Made In Grants Pass! Grants Pass ‘Maker City’

Grants Pass is home to an abundance of local ‘makers’ who make products right here in our beautiful community. We are excited to share information with you about the creative and collaborative “Maker Movement” and “Made in Grants Pass” products that support our neighbors, local businesses, and local economy. Join the growing Grants Pass maker movement, and let us know how we can help!

We have created a web page as a resource to bring together information about “Made in Grants Pass” products and the local maker movement. You can find it on the City of Grants Pass website at www.grantspassoregon.gov > Community > Made in Grants Pass.

“Made in Grants Pass” / Buy It Where It’s Made!
Small-scale and large-scale producers help strengthen the local economy by bringing more outside dollars into the community. Grants Pass also supports small-scale producers as part of a vibrant mix of downtown uses. They can help strengthen, diversify, and revitalize downtown areas. In addition to local retail sales, most also have wholesale and online sales which help make them resilient to seasonal fluctuations in retail traffic. There are standards to ensure producers in the downtown area include a retail component and maintain the unique character of downtown.

If you like handcrafted, small batch, artisan goods, be sure to download our “Made in Grants Pass” business guide. Many of these goods are made in the downtown Historic District. You can buy them where they’re made and watch them being made at many locations. This guide lets you know where to find these businesses and other locally-made goods. We’re also working on a window decal program to make it easy to find these businesses and other retailers selling locally-made products.

Grants Pass and the surrounding area are also home to large-scale manufacturers and specialized manufactured products, including such diverse items as boats, playground equipment, wood products, and specialty electronics. These are highlighted in a separate section of the guide, with more information in the works.

Downtown Grants Pass is also home to two outstanding open-air markets where you can find local products grown and handcrafted in the bountiful Rogue Valley and surrounding area.

Grants Pass Maker Community & Makerspaces
If you’re not familiar with makerspaces, you might be amazed to learn how they can contribute to economic development, workforce training and readiness, reduced start-up costs and support for entrepreneurs, and community-building. Makerspaces offer collaborative work spaces equipped with tools, equipment, and expertise which are often out of reach for students, small business start-ups, and hobbyists. Their strengths include opportunities for mentoring and collaborative problem-solving.

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Grants Pass adds bike parking with grant from Cycle Oregon

Hitch-type bike rack

Cycle Oregon has once again shared the economic benefits of cycling with Grants Pass, this time with a Community Grant for bicycle parking. In the fall of 2016, the City of Grants Pass applied for a Community Grant from Cycle Oregon for additional hitch-type bicycle parking racks. In December 2016, Cycle Oregon announced 18 grant awards totaling more than $190,000 for wide-ranging projects. Grants Pass was among the grant recipients, enabling additional bicycle parking to be installed in public locations in the community and near bicycle-friendly businesses.

Cycle Oregon has brought economic benefits to Grants Pass and Josephine County on more than one occasion. Cycle Oregon came to Grants Pass in 2009 and returned to Josephine County last summer with a stop at Indian Mary Park on their signature ride. They assisted our hard-working community volunteers, to help promote Grants Pass, Josephine County, and the region. They also helped publicize our bike-friendly businesses and the launch of our bicycle benefits program.

Economic Benefits of Cycling

In 2013, Travel Oregon conducted an Oregon Bicycle Survey and found that cycling tourism accounted for $300 million of Oregon’s $9 billion tourism industry. It subsequently launched a Bike-Friendly Business program. The City of Grants Pass and the Chamber of Commerce helped promote this program to local businesses. Participating businesses offer amenities sought by cyclists and cycling tourists.

In 2016, the City also launched a Bicycle Benefits program with local businesses. With this program, you can buy a helmet sticker for $5 at a participating business and receive discounts at any participating business by showing your sticker when you ride your bike.

You can find a list of these businesses on the City’s website, and they also display window decals that identify their participation in the programs. For more information about these programs and cycling in Grants Pass, please visit our webpage at www.grantspassoregon.gov > Community > Bicycling in Grants Pass.

More about Cycle Oregon

Cycle Oregon doesn’t just expose riders to richly diverse Oregon communities; it also provides financial support to those communities. It has a $5 million annual impact on the state. Cycle Oregon’s rides provide an unrivaled experience for cyclists while bringing the economic benefits of cycling tourism to communities across Oregon.

In addition, proceeds from the rides have been placed in the Cycle Oregon Fund at the Oregon Community Foundation since January 1996. To date, Cycle Oregon has awarded $185 grants totaling $3.5 million through their Community and Signature Grants. These funds have helped preserve natural beauty in Oregon, promote bicycle safety and tourism, and support community projects throughout the state. Cycle Oregon also provides approximately $35,000 each year to community groups for the services they provide for Cycle Oregon events. They note, “These groups assist greatly in planning our events and provide hundreds of volunteers whose passion and dedication make our rides a success.”

“Cycle Oregon wouldn’t exist without the support of small Oregon communities,” says Executive Director Steve Schultz. “Our grant program is one way we try to return the favor. Supporting these communities is the reason we were founded in the first place. We love coming back to see how these projects are making a difference.”

Information about Cycle Oregon, including the 2017 ride, is available at www.cycleoregon.com
New City Councilor Tyler Flaming

Tyler is a longtime resident of Grants Pass. Since returning to the area approximately 20 years ago, he has been active in the community and various civic organizations, including the Grants Pass Rotary Club, Grants Pass Active Club and the Board of Directors for the Barnstormers Theatre. He also serves as an advisor for the Grants Pass High School Rotary Interact Club and, recently, to the ASPIRE program (also at GPHS), which provides assistance and mentoring to students to achieve increased access to higher education and training beyond high school.

‘I believe in fiscally-responsible, accountable local government,’ says Flaming. ‘I am conservative in my political leanings, while forward-looking towards a sustainable and efficient government administration. As a Councilor, my role is to ensure that the interests for our City and the values of our community are protected.

‘I am committed to our community and committed towards making it better for all. I look forward to serving on the Council and both the challenges and opportunities to come.’

Grant Pass City Councilors are interested in your opinion. They would like you to join them at one of their sessions of Coffee Talk. Up to two City Councilors are available every Friday to answer questions or address concerns you may have. Visit them at Rogue Roasters, 610 SW 6th Street, from 7:30 to 9:00 am.

Mayor Darin Fowler  541-450-6000
djfowler@grantspassoregon.gov
Ward 1
Councilor Tyler Flaming  541-450-6000
tflaming@grantspassoregon.gov
Councilor Roy Lindsay  541-291-0346
rlindsay@grantspassoregon.gov
Ward 2
Councilor Valerie Lovelace  541-479-0952
vlovelace@grantspassoregon.gov
Councilor Rick Riker  541-479-7333
rjriker@grantspassoregon.gov
Ward 3
Council President Dennis Roler  541-479-4272
droler@grantspassoregon.gov
Councilor Jason Sharp  541-951-2282
jsharp@grantspassoregon.gov
Ward 4
Councilor Barry Eames  541-218-1403
beames@grantspassoregon.gov
Councilor Jason Anderson  541-659-5957
janderson@grantspassoregon.gov

City Council Meetings
1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 6 pm
City Council Workshops
Mondays at 11:45 am
Holidays will alter schedule
City Council Chambers, 101 NW A Street

Meetings are televised on Charter Cable
Channel 183 and posted online at

Listen live to City Councilors and staff discussing local issues on KAJO (1270 AM) the 1st and 2nd Tuesdays each month at 9:30 am

City of Grants Pass
Local Government
www.grantspassoregon.gov