



GRESHAM

FALL 2024

A NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS

Housing for All

"Your professionalism helped me get out of a crisis I was facing with my family." — Resident

The City is working to help open doors.

"Gresham believes that part of a thriving community is creating a variety of housing opportunities for all," said City Manager Eric Schmidt.

We understand it's tough out there. Cost is a big hurdle for people community wide. Others find the down payment a problem. There is a lack of small housing and units accessible to people with disabilities.

That is why Housing for All is a Gresham Strategic Plan priority. The goal is to identify how the City can better support all community members in finding and staying in housing.

But the heart comes from opening those doors.

♥ "I appreciate all that you've done for us. Moving into my own apartment gets me my time back with my daughter and that means the world to me." – Resident

♥ "Thank you so much for getting me back on my feet. You literally saved my life." – Resident



Affordable rent: The nearly finished AVIVA Apartments viewed from inside Neo Cafe at the Downtown Rockwood redevelopment.

♥ "I am very thankful and grateful and know I couldn't have gotten here without you." – Resident

What the City is doing

The City is focusing on the complex topic of housing from several perspectives.

- Collaborating with partners to provide resources to the housing insecure.

- Supporting all types of affordable housing development.

- Helping the community by offering tools and resources for stable housing.

For resources, see *Housing help*, below. Plus, *Help for homeowners*, Page 2, and *Homeless Services increases outreach*, Page 3.

Learn more about Housing for All at GreshamOregon.gov/Strategic-Plan.

Gresham is expected to grow by another 6,229 households by 2041. See *Housing production strategy*, Page 2.



The goal

Everyone in Gresham can live in a secure and reliable place they call home, and no one experiences housing uncertainty. All Gresham community members can access housing that meets their changing needs and wants.

Housing for All accomplishments

🏠 Approved two homeownership projects funded by the Metro affordable housing bond; one more rental project expected to close in 2025.

🏠 Helped over 70 households experiencing homelessness with 3-12 months of rent assistance using new funds from Multnomah County's Supportive Housing Services and Oregon All In Funding.

🏠 Built new community partnerships; referred 180 cases to new partner Bienestar de la Familia since July 2023.

More accomplishments, Page 2.



Lauren Moran, the City's housing resources coordinator.

Housing help connects residents to resources and services

Lauren Moran is the City's housing resources coordinator.

This is great news for residents.

"It's complicated sometimes, knowing what resources are out there," said Jessica Harper, Community Services Manager. "Lauren's role is to help narrow that down for you and steer you in the right direction."

The housing resources coordinator can assist with:

- Emergency rent and utilities help.
- Homeownership down payments.
- Fair housing laws, tenant rights.
- Landlord/tenant mediation.

- Eviction help.
- Rental housing inspections and complaints.

- Emergency repairs, accessibility modifications/upgrades.

Please note: Moran does not place people in housing. As housing resources coordinator, she connects people to vital housing services and resources.

To reach the housing services coordinator, email Housing@GreshamOregon.gov or call 503-618-2721.

For housing resources, visit GreshamOregon.gov/Housing.



Affordable homeownership: Habitat for Humanity to develop 20 townhomes in Rockwood with funds from Gresham's share of the Metro housing bond. State Rep. Zach Hudson speaks at the July kickoff.

- GreshamOregon.gov
- Facebook.com/CityofGresham
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Help for homebuyers

The City's WELCOME HOME program offers down-payment assistance loans up to \$40,000 for first-time homebuyers whose incomes qualify.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funds the interest-free loans.

Household qualifications

- First-time homebuyer or haven't owned a home in three years.
- Will live in the home as the primary residence.
- Are buying a home in Gresham with a sale price of no more than \$489,000.
- Qualify for a 1st mortgage with a lender.
- Make 80 percent or less of the federal annual median income. Example: A household with two adults and two children earning \$94,400 or less.

Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/Welcome-Home. Or call 503-618-2814.

If you're ready to apply, contact the Portland Housing Center at 503-282-7744.

Housing production strategy

The state requires the City to have a housing production strategy. This is a six-year plan that guides housing policy to support housing development at affordable prices for the Gresham community.

A citywide study looked at how many and what kinds of housing Gresham will need based on its population and trends.

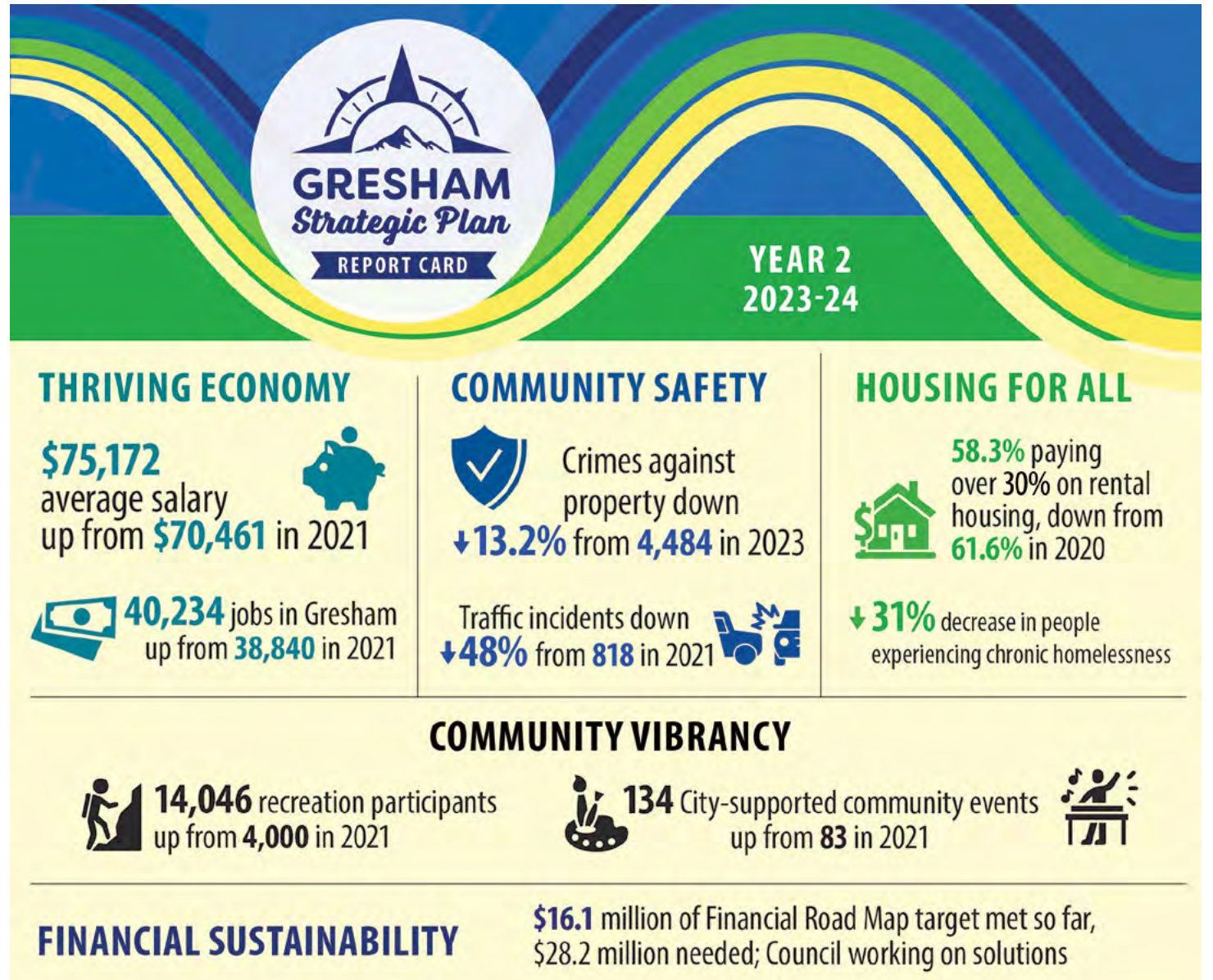
Gresham needs more housing

- Gresham, like the rest of the state, has not built enough homes to meet demand in recent years.
- The city is expected to grow by another 6,229 households by 2041.
- Housing is not affordable for many of Gresham's residents.

Housing production strategies

- Explore and reduce barriers for affordable homeownership models.
- Reduce zoning barriers for housing development.
- Simplify the permit process for all types of housing.

Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/Housing-Production-Strategy or call 503-618-2082.



Source: Strategic Plan Performance Dashboard

Making moves: Gresham's vision takes shape

The City is pleased to announce the second year of Strategic Plan work is complete, moving Gresham toward the vision of a safe, thriving and welcoming community for all.

Adopted in August 2022, the three-year Gresham Strategic Plan is the blueprint that defines the community's desires for the future.

The plan focuses the City's resources on the community's top priorities: Community Safety, Thriving Economy, Financial Sustainability, Housing for All and Community Vibrancy.

See highlights from the first year in the Strategic Plan Report Card, above. To learn more, visit GreshamOregon.gov/Strategic-Plan

Track our progress

Community members can follow the City's work.

- **Explore** the Strategic Plan Performance Dashboard.
- **Read** the Year End Report and Year Three Action Plan.

Council sends two City Charter amendments to voters

The Gresham City Council has decided to put two important amendments to the City Charter on the ballot for Gresham voters to decide this November.

Here's what you need to know:

► Updating Urban Renewal rules

Right now, the language in Gresham's City Charter about urban renewal is one of the most restrictive in Oregon. Even small changes require voter approval. This amendment would bring the Charter in line with existing state law, giving the City Council more flexibility to manage new and

ongoing urban renewal plans in a timely manner.

Residents would still have a say in establishing any new urban renewal plans or making any substantial changes to an existing plan. If passed, this amendment would not raise taxes, nor would it authorize the creation of a new tax.

► Changing the voting threshold for Charter changes

Currently, changing the City Charter requires 60% of voters to say "yes." This amendment would lower that requirement to a simple majority – meaning more than half

of the votes cast. This change would make Gresham's process consistent with the Oregon Constitution and other cities across the state.

The City Charter, which was created in 1978, requires a review every eight years by a Charter Review Committee.

The City is thankful for the time and effort the committee has put into this recent review to benefit all Gresham residents.

For more details on the ballot measures, visit GreshamOregon.gov/Elections or contact the City Attorney's Office at 503-618-2506.

Police and Community Together

Gresham Police are getting to know the community better and sharing safety information.

Police and Community Together (PACT) represents the Police Department's commitment to strengthening relationships in the community.

"We believe a connected community is essential for safety," said Police Chief Travis Gullberg. "Building and nurturing these connections is a top priority for us."

Fall workshop

Police and Community Together workshops are an opportunity for community members to talk in person with police officers, share concerns and work together

on solutions.

Register for a free PACT event and gain the knowledge and tools to stay safe and connected.



► Neighborhood Crime Prevention

Learn ways to safeguard your neighborhood and what neighbors can do together to prevent crime.

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 16

Time: 6:30-8 p.m.

Location: Council Chambers, 1333 Eastman Parkway

How to register

Online at

GreshamCommunity.MyAbsorb or call 503-618-3202.

Gresham Police Newsletter

Sign up for Gresham Police's new community safety e-newsletter. It highlights our work in the community, ways to connect, tips for staying safe, and interesting stories and profiles.



Subscribe at bit.ly/police-newsletter or scan this QR code with your phone.

News Brief

Coalition Forum for Gresham City Council Candidates

Join the Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations for a forum to hear from candidates in this November's Gresham City Council races.

The online forum is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17, via Zoom.

All candidates in the races were invited to the forum. The candidates who agreed to participate are:

Council Position 2: Kayla Brown and Jack Hollis

Council Position 4: Cathy Keathley and Jacquenette McIntire

Council Position 6: Sue Piazza and Tim Youker

The forum's Zoom link is posted on GreshamOregon.gov/Neighborhood-Coalition.

For more information, email Coalition Co-Presidents Carol Rulla and Jim Buck at GreshamNeighborhoodCoalition@gmail.com.



Community Safety Specialist Zachary Jefferis and Gresham Police Sgt. Van Beek share a laugh with a community member during summer's Yamhill Block Party.



Police Officer John Sayson shows children at Gresham's Night Out how drones help officers keep the community safe.

Homeless Services update

Great news: Homeless Services is expanding its outreach. Multnomah County leadership added \$600,000 in new funding to Gresham's program in July.

"It's a big deal," said Jessica Harper, Community Services Manager. "This doubles our funding, so we can hire two more staff and be able to help more than twice as many families experiencing homelessness move into permanent housing and stability."

Gresham will get \$1,192,180 from the Joint Office of Homeless Services for homeless services in 2024-25.

This allows the City to cover extra weekend hours for outreach and do more case management, housing placement with rent assistance, and retention.

This year, Homeless Services served over 250 people experiencing homelessness with outreach services. This includes help with basic needs (food, clothing); placement in a shelter; referrals to services; and getting the necessary ID for employment or housing.

"Multnomah County making this investment in our program means that we don't have to ask Gresham taxpayers for more," Harper said.

"The City will help people quickly with this money, and we'll continue advocating Gresham gets this money and more every year."

Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/Homeless-Services or call 503-618-2441.



A place to call home: Willie Shaw, Homeless Services, and Lauren Moran, Housing Services, visit with a family placed in permanent housing. Rent assistance is paid for by Metro's Supportive Housing Services fund.



INSIDE CITY HALL

Mayor
Travis Stovall 503-618-2584

City Council Office 503-618-2871

City Council

Sue Piazza, Council President

Dina DiNucci

Janine Gladfelter

Jerry Hinton

Vince Jones-Dixon

Eddy Morales

Abandoned Vehicle Reporting 503-618-2248

Animal Services (Multnomah County) 503-988-7387

Building Permits 503-618-2845

Business Licenses 503-618-2370

Code Compliance 503-618-2248

East County Resolutions 503-618-3247

Fire/Police Non-Emergency 503-823-3333

Garbage/Recycling 503-618-2525

Housing Resources Coordinator 503-618-2721

Parks 503-618-2626

Planner on Duty 503-618-2780

Small Business Center 503-618-2640

Utility Billing 503-618-2373

City of Gresham 503-618-3000
1333 NW Eastman Parkway
Gresham, OR 97030

Pay a City bill online
GreshamOregon.gov/Pay-Your-Bill-Online

In-person customer service hours

Building on Duty
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Business Licenses
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Permit Services
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Planner on Duty
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Utility Billing
Monday-Wednesday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Thursday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

City Hall is virtually open for all services, online or by phone, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

GRESHAM is produced quarterly by the City of Gresham for its residents.

Questions, comments and suggestions should be directed to Sarah Cagann at 503-793-4167, or Sarah.Cagann@GreshamOregon.gov.

Issues are available for viewing at GreshamOregon.gov/City-Publications

The information in this newsletter is current as of the publication date. Call the City at 503-618-3000 to verify meeting dates and status of events, or visit GreshamOregon.gov/Events

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Fall festivities: upcoming events



Fall Recycling and Shredding Day

Saturday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m.-noon

Gresham City Hall

Free, Gresham/Wood Village residents

What we're collecting

► **Sensitive documents and papers** for shredding. Limit: two grocery-size paper bags per vehicle. Examples: credit card and bank statements.

► **Plastic bags and wrap.** Clean, dry, no food residue. Must be stretchy plastic.

► **Clear plastic "clamshells."** Berry, lettuce containers, etc. Clean and dry only. Must have #1 on container to be accepted. Not accepted: Mixed materials in the same bag. Styrofoam™ packing peanuts or squishy foam.

Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/Shred or call 503-618-2525.



Indigenous Arts Festival

Saturday/Sunday, Oct. 5-6, Noon-4 p.m.

Gresham History Museum

Free, all ages

► Featuring an art fair, musical performance, storytelling and an artist talk.

► Noon – 4 p.m. Indigenous Marketplace pop-up; browse artist stalls; make crafts.

► Noon – Drum and Dance with Turquoise Pride

► 2 p.m. – Storytelling with Savahna Jackson.

► 3 p.m. – Woodcarving talk with Nick Labonte (Chinook)

In partnership with Gresham Outdoor Public Art and Portland Indigenous Marketplace.

Learn more at GreshamHistorical.org or call 503-661-0347.



Safe Trick or Treat

Thursday, Oct. 31, 4 - 6 p.m.

Historic Downtown, free, all ages

► Safe trick or treating along Main Avenue, rain or shine.

► Many business owners hand out candy for trick-or-treaters in costume.

► Harvest Festival, 5-8 p.m., East Hill Church Family. Free hot dogs, carnival games, etc.

► Día de los Muertos, Friday, Nov. 1, 5-8 p.m., Arts Plaza. Celebrate Day of the Dead with live music and more.

Learn more about activities downtown at historicdowntowngresham.org and spiritofgresham.org.



Repair Cafe and Clothing Swap

Saturday, Nov. 9 • 10 a.m.-1 p.m.*

The Rockwood Center, 17805 SE Stark St.

*Check in repair items by noon

Free, all ages

What we're fixing and swapping

► Fixing: Torn clothing, fabric repairs, small appliances, jewelry, and garden hand tool sharpening. **Not repairable:** bikes, sewing machines, TVs, electronics, microwaves, fine jewelry, small engines.

► Coats and winter gear swap. "Shop" for previously loved clothes and bring some to share with others. Clothing donation or Repair Cafe participation isn't required to shop. Bring your own bag.

► Fixers wanted. Help others fix broken items. If you'd like to share your skills, email repaircafegresham@gmail.com. Hosted by the Neighborhood Coalition, Gresham Free Swaps, and City of Gresham.

Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/Repair-Cafe or call 503-618-2525.



International Cybersecurity Day

Saturday, Nov. 30

Join us for events raising awareness about cybersecurity and protecting our digital lives.

► FBI Talk

November
Gresham City Hall, free

Engage with experts and hear about the latest cyber threats and how to stay ahead of them.

For date, time and details, visit GreshamOregon.gov/Events.

► Cybersecurity Discussion Panel

Thursday, Nov. 21
6 p.m., Gresham City Hall, free

Learn practical tips to safeguard your personal information and keep your family and business secure online.

Panel experts include:

• Jeff Baer, Chief Technology Officer, City of Portland

"Our City is deeply invested in the well-being of our community. We recognize that cybersecurity is not just a technical issue but a matter of public safety and trust. Join us in November to learn, engage and contribute to a safer digital future for our community."

— **Jose Rodriguez, Director Information Technology**

• Brett Scott, IT Applications Security Analyst, Multnomah County

• Jose Rodriguez, IT Director, City of Gresham

• Adam Wright, Detective, Gresham Police Department

Hosted by the City of Gresham Information Technology Department.



Follow @CityofGresham on Instagram. We feature upcoming City events, videos, news and photos of the people and places that make up the heart of our city.

Safe Routes to School: No detours on safety

The City's Safe Routes to School program gets kids and families walking, biking, and rolling to and from school.

"We advocate for safer streets through programs and construction projects," said Carly Rice, Planner. "We also support our communities by providing fun ways to get outside." See *Walk + Roll to School Day*.

Safe Routes to Schools highlights

New safe infrastructure

- Davis Elementary new sidewalk and enhanced crossings.
- Meadows Elementary new sidewalk.
- School zone flashers at 3 schools.

School events

"We've been doing lots of fun Safe Routes to School stuff in East County this year," Rice said. "With support from our partners at Multnomah County and bike works by p:ear."

- Pedestrian education at 17 schools, reaching 5,500 students.
- Bicycle education at 2 schools,



Left: Kids at Davis Elementary School use new, safer crossings and sidewalks built over the summer with support from Safe Routes to School. Right: Walking to school at Davis Elementary.



reaching 25 students.

- Scooter education at 2 schools, reaching 65 students.
- A new East County bike fleet! Providing bikes for kids to use for bike education.
- Walk + Roll to School Days at 5 schools.

To ask about Safe Routes to School at your school, contact Carly Rice, 503-618-2818. Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/Safe-Routes-to-School.

National Walk + Roll to School Day

Wednesday, Oct. 9, all ages

- ▶ This event promotes walking, biking, and rolling to school, encouraging students and families to travel this way more often.
- ▶ Schools may celebrate any day in October that best fits their schedules. Call Carly Rice to get started, 503-618-2818.



Fall recreation classes



Gresham Parks and Recreation partners with PlayEast! to offer youth recreation in Gresham for a fee.

Sporty spotlight

Just 4 Kicks Soccer
Dates: Oct. 29-Dec. 3
Place: Hall Elementary School gym

- ▶ Ages 2-3, Tuesdays, 4-4:30 p.m., \$65
- ▶ Ages 4-6, Tuesdays, 4:40-5:15 p.m., \$70
- ▶ Ages 7-11, Tuesdays, 5:25-6:10 p.m., \$70

Register for classes

Gresham residents may register for any class or activity.

Classes are fee-based, but scholarships are available for those in need. Call PlayEast! at 503-674-6202.

For a complete list of activities, classes, descriptions, and updates, visit playeast.org.

Register online or scan the QR code with your phone's camera.



Future groundwater system designed for emergencies

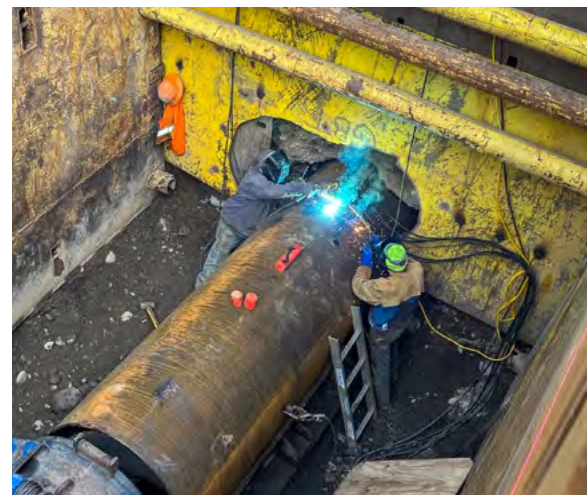
Gresham's groundwater system expansion will give the community a stronger water supply during earthquakes, severe weather, climate change, and other emergencies.

The Cascade Groundwater Alliance (CGA) is on track to complete the project in East Multnomah County by 2026. The CGA is a partnership between the City of Gresham and Rockwood People's Utility District.

"Emergency preparedness is a top priority for the new system," said Mike Whiteley, Water Public Works Manager.

The pipelines and reservoirs are designed to withstand earthquakes and other emergencies to reduce damage.

"This will help restore water service quickly after an emergency so



Groundwater pipeline construction under SE Burnside Road.

the community can recover faster," Whiteley added.

Water system emergency benefits

- ▶ The new system will use water from the Sand and Gravel Aquifer, which is deep and protected.
- ▶ The aquifer provides a reliable groundwater supply that can handle severe storms, flooding, droughts, wildfires, and other extreme situations.
- ▶ The joint groundwater system will



add more water sources, reducing reliance on one source and helping us respond better in emergencies.

▶ The community will have safe and reliable water from the new system for generations.

Customers will also benefit from smaller rate increases and more consistent water quality. Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/Cascade-Groundwater-Alliance or call 503-618-2525.



Eric Schmidt named City Manager

Congratulations to Eric Schmidt, who was appointed City Manager by the City Council in June.

Schmidt is a longtime employee who knows the staff, budget and inner workings of the City.

The City Manager manages the day-to-day operations of the city and carries out Council policy direction.

Appointed by a unanimous vote, Schmidt replaces City Manager Nina Vetter, who resigned in 2023.

"Eric has consistently demonstrated his dedication to our community and his capability to manage our City's complex needs," said Gresham Mayor Travis Stovall. "His experience makes him an excellent choice to guide Gresham forward, and we are fortunate to have his leadership."

Hired in 1998, he brings over 26 years of public service working for Gresham's residents and businesses, including:

- Assistant City Manager
- Community and Economic Development department director
- City's Small Business Center
- Rental Housing Inspection Program
- Garage to Storefront Incentive Program
- COVID-19 pandemic leadership
- Budget planning

His priorities include achieving the community and Council's vision in Gresham's Strategic Plan and Financial Road Map.

"I am grateful to serve this wonderful community, and I am eager to collaborate closely with the Mayor and City Council, our employees, residents, and businesses while implementing our City's strategic priorities," Schmidt said.

For more information, contact the City Manager's Office at 503-618-2171.

Sidewalks and the City

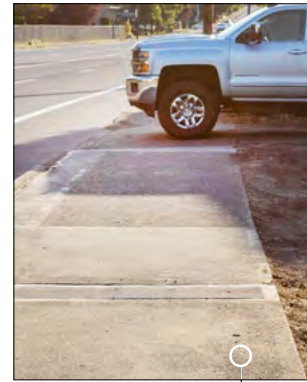
Parking and code reminders to keep you and your neighbors safe



Branches blocking



Improper parking



Vehicle blocking

Usi walks 5 miles a day in her neighborhood. What's meant to be enjoyable, she says, sometimes feels unsafe.

We want Gresham's public spaces, such as pedestrian walkways, to be clean and safe.

It's a safety issue when vehicles are parked blocking sidewalks, vegetation covers sidewalks, or sidewalks are in disrepair.

Did you know?

- The City has codes that state sidewalks must not be blocked by vehicles, tree branches or vegetation.
- Community members are responsible for keeping sidewalks next to their property clear and in good repair.

- Sidewalks must be free of debris like pine needles, spoiled fruit, pits, and landscaping.
- Trees must be trimmed 8-feet high over sidewalks, so walkers don't have to duck.
- Sidewalks cannot be blocked by either personal or repair vehicles. The only exception is while loading or unloading heavy items. The vehicle must be moved afterward.

With shorter days and fall cleanup in full swing, this is a great time to walk your property and make adjustments.

Questions about how to keep your sidewalks, parking or vegetation in compliance? Email us at CodeEnforcement@GreshamOregon.gov or call 503-618-2248.



My Gresham: Report an issue

If you see something amiss, whether it's a pothole, graffiti, or an abandoned car, easily tell us using My Gresham, our reporting tool. It allows community members to quickly ask a question or send a non-urgent request by mobile app, website, or phone. Ask Police a non-emergency question.

The City has managed over 56,900 requests and more than 9,478 residents have used the service at least once.

Abandoned vehicles continue to be the most reported issue.

Download the mobile app for free from the Apple App Store and Google Play or report an issue online at [GreshamOregon.gov/My-Gresham](https://www.gresham-oregon.gov/My-Gresham).

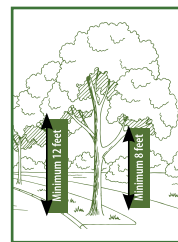


Neighborhood Reminders

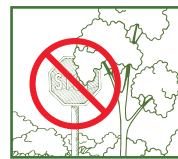
Trees, bushes, landscaping

Property owners handle all vegetation in their yards and planter strips next to the street. Vegetation must be less than 10 inches tall for grass, weeds, blackberries, etc.

How to keep your home's vegetation in compliance with City codes.



Hanging over the street? Trim dangling branches at least 12 feet above the street and 8 feet above the sidewalk.



Blocked signs? Make sure your property's vegetation is not blocking traffic signs, signals, streetlights, or street signs.



Vegetation covering sidewalk? Vegetation/shrubs/trees can't block the sidewalk or street.



Keep the edges of all vegetation trimmed flush with the edge of the sidewalk and curb.

Contact the City before working on your trees

Questions about tree removal or pruning on your property? We're happy to provide guidance about the regulations for your specific property. Contact the Planner on Duty at POD@GreshamOregon.gov or 503-618-2780. Make sure to give your address and question. For more information, visit [GreshamOregon.gov/Trees](https://www.gresham-oregon.gov/Trees).

Parking the RV on your street

If you need to park an RV on your street for an extended period, or have guests bringing their RV to visit, make sure to register for a free, 72-hour parking permit.

You don't need a permit if you are parking the RV on the street for loading or unloading.

Learn more at [GreshamOregon.gov/RV-Parking-](https://www.gresham-oregon.gov/RV-Parking-)

Permits or call 503-618-2248.

Parking reminders

Help us keep roads and sidewalks safe by avoiding these parking hazards.

Cars: Must move after 72 hours if parked other than where registered.

Box trucks and trailers: May only park in the street for immediate loading/unloading.

Boats: No parking in the street after 24 hours.

Bike lanes: No parking in a designated bike lane.

Driveways: No parking that blocks someone else's driveway.

Mailboxes: No parking within 10 feet of a mailbox.

Sidewalks: No parking on the sidewalk.

Wrong-way-parking: No parking opposite the direction of travel.

Nose-in cul-de-sac parking: No parking at an angle more than 12 inches from the curb.

Fall clean-up

Along with pumpkin spice comes “a latte” fall leaves, yard debris and rain. Follow City guidelines to keep your neighborhood safe and livable.

Leaves and City code

Leaf blowing or raking leaves onto the street is a violation of City code. Leaves dumped in the street clog the City’s stormwater drainage system.

Help us keep it clean

Only green vegetation that grows in your yard goes in the yard debris cart. No pet poop, cat litter, plastic, painted or treated wood, stumps, large limbs, sod, rocks, glass, or garbage.

Fall storm drain cleaning for parking lots

Parking lot drains should be cleaned yearly to prevent flooding and reduce water pollution. Our fall discount program is \$55 per drain. Sign up by Oct. 31 at GreshamOregon.gov/SCAP or call 503-618-2522.

Fall lawn care

Fall is the best time to invest in your lawn’s health. Consider aerating and

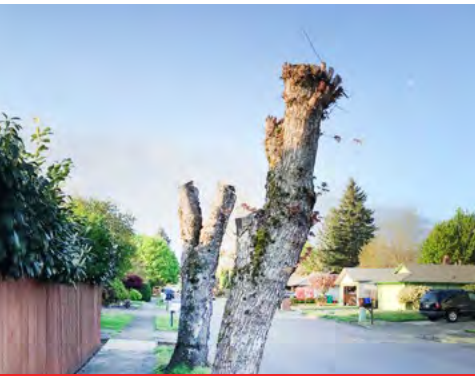


You can help this fall: leaf disposal, branch trimming, yard debris, storm drain clearing.

removing thatch, if needed. Experts recommend applying grass seed over your entire lawn to create a density that keeps out weeds without harmful chemicals. Learn more at LevelUpLawn.org.

Avoid flooding

Rake your storm drains free of leaves and debris. Watch for blocked drains



This is tree topping, a violation of City code.



in your neighborhood and help keep them clear.

No bad tree haircuts

Cutting the top or all the branches off a tree is “topping.” The City considers this an unpermitted tree removal. Topping can cause trees to die or regrow in dangerous ways.

Backyard burning banned

Gresham no longer allows backyard burning. If your property is larger than 1 acre in size, you can apply for an Open Burn Permit on our website.

The ban is meant to keep air healthy to breathe, per the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The backyard burn ban includes all houses and properties within Gresham city limits.

Barbecues, smokers and fire pits are still allowed.

Firewood is the only material allowed to burn in an outdoor fireplace or firepit. Residents may not burn yard clippings, garbage, plastic, construction materials, rubber or any material that produces dense smoke in a fireplace or fire pit.

Recycling debris

The City’s yard debris collection program offers weekly pickup. Other disposal options include hauling yard debris to a local green waste facility, hiring landscape maintenance, or composting.

Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/Outdoor-Burning.

Free compost depot

Composting what can’t be eaten helps reduce food waste

The City has a free community compost drop-off location for residents who want to drop off food scraps.

If you have a compost bin at your home, business, or apartment building, make sure to get all your peels, eggshells, and plate scrapings into the compost instead of the trash.

In addition to providing nutrient-rich fertilizer, composting food waste also reduces harmful greenhouse gases.

When you throw food in the garbage, it goes to the landfill where it creates methane gas, which worsens the climate crisis. Composting your food waste is better for the environment.

How to participate: Visit GreshamOregon.gov/Compost and register to get instructions. For more information, call Environmental Services, 503-618-2525.



City employee Jill Bradley delivers food waste to the free community compost depot.

Donate extra food before it goes bad

Is your pantry overflowing with more food than you know what to do with? Do you have excess food from a business event? Don't let that food go to waste!

Donate your extra or unwanted packaged food to Birch Community Services or SnowCap Community Charities.



Don't blow it ...

Leaves left in the street create slip hazards, flooding, blocked drains and deteriorated pavement. Help us avoid these leafy problems at home.

• Place leaves in the weekly yard debris cart

included with your garbage service.

• Compost leaves at home.

• Set an extra bag out at the curb

for an extra \$4.43 each.

• Mulch leaves with a lawnmower or leaf blower and spread the mixture over flowerbeds and gardens for winter.

• Self-haul to Allwood Recyclers, 22800 NE Marine Drive. Other facilities? Call Metro, 503-234-3000.

More tips: GreshamOregon.gov/Fall-Preparedness.



GET INVOLVED IN GRESHAM

City Calendar

OCTOBER

5 Fall Recycling and Shredding Day, 9 a.m.-noon, City Hall, GreshamOregon.gov/Shred

5-7 Indigenous Arts Festival, noon-4 p.m., Gresham History Museum, greshamhistorical.org

11 Friday Night Basketball, Grades 6-8, 6-8 p.m.; Grades 9-12, 8-10 p.m., H.B. Lee Middle School, GreshamOregon.gov/Basketball

12 Gresham Farmers' Market, (Saturdays through October), 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Arts Plaza,

greshamfarmersmarket.com

17 Third Thursday, 5:30-8:30 p.m., historic downtown, activities, historicdowntowngresham.org

19 Wag-N-Walk, 10 a.m., Pat Pfeifer Park, GreshamOregon.gov/Wag-N-Walk

20 Rockwood Market Hall Music Series, 4-7 p.m., Downtown Rockwood, rockwoodmarkethall.com

31 Safe Trick or Treat, 4-6 p.m., Main Avenue, Halloween activities, historicdowntowngresham.org

NOVEMBER

1 Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), 5-8 p.m., Arts Plaza, spiritofgresham.org

6 Wag-N-Walk, 4 p.m., Main City Park, GreshamOregon.gov/Wag-N-Walk

9 Repair Cafe and Clothing Swap, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Rockwood Center, GreshamOregon.gov/Events

11 Veterans Day observed, City Hall closed

17 Rockwood Market Hall Music Series, 4-7 p.m., Downtown

Rockwood, rockwoodmarkethall.com

21 Cybersecurity Discussion Panel, 6 p.m., City Hall, GreshamOregon.gov/Events

21 Third Thursday, 5:30-8:30 p.m., historic downtown, activities, historicdowntowngresham.org

28 Thanksgiving, City Hall closed

29 Metro Free Parks Day, oregonmetro.gov

DECEMBER

4 Wag-N-Walk, 4 p.m., Bella Vista

Park, GreshamOregon.gov/Wag-N-Walk

7 Spirit of Christmas, part of Spirit of the Holidays, features a North Pole in historic downtown, holiday light cruise and community tree lighting, spiritofgresham.org.

Spirit of the Holidays includes a menorah lighting and Lunar New Year events in December. For dates, times and details, visit spiritofgresham.org.

19 Third Thursday, 5:30-8:30 p.m., historic downtown, activities, historicdowntowngresham.org

Community Climbing Days

Scale new heights

Wednesdays Oct. 16, Nov. 6, 20; Dec. 4, 18
9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Gresham residents of all ages can climb for free at Rock Haven Climbing Gym on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

Free Teen Climbing Nights are the first and third Saturdays of the month from 6-9 p.m.

Includes a day pass and climbing shoes. All participants must sign a waiver. Children under 18 need a guardian's signature.

Register at rockhavenclimbing.com/first-visit.

Sponsored by Gresham Parks and Recreation.



Saturday Night Basketball

Free game play for youth

Saturday nights, 8 p.m.-midnight

Friends of the Children gym

Attend free basketball practice, learn new skills, make new friends and play ball. Adult supervision is provided.

Grades 6-8 play from 8-10 p.m.
Grades 9-12 play from 10 p.m.-midnight.

A signed waiver is required; visit GreshamOregon.gov/Basketball.

Sponsored by Gresham Parks and Recreation.



Wag-N-Walk

Free walks for dog owners

Explore Gresham parks with Hounding Around.

Saturday, Oct. 19
Pat Pfeifer Park, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 6
Main City Park, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 4
Bella Vista Park, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 21
Red Sunset Park, 10 a.m.

Sign the waiver at GreshamOregon.gov/Wag-N-Walk.

Sponsored by Gresham Parks and Recreation.



Visit GreshamOregon.gov/Events for a complete list.

Neighborhood Association Information

Meetings may be virtual or in-person. See neighborhood meeting agendas posted at GreshamOregon.gov/Neighborhoods.

CENTENNIAL

Mary Edmeades, President
centennialhood@gmail.com

CENTRAL CITY

For more information:
NeighborhoodServices@GreshamOregon.gov

GRESHAM BUTTE

Stephen Estes, President
greshambutte@gmail.com
Second Wednesdays from Sept.-May, 7 p.m.

GRESHAM PLEASANT VALLEY

Richard Barker, President
714-264-1752
GreshamPleasantValleyNA@gmail.com

HISTORIC SOUTHEAST

For more information:
NeighborhoodServices@GreshamOregon.gov

HOGAN CEDARS

For more information:
NeighborhoodServices@GreshamOregon.gov

HOLLYBROOK

For more information:
NeighborhoodServices@GreshamOregon.gov

KELLY CREEK

Charles Teem, President
503-663-5066 or
KellyCreekNA@gmail.com
Nov. 13, 7 p.m.

NORTH CENTRAL

For more information:
NeighborhoodServices@GreshamOregon.gov

NORTH GRESHAM

For more information:
NeighborhoodServices@GreshamOregon.gov

NORTHEAST

For more information:
NeighborhoodServices@GreshamOregon.gov

NORTHWEST

Kat Todd, President
trevkat@hotmail.com
or President@nwnaGresham.org
Oct. 21, 7 p.m.

POWELL VALLEY

Nancy Inglehart, President
powellvalleyna@gmail.com

ROCKWOOD

Catherine Nicewood, President
503-285-6587 or
rockwoodpresident@gmail.com
Third Mondays of Nov., March, June, 6 p.m.
Rockwood Village Community Center, 783 SE 185th Ave.

SOUTHWEST

Kathy Gardenhire, President
503-661-6554 or kg6554@frontier.com
Oct 17, 7 p.m.

WILKES EAST

Kris Freiermuth, President
503-709-9564 or
lkfreiermuth@gmail.com
www.wilkeseastna.org
Second Mondays of Nov., March, Aug.
Nov. 11, 7 p.m.
Moose Lodge,
16411 NE Halsey St.

COALITION OF GRESHAM NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

Carol Rulla, Co-President,
503-707-2921
Jim Buck, Co-President,
503-830-2344
GreshamNeighborhoodCoalition@gmail.com
Monthly, every second Tuesday, 7 p.m.

Call the Neighborhoods office at 503-618-2482 or visit GreshamOregon.gov/Neighborhoods.



Reindeer in Rockwood

North Pole magic in Gresham

Friday, Dec. 20 • 4-7 p.m.

Rockwood Market Hall

Free, all ages

► A fun holiday event for families.

► Meet Santa's reindeer before they go on their journey.

► Enjoy festive treats and share your holiday wish list with Santa.

Hosted by Gresham Parks and Recreation.