



NEWSLETTER

STRENGTH IN UNITY

Fourth Quarter 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we wrap up the fourth quarter of the year, I wanted to let everyone know what an honor it has been to serve as your OMA President. It has been quite an in-

teresting year and I've made many new friendships over the past few months. I want to wish Mayor Lenahan a very successful upcoming year, I know she'll be a rockstar.

We end this year with an historical event where 25 mayors from all over the state came together with a unified message to take to the legislation on the homeless crisis we're dealing with. We have definitely got the attention of Governor Elect Kotek and with a number of other mayors who have signed on since the message went out, I believe we'll see some results out of Salem.

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Fossil

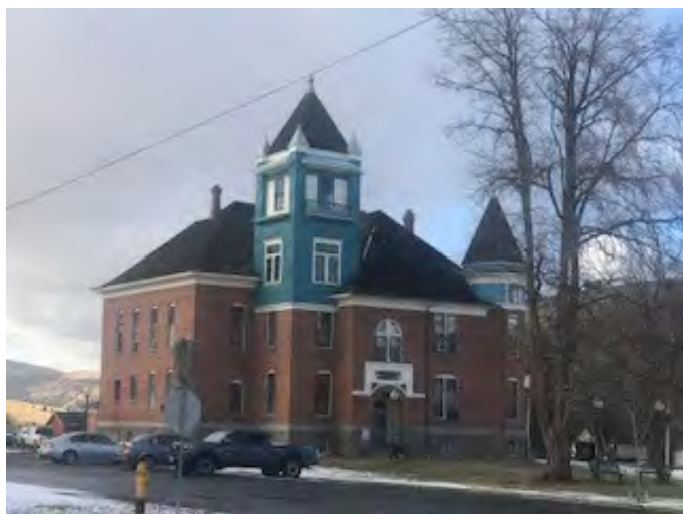
CITY SPOTLIGHT: FOSSIL

Home of the only public fossil beds in Oregon



Postmaster Thomas B. Hoover decided to name Fossil, Fossil because of the many fossils he found on his property. In 1881, Hoover and a friend, W.S. Thompson built a store in an area they felt better suited for a town and moved the post office there. The General Mercantile was built and is still in operation today. Fossil encompasses an area of about .79 square miles.

In 1882 churches were opened, Catholic, Methodist, and Baptist. The town began to grow, with over two hundred people. Seven years later, Wheeler County was formed, the courthouse was completed, and Fossil was named the county seat. An electric company was created, the first bank opened as well as Wheeler County high school. The Mason's, Eastern Star, Odd Fellows, and the Rebekah's established themselves within the town. In 1920, the grade school was built and still stands in the center of the community, just as beautiful and grand as the day of construction!



The Kinzua mill opened in 1927 which caused the town to prosper. When the mill closed in 1978, lack of jobs forced people to move from the area, school enrollment

plummeted, the town suffered. Recently, Fossil has been able to provide fiber to its citizens. People wanting to leave the larger populated cities for the peaceful, quiet life can do so and work remotely in Fossil. Fiber has given Fossil an opportunity for growth once again.

Fossil recognized the need for housing to allow our aging citizens to remain in their hometown and became a pilot project for the Oregon Housing Authority in the mid 1980's. With "Aging in Place" as the spirit of our retirement center, Haven House was built. With meal services, housekeeping and medication assistance, local seniors can safely remain in Fossil.



Noteworthy about us, Fossil has the only public fossil beds in Oregon, located behind the high school. Families can dig fossils for a nominal fee of \$5 per person and take home a limit of three fossils.





Tools are available for public use, and we appreciate their return for the next people. There are many metasequoia leaves to be found! More bragging rights and we are very proud of the fact that Bill Bowerman, co-founder of Nike, has roots in Fossil. His mother was Elizabeth Hoover. He made his final home here in Fossil, at Haven House retirement center. Our football team, made up of students from three high schools in three different towns, are back-to-back 2021 AND 2022, IA 6-man state football champions. Fossil is the headquarters for Painted Hills Natural Beef.



President's Message

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However, each of you celebrate the holidays I wish you the very best and I hope you have a great new year.

Jeff Gowing,
Cottage Grove Mayor
OMA President



Three major events bring the community to life during the summer months; ABATE of Oregon, a motorcycle rally, making their trek to Fossil over Memorial Weekend, July hosts the Wheeler County Blue Grass Festival and Cruz-In car show, and the Wheeler County Fair and Rodeo in August.

If you are ever close by, be sure to make some time to visit Fossil. The people are friendly, and the community is amazing. We can't wait to see you!

2023 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location
January 26	OMA Board Meeting	Salem
April 24	OMA Board Meeting	Seaside
April 25	OMA Spring Workshop	Seaside
April 26	LOC Spring Conference	Seaside
August 10-12	OMA Summer Conference	Hood River
August 13	OMA Board Meeting	Hood River
October 11	OMA Board Meeting	Eugene
October 12	OMA Fall Workshop	Eugene
October 12-14	LOC Annual Conference	Eugene
December 5	OMA Board Meeting	North Plains

OMA Homelessness Taskforce



The OMA Board of Directors approved the creation of the OMA Homelessness Taskforce in May 2022. The taskforce brought together 25 mayors from across

the state to develop a response to homelessness that would help all communities statewide, regardless of size or locations, to address the issue. Over the summer and early fall, the taskforce met regularly to develop its homelessness plan, which was finalized and approved October 14. The plan was subsequently emailed to all 90 members of the Oregon Legislature and Governor-Elect Tina Kotek.

The OMA Homelessness Taskforce's plan to humanely and timely address the homelessness crisis in Oregon is a partnership between the State of Oregon and its 241 cities. This partnership will allow for the establishment and expansion of local, community-based responses that provide immediate shelter, needed services, and secure safety for unhoused Oregonians. During the 2023 Legislative session, the OMA will propose two separate, yet parallel, budget proposals:

1. A budget package which provides direct allocation to cities for homelessness response and prevention services; and
2. A budget package that provides capital improvement funding for cities.

Direct Allocation

A direct allocation of funding from the state to each incorporated city in Oregon for cities to use in their homelessness response and prevention services is being proposed by the OMA.

- It is proposed that each city will be allocated funds in an amount equal to \$40 per resident, in accordance with the latest official population estimates from Portland State University.
- The proposal requires that in no instance will an incorporated city receive less than \$50,000 in direct funding.

- OMA's proposal provides cities the ability to elect to use the funds for their own homelessness response and prevention services, or to redirect their funds to community partners who are required to use the funds for homelessness response and prevention services.

OMA's proposal states that funds must be used for homelessness response and prevention services, which may include:

- Abatement/clean-up
- Environmental mitigation
- Affordable housing
- Capital construction or improvement costs related to homelessness or affordable housing measures
- Community resource officers
- Education and outreach
- Food bank assistance
- Shelter and/or transitional housing
- Hygiene stations
- Operation costs
- Outreach workers
- Prevention



With a \$50,000 guarantee for all cities, and a \$40.00 per resident multiplier in place, based on the April 19, 2022, PSU population estimates, the total amount requested would equal \$123,575,800.00 annually.

Capital Allocation

In addition to the direct allocations, the Taskforce's proposal requires a meaningful allocation from the State for coordinated capital construction investments for specific

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shelter and transitional housing projects, statewide. It is expected that a final dollar amount for needed capital construction investments will equal between \$125 to \$175 million. The OMA is seeking information from Oregon cities about any needs they may have for capital construction investments from the state in their local responses to addressing the homelessness crisis.

Media Briefing

Taskforce members held a press conference on October 31, 2022 to discuss the funding proposals. You can watch the press conference by visiting www.oregonmayors.org and clicking on the OMA Taskforce on Homelessness tab.

OMA Board is Asking for your City's Support

The OMA Homelessness Taskforce and the OMA Board of Directors seek the support of Oregon's 241 cities for the above-described proposal. In an effort to present the legislature and Oregon's next governor with a truly coordinated and collaborative proposal, the OMA hopes to submit its legislative request with as many city partners as possible. To explain the statewide nature of this crisis, the League of Oregon Cities (LOC), in partnership with the OMA, has secured the services of a communications specialist to work directly with cities interested in supporting the OMA proposal. The communications specialist will work directly with interested cities to develop a one-page document that outlines a city's unique experience with homelessness, and how the funding proposed by the OMA would help the city respond to, or even prevent, homelessness in their community. Work performed by the consultant in support of the OMA proposal will be paid for by the LOC.

If your city is interested in supporting this proposal, please let Angela Speier know and provide the LOC with a list of any capital project funding your city needs to address or prevent homelessness. Staff is compiling a list of all capital project needs to submit as part of one comprehensive funding package. Some cities have submitted things like "\$250,000 for portable showers/toilets" or "\$2.5 million to build a navigation center."

As of December 19, 101 cities have committed their support to the effort and 34 cities have identified capital project needs for a total of \$90 million. If your city is interested in joining this effort please let Angela Speier, LOC Project and Affiliates Manager know at aspeier@orcities.org.

Next Steps

The taskforce members are trying to set up a meeting with Governor-Elect Tina Kotek to discuss the proposals prior to the start of the 2023 Legislative Session. Taskforce members are also drafting local Op Eds to be published in newspapers statewide. These proposals will be discussed with members of the legislature during City Day at the Capitol on taking place on Wednesday, January 25.



Questions

If you have any questions regarding these proposals or need additional information, please contact any of the LOC staff persons listed below.

- Patty Mulvihill, LOC Executive Director – pmulvihill@orcities.org
- Ariel Nelson, LOC Housing & Land Use Lobbyist – anelson@orcities.org
- Angela Speier, Projects & Affiliates Manager – aspeier@orcities.org

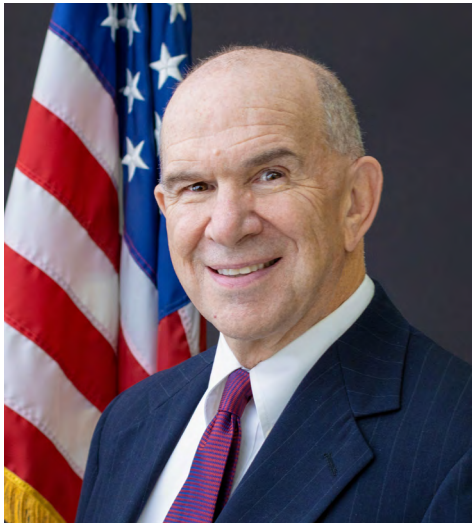


Trivia Question:

When is National Fossil Day?

Answer on back page.

Meet the New OMA Directors



Mayor Rich Mays, The Dalles

Mayor Rich Mays and his wife Rose moved to The Dalles from the Oregon Coast in January of 2015. His 40 year career in public service includes 33 years in municipal government with 28 as a City Manager in Cannon Beach, Oregon; Jefferson City, the state capital of Missouri; and Collinsville and Sterling, Illinois. Rich also served as the Interim County Manager for Clatsop County following his retirement from Cannon Beach in July of 2014. He has a Bachelors degree in Recreation and Park Administration from Western Illinois University and a Masters degree in Public Administration from Northern Illinois University. Rich and Rose are members of the Gateway Church and moved to The Dalles to be closer to their daughter Christine and their two grandchildren Olivia and Carter, who helps Rich volunteering for The Dalles High School Booster Club.



Mayor Chas Jones, Philomath

Dr. Jones serves as the Mayor of the city of Philomath, Oregon, where he has been an elected official since 2018. While having acquired degrees from Sauk Valley Community College and Northern Arizona University, he acquired his Ph.D. in Hydrology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and is an expert in the dynamic interactions between climate, water, ecology, and society. Professionally, Chas serves as the Director for the Climate Resilience Program for the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI).

The “If I Were Mayor...” Student Contest has started!

Each mayor is encouraged to promote a local contest by the same name over the course of the school year so that local entries can be submitted to the statewide competition in April. The OMA Board of Directors encourages you to speak with your local school district and youth to encourage students to submit entries in three different categories:

- Elementary School (grades 4-5). Students in these grades are encouraged to submit posters detailing what they would do as mayor.
- Middle School (grades 6-8). Students in these grades are encouraged to submit essays detailing what they would do as mayor.
- High School (grades 9-12). Students in these grades are encouraged to submit a digital media presentation (formats allowed include: MP4 or online video format) detailing what they would do as mayor.

Submissions to the statewide competition are due April 7,

2023. Only one submission in each of the three categories is allowed per city.

Mayors should have received a packet of information on how to participate via email. To assist students in creating their entries, the OMA Board of Directors created educational materials outlining the role of a mayor and listing the services typically provided by cities in Oregon. These materials, along with an entry form for use in local contest, can be found on the OMA website at www.oregonmayors.org.

Judging for the statewide competition will take place in May. First-place winners will be invited to attend the awards luncheon held during the OMA Annual Conference in Hood River on August 12, 2023.

For more information and examples of previous entries, please visit www.oregonmayors.org. Questions about the contest can be directed to Angela Speier at (503)540-6599 or aspeier@orcities.org.

Continuing OMA Directors



Teri Lenahan
OMA President &
Mayor of North Plains



Rod Cross
OMA President-Elect &
Mayor of Toledo



Jeff Gowing
OMA Past President



Henry Balensifer
OMA Director &
Mayor of Warrenton



Jim Trett
OMA Director &
Mayor of Detroit



Meadow Martell
OMA Director &
Mayor of Cave Junction



Vacant
OMA Director



Patty Mulvihill
Secretary-Treasurer &
LOC Executive Director

Thank you departing board members



Beth Wytoski
OMA Past President



Jason Snider
OMA Director



Carol MacInnes
OMA Director

2023 OMA Membership Drive Now Open!

Encourage your neighboring mayors, especially those who have been in office for a short time, to enroll if they are not already members of OMA. It's their opportunity to join over three-quarters of their fellow mayors in Oregon in making the OMA a strong voice for their city and a collaborative resource for mayors. Remember, one of the most valuable

benefits of the OMA is the opportunity to meet and network with your fellow mayors. Sharing ideas, problems and issues with others can lead to solutions that work for your community. Membership forms must be submitted by January 27, 2023, in order for you to be included in the OMA Directory. Find forms online at www.oregonmayors.org.

Now Accepting Applications for OMA Board of Directors

The OMA Board of Directors consists of the president, president-elect, immediate past president and six directors who are active members of the association. There will be a vacancy on the board beginning January 1, 2023. The Board is accepting applications for the vacated position with a term end date of December 2024. Candidates for an OMA Board position must return a completed application form (below) to Angela Speier by Sunday, January 15, 2023. The Board will review the applications and consider making an appointment at their January 26 meeting.

APPLICATION FORM 2023 OMA Board Director Vacancy

Submit by January 15, 2023, to:

OMA Board
1201 Court St. NE #200
Salem, OR 97301
aspeier@orcities.org

Name _____ City _____

Please Answer the Following Questions:

Why are you interested in serving as a member of the OMA Board of Directors?

Please describe your relevant public service experience including elected and appointed positions in local government.

What do you see as the two or three most important challenges facing Oregon cities in the near future? And what should the OMA Board of Directors do to address those challenges?

What contribution(s) can you bring to the OMA board of directors?

In what ways have you been an active member of OMA?

Consider Joining an OMA Committee

The Board of Directors has opened the application process for those mayors who may wish to serve on an OMA Committee during calendar year 2023. All applications will be reviewed by the Board during its January 26, 2023 meeting. If you are interested in serving on one or more committees, please complete the application below and return it to Angela Speier at aspeier@orcities.org. All applications must be submitted by Friday, January 13, to be considered by the Board.

Name:

City:

Email:

Cell Phone:

Check one or more	Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONFERENCE PLANNING Plan the annual summer conference held August 10 – 12, 2023. In addition, determine scholarship recipients to attend the conference. This committee typically meets 3 – 5 times via Zoom between March – June.
<input type="checkbox"/>	MAYORS LEADERSHIP AWARD The Mayors Leadership Award recognizes the valuable contributions made by mayors throughout Oregon in their communities. This committee reviews nominations and determines recipients of the award. This committee typically meets once or twice via Zoom in May/June.
<input type="checkbox"/>	NOMINATING Review applications and recommend a board slate of candidates for calendar year 2024. This committee is comprised of five persons, consisting of the Immediate Past President, two past presidents who still serve as mayor, and two OMA members who are not serving on the Board and who are not past presidents of the Board. This committee typically meets 1 -2 times via Zoom in September.
<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDENT CONTEST SELECTION The student contest is announced at the summer conference with local submissions due to the OMA by April 7, 2023. This committee is responsible for determining statewide winners for each of the three categories: poster (grades 4- 5); essays (grades 6 – 8); and digital media presentations (grades 9 – 12). This committee typically meets once in person in May.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS This committee's purpose is to review and propose changes to the OMA's governing documents which include the Constitution, Bylaws and Policies. These changes must then be approved by the OMA board and membership. This committee is ad hoc and only meets as needed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	RESOURCE This committee's purpose is to assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities to serve as a resource and point of contact for new Oregon mayors. The committee will review the effectiveness of the new mayor orientation program hosted in conjunction with the LOC's Elected Essentials training program, while also seeking to identify ways in which the OMA can be of better assistance to new mayors. This committee is expected to meet 2-3 times via Zoom between February and May and then as needed.

☐ I am flexible and would like for the OMA Board of Directors to assign me to _____ (# of committees) that have the most need.

Return completed form by January 13, 2023, to Angela Speier at aspeier@orcities.org.

Register Now for Elected Essentials and Mayors Workshops

Are you new to city government? Are you looking for a refresher on government fundamentals? Elected Essentials is for you!

LOC is thrilled to offer our signature Elected Essentials training in person again this winter. The LOC's Elected Essentials program provides newly elected officials, experienced elected officials, and city staff with free training on the basics of municipal governance in Oregon.

Topics include:

- How to Achieve a High Functioning City Council. Attendees will learn the healthy habits of highly functioning city councils, including: the roles, responsibilities, and authorities of

various city officials; the difference between a group and a team; and, important communication techniques.

- What City Officials Need to Know About Oregon's Public Records Law. Attendees will learn what is considered and is not considered a public record, gain an understanding of the state's retention schedule, and develop an appreciation for the requirements related to the inspection and disclosure of public records, including to legal challenges related to the denial of access to public records.

Remaining Dates and locations:

Island City – City Hall	Jan. 18, 2023, 6-8 p.m.	OMA New Mayors Workshop
	Jan. 19, 2023, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Elected Essentials
Keizer – Civic Center	Jan. 26, 2023, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Elected Essentials
	Jan. 26, 2023, 6-8 p.m.	OMA New Mayors Workshop
Vale – Senior Center	Jan. 30, 2023, 6-8 p.m.	OMA New Mayors Workshop
	Jan. 31, 2023, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Elected Essentials



LOC
League of Oregon Cities

OREGON MAYORS ASSOCIATION
OMA

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

CITY DAY AT THE CAPITOL

JANUARY 25, 2023

**MOVE
WITH THE
MAYOR™**

You are invited to join mayors throughout the U.S. partnering with the National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention and the CDC to keep COVID down. Join the movement!

**EASY TO GET
STARTED!**



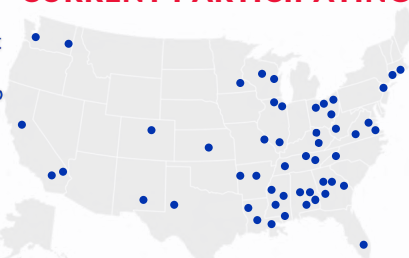
Move with the Mayor™ (MWTM) Vaccination Initiative

The National Forum, with CDC's support, invites you to use a new MWTM initiative to reduce COVID's impact on economic and civic activity. This initiative will help you empower community members to protect themselves, and their loved ones, and maintain their livelihoods and activities.

Steps to get started:

- **First**, the National Forum will help you make a video PSA using language that is effective with the public to increase receptivity to vaccines for COVID-19, flu, and routine adult immunization. We will provide medically-sound information and a platform for you to lead by example.
- **Second**, the National Forum will deliver your message to your residents through paid social media to augment your own communications channels. In addition, the National Forum will work with you and your team to help generate earned media coverage of this initiative.

CURRENT PARTICIPATING



CITIES

We take care of the ground work, you use your leadership to save lives!

The National Forum will provide guidance, scripts, and communication tools to help you strengthen your community's resilience and reduce future disruptions.



The National Forum Will Provide You With:

- Scientifically accurate messages using language that has been shown to resonate with people who are not yet vaccinated for COVID-19.
- Video PSA.
- Social media advertising to drive viewership in your community.
- Sample social media messages.

Mayors simply show up and lead the way to a healthy city!

Why Join?

- Tested messaging and strategies to increase receptivity to vaccines.
- Access to scientifically-sound resources & information.
- Social and traditional media support.
- Ensure your community doesn't fall behind on vaccines missed during the pandemic.
- Be a part of a CDC-supported initiative.

The National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention is a non-profit organization with over 100 members from the private and public sectors. It leads collaborative actions to improve cardiovascular health. The National Forum is a member of the USCM Mayors Business Council.

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For more information, please visit www.nationalforum.org



STRENGTH IN UNITY

1201 COURT ST. NE, #200

SALEM, OREGON 97301

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
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SALEM, OR
PERMIT NO. 344

SAVE THE DATE



OMA Summer Conference

August 10-12, 2023

Best Western Plus Inn, Hood River

Trivia Question Answer:

National Fossil Day will be observed on Wednesday, October 11, 2023