



Philomath

OREGON

December 2016

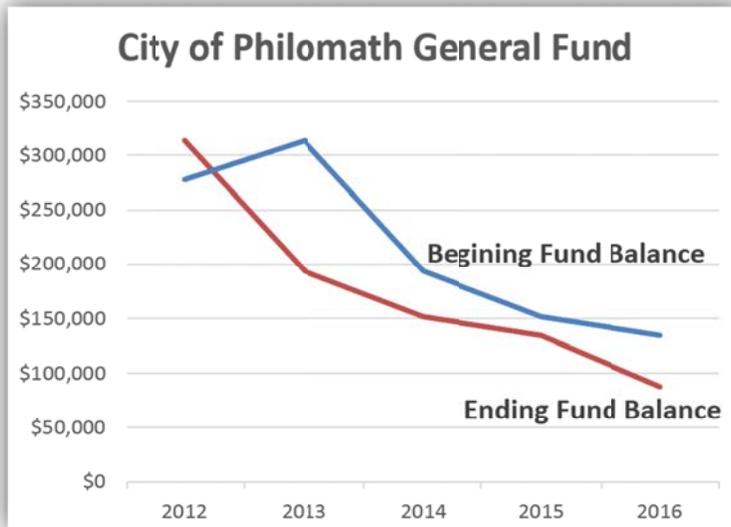
(541) 929-6148

980 Applegate St./PO Box 400, Philomath, OR 97370

www.ci.philomath.or.us

Future Funding of City Services

At the November Council meeting, the City's financial auditors gave a "clean" opinion, indicating no concerns with how the city finances are managed and accounted for. During the meeting, concern was raised by Mayor Rocky Sloan about the City's ending fund balance which continues to decrease from one year to another.



Philomath residents share a long history of supporting the pillars of our community: our schools, youth sports and after school programs; library; fire department; police department, and parks. It's a history of mutual trust. The community has trusted local leaders to be good stewards of public funds and make wise decisions on how best to provide essential government services.

Likewise, the government has trusted and relied upon the community to establish priorities and provide the resources needed to achieve the desired level of service. Together, this

trusting partnership maintains the Philomath community that we enjoy today.

Unfortunately, the City has approached a difficult position which will need to be addressed in 2017. With property taxes capped and little expansion of residential, commercial and industrial development, revenues have not kept pace with expenses in the general fund. Officials have combated this trend over the past several years, holding down costs, imposing fee increases and increasing the tax base with new businesses and housing opportunities; but it simply has not been enough to combat our slow economic recovery.

In the coming months, the City will be providing information to and engaging with residents about its financial future. The City will be considering the need to cut services and/or personnel,

CITY MEETINGS & EVENTS

DECEMBER 2015:

- December 5** –Finance/Admin Committee; 6 p.m.
- December 7** –Transportation Citizens Advisory Committee; 6 p.m.
- December 12** – Transportation Open House; 5 p.m.
- December 12** – City Council meeting; 7 p.m.
- December 23** – City offices close at noon
- December 26** – City offices closed

increase fees or impose additional fees, pass a local option levy, or any combination of the above in order to reverse the ongoing trend of our declining fund balance.

Election Results

In last month's election, residents voted in incumbent Rocky Sloan for mayor and Candy Koetz, Sean Manning, Doug Edmonds, Charla Koeppel and Eric Niemann for city council. Previous Budget Committee member David Low was elected to serve his first two-year term on the Council as well. Contact information for each member of the Council can be found on the City's website.

Join us at the Philomath Transportation System Plan update Open House!



What is the Transportation System Plan?

The Transportation System Plan (TSP) is a long-range document that guides the expansion and operation of our transportation network for all modes of travel over the next 20 years. The City's current TSP was adopted in 1999 and is currently being updated to reflect the latest community vision, infrastructure systems, and growth projections. This process creates an opportunity to work with residents and businesses to shape the future of the ways people get around in Philomath – including bicycles, sidewalks and trails, vehicles, transit, and freight. An updated TSP will enable the City to more effectively compete for limited federal and state funds by establishing clear support for specific transportation priorities.

Get involved and tell us what you think

The project team has recently completed work on the initial phase of the TSP update. This included establishment of goals and objectives, coordination with other local and regional plans, and an evaluation of how the transportation system functions today, as well as 20 years into the future.

Come to the open house and talk with the project team about your ideas for how transportation should be improved in Philomath. Key topics being discussed include:

- Transportation goals to work towards over the next 20 years
- Areas where transportation system or service improvements are needed
- Your ideas for solutions to improve conditions for walking, biking, public transit, driving, and freight movement

The input you provide at the open house will help guide the project team through the next phase, which involves developing a set of recommended projects and programs to improve transportation options and support Philomath's continued growth through the year 2040. A second open house will follow that effort so we can discuss and improve on these recommendations with the community.

For more information or to request special accommodations, contact:

Chris Workman
Philomath City Manager
541-929-6148, chris.workman@ci.philomath.or.us

Please join us at the Open House

**December 12, 2016
5:00 PM – 6:45 PM
Philomath City Hall
980 Applegate St.
Philomath, OR 97370**

If you can't make it in person, you can view all open house materials online from December 12 through December 16 at philomathtsp.org, and provide comments through the website.

Accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities. To request an accommodation, contact us in advance of the meeting (see contact info below).

Los documentos del proyecto pueden ser traducidos al español bajo petición.