

November 13th, 6pm

Larkspur Board Meeting Minutes

Larkspur Community Center

Number of attendees- 45

5:00 - 5:30 Space Set Up

5:30 - 6:00 Registration & Refreshments

6:00 - 6:10 Opening Comments/Board Introductions

6:10 - 6:20 Board Candidate Solicitations/Elections

- Open positions- join and we can adjust positions to fit your interests and skillset
- April Grow- voted onto the Larkspur Board

6:20 - 6:30 **City of Bend/Winter Maintenance- Chuck Swann- Division Manager**

- Goals- keep the roads clear, especially major arteries and emergency routes
- Ada, bikes, and bridges
- 900 lane miles, 70% residential, 20% Arterials, 10% Collectors
- First-year they plow greenways
- City Snow Equipment- 16 heavy plows, 8 sanders, 6 mag chloride, 28 additional pieces of equipment if they call out contractors
- 35 CDL operators, 4 non-CDL. Large snow events, two 12-hour shifts
- Do not have a bare pavement policy because of city infrastructure (manholes, etc), and city mandated not to use salt for the health of the river
- Magnesium Chloride- preventative, not after ice is on the ground, prevents bonding of ice to the road surface. Speeds up the process of melting. Do not put it down if there is rain in the forecast, looking at temperatures, etc.
 - Not applied over snowpack
 - Did about 8 applications last year
- Sanding- use a grey rock- not the typical red cinders, harder, less crushing and dust, easier to remove
 - Applied on hills, roundabouts, concrete roads, 911 or trouble spots
 - Try to clean it up as fast as possible to keep it from getting in the river

- How you can help: If you can, move your car out of the street if there is a big snow event coming. Clear your sidewalks and help your neighbors.
 - Plow 20 ft ahead of your driveway to reduce snow load from plows
 - Bend Works- map you can download on your phone, allows you to create a request, take a picture, and track your request

6:30 - 6:45

Ariel Mendez/City Council/Shelter Bed Update/ Camping Code/ Etc.

- City Council will be hearing a report on the camping code this week (Wednesday, Nov. 15th)
- Working towards 600 shelter beds, City supported by grants received
- Time, place, and manner of camping is regulated in Bend- it has been effective for dissuading large encampments
- Hear more concerns when it comes to vehicle camping. There is a parking code. Those complaints go to the police dept., though the police dept. Are spread pretty thin.
- **Bend Works-** can see in real time on a map what other people are writing in about and City staff responding.
- **Water-** We are fortunate to have some of the best water in the country right here. Half the water in the summer comes from surface water, and the other half is ground water. In the winter, it is all surface water. Looking to install in conduit hydro to generate electricity on the surface water coming down the mountain. Could be up to 800 home instantly powered.
 - Our usage is flat, using less water per person even as we grow
- **Bend Bike Way-** Looking for a consistent North- South route in Bend
- **Community questions:**
 - **Q: Getting across Reed Market is dangerous, who in the City is the best to work with for bringing that to the attention of the City?** Most concerned about the point where you get on the Larkspur trail. **A:** We are going to be looking at our general approach to things like speed limits, and automated camera enforcement (could help). Kristin talked about the Neighborhood Street Safety Program that the City just used to call for project ideas. One of the things the City Council is looking at is a transportation utility fee to help fund these projects.

- **Q: Is there an update for the bridge over the railroad track? A:** It is still coming, looking likely in 2027. Have to have alternate routes in place.
- **Q: Is there a special task force that can help the Bend Bike Way and what will it look like? A:** Bend Bikes does a lot of advocacy, can get involved through the neighborhood association.
- **Q: What are the plans for adding more lanes? A:** No city has been successful in reducing congestion by adding lanes. The best way to make driving better is to make not driving better first. Better public transit, biking, etc.
- **Q: Disconnect between what the city is allowing in terms of growth and the stress on the folks that are already living here. A:** The city's goal is to have 15 min neighborhoods (can get most of what you want within walking/ biking distance). The city however cannot develop commercial space on their own. Striking the right balance between building codes.
- **Comment: Camping code, not working because it lacks teeth.**

6:45 - 7:05

Police Chief Mike Krantz/ Larkspur Crime & Camping Code

- **Crime stats-** Not a lot has changed from last year (see attached docs for data).
- **What is going on in the neighborhood:** Fugitive (someone with a warrant out), theft (often because we are a bit complacent and leave things out, keys in cars, etc), DUIs (alcohol-driven tourism) arrest 1,100 people on average per year, the highest in the state, Vandalism (on the rise a little here), Assault and intimidation (mostly domestic violence).
- **Can find all of this data on the Police Data Hub:**
<https://policedata.bendoregon.gov>
- **Camping Code:** A challenge because of court decisions at the federal level, which makes it almost impossible for local government to create any sort of regulations. Have to allow camping, but can regulate when, where, and how... a little bit. Portland has put in some pretty restrictive codes and they have been blocked on the federal level. The current code has only been in place for 6 months. The camping code tab is on the City of Bend website. On Bend Works, there is a reporting mechanism. It is not a criminal statute so it does not go to the police. The Rights of Way

Management team can move items or issue a citation. They respond to what can be considered the most impactful reports. They do a lot of cleanup. They get a lot of compliance. Technically our code allows 24 hours of camping but that is a tough thing to regulate. Have to move 650ft. Not allowed in residential areas. But they are posting, they have 72 hours to move, then it takes the one team time to come back, so it can take a while. We Only have 2 people doing this job right now. The code restricts how many camps can be in one site now.

- **Comment- Transportation and Safety: Franklin Tunnel is a safety concern (trash, harassment, etc.). Response:** There are a lot of things that are not illegal that we cannot address. That is an area where we see a higher concentration of homeless camps, services, etc. The challenge is, we can't do sweeps, we can't go against the law. Some folks that we are seeing a lot of are service-resistant. The vast majority of homelessness is a lot of other things outside of addiction, mental health, and service-resistant folks.
- **Comment- seem to be getting more and more loud vehicles, they often come with driving too fast. Is there any type of enforcement for these activities? Is it possible to consider traffic enforcement by motorcycle? A:** We are a very lean police dept. We do have motorcycle officers, only two of them. 4 current traffic officers, and one sergeant for that unit. What we do enforce speed racers, will watch for things on social media. But simply don't have the resources to do it enough.
- **How do we get more Police Officers? A:** Lack of investment over the years, takes a long time to catch up. All city depts. Are running lean. The tenacity of the police officers here is high. We are looking at ways to increase our abilities. The base general fund property tax rate is some of the lowest in the state. That restricts general funding. Trying to utilize more technology to up efficiency.
- **Q: How much does housing cost affect the ability to recruit police officers? A:** The contracts here are well paid, however yes, it does happen a lot.
- **Comment: General fund Budget, is it going to the right places? A:** 80% of the budget goes to public safety. 20% is left to cover street

maintenance, etc. We are constrained by the tax laws that were passed many years ago.

- **Comment: Cyclists don't always know what the rules are for cyclists. Should have to take a safety course on what the rules are.**

7:10 - 7:30 Public Comments

7:30 - 8:00 Clean Up