COLUMBIA CITY Newsletter - November 2026

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
1840 SECOND STREET
PO BOX 189
COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018
PHONE: (503) 397-4010
FAX: (503) 366-2870
colcity@columbia-city.org
www.columbia-city.org

MICHAEL ALLEN HARRISON HOLIDAY CONCERT

Columbia City is excited that Michael Allen Harrison will be joining us for our 10th Holiday Concert on Monday, November 30th at 6:00 pm in the Community Hall. See flyer for additional details. Note: doors will open at 5:30 pm. Food and beverages, including beer and wine, will be available for purchase.

PLANNING COMMISSION / CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED

The **Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at 6:30 pm** to consider a quasi-judicial amendment to the City's combined Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Map. The Oregon State Society of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), property owner, has submitted an application for property identified as Lots 6, 7, 8, and 9 of Block 2, Columbia City, and County Tax Assessor Map 5N1W28AD, Tax Lot 1500. The property consists of 4 legal lots totaling approximately 20,000 sq ft (0.46 acres), generally located at the northeast corner of First and I Streets and currently known as Ruth Rose Richardson Memorial Park. The application proposes to change the zoning from Public Land (PL) to Moderate Density Residential (R-2). No specific development or land division is proposed as part of this application.

Approval of the application is subject to demonstrating compliance with the applicable approval criteria in the Columbia City Development Code (CCDC) 7.162.120.

Subject to receipt of a Planning Commission recommendation, the **City Council** will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, December 17, 2026, at 6:00 pm** to hear the matter. Following this public hearing, the City Council may approve, approve with conditions, or deny the application.

Each of the above meetings will be held in the Council Chambers of City Hall in Columbia City. The staff report will be available for review approximately one week prior to each scheduled public hearing. Interested persons are invited to attend these hearings and present oral or written testimony regarding the application. If you would like to comment but are unable to attend, written comments are to be received at City Hall by 4:00 pm on the date of the meeting to allow for distribution to the decision-making body.

Pursuant to ORS 197.797, failure to raise an issue by the close of the record, in person or in writing, or failure to provide statements or evidence sufficient to afford the decision makers and the parties an opportunity to respond to the issue, precludes an appeal to the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) based on that issue.

For additional information regarding the application, hearing procedures, or to review or obtain copies of any documents and evidence submitted by or on behalf of the applicant, applicable criteria, and the staff report, please contact Helen Johnson at City Hall at 503-397-4010 or at 1840 Second Street, Columbia City. Copies of all documents can be purchased at cost.

LEAVES, GRASS & DEBRIS ON STREETS

Please be reminded that purposely blowing, raking or sweeping your leaves, grass, and other debris into the public right of way is considered a violation of City Ordinances.

NOVEMBER-WEEKLY YARD DEBRIS

Hudson Garbage Service provides weekly curbside yard debris collections during the month of November for customers who currently pay for yard debris collection. Contact Hudson Garbage Service at (503) 397-1534 if you have any questions.

FALL BURN PERIOD
Starts at Dawn Nov 7th / Ends at Dusk Nov 15th

Remember burn permits are required! Available at City Hall, any Fire Station within the CRF&R District, or on-line: www.CRFR.com. Always call the "Burn Line" at (503) 397-4800 each day to see if burning is allowed that day.

5th ANNUAL PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE

The St. Helens School District Backpack Weekend Food Program is again conducting a peanut butter drive during November. The mission of the Program is to help ensure that no child goes hungry. Those in need are given a bag on Friday with food for two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners, plus fruits and a snack. The desire is to send peanut butter once a month as a good protein source. All food is purchased with funds from individuals and business donations. Food bags are prepared by volunteers from the First Methodist Church, the St. Helens Lions Club and other local groups, with 150 bags being distributed per week! The need is for **16-ounce PLASTIC** jars of peanut butter. All donations are greatly appreciated! Drop donations at City Hall in Columbia City.

YOUR TOWN, YOUR VOICE:
CONSIDER JOINING A CITY COMMITTEE

Have you ever wondered how decisions get made in Columbia City? From updating local ordinances, to considerations for rate adjustments, the work of our city government is a collective effort. And one of the most direct ways for you to contribute is by serving on a city committee or commission.

We are looking for neighbors, business owners and engaged citizens - people like you - who care about Columbia City's future.

The following committees or commissions have members whose terms expire on December 31, 2026, and we are opening the positions to anyone who might be interested in serving. Applicants must reside within the City. Applications for any of these positions may be picked up at City Hall or found on City's website at: www.columbia-city.org – under "Doing Business", Public Service Forms.

Audit (2 Positions) - The Audit Committee is comprised of individuals with knowledge of accounting and finance. They meet twice a year to ensure the city maintains the highest level of financial accountability. Members of this committee serve 2-year terms.

Budget (2 Positions) - The Budget Committee meets at least once annually to review the proposed budget, hear public testimony and approve a budget for submission to the City Council. Budget Committee terms are for 3 years.

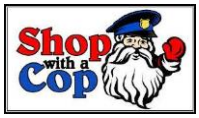
Hazard Mitigation Planning Group (2 Positions) - The Hazard Mitigation Committee monitors and documents progress made on the implementation of the City Hazard Mitigation Plan, reviews actions taken in response to disasters or emergencies, makes recommendations for new projects or revises action items, and discusses implementation as problems arise. The committee is scheduled to meet monthly, but there are months when meetings are cancelled due to lack of discussion topics. Members of this committee serve 3-year terms.

Planning Commission (3 Positions) - The Planning Commission is involved in community planning and development issues, including the review of proposed development applications, updating the City's land use and development codes, and are involved in long-range planning activities. The commission is scheduled to meet monthly on the third Tuesday at 6:30 pm, but there are many months without discussion topics or public hearings scheduled. Planning Commission terms are for a period of 4 years.

If you have any questions about any of these Committees or Commissions, please call City Hall.

SHOP WITH A COP

The Police Department is hosting its 18th annual Shop with a Cop program. Nominations for families in need will be accepted until Monday, November 30th at 5:00 pm. Nomination forms may be picked up at City Hall or found on City's website at: www.columbia-city.org – under "Doing Business", Police Department Forms.



Monetary donations are also being accepted. If you would like to help, please send your donation to City Hall, PO Box 189, Columbia City, OR 97018. **Please be sure to identify the donation is for Shop with a Cop.** Thank you for your continued support to this rewarding program!



VETERANS PARK CLEANUP

The St. Helens Garden Club works almost every month in the Columbia City Veterans Park to help keep the park looking its best. On Monday, November 16th, they will be there starting at 9 am. If you're interested in helping, join them that morning, bring gloves and tools for weeding. They'd love to see you there! If it's raining, they will NOT be working.

NOTE: They will not be working in the months of December and January. Stay tuned for a possible February 2027 date.



FOOD DRIVE



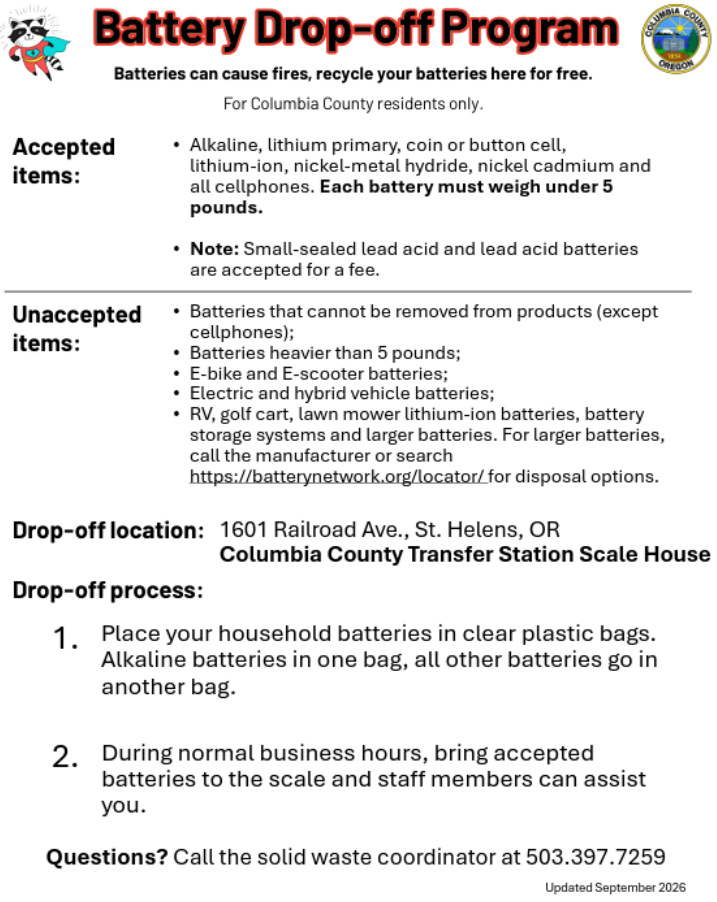
Please help us *Feed the Need* by bringing your donations of boxed and canned foods to City Hall during the month of November. The most wanted foods items are: canned meats - tuna, chicken, salmon, beef and corned beef, canned soup & chili, peanut butter & almond butter, canned fruits and canned vegetables.

Also accepted: packaged, shelf-stable food items including but not limited to pasta, cooking oils, sauces, rice, dried beans and oats. Also, unexpired baby food and formula, personal care items, personal hygiene items, laundry detergent and dryer sheets.

All the collected goods will be given to the Columbia Pacific Food Bank in St. Helens. Other ways in which you can help may be found on the Columbia Pacific Food Bank website – www.cpfoodbank.org.

COLUMBIA COUNTY BATTERY RECYCLING

Columbia County started the household battery drop-off program in March 2026. Since then, they have safely collected, packaged, and sent 1,320 pounds of batteries for recycling. Battery recyclers break down batteries into their base components such as nickel, cobalt, lithium, steel, and plastic. These materials are used to make new products including new batteries.



COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Our library card is free to all county residents.

Novel Quilters. The Novel Quilters recently revealed their latest interpretations of *Lessons In Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Elizabeth Zott's love of chemistry and cooking, and a dog named Six-thirty influenced the group's newest creations. You can see all their quilts at next year's City Celebration.



The next book chosen for their creativity is *Shinju*, by Laura Joh Rowland. It is a historical mystery set in 1689 Japan described as a suspenseful page-turning journey through the seductive world of medieval Japanese culture and politics.

Secondhand Prose Book Shop. November is here; time to plan for the upcoming family parties and meals. The monthly special is Cookbooks! Holiday, Casseroles, Desserts, Vegetarian, Vegan, Diabetic friendly, and many more. Hardbacks $1, Paperbacks $.50.

Reader Recommendation. In *Good People* by Patmeena Sakit, Sakit uses a unique writing style to tell the story of a young Afghan woman who is found drowned in her car. It is told through first person accounts and police bulletins. What is the truth? It depends on who you ask.

New to the Library. 77 new titles were added this month; some of the titles are:
Strangers by Belle Burden (recent best seller)
Villa Coco by Andrew Sean Greer (local book club selection)
The French Illusion by John Grisham (best seller)
The Witches of Cambridge by Alice Hoffman (recent best seller)
Exit Party by Emily St. John Mandel (recent best seller)
We Chase Shadows by Richard Osman (recent best seller)
Dragon Kingdom of Wrenly #1: The Coldfire Curse by Jordan Quinn (Graphic Novel, requested)

Storytime: Mondays at 11 am
Friends of the Library: Mon, Nov 16 at 4 pm
Mystery Book Club: Wed, Nov 18 at 7 pm

* *

Columbia City Community Library
2000 Second Street, PO Box 189
Columbia City OR 97018
Phone: 503-366-8020 **Email:** ccclibrary@live.com
HOURS: Mon, Tue & Sat 10 am – 2 pm
Wed & Thurs 10 am – 6 pm
Website & Card Catalog:
www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com

* *

MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - NOVEMBER 2026

November 1st	2:00 am	End of Daylight-Saving Time (clocks move backward)
November 7th	dawn	First day of open burn period
~~November 10th~~	~~6:00 pm~~	~~Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall~~ - canceled
November 11th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed in observance of Veteran's Day
November 15th	dusk	Last day of open burn period
November 17th	6:30 pm	Planning Commission Meeting
November 19th	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
November 26th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Thanksgiving Day
November 27th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed the day after Thanksgiving
~~November 30th~~	~~6:00 PM~~	~~Hazard Mitigation Planning Group Meeting at City Hall~~ - canceled