



# Construction on Main Street is in full swing

For over 100 years, Main Street has seen a mix of infrastructure projects, leaving it a patchwork of old and new systems. In just four months, nearly half of its utilities have been modernized. New water and sewer lines now run from 5th to 8th Streets, with additional upgrades underway. Between 12th and 15th Streets, improvements include updated utilities, new sidewalks, fresh landscaping, improved street surfaces and enhanced lighting. This section, anticipated to be finished this year, will offer shoppers and visitors a glimpse of the fully revamped corridor.

As the project moves forward, work will continue in two- to three-block sections, starting with water and sewer upgrades, followed by stormwater, electrical, sidewalk and paving improvements. Areas in front of shops will be extended, curbs lowered, and crosswalks improved. The finishing touches will include new lighting, landscaping and outdoor furniture.



Photo credit: Marcus Griffith, Vancouver's Downtown Association

Pardon our dust and follow signage while visiting Main Street businesses as we make the heart of our city safer, more accessible and connected for everyone.



Follow construction at  
[cityofvancouver.us/mainstreet](https://cityofvancouver.us/mainstreet)

## Keeping Main Street open for business during construction

Businesses are open and welcoming customers during the reconstruction of Main Street.

To help businesses during rolling street closures, the City and our partner, Vancouver's Downtown Association (VDA), will celebrate Main Street through events and promotion of the more than 300 local businesses that call Main Street home.

You can learn about the events and activities through the City's and VDA's social media accounts, and you can visit Explore Main Street to help you plan your next visit and find shops, restaurants, services, and parking before you go.



## Remembering Mayor Royce Pollard

Former Mayor Royce Pollard passed away in February at the age of 85. As mayor from 1996 to 2010, he was a tireless advocate for Vancouver, dedicating his life to its growth and success. Through his service as a city councilor and then mayor, Pollard was instrumental in completing several significant projects that shaped the city. He played a key role in revitalizing downtown, championing projects like Esther Short Park, the Vancouver Hilton Hotel and Convention Center, and planning the new Vancouver Waterfront. His contributions have left a lasting impact on the city, cementing its place as a vibrant and livable community.

The City of Vancouver newsletter is published quarterly for residents and those who receive services from the City.

Questions, comments and suggestions can be sent to Laura Shepard at [laura.shepard@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:laura.shepard@cityofvancouver.us).

The information is current as of the publication date. Visit [cityofvancouver.us](https://cityofvancouver.us) to verify meeting dates and status of events.

Scan the QR code for translations in Español, Русский, Tiếng Việt and 中文.

CITY OF

Vancouver

WASHINGTON

City of Vancouver Washington  
415 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660-1995

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# Help design Vancouver’s next flag

Be a part of Vancouver’s history by entering the City’s Flag Design Competition.

“This is an opportunity for the public to help shape the identity of our community and be a part of Vancouver’s history,” said Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle. “We hope to create an enduring symbol of Vancouver that inspires a sense of belonging and unity among residents.”

The new flag should represent what makes Vancouver special—our values, diversity, and hopes for the future. Prizes, a design brief, and rules can be found on the City website. All ages are eligible to enter. Submissions by those under 18 will be accepted when submitted by a parent or legal guardian.

A Design Review Committee will review all eligible submissions, select 10 finalists, and recommend a new flag to the City Council. The committee reserves the right not to recommend a flag if a suitable design is not submitted.

Entries are being accepted until midnight on June 14 (Flag Day).



# Bridge Shelter taking shape

Opening a bridge shelter is a top priority for the City. This critical, service-rich space will help considerably more people “bridge” the gap between homelessness and stable housing with added shelter capacity and wraparound care.

Following community engagement, the City selected the property at 5313 N.E. 94th Ave. for the shelter. In late 2024, the City chose Do Good Multnomah, an experienced shelter operator, to consult on the shelter’s design and eventually manage the facility.

Concept plans were finalized in March. The shelter will be a pre-engineered metal building with 100 – 120 beds. Plans also include limited space for pets, outdoor recreation, and a separate commercial kitchen to enable on-site food preparation.

We will share updates on the design and next steps as they become available. The City aims to open the shelter in 2026.



To help protect unhoused residents during the winter months, the City opened two buildings as temporary overnight shelters. From December to March, the shelters provided a safe and warm space for those in need and prioritized families with children and the most vulnerable in our community.

Of the more than 200 people served at two locations (The Arts Hub and the Chkalov Building), 30 were children. Thanks to the shelter, some families who were previously apart could reunite for the night. The shelters offered a combined capacity of about 60 beds.

“The high use of these spaces reflects the ongoing need for safe, accessible shelter options,

especially when severe weather is at its worst for the most vulnerable,” said Homeless Response Manager Jamie Spinelli.

Throughout their stay, shelter users were embraced by neighbors, who made posters and shared contributions of food, clothing, bedding and toiletries.

“Our new neighbors were thankful for each item we donated, and watching the space turn into a safe haven for those utilizing it was amazing,” said Brigid Hackett, who organized a donation drive for the shelter.

# Mayor addresses community priorities in State of the City

Firstenburg Community Center was packed on March 24 for Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle’s annual State of the City address. The speech highlighted the progress the City and community have made together on shared priorities—community safety, homelessness, and affordable housing—and set the stage for future economic opportunity. The Mayor also addressed some of the uncertainty felt in the community around changes at the federal level of government and the City’s response to them.

The speech was followed by a Council Community Forum, where attendees discussed issues important to them with the Mayor and City Councilors.



Watch the speech



The Mayor delivered the State of the City address on March 24.



# Simple steps for a greener spring (and planet)

As many of us head outside this spring to care for plants, trees, and gardens, here are some helpful resources to help reduce your impact on the planet and help with climate change. Keeping yard waste and other organic materials out of our landfills helps reduce methane, a greenhouse gas.

Prune with care, proper pruning will extend the health of trees as they absorb carbon dioxide from the air. Topping trees can be especially harmful. Removing large sections or many branches at the top of a tree can weaken it and make it vulnerable to pests and disease. For tips on pruning the right way visit [cityofvancouver.us/pruning](https://cityofvancouver.us/pruning).

Yard debris is not trash. Did you know that keeping yard waste out of landfills helps reduce methane emissions? In 2024 alone, Vancouver residents diverted nearly 17,000 tons of organic materials from landfills. Join your neighbors in making a difference—whether you’re bagging up leaves or

trimming overgrown bushes, there are plenty of options to dispose of debris responsibly.

**Use Spring Cleanup coupons:** Vancouver residents can use free coupons to dispose of leaves, grass, pruning debris, and old tires through June 30. Find a coupon at [cityofvancouver.us/springcleanupcoupons](https://cityofvancouver.us/springcleanupcoupons)

**Consider composting:** Check out Clark County’s Composter Recycler Program workshops to create a sustainable future. [clarkcountycomposts.org](https://clarkcountycomposts.org)

**Sign up for curbside organics:** Have yard debris and food scraps picked up at your curb. [wcnorthwest.com/organics](https://wcnorthwest.com/organics)

**Haul debris locally:** Prefer to handle it yourself? Take your leaves, grass and trimmings to local drop-off sites. Find details at [cityofvancouver.us/recyclerright](https://cityofvancouver.us/recyclerright).



## Celebrate Vancouver

Commemorate the 200th anniversary of Fort Vancouver’s founding and explore all Vancouver has to offer by using the Community Event Pass hosted by Visit Vancouver. The pass is a resource for discovering new things to do, and when you check in at events using the pass you can enter prize giveaways. Check into one event monthly for a chance to win a \$100 Spend It Local gift certificate. Check into six participating events between now and November for a chance to win a \$1,000 Spend It Local gift certificate.



## We’re becoming a Bee City USA



In April, the Vancouver City Council voted to become a “Bee City USA” to help protect and preserve pollinators critical to our environment. This commitment supports the City’s work to protect community health and resiliency through sustainable practices as outlined in the City’s Climate Action Framework.

### National Pollinator Week

Celebrate National Pollinator Week at the Pollinator Festival on June 21. This free festival is on Sat., June 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Marshall Park, 1069 E. McLoughlin Blvd. and nearby Clark College and VITA School. Activities include Naturespaces tours, activities for kids, speakers who will talk about creating pollinator habitats, and Dr. Robert Michael Pyle, founder of the Xerces Society.



## Get set for summer adventures

Registration for summer camps, classes and activities is now open! Head to [cityofvancouver.us/activities](https://cityofvancouver.us/activities) to explore options and sign up today.

- Day camps (ages 6-10)
- Rock climbing for all ages
- Pottery and art classes
- Free summer playgrounds programs
- Senior hikes, dances and classes
- Access to Recreation activities for people with disabilities



Scholarships are available for eligible Vancouver families. Learn more and apply at [cityofvancouver.us/scholarship](https://cityofvancouver.us/scholarship).

## Unlock summer fun with the Youth Pass




Vancouver youth (18 and under) get unlimited access to Firstenburg and Marshall community centers this summer for just \$51 (\$64 for non-residents). All ages can enjoy the pools; ages 14+ can also use the gyms, fitness centers, game rooms and more.

Passes go on sale May 12 and are valid June 2-Aug. 30. Don’t miss out on summer fun! Learn more and get your pass at [cityofvancouver.us/summerpass](https://cityofvancouver.us/summerpass).



INSIDE CITY HALL




City Council

Mayor & Council Office 360-487-8629

Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor  
Sarah J. Fox | Bart Hansen | Kim D. Harless  
Erik Paulsen, Mayor Pro Tem | Diana H. Perez | Ty Stober

Call the City

Abandoned Vehicles	3-1-1
Building and Permits	360-487-7800
Business License	360-487-8410, opt 3
Community Liaison	360-487-8604
City Manager's Office	360-487-8600
Code Compliance	360-487-7810
Garbage/Recycling	360-487-7160
Homeless Assistance and Resources Team	360-487-8626
Operations Center (streetlights, potholes)	360-487-8177
Parking Services	360-487-8650
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services	360-487-8311
Public Works	360-487-8177
Utility Customer Service	360-487-7999
Vancouver Fire Department	360-487-7212
Vancouver Police Department	360-487-7400



Stay in the know, visit [cityofvancouver.us](https://cityofvancouver.us) for the latest events, meetings, updates and services.



FUNDED BY WASHINGTON'S  
**CLIMATE COMMITMENT ACT**

# Get low-to-no-cost energy upgrades before funds run out

The City is offering income-based rebates for heating, cooling and other energy-efficiency upgrades. Depending on your income, you may qualify for low- or even no-cost improvements to your home or small business.

We've partnered with the Northwest Native Chamber and the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber to launch the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate (HEAR) Program, powered by the Washington Climate Commitment Act.

Hurry! These funds are available until June 2025. Learn more about program eligibility and complete the application at [nwnc.org/hear](https://nwnc.org/hear).



# PFAS quarterly testing results notification

Protecting public health and providing a safe water supply is our top priority. We remain committed to addressing PFAS in the water supply and implementing long-term PFAS elimination measures. View recent sampling from February PFAS testing and read about actions being taken to protect water quality at [cityofvancouver.us/PFAS](https://cityofvancouver.us/PFAS).



Calendar of events

April

19

**Chief Redheart Memorial Ceremony**  
10 a.m. – Noon  
Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, 1001 E. 5th Street

21

**City Council Meeting**  
6:30 p.m.  
Vancouver City Hall, 415 W. 6th St.

28

**City Council Meeting and Community Forum**  
6:30 p.m.  
Vancouver City Hall, 415 W. 6th St.

May

2

**First Friday Art Walk**  
4 – 8 p.m.  
Arts Hub Building, 1007 E. Mill Plain Blvd.

5

**Beginning Pickleball Clinic**  
10 – 11:30 a.m.; *Registration Required*  
Firstenburg Community Center, 700 N.E. 136th Ave.

5

**City Council Meeting**  
6:30 p.m.  
Vancouver City Hall, 415 W. 6th St.

7

**Beginning Pickleball Clinic**  
Noon – 1:30 p.m.; *Registration Required*  
Marshall Community Center, 1009 E. McLoughlin Blvd.

10

**Spruce the Couve**  
9 – 11:30 a.m.  
Esther Short Park, 605 Esther St.

12

**City Council Meeting**  
6:30 p.m.  
Vancouver City Hall, 415 W. 6th St.

15

**Small Business Resource Fair**  
4:30 to 6 p.m.  
Fourth Plain Community Commons, 3101 E. 4th Plain Blvd.

19

**City Council Meeting 2025 First Supplemental Public Hearing and Community Communication Forum**  
6:30 p.m.  
Vancouver City Hall, 415 W. 6th St.

June

2

**City Council Meeting**  
6:30 p.m.  
Vancouver City Hall, 415 W. 6th St.

6

**First Friday Art Walk**  
4 – 8 p.m.  
Arts Hub Building, 1007 E. Mill Plain Blvd.

7

**Lemonade Day Junior Market at the Vancouver Farmers Market**  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Esther Short Park, 605 Esther St.

9

**City Council Meeting**  
6:30 p.m.  
Vancouver City Hall, 415 W. 6th St.

14

**Juneteenth Celebration with Odyssey World International Education Services**  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Esther Short Park, 605 Esther St.

16

**City Council Meeting**  
6:30 p.m.  
Vancouver City Hall, 415 W. 6th St.

21

**2nd Annual Pollinator Festival with Vancouver Bee Project**  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Marshall Community Park, 1069 E. McLoughlin Blvd.

21

**Family Play Day with Columbia Play Project**  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Vancouver Waterfront Park, 695 Waterfront Way


23

**Council Community Forum**  
6:30 p.m.  
Location to be announced

July

4

**First Friday Art Walk**  
4 – 8 p.m.  
Arts Hub Building, 1007 E. Mill Plain Blvd.



View more information and other events at [cityofvancouver.us/calendar](https://cityofvancouver.us/calendar)