

PROGRAMS AND ISSUES 3rd QUARTER 2023

KMTK-FM 99.7 THE BULL

PROGRAM DIRECTOR BRIAN MORRIS

BPD 4TH PATROLS July 3, 2023

Bend Police will step up patrol efforts tomorrow (Tu), following an increase in problems over the past several Independence Day holidays. Bend PD's Sheila Miller says 20 additional officers will work full shifts starting after noon, primarily looking for alcohol-related offenses. On average, Bend PD responds to around 210 calls a day. But on the past few July Fourths, that number has been closer to 280 - with the jump primarily in large parties.

REDMOND DRIVE-BY FATAL July 5, 2023 A father and son accused of shooting a man while he stood in his northwest Redmond driveway now face Second Degree Murder charges. Police say the victim - 42-year-old Esau Mutchler - died Saturday at the hospital. Mark Johnson and his son Icteton Johnson will be arraigned on the new charge this week. Investigators say they drove by Mutchler's home on June 26th and fired at him from inside the car.

NEW CCSD BOARD July 6, 2023 Three new members were sworn in at last night's (Wed) Crook County School board meeting... two were chosen to the top two leadership positions. Jessica Brumble was elected board chair...Jennifer Knight will be vice-chair. The board's top task is hiring a new superintendent, voting to select a committee to consider a recruiting firm or possibly do the hiring themselves. Until then, Assistant Superintendent Dr Joel Hoff will continue as acting superintendent.

PSILOCYBIN PROGRAM BEGINS July 7, 2023

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

A local psilocybin wellness program says it's the first in the state to begin treating clients, with sessions planned for tomorrow (Sat). OHA issued a service center license last month to Bendable Therapy. Founder Amanda Gow says they already have a six-month waiting list. She says a barrier to patient access is the 23-hundred dollar cost ...they offer a scholarship program to help low-income clients.

NELSON TO RETIRE July 10, 2023

Deschutes County will have a new Sheriff in 2025. Sheriff Shane Nelson says he will serve out the remainder of his term, but then plans to retire. Captain William Bailey issued a statement saying he formed a Political Action Committee in the event Nelson chose not to run, and plans to make a formal campaign announcement soon. Nelson says he will endorse Bailey as his replacement.

CHRO TO COIC July 11, 2023

Deschutes County's Coordinated Houseless Response Office will be overseen by the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council. County Commissioners unanimously agreed to take C-O-I-C's to take over the office, although its board is still responsible for managing one-million dollars in state funding, and reporting progress to the state. The county will sign an intergovernmental agreement with COIC, which already works with the Homeless Leadership Coalition and the "Housing for All" consortium.

DESCHUTES HOME FUND July 12, 2023

A new local program aims to lower the cost of building affordable homes. Deschutes County Commissioners approved spending one-million dollars to create the Home Ownership for Middle-Income Employees...or HOME Fund. The grant was developed by advocates, community partners and the Central Oregon Builders Association. NeighborImpact will help manage the fund...doling out 30-thousand-dollar grants to qualifying builders... construction could start as early as this Fall.

KNOPP ON SESSION July 13, 2023

Bend State Senator Tim Knopp says he's pleased with the outcome of the Republican walkout that stalled the legislative session for more than a month. The Senate Minority Leader told the Redmond Kiwanis yesterday (Wed) negotiations to end the walkout led to passage of critical bipartisan legislation. He also hinted the short session planned for next year may not

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

happen because of how the Senate President counted unexcused absences... but Knopp did not elaborate.

CCSD BUS INVESTIGATIONS July 14, 2023

The Crook County School District is looking into the actions of a bus driver accused of leaving students on the bus while he went into a Prineville store, Wednesday afternoon. The driver has been taken off duty. The district's transportation director notified the families of all 15 students the driver was supposed to transport home after summer school classes that day. A substitute driver will take over the route during the investigation.

HUNNELL ROAD CLEANUP July 17, 2023

Unsanctioned campers living on and around Hunnell Road in Bend have been asked to leave voluntarily by midnight tonight (Mo). Crews are scheduled to start cleaning up the area tomorrow (Tu) ... but that plan is in limbo, pending an injunction filed last week. On Friday, a judge heard arguments from a homeless advocate and some campers who say they need more time. Another hearing is scheduled for this afternoon (Mon).

HUNNELL HEARING July 18, 2023

The city of Bend will proceed today (Tu) with clearing the Hunnell Road area, after a Deschutes County judge struck down a requested delay yesterday (Mon). Judge Wells Ashby denied a temporary restraining order requested by campers and homeless advocates. The city will allow about two dozen people to stay one extra week, after they asked for special accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Clean-up could take most of this week.

NORTH SISTER SAR July 19, 2023

A Redmond family is hoping for a miracle after a hiker fell Monday on North Sister. Lane County Search and Rescue confirms they are conducting an operation on the mountain, but released few details. In a Facebook post, the hiker's mom says her son and girlfriend were climbing North Sister when he fell an unknown distance and had not been located. His girlfriend was rescued by a helicopter, but attempts to find him have so far been unsuccessful.

NW BEND HOMICIDE July 20, 2023

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

Bend Police identified the woman found dead Tuesday as 28-year-old Evelyn Jeanette Weaver and are investigating the case as a homicide. She lived alone in the home on Northwest Hill where her body was found. Detectives are now searching for Weaver's 2004 Honda CRV - we've got a photo at our website. If you spot the car, call 911. Investigators expect to remain at the scene through Friday.

CHRO LEADERS MEETING July 21, 2023

Deschutes County's Coordinated Houseless Response Office wants to meet with Governor Kotek ... and hopes state and federal agencies impacted by the region's homeless crisis can help. The Houseless Response board will discuss next week the structure of a possible multi-agency meeting as part of an effort to convince Kotek to approve the siting of a managed camp outside Bend's UGB ... which violates current state guidelines

HOMICIDE VICTIM VEHICLE July 24, 2023 Bend Police have recovered the car belonging to Evelyn Weaver ... who was found dead in her home last Tuesday. Authorities have now released photos of someone getting out of that Honda C-R-V in Klamath Falls on July 15th ... three days before her body was discovered. Detectives are asking for surveillance footage from businesses and homes along Highway 97 between Bend and Klamath Falls from July 14th and 15th...and those in the Northwest Hill Street neighborhood are asked to review video for anything suspicious between the 8th and 14th.

LOCAL SMOKE IMPACTS July 25, 2023

Bend Parks and Rec closed pools at Juniper Swim and Fitness and Larkspur Community Center for several hours yesterday (Mon) due to poor air quality. Crook County Schools moved two summer meal sites indoors, as well. Oregon's DEQ issued an air quality alert for Deschutes County and much of southern Oregon, through Wednesday night... due to the Bedrock Fire, between Eugene and Bend ... and the Flat Fire in southwest Oregon.

TWO INCIDENTS IN FIVE MINS July 26, 2023 Bend Police say a man threatening to force officers to kill him was taken into custody late Monday night. St. Charles Bend and a nearby senior living facility went into lockdown and traffic was shut down in the area, while officers

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

contacted the man, who was unarmed. Five minutes after that call came in, a report from the eastside Safeway of a heavily armed man entering the store, where less than a year ago, two people were killed by a gunman. Authorities say the man did not threaten anyone and cooperated with an unarmed security guard who escorted him outside. Police say the rifle and other guns were replicas.

DC CAMPING CODE July 27, 2023 Deschutes County commissioners yesterday (Wed) granted preliminary approval to new regulations for camping on public property. Changes include a 14-day stay limit... along with prohibitions on camping near private property...and an urban growth boundary. The county still has to come up with a managed campsite for the homeless community ...There is a proposed location, but it needs state approval. A second reading of the code is in two weeks...and would take effect 90 days following that vote.

PATTI GOV MTG July 28, 2023 Deschutes County is asking the Governor to approve a plan to put a managed homeless camp outside the urban growth boundary, in violation of current state guidelines. Commissioner Patti Adair says she asked to meet with the Governor today (Fr) to discuss the idea. But Governor Kotek says there are no plans for a meeting today, and she's not ready to approve what she calls an unprecedented waiver, because the county has not responded to her request for a more detailed plan.

BEND-RDM JOINT MTG July 31, 2023

The first ever joint workshop between the Redmond and Bend city councils happens tomorrow (Tu) night. Agenda items include homeless initiatives... Highway 97 Safety Corridor investments...and community engagement. Redmond city councilor Cat Zwicker believes the meeting is important as choices made by one city can impact the other. Tomorrow's (Tu) meeting starts at 6 p-m at Redmond City Hall.

PARK DRINKING BETTER August 1, 2023

Bend Parks and Rec says an effort to curb drinking on district properties is paying off. Parks stewards contacted around 120 people in July for consuming alcohol - about twice what they did this time last year. Bend Police and Sheriff's deputies have also increased their presence in parks

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

and around rivers. The district's Julie Brown says the big parties seen at the beginning of the summer seem to have ended.

BND-RDM JOINT COUNCIL August 2, 2023

Bend and Redmond city councils held a joint work session last night (Tu)...sharing progress on issues and initiatives affecting both cities...including homelessness. Both groups pointed to work done with managed camps...safe parking...and future plans like the East Redmond Campus. It was the first such meeting in 40 years, according to Redmond Mayor Ed Fitch, who was Bend City Attorney at that time. Councilors agreed to hold more meetings on issues affecting both communities.

COCAINE BUST August 3, 2023

A Florida woman was arrested in a Redmond motel this week on a long list of drug charges. According to the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Street Crimes Unit, Aundria Bass moved to Oregon because of Measure 110 and believed she could sell illegal drugs from her room at the City Center Motel. Detectives say she was making and using crack cocaine inside the room and had a large quantity of meth. Bass also had an outstanding warrant from Florida.

OSFM CO RESOURCES August 4, 2023

Firefighters from Clatsop and Washington counties are coming to Central Oregon. The State Fire Marshal's Office is pre-positioning them in Jefferson County this morning (Fr), due to the increased risk of wildfire this weekend. The potential for dry lightning has prompted a Red Flag Warning for east of the Cascades. The two task forces are trained in wildland firefighting, but their primary job would be to protect structures, if a fire breaks out.

BPD TESLA VIDEO August 7, 2023

Bend Police continue to investigate the murder of Evelyn Weaver, who was found dead in her home on Northwest Hill July 18th. Video evidence shows a man parking her silver Honda C-R-V in Klamath Falls, three days earlier ... and that person might have been captured by other cameras here, before he left. Detectives ask Tesla owners in Bend to review video from July 14th between 3 and 5 P-M. Anyone with information should contact Bend Police.

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

DCSO DEP ON LEAVE August 8, 2023

A Deschutes County deputy placed on leave in April remains off the job after new allegations surfaced. Deputy Kyle Pettit was accused of flashing his badge while off-duty at a bar. The Sheriff's Office says that investigation is over, but before he was allowed to return to work, two other incidents of potential policy violations were reported and are now under investigation by DCSO. A separate criminal investigation is also underway by Oregon State Police. Deputy Pettit has worked for the agency for almost six years.

RENT BURDEN MTG August 9, 2023 Bend's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee meets this afternoon (Wed) to hear from renters who face challenges paying for their housing ... and other necessities. An annual public meeting is required when a city has more than a quarter of its community 'severely rent burdened' ... that's more than half of income going to housing. Today's meeting is at 3 P-M at City Hall...and available online. MTG WITH GOV August 10, 2023

Deschutes County Commissioner Patti Adair says she and the Mayors of Bend and Redmond will meet with the Governor Friday, to discuss the region's homeless crisis, and try to convince her to grant a waiver, allowing for a managed camp outside the Urban Growth Boundary. Creation of such a camp is required before the county can enforce a proposed camping ban on county-owned land. BEND FATAL SHOOTING August 11, 2023

A 33-year-old Redmond man was shot and killed early Thursday morning in Bend. Police responded to the area near Wall and Oregon, downtown, just after midnight ... and found the victim on the ground with a single gunshot wound. Despite life-saving efforts by police and paramedics, he died at the hospital. Investigators have identified a suspect and are looking for him, but have not released any names. Because a witness is related to the police chief, the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office is leading the investigation. HOMELESS GOV MTG August 14, 2023

Governor Tina Kotek met for about 30 minutes with the mayors of Bend and Redmond and a Deschutes County Commissioner Friday, to discuss the region's homeless crisis and the possibility of creating a managed camp outside the Urban Growth Boundary. In a statement, Kotek said the conversation yielded common ground and hopefully a path forward, but she

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

reiterated she would not grant a waiver for a camp until all options inside the UGB are exhausted. Bend Mayor Melanie Kebler says the meeting was encouraging and believes coordination is possible.

SCHC MEDICARE August 15, 2023

St. Charles Health System says it's evaluating its participation in all Medicare Advantage plans, citing concerns related to patient care. Medicare Advantage is funded by the federal government but operated by private insurers like Humana, PacificSource and HealthNet. St. Charles officials encourage seniors to choose traditional Medicare, which is funded and run by the government. CEO Steve Gordon says Medicare Advantage has not lived up to its promise and is a fragmented patchwork. One insurance expert tells us the hospital's decision could be an effort to leverage better contracts.

COCC ECON IMPACT August 16, 2023 A new study on community colleges shows COCC has a positive impact on Central Oregon's economy... Sending 289.6 million dollars to the tri-county region in the 2021-22 fiscal year...and supporting over 35 hundred jobs.. The study reveals COCC generates more in tax revenue than it receives...offers a big return on investment of almost six dollars for every dollar spent...and provides a qualified workforce... accounting for one out every 43 jobs.

BOCC FIRE PREP August 17, 2023

With the threat of wildfire increasing, Deschutes County Commissioners urge everyone to protect their property by creating defensible space ... and sign up to be notified of a potential evacuation. Register your address and phone number at [Deschutes-dot-org-slash-911](https://deschutes-dot-org-slash-911) and receive an alert via text, email or phone call. The county tested the system in May, with around 45-thousand people registered, but Commissioner Patti Adair says thousands more still need to be connected.

BEND FIRE PREP August 18, 2023

The Lookout Fire, burning to our west, is now over 42-hundred acres and zero-percent contained. Neighboring Bedrock Fire, also in the Willamette National Forest, is over 26-thousand-500 acres, and about 20-percent contained. Central Oregon's air quality has slightly improved over earlier this week, but the smoke is expected to stick around for a while. And, it

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

could get worse before it gets better ... Our region is under a Fire Weather Watch today (Fri) due to high winds and extremely low humidity.

KOTEK IN REDMOND August 25, 2023

Governor Tina Kotek spent another day in Central Oregon yesterday (Th), meeting with the Mayor of Redmond, Bend's Mayor Pro Tem and other local leaders. The housing and homelessness crisis took center stage during a roundtable at the new Shepherd's House Redmond shelter. Kotek says Deschutes County is doing a good job collaborating, but wants to see leaders take more risks and do things differently... to get services to those who need them.

BROADMAN September 5, 2023

Bend City Councilor Anthony Broadman, a Democrat, is now a candidate for State Senate. Broadman will be seeking Republican Tim Knopp's seat. In a Press Release, Broadman said it's time for a Senator who will, quote: "...go to work, even when the issues get tough." Knopp led a 42-day Senate walkout by Republicans during the last session.

CROOK CO STRUCTURE September 6, 2023

Crook County is considering a big change to its leadership structure - from a county court to a board of county commissioners. Three public meetings are planned for later this month, so the community can weigh in on the proposal ... we've got the schedule at our website. A public hearing and potential action is then slated for October fourth.

SISTER SHELTER VOTE September 7, 2023

Sisters City Councilors held a public hearing this week, on a proposal from a group hoping to purchase and operate an emergency homeless shelter on Barclay Drive. The shelter's board received 1.4-million dollars in state funds and agreed to conditions set by the city. But, after five hours of public testimony and deliberation, Council denied the request in a three-two preliminary vote. They'll make a final decision on September 19th.

DC RV CODE September 8, 2023

A new state law allows rural homeowners to rent out an RV on their property, in an effort to increase affordable housing options. Deschutes

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

County is now working to develop an ordinance for those rentals. The legislature laid out some guidance, including that the vehicle must be titled and drivable, it cannot be used as a short-term rental and the property owner has to provide essential services like electrical, water and sewer hook-ups. But, county officials still need to determine a number of other factors. A public hearing on a draft code is planned for early November.

SUMMIT HIGH CLOSED September 11, 2023

Summit High School is closed this morning after a threat made on social media over the weekend. The school notified parents via email last night. All classes and all after-school activities, including practices and games are canceled. The now deleted post referenced today's anniversary of 9/11. Bend Police are investigating, along with State Police and the FBI. Anyone with information is urged to call the non-emergency dispatch number. (541-693-6-911)

SHS THREAT ARREST September 12, 2023

Bend Police arrested a 17-year-old suspected of posting an anonymous bomb threat to social media, targeting Summit High. The teen is a Summit student. The threat was discovered Saturday evening, following an anonymous report to the "Safe Oregon" tip line, which prompted an investigation involving the FBI, security sweeps of the school and the cancelation of classes and activities Monday. Authorities say they later determined the threat was a hoax.

MADRAS MURDER September 13, 2023

A Bend woman is accused of killing a Madras man in Crook County last year. Audrey Hahn made her first court appearance this week. She's charged with three counts of first degree murder and two counts of second degree murder, related to the death of Thomas Patrick Nielsen... who went missing in September of 2022. Central Oregon Daily News reports the Crook County District Attorney plans to take the case to the Grand Jury by the end of the week. She's due back in court on Friday.

WILDFIRE MAP PREP September 14, 2023

Deschutes County Commissioners reviewed the latest draft of the state's Wildfire Hazard Map yesterday (Wed). It's the second stab at a statewide plan to require stricter development rules for properties near the Wildland

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

Urban Interface that are classified as high risk. Local officials think the map still needs work and see inconsistencies. A meeting is set for next Thursday in Klamath Falls with state fire and forestry officials... and leaders from multiple counties. The Oregon Department of Forestry's goal is to have the Wildfire Hazard Map finalized by next spring.

COYOTE KILLING MTG September 15, 2023

Oregon's Fish and Wildlife Commission is in Bend today (Fr) to discuss rules that would prohibit coyote killing contests. Local outdoors expert Gary Lewis says he only knows of one such competition and that's in Harney County. He believes they are a necessary population control measure. Public testimony is limited to one or two minutes, depending on how many register to speak. The meeting begins at 1 p-m and will be live streamed.

COVID SHOTS - Deschutes Co September 18, 2023

Ahead of what Deschutes County calls "respiratory season," public health urges everyone to protect themselves from COVID-19, RSV and the flu. The new COVID booster arrives in Oregon this week, and will be available from pharmacies and healthcare providers, similar to the flu shot. County Health Services will only receive a limited number of doses, which will be used for shelters, long-term care facilities, and the uninsured.

MTN VIEW PETITION September 19, 2023

Deschutes County Commissioners will hold a public hearing tomorrow, for a proposal to create a new city. Mountain View would incorporate a 265-square-mile area east of Bend... with Millican at the center. The population just meets the state-required 150 resident minimum. By law, Commissioners must decide if a new city can support tax-funded services and comply with county and state planning regulations. If approved, voters living in that area would decide on whether to officially incorporate as a city.

NAV CENTER RENOVATION September 20, 2023

Bend City Councilors will consider a 2.3-million dollar construction contract tonight (Wed) for improvements to the Lighthouse Navigation Center. The low barrier shelter opened just over a year ago, but city officials say the building is in need of a new roof, H-VAC system, kitchen, laundry and showers. If the work is approved, it's expected to be done by November of

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

2024. Construction would be done during the day so the shelter could remain open at night.

CITY COUNCIL September 21, 2023

The City of Bend grew overnight. Council approved annexing about 153 acres in the North Triangle east of HWY 20, west of HWY 97, north of Cooley Rd, for the Caraway master plan. That will include residential development mixed with employment uses and a transition to existing rural residential areas. Also at last night's meeting The Bend Police Department was given approval to buy 23 police vehicles at a price tag of more than 1-point-1 million dollars. These will replace 21 vehicles that are past their useful life cycle.

SHELTER FUNDING NEEDS September 22, 2023

Bend's project Turnkey Shelter on Franklin Avenue... and the Lighthouse Navigation Center on 2nd street will both need more-stable funding in the near future. Bend City Councilor Megan Perkins...the Co-Chair of the Coordinated Houseless Response Office... told the board yesterday (Thu) the city is reaching out to Oregon Housing and Community Service to get money that's earmarked for Bend's shelters.

FATALS September 25, 2023

A couple of fatal accidents to report this morning. On Friday morning at 9:45 74-year-old Ronald Quinn crashed his motorcycle into another vehicle at the intersection of Knott and China Hat roads. Police say Quinn ran a stop sign. The other driver stayed at the scene and was not cited. Then, Saturday night, around 11:45, 23-year-old Jacobic Barnhill of La Pine was a passenger in a Ford Focus driven by 23-year-old Bryce Lupton of Bend. Police say the Ford left the roadway and rolled. Speed and alcohol are believed to be factors. Anyone who witnessed the crash is encouraged to contact police. PETE'S EVAC

DROPPED September 26, 2023 The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office is dropping all evacuation levels around the Pete's Lake Fire due to cooler weather... recent precipitation... and decreased fire activity. Much of the area west of the Cascade Lakes Highway south of Mirror Lake Trail... and north of the Six Lakes Trail is still under a Forest Closure issued by the Deschutes and Willamette National

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS Q2 2023

Forests. Crews worked yesterday (Mo) to reduce fuels between the fire and Forest Service Road 46-28.

MOUNTAIN VIEW APPEAL September 27, 2023

Deschutes County Commissioners are scheduled to make official today (Wed) their denial of the petition to incorporate the proposed city of Mountain View. The 265-square mile area east of Bend would have been the state's newest city, if approved by the county and voters inside the boundary. Last week, Commissioners unanimously agreed to oppose the idea. Leaders of the movement have asked the county to reconsider.

MOUNTAIN VIEW FINAL September 28, 2023 The formation of a new city southeast of Bend is officially off the table... for now. Deschutes County Commissioners unanimously agreed to oppose the petition to incorporate a 265-square mile area into the city of Mountain View ... and yesterday (wed) also voted to deny a request to reconsider. Commissioners appeared supportive of residents forming special district for fire or other services. The petitioner has said he plans to take his request to the state Land Use Board of Appeals.

BLS NOSLER SIGN September 29, 2023 Bend-La Pine Schools officials say a promotional sign for Nosler will remain below the football scoreboard at Mountain View High. The district recently heard from people concerned about advertising a local company that makes and sells ammunition, weapons and hunting gear. Nosler has sponsored the Cougar football team for years, and the district says it will maintain the status quo while conducting a review of its policies related to ads on school property. The district's own regulations prohibit the promotion of firearms or any product or service not permitted to minors. Officials say they are working to evaluate how that should apply to Nosler.