

May 8, 2025

Dear Boardman Budget Committee members,

The City of Boardman has been noted in various newspapers and statewide reports, as one of the fastest growing cities in Oregon. This growth stems from the increase in available jobs, and the quality of life that is enjoyed here. This tasks the city employees and council with busy days of planning, reviewing, consulting, and implementing various programs and projects. We are constantly entertaining potential developers as we regularly issue building permits. We encounter new opportunities that challenge us to learn, just like there are opportunities that just seem to fit perfectly. This budget encompasses those projects of which have been prioritized and are presented for your review and approval.

As part of a look-back on last year, we are proud to say that our General Obligation Bond water and wastewater improvements have been completed. The project closed out in April of 2025. The water and sewer lines down NW Columbia Ave. were also put in place and the new road laid on top. SE Front Street and SE 1st Street were completely redone earlier this year. These beautiful streets look amazing and have really improved the aesthetics of those areas, provided safe sidewalks for pedestrians, as well as a smooth ride for the drivers.

In the coming days, we will see the start of construction of SW Loop Road (SW 1st Street) and SW Oregon Trail Blvd. You may have noticed our public works employees are already clearing up those areas. This new road will connect perpendicularly to Tatone Street giving us another route from SW Front Street to the south of Boardman. Shortly after, the demolition and reconstruction of S. Main Street will take place. This project is one that has been anticipated by the community for a very, very long time. These projects are expected to be completed by the end of the summer. For fiscal year 2026, we plan on doing some chip sealing on some streets, based on the street analysis provided by Anderson Perry and Associates. The infrastructure projects this year will also include wastewater and sewer projects.

We waited patiently for Lagoon 1 to dry out to begin the dry bio-solids removal process. After this process has been completed, we can place it back in line for wastewater collection. Also in wastewater, we will have the installation of the septage and headworks station. This will increase the efficiency of our lagoon systems by grinding bio-solids to a finer consistency before entering the lagoon system.

When we look at all our assets and the value they bring to the city, we also include our employees. This year, employee training will be a focal point. Work in this area has already started, as we have identified the positions needed, updated job descriptions, reviewed our equipment needs, and identified the training and certifications required for each. This will increase our labor force's skills, abilities, and certifications.

We are a small town with big dreams, but we're all in the same dream, and we're making it happen. Thank you for dreaming with us.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta Barajas
Budget Officer/Finance Director
