

June 2, 2025
City Council Meeting

Agenda Item #1
Public Comment
Speaker's Cards & Written Comments Received

Speaker's Cards – *In order of receipt*

- **Speaker 1**– Ivy Medow
- **Speaker 2**– Mike Allen (*Included written comment*)

Published on *City of Florence Oregon* (<https://www.ci.florence.or.us>)

[Home](#) > [Request to Address City Council \(Speaker's Card\)](#) > [Webform results](#) > Request to Address City Council (Speaker's Card)

Submission information

Form: [Request to Address City Council \(Speaker's Card\)](#) ^[1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Fri, 05/30/2025 - 8:27pm

35.149.187.108

Name

Ivy Meadow

City Council Meeting Date

Mon, 06/02/2025

Agenda Item Number

1

Please note if you are speaking as an proponent, opponent, or neutral party

neutral

Brief Overview of What You Wish to Discuss

current events

Do you Represent an Organization?

no

Name of Organization

Residence Address

1657 36th Street

Email

macrccota@gmail.com

Phone Number

4802296244

Source URL: <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/node/17771/submission/32871>

Links

[1] <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/council/request-address-city-council-speakers-card>

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Submission information

Form: [Request to Address City Council \(Speaker's Card\)](#) ^[1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sun, 06/01/2025 - 10:53am

35.132.165.39

Name

Michael Allen

City Council Meeting Date

Mon, 06/02/2025

Agenda Item Number

1

Please note if you are speaking as an proponent, opponent, or neutral party

Proponent

Brief Overview of What You Wish to Discuss

Request to become a Climate Mayor

Do you Represent an Organization?

yes

Name of Organization

Florence Climate Emergency Campaign

Residence Address

87490 Rhodowood Drive

Email

mike.pat.allen@outlook.com

Phone Number

5054017762

Source URL: <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/node/17771/submission/32874>

Links

[1] <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/council/request-address-city-council-speakers-card>

To: Mayor Ward, City Councilors, City Manager Reynolds
From: Michael Allen
Florence Climate Emergency Campaign, Elders Climate Action Oregon Chapter,
Oregon Central Coast Climate Coalition (OC4)
Date: June 2, 2025
Subject: Climate Mayors

Climate change affects bears in many ways. One of those poses a significant threat to humans because a warmer winter disrupts hibernation. In winter, natural food sources like berries and nuts are unavailable. Bears may seek out alternative sources of food, which in turn can increase the frequency and severity of human-wildlife interactions.

Now I turn my attention to the needs of humans and the planet we live on with the bears.

Eight years ago I asked the EMAC to approach the former Mayor to ask him to become a Climate Mayor. EMAC agreed and added that they would be a support. The Mayor declined saying that it would “embarrass the president.”

This past week I approached the EMAC to ask them to join with others on the Oregon central coast that are working on Climate Resilience issues. They agreed.

I’m now coming before you Mayor Ward to ask that you become a Climate Mayor with the backing of the City Council and City Manager. This will support the desire of the EMAC to address climate resilience issues.

Climate Mayors is a bipartisan network of nearly 350 U.S. mayors who demonstrate climate leadership through meaningful actions in their communities. Representing 46 states and nearly 60 million Americans, Climate Mayors reflects U.S. cities’ commitment to climate progress.

Oregon cities with climate mayors are: Corvallis, Tualatin, Milwaukie, Mosier, Tigard, Bend and Ashland. Florence would become the only city on the coast.

With all this background I will make the big ask, repeated from eight years ago. **Mayor Ward, please join other mayors in becoming a Climate Mayor and inform the EMAC that you would welcome their support to live up to that commitment.**

Here is the link to Climate Mayors: <https://www.climatemayors.org/>





Location of Climate Mayors in the United States

<https://www.climatemayors.org/member-cities>

Keybo

June 2, 2025

City Council Meeting

Agenda Item #3

**City of Florence 2025-2027 Biennial Budget
Speaker's Cards & Written Testimony Received**

Speaker's Cards – *In order of receipt*

- **Speaker 1**– Steve Ball

Published on *City of Florence Oregon* (<https://www.ci.florence.or.us>)

[Home](#) > [Request to Address City Council \(Speaker's Card\)](#) > [Webform results](#) > Request to Address City Council (Speaker's Card)

Submission information

Form: [Request to Address City Council \(Speaker's Card\)](#) ^[1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Fri, 05/30/2025 - 9:47am

35.132.173.42

Name

Steve Ball

City Council Meeting Date

Mon, 06/02/2025

Agenda Item Number

3

Please note if you are speaking as an proponent, opponent, or neutral party

proponent

Brief Overview of What You Wish to Discuss

I want to share my thoughts on the importance of Public Art when considering the biennial budget for the city of Florence.

Do you Represent an Organization?

yes

Name of Organization

Public Arts Committee

Residence Address

3335 Rhododendron Dr

Email

steve@brandedsac.com

Phone Number

9166005556

Source URL: <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/node/17771/submission/32869>

Links

[1] <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/council/request-address-city-council-speakers-card>

June 2, 2025
City Council Meeting

Agenda Item #4
Public Safety Fee
Speaker's Cards & Written Testimony Received

Speaker's Cards – *In order of receipt*

- **Speaker 1**– Pamela Martin

Written Testimony – *In order of receipt*

- **Testimony 1**– Linda Olsen
- **Testimony 2**– Margaret Benson
- **Testimony 3**– Larry Bolt
- **Testimony 4**– Phyllis Holmes
- **Testimony 5**– Joel Vanadrghem
- **Testimony 6**– Diane Greer
- **Testimony 7**– RR Reels
- **Testimony 8**– Russell Wymore
- **Testimony 9**– Kristen Barquist
- **Testimony 10**– Devin Michael



City of Florence
A City in Motion

Request to Address the City Council (Speaker's Card)

Name: Pamela Martin
(Please Print)

City Council Meeting Date: 6/2/25 Agenda Item No.: #4 Public Safety Fee
☐ Proponent ☒ Opponent ☐ Neutral

Brief Overview of What You Wish to Discuss: Fee to be added to our already expensive water bill, need a vote, not a decision

Do you represent an organization? ☐ Yes ☒ No Name of Org.: _____

Residence Address: 1969 Scabrook Lane

City, State, Zip: Florence, OR 97439

Email (Optional): pam.lampkins@gmail.com Phone No. (Optional): _____

Would you like to be added to the City of Florence Email Distribution Lists?

☐ Newsletter ☐ City Council Already on the lists

NOTE: ONCE COMPLETED, THIS CARD BECOMES A PUBLIC DOCUMENT

(See Reverse Side for Instructions)

INSTRUCTIONS

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General Public Comments - 3 minutes

Public Hearing Comments - 5 minutes

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Public Safety Fee - upcoming council meeting

From Linda Olsen <imaginarygrrl@oregonfast.net>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 7:17 AM

To City Recorder <cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us>

Dear Florence Council,

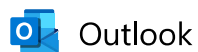
I live in Florentine Estates, and yesterday I read on the public forum Next Door about a public safety fee being proposed to add to homeowners' utility bills. According to the person who posted the information, the city is considering a fee of \$5 per month which will jump to \$15 a month in January and then to \$18 the following year.

This will be absolutely disastrous for low-income families and for seniors on a fixed income. We are already seeing tremendous increases in the cost of groceries and other necessities. Add to that the loss of professionals in our community requiring us to drive elsewhere for services.

This fee if adopted will impose undue hardship on Florence residents. Please explore other methods of raising revenue and if an increase in the cost of utilities must be considered please allow Florence residents to vote on the matter.

Respectfully,

LINDA OLSEN



New Fee

From Margaret Benson <margaretben34@gmail.com>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 8:19 AM

To City Recorder <cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us>

We do not approve this new fee being put on our utility bill without a vote on it. For people on fixed incomes, like us, this is an added expense which will keep rising makes it so hard on us.

Margaret and Steve Benson

Ordinance No. 6, Series 2025

From Larry Bolt <boltlarry@gmail.com>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 8:37 AM

To City Recorder <cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us>

I oppose implementing this fee without a vote by citizens of Florence.

- Larry Bolt

Ordinance No. 6, Series 2025

From Diane Greer <diane.m.greer@gmail.com>
Date Mon 6/2/2025 10:57 AM
To City Recorder <cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us>

Hello,

I am concerned about this raise in fees and would like to share my objection to such a huge increase. Our population is mostly senior citizens who live on a fixed income and this increase along with all other increases in so many other items now, comes as a hinderance to many residents in out community. Many people live mostly on Social Security. This was not put on a ballot doe individuals to vote and I believe the City of Florence should do this.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and consider my comments.

Sincerely,
Diane Greer
Concerned Florence Citizen

Utility fee

From Phyllis Holmes <filann59@gmail.com>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 9:40 AM

To City Recorder <cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us>

This is ridiculous. We are all struggling to keep our living costs down. All of them. I can do the math - first 6 months x \$5= \$30. Next year 12 months x \$15= \$180. Year after 12 months x \$18= \$216. Total for one household for 2 1/2 years is \$426.

That's a lot of money but no definitive statement as to how it will be spent. That, apparently, is discretionary at the whims of our local government. Have you not noticed the houses for sale that are not selling, or the many businesses that are failing?

I, and my family, are totally opposed to this. What of those on dwindling fixed incomes in this City?

Sincerely,
Phyllis Holmes
Green trees resident

Public safety fee attached to utility bill

From Joel Vanadrighem <joervan@gmail.com>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 10:18 AM

To City Recorder <cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us>

Any fees or bonds should be approved by the residents of Florence and not just the board or council

Joel vanAdrghem

Fw: PUBLIC SAFETY FEE?!?!

From Erin Reynolds <erin.reynolds@ci.florence.or.us>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 1:50 PM

To Lindsey White <Lindsey.White@ci.florence.or.us>; Megan Messmer <megan.messmer@ci.florence.or.us>; John Pitcher <john.pitcher@ci.florence.or.us>; Jamie Gorder <jamie.gorder@ci.florence.or.us>

Lindsey,
See below email that was sent to the Council for the record.
Thanks,
Erin

From: Sally Wantz <sally.wantz@ci.florence.or.us>

Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 12:23 PM

To: Erin Reynolds <erin.reynolds@ci.florence.or.us>

Subject: Fw: PUBLIC SAFETY FEE?!?!

FYI

Sally Wantz

Florence City Council

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE:

This email is a public record of the City of Florence and is subject to public inspection unless exempt from disclosure under Oregon Public Records Law. This email is also subject to the City's Public Records Retention Schedule.

From: RR Reels <rrreels72@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 12:15 PM

To: Robert Carp <robert.carp@ci.florence.or.us>; Rob Ward <rob.ward@ci.florence.or.us>; Jo Beaudreau <jo.beaudreau@ci.florence.or.us>; Sally Wantz <sally.wantz@ci.florence.or.us>; Mike Webb <mike.webb@ci.florence.or.us>

Subject: PUBLIC SAFETY FEE?!?!

Hello City Councilors and Mayor Ward

I just heard on the radio this morning about a "Public Safety Fee"!?!
When was the City going to notify citizens about this?!? This was first time I had heard about it and I asked about 15 friends and NONE of them knew anything about it.! It was NOT on the City FB page, nor in the monthly City newsletter! And then the City Manager only speaks about it today, THE DAY ITS BEING VOTED ON.
Extremely disappointed how non transparent this has been!

The city manager spoke that this was 'expected' for some time.....then WHY was there a 10% raise for City Employees last year? Why has there been so much recent construction spending if this was

expected? Public Safety is a essential service that should be funded BEFORE raises, BEFORE extra street construction, BEFORE almost any other project in town! Maybe the PD needs to actually cite speeders in town and make some more \$ to fund their department!

I CANNOT afford \$200+ a year MORE for this. Florence residents already pay many city fees and SEVERAL LEVIES AND BONDS for Fire/EMS/College.

The budget needs to be LOOKED AT AGAIN and adjusted instead of passing this "fee" off to Florence Citizens!!!! If that means non-essential services have to be cut to pay for Police, then so be it.

Respectfully, A Florence Resident for 20+ years

Public Safety Fee (Ordinance No. 6, Series 2025): OPPOSE

From Locuta <locuta@earthlink.net>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 2:17 PM

To City Recorder <cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us>

While I tend to support the concept of a fee to provide public safety services, I oppose collecting such fees by attaching them to our utility services and payments. In my opinion it is regressive, creating a larger burden on those less able to pay it. When the cost of life basics is going up and up, this is not a good idea.

A more equitable and less regressive method of generating these funds would be to attach them to commercial activities associated with tourism and non-resident services, such as:

- Add the fee to the transient occupancy tax on hotel/motel rooms
- Increase or levy a fee, such as a special business license rate, on "vacation rentals" (under 30-day rental) outside of licensed hotel/motel businesses, i.e., AirBnB, VRBO, etc. My personal experience has been that these rentals create more than their share of problems resulting in a request for service from the city's public safety departments.

Thank you,
Kirsten Barquist
Florence, OR

Comments for Florence City Council Meeting 6/2/25

Re: Public Safety Fee

Mayor Ward and City Council Members,

I am commenting in opposition on the Public Safety Fee Ordinance proposed to the Council. To begin with, I am not Anti-Law Enforcement but I feel there are other ways this Fee should be approached. I am also very troubled by the near complete lack of public notice of this Ordinance. There was no information on the City FB website during the whole month of May, nothing on the Florence Focus monthly emails, and only this morning..the day of this hearing, was it mentioned by the City Manager on the radio. With a fee like this, the City should have released information about it much MUCH earlier than just the minimum legally required effort a few days before this is being voted on.

I have several points to make in opposition of this fee.

1. Public safety is an essential service. Why werent reductions in other NON essential services in the budget considered, at least as a partial solution instead of this fee? It seems in reading the budget information 'because other cities have used this fee' is the main reason it was proposed. No reductions of department budgets or other adjustments seem to have been seriously considered. Passing this fee to the citizens of Florence should be the absolute LAST option to be considered.

2. The City Manager stated this shortfall had been known about for some time. If that is the case then why did the city council approve a 10% raise for city employees last July, a bonus for the City Manager, and a 4% yearly step increase? Yes these actions are well meaning but if this shortfall was known about a hard look at spending should have been made.

3. This fee in its second year would be an extra \$200+ a year to Florence households. Most residents already pay fees for stormwater, streetlights, bonds and levies for EMS/Fire and Schools....where does it end? What will keep the Council from just raising this fee again in 2 years? I know many families working 2 jobs that will find it very hard to afford this fee. These are the families working predominantly service jobs...the ones cooking your meal...the ones taking care of you at the hospital....the ones making your coffee. In other words the ones that actually make Florence run.

4. Like I mentioned before I am not anti-law enforcement. They have a very hard job and I appreciate what they do...but last year two brand new electric trucks were purchased for approximately \$150,000....again if this shortfall was known about for a while, why was this purchase made? Also according to FPD, approximately 80 traffic citations a month are currently being issued.....only about 2 1/2 a day. How many of us have been passed by someone doing 15-20mph over the limit on 101? This seems to be a funding source that could definitely be more utilized by FPD.

In conclusion, there hasn't been near enough discussion on how this fee should be funded. The City needs to live within its means even if that results in non-essential services being cut back to fund essential ones. Florence Residents already pay several fees, bonds and levies for services in town. Another fee that could just be increased every year is the WRONG decision and will severely impact many families in town. Florence can do better for its citizens.

Thank you for your time
Russell Wymore
Florence

Ordinance No. 6, Series 2025

From devin I <radio51360@yahoo.com>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 3:30 PM

To City Recorder <cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us>

Hi Lindsey,

I would like to add my comments into the record as, I'm opposed to Ordinance No 6, adding to a Public safety Fee, to residence's of city of Florence. With property taxes going up 3% every other year, and other levies and bonds that people of Florence have to pay for, I think this Public safety fee, is not the way to go. Living with in your budgets, is something that needs to happen. If the city has known about this budget short fall, why did the police department get 2 new vehicle's that cost more then there current fleet? Why did all city staff get 10% rises? why does the people of Florence, have to pay for city miss management of my tax dollars? If the current economy was better and there was way more affordable housing and more living wage jobs, in Florence, i would be all for this Tax, but all this tax does, is hurt the people trying to just pay there property taxes and other bills, and keep food on the table. I would strongly suggest, finding other ways to fund city services without adding more taxes.

thank you,
Devin Michael



Virus-free. www.avg.com

June 2, 2025
City Council Meeting

Agenda Item #5
System Development Charge Exemption and Deferral Process
Speaker's Cards & Written Testimony Received

Speaker's Cards – *In order of receipt*

- **Speaker 1**– Greg Bartholomew
- **Speaker 2**– David Hatton

Written Testimony – *In order of receipt*

- **Testimony 1**– Kristen Barquist



Request to Address the City Council (Speaker's Card)

Name: Greg Bartholomew

(Please Print)

City of Florence
A City in Motion

City Council Meeting Date: June 2, 2025 Agenda Item No.: Ordinance #7

☐ Proponent ☐ Opponent ☐ Neutral

Brief Overview of What You Wish to Discuss: SDC agreement with Three Mile Prairie to help create workforce housing

Do you represent an organization? ☒ Yes ☐ No Name of Org.: Three Mile Prairie

Residence Address: Three Mile Prairie

City, State, Zip: 5351 Hwy 101, Florence, Or 97439

Email (Optional): dxatcgreg@gmail.com Phone No. (Optional): 4353131967

Would you like to be added to the City of Florence Email Distribution Lists?

☒ Newsletter ☒ City Council

NOTE: ONCE COMPLETED, THIS CARD BECOMES A PUBLIC DOCUMENT

(See Reverse Side for Instructions)

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Public Hearing Comments – 5 minutes

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Request to Address the City Council (Speaker's Card)

Name: David Hatton

(Please Print)

City of Florence
A City in Motion

City Council Meeting Date: June 2, 2025 Agenda Item No.: Ordinance #7

☐ Proponent ☐ Opponent ☐ Neutral

Brief Overview of What You Wish to Discuss: SDC agreement with Three Mile Prairie to help create workforce housing

Do you represent an organization? ☒ Yes ☐ No Name of Org.: Three Mile Prairie

Residence Address: Three Mile Prairie

City, State, Zip: 5351 Hwy 101, Florence, Or 97439

Email (Optional): dxatcgreg@gmail.com Phone No. (Optional): 4353131967

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Ordinance No. 7, Series 2025: OPPOSE deferring fees, SUPPORT ADU exemption

From Locuta <locuta@earthlink.net>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 3:06 PM

To City Recorder <cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us>

In general I appreciate and support the steps that have been taken by the City of Florence to address the "missing middle" housing stock in the area. In particular I am a fan of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and making better use of the existing structures, increasing infill and housing density.

Regarding extending or making permanent the deferred development fees: I oppose this for two reasons.

1. The longer these fees are delayed, the greater the chance that they will never be paid. If the developer goes bankrupt or engages in malfeasance, good luck getting that money.
2. I feel that providing "deals" and "incentives" to private businesses is ineffective and inappropriate. An effective and appropriate use of our public resources is to create public housing for the benefit of the public sector and the public good.

Regarding sunseting the fees exemption for ADUs on property with a main dwelling already attached to utilities:

I support this and encourage you to make it permanent. ADUs are a great idea, especially on properties owned by individuals/families who want to have some rental income, or need a separate living space for a caretaker or family member.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kirsten Barquist
Florence, OR