



CITY OF OREGON CITY YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION AGENDA

City Hall Mt. Hood Room, 625 Center St., Oregon City, OR 97045
Monday, June 8, 2026 at 4:30 PM

Ways to participate in this public meeting:

- *Attend in person, location listed above. Please see the public comment guidelines below.*
 - *Register to provide electronic testimony (email hschmidt@orcity.org or call 503-496-1510 by 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting to register)*
 - *Email hschmidt@orcity.org (deadline to submit written testimony via email is 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting)*
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1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Please see the public comment guidelines below.

3. WORKING GROUP BREAK OUT SESSION

- a. End of Term Debrief

4. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Youth Nicotine Addiction Working Group
- b. Youth Houselessness Working Group
- c. Environmental Working Group
- d. Education Accessibility Working Group

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. YAC Handbook Working Group - Member Participation & Summer Meeting Schedule
- b. 2025-2026 Term Evaluation

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. May 11, 2026 Youth Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

7. ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES

Complete a Comment Card prior to the meeting and submit it to the clerk. When the Chair calls your name, proceed to the speaker table, and state your name and city of residence. Each speaker is given 3 minutes to speak. As a general practice, the committee does not engage in discussion with those making comments. Complaints shall be addressed at the department level prior to addressing the committee.

ADA NOTICE

The location is ADA accessible. Hearing devices may be requested from the City Recorder prior to the meeting. Individuals requiring other assistance must make their request known 48 hours preceding the meeting by contacting the City Recorder's Office at 503-657-0891.

Agenda Posted at City Hall, Pioneer Community Center, Library, City Website.

Video Streaming & Broadcasts: The meeting is streamed live on the [Oregon City's website](#) and available on demand following the meeting. The meeting can be viewed on Willamette Falls Television channel 28 for Oregon City area residents as a rebroadcast. Please contact WFMC at 503-650-0275 for a programming schedule.



CITY OF OREGON CITY

625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-657-0891

Staff Report

To: Youth Advisory Commission **Agenda Date:** June 8, 2026
From: Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist

SUBJECT:

End of Term Debrief

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

During this breakout session, the Youth Advisory Commission Working Groups and Chair should use the time to thoroughly reflect on their goals set at the beginning of the term. Each working group will be provided a worksheet to complete collaboratively, and the Chair is responsible for checking in with each working group during this time. The goals identified on the worksheets attached were taken directly from the goals created at the beginning of the term as well as the descriptions listed from the YAC brochure created this term.

BACKGROUND:

At the beginning of the term, the Youth Advisory Commission decided to create four working groups based on their top priorities:

- Youth Nicotine Addiction Working Group
- Youth Houselessness Working Group
- Environmental Working Group
- Education Accessibility Working Group

NEXT STEPS:

N/A

OPTIONS:

Working Group: Youth Nicotine group
Members: Emma

What Does Your Group Want to Achieve By The End of the Year?

Table a few events (hopefully 3-4)

What Steps Are Necessary To Achieve It?

use slogans and try to come up with ideas to cancel out nicotine with other things

What Needs to Get Done Before The Next Meeting? Who Is Going To Do What?

~~come up~~ completing a smart goals list and coming up with ideas to use instead of nicotine

myles-smart goals Gaby-find slogans and stuff.

How Often Will You Meet Outside of YAC Meetings? When and Where Will You Meet Next? Does Anyone Need Transportation?

Have a group chat
maybe go to brunch/
library

Emma- come up with things to use instead of nicotine.

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

Youth Advisory Commission Working Group: Youth Nicotine Addiction Working Group

Date: June 8, 2026

Goal: Work to raise awareness of youth nicotine addiction/effects and advocate for local action on a flavored tobacco/synthetic nicotine ban.

- Table events to educate youth/public
- Use slogans/posters to help educate youth on the effects of vaping/nicotine use

1. Did you achieve your goal? Why or why not?

2. What went well during the process of working toward your goal?

3. What challenges did you face during the process of working toward your goal and how did your working group handle them?

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

4. What would you do differently next time?

5. What did you learn from this experience?

6. How has this goal influenced your future goals or learning strategies for the Youth Advisory Commission?

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

7. On a scale of 1-10, how successful do you feel you were in achieving your goal?

Circle one: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain your rating:

Working Group: Youth Homelessness

Members: Jack, Hyrum, Max

What Does Your Group Want to Achieve By The End of the Year?

- Educate general Public on Youth Homelessness Crisis
- Make Resources known to all youth
- Introduce ourselves to community/Direct events/

What Steps Are Necessary To Achieve It?

- Contact Shelters/Schools to Present/Hand Out Pamphlets
- Attend events/Find Events/Get YAC Involved

What Needs to Get Done Before The Next Meeting? Who Is Going To Do What?

Jack - Make Slideshow

Max - Make Pamphlets

Hyrum - Get Contacts of organizations

How Often Will You Meet Outside of YAC Meetings? When and Where Will You Meet Next? Does Anyone Need Transportation?

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

Youth Advisory Commission Working Group: Youth Houselessness Working Group

Date: June 8, 2026

Goal: Dedicated to identifying the most effective ways to support houseless youth.

- Educate general public on youth houselessness Crisis
- Make resources known to all youth
- Introduce working group to community/direct experts

1. Did you achieve your goal? Why or why not?

2. What went well during the process of working toward your goal?

3. What challenges did you face during the process of working toward your goal and how did your working group handle them?

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

4. What would you do differently next time?

5. What did you learn from this experience?

6. How has this goal influenced your future goals or learning strategies for the Youth Advisory Commission?

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

7. On a scale of 1-10, how successful do you feel you were in achieving your goal?

Circle one: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain your rating:

Working Group: Environment

Members: Hadley, Cole, Sydney

What Does Your Group Want to Achieve By The End of the Year?

- Beautifying OC
- an area w/ seen improvement
- our advocacy for environmental change has a positive impact
- Community garden

What Steps Are Necessary To Achieve It?

- Outreach to environmental org
 - Trout Unlimited - PEIE - Parks association
- letter to Commission - go to meetings

What Needs to Get Done Before The Next Meeting? Who Is Going To Do What?

- Talk w/ Hannah - Sydney
- Reach out to org - Cole
- locations for possible gardens - Hadley

How Often Will You Meet Outside of YAC Meetings? When and Where Will You Meet Next? Does Anyone Need Transportation?

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

4. What would you do differently next time?

5. What did you learn from this experience?

6. How has this goal influenced your future goals or learning strategies for the Youth Advisory Commission?

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

7. On a scale of 1-10, how successful do you feel you were in achieving your goal?

Circle one: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain your rating:

Working Group: Education Accessibility
Members: David, McKenzie, Evan

What Does Your Group Want to Achieve By The End of the Year?

- Raise awareness for disabilities in schools
- Help students learn about what college and career options they have

What Steps Are Necessary To Achieve It?

- Making a group chat
- Researching how to organize events
- Organize a disability-friendly event } OK table at events
- Organize a college and career event }

What Needs to Get Done Before The Next Meeting? Who Is Going To Do What?

- Make GC
- Research
- Look for events

How Often Will You Meet Outside of YAC Meetings? When and Where Will You Meet Next? Does Anyone Need Transportation?

- 1-2 times monthly, adjusting as needed
- Oregon City High School

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

Youth Advisory Commission Working Group: Education Accessibility Working Group

Date: June 8, 2026

Goal: Work to raise awareness of disabilities in schools and help students learn about what college and career options they have

- Organize events or table at events to help educate the public

1. Did you achieve your goal? Why or why not?

2. What went well during the process of working toward your goal?

3. What challenges did you face during the process of working toward your goal and how did your working group handle them?

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

4. What would you do differently next time?

5. What did you learn from this experience?

6. How has this goal influenced your future goals or learning strategies for the Youth Advisory Commission?

YAC Working Group Goal Reflection

7. On a scale of 1-10, how successful do you feel you were in achieving your goal?

Circle one: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain your rating:

4. Volunteer/Community Event Opportunities

- **EOT & Aquatics Open Houses**

Please mark the dates below in your calendars and encourage fellow youth to attend the upcoming public outreach events for future Park Facilities:

Pool and Rec Center Future Plans
Tuesday, June 23
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Robert Libke Public Safety Building
1234 Linn Ave

End of the Oregon Trail Improvement Project
Tuesday, June 30
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center
1726 Washington Street

- **Oregon City Ivy League**

Save the dates for the 2026 Oregon City Ivy League parties:

- June 27, 2026 | Singer Creek Park
- September 12, 2026 | Waterboard Park

All work parties will be held from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Click the link below to subscribe to the email list for updates:

www.orcity.news/oc-ivy-league

- **OC UNITY - 4th of July Celebration & Laser Light Show**

Saturday, July 4 | End of the Oregon Trail

Celebrate Independence Day with Oregon City at this fun-filled community event! Enjoy an evening of live music, local food vendors, and festive activities in a lively outdoor setting perfect for all ages.

The event takes place at the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, with the site opening at 4:00 PM and food and beverage service beginning at 5:00 PM. The event features two live bands and the evening concludes with a patriotic presentation and a spectacular laser light show. Onsite parking is available for \$5 (cash only).

6:00PM - Roll On: Alabama Tribute

8:00PM - Golden Hour (Country and pop covers)

9:45PM - Patriotic Presentation & Laser Light Show

Free and open to the public—bring your friends, family, and your patriotic spirit for an unforgettable summer celebration!

- **Concerts in the Park**

Thursdays July 9 – August 13 | End of the Oregon Trail

6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Concert Site opens at 4 p.m. – onsite parking \$5 CASH ONLY

Food & Beverage sales begin at 5 p.m.

July 9 – Hailey Verhaalen & Eel Salad | Double header

July 16 – Nevermind | Nirvana Tribute Band

July 23 – Jeff Miller & The Congregate

July 30 – Conjunto Alegre

August 6 – Rocket Radio

August 13 – Eagle Eyes | Eagles Tribute Band

- **National Night Out**

An annual event held on the first Tuesday of August, dedicated to promoting police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. The Oregon City Police Department hosts a free community event at the End of the Oregon Trail Center, inviting residents to come together for an enjoyable evening filled with live music, free food, and engaging activities. This event aims to strengthen relationships between the police and the community, enhance public safety awareness, and foster a sense of unity.

- **Clear Creek Confluence Restoration Project**

The Clackamas River Basin Council is preparing for a new project called the Clear Creek Confluence Restoration Project, a habitat and water quality enhancement project that will occur in summer of 2027 at Carver Park.

The meeting schedule is below for your convenience:

If you would like to attend any or all these meetings, please RSVP online here:

<https://clackamasriver.org/clear-creek-confluence/>

Meeting Schedule:

Second community engagement meeting: 30% designs

Saturday, July 7 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Format: in person at Carver Park

Join the Clackamas River Basin Council and Waterways Consulting for a tour of the project site and presentation of the 30% concept designs. Feedback welcome.

Final community engagement meeting: near final designs

Wednesday, October 7 from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Format: Zoom

Join the Clackamas River Basin Council and Waterways Consulting for the presentation of our near final project designs.



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Staff Report

To: Youth Advisory Commission **Agenda Date:** June 8, 2026
From: Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist

SUBJECT:

Item 5.a. – Summer Project – YAC Handbook

STAFF RECCOMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the members who volunteered/expressed interest to be on the Student Handbook Working Group earlier in the term confirm their participation and meeting schedule for this summer.

Working Group Members:

- Cole Solari
- Hadley Taylor
- McKenzie Gilmore
- Bettie Chappell
- Evan Conley

Staff recommends that the working group is no more than 6 members and that they continue to meet on the second Monday of every month.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Staff has identified an opportunity to improve onboarding and overall member effectiveness within the Youth Advisory Commission (YAC) through the development of a comprehensive YAC Handbook. This resource would provide clear, accessible, and digestible information for both new and returning members. The

BACKGROUND:

At the beginning of each term, a significant amount of meeting time is dedicated to orienting members on YAC processes, expectations, and structure. While this information is essential, the lack of a centralized, written resource can lead to inconsistencies in understanding and requires repeated staff and member time each year.

Creating a YAC Handbook would streamline this process by compiling key information into a single, user-friendly document. The handbook could include topics such as roles and responsibilities, meeting procedures, project guidelines, and general expectations. Establishing a subcommittee during the summer months would allow interested members to collaborate with staff to develop content that is both informative and engaging.



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Staff Report

To: Youth Advisory Commission **Agenda Date:** June 8, 2026
From: Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist

SUBJECT:

Item 5.b. - 2025-2026 Term Evaluation

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

NA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Please come to the meeting with a mobile device, iPad, or computer to complete the 2025-2026 Youth Advisory Commission End of Term Evaluation Survey. 20 minutes of time will be allotted for everyone to complete the survey during the meeting.

All survey responses are anonymous, and your critical evaluation is encouraged to help provide feedback on your experience this term as a Youth Advisory Commissioner. The information gathered from the survey will aid in planning for the 2026-2027 Youth Advisory Commission Term.

BACKGROUND:

N/A

OPTIONS:

N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:



**CITY OF OREGON CITY
YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

City Hall Mt. Hood Room, 625 Center St., Oregon City, OR 97045
Monday, May 11, 2026 at 7:15 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Justin Evers called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

PRESENT: 1

Bettie Chappell, Donald Bredehoeft, Evan Conley, Gaby Rysdam, Hyrum Freestone, Justin Evers, Max Bishop, McKenzie Gilmore, Sydney McFarland, Commissioner Adam Marl, and Mayor Denyse McGriff.

STAFF: *Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist*

EXCUSED: *Cole Solari, Hadley Taylor, Jack Solari, and Myles Kinney*

ABSENT: *Elyjah McFarland*

2. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Melissa Sebastian, Aquatics & Recreation Manager, highlighted water safety in recognition of Water Safety Month. She emphasized that drowning is the leading cause of death for ages 0-4 and a major accidental death cause for all age groups nationwide. Public pools are crucial for safety, and Oregon City's pool recently marked 60 years of service. The city's lifeguard team performed 8 non-fatal rescues last year due to rigorous training. Access to swim lessons can reduce drowning risk by 88%.

Regarding teens and adults, Sebastian noted that 50% can't swim; 70% of adult drownings involve alcohol, 80% involve males, and 83% of boating fatalities occur without a life jacket. She advised swimming with a buddy, using a life jacket near natural water, knowing limits, and learning CPR. Oregon City's pool plans new programming, including adult and teen swim lessons, family swim lessons, and Junior Lifeguard programs. Discussion highlighted challenges like reduced public pools, school swim lessons ending, and the transport issue for school swim programs.

Members asked whether the drowning statistics presented were Oregon-specific or national; Sebastian said they were national figures. In response to questions about why so many adults do not know how to swim, Sebastian cited the decline

in public pools, reduced school-based swim instruction, and the intergenerational impact of adults who never learned to swim. Discussion also included the prior role of school swim lessons, transportation barriers to restarting them locally, and the possibility of making swimming instruction part of school physical education which could improve safety outcomes.

- b. Josh Wheeler, Assistant City Engineer, discussed the City's ADA Transition Plan for the Public Right-of-Way, highlighting the 1990 ADA and the 1991 DOJ regulations mandating transition plans. Many cities, including Oregon City, were unaware of these requirements. The City, following the 2023 PROWAG standards, found nearly 60% of 1,444 inspected curb ramps noncompliant, projecting about 1,800 needing reconstruction, and estimating over seven years for full assessment at 20 ramps monthly. Each new ramp costs approximately \$10,000, with full remediation estimated at \$18 million. Meanwhile, available funding sources including gas tax and vehicle fees are fully committed to other programs. A broader ADA Transition Plan, encompassing infrastructure, building interiors, parking, and accessibility, aims for completion by 2027.

Members asked about the ramp inspection process, why it takes significant time, and whether partially deficient ramps must be fully rebuilt. Wheeler said inspections require multiple slope measurements and documentation which are performed by staff who also have other duties. He said that in most cases, once one section is corrected, the geometry of surrounding sections is affected, so most reconstructions involve replacing the full ramp area. Commissioner Adam Marl had Wheeler clarify that "right-of-way" denotes the city's publicly maintained road and sidewalk areas. Additionally, Mayor McGriff emphasized that detectable warning bumps installed for accessibility can be hazardous for crutch users, indicating some solutions are not universally perfect.

- c. Kira Smith from the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council discussed their nonprofit's work on salmon conservation and water protection, focusing on Abernathy Creek. The Creek's rising temperatures threaten salmon health, so the Council engages in tree planting, habitat restoration, invasive species removal, and public education. She detailed a new grant project with the City's Parks Dept., involving invasive species removal, native planting, and more at three park sites—Abernathy Creek Park, Tyrone S. Woods Park, and Atkinson Park. Smith emphasized that the plan is flexible to incorporate youth input. She sought the Commission's support via a letter before the May 22 grant deadline, with Staff Liaison Hannah Schmidt suggesting a procedural vote and the Environmental Working Group's assistance for the letter.

Mckenzie Gilmore moved to provide the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council a letter of support, with the Youth Advisory Commission supporting their proposed grant application. The motion was seconded by Bettie Chappell. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff confirmed the draft letter would be coordinated by the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council and then signed by the Environmental Working Group lead, Sydney McFarland.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were provided.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Staff Liaison Hannah Schmidt reminded members to complete three surveys distributed in the group chat: one related to outreach, one related to end-of-term potluck scheduling, and one related to year-end accolades. She explained that the survey information would be used to finalize plans and ensure broad participation.

Members discussed end-of-term recognition and related logistics. Gaby Rysdam suggested exploring whether Youth Advisory Commission participation could someday be recognized with graduation honor cords or similar acknowledgment tied to civic engagement. Schmidt said she could explore the idea for the future but could not promise implementation in time for the current graduating class.

- b. Schmidt reported that six or seven seats were expected to be open for the 2026-2027 term and said the City had already received four applications. She said she would work with Mayor McGriff and Commissioner Marl to develop an interview process for the summer, anticipating a strong applicant pool.

She credited current members' outreach efforts for helping generate interest and reviewed recent and upcoming recruitment contacts with local schools and students. Members were encouraged to continue sharing application materials and recruiting interested students. Discussion also included the importance of using current, undated or reusable outreach materials so schools do not inadvertently continue displaying outdated flyers.

5. WORKING GROUP BREAK OUT SESSION

The Chair Justin Evers had the commission break into their respective working groups at approximately 8:49 PM and reconvened at 9:05 PM.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. **Youth Nicotine Addiction Working Group**

The working group reported that it had discussed information recently shared by staff regarding local regulation of flavored nicotine products, including actions taken in Washington County and Multnomah County. Members discussed

questions about how such bans are implemented and indicated they would continue researching the topic.

b. **Youth Houselessness Working Group**

The working group invited members to participate in the Love One's/BRAX laundry and shower event scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Hyrum Freestone sent a sign-up link for the volunteer event in the group chat.

c. **The Environmental Working Group**

The working group reported that, because only one member of the group was present, it remained in electronic communication regarding the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council support letter. The group also announced an upcoming pollinator garden cleanup event at River Access Park on May 19 at 8:30 AM and said permission slips were available.

d. **Education Accessibility Working Group**

The working group reported that it had discussed its accomplishments for the year and had no new agenda items. The group also discussed possible participation in handbook-related work over the summer.

e. Schmidt reviewed several administrative and scheduling updates. She told members they were generally on track with community outreach expectations and invited anyone with concerns about meeting those requirements to speak with her directly.

She reported that the proposal for a Youth Advisory Commission seat on the Enhancement Grant Committee was still under review by that committee and would not yet come before them for action. She explained that the committee needed to resolve bylaw and membership questions first, and that the matter could return to them for potential discussion during the next academic year.

Schmidt noted upcoming presentation opportunities for the Chair and Vice Chair, including a presentation to the Oregon City Rotary Club on May 27 and the Commission's annual report to the City Commission on June 3. She also informed members that the City Commission would hold a June 9 Work Session where a discussion on the City ban on flavored tobacco products would take place and members of the Youth Nicotine Addiction Working Group were especially encouraged to attend and consider providing public comment.

Schmidt reminded members to vote for the Metro Nature in Neighborhoods Community Choice grants and highlighted additional volunteer and engagement opportunities, including the Clackamette Park open house, Ivy League events, and an Emerald Ash Borer workshop.

Based on survey results, Schmidt announced that the end-of-term potluck would be held on Monday, June 8, following a shortened regular YAC meeting from 4:30

PM to 6:00 PM. The potluck itself would begin at 7:00 PM at a park location to be confirmed. She said families and guests would be invited and that further details will follow.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Members noted corrections to the draft minutes for the April 13, 2026 Youth Advisory Commission Meeting, including an inaccurate attendance count and a correction related to handbook participation.

Sydney McFarland moved to approve the minutes as amended. Gaby Rysdam seconded the motion. Motion carried with unanimous consent.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Justin Evers adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Schmidt, Community Engagement Specialist

Date Approved: _____