

## Three council seats up for election in Nov.

Three positions on the Sisters City Council are up for election on November 3. The terms of City Councilors Andrea Blum, Chuck Ryan, and Richard Esterman will expire on December 31, 2020. All three are eligible to apply for re-election.

The first day to file for a City Council position is Wednesday, June 3. To be eligible a candidate must be registered to vote in Oregon and must have been a resident of the City of Sisters for 12 months preceding the election. Election materials can be

found on the City website at [www.ci.sisters.or.us](http://www.ci.sisters.or.us) or picked up from the City Recorder at City Hall, 520 E. Cascade Ave.

Candidates are encouraged to obtain election materials by August 10, and must submit perfected petitions by August 25, at 5 p.m. to qualify for the ballot.

For information about the application process, contact City Recorder Kerry Prosser at 541-323-5213, by email at [kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us](mailto:kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us), or stop by City Hall at 520 E. Cascade Ave.

## City parts ways with planning director

The City of Sisters has parted ways with Community Development Director Patrick Davenport, bringing to an end his five-year tenure in the Sisters planning department.

The community development department will continue to process land use applications and permits with Nicole Mardell, senior planner undertaking the burden of the work with support from Cory Misley and City legal counsel.

Misley told *The Nugget* that he hopes to have a job offering out in a couple of weeks, but he does not expect a new community development director to be in place for a while.

“That can easily be a

two-and-half to three-month process,” he said.

Davenport was hired in Sisters in March 2015.

# CITY OF SISTERS COVID-19 Situation Report

By Cory Misley  
City Manager

The City has extended its emergency declaration until June 24, by way of administrative order. The emergency declaration enables the City to adopt temporary policies swiftly and be eligible for potential reimbursement of COVID-19-related expenses.

Administrative orders have been used to implement several temporary policies and have that power vested through the emergency declaration. The City is working on items within its control to end the emergency declaration status as soon as possible. In order to do that, all temporary policies that are desired to extend beyond the emergency declaration must be prepared and adopted by resolution of the City Council. Currently, staff is

monitoring the situation and will be preparing draft resolutions for the June 24 City Council meeting.

The City is involved in the discussion at the state level regarding funding from the first stimulus package (CARES Act). There was \$1.6 billion distributed to the state of Oregon. Given population thresholds, only Multnomah and Washington counties and the city of Portland received direct funding. The rest is to be allocated by the state for the other 34 of 36 counties and 240 of 241 cities in Oregon.

There is hope that clarity on this topic will emerge in the coming weeks, and include direct use of funds for economic recovery. If so, it is important to ensure that the City of Sisters maintains its eligibility and can access those funds to further support our community.

Working closely with the League of Oregon Cities (LOC), we have been able to stay connected to the conversations in Salem and lobby to be able to access those additional funds.

Last Friday, the City submitted its first COVID-19-related reimbursement to the state. We will continue to stay engaged with that evolving situation in hopes of accessing additional funding. In the meantime, regional partners like the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) have been instrumental in securing some funds for supporting our community economic recovery, and we thank them for that work.

Overall, the City has been exploring and implementing a multi-faceted approach to balancing safety and prosperity, and will be busy in June continuing in that role.

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