

Last Call for “State of the County” Attendance

Tickets on Sale NOW! Online reservations remain open for the chamber’s January 11, 2021 membership program, “State of the County” presented by Douglas County 2020 chair of the board of commissioners, the Honorable Chris Boice.

Advanced registration is required and the **deadline to register is noon on Friday, January 8**. A one-time access code/link will be forwarded per registration the week prior to the program. Our January program is sponsored by CSO Avista Utilities. **MAKE MY RESERVATION**

The chamber will be changing its membership meeting season pass year to September through May. Those season passes will go on sale summer 2021.

Free PPE for Roseburg Businesses

With Douglas County’s downgrade from “Extreme” to “High” risk level, valuable local restaurants, gyms, bowling alleys and more businesses opened January 1 . . . thank goodness! More businesses, therefore, are in need of personal protective equipment (PPE). The City of Roseburg and Roseburg Area Chamber are providing PPE—free of charge—to Roseburg businesses. The PPE available includes: 3-ply ear-loop disposal masks, washable reusable cloth masks, non-surgical KN95 masks, pump-bottle hand sanitizer, antibacterial wipes and disposable nitrile gloves.

To receive the no-cost PPE, businesses should apply through the chamber’s website. To apply, visit **COVID-19 Business Recovery Resource Center Library** or click **HERE!**

2021 Oregon Legislative Session Begins January 19

The 2021 Oregon legislative session is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, January 19. Check out the **2021 legislative calendar**. Following are some key dates that will govern the 160-day session:

- Tuesday, Feb 23: Bill introduction deadline
- Friday, March 19: Original committee “work session” posting deadline
- Tuesday, April 13: Original committee “work session” deadline
- Friday, May 14: Second chamber “work session” posting deadline
- Friday, May 28: Second chamber “work session” deadline
- Friday, June 18: Leadership’s targeted date for Sine Die
- Sunday, June 27: Constitutional Sine Die

Here’s what we know so far about how the session will be conducted. The session will be virtual through at least early March. The first reassessment will be made on March 1. The only way the Capitol will be reopened is when Marion County enters the lowest of the COVID risk categories. Currently, Marion County is in the highest risk category.

Right now there appears to be more standing committees meeting a little less frequently than usual. There will be more advance notice for hearings and work sessions. Although there are no bill limits this session (we understand nearly 3,000 bills have been introduced to date), there will be more prioritization and likely fewer bills being considered. There are indications that budgets won’t be addressed until later in the session due to uncertainty around revenue and potential federal aid packages.

House and Senate committees for the 2021 session have been released.

You can see House committees **HERE**.

You can see Senate committees **HERE**.

You chamber’s primary objective is to represent the interests of and advocate for our local business community. The chamber has its legislative and public affairs agenda and positions in place. We will monitor legislative activities daily throughout the session and, act on behalf of our businesses whenever pertinent. The chamber will continue to join with the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, other chambers and business organizations around the state to make sure the voice of business is heard. Look for “Calls to Action” during the 2021 session and don’t hesitate to contact the chamber if you become aware of proposed legislation potentially adverse to business or if you have any questions about the session or chamber positions.

[Nominate Today!](#)

RACC Accepting Nominations for 2020 First Citizens, Businesses of the Year, Chamber Volunteer of the Year Honors

Nominations are open for male and female first citizen honors, outstanding businesses of the year and chamber volunteer of the year recognitions. Honorees will be announced on March 18, 2021.

"Business of the year" honors include three categories: small, medium and large-size chamber-member businesses. The chamber will also recognize an outstanding individual as its volunteer of the year and a local business for its innovation. The chamber is also seeking nominations for deserving individuals for our community's highest honor, first citizens. For nomination criteria and forms: **[Business of the Year](#)**, **[Chamber Volunteer of the Year](#)**, **[Business Innovator](#)** and **[First Citizens](#)** nomination forms. Nomination deadline is 5:00 pm on January 29, 2021.

[U.S. Chamber Guide to Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Loans Updated](#)

Yesterday, December 22, the U.S. Chamber created a new **[Guide to Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Loans](#)** to provide local chambers and our members with the latest information and answers to FAQs about the changes that have been made to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) Program as part of the end-of-year pandemic relief package Congress passed and which is tentatively slated to become law.

[Click here](#) to view the U.S. Chamber's new Guide to Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Loans. As the year-end federal pandemic relief package evolves and, we are confident, ultimately authorized and signed into law, we will continue to provide updates as the information becomes available.

[Oregon OSHA Grants Grace-Period for Compliance with New COVID-19 Rules](#)

The recently adopted **[Oregon OSHA Temporary COVID-19 rule](#)** includes a series of deadlines, including three inter-related requirements. Under the rule, employers must complete both the required **[Risk Assessment](#)** and the **[Infection Control Plan](#)** based on that Risk Assessment by December 7, 2020 and must complete the required **[Infection Control Training](#)** (based in part on the Infection Control Plan) by December 21, 2020.

A three-week implementation delay has been granted for certain employers – including restaurants, gyms and other businesses impacted the recent “freeze” and by the newly adopted risk levels. All other employers who have been working to comply but have not yet completed that work are granted a one-week grace period. You can read more about this in **[OR-OSHA's memo](#)**.

Important timelines to remember:

- **[Base Rule](#): Effective November 16, 2020**
 - Physical Distancing
 - Masks
 - Cleaning & Sanitation
 - Poster Posted
- Building Operator Rules: **November 23, 2020**
- Exposure Risk Assessment: **December 7, 2020***
- Infection Control Plan: **December 7, 2020***
- Employee Training: **December 21, 2020**
- Ventilation Requirements (all workplaces): **January 6, 2021**

You can find additional materials on **[Oregon OSHA's website](#)**.

[Reminder: Oregon OSHA COVID-19 Rule Resources Available](#)

- Infection Control Plan (**[Fill-in Word document](#)** or **[Print version](#)**)
- COVID-19 Hazards Poster **[English](#)** / **[Spanish](#)**
- Exposure Risk Assessment Form (**[Fill-in Word document](#)** or **[Print version](#)**)
- **[Online Training Course](#)**

- [Fact Sheet: Provisions with Delayed Effective Dates](#)
- [Temporary Rule 437-001-0744 and Appendix Addressing COVID-19 Workplace Risks](#)
- [Overview Table for Oregon OSHA COVID-19 Temporary Rule](#)
- [Model Policy for Notification of Employees when COVID-19 Exposure Occurs \(PDF\)](#) (Spanish - [PDF](#) and [Word document](#))
- [Questions and Answers](#)

[Business Recovery Resource Center Library](#)

Please continue to check the chamber's online "[Business Recovery Resource Center Library Re: COVID-19 Pandemic](#)," as the chamber updates its resource information almost daily. And, please share this link with friends and colleagues. The more our local businesses are armed with information and access to resources, the stronger our recovery.

[Chamber News, Programs & Updates](#)

Membership Meeting Programs Return! Reservations Open for the chamber's January 11 virtual **Membership Meeting** program "State of the County."

Time to Nominate! Be sure and download nomination forms for 2020 **first citizens**, **businesses of the year** and **chamber volunteer of the year** honors. And, grow your business in 2021 by participating in the "Shop Chamber & Save" exclusive member-to-member discount program.

SAVE THE DATE! March 18, 2021 the Roseburg Area Chamber will host several programs and events throughout the day and evening for its annual celebration of business, recognition and awards event and annual membership meeting. Look for more information in early 2021!

Missed a past issue of Business Perspectives or one of those "oh-so-informative" membership email blasts? No worries. They are posted on the chamber website on the [Monthly Newsletter page](#) . . . just scroll.

Debbie

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