



# CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 20, 2026 at 6:00 PM  
Sandy City Hall and via Zoom

## MINUTES

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### WORK SESSION – 6:00 PM

#### 1. Nuisances Affecting Public Peace

The Development Services Director summarized the staff report in the meeting packet, and provided an overview of the history and context of this code amendment project. Discussion and feedback from the Council is summarized below according to code section.

##### 8.20.010

- Suggestion that the language should be written more generally to refer to all radio frequency interference, especially related to emergency communications
- Suggestion to research such code language that may exist in other cities

##### 8.20.020

- Suggestion to improve formatting and headings for the sake of readability
- Overview of the exception process, including City Manager determinations and appeals to the City Council
- Overview of the stipulated exemptions in the proposed code
- Discussion related to engines
  - Suggestion to remove the reference to smoke
- Discussion related to vehicles
  - Note that loud vehicle noise related to mufflers is addressed by state law
  - Suggestion that generators should be allowed in situations involving emergencies and/or interruptions to utility service
    - Note that any work to restore utility service should be an allowable noise exemption under 8.20.020(C)(2)
- Discussion related to music
  - Suggestion to remove the list of musical instruments
- Discussion related to excavation and construction
  - Suggestion to standardize quiet hours for ease of understanding by the public and enforcement by the City
  - Discussion of various time cutoffs for construction noise on weekdays versus weekends, and during summer versus winter
  - Suggestion to set a noise decibel limit

- Suggestion to clarify exactly what kind of construction should be allowed (heavy work versus interior finish work) on different days at different times, and on Sunday in particular
- Suggestion that homeowners should continue to have more time flexibility for construction, as opposed to contractors
- Suggestion that contractors need to be able to begin work early in the morning
- Discussion related to blowers and similar devices
  - Discussion of whether to allow such noise until 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. especially because of the need to perform such work during late summer evenings
- Discussion of the 'catch-all' language in 8.20.020(A) as well as 8.20.020(b)(14)
  - Suggestion to add the language "allow or permit to be made"
- Suggestion to have allowable noise hours adjusted seasonally to account for darkness; discussion of whether 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. would be appropriate during the summer
- Clarification on the need for noise regulation for recreation areas on private property
- Consensus from the Council that noise should be added as a category of chronic nuisance in that chapter of the code
- Discussion of whether an exception for live music at commercial venues is appropriate, potentially only on certain days of the week; suggestion to streamline the exception application process for the convenience of such businesses
- Suggestion to make the language in 8.20.020(B)(12) more clearly applicable to businesses
- Discussion of past complaints related to commercial fan equipment creating noise in a particular neighborhood
- Suggestion to ensure Music Fair and Feast is included in 8.20.020(C)(7)

8.20.030

- Suggestion that the definition of 'solicitation' is too broad and would seem to include political speech, Girl Scouts selling cookies, religious communications, and similar categories. It was agreed this discussion would be tabled to a future meeting

**REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT**

Mayor Kathleen Walker  
 Council President Don Hokanson  
 Councilor Chris Mayton (virtually)  
 Councilor Rich Sheldon  
 Councilor Kristina Ramseyer  
 Councilor Lindy Hanley

## **ABSENT**

Councilor Laurie Smallwood

## **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

(none)

## **PUBLIC COMMENT (3-minute limit)**

Nicole Bassett: is a candidate for nomination for the District 26 Oregon Senate seat; has volunteered in Sandy; is a business owner in the apparel and outdoor industry; helps businesses become more efficient; runs a renewal workshop to recycle clothes; understands rural towns and challenges; is an outdoor enthusiast and hospice volunteer; believes affordability is important and business acumen is needed

Darla Mead: is a candidate for nomination for the District 51 Oregon House seat; is a nurse with OHSU; frustrated with the healthcare and insurance systems, and that people have to choose between health and the ability to pay; wants to reduce dependence on the private insurance system; is from Clackamas County and understands rural character and charm; believe infrastructure and schools need fixing; doesn't want Clackamas County to become like Portland; loves nature and fishing; had to evacuate during the 2020 fires; wants to address climate, prevent fires, and protect nature. Her flyer, which was distributed, is attached to these minutes

## **RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENTS**

The City Manager indicated that additional follow up is needed regarding comments at the most recent meeting about an indecent exposure incident. Other comments at that meeting were supportive of traffic technology measures.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

2. City Council Minutes: April 6, 2026
3. Contract Approval: City Hall Safety and Capacity Improvements

### **MOTION: Adopt the Consent Agenda**

Motion made by Councilor Sheldon, Seconded by Councilor Ramseyer.

Voting Yea: Mayor Walker, Council President Hokanson, Councilor Mayton, Councilor Sheldon, Councilor Ramseyer, Councilor Hanley

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

4. Presentation: Sandy Community Action Center

Kirsten Pitzer presented an overview of the Sandy Community Action Center; a handout was provided and slides were presented, both of which are attached to these minutes.

Discussion ensued related to the following topics:

- The number of individuals who receive lunches each day
- Differences between their meal site and the Meals on Wheels program; discussion of their arrangement with their private distribution partner
- Their plans to grow in the future and possibilities to take advantage of future opportunities
- Other food pantries in the area including St. Vincent's and Estacada
- Possibilities for determining whether food recipients live within city limits
- Note that there may be new ways for the City to support and partner with the Action Center
- Details and parameters of the Action Center's agreement with the Oregon Food Bank

#### 5. Government Relations Update

Nellie deVries provided an update on the serial meetings bill (HB 4177) that was vetoed by the Governor. She indicated that the Legislature may address the issue again during the next long session. The Mayor raised concerns about the inability of local elected officials to discharge their duties with limits being placed on their conversations with constituents and members of the media; she also spoke against unreasonable financial penalties.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### 6. Noise Exception: 4th Annual Sandy Invitational Chainsaw Carving (SICC)

The City Manager and Senior Planner summarized the staff report in the meeting packet, and communicated the details of the event the applicant proposed to hold. The applicant, Austin Ernesti, was present to provide further information about the event and the organization's plans to continue to grow the festival and fulfill the organization's mission.

Further discussion pertained to the need to provide notification to the adjacent neighbors about the 24-hour chainsaw record attempt, and to the measures planned to mitigate noise. It was emphasized that while the Council supports the concept, the adjacent neighbors must be notified in advance.

The Mayor provided further remarks regarding the portions of the event envisioned to involve Tickle Creek, expressing concern about kids and untrained members of the public climbing trees, and liability/insurance impacts of such activities taking place on public land. Regarding cleanup work, she stated it is unclear what is being proposed and more specifics are needed. The City Manager indicated that staff efforts are underway to address concerns and develop operational plans. The Mayor suggested, at some point in the future, discussing the types of activities allowable on City land.

**MOTION: Approve the noise exception at 37000 Hwy 26 for the event cited under File No. 26-014 TEMP, to be held Friday June 5th through Sunday June 7th 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; with an additional exception to allow for one individual to undertake carving throughout the night of June 5th to June 6th for the purpose of breaking a Guinness World Record for continuous chainsaw carving, with the stipulation that the**

**applicant must provide advance notice to the adjacent neighbors on Eldridge Dr. and the Foothills Apartments**

Motion made by Council President Hokanson, Seconded by Councilor Hanley.

Voting Yea: Mayor Walker, Council President Hokanson, Councilor Mayton, Councilor Sheldon, Councilor Ramseyer, Councilor Hanley

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

**OLD BUSINESS**

7. PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance 2026-02 - Sign Code Modifications

Abstentions

(none)

Conflicts of Interest

(none)

Staff Report

The Development Services Director delivered the staff report; presentation slides were included in the meeting packet. He summarized the code language changes made since the last time the Council discussed the matter, which also addressed feedback from the business community.

Public Testimony

(none)

Recap and Recommendation

Staff recommended adoption of the ordinance.

**MOTION: Close the public hearing**

Motion made by Councilor Hanley, Seconded by Councilor Sheldon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Walker, Council President Hokanson, Councilor Mayton, Councilor Sheldon, Councilor Ramseyer, Councilor Hanley

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

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**MOTION: Approve the first reading of Ordinance 2026-02**

Motion made by Councilor Sheldon, Seconded by Council President Hokanson.

Voting Yea: Mayor Walker, Council President Hokanson, Councilor Mayton, Councilor Sheldon, Councilor Ramseyer, Councilor Hanley

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

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**MOTION: Approve the second reading of Ordinance 2026-02**

Motion made by Councilor Ramseyer, Seconded by Councilor Hanley.

Voting Yea: Mayor Walker, Council President Hokanson, Councilor Mayton, Councilor Sheldon, Councilor Ramseyer, Councilor Hanley

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

8. Traffic Safety Technology Follow Up

The City Manager summarized the staff report in the meeting packet. It was noted that staff have compiled further information in response to questions asked by the Council when this matter was discussed on February 2, 2026. It was also noted that submitting an application to ODOT would begin a long approval process, but would not represent a final decision on the matter; the City could still reverse course and would also still need to negotiate and agree to a contract with a vendor before any installation could take place.

Regarding privacy, it was noted that the City would closely vet vendors regarding their privacy procedures and their protections against data being sold. It was also noted that state law limits the amount of time camera-produced records may be retained.

Regarding program goals, it was suggested that compliance should be the goal, which could be measured by the number of violations observed going forward.

Regarding public notice, it was suggested that a notification campaign should be framed in a positive and productive light, emphasizing safety and potentially including a video.

Further discussion ensued on the following topics:

- Concern about creating a speed trap, especially with regard to the intersection of Hwy 26 and Bluff and the location of the 40 mph sign immediately to the west
- Suggestion that the City could have increased traffic safety communications in lieu of pursuing technology measures
- Concern that cameras could be perceived by the public as a money grab
- Response that the initiative is about increasing safety and preventing crashes and injuries
- Concern that camera placement is not being based on crash data; suggestion that more appropriate intersections could be selected
- Response that technology enhancements would be a much more efficient and effective way to address traffic safety
- Agreement that the intersection of Hwy 26 and Ten Eyck is especially dangerous

At this point in the discussion, staff shared Hwy 26 crash data and intersection safety ratings for several intersections. The data is included in an email attached to these minutes.

Discussion continued on the following points:

- Suggestion that the City should make further efforts to use other safety promotion tools other than cameras
- Response that there is not enough human personnel capacity to make an effective difference in traffic safety, and highway speed limits are very difficult to change
- Mention of a past request to move the 40 mph sign immediately to the west of the intersection of Hwy 26 and Bluff, made in conjunction with a development proposal adjacent to the Paola's restaurant, which was denied by ODOT
- Suggestion that the 362<sup>nd</sup> intersection is more in need of enforcement than Orient
- Suggestion that the City might focus enforcement on traffic entering the 25 mph downtown area, rather than traffic moving in both directions
- Suggestion that the City should submit an application to ODOT for potential installation of cameras at a number of intersections for maximum flexibility, even though ultimate installation may not occur at all listed intersections
- Suggestion that a traffic engineer should study the entire city and determine what highway speeds would be appropriate in each section
- Suggestion that the City needs enhanced enforcement options regardless of what speed limits are in place
- Note that the City would likely not have to purchase cameras, depending on the particulars of a vendor contract
- Discussion of ODOT's jurisdiction over notification sign placement
- Discussion on strategies for gaining ODOT approval for changing speed limits immediately beyond downtown, and whether it is possible or advisable to do so concurrently with a camera installation application; summary of the impending appeal to the speed limit review board regarding speed limits on the east end of town
- Concern about the difficulty of enforcing violations on commercial truck drivers, although according to the City Attorney state law allows enforcement on the companies rather than drivers

Following discussion, the consensus of the Council was that staff should proceed with submitting an application to ODOT for potential installation of cameras at several intersections for maximum flexibility, even though ultimate installation may not occur at all listed intersections. The following intersections will be included in the application (in all cases, east-west Hwy 26 traffic would be the subject of enforcement, not north-south traffic):

- Hwy 26 and Orient Dr
- Hwy 26 and 362<sup>nd</sup> Ave
- Hwy 26 and Bluff Rd
- Hwy 26 and Pioneer Blvd
- Hwy 26 and Procter Blvd
- Hwy 26 and Ten Eyck Rd

## **REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

- Reminder of the Mobile Library ribbon cutting
- Recap of the SOLVE cleanup event

- Note that the ITB for Meinig Park improvements will soon be issued

## **COMMITTEE / COUNCIL REPORTS**

### Council President Hokanson

(none)

### Councilor Hanley

(none)

### Councilor Ramseyer

(none)

### Councilor Sheldon

(none)

### Councilor Mayton

(none)

### Mayor Walker

- Update on groundwater conversations in the LOC water/wastewater policy committee, including draft legislation regarding the Deschutes groundwater mitigation program
- Reminder on the draft wastewater facilities plan amendment and the need to produce an easy to understand summary document for distribution to legislators and the public

## **STAFF UPDATES**

Monthly Reports: <https://reports.cityofsandy.com/>

## **ADJOURN**