

**From:** [Bennett, Martha](#)  
**To:** [CITY-WIDE](#)  
**Subject:** February 23, 2022 Update  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 23, 2022 2:20:56 PM

---

Good Afternoon Everyone,

I know that I have written about the wiles of February before. Most years, we have a day or two or even a week when it feels like spring is on its way . . . and inevitably winter re-asserts itself. Well, if the temperature this morning is any guide, it's definitely too soon to plant my spring garden.

Whenever the weather takes a severe turn, from yesterday's cold-plus-wind-chill to last summer's heat dome, I find myself thinking about people who are vulnerable. Some of them – like chronically homeless people who sleep outside - are quite visible. Others are more hidden, whether they are couch surfing, choosing among food, medicine, and utilities, or isolated.

When I find myself thinking these thoughts, I also think about the ways the City helps folks in need. For example, just last night, the Police Department helped a homeless man get inside, which probably saved his life. Our Library is a place people get warm, and two years ago, the City Council created a utility assistance fund to help people who were struggling to pay their City utility bills. The City's Meals on Wheels program not only provides food, but also provides much needed social interactions and welfare checks on people in our community who are home bound. All of these are very positive demonstrations of our commitment to the City's mission to cultivate an exceptional quality of life for **everyone** in our community.

I also think about where I give my time or financial gifts. There are many charities that help people make ends meet, such as food pantries like Hunger Fighters and the Oregon Food Bank, and they are always looking for volunteers and donations. Many groups provide emergency shelter, access to clothing, emergency shelter for pets, and support for families with children. It's a great time, too, to remember to give blood. The American Red Cross reports we are facing a historic crisis in the blood supply, and you can find a blood drive close by on this web site.

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=97034>

Thank you for everything that you do – at work and in your life – to serve the most vulnerable people in our communities. It only takes a little to make a big difference.

## **COVID-19 Updates – Indoor Mask Requirements, Return to Work Guidance and Boosters**

Earlier this month OHA announced that it will lift the indoor mask requirements when 400 or fewer Oregonians are hospitalized or no later than March 31, 2022, whichever comes first. According to the most recent information, it looks like Oregon will have 400 or fewer people hospitalized within the next couple of weeks. Oregon OSHA's rule requires to follow OHA's indoor mask requirements so when the OHA rule changes, Oregon OSHA's will as well. This is good news, but what does it mean for the City?

Consistent with how the City has responded to changes related to COVID-19 rules in the past, we are watching the situation closely. We will send out a City-wide email when the change to the indoor mask mandate is confirmed and communicate how we intend to implement it as an organization. We also understand not everyone will be comfortable removing their masks right away, and that is okay. Our hope is that people feel comfortable deciding what is best for them with regards to determining when and when not to wear a mask, and that those decisions are respected.

And there may be times when wearing a mask at work is still required by the City and recommended by the CDC, such as when someone returns to work after testing positive for COVID-19. The City is reviewing its current return to work guidance and intends to update it to better reflect the CDC's current recommends. There will be more information to come on those updates in the next few weeks. In the meantime, our current guidance is available on the [COVID-19 HR Private Page](#).

Finally, the Lake Oswego Fire Department is holding several COVID-19 Booster Clinics beginning tomorrow. Boosters are available for people ages 12 and over. Five months must have passed since your last vaccination. Sign up at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pfizer-vaccine-clinic-boosters-adults-age-12-tickets-269935212487>

Thursday, February 24, 12-3 p.m.

Tuesday, March 8, 12-4 p.m.

Thursday, March 17, 12-4 p.m.

Wednesday, March 23, 12-4 p.m.

Once registered, you may drop by the main Fire Station, 300 B Ave, anytime during the event.

## **Council adopts goals for 2022**

Every year, City Council sets goals and initiatives for the coming year. These goals guide the overall City vision, department workplans, and prioritizes projects. In all, Council agreed on 19 major initiatives under 8 different strategic goals.

### **Ensure a safe and secure community for all**

- Oversee and guide the action plan to implement the recommendations of the 2021 Community Dialog on Policing, including increased reporting and public dialog about policing in Lake Oswego
- Implement a sustainable business model for the Fire Department that meets the 21st century needs of Lake Oswego
- Improve the City's emergency management capabilities

### **Support business investment and job creation in Lake Oswego**

- Adopt an Economic Development Strategy, action plan, and resource plan
- Ensure the North Anchor redevelopment stays on track

### **Foster diversity, equity and inclusion in Lake Oswego and in the City as an organization**

- Support the DEI Advisory Board's work to improve recruitment efforts for Boards and Commissions, increase the number cultural events, establish relationships with community-

based organizations, remove language and accessibility barriers, and increase diversity of the City's workforce

### **Combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and strengthening the community's resilience to climate impact**

- Improve resiliency and climate adaptation strategies in the City's Sustainability and Climate Action Plan
- Increase the availability and use of green energy in the community
- Update the Urban and Community Forest Plan by evaluating the 2022 State of the Urban Forest Report

### **Support continuous improvement, outstanding customer service, infrastructure investments, and fiscal policies that increase public trust in the City**

- Collaborate with the City of Portland to make a financially and environmentally responsible long-term investment in a wastewater treatment plant
- Begin a process to address the long-term facilities needs of the Lake Oswego Public Library

### **Invest in Lake Oswego's high-quality parks, natural areas, and recreational amenities**

- Guide delivery of Parks Capital Projects, including the LORAC, Golf Course Construction, Rassekh Park, and planned trail projects
- Adopt a Natural Areas Habitat Management Plan
- Adopt a new IGA with the Lake Oswego School District for fields and facilities
- Create a holistic approach to overall health and well-being for our community, similar to a Blue Zones process. Engage City departments, businesses, LOSD, the faith community, and non-profits to create a coordinated effort at improving and maintaining healthy lifestyles

### **Improve transportation connections, mobility and safety for all travelers and for all types of trips in Lake Oswego**

- Adopt a funding strategy for pedestrian safety capital projects
- Begin the process to create concept plan for Stafford/McVey

### **Conserve the community's quality of life by planning for change and growth**

- Complete work on key housing initiatives, including HB 2001 code adoption, HB 2003 compliance, decision-making on a possible project on the Boones Ferry Road Staging Area, and support for other non-profit led housing projects
- Prepare for a process to update the plans for the Foothills District

## **Meet our new [ADA Coordinator](#) & Get Set for Disability Awareness Month!**

Did you know, we have a new ADA Coordinator for the City? Meet your colleague: Kelli Byrd! **Please watch this [internal staff video](#)** to learn all about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and how Kelli will be working with many of you to make sure our programs, services, and facilities are accessible to all!

If you haven't checked it out already, we now have a new Accessibility [information portal](#) on the City's website. Here is the direct URL: [www.lakeoswego.city/ada](http://www.lakeoswego.city/ada). On the site, you can learn more

about the City's ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan and the ADA. Community members can [request an accommodation](#) or [file a complaint](#).

Creating equitable inclusive environments is a shared responsibility of everyone. On March 1, Council will proclaim March as Disability Awareness Month. Throughout the month we'll be taking extra steps to raise awareness about people with disabilities, and sharing tips on how to become a Disability ALLY to promote inclusion for all!

### **Cold temperatures are expected to continue through Thursday morning**

Please take a few minutes to check on neighbors who may require assistance such as elderly people, people with disabilities and those with small children. If you or someone you know needs a place to warm up during the day, stop by the Lake Oswego Library during regular business hours. Also, Clackamas County supports a network of severe weather warming centers on nights when the weather is expected to be dangerously cold. A list of some warming shelters is available at: [www.clackamas.us/relief](http://www.clackamas.us/relief)

### **ICS Training Available**

Two ICS (Incident Command System) training opportunities are available. This may be of interest to many of our new employees who will serve in the City's Emergency Operation Center. As always, please check with your supervisor before registering for away-from-the-office training.

#### **ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents**

ICS-300 provides an in-depth focus on the NIMS (National Incident Management System) Incident Command System (ICS) that includes the tools, practices and procedures that are available in ICS to effectively manage emergency incidents or planned local events at a local Type 3 level. Each course is three days. In order to receive a certificate of completion, you must attend all 3 days of the course from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 3 day courses are available March through June 2022. Click here for more information and to register.

#### **ICS-400: Advanced ICS Command and General Staff-Complex Incidents**

ICS-400 provides training and resources for personnel who require advanced application of ICS. In order to receive a certificate of completion, you must attend both days both days of the course from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 2 day courses are available February through May 2022. Click here for more information and to register.

For more information on either course, go to:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1F15kbbkHg6iYOiU2aG9\\_b8qrpUnQQEks/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1F15kbbkHg6iYOiU2aG9_b8qrpUnQQEks/view)

### **Seasonal Climate Forecast has been updated**

Meteorologist Pete Parsons' Seasonal Climate Forecast has been updated. See his March-May prediction as a [PDF](#) or a [PowerPoint](#) document or view his [forecast video](#). In a nutshell: near or below-average temperatures during the first half of period are expected to be countered by a warmer-than-normal May. The unusually dry weather that extended from mid-January through mid-February is not projected to continue into March and April.

## **In Closing**

A year ago, our Police Department, LOCOM and IT were moving into the new City Hall, with the rest of us following over the next month. It's hard to believe it's already been a year. I hope you are enjoying this beautiful new building as much as I am!

Enjoy the rest of your week, and, once again, thank you for all that you do!

Martha

### **Martha Bennett**

City Manager

[City of Lake Oswego](#)

PO Box 369

Lake Oswego, OR 97034

tel: 503.635.0214