

# NEWSLETTER

## CITY OF SWEET HOME

April 2026



### SWEET HOME LOOKS AHEAD

This is an exciting time for the City, with lots going on in terms of projects and planning. The City Council has adopted its goals for the next fiscal year (starting July 1<sup>st</sup>), which are:

- Weddle Bridge restoration
- Mountain View pedestrian improvements
- Quarry Park improvements
- Northside Park amenity evaluation
- Review Council rules
- Old City Hall plan
- Willow-Yucca LID
- Wastewater Treatment Plant updates & construction
- Water Treatment Plant construction
- Canyon Creek Pump Station
- Santiam Feed Store plan
- Fund the Commercial Exterior Improvement Program (CEIP)

These goals set work priorities for the year, but they're certainly not all that staff will do! Staff is applying for a lot of grants right now, particularly for more park improvements. The City Manager also just signed a contract with Avery Jenkins, a world champion disc golf player, for design of an 18-hole disc golf park at Quarry Park. We can't wait to see the design and make a plan for construction to bring this incredible amenity to Sweet Home.

### ELECTIONS ON THE HORIZON

Sweet Home is looking at a busy elections year. In May, voters will have the opportunity to consider major revisions that were proposed after months of work by a citizen Charter Review Committee and the City Council. Staff prepared a [Charter election website](#) with information about all of the proposed changes.

Also in May, primary races are happening for multiple state offices. The deadline to register to vote in the May 2026 election is April 28<sup>th</sup> - contact [Linn County Elections](#) for assistance or questions.

Looking ahead to November, elections for City Council are coming! As usual, City Councilors will be on the ballot but for the first time, Sweet Home will be directly electing its Mayor. The Mayoral seat (two-year term) and three City Councilor seats (four-year terms) will be up for election.

Election information and a handbook for prospective candidates are already available [on the City's website](#). The City is also planning to issue a digital voters' pamphlet for November to help voters feel more informed.

If you have any questions about any of these items, please don't hesitate to reach out to the City Manager's Office. Your voice is important!

### CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE



As we head into a busy spring and summer season, much of the work happening across Sweet Home reflects both progress and preparation. From park improvements and infrastructure projects to new community events, our team is focused on delivering results that residents can see and experience every day. At the same time, we're continuing to plan thoughtfully for the future to ensure these efforts are sustainable and aligned with community priorities. What makes this work meaningful is the strong partnership between Council, staff, volunteers, and residents. Your engagement, whether attending events, participating in meetings, or simply staying informed, helps shape the direction of our community. I appreciate the continued support and involvement that make Sweet Home such a special place to live and work.

**Yours in Service, Jason Ogden**



[www.sweethomeor.gov](http://www.sweethomeor.gov)



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3225 Main Street  
Sweet Home, OR 97386



Check out our website  
and social media!

## FESTIVAL SEASON BEGINS!

The time to gather together is almost here, and we're doing it up right this year with a tripling of community festivals for 2026.

This month, we are so excited to host **Blooms & Brews**. It gives us the opportunity to honor Sweet Home's 30+ year tenure as a Tree City USA while enjoying vendors that sell plants, use natural resources to create products, and produce wine and beer. We'll also have some great live music, celebrate the accomplishments of the City's Park & Tree Committee, hear a proclamation for Arbor Day, and enjoy fellowship in the park together as a community. We hope to turn this into an annual tradition, so please join us to make it a success!

We are also planning a **4<sup>th</sup> of July** celebration at Sankey Park. The City received a small grant for interpretive signage so we'll be posting information throughout the park to honor Sweet Home's history and our valuable place in the context of our country. We'll also have food, music, and more to celebrate the upgrades that are currently happening at Sankey Park as part of the Sankey Park Phase III project.

In October, we'll celebrate the **20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Harvest Festival**, which has become the hallmark event of our community and always supports great local causes.

Finally, after Thanksgiving, we'll have the **annual tree lighting ceremony** at City Hall. We are so excited to host an event for each season this year, and we hope you'll support us by showing up and participating so we can keep growing each event.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 4/9, 4:30 PM: Library Board
- 4/14, 5:30 PM: City Council Executive Session
- 4/14, 6:30 PM: City Council Meeting
- 4/21, 4:00 PM: Park & Tree Committee
- 4/22, 4:00 PM: Community Health Committee
- 4/28, 6:30 PM: City Council Meeting
- 4/29, 5:30 PM: Budget Committee
- 4/30, 5:30 PM: Budget Committee



CITY OF SWEET HOME  
**BLOOMS & BREWS**  
SPRING FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, 4/25/2026  
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

SANKEY PARK  
877 14<sup>TH</sup> AVE  
SWEET HOME, OR 97386

FEATURING:

- Local beer & wine vendors
- Native plants & flowers for sale
- Nature-based vendors
- Live music
- Plant education
- Family-friendly activities
- And more!

  
SWEETHOMEOR.GOV

JOIN US FOR AN ARBOR DAY  
CELEBRATION FEATURING THE  
CITY'S PARK & TREE COMMITTEE



## SANKEY PARK PHASE III PROJECT

If you're a regular visitor to Sankey Park, you've probably noticed some changes recently related to the Sankey Park Phase III project in terms of some tree removal. Trees were removed to make space for an ADA-accessible trail that will connect upper and lower Sankey as part of this grant-funded project. After the project is complete, we'll be working with the Park and Tree Committee to select trees for replacement and replanting.

Construction is anticipated to last until the end of June. While some areas of the park will be closed off, we will still be able to use the majority of the space. We ask that you please stay out of construction areas to ensure we can complete the project on time.

One of the most important project components is the construction of a new bandstand. We can't wait for this to be completed and to create a new gathering space that everyone can enjoy for weddings, baby showers, family reunions, or just a picnic lunch!

We are still looking for project donors and sponsors - please contact [aclegg@sweethomeor.gov](mailto:aclegg@sweethomeor.gov) if you're interested in donating.