



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

February 2025

# The Word on the Street

## City of Stayton's Monthly Newsletter

### Stayton Contacts

**City Hall**  
(503) 769-3425

**Public Works**  
(503) 769-2919

**City Planning**  
(503) 769-2998

**Code Enforcement**  
(503) 767-4539

**Police Department**  
(503) 769-3423

**Stayton Family Memorial Pool**  
(503) 767-7665

**Stayton Public Library**  
(503) 769-3133

### Community Improvement Grant 2025



As winter draws to a close, it's time to start planning for springtime. This season often brings a sense of renewal, igniting people's desire to mix things up and start new projects after being cooped up during the colder months.

Let that inspiration fuel your imagination to improve the community, the Stayton City Council has launched the Community Improvement Grant 2025. The Community Improvement grant is a chance to kick-start a project for your neighborhood or for your business. This is a competitive grant program, application will be reviewed by the City staff and selected grants will be awarded by the City Council at a later date. Grant amounts should **not** exceed \$5,000.

Many readers may recall that last year's Community Improvement Grant made several projects possible, including the paving of the space near the Florence Street parking lot, a Father-Daughter cowboy dance for all ages, installing public bike racks in Downtown Stayton, and many more. Each project helped rejuvenate familiar places, brought people together, and opened up new opportunities for the community.

The Community Improvement Grant will be accepting submissions starting **February 1st** until **March 28th**.

More information and guidelines are available on the City's website at [www.staytonoregon.gov/page/resources\\_community\\_improve\\_grant](http://www.staytonoregon.gov/page/resources_community_improve_grant).

### City of Stayton's Year in Review

As we close out another year, we reflect on the many achievements that have shaped our city and strengthened our community. Visit <https://qrco.de/bfhwNj> or scan the QR code below to see each department's accomplishments.

Looking forward, we remain committed to building on this momentum and encourage everyone to get involved in shaping our future and working together to make Stayton even better.

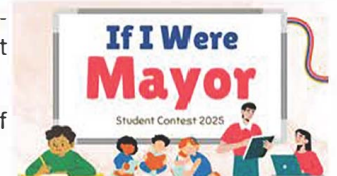


### 'If I Were Mayor' Student Contest 2025

The 'If I Were Mayor' student contest is here! Students will use their imagination and skills to envision a city where they are mayor and share what changes they would make to help their community and improve the city.

There are three categories for each age group each with their own type of project.

- **Grade 4-5** will submit a poster using any art medium.
- **Grade 6-8** a 500-1,000 word essay.
- **Grade 9-12** a 1-3 minute digital presentation.



The mayors of Aumsville, Sublimity and Stayton will select a winner from each category for each city, the students of those projects will receive a gift card as well as a gift card for their classroom. (Prizes vary for each category).

All projects must be submitted by **March 21, 2025** with a completed OMA entry form.

For more details and the OMA entry form, please visit the 'If I Were Mayor' page on the City of Stayton website at: [https://www.staytonoregon.gov/page/mayor\\_student\\_contest](https://www.staytonoregon.gov/page/mayor_student_contest). Projects should be submitted to the city where you are enrolled, if you are enrolled at a school in Stayton, have a parent, guardian or teacher email your submission to [csmithrud@staytonoregon.gov](mailto:csmithrud@staytonoregon.gov). If you live in Stayton but are enrolled in another city, check with your school or city administration for more details.



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# Stayton Police Department Receives NWAA Accreditation



In March of 2024, Stayton PD began the accreditation process by matching their policies with the NWAA standards and providing “proofs” of compliance. This was followed by an initial inspection of our proofs and documentation by the NWAA assessor and then an on-site inspection on December 16. The assessors submitted a nomination to the board, and it was reviewed during the January 8th Northwest Accreditation Alliance Board meeting. Per NWAA President Scott Hayes, “the Board unanimously recommended that your agency be granted its accredited status, a significant achievement that reflects the high standards and dedication of your team.”

The recent accreditation of Stayton Police through the Northwest Accreditation Alliance (NWAA) brings several benefits to the department and the community it serves. Some key advantages include:

- **Enhanced Professional Standards:** Accreditation ensures that Stayton Police meet established regional standards for law enforcement operations. This improves the overall professionalism, effectiveness, and efficiency of the department. Accreditation provides independent confirmation that policies comply with professional standards.
- **Improved Community Trust:** Accreditation demonstrates the department's commitment to accountability, transparency, and high-quality service, which can help build and maintain trust between the police force and the community.
- **Increased Officer Safety and Accountability:** By following best practices and policies, the department improves officer training, safety procedures, and performance evaluation. This helps ensure officers are equipped to handle a wide range of situations safely and professionally.
- **Access to Resources:** Accredited departments often gain access to additional resources, such as grants, training programs, and support from other law enforcement agencies, which can further improve the department's capabilities.
- **Enhanced Organizational Effectiveness:** Accreditation requires the department to conduct regular self-assessments, ensuring continuous improvement and long-term sustainability. It helps in identifying areas for improvement and refining policies and procedures.
- **Public Assurance:** Accreditation signals to the public that the police department is committed to upholding high standards, which can enhance the perception of the police as being competent, reliable, and responsible. This works to enhance public confidence in law enforcement.

Accreditation is currently not a mandate for all law enforcement agencies in Oregon. Of the 174 police agencies in Oregon, there are currently 61 accredited with NWAA and 4 with CALEA. Accreditation is a voluntary process for law enforcement agencies in the state. Stayton chose to pursue accreditation as it strengthens the Stayton Police Department's ability to serve its community while adhering to recognized best practices in law enforcement.

## Stayton Public Library

### Library's February Schedule

Fun for all at the Stayton Public Library! You can check the Library's calendar online at [calendar.staytonlibrary.org](https://calendar.staytonlibrary.org)

For more information, please call (503) 769-3313 or send an email to [info@staytonlibrary.org](mailto:info@staytonlibrary.org).

#### The Penguin Ball

**Saturday, February 1, 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.**

Celebrate the successful conclusion of this year's Winter Reading Challenge with fancy flippered fun for all ages. Dressing up is encouraged.

#### Art Show Opening Reception

**Thursday, February 6, 5:00 p.m.**

Join us for an opening reception for our local art show; enjoy light refreshments while meeting the artists. Art must be submitted by February 5 and will remain on display through February 26.

#### STEAM Days: Welcome to Slime Lab

**Tues.-Fri., February 11-14, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

Explore different kinds of slime and make some of your own to take home.

#### DIY Craftshop: Tree of Life Suncatcher

**Thursday, February 13, 5:30 p.m.**

Join us for a crafty evening and create a wire-wrapped Tree of Life Suncatcher. Supplies will be provided.

#### Fiber Arts Connection

**Friday, February 14, 11:00 a.m.**

Do you like to knit, crochet, embroider, stitch, or sew? Join other fiber arts enthusiasts of all ages and abilities for crafting conversation. Bring a project you're working on, or try one provided.

#### Love Your Library Open House

**Wednesday, February 19, 5:00 p.m.**

Ever wondered what happens behind the scenes at the Library? Join us for tours, presentations and interactive displays to find out more about the Stayton Public Library!

## City of Stayton Calendar - February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2	3 Work Session 6:00 p.m.  City Council 7:00 p.m.	4 Parks & Recreation Board 6:00 p.m.	5	6 Art Show Opening Night 5:00 p.m.	7	8 City Council Goal Setting Session 8:30 a.m.
9	10 Coffee with a Cop 7:30 a.m.	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 President's Day Office Closed	18 City Council 7:00 p.m.	19 Library Board 6:00 p.m.	20 Public Arts Commission 6:00 p.m.	21	22
23	24 Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.	25	26	27	28	

\*To learn more about City Council, Boards, and Commissions, visit our [City website](https://www.staytonoregon.gov) or watch live on our [YouTube](#) page.

El boletín de la Ciudad está disponible en español en [www.staytonoregon.gov/page/docs\\_espanol](https://www.staytonoregon.gov/page/docs_espanol)