

MILWAUKIE PILOT

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Lisa Batey

Adam Khosroabadi

Robert Massey

Rebecca Stavenjord



City Accepting Nominations for the 2023 Volunteer of the Year Through Wednesday, Feb. 14

The city is seeking nominations for the 2023 Volunteer of the Year. Nominees can include anyone who resides in Milwaukie, or is a member of a non-profit organization or business that serves the community. Those nominating the person are asked to discuss the nominee's volunteer work and how it has improved Milwaukie. Please help recognize those who went above and beyond in 2023 by nominating them for this award!

Nominations are accepted online through **Wednesday, Feb. 14** on Engage Milwaukie at engage.milwaukieoregon.gov.

Nominees should have:

- Longevity of service to the community
- Some contribution of volunteer service during the past year within the nominee's total volunteer efforts
- Service within the city limits of Milwaukie. The volunteer service for which the person is nominated does not need to be specifically in a City of Milwaukie volunteer capacity (for example: board, commission or committee role or service through a city-sponsored event), however, some contribution to a city-related activity within the nominee's total volunteer effort is preferred.

For more information, contact Jason Wachs at wachs@milwaukieoregon.gov or 503.786.7568.



Resilience: The Ability to Deal With Hardship or Cope in Difficult Situations



City Councilor
Robert Massey

The word resilience pops everywhere these days, especially when a major storm disrupts our normal routine. January's storm was not as severe as the ice storm of February 2021, but 13 fatalities have been attributed to this recent storm, including a Milwaukie High School student. So, let's use this latest event as motivation to get serious about the next disaster whether it be a storm, wildfire or earthquake.

The Oregonian recently ran an editorial about Oregon's need to build a culture of resiliency. Much of that opinion piece focused on utilities, transportation and emergency services. All those areas need improvement, but we are largely unable to influence these state and regional concerns. The one area we can control is our own personal resiliency, which we often refer to as just being prepared.

We all know we should have an emergency kit, but did we use some of it during last summer's camping trip and not replace it? Did you buy a portable power bank to keep your cell phone charged only to discover you did not keep the power bank itself charged when the lights went out? I won't continue with all these gotchas—you get it. A very complete guide to assembling emergency plans and kits for various situations can be found at ready.gov. You might even consider planning for a couple of extra people, so you can assist neighbors who might be more vulnerable in a time of need.

What is important is to put everything together now while the storm is fresh in our minds. Come springtime the winter storm may fade from our memory.



The second annual application and interview process for the city's official boards and committees begins Feb. 1. This is a chance to make a change in the community and directly participate in the city's work! From the Arts Committee to the Tree Board, there are many interest areas, projects and programs to get involved with through these volunteer boards and committees. Applications are accepted until **April 1**. Interviews are held in April and May, and appointments to open positions are made by City Council this June.

To apply, complete the online form at **onboard.milwaukieoregon.gov**. For questions or more information, email the city recorder's office at ocr@milwaukieoregon.gov.

JOIN THE TEAM!

Check out job opportunities with the City of Milwaukie by scanning the QR code below or visiting milwaukieoregon.gov/jobs



City Embarks on Multi-Year Equity Plan

In December 2023, city council passed a resolution adopting a multi-year equity plan for the city. This is the latest milestone in the city's journey to center values of equity, inclusion and justice, which began in 2020 with the establishment of the equity and inclusion coordinator position and the equity steering committee.

The 2024-2027 equity plan was informed heavily by an equity assessment completed this past fall by Keen Independent Research, as well as input from the city's employee resource groups and the equity steering committee. The plan is organized into three tracks to implement and measurably address key priorities:

Track 1: Equity and Inclusion Coordinator

This includes work across four categories: staff training, material and resource development, relationship building, and planning and policy updates.

Track 2: Equity Steering Committee

This committee has identified focus areas for their work that include communication, transparency and storytelling, naming of places and spaces, recruitment, hiring and retention, engagement pathways, equitable procurement, and accessibility.

Track 3: Major City Initiatives

This includes citywide initiatives that the equity and inclusion coordinator and equity steering committee will advise both city council and city management about over the next three years. These include cooling, warming and stabilization shelters, Transportation System Plan update, Capital Improvement Plan development, neighborhood hubs, and parks development and governance.

For more information about the city's equity work, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/equity.

Interim City Councilor Applications Accepted Through Feb. 5

Last month, City Council President Desi Nicodemus resigned his position. He was elected to position 3 in November 2020 and officially began serving on city council on Jan. 1, 2021. Position 3's term will end on Dec. 31, 2024, so two processes are underway to fill the vacancy.



INTERIM CITY COUNCILOR

City council approved a process to appoint an interim city council member until a special election can be held. It is anticipated that the interim appointee will serve from Feb. 13 until June 18, when the results of the special election are likely certified.

The city will accept applications until **Monday, Feb. 5 at 5 p.m.** As applications are received, city staff will confirm all applicants are qualified to serve on city council. During a special session on Feb. 13, city council will interview applicants, deliberate and appoint the interim city council member.

For more information or to apply, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/citycouncil/councilor-vacant-position-no-3. For questions, contact the city recorder's office at 503.786.7502 or ocr@milwaukieoregon.gov.

SPECIAL ELECTION

A special election will be held on May 21, 2024 to fill the vacant city council position. For those interested in running, please make note of these important dates:

- **Nov. 21, 2023** - last day to establish residency within city limits.
- **Feb. 11, 2024** - first day to file nomination papers.
- **March 12** - last day to file nomination papers.
- **May 21** - Election Day

Potential candidates must meet with the city recorder before filing the necessary forms and collecting signatures. Contact the city recorder at 503.786.7502 or ocr@milwaukieoregon.gov. For more election information, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/elections.

The community is invited to an open house about three upcoming projects on **Feb. 29, 2024** at city hall, 10501 SE Main St. City and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) staff will provide information and answer questions about:

- ODOT's project on Hwy 224 is a \$22.3 million project to improve safety and rideability from 17th Avenue to Rusk Road. This will include new curb ramps, signal upgrades, upgrading the bridge joints and new pavement to smooth the ride for the more than 25,000 daily users. The work at the intersection of Hwy 224 and Monroe Street is designed with input from the city's Monroe Street Greenway Plan.

The Monroe Street Greenway is divided into segments. For the central segment—from 29th to 34th Avenue—the city is starting preliminary design for the railroad crossings and signing an agreement with ODOT for construction funding. For the eastern segment—from 37th Avenue to Linwood Avenue—the city has worked with ODOT to help fund and manage both design and construction.

The Transportation System Plan is the city’s ongoing plan for improving how community members get around. Input is still needed, however, to help make the most beneficial updates for Milwaukie.

For event details and more project information, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/open-house-or-224-monroe-street-greenway. To see the project areas, refer to the map below.



The project team has analyzed the feedback and survey responses and have drafted code language for the neighborhood hub areas. The goal for these amendments is to support and encourage hubs-type development and businesses in the identified hub areas. In December 2023 and January 2024, staff presented project updates to city council and planning commission, respectively, and introduced the proposed code concepts in advance of formal public hearings in the coming months. Information about the work sessions can be found at milwaukieoregon.gov/meetings.

- Rezone properties in the limited commercial zone (CL) to neighborhood mixed use (NMU) and eliminate the limited commercial zone.
- Create a new small mixed use zone (SMU)
- Rezone properties in the neighborhood commercial zone (CN) to small mixed use and eliminate the neighborhood commercial zone.
- Rezone the Milwaukie Floral site on SE Lake Road to the new small mixed use zone
- Expand the SE 42nd Avenue NMU zone by rezoning the Chapel Theatre site at 4107-4117 SE Harrison St. from residential-high density to neighborhood mixed use

Notices about the public hearings on the proposed amendments will be sent to all affected properties and Neighborhood District Associations—everyone is encouraged participate in the hearings.

To learn more about the neighborhood hubs project, visit **engage.milwaukieoregon.gov/hubs-phase2** or contact Adam Heroux, associate planner, at 503.786.7658 or herouxam@milwaukieoregon.gov.



Library Hosts Community Conversation Series

The Ledding Library welcomes facilitators in February to host two Community Conversations. These events are reflective conversations about timely and important issues with the goal of exploration rather than debating an argument or coming to consensus.

Feb. 21 • 6 PM

Housing & Belonging

Paul Susi

Feb. 28 • 6 PM

Transforming Our Broken Past Into a Hopeful Future

Sarah Sanderson & Taylor Stewart

For more information and background about the facilitators, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/library.

Quarterly Book Sale

On **Feb. 3 and 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, the Friends of the Ledding Library host the quarterly book sale in the library community room, 10660 SE 21st Ave. The sale features books, CDs, DVDs, puzzles, socks and more. Sunday is \$10 bag day.

ADULT PROGRAMS

at the Ledding Library

Book Clubs

The library hosts three book clubs: Daylight Book Group, Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Club and The Ledding Book Club. For those interested in joining a book club, would like to know what they are reading or have other questions, email ledding@milwaukieoregon.gov.

February Poetry Reading: A. Molotkov

Wednesday • Feb. 14, 6 PM

The Milwaukie Poetry Series continues with a reading by A. Molotkov. This event is also livestreamed on the library's YouTube channel. To register for the livestream, contact Tom Hogan at tomhogan2@comcast.net.

Seed Swap

Saturday • Feb. 17, 1-3 PM

Meet other gardeners and share growing tips, and bring organic, non-GMO seeds to share. It is not required to donate seeds to participate. For questions, contact Tara Goe at goet@milwaukieoregon.gov.

MORE INFO

milwaukieoregon.gov/library

Kid & Teen Activities in February at the Library

Drop-In Play Time

Saturdays • Feb. 10, 17 & 24, 10 AM - Noon

Make new friends during weekly drop-in play times. All ages.

All Together Now - Cards for a Cause

Monday • Feb. 5, 1-4 PM

Make a Valentine's Day card for a Meals on Wheels recipient and one for yourself. People of all ages are welcome to drop in to make cards.

Lion Dance Performance

Sunday • Feb. 11, 3-3:30 PM

Celebrate the Lunar New Year with a traditional lion dance performance by White Lotus Dragon & Lion Dance. Sponsored by the Friends of the Ledding Library.

Free Hearing & Developmental Screening

Monday • Feb. 12, 10 AM - Noon

Any child ages infant to 5 years old is eligible for a free screening from the Clackamas Education Service District's Early Intervention Team.

Toddler Dance Party

Wednesday • Feb. 14, 10:30 AM

Celebrate Valentine's Day with a dance party for tiny tots and their grownups. Ages 1-3.

Leap Day Party

Thursday • Feb. 29, 3:30-5:30 PM

Leap Day crafts and activities. All ages.

Teen Room Gaming Nights

Mondays & Tuesdays • 5:30-7:30 PM

Get your game on with Xbox X and PS5 consoles.

Teen Advisory Board

Tuesday • Feb. 20, 5 PM

This group of 6-12 graders meets to have a say in library programs and collections, develop leadership skills, earn volunteer hours and have fun! To join, fill out an application at <https://go.lincc.org/mitab>.

Weekly Library Storytimes

Join the library for weekly stories, songs & rhymes!



Mon & Tue
10:30 AM

All-Ages Storytime

Thursdays
10:30 AM

Baby Storytime
(0-18 months)

◆◆ NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS ◆◆

HISTORIC MILWAUKIE

The Historic Milwaukie NDA supported the Milwaukie Arts Committee's Bing in the New Year event in downtown on New Year's Eve—what an amazing event!

The NDA is settling into its new home in the community room in the new city hall building, hosting its third monthly meeting there last month. At recent meetings, the NDA had presentations and updates about the development of the historic city hall building, Kellogg Creek restoration project along with the dam removal, and the starting proposal for the 1847 food cart pod at the former Peake Funeral Chapel location.

Historic Milwaukie is gearing up for its 2024 activities, the first being the Main Street Earth Day event in April. Planning begins this month as the neighborhood continues their efforts to beautify Main Street and promote pollinator pathways in Milwaukie. Anyone interested in volunteering should email debbieliptan@mac.com. Be sure to sign up for emails to keep up-to-date about Main Street happenings.

NEXT MEETING MON, FEB 12 • 6:30 PM
LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV
SECRETARY: Debbie Liptan • debbieliptan@mac.com

LINWOOD

Hopefully, fun was enjoyed at the Milwaukie New Year's Bing Cherry Drop with live music and Chinese Lion Dancers. Thanks to the Milwaukie Art's Committee, and so many others, making the city a great place to live.

Did you know household batteries can be recycled with weekly curbside collection? For the latest news about recycling, visit www.clackamas.us/recycling.

Attend an upcoming Linwood NDA meeting to hear what's going on, receive updates from police and community leaders, complain about traffic, discuss ideas for neighborhood activities, or just meet other neighbors. Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Methodist Church. At the December meeting, the neighborhood enjoyed pizza and hosted a wonderful cookie share with many holiday treats—thanks to all who baked!

NEXT MEETING THU, FEB 8 • 7 PM
LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV
CHAIR: Elizabeth Start • linwoodnda@gmail.com

ISLAND STATION

As 2024 is ushered in, the Island Station Neighborhood District Association (NDA) extends heartfelt wishes for a year filled with joy, prosperity and community spirit. Neighbor involvement is crucial as the NDA works towards a vibrant and thriving neighborhood. Please provide input at this month's meeting as the NDA determines which projects to work on this year. Additionally, help is needed to plan the annual neighborhood picnic and work parties to clean up nearby parks. Neighbor ideas and enthusiasm are the driving force behind these activities, which help foster a sense of togetherness.

The city's engineering department supplied recent traffic data for SE River Road near Wren Street. With the new curbs and sidewalks, the average speed was 29.1 mph. In 2008 before the sidewalks were added, that same location recorded an average of 29 mph. Attend the next meeting to discuss the next steps for roadway safety in Island Station.

The February meeting is at Two Sisters Play Café, 11923 SE McLoughlin Blvd. Order a snack and beverage, and bring little ones along to enjoy the fantastic playroom—the NDA will cover the admission fee. Participation is key to making Island Station an even better place to live. Let's come together to make 2024 a year of community strength, collaboration and shared achievements.

NEXT MEETING WED, FEB 21 • 6:30 PM
LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV
CHAIR: Charles Bird • charlesbird@juno.com

ARDENWALD-JOHNSON CREEK

NEXT MEETING MON, FEB 26 • 6:30 PM
LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV
CHAIR: Chris Holle-Bailey • chrisinardenwald@gmail.com

HECTOR CAMPBELL

NEXT MEETING WED, MAR 13 • 6 PM
LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV
CHAIR: Corinn DeTorres • campellneighbors@gmail.com



LAKE ROAD

Last month, the city's assistant finance director (and Lake Road neighborhood resident) attended the NDA's monthly meeting and provided copies of the People's Annual Financial Report. It was a glimpse into how are tax dollars are spent in Milwaukie.

On Feb. 6, City Council is set to review the construction contract for the three upcoming park projects, including Bowman-Brae Park. When construction begins in late February, access from SE Where Else Lane will be closed. The project is anticipated to finish in October 2024. Based on community feedback, additional benches and another picnic table will be added. For updates, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov.

Thanks to both new and "old" neighbors who attend monthly meetings to learn about the city and how to keep the community a good place to live. It's easy to become cynical, but people caring makes the difference! For more information about the Lake Road NDA, sign-up for updates at <https://bit.ly/Lakeroadlist>.

Milwaukie Floral is unable to host February's neighborhood meeting since it falls on Valentine's Day. The next meeting is March 13, followed by a Century Park clean-up on April 21 at 9 a.m.

NEXT MEETING WED, MAR 13 • 6:30 PM

LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV

CHAIR: Debby Patten • lakeroadndachair@gmail.com

LEWELLING

This past December was a big month for the Lewelling NDA. The neighborhood, once again, ran concessions at the Winter Solstice event in Milwaukie Bay Park. This is a mammoth effort that would not be possible without hundreds of volunteer hours leading up to and during the event. Many thanks go to Great American Video & Espresso, Starbucks at Milwaukie Marketplace and Flying Elephants Deli for their donations of food and drink items. This is what community looks like. All the proceeds fund the Lewelling NDA's annual summer concerts in the park. The 2023 series of five concerts cost roughly \$7,000, so this fundraiser is vital to producing these events that the community has come to love.

The Lewelling NDA would also like to thank outgoing City Council President Desi Nicodemus for three years of great leadership and inspiration. He is the first ever Black city councilor and city council president in Milwaukie. He is known for his great contributions to both Milwaukie City Council and the greater community, and he will be sorely missed. The NDA wishes him well in the next chapter of his life.

NEXT MEETING WED, FEB 14 • 6:30 PM

LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV

CHAIR: Camden McKone • lewellingndachair@gmail.com

Milwaukie Industry, Past and Present



Standard Flour Mill next to Milwaukie Bay, c. 1870

In summer 2024, the Milwaukie Historical Society will debut a new exhibition focusing on Milwaukie's historic and current industries. Over the next few months, the Milwaukie Historical Society will share previews of the exhibition and the material it covers.

Milwaukie has long been a site of important industry and trade. In the beginning, the Clackamas Native Americans used the Willamette, Clackamas and Columbia Rivers to trade goods, such as salmon, lamprey, beads, obsidian, game, plants and other handmade items with other Indigenous tribes of the Pacific Northwest.

As settlers moved into the area, Milwaukie's shipbuilding industry began around 1850. Just as quickly as they were built, ships were loaded with timber to supply growing cities. Soon after, those ships carried flour grown from local wheat to supply cities, including San Francisco and mining towns, such as Jacksonville, Oregon. Orchards in Milwaukie's agricultural industry supplied fruit, vegetables and grafted trees to settlers across the state. Lumber and shingle mills continued to operate in Milwaukie even as the industries evolved. Milwaukie remains industrious. From socks, to grains, to baked goods, Milwaukie continues to supply goods to residents both local and international.

The historical society invites community members to donate or share for this exhibit when the museum reopens in February. For more information, visit milwaukiemuseum.com.





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CITY EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Little Comics Bookgroup (LED) - All Day Daylight Book Group (LED) - 11 AM Book Buddies (LED) - 4 PM 1		Tideman Johnson Park Work Party - 9 AM Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Club (LED) - 3:30 PM Quarterly Book Sale (LED) - 10 AM - 4 PM 2 3
Quarterly Book Sale (LED) - 10 AM - 4 PM Teen Game Day (LED) - 2 PM 4	Cards for a Cause (LED) - 1-4 PM Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM Citizens Utility Advisory Board - 5:30 PM 5	City Council Work Session - 4 PM Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM City Council Regular Session - 6 PM 6		ORCA Book Group (LED) - 5:30 PM Joint Session: City Council & North Clackamas School Board - 6 PM Linwood NDA - 7 PM 8		10
Lunar New Year: Lion Dance Performance (LED) - 3 PM 11	Budget Committee (MCH) - 5:30 PM Library Board (LED) - 5:30 PM Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM Historic Milwaukie NDA - 6:30 PM 12	City Council Study Session - 5:15 PM City Council Special Session - 7:15 PM 13	Poetry Reading: A. Molotkov (LED) - 6 PM Lewelling NDA - 6:30 PM 14	Transportation System Plan Advisory Committee (MCH) - 6 PM 15		Seed Swap (LED) - 1-3 PM 17
Lunar New Year Celebration (MCC) - Noon - 2:30 PM 18	Presidents Day: City Office & Library Closed 19	City Council Work Session - 4 PM Teen Advisory Board - 5 PM Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM City Council Regular Session - 6 PM 20	Island Station NDA - 6:30 PM Arts Committee - 6 PM 21	Equity Steering Committee (MCH) - 6 PM Ledding Book Club (LED) - 6:30 PM 22	City Manager Open Door (MCH) - 9-10 AM 23	Milwaukie Poetry Series (LED) - 1 PM 24
25	Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM Ardenwald-Johnson Creek NDA - 6:30 PM 26	Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM Planning Commission - 6:30 PM 27	Parks & Recreation Board - 4:30 PM Community Conversation (LED) - 6 PM 28	Open House: Monroe Street Greenway, TSP Update & Hwy 224 Projects (MCH) - 5:30-7:30 PM 29		

STAY UP TO DATE
see the full calendar at
milwaukieoregon.gov/calendar

CH • City Hall, 10501 SE Main St.
PSB • Public Safety Bldg., 3200 SE Harrison St.
JCB • Johnson Creek Bldg., 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd.

LED • Ledding Library, 10660 SE 21st Ave.
MCC • Milwaukie Community Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr.