



# Council Business Meeting Agenda

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION- IMPERATRICE PROPERTY AGENDA

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Bellview Grange: 1050 Toleman Creek Road 5:30-7:30

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**Mayor Graham and the Bellview Grange are hosting a community conversation Wednesday, April 15, from 5:30 - 7:30 about potential uses for the Imperatrice Property**, which the City has determined is surplus and will soon be taking steps to sell. Conversations at the City Council to date have identified [significant conservation values](#) for the upper section of this 846-acre property. The lower section is irrigated agriculture lands and has been grazed by different entities over the past several years.

Multiple Councilors may be in attendance. No deliberation or decisions will be made at this event.

In addition, the **City has discussed selling a section of the Hardesty property**, which is in very near proximity to the Imperatrice property near the wastewater treatment facility. That property includes a house and several outbuildings as well as a handful of acres zoned Exclusive Farm Use.

This evening will be an **informal discussion with the local farming community, and anyone else interested in proposing a use for the property** when the formal process is announced. Specifically, the City will be looking to divest of the property in a way that ensures the highest and best use of this land while maintaining the environmental values of the Ashland community and returning an appropriate amount of funding to the City. The evening will start with a short presentation followed by Q&A and a general discussion.

Alongside this conversation, **the City of Ashland will host a tour of both sites (date TBD)** for anyone interested in considering purchasing one or both sites.

## Information about the property and process:

The Imperatrice Property is located within Jackson County's land use jurisdiction and zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU). The 846-acre property was purchased in 1996 to support wastewater treatment plant operations, specifically to spray effluent on the hill and create sludge ponds. However, the City later chose a different approach, upgrading the treatment plant to a tertiary system. The property is no longer needed for wastewater applications. The property has been appraised at approximately \$2.4 million for the lower section and \$1.4 million for the upper section.

The City Council discussed the process for divesting of the property on December 2, 2025. The video recording of that meeting can be found here (starts at minute 54:02): [Ashland City Council - December 2, 2025](#)

The agenda and background presentation for the December 2 meeting is here: [City Council Business Meeting • Agendas & Minutes • CivicClerk](#)