



City of Coos Bay

City of Coos Bay Mission Statement

The Mission of the City of Coos Bay is to work as a stable, progressive municipality to enhance the quality of life for all citizens through a government that is accessible to everyone and dedicated to the development of a diversified economy, sound fiscal planning; and preservation and enhancement of the cultural, historical, and natural beauty of our area.

City Council's 25 Year Vision

- Coos Bay is a vital, thriving, and beautiful city serving both residents and visitors.
- Our community is a safe place.
- We are thoughtful and intentional in our approach to growth in all nodes of the City – Downtown, Empire, Englewood and Eastside.
- We have a diverse and bustling economy. Coos Bay is welcoming and supportive for businesses small and large.
- City infrastructure and facilities are well-maintained and fully meet the needs of the community.
- Our waterfront, greenspaces, sidewalks, and trails offer healthy recreation opportunities for all to enjoy.
- We work closely with our partners in North Bend, Coos County, the Coquille Indian Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, and the region to achieve our mutual goals.

City Council's Leadership Approach for 2019-2021

- The Council serves the whole City.
- The Mayor and Councilors are leaders in articulating a vision for our City and demonstrating how we can achieve that vision.
- The Council models inclusion and facilitates citizen participation through respectful and equitable public process.
- The City informs and engages the community and invites and encourages public participation.
- The City, through its elected and appointed leaders and staff, demonstrates good stewardship, being a good community partner, being inclusive and respectful, as well as being a good communicator through its collaborative leaders.
- The City builds credibility through tangible actions, large and small, that benefit the people of Coos Bay.
- The City effectively informs and engages the community.



City of Coos Bay

2019-2021 Council Priorities

1. The Coos Bay City Council has identified ongoing maintenance and improvement of the City's Wastewater System as a priority.

In 2012 the City adopted twenty-year Wastewater System Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). As of March 2019, the City has invested more than \$33M in capital improvements which were listed within the CIP and approximately \$2.7M in unplanned / emergency project. An additional \$22.4M in planned projects to be undertaken within the next few years. It's the Council's desire to focus on the following planned capital improvement projects:

- Eastside wastewater lagoon road repair. (To be completed before the end of FYE20)
- Upgrading / replacing Pump Station #8, located near the intersection of Newmark Ave and LaClair St. (To be completed before end of FYE20)
- Replace a section of wastewater collection main located between the Coalbank Slough and Southwest Blvd from S10th St. to Dakota Ave. (To be completed before the end of FYE20)
- Complete engineering designs for the capital improvements of Wastewater Treatment Plant 1 as identified in the WWTP1 Facility Plan (completed in 2011) and as amended by the Facility Plan Amendment (completed in 2018). (To be completed before the end of FYE20)
- Upgrading / replacing Pump Station #17, located near the intersection of 6th Ave and F St in Eastside. (To be completed before end of FYE21)
- Install a wastewater line under the bay to convey wastewater from Eastside (PS #17) to PS #1 at N Front St. and Birch Ave. (To be completed before end of FYE21)
- Evaluate current and potential policies aimed at improving and maintaining privately-owned business and residential sewer laterals which connect to the wastewater utility. Policies to be evaluated could include but are not limited to:
 - An ordinance for the Council's consideration which if adopted would require sewer lateral inspections and the completion of necessary repairs prior to the sale of property within City limits. (To be completed before end of FYE20)
 - An ordinance for the Council's consideration which if adopted would require commercial businesses to limit fats, oils, and grease from entering into the City's collection system. (To be completed before end of FYE21)



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2019-2021 Council Priorities

2. The Coos Bay City Council has identified maintenance and repair of the City's Streets, Parking and Street Lamp Infrastructure as a priority.

The health of the City's streets and parking lots are in fair to poor condition due to deferred maintenance from a lack of sufficient resources. In 2013, the Council established a Streets Task Force which provided recommendations on the management and financing of transportation infrastructure. Over time a number of the recommendations have been implemented: (1) updating the City's Street Conditions Assessment report (2014 / 2015); (2) increasing the Pacific Power and Light franchise fee 2% to cover streetlight and traffic signal expenses historically paid from the City's insufficient share of state's gas tax which then limited resources for street maintenance (2015); (3) implement the URA special levy option in the Downtown URA District for the purpose of using the generated revenue for capital street improvements within the District (2017); (4) the Urban Renewal Agency adopted a substantial amendment to increase the maximum indebtedness of the Empire URA District by \$6M to increase future capacity to undertake a number of capital road improvement projects within the Empire URA District (2018); and, (5) the Council implement a new revenue source dedicated to street maintenance by adopting an ordinance to impose a transportation user fee (TUF) of \$10 for residential homes / apartments and \$20 for commercial business (2019).

It's the Council's desire to focus on improving the health of the City's transportation and parking infrastructure through the following:

- Develop a five-year rolling street maintenance and improvement plan which includes setting aside a portion of resources annually to undertake larger projects such as Coos Bay Boulevard, Coos River Highway and Southwest Boulevard. (To be completed by FYE19)
- Beginning FYE20 provide the Council an annual report listing street maintenance and improvement projects completed, accounting for funds used and list the planned projects for the upcoming fiscal year.
- Use FYE20 Transportation User Fee (TUF) revenue, with focus given to the deferred pothole repair projects within the City.
- Undertake a capital road revitalization project on 4th St., between Market Ave. and Golden Ave. (To be completed by FYE21)
- Undertake an evaluation of upgrading the street light infrastructure in the City to LED. (To be completed by FYE 20)
- Draft a Street Light policy to establish uniform standards for the placement of streetlights in the City for the Council's consideration (To be completed by FYE20)
- Develop a parking lot on the property formerly known as the Lockhart building located at S 3rd St. and Central Ave. (To be completed by FYE20)
- Evaluate traffic patterns and competing transportation uses of Front St to develop a traffic / pedestrian safety plan (To be completed by FYE20)
- Undertake up to \$2.8M in capital road improvements projects in the Empire URA District. (To be completed by FYE21)
- Undertake and complete the Safe Routes to Schools sidewalk project in Eastside. (To be completed by FYE21)
- Develop a parking lot on the property formerly used as a scrap yard located on N Front St. (To be completed by FYE21)
- Work with the Coos Bay Downtown Association to develop a policy approach for the maintenance of the parking lots in the Parking District. (To be completed by FYE21)



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3. The Coos Bay City Council has identified the need to build a new Library facility outside of the tsunami inundation zone as a priority.

The foundation pilings supporting the Library have failed and resulted in foundation settlement. The cost to mitigate and stabilize the foundation far exceeds the value of the 60-year-old facility which is located within the tsunami inundation zone. While the foundation continues to sink, it is still considered safe to occupy; but there will come a time when it will no longer be considered as such. In 2014, the Council established a Library Facility Steering Committee who have undertaken a strategic planning process (Council adopted the Strategic Plan in 2015) and completed a library needs assessment in late 2016. In 2018, the Council secured a new site, out of the tsunami inundation zone. In early 2019, the Council authorized a feasibility study for a fundraising campaign and potential bond funding measure for the building of a new facility.

It's the Council's desire to focus on the following:

- Consider co-locating community resources to meet unmet community needs which could provide access to additional funding opportunities. (To be completed in FYE20)
- Consider the results of the 2019 Feasibility study and develop funding options with the Library Facility Steering Committee and other Library stakeholders. (To be completed in FYE20)
- Embark on a funding raising activities / strategy. (To commence in FYE21)

4. The Coos Bay City Council has identified economic development as a priority.

The City of Coos Bay continues to invest in economic development in part through its involvement in the South Coast Development Council (SCDC), as a sponsor of Bay Area Enterprise Zone, as a member and funder of the Coos Bay – North Bend Visitor Convention Bureau (VCB) and the Coos Bay Downtown Association (CBDA), and through the City's two Urban Renewal Districts (URA). A vast number of economic development projects have been undertaken over the years. The Downtown Urban Renewal District and the Empire Renewal District plans have recently been updated to increase capacity to support economic development.

It's the Council's desire to focus on the following:

- Complete the Jordan Cove Community Enhancement Plan (CEP) and encourage adoption of the Plan by our Enterprise Zone partners. Draft a -plan for use of economic development funds which may be allocation to the City as part of the CEP. (To be completed in CY19)
- Consider possible changes to the URA façade grant program; including changes to program rules, process and focus, in an effort to further incentivize redevelopment within the districts. (To be completed in FYE21)
- Explore the benefits of a URA loan program as a tool towards incentivizing redevelopment within the districts. (To be completed in FYE21)
- Work with key partners to analyze lodging capacity in Coos Bay. (To be completed in FYE20)



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2019-2021 Council Priorities

5. The Coos Bay City Council has identified housing supply and homelessness in Coos Bay as a priority area.

A lack of housing supply in general and affordable / low-income housing specifically, creates significant difficulty for many who want to live and work in Coos Bay. Homelessness is a major concern for the community, creating impacts to human health and dignity and affecting overall safety and livability for the entire City.

It's the Council's desire to focus on the follow approaches to increasing the supply of housing and decreasing the incidence and impacts of homelessness:

- Encourage the development of upper floor housing in vacant and/or underdeveloped upper floor buildings in the Downtown and Empire URA Districts. (Ongoing)
- Lead the community conversation on homelessness including initiating conversations with partners including the County, the hospital, community care organizations, and others. (Ongoing)
- Work with the Community Housing Action Team to develop ways to incentivize supportive and middle-income housing developments. (Ongoing)
- Assign an officer to serve as a liaison to work with our community partners and to service as the City's primary contact between homeless individuals, schools, shelter workers and other service providers. (To be completed by FYE20)
- Through the Homeless Work Group evaluate examples of potential policy approaches aimed at addressing issues related to homelessness in our community. (To be completed by FYE20)
- Evaluate the benefits of a Housing Receivership Ordinance as a possible tool to address vacant properties which have fallen into substandard and/or dangerous conditions. (To be completed by FYE20)
- Evaluate the potential benefits of establishing a new URA District in an undeveloped area of the City with the goal of incentivizing future housing developments. (To be completed by FYE20)
- Compete a public private multi-family development project in the City's vacant lot at the northwest corner of S Wasson St and Michigan Ave. (To be completed by FYE21)
- Though an agreement with the County, mitigate the contamination, debris and trash on the site of the former Englewood School property to allow for the transfer of the property to ORCCA for supported multi-family housing development. (To be completed by FYE21)



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2019-2021 Council Priorities

6. The Coos Bay City Council has identified communication with citizens as a priority.

The Council is committed to increasing community understanding of the issues facing the City, as well as the options and policies the Council is considering, to address the needs of the community. The Council is interested in innovative ways to reach the community and ensure that anyone can contribute to public discourse and decision-making.

It's the Council's desire to focus on the following:

- Direct staff to add communications elements to the pre-ordinance checklist. Ensure that news releases and other City communications minimize technical language and effectively convey information to the public. Direct staff to increase the City's use of social media including new social media channels. (Ongoing)
- Consider adoption of a smart phone app designed to let citizens report issues and receive notifications from the City. (To be completed by FYE19)
- Consider holding one Council work session or town hall meeting each in Eastside, Englewood, and Empire each year. (To be completed by FYE20)
- Direct staff to explore the potential for Council meetings to be streamed on Facebook Live. (To be completed by FYE20)

7. The Coos Bay City Council has identified City parks as a priority.

Parks provide community value by enhancing livability, increasing health, providing places for play, increasing connection between community members, and offering economic development benefits. Due to lack of general funds, the City's parks are dependent on grant funding for all improvements. The City's Parks Commission and City staff continue to seek grant funding to implement the Parks Master Plan.

It's the Council's desire to focus on the following:

- Replace the bridge at John Topits Park with financial support from SWOCC and grant funding. (To be completed by FYE19)
- Reduce brush in John Topits Park. (ongoing)
- Undertake the required environmental analysis necessary for the future dredging of Mingus Pond. (To be completed by FYE19)
- Seek grants to undertake needed dredging and provide fishing enhancements in Mingus Park. (To be completed by FYE20)
- Using the Park's Commission, pursue design options to enhance the Preway within a budget amount to be determined by the Urban Renewal Agency. (To be completed by FYE19)
- Consider park use options for the prior WWTP2 site. (To be completed by FYE20)
- Consider possible locations for the development of ball fields within the current park system as well as a partnership with local sports associations to operate and maintain the future fields. (To be completed by FYE20)



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2019-2021 Council Priorities

8. The Coos Bay City Council has identified Public Safety as a priority.

Public safety is of great importance to the community of Coos Bay. Drug and alcohol addiction, mental illness, homelessness, and poverty are major factors in crime in the City and the region. The staffing levels of our public safety departments are considerably smaller than they were in the 90s and constrained by budget. Lack of open jail facilities impacts the City's ability to detain individuals apprehended by the police.

Disaster preparedness is another critical element in public safety, and there is a statewide movement for municipalities to prepare for a disaster that could leave the area without support for up to two weeks.

It's the Council's desire to focus on the following:

- If possible, support the continuation of the South Coast Interagency Narcotics Team through funding, assistance and / or the assignment of personnel. (Ongoing)
- Promote the opportunity for reserve officers in the police department and volunteer fire fighters. (Ongoing)
- Promote the goal of 1,200 homes in Coos Bay becoming "two weeks ready" in preparation for disaster. (Ongoing)

Goals for Council Functioning

The Coos Bay City Council has identified working well together and working with key partners as a priority.

The Council is committed to working as a team to reach the City's goals. The Council is also committed to learning, innovation, and partnership with other agencies and municipalities when possible to better achieve its goals. The Council intends to encourage the public to attend meetings and understand the functioning of the Council. The Council is also committed to structuring its work in ways that encourage people with busy work schedules and families to serve on the Council.