning Commission in September. In October, the Planning Commission provided a review of the Final TE Update and recommended approval to Council.

Local Winners... The Snoqualmie Valley Record's 2022

Best of the Valley

In December 2022, the Snoqualmie Valley Record released the results of its 2022 Best of the Valley contest. The Snoqualmie Valley Record's General Manager, William Shaw, writes, "The Best of the Valley is one of the more popular initiatives that we do, and with reason. The annual poll gives residents the opportunity to make their favorite picks in nearly 60 categories. Over the years, it has become a fun opportunity for bragging rights and a cheerful showdown among local businesses. Best of the Valley also provides a good snapshot of our local community and its movers and shakers."

Here are the Best of the Valley winners. Visit the [Valley Record](#) to see many fantastic finalists!

- Mary J. Miller Photography
- Carnation Storage
- Krona and Krona
- Blue Streak Chocolates
- Sweet Honey Esthetics; Jessica Lengtis / Studio J
- Ageless Esthetics Botox Boutique
- Dog Valley Grooming
- Carmichael's TruValue
- Jonathan Pearlstein JD, Engel & Volkers
- Snoqualmie Valley & Kelli Berlin, Riverview Realty LLC (Tie)
- Kevin Hauglie Agency/Farmers Insurance
- Brown and Sterling
- Gerald A. Sprute Law Office; The Pearson Law Firm, P.S.
- Salish Veterinary Hospital
- Kevin Hauglie Agency & Bryan Pitman / Edward Jones (Tie)
- Handy In the Valley
- Mr. K's Construction; Josh's Handyman Services LLC
- Sno-Valley Senior Center
- Gere Automotive
- King's Quality Auto; North Bend Chevrolet Service Department
- Volition Brewing Company
- South Fork
- Historic Downtown Snoqualmie
- Wendy and Brian Thomas at Carmichael's True Value Hardware
- Wild Hare Antiques
- Down to Earth Floral in Snoqualmie
- North Bend QFC
- Birches Habitat in North Bend
- Rio Bravo
- Mount Si Golf Course
- Scott's Dairy Freeze
- Thai Eatery
- Il Paesano Ristorante Italiano
- Miller's: A Gathering Place in Carnation
- North Bend Bar and Grill
- Huxdotter Coffee
- Sigillo Cellars
- Salish Lodge
- The Trail Youth Coffee
- North Bend Farmers Market
- Heather Randall
- Si View Metro Parks
- Ignite Dance and Yoga
- Burt Mann
- Empower Youth Network
- Volition Brewing Company
- Brodie Nation Music Festival in Carnation and Festival at Mount Si (Tie).
- Rattlesnake Lake
- Sorcia
- North Bend Montessori
- Bre Keveren, Tom Meagher, Bart Kelly of the City of North Bend
- Nicole Weibe of the City of Snoqualmie
- Snoqualmie Valley Hospital
- Lindsay Gilliam, Carnation Farmers Market
- Eastside Fire and Rescue
- Mary J. Miller, North Bend City Council
- Mount Si Sports and Fitness
- SnoValley Physical Therapy
- Pineapple Life and Barre Studio
- Dr. Alyssa DiRienzo, Mt View Wellness Center
- Northwest Roots Wellness Center
- Dr. Neeta Jain, Snoqualmie Valley Hospital
- Dr. Jill Massengill, Straight Chiropractic
- Mount Si Family Dentistry, Drs. Lisa McCoy and Jacob Deno
- DMW Martial Arts



Valley Center Stage

Valley Center Stage is a nonprofit organization in North Bend that promotes and produces theatre via variety shows, plays, and special events. Check out a series of upcoming staged readings in February through April: www.ValleyCenterStage.org.



North Bend Beautification Days

What do you get when you combine two days and lots of locals working together? COMMUNITY IMPACT.

In honor of Earth Day, the City invites community members to join us once again as we walk through town and clean up together! Stay tuned for details, at www.northbendwa.gov.



State of the Cities - SnoValley Chamber event

Join the SnoValley Chamber of Commerce and Mayors Rob McFarland and Catherine Ross at the Snoqualmie Casino for their North Bend and Snoqualmie State of the City Address presentations. Please stay tuned for registration: www.snovalley.org.

Is Your Business Listed?

DiscoverNorthBend.com is a tourism website that branches from and links to the www.northbendwa.gov website. The purpose of this site is provide information to visitors who want to explore beautiful North Bend, with a concentration on economic development and tourism.

We created a [North Bend business directory](#) on DiscoverNorthBend.com to help support our local economy by providing another form of connectivity. In this directory you will find information on a wide variety of organizations. The service is free to all North Bend businesses and non-profit organizations.



Don't see your local business or non-profit on the business directory? Email [Bre Keveren](mailto:Bre.Keveren@NorthBendWA.gov) the following to submit your information:

- Business Name
- Address
- Phone Number
- Website/social media link

**Local job resource:
SnoValleyJobs.com**

Community
JOB BOARD
www.snovalleyjobs.com

Hosted and managed by Rob Wotton, with technical support from the SnoValley Innovation Center, SnoValleyJobs.com is a simple-to-use, online hub for job seekers and businesses looking for local hires. This service is completely free. Looking for help? Post your job [here](#).