

Urban Renewal Plan & Report

Summer
2021



What is urban renewal?

Urban renewal is a local government tool used to improve and revitalize areas within a city. This tool is currently used by 79 communities statewide to implement economic development strategies and comprehensive plan goals. Urban renewal allows local governments to focus investments on a particular area to encourage public and private development. McMinnville, Carlton, and Dundee all use Urban Renewal.



How does it work?

In Oregon, "urban renewal" is the title of the program that authorizes the city to use tax increment financing. Tax increment financing is a tool that allows local governments to set aside property taxes generated from new businesses and development in a specific area. It also creates guidelines for spending the money. Access to this funding enables governments to focus investments on projects that encourage public and private development.



Why is the city considering urban renewal?

Urban renewal has proven successful in reinvigorating communities across Oregon. The feasibility study will help determine if using urban renewal in Newberg will help rejuvenate our downtown and waterfront area. Urban renewal in Newberg also aims to create better road connectivity across the city, improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, and update some downtown streets, making our city more enjoyable and accessible for community and family activities.



What is the source of the funding?

Urban renewal is not new money, instead it redirects money usually allocated for other taxing districts to the urban renewal agency. This shifts the impact of funding urban renewal to the taxing districts, not taxpayers.

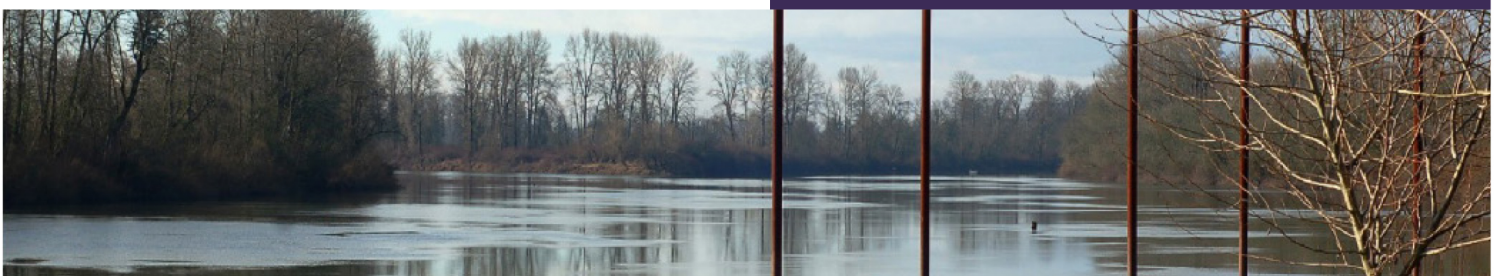
How is the money spent?

Urban renewal entities can do specified projects or activities under an adopted urban renewal plan which generally include:

- Construction or improvement of public facilities including streets, sidewalks, utilities, and parks.
- Streetscape improvements.
- Storefront improvements.
- Participation with developers for property improvement.
- Rehabilitation of existing buildings.

What will I pay?

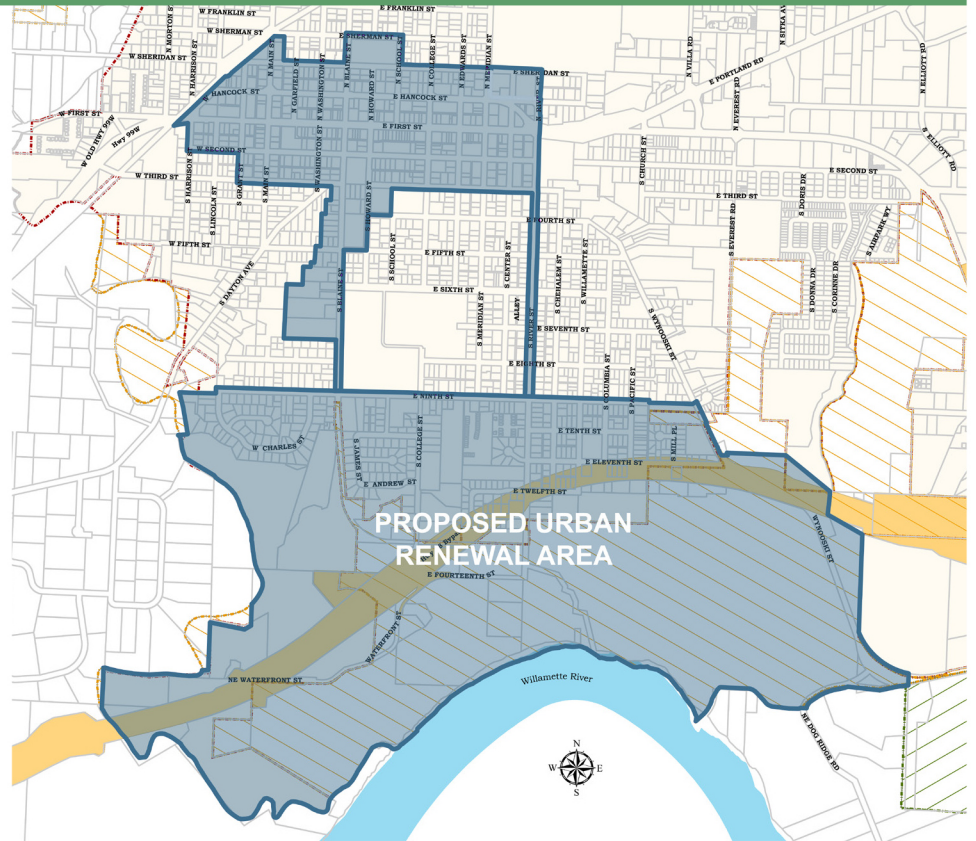
Property taxpayers will not see an increase in property taxes as a direct result of an urban renewal area. If an urban renewal area is adopted, all property taxpayers will see a line item on the property tax bill that shows the breakdown of taxes for urban renewal. Urban renewal funding is not a new tax or an increase in taxes, and it does not directly





Where did the idea for this urban renewal come from?

This urban renewal project is the result of years of outreach in the community while developing several plans that are shaping the future of our community, including the Newberg Downtown Improvement Plan, the Riverfront Master Plan, and the Newberg Community Visioning process. Urban renewal can help pay for infrastructure improvements already identified as needs by the community.



How can I get involved?

To learn more, visit » newbergoregon.gov/urban-renewal

Proposed Newberg Urban Renewal Timeline

