



City of Talent

Progress on City FY23 Goals
October 5th, 2022

GOAL AREAS | Talent is a community where...

City Council outlined six major goal areas for the city to focus on. The following pages detail what actions the City will take to achieve our goals within these six areas.



Three-month check-in!

Affordable Housing

Families and households of all incomes live and thrive.

GOAL: More housing stock for affordable and workforce households

To make that happen we need to:	The steps we'll take are
A. Make Space	Update Buildable Lands Inventory ✓
	Update Housing Needs Analysis ✓
	Update Comp Plan Housing Element
	Bring in TA4 and TA5
B. Increase Density	Finalize Title 18 Code updates
	Research other zoning changes for middle housing ✓
	Research intentional design practices, including aging in place
C. Bring in Partners	Research land banking
	Host a housing summit ✓
	Develop "welcome home" gift (gift cards, letter, maps, etc.)

Refined our permitting data to better understand rebuild and more accurately identify buildable lands.

Lobbied for higher population projections, in preparation for a housing needs analysis.

Connected with other cities to see where they have had success for increasing density and mixed-use.


Participating in the TGM code analysis project for increasing mixed-use along Highway 99 corridor

Building relationships with CASA, HAJC, Rogue Retreat, ACCESS, and Rogue Community Health

Community Safety


Residents and visitors feel safe in the present and in planning for the future.

GOAL: Achieve a sustainable policing model.

To make that happen we need to:	The steps we'll take are
A. Understand core recruitment and retention issues; estimate costs of addressing those issues; evaluate other service models.	Complete PSU Police Feasibility Study  Host Town Hall / Community Feedback

Hired 3 new police officers



GOAL: Implement environmental design that improves a sense of safety.

B. Understand how environment impacts behavior, install safer infrastructure	Research human behavior impacts of various environmental designs. Create safer bike and pedestrian corridors (protected, sidewalks, lighting) 
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Installing W Valley View Road improvements

Applied for funding for Creel Road Bike Connection to Bear Creek Greenway

GOAL: Mitigate potential natural disasters (wildfire, flood, landslides, earthquake)

C. Establish functioning ecosystems to lessen this risk from natural disaster	Identify community areas most at risk  Draft mitigation plans for specific hazards  Apply for funding  Implement mitigation plans
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Hired a Hazard Mitigation Coordinator

Applied for HGMP grants for hazardous fuels reductions

Community Safety

Residents and visitors feel safe in the present and in planning for the future.

GOAL: Increase our emergency preparedness.

To make that happen we need to:	The steps we'll take are
A. Improve communication systems, put the needed infrastructure in place, and ensure everyone knows what to do in the event of an emergency.	Establish emergency-specific communication plans. Mark evacuation routes. Establish resiliency hubs/supply caches. Establish volunteer / education program. Provide regular communication + education on how to prepare. Research how to incentivize preparedness.



Increased Citizen Alert sign-ups.

Created information sharing calendar on preparing for wildfire season.

Sit-in on Ashland emergency preparedness meetings.

Sustainability

We mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts—for ourselves and the flora and fauna that li

GOAL: Reduce our carbon footprint as a community

To make that happen we need to:	The steps we'll take are:
A. Reduce our use of carbon-sources	Establish standards for clean energy
	Increase solar power infrastructure ✓
	Implement Climate Friendly Area
B. Increase our carbon sinks	Establish urban forestry master plan ✓
	Increase tree canopy ✓
	Make updates to our Tree Code

GOAL: Become more drought tolerant and fire resistant.

C. Set landscaping standards and provide education on how we can benefit from sustainable landscaping.	Refine recommended landscaping standards Provide resources for learning about and implementing refined standards
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GOAL: Increase our resiliency to major events.

D. Promote protection against extreme weather events (wildfire smoke, extreme heat, extreme cold)	Establish extreme weather response plans ✓ Promote programs that help people become more resilient at home
E. Put the pieces in place that we can immediately implement if disaster occurs	Update code to make building back easier Make a "build-back plan" for post-emergency response

Applied for OCF grant to install solar panels to offset low-income household utility bills

Received grant for urban forestry master planning – began work on tree inventory!

Provided cooling shelter access at City Hall on extreme heat days.

Transportation

Neighborhoods and parks are interconnected by biking and walking paths.

GOAL: Have better Greenway accessibility to Talent.

To make that happen we need to:	The steps we'll take are:	
A. Create more connection points; and link across Hwy 99	Complete Creel Road Connector	✓
	Establish Highway 99 crossings	✓

GOAL: Establish more pedestrian and bike corridors.

B. Plan for new corridors	Plan a walking trail through Talent	
	Establish a designated bicycle network	

GOAL: Improve the enjoyability of our current pathways.

C. Make our current corridors more secure, shaded, and protected.	Increase tree canopy	✓
	Install secure bike storage	
	Increase corridor lighting	✓

Applied for funding for Creel Road Connector



Participating in TGM Highway 99 Revisioning Project

Increased bike and pedestrian safety along W Valley View Road

Community Engagement

Community members connect with their government and with each other.

GOAL: We communicate better with the community.



To make that happen we need to:	The steps we'll take are:
A. Increase our staff capacity for communicating in Spanish; create a framework that helps remind us to implement better practices; increase our communication tools.	Increase our bilingual capacity 
	Translate external city documents 
	Develop and apply DEI framework + rubric
	Increase in-house GIS capabilities.

Hired two additional bilingual staff (total 5 bilingual)

Maintain Spanish social media

Provide monthly articles in Revista Caminos

GOAL: We provide strong committee and commission support.

B. Better recruit, better train, and better engage our members	Draft outreach plan and branding
	Remove barriers to participation
	Provide comprehensive training 
	Establish participatory funding opportunities
	Convene regular summits 

Hosted 5th Wednesday summits (in which we provided training!)

Community Engagement

Community members connect with their government and with each other.

GOAL: We perform regular community engagement.

To make that happen we need to:	The steps we'll take are:
A. Create more connection points with community	Conduct door-to-door/event surveying Provide regular information through water bill inserts Host quarterly town halls Host regular art-in-the-park events Identify a location for a music venue




Harvest Festival was BACK!




Economic Development

A vibrant downtown, highway corridor, and home-based businesses serve the people of Talent and attract visitors.

GOAL: We understand what businesses need.

To make that happen we need to:	The steps we'll take are:
A. Build the relationships to communicate with businesses directly.	Help establish a chamber or alliance 
	Ask businesses directly what they need 
	Apply for funds on behalf of businesses 

GOAL: We help recruit and establish essential businesses.

B. Make City Code and policy easier for businesses to navigate	Review City Code and policy from the business perspective
C. Create more contact between community and businesses, provide the spaces for new businesses.	Host events that bring people to businesses 
	Establish incubator hubs
	Make the Highway 99 corridor more inviting 
	Encourage mixed-use development 

City supported the re-start/start of Talent Business Alliance.

Built contacts with local businesses, conducted wildfire impact survey on businesses.

Preparing applications for PIER program funding

Harvest Festival was BACK!

Participating in the TGM revisioning project for Highway 99 corridor

The City has also...

- ✓ Stabilized staffing.
- ✓ Stepped into administration of TURA.
- ✓ Is leading urban renewal plan refinement.
- ✓ Commissions and Committees are back to full participation.

We look forward to continuing our progress!



Stronger Together.

