

Youth Advisory Commission Bylaws

Last amended June 10, 2024

1. Creation

- a. The Oregon City Youth Advisory Commission (YAC) was established under Ordinance No. 22-1006 and subsequently modified by Ordinance No. 23-1003.
- b. The purpose of the YAC is to “provide local students a voice in their municipal government, build an understanding of governance and leadership and to provide opportunities to engage and serve the community. The Youth Advisory Commission shall be guided by the belief that local involvement at a young age is crucial to ensuring a well informed and engaged citizenry in the future and to provide an opportunity for members to become equipped with the knowledge and leadership skills necessary to become active contributors in the community now and in the future.” (Ord. No. 24-1006, OCMC 2.62.015)

2. Membership

- a. The YAC membership criteria are described in the Oregon City Municipal Code (OCMC) 2.62.020.
- b. The term of service is officially considered from September through June, but the existing YAC members may continue to meet informally from June through September as needed.

3. Officers

- a. The YAC shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson at the beginning of each term. The YAC have the option to elect a secretary who would be responsible for taking meeting minutes at the YAC meetings.
 - i. The staff liaison will be responsible for supplementing the meeting minutes at the YAC meetings to ensure sufficient Minutes are recorded.
- b. The chairperson shall act as the chair of the YAC, unless unavailable. If the chairperson is unavailable, the vice chairperson shall act as chair of YAC meetings.
- c. If an officer submits a resignation from their position of chairperson or vice chairperson, the YAC members may immediately vote to appoint a new officer.
- d. If neither the chairperson nor vice chairperson are present at a certain meeting, the YAC shall select a chair pro tem from the members present.

4. YAC Goals and Updates

- a. The YAC may from time to time adopt goals, work plans, or priorities. These goals must not conflict with the City Commission’s goals and budget allocations.

- b. Each year, the YAC chairperson and vice chairperson shall provide an update to the City Commission on the YAC's activities and plans or at other appropriate times.
- c. The YAC shall table at least three community events per session to help promote their goals and events.

5. Date, Time, and Locations of Meetings

- a. Regular meetings of the YAC shall be held on the second Monday of each month from September through June.
- b. Summer meetings of the YAC shall be held on the second Monday of each month, or at a time convenient to enable maximum participation determined by the staff liaison.
- c. Special meetings may be called as needed for tours, activities, or to address other issues that could not be discussed at a regular meeting.
- d. YAC meetings shall be held at 7:00 PM, unless another time is selected for a specific meeting.
- e. YAC meetings shall be typically held at Oregon City – City Hall located at 625 Center St, Oregon City, OR 97045. This rule does not prevent the YAC from meeting at another location for a special purpose or for the convenience of its members.

6. Agendas, Minutes, and Decisions

- a. The staff liaison or designee shall prepare agendas in consultation with the YAC members and City Commission liaison as needed.
- b. Standard YAC agendas shall generally take the following form. Variations from this standard agenda may be utilized as convenient.
 - i. Roll Call
 - ii. Discussion Items
 - iii. Communications
 - iv. Minutes
 - v. Adjournment
- c. Minutes shall be prepared for each meeting which shall contain at least the members present at the meeting, the substance of any discussion, all motions and votes taken, and a reference to any documents discussed at the meeting.
 - i. Minutes shall not be verbatim and contain only a summary of the primary points and arguments raised in the discussion.
 - ii. Minutes shall be approved at a subsequent meeting by a vote of the YAC. If amendments are requested by any member of the YAC, those amendments must also be approved by the YAC at the time of adoption. The YAC may request the minutes returned after any amendments are incorporated for further review and approval.

- d. The YAC may make decisions in the following ways:
 - i. Consensus – no vote is taken, but specific issues may be decided leading to a final decision.
 - ii. Acclamation vote – a vote is taken by all members being asked if they favor, are against, or abstain from a decision. In such case as the decision is not unanimous, the YAC shall conduct a roll call vote.
 - iii. Roll Call – Each member's vote is recorded in the record.
- e. Official Actions - YAC may utilize the following methods of making formal actions (reports, recommendations, requests, recognitions)
 - i. Letters to be signed by the chairperson
 - ii. Approval of the document in question
 - iii. Resolution (possibly incorporating exhibits) – resolutions approved by the YAC shall be titled “YAC Resolution” followed by the four-digit year and an assigned number. (e.g. 2023-01)

7. Accessibility

- a. Meetings of the YAC shall not be broadcast or live streamed online. Remote participation in the meetings shall be provided to the extent required by ORS 192 and existing City resources.
- b. The staff liaison will attempt to accommodate any other accessibility issues as they arise to improve access and participation for all community members.

8. Code of Conduct

Members of the YAC shall be held to the highest standards of citizenship, scholarship and participation.

- a. It is considered inexcusable for YAC members to have ANY unexcused absences and may have no more than 3 excused absences. An absence shall be considered excused provided advanced notice of 24 hours is provided to the chairperson and staff liaison or is determined to be excused by the chairperson and staff liaison.
- b. Absences may be made up for by attending a City of Oregon City commission, advisory board, or committee meeting within 30 days of the absence.
- c. Members shall remain in good standing at their school by maintaining passing grades and abiding by the school code of conduct.
- d. Violations of the code of conduct and expectations of this section shall be reviewed by the member, chairperson, vice chairperson, City Commission liaison, staff liaison and the Mayor with a goal of improving the performance and participation of the member.
- e. The Mayor shall have the sole discretion to determine if a member shall be removed from the YAC.

- f. YAC members may speak with the staff liaison or the City Commission liaison if a member has any questions or concerns with the Code of Conduct.

9. Interpretation and Authority

- a. Any issues not addressed by these bylaws shall be resolved by considering City policies, the OCMC, the board and committee orientation manual, other pertinent documents or policies, or the Robert's Rules of Order.
- b. These bylaws shall not be interpreted to supersede and are subordinate to any prior or subsequently adopted changes to documents referenced in Section 9(a) above.

10. Revisions to the Bylaws

The YAC shall review their bylaws at the first meeting of every term and the fifth meeting of every term to ensure that all members are made aware of expectations and processes. From time to time, the YAC may recommend changes to its bylaws.