



equity and inclusion efforts



The Hood River City Council envisions a more equitable and inclusive community. This Info Sheet summarizes recent accomplishments and future plans to move the community towards this vision.

What we're doing in the community

- Developing 100 + units of affordable housing at city-owned 780 Rand Road.
- Updating code to allow smaller units and smaller lots throughout the City.
- Developing incentives and policies to encourage development of affordable housing.
- Partnering with the health care and behavioral health community to identify gaps in care and engaging in health equity training.
- Partnering with CAT to develop a fixed local bus route including sites, stops and benches.
- Implementing new 5-year Utility Rate Plan that funds an expanded low-income discount program to qualifying households.
- Appearing monthly radio show on Radio Tierra with Spanish-English interpretation.
- Coordinating listening sessions with Mayor McBride to hear from members of the Latino community.
- Conducting direct outreach to underserved populations on all projects, for example a Latino Heights business meeting on the Heights.
- Waiving fees to Hood River Farmer's Market for use of the Columbia Lot. This bolsters the market's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) match program which allows SNAP recipients to receive an extra \$15 to spend at the market.

What we're doing in the organization

- Reviewing Police Department Use of Force policies and Use of Force incidents.
- Training all managers in diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Improving use of plain language in City communications, all staff members trained.
- Continuing translation of public facing documents, nearly all documents are now translated.
- Removing English proficiency from job requirements for positions that do not require public interaction.
- Continuing Municipal Court Zoom for people with transportation or scheduling barriers. Translation is provided.
- Joining the Oregon Local Government Latino Network as a charter member. The mission of this organization is the advancement of Latino professionals and promotion of cultural awareness for local government employees who serve communities with a significant Latino population.
- Hiring a part-time community engagement coordinator to create engagement plans for our projects, with a focus on under-represented communities.

Next Steps

The 2021 Hood River City Council Work Plan contains a project to create a racial and social equity action plan for the City of Hood River. The project will include engagement with the community to determine a shared vision and shared language within the scope of City services.