

Hermiston City Council Goals 2026

rev. 10/7/2026

2040 Vision Goal Area	Focus Area	Action	Council Prioritization	Project Lead	Timeline (1-2 years, 3-4 years, 5+)	Status
Growing + Prosperous						
Hermiston is cultivating a vibrant community with a thriving economy, assortment of housing opportunities, high-quality education, and support services to preserve the small-town feel	Economic Development: Expand, strengthen, and diversify the local economy	1.1 Update downtown Urban Renewal Plan to improve downtown core		Planning	1 -2 years	Underway
		1.2 Pursue additional retail investments and educate on retail efforts and processes		Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Presentation from Retail Strategies in September. Downtown Strategies building a plan with Downtown District
		1.3 Explore/ evaluate strategies to increase tourism and entertainment in Hermiston		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Held Stakeholder meeting with EOTEC Advisory Committee.
		1.4 Partner with Chamber to evaluate how the City can support a workforce pipeline		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	In Process
	Transportation: Improve mobility and transportation	1.5 Complete Transportation System Plan Update (will include sidewalks)		Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Scheduled for Adoption Nov. 9
		1.6 Update the City's sidewalk plan and prioritize student travel		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	In Process
		1.7 Continue to pursue safe streets grant		Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Evaluating various projects.
		1.8 Work with regional partners to improve transportation access and circulation		Planning/City Manager's Office	3-4 years	In Process
	Housing: Increase senior, workforce, and affordable housing, market rate rentals, and prevent people from becoming unhoused	1.9 Attract market-rate rental housing developments to increase middle housing inventory		Planning/City Manager's Office	Ongoing	Working on projects around The Hub development.
		1.10 Continue to fund infrastructure improvements to support new housing and other developments		Planning/City Manager's Office	Ongoing	In Process
		1.11 Evaluate a commercial/retail incentive opportunities		City Manager's Office	Ongoing	In Process
Hermiston ensures a healthy and safe environment for all through abundant recreation and wellness opportunities, high-quality health care, collaboration with community partners, and a healthy and attractive built environment	Wellness: a healthy community	2.1 Complete the feasibility analysis of the HAWC + determine next steps with partnerships and securing land		Parks and Recreation/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Report and recommendations scheduled for October 26 meeting.
	Public Safety: Improve traffic safety and align public safety resources with community needs	2.2 Complete street light study		Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	In Process
		2.3 Develop a security plan for parks + trails (cameras, lighting, etc.)		Parks and Recreation/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	In Process
		2.4 Implement red light photo enforcements along Hwy 395		Police/City Attorney	1-2 years	Final RFP draft preparing to be released.

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Sustainable						
Hermiston responsibly plans and invests in community infrastructure and the built environment to support the critical needs of daily life and sustainable growth for the future	City Facilities: Public facilities that meet the community needs of today and the future	3.1 Conduct public engagement to identify use scenarios, evaluate all options, and finalize plan for Carnegie Building		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Preparing Historic Register Application, Planning infrastructure improvements and finalizing operational agreement.
		3.2 Finalize water allocation for EOTEC		City Manager/EOTEC	1-2 years	2027 Irrigation Year will be first with all city owned rights.
		3.3 Finalize data and seek Council direction on next steps related to digital infrastructure		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Individual reports to council complete.
	Fiscal: Maintain service levels, strengthen internal operations to support sustainability, accountability, and transparency	3.4 Develop five-year financial plan to support sustainable staffing and operations		City Manager/Finance	1-2 years	In Process
		3.5 Finalize records digitization		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Part-time records clerk scanning and organizing digital records.
		3.6 Evaluate Senior Center partnerships to align with the needs of the aging community		Parks and Recreation/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Updated agreement approved with the Senior Board.
		3.7 Evaluate partnership with the Greater Hermiston Chamber to align with business needs		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Updated agreement nearly complete.
		3.8 Study potential general fund projects and funding streams		City Manager's Office/Finance	1-2 years	In Process
Connected + Engaged						
Hermiston provides opportunities for strong social connections, celebrates diversity, and honors our historic and cultural heritage to foster a welcoming and inclusive community for all	Community Engagement: Improve engagement and connection with the community	4.1 Develop a communication and engagement plan identifying goals and metrics		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Initial draft completed and under review
	Good governance: Evaluate core governing documents and processes	4.2 Finalize charter review		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Proposed Changes on November 2026 ballot.