



CITY OF JACKSONVILLE



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JACKSONVILLE NEWSLETTER

March 2023

Mayor

Donna Bowen

Council

Mike McClain

Ken Gregg

Steve Casaleggio

Andrea Thompson

Andrew Hellenthal

Talon Reed

City Administrator

Jeff Alvis

City Hall

Monday-Thursday

8:30 am—4:00 pm

Friday

8:30 am—2:00 pm

Public Works

Monday-Friday

8:30 am—4:00 pm

After Hours Dispatch

(emergencies only)

541-776-7206

Police

Office 541-899-7100

Dispatch 541-776-7206

Fire

Office 541-899-7246

Dispatch 541-776-7206

Planning

541-899-6873

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday, Friday

8:30 am—2:00 pm

Inspection Request

541-484-9043 or

800-358-8034

SB 762 Delivers Fuel Reduction Dollars to Jacksonville

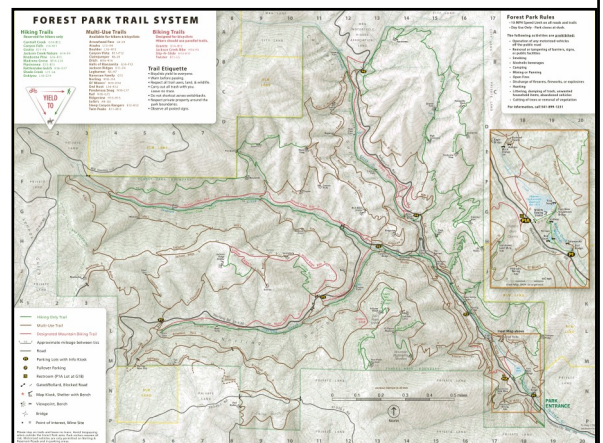
In February 2023, the Office of the State Fire Marshall (OSFM) made a strategic one-time \$2.7 million investment at the local and county levels throughout the state to support community wildfire protection plans (CWPP). Funded through SB 762, grants ranging from \$4,500 to \$500,000 were awarded to twenty-five Oregon counties' planning areas. The largest single award of a half a million dollars will be coming to the City of Jacksonville.

With the assistance of Teresa Vonn, Rogue Valley Integrated Fire Plan Coordinator, Jacksonville Fire Chief Wayne Painter and Councilor Andrea Thompson submitted a proposal for fuel reduction work in Jacksonville's Forest Park. Forest Park consists of more than 1,400 acres of wooded terrain on the City of Jacksonville's western border. With extensive hiking and biking trails, the park is visited by over 50,000 visitors each year. A terrific view shed from high points in the park encompasses the Siskiyou Mountains, Upper Bear Creek Valley and the Cascade Crest, while low areas along creeks within the park offer a wide variety of wildflowers in Spring, shade from heat in summer, gorgeous fall color and a lush winter wonderland.

This heavily timbered area poses a significant fire danger: it is challenging to access by large vehicles, numerous trees along several ridges have fallen victim to beetle infestation, and areas of the park are so thick with highly flammable manzanita that hiking trails form tunnels through the vegetation. Should dry lightning strike within the Park, or a visitor spark a fire, the consequences to Jacksonville and the Rogue Valley could be catastrophic. A conflagration born by winds flowing from west to east could easily drive fire through Jacksonville and into Medford, Central Point, and points north and east, and could result in enormous losses to property and lives.

Chief Painter acknowledges, "We have been so pleased to see the progress addressing fuels reduction in the West Bear area south of Highway 238 through our work with Rogue Valley Partners and Lomakatsi, and we are hopeful to expand community protection with additional funds for select treatment within Forest Park."

The objective for the program is to create significant breaks in the continuous fuels found throughout the park. Due to heavy public use, especially during fire season, the risk of human caused ignition is elevated. Moreover, the lightning ignition is also a risk during summer storms. These treated areas would serve to reduce and slow the spread of high intensity wildfires whether they occur inside or outside the Park. Reducing the intensity of fires will allow suppression units to control the fire before it reaches historic and populated areas of Jacksonville and points beyond.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Jacksonville City Council will hold a public hearing and consider an ordinance for the adoption of the proposed Jacksonville Urban Renewal Plan Amendment.

WHERE: 206 N. 5th St. - Assembly Room
WHEN: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 6:00 PM

A copy of the ordinance, the proposed Jacksonville Urban Renewal Plan Amendment and accompanying report may be found on the City of Jacksonville website or by contacting Angela Watson, City Recorder, 541-899-1231 recorder@jacksonvilleor.us.

The proposed maximum indebtedness, the overall spending limit, for the Jacksonville Urban Renewal Plan Amendment is being increased by \$2,167,333 to a total of \$8,167,333. **The action does not increase property tax rates.** The ordinance, if approved, is subject to referendum.

City Council Meetings At-A-Glance

A synopsis of the previous month's City Council agenda items and discussions so you, the citizens of Jacksonville, know what is going on in your local government. **If you would like more detail on any of the discussion items, please review the summaries for each item in the Council packet on the City website.**

February 7, 2023—City Council Meeting

- **Jacksonville Boosters Annual Report.** Luanne Brunner, President of the Jacksonville Boosters Foundation gave the 2022 annual report to Council.
- **Museum Report.** Councilor Gregg reports on the steps required to put a Museum in place for the City of Jacksonville.
- **Large Event Packet—Chamber Presents a Jacksonville Art and Music Showcase.** Council approved the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce large event packet.
- **RESOLUTION NO. R2023-001—A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS AND TERMS FOR THE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS AS APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CITY COUNCIL.** Council approved Resolution No. R2023-001.

February 21, 2023—Work Session

- **Continue Discussion of the Jacksonville UGB—Presentation by Freel & Associates, LLC.** Representatives for Freel & Associates, LLC presented a UGB amendment request to Council.
- **Jacksonville Municipal Code Title No. 2.** Councilor Casaleggio gave an update on the progress of revisions to JMC Title 2.
- **Open Discussion.** Administrator Alvis advised Council that Pickleball at Pheasant Meadows will be coming back before Council at the March 21, 2023 Work Session.

Audio and Approved Minutes from each of the City Council Meetings are located on the City website.
www.jacksonvilleor.us

Public Meeting Schedule	Date	Time	Place
City Council Meeting	March 7th, 2023	6:00 PM	City Hall—Assembly Room
Planning Commission Meeting	March 8th, 2023	6:00 PM	City Hall—Assembly Room
Parks and Visitor Services Committee Meeting	March 13th, 2023	5:00 PM	City Hall—Assembly Room
Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting	March 14th, 2023	2:30 PM	City Hall—Assembly Room
City Council Meeting / Work Session	March 21st, 2023	12:00 PM	City Hall—Assembly Room
HARC Meeting	March 22nd, 2023	5:00 PM	City Hall—Assembly Room
Transient Lodging Tax Committee Meeting	March 23rd, 2023	3:00 PM	City Hall—Assembly Room
Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting	March 28th, 2023	2:30 PM	City Hall—Assembly Room