



GP NOW

Where the Rogue River Runs



We could not have the great community we enjoy without the active participation from our volunteers. Volunteers are essential to the success of the City of Grants Pass and we count on them to help guide our City. We have always been sustained and strengthened by the willingness of our residents to work for the common good and plan for the future.

The Mayor's Volunteer Program provides an opportunity for community members to be acknowledged for their efforts in making this community great. Citizens and groups can be nominated to receive the Volunteer of the Year Award and Volunteer Group of the Year Award. High school seniors, within the City limits, may apply for the Mayor's Future Citizen of the Year Scholarship Award. Applications are reviewed by a committee appointed by the Mayor. The winners will be acknowledged at the annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner in July.

Mayor Fowler is currently accepting nominations for these awards. Please contact the City Recorder at 541-450-6010 for an application.



Last year's Volunteer Group of the Year award winners with Mayor Fowler



Volunteer of the Year

This award is given to an individual for making a broad and substantial impact on our community. It recognizes an individual's leadership in promoting non-profit causes and organizations. Recognition will be given for leadership and performance for work above and beyond his/her paid profession. Applications will be evaluated in the following areas: Demonstrating exceptional commitment to volunteerism by helping with a special project or ongoing activities; exemplary leadership, creativity, cooperation in their service to others; and outstanding contribution to the community through their volunteer service.

Mayor's Future Citizen of the Year Scholarship Program

This program is designed to recognize, honor and encourage community contributions and excellence in the young people of Grants Pass. Students are judged on the following initiatives: community, leadership, academic and career. Although considered, academics are secondary to the student's involvement in serving the Grants Pass community. The Future Citizen will be acknowledged with the award of a \$500 scholarship.

Volunteer Group of the Year

This award recognizes a community group that has made a significant contribution to the overall health and livability of the City of Grants Pass. The winning group makes a significant impact by enabling and empowering individuals to improve their knowledge and skills toward greater quality of life; demonstrating exceptional commitment to volunteerism by helping with a special project or ongoing activities; demonstrating exemplary leadership, creativity, cooperation and hard work in their service to others; demonstrating outstanding contribution to the community through their volunteer service.

April 2016

City Council Delves Into Strategic Planning

How well is our City government meeting challenges?

Where should City government focus priorities?

Communities' most pressing challenge?

In January, our Mayor and City Council met with community members and staff for three days for their Strategic Planning Session.

There was an amazing amount of preparation and participation. The Council sought input from all of its Boards, Commissions, and Committees as well as citizens. The Council identified 169 ideas to discuss and prioritize.

Strategic planning is critical to the long-term success of our community as it helps our elected officials answer important questions such as:

- Where should City government focus its priorities?
- What is our City government's role in addressing the communities' most pressing challenges?
- How well is our City government meeting those challenges?

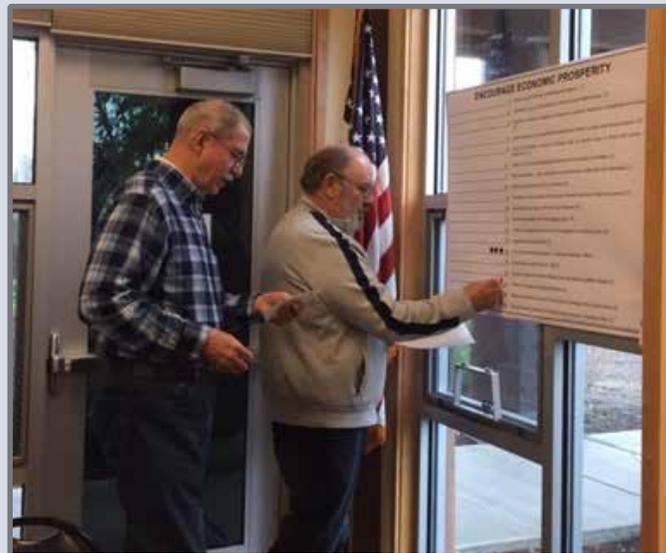
Strategic planning is not a static document or process - it must change to reflect our changing community, so the Council reviews its goals every year.

Strategic Planning Framework

- Providing residents with ways to participate in creating a vision and direction for Grants Pass.
- Establishing a process for review of and improving services managed by City government.
- Establishing the foundation for budgeting resources for specific outcomes.

The adopted goals are:

- Keep Citizens Safe
- Provide Cooperative Shared Leadership Involving Council, Staff and Community
- Encourage Economic Opportunities
- Facilitate Sustainable, Manageable Growth
- Maintain, Operate and Expand our Infrastructure to Meet Community Needs



Councilors Rick Riker and Dan DeYoung

A Work Plan will be created from the prioritized goals and adopted by the City Council. The Work Plan is a tool that is used to evaluate the process of our City government during the next 18 months.

The final step in the strategic plan is the City's Operating and Capital Improvement budgets. The budget process allocates City resources needed to implement the Council's strategies and Work Plan activities.

The Council will provide many more opportunities for community participation in the strategic planning and budgeting process and looks forward to the strength of the community making Grants Pass great.

Top ten objectives of Council are:

- Partner with community to provide homeless youth shelter services.
- Allen Creek Sports Park Complex (funding).
- Maintain necessary criminal justice infrastructure (jail, DA, juvenile).
- Prepare funding package to resolve sewer issues in Spalding Park.
- Light up downtown alleyways and railroad tracks.
- Expand Wastewater Plant.
- Develop landscaping and parking at Park Street.
- Build new Water Plant.
- Explore feasibility of Fire District.
- Develop the park area west of the Caveman Bridge.

Safety

Leadership

Infrastructure

Growth

Economy

There's something special about going into a local business, purchasing locally-made products from the people who made them, sharing the experience, and knowing that you are supporting your neighbors and the community. Each link in the "buy local" chain helps to further strengthen the local economy – buying goods sold by local businesses, buying locally-made products, and buying products made with locally-sourced ingredients, materials, or components. These purchases keep more dollars circulating locally, and when these products are sold throughout and beyond the region, they also bring more dollars into the local economy.



Last fall, the City held a "Made on Main Street" workshop co-sponsored by several community partners. The workshop included meetings with small business owners, property owners, and community organizations, followed by a public presentation and discussion. The workshop focused on the contribution of small-scale, low-impact manufacturing and production as part of the mix of uses in downtown "Main Street" revitalization. With both wholesale and retail sales, these businesses help diversify the economy and offer resiliency given seasonal variability in tourism and foot traffic. In recent years, we have seen growth in the number of small-scale producers in the downtown area.

This expanding sector of the economy is often called the "maker movement" or "maker economy." These businesses



Lee Wassink, The Glass Forge

are also sometimes called "craft" or "artisan" manufacturers or producers, "maker industries", or just "makers." In addition, there has been growth in shared "maker spaces" around the country, where small start-ups can purchase a membership or rent time on specialized equipment and have access to mentors and interact with other makers. Maker spaces may include equipment like laser cutters and CAD (computer aided design)-assisted production equipment. Food product start-ups can rent time in USDA certified commercial kitchens. These spaces also contribute to the vibrancy of a downtown.

In a downtown setting, these businesses typically produce consumer goods and have a retail storefront, with production in, behind, or above the retail space. Watching the products being made is fascinating in itself. The types of products are

diverse, but the scale of production is the common denominator. Products range from food and beverages, to apparel and outdoor gear, to handmade or small-batch products made of wood, metal, ceramic, or glass, to even high-tech products. They might also include the types of goods you can find at the outdoor growers' market and artisans market. In fact, some products sold at these markets are made in downtown Grants Pass, and some of these businesses started out part-time at the markets.

The workshop provided an opportunity to learn about the national context and case studies about makers and maker spaces; to participate in a discussion about the potential benefits and challenges of locating these businesses in a walkable, mixed-use context; to hear about the needs of this business sector and local businesses; and to identify short-term and long-term steps to promote and support local maker industries.

Following the workshop, a report was produced, which summarizes the workshop and provides recommendations for next steps. Many of the recommendations are also beneficial to all downtown businesses. The report was presented to the City Council and discussed in their goal setting for 2016. We look forward to further supporting these businesses.

If you are a "maker" interested in opening a business in downtown Grants Pass, please contact Tom Schauer, Senior Planner or Susan Seereiter, Business Advocate. They look forward to meeting you and learning how they can be of assistance to you and your "Made in Grants Pass" business. For more information, or to download the presentation or report, Visit the City website at: www.grantspassoregon.gov > Departments > Parks & Community Development > 'Made on Main Street' Workshop.

Getting Ready for the Summer Season



A seasonal employee refreshing curb paint

Each year the City of Grants Pass hires temporary, seasonal employees to help accomplish the many extra tasks that the summer season brings. Seasonal employees are vital to our community during the peak travel and tourism season. They learn skills, contribute to the community, and fill a need in our Water Filtration, Streets, Distribution and Collection, Property Management and Parks divisions, as well as our Finance Department. Seasonal employees work alongside regular employees and learn basic meter service, paint curbs, assist with sign replacement, trim overgrown shrubs and bushes, assist with park and building maintenance and assist with the basic operations of the Water Filtration Plant. Seasonal employees learn to operate a variety of handheld tools and, when appropriate, powered equipment.

Assignments vary, so some seasonal employees may work in an office environment while others soak up the sunshine out in the community.

Positions involving the operation of a motor vehicle require employees be 18 years of age and possess a valid driver's license. Some divisions will be hiring 16 and 17-year olds.

The City's seasonal recruitment opened on Thursday, March 17, 2016, and closes on Friday, April 22, 2016. Candidates interested in positions can apply online at www.grantspassoregon.gov or may also pick up paper application packets at 101 NW A Street, Grants Pass, Room 205.

If you have any questions regarding the recruitment or need any assistance applying, please call Human Resources at 541-450-6050.

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Ward 1

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mayorcouncil@grantspassoregon.gov

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Ward 2

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Ward 3

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Councilor Dennis Roler 541-479-4272

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Ward 4

Councilor Shonna Bouteller 541-450-5712

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Councilor Jim Goodwin 541-761-5733

jamesagoodwin@hotmail.com

City Council Meetings

1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 6 pm

City Council Workshops

Each Monday at 11:45 am

City Council Chambers, 101 NW A Street

Meetings are televised on Charter Cable

Channel 183 and posted online at

www.grantspassoregon.gov.

Listen live to Councilors and Staff discussing local issues on KAJO (1270 AM) the 1st and 2nd Tuesdays each month at 9:30 am



City of Grants Pass
Local Government

www.grantspassoregon.gov