

CITY OF NORTH BEND

Business Bulletin

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



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Photography TG&TG

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Quarterly Message from the Mayor

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



Dear North Bend Residents,

This fall, I had the pleasure of joining community members for a ribbon cutting ceremony at the North Bend Train Depot. It was on this stunning fall afternoon in September that we welcomed the North Bend Downtown Foundation's first ever executive director, Jessica Self, and cut the ribbon to officially open the foundation's first ever home, at the depot.

As I stood there on the depot platform alongside foundation members, businesses, city staff, and the SnoValley Chamber, I observed so much support; claps on the back, smiles all around, and genuine appreciation and recognition for one another. It is this small-town sense of care that makes our highly livable community so special.

In partnership with the City, the Downtown Foundation is embarking on a new journey. In addition to taking the helm of community event planning, they have been working to reach full Mainstreet accreditation, an achievement that will stimulate long-term economic growth in the way of grant opportunities and programs that are built around our downtown's unique heritage and brand. I look forward to seeing the foundation continue pursuing their mission of supporting and strengthening downtown businesses, beautification and tourism, and delivering high-level communication support between the City and local businesses.



Community came together for the NBDF's ribbon cutting with the SnoValley Chamber of Commerce.

New businesses

Like the Downtown Foundation, the steady decrease in daylight hours has not slowed down local entrepreneurs. All of us here at the City offer a great, big welcome to many new businesses this fall, including storefronts such as Kinship Dog Training, Crispy Fried Chicken, Falling River Meats, and Yama Si Japanese Kitchen.

Community Development Projects

Every month, we get closer to completing the 2024 Comprehensive Plan

Update. Foundational documents such as this are integral in ensuring projects – even those up to 20 years in the future – are in line with our community's vision and goals. In October, Council approved the Critical Areas element and the Shoreline element of the Plan, while staff are continuing their work with Council right now on the Housing element. There are many opportunities to make your voice heard in this, our fundamental guidebook for our future. Learn more by visiting the City's Comprehensive Plan and Comp Plan Updates webpage.



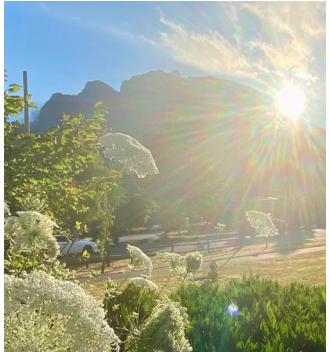
Council, Mayor McFarland, and City staff at the October 3 Council meeting.

In September, Council approved the North Bend Housing Action Plan (HAP). Supported by a Washington State Department of Commerce grant, the HAP will serve as a guiding document in the form of one report that

- defines community needs,
- analyzes projected needs,
- and identifies the most appropriate ways to implement actions that meet North Bend's housing needs.

Strategies within the HAP will be incorporated into the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update.

At the August 15 Council meeting, results of the city-wide Community Survey were shared. The survey was a worthy investment in public engagement, providing insight into how you perceive your community needs are being met. Results will provide guidance on many fronts, including financial choices, service adjustments, direction of our City Council and Administration, and day-to-day work for city staff. Residents gave North Bend high marks for quality of life, including recreational opportunities, a place to raise children, fire, police and other emergency services, and parks and recreation. You can find the complete report on the City's [Community Survey webpage](#).



...Message from the Mayor continued

Parks and Recreation

Accessible parks, trails, and open spaces are an integral part of our healthy community, and this quarter I am pleased to share with you several exciting updates.



The Dahlgren Family Park will likely be complete by the spring of 2024.

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources, in partnership with the City, anticipates completing the Dahlgren Family Park this spring. The new, four-acre city park will include everything from playground equipment, a picnic shelter, and a sand volleyball court, to trails, a restroom, and a future roadway connection into King County's existing adjacent Tanner Landing Park, where the County is also planning river access improvements for whitewater users.

Thanks to community-minded forethought, in 2010 the Dahlgren family and the City worked together to create the Tanner Landing Master Plan Overlay, ensuring the property would allow for residential use while requiring the addition of a public park – a great example of successful long-range planning in action!

So many of these projects involve the collaboration of several organizations, and Tennant Trailhead Park is one of them. Si View Metropolitan Parks District and the City are nearing completion of this new, forested, 32-acre park that, when open in the spring, will provide trails for mountain bikers and hikers of varying skill levels. The park will eventually connect to Snoqualmie Point Park, Rattlesnake Ridge, and Tiger Mountain.



Tennant Trailhead Park is expected to open in the spring of 2024.

Equally exciting is seeing the City's investment in existing parks progress through to tangible, conceptual plans. Such is happening right now, with two cherished local parks: Taylor and Riverfront. Following several well-attended workshops and a popular online survey, Council approved the conceptual plans this month, which include community requested amenities such as a plaza, native plantings, a holiday tree, a splash pad or interactive fountain, and more.



William H. Taylor Park and Riverfront Park, two city parks with approved conceptual plans.

Riverfront Park, a four-acre, protected river riparian corridor on the South Fork Snoqualmie River adjacent to Bendigo Boulevard, is also being redesigned, with conceptual plans that include trails along the levy and through the natural forest area, the removal of invasive species and the replanting of native species, a pathway down to the river with river-view seating, and more.

Infrastructure and Transportation Improvements

On October 7, I joined many of you to celebrate Arbor Day at E.J. Roberts Park. Together, we learned about the importance of native species and planted two Garry Oak trees. It was on this fall afternoon that North Bend clocked in at 86 degrees.



Mayor and Roberta McFarland with a Girl Scout during record-setting heat on Oct. 7.

Our valley has endured wild weather this year that has resulted in lower than typical Snoqualmie River flows. Recent rain has helped, but Stage 3 of our Water Conservation Ordinance (WCO) remained in effect until river flows improved. North Bend is the only water mitigation purveyor in the Snoqualmie Watershed, so our water must be compensated drop-for-drop by other sources into the river when Centennial

Well is active and the Snoqualmie River is below the 'Base In-stream Flow' as defined by the City's Centennial Water Right. And truly, conserving natural resources is the right thing to do. By adding cold, filtered water when the river is low, we are actively improving the health of the Snoqualmie River and salmon downstream of Snoqualmie Falls.

The future of local water conservation is also looking great. Now 15 years in the making, the City and Sallal Water Association are working together to ensure both water purveyors will be able to meet the water needs of all residents and property owners even during hotter and drier seasons, while also meeting the City's mitigation requirements for the Snoqualmie River. The end result will be two water interties: Sallal's domestic water intertie, and the City's mitigation water intertie. Together, these will serve as a means to share water, allowing the City to sell domestic water to Sallal and allowing Sallal to sell mitigation water to the City. We anticipate that this project will be operational by 2025.

On the transportation front, crews have been busy with a variety of preservation and safety enhancement projects, which include:

- The removal of the now defunct, crumbling, 70-year-old Alm Way Bridge crossing Gardiner Creek
- The Washington State Department of Transportation grant-supported North Bend Way Bridge Scour Project
- The Transportation Improvement Board grant-supported Pavement Overlay Project on North Bend Way, between the Ribary Creek Bridge and the intersection of 394th PI SE
- The Old Si View to New Si View Sidewalk Connection Project

In the way of infrastructure, you may remember some heightened activity at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in September. This was a critical and challenging part of the two-phase project that makes up the 36 million-dollar WWTP High Priority Improvements project. After much preparation, crews transferred the contents of the 600,000-gallon existing aeration basin to the new and improved aeration basin. The existing basin was originally built in the 1980s and had never before been emptied.

Next steps include dismantling the aeration basin and constructing an aerobic digester, which will further treat the solids that are wasted from the plant each day so that they can be beneficially re-used as opposed to the current method of landfilling the solids. This project is expected to wrap up in the spring.

Community Engagement

Looking back at this quarter, I am reminded of how full of community spirit our North Bend community is. Pride in our mountain town and support of local businesses and organizations is clear when you attend a community event such as North Bend Art and Industry's Art Off the Rails festival, or JazzClubsNW's Blues Walk. And just this past month I was honored to join valley residents at their Dussehra festival, a Indian Hindu celebration traditionally held in the fall. Events such as these enliven our streets and parks, and they support our local businesses.



Art Off the Rails and volunteers, at Taylor Park on Sept. 23.



Mayor and Roberta McFarland at Trick-or-Treat Street.

On another front, your city's grant-supported service events also add to that proverbial cup. This quarter wrapped up the seasonal Yard Waste Recycling event, and in September, our annual Shred-it event. We appreciate the opportunity to say hello while helping you.

October 28 marked North Bend's sixth Trick-Or-Treat Street, once again in collaboration with Si View's annual Harvest Festival. Goblins, ghouls, and creatives of all shapes and sizes trick-or-treat with local businesses.

Please join us. Your participation and input, feedback, and care leave a legacy in our highly livable community. Keep up the good work, and happy fall, North Bend.

Sincerely,

Mayor Rob

Local Entrepreneurs

"The best time to support small businesses is always today." - Gisele Barreto Fetterman

Kinship Dog Training opens its second location in North Bend

Local business Kinship Dog Training is expanding! Ali Peace and her business partner, Jill Seward, opened the Kinship Studio this fall. They celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 28.

Located at 320 Mt. Si Boulevard, the team upgraded their studio to comfortably accommodate dog students and their owners, adding rubber floors to protect the joints in dogs' shoulders, hips, elbows, wrists, knees, and ankles. They also further insulated interior walls with the intention of not disturbing their business neighbors, added high level shelving to keep paws away from supplies, and have created a welcoming environment for everyone.

The studio provides ample space for training, and Kinship's existing location continues to provide additional space, with a covered 60-foot by 80-foot



Happy customers and community gathered Sept. 28 for Kinship Dog Training's ribbon cutting with the Sno Valley Chamber of Commerce.

agility arena and a fully fenced field. Called the Kinship Arena, it is located at 483 NW 8th Street. The team consists of seven trainers: Ali, Jill, Jeanne Sklorenko, Karen Beattie Massey, Janey Wilcox, Heather Archer, and Diana Simonsen. They have three assistants as well: Kaylee Anagnos, Annalee McBrady, and Madelyn Fernstrom.



Ali and Jill believe in the power of combining empathy and practical solutions for dogs and their families. "Our love for our work encompasses both the dogs and their humans, and we hope that shows," said Ally. Ally chose North Bend as the place to both live and grow her business because it fulfills her love of outdoor recreation, access to trees and mountains, combined with an easy walk to the grocery store and the movie theater. She describes her work home as a "dream come true."

Why the name Kinship? Ali said, "We all have the family we are born with and the family we choose. I chose the name 'Kinship' because I believe that our dogs are part of the family we choose, and that our bond with them can reach spaces in us that even our closest human connections can't reach."

Learn more about Kinship Dog Training by www.kinshipdogs.com.

Congratulations, Kinship Team!

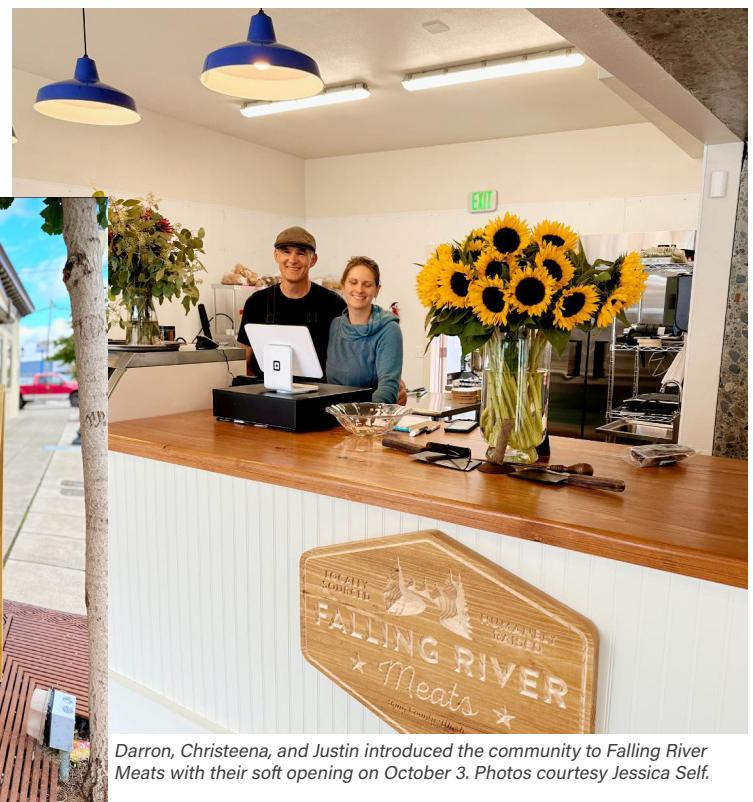
Falling River Meats butcher shop opens in downtown North Bend

Fall arrived with ample celebration in downtown North Bend, as Falling River Meats opened their doors for a soft opening on October 3. After approximately two years of hard work preparing for their location at 108 North Bend Way, the family-owned butcher shop is now stocked with a wide range of locally sourced, humanely raised meats as well as baguettes, spreads, and other local delicacies. They also serve fresh sandwiches, corndogs, and more.

Falling River Meats began offering farm-to-door meats in 2016, producing and sourcing local heritage breed chicken, pork, beef, lamb, and goat. "Our animals happily roam in the fresh air of the pastures and forests of their home, every day," they wrote. "All of our animals are bred, born, and raised locally and humanely."

The team thanks the Valley community for their support as they prepared for opening. "It's been so helpful to have our community cheering us on," they wrote on their Falling River Meats Facebook page.

Learn more about Falling River Meats by visiting www.fallingrivermeats.com. Welcome to North Bend, Falling River Meats!



Darron, Christeena, and Justin introduced the community to Falling River Meats with their soft opening on October 3. Photos courtesy Jessica Self.

Safe sidewalks for customers and merchants

The Holidays are right around the corner and that means more customers of all ages enjoying our local downtown and merchants throughout North Bend.

Keeping our sidewalks safe and accessible is important for customer safety especially as the days turn colder, and the nights become longer. If your business uses a portion of the sidewalk for signs, outdoor seating, or to display merchandise you need to obtain a right-of-way permit from the City of North Bend.

Fortunately, the process is straight forward, and the permit lasts a full year. If your business uses

the sidewalk to conduct business, the first step is to fill out a Street Use Permit application and provide a detailed site plan showing the dimensions of what your business is proposing to place on the sidewalk.

An application can be found on the City of North Bend website under "[Form Center](#)". Please keep in mind that you need to keep 48" of the sidewalk clear, as measured from the back of curb, so that all people can safely use the sidewalks.

If you have questions about whether your business needs a permit, or you need support with the application process, please contact Carrie Smith,



Public Works Office Coordinator/Contract Specialist, via email, at csmith@northbendwa.gov, or phone, at (425) 888-7651.



In October, the NBDF hosted a Merchant Meeting with Snoqualmie-North Bend Interim Police Chief Brian Lynch and Records Specialist Melinda Black, where they spoke with local businesses about ways to decrease retail theft and increase business safety. Key takeaways include:

DECREASING RETAIL THEFT

1) Implement Loss Prevention Measures

- Train employees to identify suspicious behavior and follow proper protocols.
- Utilize security tags, locked display cases, and anti-theft devices to deter theft.

2) Enhance Surveillance Systems

- Install high-quality surveillance cameras in strategic locations within the store.
- Ensure proper lighting to capture clear images and deter potential thieves.

3) Improve Store Layout and Visibility

- Arrange merchandise and displays to maximize visibility for employees and customers.
- Minimize blind spots and ensure clear lines of sight throughout the store.

4) Engage in Community Partnerships

- Collaborate with local law enforcement and neighboring businesses to share information and best practices.
- Participate in community programs that address retail theft prevention.

ENSURING BUSINESS SAFETY

1) Install Security Systems

- Implement surveillance cameras, alarm systems, and access control measures to deter potential criminals.
- Provide valuable evidence in case of any incidents.

2) Collaborate with Local Law Enforcement

- Establish a strong partnership with our local police department to stay informed about potential threats or criminal activities in the area.
- Regular communication and participation in community policing initiatives can go a long way in maintaining a safe business environment.

3) Employee Training

- Educate employees about safety protocols, emergency procedures, and how to handle difficult situations.
- Regular training sessions and drills should be conducted to ensure everyone is prepared and aware of their roles in maintaining a safe environment.

4) Lighting and Visibility

- Ensure adequate lighting in and around our businesses to deter criminal activities and make customers and employees feel safer.
- Regular maintenance of lighting fixtures and ensuring clear visibility of entrances and parking areas are essential steps to take.

5) Community Involvement

- Engage with our local community and participate in neighborhood watch programs or business associations.
- By working together, we can keep an eye out for each other and promptly report any suspicious activities.



Letter from the North Bend Downtown Foundation



NBDF President Beth Burrows

As we fall into this final quarter of the year, we can look back on a year of growth and look forward to a final quarter of fun and excitement.

Our year of growth began with a deeper partnership with the City of North Bend and a contract to provide cherished community events and to hire our first executive director, Jessica Self. I hope you got a chance to meet Jessica in person at the ribbon cutting ceremony in September. If not, you soon will. Jessica's passion for making connections and building relationships within a community is spectacular.

Over the summer months, we welcomed several new businesses to downtown such as Scott Rinckenberger Gallery, Falling River Meats, Main Street Pilates, Dark Horse Ink, Friends & Co, North Bend Trading Co, Pressed on Main, North Bend Art & Industry, and Kinship Dog Training.

We celebrated our first event for the fall in October, and it is that popular annual candy haul, Trick-or-Treat Street. It is heartwarming to see the kids and adults decked out in their Halloween best, visiting local businesses to gather those Halloween treats. What a great way to get to know your community of businesses and neighbors.



October saw the Foundation working with Public Works as we scheduled holiday lights and pick out the Community Tree. We appreciate the good folks at Christmas Creek Tree Farm for donating the tree this year and new holiday lighting will be provided by Reflection of Perfection. We are thankful for past helpers, Tanner Electric. Our town will be sparkling for the season. **Thanks, Jenny, Augie, and Tanner Electric!**



The 2023 Community Tree, at Christmas Creek Tree Farm

Wrapping up our year of celebrations and gatherings will be Holly Days on Saturday, December 2, from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring your family and friends to help light



the Community Tree and enjoy performances by local dance and school groups. Fire pits and smores kits will be brought to you by the NBDF and Vintage Baristas. **Thanks, Tahvia!** Come early to shop for gifts, eat a good meal, and enjoy a free showing of everyone's favorite holiday movie, ELF, at your neighborhood historic North Bend Theatre.

This winter, I will be saying farewell as President. I encourage you to join something! Whether it is with the Foundation, a local arts group, scouting, or a school group, I guarantee you will find inspiration and joy as you gather with others, and work towards a shared goal.

Beth Burrows

President, North Bend Downtown Foundation

NBDF NORTH BEND DOWNTOWN FOUNDATION

EVERY
FRI

Friday Business
Meetups

[Learn more](#)

NOV
10



North Bend 101,
a look back

[Learn more](#)

NOV
15



Public Hearing,
at City Hall

[Learn more](#)

Holly Days downtown winter festival

Saturday, December 2

The North Bend Downtown Foundation is excited to bring Holly Days back to North Bend!

The outdoor winter festival is a **free** community event, coordinated by the NBDF and made possible by the Foundation, volunteers, local businesses, nonprofits, and the City of North Bend.

Rain or shine, this event is a memorable celebration. Remember to bundle up, make dinner reservations, and plan ahead for parking. North Bend WY will be closed between NB WY and Ballarat and NB WY and Bendigo. A portion of Main Ave. will be closed between Main Ave. and 2nd St, and Main Ave. and McClellan (McClellan Avenue will remain open).



Free showing of "ELF" at the North Bend Theatre!

Visits with Santa at Simpson Group Real Estate! Consider bringing a non-perishable food donation with you!



Community Tree lighting celebration!



- Community performances
- Holiday crafting
- S'mores and more!

Visit the NBDF's website - www.northbenddowntown.org - for more.

Light up North Bend holiday lighting contest

December 8 - December 25

Do you plan on lighting up your home, property, or storefront this winter for the holiday season? If so, please consider joining the 4th annual Light up North Bend holiday lighting contest!

There are four divisions: Single-family home; Multi-family home (apartment, condo, town-home); Business; Neighborhood. There are three categories within the Single-family, Multi-family and Business Divisions:

- VMA: Best Use of Music
- Hollywood: Best Theme
- Griswold: Best 'Overuse' of Lights

The Neighborhood Division winner will be chosen based on the largest number of homes decked out for the season.

Registration will open Sunday, November 26

Check www.northbendwa.gov beginning on November 26 to fill out your application, and stay tuned for more information, such as prizes and your application deadline.

After winners are announced, watch for your own community light up map, and take a tour!

Celebrate the Season in North Bend

Holly Days



NOV
24 thru
DEC



Shop Local!

[Holiday promotions with local businesses](#)

NOV
25 thru
DEC
17



Santa Limited Train Ride

[Learn more](#)

NOV
26



Artists Sunday with NBA&I

[Learn more](#)

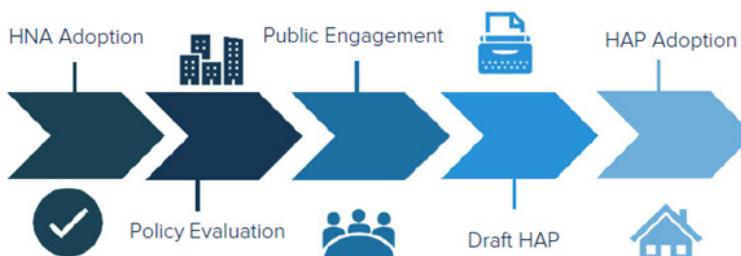
Housing in North Bend

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 right now.

In late 2021, the City of North Bend applied for grant funding allocated by the Washington State Department of Commerce and funded through the Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 1923. The bill was designed to grant fund municipal research to increase the urban residential capacity in cities by evaluating local housing needs and determining actionable steps municipalities can take to improve housing stock, diversity, and affordability to proactively plan for housing that meets current and future needs.

The City participated in a Snoqualmie Valley Housing Needs Assessment Report which was issued January 10, 2023, a North Bend Housing Needs Assessment which was finalized March 2023, and a community survey in January 2023, with over 500 participants. Interviews, stakeholder meetings and a school drawing contest were also part of the public outreach efforts. The Planning Commission and City Council held a Workstudy on November 1, 2022, and between December 2022 and May 2023 the Planning Commission discussed the work at four meetings, two of which were Public Hearings.



How the Housing Action Plan came to be: HNA adoption, policy evaluation, public engagement, drafting the HAP, adopting the HAP.

The 2023 Housing Action Plan (HAP) is a tool kit for increasing housing options and affordability in the community to help achieve its vision of a more vibrant, inclusive, and equitable future. While North Bend seeks to make meaningful changes in the housing market, addressing the broad range of North Bend's housing needs will also need the continued participation of North Bend's housing and human service partners. Therefore, the Housing Action Plan complements the City's collaborations, partnerships, commitments, and plans.

The HAP has broken into two strategies; Adapting to Community Needs and Meeting Housing Needs. Each strategy has multiple goals and actions. Below is a summary.

Strategy A: Adapting to Community Needs (Cultivate governance that provides for North Bend's future housing, infrastructure, aesthetics, and community needs.)

Goal 1 – Foster development that reflects the community's vision for their city and its housing needs.

- Create an inventory of short-term rental units.
- Preserve existing affordable housing units within the City.
- Encourage affordable housing to support businesses that provide critical amenities serving the needs of North Bend residents.
- Consider strategy recommendation from the Economic Development Action Plan in support of increasing housing supply and diversity.
- Consider a subarea plan that fosters a community-supported vision for the downtown housing stock and economy. Consider implementing alongside a non-project environment impact statement.

Goal 2 – Ensure infrastructure needs are developed concurrently with new housing.

- Apply for state and federal grants to fund utility infrastructure projects.
- Reassess impact fees to ensure they remain an adequate and appropriate source of funding.
- Consider a rate study to investigate alternative methods for fee structure to fund service extensions without overburdening small development projects.
- Make strategic infrastructure investments to increase capacity where necessary.

Goal 3 – Collaborate with critical partners on housing opportunities.

- Continue community conversation and collaboration through ongoing community engagement.
- Prevent displacement of senior and low-income households by marketing incentives and encouraging non-profits to develop affordable housing in the Snoqualmie Region.
- Consider the feasibility of the development of a master plan for the outlet mall area in cooperation with the property owners.

Strategy B: Meeting Housing Needs. (Ensure that housing matches the needs of the current and future North Bend community.)

Goal 1 – Enhance development regulations and market incentives.

- Strategic marketing of development incentives, support, and resources through the City webpage oriented toward the development community.
- Consider streamlining the ADU permitting process.
- Clarify design requirements and streamline permitting for affordable residential housing units.

Goal 2 – Reduce barriers to attainable and affordable housing.

- Evaluate residentially zoned properties located in annexable areas within the City UGA and options for future growth opportunities.
- Explore expansion of the multifamily residential tax exemption to
- Consider a fee reduction grant program for using the existing affordable housing tax program or state grant programs.
- Consider a fee reduction grant program for housing-focused redevelopment in the Downtown core.

The HAP was approved by the City Council on September 19, 2023. Additional details can be found on the [Housing Element webpage](http://www.northbendwa.gov) at www.northbendwa.gov.



Flood Awareness Month
[Learn more](#)



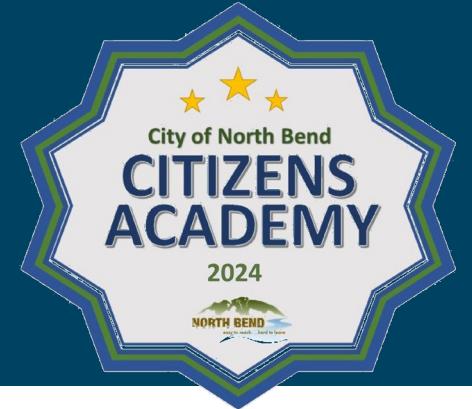
Kindness Month
[Learn more](#)



It's A Wonderful Life, a VCS play
[Learn more](#)

What Citizens Academy has to offer

- City history
- Operations
- Records, law, public information
- Parks, Planning, Economic Development commissions
- Land use, municipal code
- Fire & emergency management
- Police services
- Finance and budgeting
- Public Works, infrastructure
- Wastewater Treatment Plant tour
- Local parks tour and discussion with Si View Metro Parks



Applications to open soon for 2024 North Bend Citizens Academy

Are you interested in learning about how your local government works here in the City of North Bend? Want to learn about opportunities to become more involved, while connecting with City leaders, staff, and other civic-minded people?

If so, please consider applying for the 2023 North Bend Citizens Academy. The Citizens Academy is a two-month interactive course designed to provide an in-depth look into city operations. It will be held weekly, from February 5 to April 1, 2024, with a recognition ceremony on April 8.

This free program will open to locals who are 16 years and older. Class size is limited to the first 18 residents. The application process will open soon! Please visit the [Citizens Academy webpage](#) at www.northbendwa.gov to follow updates and download your application as soon as it is available. To stay up to date on this subject and more, sign up for "Notify Me," a free, online subscription tool featured on the City's website, at www.northbendwa.gov/list.



2023 Citizens Academy graduates were honored at the March 21 City Council meeting, with councilmembers and Mayor McFarland.

City welcomes new staff to the team: Community and Economic Development

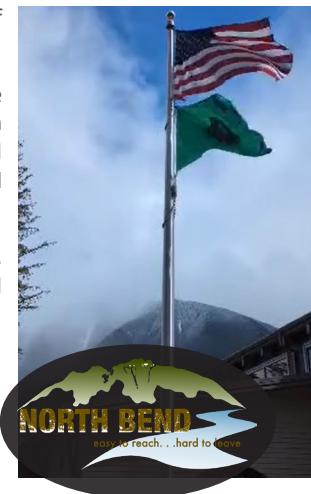
The City of North Bend recently welcomed three new staff to their team.

Becky Adams is the City's new Utilities Coordinator. She joined the team on August 28, and brings with her an extensive background in accounting and billing. A local mom of four, Becky is very familiar with valley sports as well - football and softball are among her favorites.

As a resident, Becky loves North Bend's outdoor beauty, "being able to look in every direction and being surrounded by nature," she said.

James Henderson joined as the Economic Development Manager on September 5. His experience includes serving in economic development for the cities of San Antonio and Bellevue, as well as Snohomish County and the organization, Greater Seattle Partners, where he successfully wrote state and federal grants for economic development, and has served as a liaison to business associations and other nonprofits.

James enjoys mountaineering, backpacking, mountain biking, backcountry skiing, fly fishing, and gardening - much of which he does with his Newfoundland dog, Guinness. He also volunteers in local theater production



and likes seeing his wife perform on the stage and screen.

As a resident, James loves North Bend, "waking up every day and being in the mountains and the great vibe and generosity of the community," he says.

Drew Boutu joined the Finance Department on August 16 as the Interim Finance Director. Before coming to North Bend, he delivered high level finance work to the City of Snoqualmie for more than eight years, having earned multiple Employee Recognition Awards for his work. He also worked for the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Drew appreciates outdoor recreation, playing soccer and hiking. He enjoys attending his local church, and his energetic niece also keeps him active!

When exploring North Bend, Drew says he enjoys "exploring the shops downtown and meeting the people that make North Bend a special community."

Curious about employment opportunities at the City of North Bend? Keep an eye out for jobs by visiting our [Employment Opportunities webpage](#), on the City's website, at www.northbendwa.gov.

DEC 2

Santa Pancake Breakfast

[Learn more](#)

PANCAKES with SANTA

DEC 2

Holly Days Winter Festival

[Learn more](#)

A graphic showing a snowy town at night with lights and trees.

DEC

A Christmas Carol

[Learn more](#)

A graphic showing a snowy street at night with a lit street lamp.

DEC 2

Holiday Bazaar

[Learn more](#)

A graphic showing wrapped gifts.

Winter is coming...

As a gateway to the Cascades and sitting at elevations of 500 to 700 feet, North Bend is a mountain town with a shallow aquifer, and with that comes a distinct microclimate that can result in longer stretches of intense winter weather, and winter driving.

As temperatures cool down in North Bend, we are reminded that the return of winter weather will likely bring wind and snow to town.

One way to prepare for snow is to familiarize yourself with the City's 2023/2024 Snowplow Route Map. The map details Priority 1, 2, and 3 routes and priority access point locations.

Download your copy of the [Snowplow Route Map](#) by visiting the [Emergency Management webpage](#), located at www.northbendwa.gov.

CITY STREETS: The City does not use deicer/anti-icer on our roadways. This is because part of our drinking water supply is located beneath and adjacent to City roads. Additionally, there are numerous private drinking water wells situated throughout our valley area. We do not want to adversely impact your drinking water with chemicals and geo-melt products.

These products can also contaminate our environment. When used in large quantities, they can be harmful to fish and wildlife, and the general surrounding environment.

2023/24 FALL/WINTER FLOODPLAIN NEWS



Floods are the most common natural disaster in North Bend, and many properties have some risk of flooding. Being prepared now could not only save lives, but also reduce the emotional toll and property damages that may come with disaster. High water and flooding most commonly occur between the months of October and April. Heavy rainfall and rapid snowmelt can result in localized flooding.

One way to protect your home and family is to prepare before an emergency even happens. Learn more about flood protection by visiting [Flood Protection Information webpage](#), located at www.northbendwa.gov. Download your copy of this winter's Floodplain Newsletter [here](#).

The City does use a mixture of sand and salt on roadways during snow events, particularly on hilly areas like Forester Woods, some segments of priority 1 roads, roundabouts and intersections.



RECEIVE LOCAL ALERTS! SIGN UP FOR 'NOTIFY ME'

'Notify Me' is a free, online subscription tool featured on www.northbendwa.gov. The opt-in service allows you to subscribe to a range of topics, so that you can pick and choose subjects for notification that you care about most.

Get North Bend weather emergency notifications delivered to your cell phone or inbox by selecting the "Basic Alerts and Emergency Alerts" topic.

KING COUNTY ALERT SYSTEM



ALERT King County is a public information and emergency notification system that can reach you on any device. By registering your physical address, email address, and/or phone number, you can get important information delivered to your device - you choose how you want to receive alerts.

The City of North Bend encourages everyone to register for ALERT to receive important information about significant local events or emergency situations via telephone, text and email. Sign up for ALERT by visiting www.kingcounty.gov, and selecting "subscribe to ALERT King County."

QUESTIONS? LET'S CONNECT!



When a disaster threatens or strikes, the City is committed to providing timely and efficient emergency services to its residents. When necessary, the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated to serve as central location for public information and coordination and response of recovery activities.

Have questions? Here are a few resources:

- Emergency weather condition questions: Email EM@northbendwa.gov
- After hours public works emergencies, such flooding: (425) 888-0486
- Non-emergency police: (425) 888-3333
- Stop by City Hall and connect in person! We are located at 920 SE Cedar Falls Way