

To Mayor Drabkin,

We appreciate your response to our Task Force in your past two "Read on Mac" newsletters. We noticed a few potential misconceptions that need addressing concerning our "Safe Zone 4 Kids" initiative and believe it's important to clarify these points. In this letter, we've also attached a comprehensive report that strongly supports our proposal with a solid foundation in data.

You mentioned the community's request for "painting yellow lines around schools to create visual boundaries." It's important to clarify that our Task Force never requested the painting of yellow lines around schools for visual boundaries. The change we have proposed would involve communication and the subsequent enforcement of the adopted ordinance. Our proposal suggests a straightforward addition to our already compliant camping code and ordinance, aiming to prohibit encampments within 1,500 feet of school properties, athletic fields, including daycares, and our public library. This is a simple proposal that has proven highly effective in the multiple cities mentioned in our report that we are sharing with you.

Our extensive report outlines the framework for implementing the "Safe Zone 4 Kids" initiative, a concept that has gained nationwide traction due to the growing recognition of the urgent need for improved safety around schools, athletic fields, and public libraries. Our hope is that McMinnville can also benefit from this initiative. Inside the attached report, you'll discover a list of cities that have recently adjusted their ordinances to align with House Bill 3115 and other relevant state regulations. These changes are backed by legal precedents such as *Martin vs. Boise* and *Blake vs. Grants Pass*. This reinforces the credibility of our data. Furthermore, we've collaborated directly with various mayors, municipalities, councils, and dedicated city attorneys, or their acting legal counsel around the state who have successfully implemented similar changes in their ordinances. Additionally, we conducted on-site visits at schools in many of these cities and observed a lack of yellow lines or signage indicating the regulations.

We extend our gratitude for your dedication by stating you will be enforcing existing regulations to the fullest extent. This dedication was highlighted not once but twice – first in your initial commitment to the Task Force and again in your "Read on Mac" email from the Week of September 4th. All efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of our community are valued, and we share your belief that consistent full enforcement is critical in creating a secure environment.

Our Task Force has consistently aimed to collaborate with the city rather than oppose it. As you mentioned in your recent newsletter, *"In the Chief's words... Enforcement alone will not solve these problems... underscoring the importance of community-wide cooperation in tackling these challenges.* including your call to action, *"What are your ideas for combating issues in our community? Share them with me."* aligns with our commitment to enhancing child safety. Wouldn't it be great if we could work together to explore solutions that will further protect the safety of our children and our community?

We kindly request your consideration of our thoroughly vetted proposal. Given your control over the agenda for City Council meetings, we hope that you will consider this important topic worthy of attention and discussion. We're aware of your ongoing communication with the Superintendent and some members of the school board, who share our concerns as we've already met with them. We provided them with a copy of our well-vetted process, and firmly believe that collaborating as a team would yield significant benefits.

We extend an invitation for you to join our next Task Force meeting. This would provide an opportunity for you to meet with us, engage in discussions about our ideas, and gain insight into the legal framework supporting our initiative. Together, we can work towards safeguarding our children and our community. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12th, from 3:00-5:00pm, and we sincerely hope you can join us. Additionally, we are eagerly awaiting your response regarding our proposal to create bike lanes on Marsh Lane. Perhaps we can have an in-person discussion about this during the meeting as well.

Together in unity for a safer community,

McMINNVILLE COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

PROHIBITION OF CAMPING NEAR OREGON SCHOOLS: SAFE ZONE FOR CHILDREN

Cities Embracing the "Safe Zone 4 Kids" Initiative:

Numerous cities within Oregon have taken proactive measures to safeguard the well-being of children by instituting a "Safe Zone 4 Kids" ordinance. This initiative is a response to the need for safer surroundings for children attending school and adheres to the guidelines set forth by House Bill 3115 and existing state laws. While this list does not encompass all participating cities, it provides a glimpse of the collective effort to create secure spaces for children.

BEND	1,000ft
REDMOND	1,000ft
SISTERS	No camping at school grounds, in residential, public or city areas
PRINEVILLE	1,000ft
PORTLAND	250ft
BEAVERTON	500ft
HILLSBORO	500ft
FOREST GROVE	500ft
TIGARD	500ft
WEST LINN	300ft
TUALATIN	500ft
SHERWOOD	1,000ft
NEWBERG	1,500ft
JEFFERSON	500ft
SALEM	1,000ft - using language like public property, vs schools, working on new ordinance
KEIZER	100ft
STAYTON	In process of adopting Bend's ordinance
ALBANY	In process of adopting Bend's ordinance
CORVALLIS	In process of adopting Bend's ordinance
GRANTS PASS	50ft - currently under injunction but have created a buffer zone of 50ft
EUGENE	1,000ft
ROSEBURG	200ft

OREGON CITIES, NO CAMPING ORDINANCE NEAR SCHOOLS

BEND 1,000FT

"Alternate shelter" means an outdoor location that provides access for sleeping and/or camping through the use of a vehicle, a recreational vehicle, a tent, or some other structure which offers some protection from the outdoor elements, provided that any alternate shelter shall not be located: (1) in a manner that will create a physical impediment to emergency or nonemergency ingress, egress or access to public or private property, including but not limited to driveways, sidewalks and entrances or exits from buildings and/or other real property; and/or (2) within 1000 feet of a school or public park~
Ord 2023-013 revising DCC re camping on public property.pdf

PORTLAND 250FT

Place restrictions: The code changes specify several places where camping is always prohibited. Restrictions include, but are not limited to, the pedestrian use zone, 250 feet from a school or childcare center, in the public right-of-way along the High Crash Corridor, and City Parks.

*******.portland.gov/wheeler/documents/time-place-manner-brochure/download**

BEAVERTON 500FT

Within 500 feet from a lot or parcel containing an elementary school, secondary school or a certified child care center.

*******beaverton.municipal.codes/BC/5.18.050**

HILLSBORO 500FT

Prohibit camping within residential zones, 10 feet of business doorways, city parks, property with city buildings, or active city parking lots, 500 feet (about two blocks) of shelters or homelessness services, 500 feet, of K-12 schools, not including daycares or preschools, protected natural areas, 500 feet (about two blocks) of a freeway entrance or exit, or along roads with speed limits of 45 miles per hour or higher, areas under repair or construction, areas currently hosting permitted special events or under temporary use permit, areas without a curb or traffic barrier, within 10 feet any driveway, bridge, culvert, or viaduct.

*******.hillsboro-oregon.gov/Home/Components/News/News/14809/4300**

*******.hillsboro-oregon.gov/services/community-support/homelessness-initiatives/camping-rules**

FOREST GROVE 500FT

Prohibit overnight camping on public property in the following areas: 500' from schools, 20' from commercial storefronts, Transit stops, In residential zones, including the public rights-of-way, City buildings and parking lots, Public parks or facilities, Property for the operation and regulatory compliance of water, stormwater, and electrical systems, Natural areas, corridors, and sensitive habitats, Property dedicated, donated, or bequeathed to the City.

*******.forestgrove-or.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community/page/41631/ordinance_2023-04_qa_6152023.pdf**

McMINNVILLE COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

TIGARD 500FT

Sensitive lands, such as wetlands, significant habitat areas, and undeveloped park land, city parks, city parking lots, along SW Burnham Street, SW Main Street, SW Commercial Street and SW Tigard Street between SW Main Street and SW Tiedeman Street, within 500 ft. of houseless services, schools, and freeway entrances/exits, within any vision clearance area around intersections.

*****tigard-or.gov/community-support/housing/camping-in-tigard

WEST LINN 300FT

West Linn's new rules took effect immediately after the council's vote. Under the new rules, people will only be able to camp on city property between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. Additionally, they must be at least 300 feet from schools and child care facilities and at least 50 feet from rivers or streams. (10) A campsite may not be located within 300 feet of any school or licensed, certified, or authorized child care center.

*****codepublishing.com/OR/WestLinn/#!/WestLinn05.html#5.115

TUALATIN 500FT

Within 500 feet of schools, freeway entrances/exits.

*****[tualatinoregon.gov/administration/implementing-house-bill-](https://tualatinoregon.gov/administration/implementing-house-bill-3115#:~:text=Camping%20prohibited%20in%3A,schools%2C%20freeway%20entrances%2Fexits)

[3115#:~:text=Camping%20prohibited%20in%3A,schools%2C%20freeway%20entrances%2Fexits](https://tualatinoregon.gov/administration/implementing-house-bill-3115#:~:text=Camping%20prohibited%20in%3A,schools%2C%20freeway%20entrances%2Fexits).

SHERWOOD 1,000FT

No camping is allowed in any residential zone, within 50 feet of any residential area, or within 50 feet of a residential structure, regardless of zoning. No Camping within 1000 feet of a school. No Camping within Sherwood School District Walk Zones.

*****library.municode.com/or/sherwood/ordinances/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=1221908

NEWBERG 1,500FT

I) City resources may not be used to subsidize the construction or operation of a homeless encampment located within 1500 feet of a Newberg school.

https://www.newbergoregon.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/city_manager/page/4552/2022-02_initiative_petition_for_charter_amendment_homeless_camps.pdf

JEFFERSON 500FT

Public rights-of-way adjacent to, or within five hundred (500) feet of, a lot or parcel containing an elementary school, secondary school, day care facility, child care facility, or facility providing services to homeless persons.

https://library.qcode.us/lib/jefferson_or/pub/municipal_code/item/title_5-chapter_5_I6-5_I6_020

McMINNVILLE COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

KEIZER **In process of adopting Bend's ordinance**

In express recognition of the need for those experiencing homelessness to sleep and rest and if they have no where else to go, camping is not prohibited in public rights-of-way, except in the following right-of-way areas: (1) Vehicular and bicycle-travel lanes and five (5) feet adjacent to such travel lanes. (2) Stormwater facilities. (3) Adjacent to any residential uses. (4) Within 100 feet of any school or daycare facility. (5) Within 100 feet of any church, except for on property that is accommodating camping or camping like activities under ORS 195.520.

City of Keizer Ordinance: 2023-865_2023-07-03.pdf

STAYTON **In process of adopting Bend's ordinance**

ALBANY **In process of adopting Bend's ordinance**

Outside of camp sites authorized under the ordinance, camping would be prohibited on public or private property. The proposal includes several requirements. For example, individual camps at each permitted site could be no bigger than 12 feet square. Sites would have to be equipped with portable toilets, washing facilities and fire extinguishers. Fires would not be allowed. In addition, camp sites could not be near schools, in flood zones, or within 300 feet of any waterways.

<https://hh-today.com/council-gets-ordinance-to-allow-camp-sites/>

CORVALLIS **200FT** **In process of adopting Bend's ordinance**

<https://archives.corvallisoregon.gov/public/0/edoc/3647404/Ordinance%202023-22%20Instituting%20TPM%20Restrictions.pdf>

SISTERS **0 TOLERANCE, NO DISTANCE DUE TO SMALL TOWN**

Camping is prohibited on city property (a) not open to the public, (b) within or upon any alley, right-of-way, parking lot/space, public park, and/or school property.

<https://www.codepublishing.com/OR/Sisters/#!/Sisters04/Sisters04I0.html#4.I0.030>

PRINEVILLE **1,000FT**

On May 23, the Prineville City Council approved sweeping restrictions. They prohibit camping from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., within 1,000 feet of a school building, blocking a city sidewalk, or within 100 feet of a waterway.

<https://www.opb.org/article/2023/05/30/central-oregon-cities-rules-homeless-camping/>

REDMOND I,000FT

Place regulations establish types of public property where camping is not allowed such as school zones, maintained public parks, restricted utility facilities or parking lots, or near existing Safe Parking sites and shelters.

<https://www.redmondoregon.gov/government/departments/community-development/code-compliance-division/camping-code-faqs>

EUGENE I,000FT

Property within 1000 feet of an educational facility. For purposes of this section, “educational facility” means a public library or a building owned, leased or under the control of a public or private school system, college, university, or licensed daycare or preschool.

<https://eugene.municipal.codes/EC/4.815>

ROSEBURG 200FT

Camping is prohibited at all times in the following locations:

i. In or adjacent to any Residentially zoned area or any properties legally residentially used regardless of zoning, and anywhere within 200 feet of a school or day care facility.

[https://www.cityofroseburg.org/storage/app/media/City-](https://www.cityofroseburg.org/storage/app/media/City-Ordinances/Repealing%20and%20Replaced%20RMC%207.02.100%20Prohibited%20Camping%20%20May%20I2%202023.pdf)

[Ordinances/Repealing%20and%20Replaced%20RMC%207.02.100%20Prohibited%20Camping%20%20May%20I2%202023.pdf](https://www.cityofroseburg.org/storage/app/media/City-Ordinances/Repealing%20and%20Replaced%20RMC%207.02.100%20Prohibited%20Camping%20%20May%20I2%202023.pdf)

GRANTS PASS 50ft - currently under injunction but have created a buffer zone of 50ft

Currently under injunction, so they have created a buffer zone that went into effect 8/28/23:

“To ensure the safety of all Grants Pass District 7 and Three Rivers School District students and staff, the following buffers and rules shall apply to Gilbert Creek Park and Fruitdale Park during the academic school year: Between the hours of 7:00 am – 7:00 pm on weekdays, no portable structure, as defined in GPMC 6.46.04I, may be erected within 50 feet of the outermost exterior of any walking path or trail, whether paved or unpaved, running through Gilbert Creek Park and/or Fruitdale Park, that leads to any Grants Pass District 7 or Three Rivers School District property. The resting hours outlined in the Injunction signed by Judge Mark D. Clarke shall not be affected.”

Email 8/28/23 from Julie Hall, Administration, City of Grants Pass 541-450-6013

CASE LAW AND LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

From the League of Oregon Cities:

Following recent federal court decisions, cities and counties must reconsider local ordinances regulating public space and homelessness. In 2021, the Oregon Legislature enacted HB 3115, which created a state statutory standard based on federal court decisions in *Martin v. Boise* and *Blake v. Grants Pass* and directs cities to consider their local ordinances within the context of available local shelter services and public space.

MARTIN V. BOISE

In the April 2019 *Martin v. Boise* decision, the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court ruled that homeless persons cannot be punished for sleeping outside on public property in the absence of adequate alternatives, unless the law imposes “reasonable time, place and manner” restrictions on the regulated activities in public space. For now, this is the law in Oregon, and as a result, Oregon cities have updated their ordinances following the 2019 *Martin* decision and the August 2020 federal district court in Oregon’s opinion in *Blake v. Grants Pass*.

BLAKE V. GRANTS PASS

In September 2022, the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed *Blake v. Grants Pass*, a class action matter addressing public camping. The court upheld the U.S. District Court’s prior ruling that persons experiencing homelessness are entitled to take necessary minimal measures to keep themselves warm and dry while sleeping outside. The Ninth Circuit opined that cities violate the Eighth Amendment if they punish a person for the mere act of sleeping outside, or for sleeping in their vehicles at night when there is no other place in the city for them to go.

As a result of this ruling, this decision expands the application of *Martin v. Boise*—the pivotal case impacting cities’ ability to regulate public camping. The court noted that the decision in this case is narrow and that “it is ‘unconstitutional to [punish] simply sleeping somewhere in public if one has nowhere else to do so.’” It goes on to note that class actions in these types of cases are permissible. This opinion, in most respects, affirmed what was already known from both the previous *Martin* and *Blake* cases. However, it failed to provide much anticipated clarification on several issues, such as what constitutes “necessary minimal measures” to keep warm and dry. It is unknown at this time whether the ruling will be appealed.

HB 3115 (2021): LOCAL CAMPING ORDINANCES

HB 3115 is the product of a workgroup involving the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) and the Oregon Law Center (OLC) as well as individual cities and counties. The workgroup spent many hours crafting a concept that recognizes a key principle from the recent *Martin v. Boise* Ninth Circuit Court decision and *Blake v. Grants Pass* federal district court decision.

HB 3115 requires that any city or county law regulating the acts of sitting, lying, sleeping or keeping warm and dry outside on public property must be “objectively reasonable” based on the totality of the circumstances as applied to all stakeholders, including persons experiencing homelessness. What is objectively reasonable may look different in different communities. The bill retains cities’ ability to enact reasonable time, place and manner regulations, aiming to preserve the ability of cities to manage public spaces effectively for the benefit of an entire community.

HB 3115 includes a delayed implementation date of July 1, 2023, to allow local governments time to review and update ordinances and support intentional community conversations. The bill is the product of a workgroup effort between the LOC, the Oregon Law Center (OLC), the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC), as well as individual cities and counties. The workgroup spent many hours last fall crafting a concept to recognize key principles from the *Martin* decision in state law.

HB 3124 (2021): RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

HB 3124 increases the time that local governments must post notice before removing campsites from 24 to 72 hours. The bill also requires jurisdictions to store unclaimed personal property in a facility located in the same community as the campsite from which it was removed. HB 3124 preserves existing exceptions to the notice requirement when: There are grounds for law enforcement officials to believe that illegal activities other than camping are occurring at an established camping site; and in the event of an exceptional emergency at an established camping site, including, but not limited to, possible site contamination by hazardous materials, a public health emergency or other immediate danger to human life or safety.

From: [Jill Sorensen](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#); [Kellie Menke](#); zach.geary@mcminnvilleoregon.gov; [Remy Drabkin](#)
Subject: School Safe Zone/Route
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 12:20:10 PM

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

My name is Jill Sorensen. I have been a resident of McMinnville since 2009. My home and small business are located within ward one. I am not able to attend the 9/12 council meeting because a scheduling conflict with Back to School Night. I am emailing because I want to be on record that I am a firm believer that the City of McMinnville needs to create a Safe Zone/Route around our schools and school sports fields.

My youngest is a student at Patton Middle School. The state of McDaniel Street has gotten completely out of hand. The houseless/campers lining the school grounds is not only a huge safety concern, but also a health concern - aggressive dogs, unsanitary conditions, drug use/paraphernalia, and offensive actions and language. Our kids are also very impressionable at this age and this is NOT an example we need set for them.

Our children should feel safe and comfortable walking to/from school and sporting events. This should be a priority for the City of McMinnville to implement and **ENFORCE**. I know that other cities have recently made similar changes to their camping ordinances. If you can create a safe and camp free area around our Downtown and Alpine District you can surely create a safe space for the children of our community.

I appreciate your time.

Jill Sorensen



Mayor Drabkin and City Council,

My name is Emma Campbell and I live at [REDACTED] in McMinnville. I am a senior at Linfield University and I serve two very important roles at my school as student body president and as the president of my sorority Alpha Phi. Today I am here to discuss safety concerns on behalf of students.

Over the past year, there has been a dramatic increase in safety issues in the McMinnville community that are directly affecting Linfield students.

First, students like to walk to Third Street, during the day or at night. During the weekends students will often walk to the bars on 3rd street. In order to get there they have to walk along Davis Street. Not only does this street not have good lighting but there are also folks who camp underneath the bridge. There are often shopping carts filled with things, trash, and even needles that line the one sidewalk along Davis Street. Walking along this street feels unsafe in a group. But when you are walking alone or even in a pair the feeling of not being safe is far worse. This issue has affected young women and men alike at Linfield University. While walking along this street, students have experienced being followed back to campus, being yelled at, and being forced to walk into the street to avoid threatening behaviors along the single sidewalk of Davis Street.

Second, students like to walk around Linfield's Wellness Trail which is around a grass field on the southern part of campus and connects to Albertsons. Unfortunately, more often than not there are multiple RVs, cars, and tents that are near the trail. There are people who are camping and littering the area with trash making this trail unsafe for students to exercise.

I understand the city council has received a letter asking to ban camping 1,500 feet from school property. I strongly recommend that the council adopt this and help keep our community safe.

I appreciate your time in hearing about safety issues facing Linfield University students. I hope that we can all work together to help make the McMinnville community a safer place to live.

Sincerely,

Emma Campbell
Linfield Student Body President

Good evening, Mayor Drabkin and City Councilors,

My name is Susan Nelson, and I live at [REDACTED] McMinnville, OR. I am here tonight to address the increase in transient people I see spending time in McMinnville. I'm concerned about many aspects of this, but mostly the risk it poses to the safety of our children.

I'd like to share an experience my daughter had while she was at the McMinnville City Park with my two young grandchildren. They, along with another young family, were at the city park mid-day on a weekday. While watching my grandchildren play, my daughter was startled by a loud noise coming from the public restroom. She quickly turned to see a young man storm out of the public restroom, and aggressively make his way towards her. He walked past her, stopped at the playground, looked at the children playing, and then acted as if he were pulling out a shotgun. He stared at each child before pointing his fake gun and pretending to shoot them. My daughter turned to look at the parents of the other children, and was met with looks of shock and fear. Immediately, everyone grabbed their children and left the park.

This experience is one of many we have had recently while out-an-about in McMinnville. We have spoken with several McMinnville families who are hesitant to take their kids to a city park. We don't feel safe, which is sad because a park is a place where families should be able to relax and have fun. I see people walking down McMinnville streets, who are clearly unwell. Whether it's mental illness, or drugs, or both, it's apparent that these people are in desperate need of help. I'm also concerned about the increase in campers I see parked around the perimeters of our public schools. We do not know who these campers are, which makes it unsettling to know they are within close proximity to our children.

Our children are our greatest assets. Keeping them safe should be our top priority. McMinnville is a great town, full of amazing people. We love our children, and we care deeply for each other. There is no love in standing by while our children's safety is at risk. There is also no love in standing by while our fellow humans are ravaged by addiction, and tormented by mental illness.

Mayor Drabkin and Council members, I implore you to put the safety of our children at the very top of your priority list. Our schools and public parks are places where families should feel safe. I encourage you to support the people and organizations that are working hard in our community to find real solutions to the issues of homelessness, addiction, and mental health crises. I thank you for your time, for the service you give to our community, and for this opportunity to speak with you.

My name is Shannon Brooks and my address is [REDACTED]

I live right next to Thompson Park, my backyard faces the covered table area. I see a lot of activity over there, but not all. We even have a Neighborhood watch group that is very active at the Park and helps to keep it safe and clean. One thing I have noticed is that when the Park Patrol or cleaning crew come out, they very rarely walk the perimeter of the park and look for damage, graffiti, unsafe objects, etc. They empty the garbage, maybe clean the bathroom, and be on their way. I have seen security over there at night, and they mostly just shine their flashlight around the park, but don't actually walk around and look for anything out of place. How are they checking for areas of concern, if they aren't actually checking the area? How is this keeping the parks clean and safe for our children?

I go over there often with my grandson, and have seen graffiti on the tables or play equipment for several weeks, but yet, the surrounding neighbors, who have had their fences graffitied on, are given a 10-day notice to clean up their fences. Is the City not held to the same rule for graffiti at the parks, that the home owners are? What kind of example is the Parks department setting in this kind of situation? What kind of message is that sending to the home owners, who have no control or knowledge that the back of their fence has been graffitied?

...A few weeks ago, during the bad heat wave, I was in my backyard with my grandson. I saw a man, in about his late 40s to 50s, laying on the grass in the direct heat. I asked him several times if he was OK and needed help. After about 5 minutes he answered me and said NO. I gave him a couple water bottles, but did not want to approach him. About an hour later, he had not moved from the spot, so I called the Non-Emergency line to come do a welfare check. After 4 hours, and NO ONE coming to check on him, he got up and was able to walk away, and left the park. I don't know what ever happened to him. But 4 hours in the direct heat, could have really harmed him. Especially if he had some medical conditions. Do you care about ALL citizens, or just some?

We are told to call-in anything we see or hear at the Park, which most of us do, but what good does that do when no one comes out to check anything. Or even check things when they are patrolling the area. We report graffiti, vandalism, and other concerns, but don't get officers out when we call.

proper feedback

So when they say, "Call it in", I say MAC City and Parks Dept can and should do better.

Thank you!

September 8, 2023

Re: Public Comment regarding a new recreation center

Dear City Council and McMinnville Water & Light,

Thank you for taking the time to read our comments regarding our hope for you to move forward the discussion with McMinnville Water & Light regarding a future site for a recreation center and pool.

I was born and raised in McMinnville. As a child, I utilized just about every park and recreation service the City of McMinnville could provide. Now 47, I'm watching my children recreate on the same exact fields, in the same gyms and in the same pool with twice as many users and very little upgrades. The time is now to nail down a site for a new recreation center and pool in McMinnville. The potential site on Marsh Lane is very appealing. It's accessible, centrally located and adjacent to Joe Dancer Park. What an opportunity for the city.

I started and run the McMinnville Community Tennis Association, a non-profit that provides youth tennis programming during the summer months. We just completed our 3rd summer of programming. I also live in the Cows Street Tennis Courts neighborhood where our programming takes place. The neighborhood has seen its challenges over the last 4 years. Yet, when those courts are filled with McMinnville's youth, the neighborhood feels and looks vibrant, safe and healthy. I can envision the same scenario on Marsh Lane.

The economic, social, health and environmental value of quality parks and recreation services is well researched. Quality parks and recreation are noted as one of the top three reasons that businesses cite in relocation decisions. In countless surveys, parks and recreation services are a major determinant of a community's livability. Communities that participate in sport and recreation develop strong social bonds, are safer places and the people who live in them are generally healthier and happier than places where physical activity isn't a priority.

The time is now to move forward with plans to build a one stop shopping pool and recreation center. Acquiring the Water & Light probably on Marsh Lane is the first step.

Again, thank you for your time and service,

Lisa Macy-Baker



From: [Jisun Lee](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Cc: [Jay Nelson](#)
Subject: Written statement for 9/12 Council Meeting
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 11:30:12 AM

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hi Ms. Cisneros,


I'd like to submit a written statement for the city council meeting that will be held on 9/12.

We are a long term swim team family; our oldest child just started her freshman year at McMinnville High School and has been on the swim team ever since we moved to McMinnville in 2016. Her younger sister joined a few years later.

The value that the swim team and, more indirectly, the aquatic center has brought to our lives is hard to measure. They have found a safe, positive, inclusive environment in the swim team that has helped them connect with their peers, experience team sports, and feel like they are part of our larger community.

We have been keenly aware that the aquatic center is aging. The locker rooms and lanes are crowded during their practices. Storage seems difficult, and swim team meets are crowded. We have been required to be flexible around practice times in ways that have been a hardship for our family because there hasn't always been enough time to accommodate all of the different community needs that the aquatic center fulfills. We wish there was more space so that our younger children could have more consistent swim lessons.

We understand that the question of how to maintain the aquatic center and balance its needs with the rest of the city's needs must be a complex one. We would like to add our voice to advocate for prioritizing the aquatic center as much as possible. It gives the families in this city and its surrounding areas experiences and access to sports and community that should be recognized as indispensable. My children spend upwards of 20-30 combined hours in and out of the aquatic center. Please ensure that it is a safe, functional, welcoming space for us and McMinnville's future families.

Jisun Lee & Jay Nelson


From: [Sandra Stokes](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: McMinnville Needs a new Aquatic Center
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:16:32 AM

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hello:

Our town has been delaying the inevitable for too long and now is the time for McMinnville to build its new aquatic center.

As a senior citizen and a devoted Grandmother, I enjoy keeping my body active and strong by using the pool and keeping my spirit strong by watching my granddaughter swim with her team!

Our community is large enough to support a new aquatic center. I have been in smaller communities within Oregon that were inspired to make big decisions a reality.

We know it is a waste of money to continue to repair our present aquatic center, so let's make the decision move forward McMinnville, let's bust a move now!

Sandi Stokes

From: [Andrew Jones](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: McMinnville City Council Meeting 9/12 Public Comment
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:49:25 AM
Attachments: [We sent you safe versions of your files.msg](#)
[Public Comment of Andrew Jones - McMinnville City Council Meeting 9.12.23.pdf](#)

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This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hi Claudia,

I would like to be added to the public commenters for tomorrow's meeting. Please see attached my accompanying written comment.

Thank you!

Andrew

Andrew Jones

President, McMinnville Swim Club



Public Comment of Andrew Jones, President of McMinnville Swim Club

McMinnville City Council Meeting, September 12, 2023

Thank you Mayor Drabkin and Councilors for the opportunity to provide comment.

- I am the president of the McMinnville Swim Club. We currently have over 140 swimmers, with a waiting list that often exceeds 20 kids! MSC has been around for nearly 70 years and is a part of a rich tradition of swimming in McMinnville. Just about everyone I meet of a certain age who grew up in McMinnville speaks fondly about swimming in the outdoor pool in Upper City Park.
- The community's love of swimming brought about by those sunny days splashing in the outdoor pool led to the building of the Aquatic Center, which was (and remains, even with its wrinkles) one of the best facilities in the state.
- The long tradition of aquatics in McMinnville now is our responsibility. We cannot let it die out while waiting for the right time to act.
- McMinnville is changing in many ways, but one thing that we need to keep is a public facility that serves as a place for kids to play, where they can spend a few dollars and go splash in the sun like their parents and grandparents did!
- Since the beginning of the MacPac process some four years ago, there has been a lot of excitement and engagement with our membership. That excitement is still there, but every year we spend watching the leaks in the Aquatic Center roof, with only more discussions, we risk losing credibility. So I would like to encourage you to move forward with urgency in your efforts to finalize a site for the new recreation facility, and begin building.
- I also encourage you to reach out to me or our head coach Murilo Martins ([REDACTED]) when you are considering "right-sizing" the facility. We are happy to share the wants and needs of a swim club in the future of aquatics in McMinnville. The Swim Club will be an enthusiastic and vocal supporter of a facility that continues the tradition of swimming in McMinnville!

Andrew Jones – [REDACTED]

From: [Dianne Haugeberg](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: Work session letter in support
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 10:06:22 AM
Attachments: [We sent you safe versions of your files.msg](#)
[City Council letter Shea 2023.pdf](#)

Mimecast Attachment Protection has deemed this file to be safe, but always exercise caution when opening files.

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hi Claudia,

I prepared a letter in support of a new recreational center for the City Council. I haven't ever submitted a letter before – is the process for me to email it to you? If there is a different process, please let me know!

Thank you,
Dianne

Dianne L. Haugeberg

LL.M. in Federal Taxation

HAUGEBERG, RUETER, GOWELL, FREDRICKS & HIGGINS, P.C.
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SHEA
Brian Shea and Dianne Haugeberg Shea
[REDACTED]
McMinnville, OR 97128

McMinnville City Council
230 NE Second Street
McMinnville, OR 97128

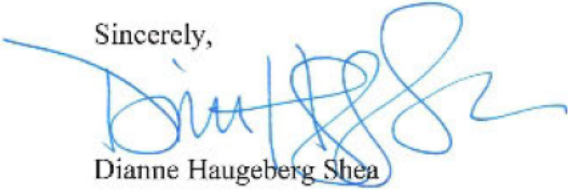
Re: Recreational Center

Dear Mayor and City Councilors:

I want to express my appreciation for your continued vision and work toward a new recreational center for McMinnville. Our family spends a considerable amount of time at the aquatic center so this letter is in support of the new aquatic center.

Our community has a long-standing history of a robust aquatic program for both youth and adults and for both competition and recreation. My hope is that you will continue to focus on a new aquatic center that supports multi-generational use both for our current residents but also for generations to come. Our community continues to grow and a new aquatic center should be designed with forethought for the future growth of McMinnville. A design that maintains the current usage and services would not take advantage of this opportunity to create a legacy recreational center. I support the City Council in its efforts to design and build a recreational center and aquatic center that will serve our community for decades to come.

Sincerely,


Dianne Haugeberg Shea

From: [Leah McGlade](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: Letter in Support for New Community Pool
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 11:42:18 AM
Attachments: [We sent you safe versions of your files.msg](#)
[Letter in Support for New Community Pool.docx](#)


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This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Hello Claudia-

Happy Monday! Please include the attached letter of my support for a new community pool. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Cheers,
Leah McGlade
Cépage Direct to Consumer Strategies
Managing Partner


Dear Councillors-

I am writing to support building a community recreational facility that will house a new pool for the residents of McMinnville and surrounding towns. A community pool is vital to residents of ALL ages – from babies just learning to love the water, toddlers and young children taking lessons, 4th graders attending survival swim class, to Grandmothers and Grandfathers keeping themselves healthy with senior water exercise. As a parent of an elementary school child who races with the MSC Mako team and will hopefully continue for seven more years, I strongly feel that the town should invest in a new pool. The MSC Mako Team hosts two 3-day swim meets annually, bringing in teams from all over Oregon; the families staying in McMinnville to attend the meets for the weekend are spending money in our town supporting local restaurants, lodging, and retail shops.

On a personal note, I see what the senior water exercise did for my 74-year-old mother. When we were new to McMinnville, she wanted to get in better shape, and through her visits to the pool, she lost weight and made many wonderful friends. After a recent bout with cancer, she returned to the pool after her chemo treatments to help restore her strength. As for my daughter Olivia, the pool is everything for her, not only as a member of the Mako team. After being diagnosed with Transient Synovitis at age 8, she needed a way to bring strength back to her hip. Once her Pediatric Rheumatologist cleared her, she swam at least three times per week to rehabilitate her hip. She needs the pool to keep her hip feeling great, and because this is so important to her health and well-being, I would consider moving out of McMinnville if we didn't have a pool in our community.

I always stand strongly for what I believe in, and would be happy to volunteer my time towards whatever is needed to support the effort to build a new pool – whatever it takes, a community pool means that much to my family and me. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Leah McGlade



From: [Amy Miles](#)
To: [Claudia Cisneros](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Contact the City of McMinnville
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:43:51 AM

Hi Claudia,

Someone submitted written testimony for the upcoming council meeting via form submission.
Thanks!

Amy

From: McMinnville Oregon <mcminnville-or@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:38 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the City of McMinnville

This message originated outside of the City of McMinnville.

Submitted on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 - 8:38am

Submitted by anonymous user: [50.53.252.128](#)

Submitted values are:

Attention Department Planning Commission

First Name Sinell

Last Name Harney

Phone number [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Question/Comment

My name is Sinell Harney and I am a current resident of McMinnville and have 3 kids that all participate in the Makos swim club. I am also a pediatric physical therapist working in McMinnville and have a son with a disability.

I would like to submit written testimony for the 9/12/23 City Council Meeting regarding the acquisition of part of the Water and Light property for the possible new combined recreational facility that will house McMinnville's new pool.

I encourage the City Council to move swiftly, as our current pool is failing beyond repair. I am concerned that our current pool is eventually not going to be safe to use, and our community will be left with no options but to wait 1-2 years while a new pool is being constructed and/or re-modelled. Having access to a pool is vital to the health and wellbeing of our entire community. A pool is often the most accessible way that older adults, people with orthopedic impairments, and children with

disabilities can exercise.

Please consider moving forward with the next steps in the land acquisition.

Thank you for your time.

Sinell Harney, PT, DPT, MHA

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.mcminnvilleoregon.gov/node/7/submission/53149>