# EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

# City of Yachats



Adopted by City Council January 14, 2016

### Welcome!

Welcome to the City of Yachats (The City) we are glad to have you on our team. At the City of Yachats, we believe that our employees are our most valuable asset. In fact, we attribute our success as an organization in significant part to our ability to recruit, hire, and maintain a motivated and productive workforce. We hope that during your employment with Yachats, you will become a productive and successful member of the City team.

This employee handbook describes, in summary, the personnel policies and procedures that govern the employment relationship between the City of Yachats and its employees, other than those found in applicable collective bargaining agreements. The policies stated in this handbook are subject to change at any time at the sole discretion of the City of Yachats with or without prior notice. This handbook supersedes any prior handbooks or written policies of Organization that are inconsistent with its provisions. It does not, however, substitute for collective bargaining agreement provisions. You may receive updated information concerning changes in policy from time to time, and those updates should be kept with your copy of the handbook. If you have any questions about any of the provisions in the handbook, or any policies that are issued after the handbook, please ask the City Administrator.

This handbook does not create a contract of employment between the City of Yachats and its employees. With the exception of employees subject to a collective bargaining agreement, all employment at the City of Yachats is "at will." That means that either you or the City may terminate this relationship at any time, for any reason, with or without cause or notice (unless you are subject to a collective bargaining agreement or written contract of employment). No supervisor, manager, or representative of the City other than the City Administrator has the authority to enter into any agreement with you regarding the terms of your employment that changes our at-will relationship or deviates from the provisions in this handbook, unless the change or deviation is put in writing and signed by the City Administrator (or that is included in a collective bargaining agreement).

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## I. Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policies

The following EEO Policies apply to all employees. Members of management, elected officials and employees alike are expected to adhere to and enforce the following EEO Policies. Any employee's failure to do so may result in discipline, up to and including termination.

All employees are encouraged to discuss these EEO Policies with the City Administrator at any time if they have questions relating to the issues of harassment, discrimination or bullying.

### A. No-Discrimination Policy

The City of Yachats provides equal employment opportunity to all qualified employees and applicants without unlawful regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran's status, or any other status protected by applicable federal, Oregon, or local law. This EEO policy applies to all aspects of the employment relationship – including but not limited to, recruitment, hiring, compensation, promotion, demotion, transfer, disciplinary action, layoff, recall, and termination of employment.

### B. No-Harassment Policy

The City of Yachats prohibits harassment of any kind in the workplace, or harassment outside of the workplace that violates its employees' right to work in a harassment-free workplace.

This policy applies to and prohibits sexual or other forms of harassment that occur during working hours, during City -related or –sponsored trips (such as conferences or work-related travel), and during off-hours when that off-duty conduct creates an unlawful hostile work environment for any of Yachats' employees. **Such harassment is prohibited whether committed by Yachats' employees or by non-employees, such as elected officials, members of the community, and vendors.** 

### Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment has been defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature (regardless of whether such conduct is "welcome"), when:

- 1. submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of employment;
- 2. submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual;
- 3. such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

Some examples of conduct that could give rise to sexual harassment are unwanted sexual advances; demands for sexual favors in exchange for favorable treatment or continued employment; sexual jokes; flirtations; advances or propositions; verbal abuse of a sexual nature; graphic, verbal commentary about an individual's body, sexual

prowess, or deficiency; leering, whistling, touching, assault, sexually suggestive, insulting, or obscene comments or gestures; display in the workplace of sexually suggestive objects or pictures; or discriminatory treatment based on sex. This is not a complete list.

### Other Forms of Prohibited Harassment

Other forms of prohibited harassment under the City's policy and Federal and Oregon law include harassment against an individual based on the individual's race, color, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, protected activity, and any other status protected by applicable law.

Such harassment may include verbal, written or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility towards an individual because of any protected status, and can include:

- jokes, pictures (including drawings), epithets, or slurs;
- negative stereotyping;
- threatening, intimidating, or hostile acts that relate to a protected class; or
- written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group because of the protected status.

### Bullying

The City strives to promote a positive, professional work environment free of physical or verbal harassment, "bullying," or discriminatory conduct of any kind. The City, therefore, prohibits employees from bullying one another or engaging in any conduct that is disrespectful, insubordinate, or that creates a hostile work environment for another employee for any reason. For purposes of this policy, "bullying" refers to repeated, unreasonable actions of individuals (or a group) directed towards an individual or a group of employees, which is intended to intimidate and that creates a risk to the health and safety of the employee(s). Examples of bullying include:

- 1. Verbal Bullying: slandering, ridiculing or maligning a person or his/her family; persistent name calling which is hurtful, insulting or humiliating; using a person as butt of jokes; abusive and offensive remarks.
- 2. Physical Bullying: pushing; shoving; kicking; poking; tripping; assault, or threat of physical assault; damage to a person's work area or property.
- 3. Gesture Bullying: non-verbal threatening gestures, glances that can convey threatening messages.
- 4. Exclusion Bullying: socially or physically excluding or disregarding a person in work-related activities. In some cases, failing to be cooperative and working well with co-workers may be viewed as bullying.
- 5. Cyber Bullying: Bullying that takes place using electronic technology, which includes devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat, and websites. Examples of cyberbullying include transmitting or showing mean-spirited text messages, emails, embarrassing pictures, videos or graphics, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, or creating fake profiles on web sites for co-workers, managers or supervisors or elected officials.

### **Complaint Procedure**

Each member of management is responsible for creating an atmosphere free of discrimination, harassment, and bullying. Further, all employees are responsible for respecting the rights of other employees and strictly adhering to the letter and spirit of this policy. All employees are encouraged to discuss this policy with their immediate supervisor, any member of the management team, or the City Administrator, at any time if they have questions relating to the issues of discrimination, harassment, or bullying.

Employees are strongly encouraged to tell the harasser that the behavior is offensive and unwanted, and that they want it to stop. Employees who have experienced any harassment, discrimination, or bullying, are expected and required to bring the matter to the attention of Human Resources or a supervisor or member of management as soon as possible.

In addition, any employee who observes any conduct that he or she believes constitutes harassment, discrimination, or bullying, or who receives information about these types of incidents that may have occurred, must immediately report the matter to the City Administrator.

### Investigation and Confidentiality

All complaints and reports will be promptly and impartially investigated and will be kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the City's need to investigate the complaint and address the situation. If conduct in violation of this policy is found to have occurred, the City will take prompt, appropriate corrective action, and any employee found to have violated this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

### Protection Against Retaliation

The City prohibits retaliation in any way against any employee because the employee has made a good-faith complaint pursuant to this policy or the law, has reported (in good faith) harassing, discriminatory, or bullying conduct, or has participated in an investigation of such conduct. Any employee who is found to have retaliated against another employee in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

See also the Policy on Non-Retaliation, below.

### C. Disability Accommodation Policy

### Accommodations

The City will make reasonable efforts to accommodate a qualified applicant or employee with a known disability, unless such accommodation creates an undue hardship on the operation of the City.

### Requesting an Accommodation

A reasonable accommodation is any change or adjustment to a job or work environment that does not cause an undue hardship on the department or unit (or, in some cases, the City) and which permits a qualified applicant or employee with a disability to participate in the job application process, to perform the essential functions of a job, or to enjoy benefits and privileges of employment equal to those enjoyed by employees without disabilities. For example, a reasonable accommodation may include providing or modifying equipment or devices, job restructuring, allowing part-time or modified work schedules, reassigning an individual, adjusting or modifying examinations, modifying training materials or policies, providing readers and interpreters or making the workplace readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities.

Employees should request an accommodation as soon as it becomes apparent that a reasonable accommodation may be necessary to enable the employee to perform the essential duties of a position or participate in the employment process. All requests for accommodation should be made with the City Administrator, and should specify which essential functions of the employee's job cannot be performed without a reasonable accommodation. In most cases, an employee will need to secure medical verification of his or her need for a reasonable accommodation.

## D. Policy on Non-Retaliation

The City's policy prohibits the taking of any retaliatory action for reporting or inquiring about alleged improper or wrongful activity. All City employees, managers/supervisors and elected officials are encouraged to report in good faith all information regarding alleged improper or wrongful activity that may constitute:

- Discrimination or harassment;
- Fraud;
- Unethical or unprofessional business conduct;
- Noncompliance with City policies/procedures;
- Circumstances of substantial, specific or imminent danger to an employee, manager/supervisor, elected official or the public's health and/or safety;
- Violations of local, Oregon or federal laws and regulations; or
- Other illegal or improper practices or policies.

The City encourages timely disclosure of such concerns and prohibits retribution or retaliation against any employee (or member of the public) who, in good faith, reports such concerns. No employee, manager or supervisor will be exempt from the consequences of misconduct or inadequate performance by reporting his or her own misconduct or inadequate performance.

### Protection from Retaliation

Any City employee, manager/supervisor or elected official who, in good faith, reports such incidents as described above will be protected from retaliation (defined as an adverse action taken because an individual has engaged in protected activities), threats of retaliation, discharge, or other discrimination including but not limited to discrimination in compensation or terms and conditions of employment that are directly related to the disclosure of such information. In addition, no City employee may be adversely affected because they refused to carry out a directive that constitutes fraud or is a violation of local, Oregon, federal or other applicable laws and regulations.

### **Reporting Process**

Employees should timely report evidence of alleged improper activity as described above by contacting their immediate supervisor, department head or the City Administrator. Any instances of alleged retaliation or retribution should be reported in the same manner.

All reports will be handled as promptly and discreetly as possible, with facts made available only to those who need to know to investigate and resolve the matter.

## II. Employment Status

## A. Probationary Period of Employment

All new employees, including current employees who are promoted or transferred within the City, are hired into an probationary period that generally lasts no less than six (6) months. The probationary period is an extension of the employee selection process. During this period, you are considered to be in training and under observation and evaluation by your manager. Evaluation of your adjustment to work tasks, conduct and other work rules, attendance and job responsibilities will be considered during the introductory period. This period gives you an opportunity to demonstrate satisfactory performance for the position, and also provides an opportunity to determine if your knowledge, skills and abilities and the requirements of the position match. It is also an opportunity for you to decide if the City meets your expectations of an employer.

At or before the end of the probationary period, a decision about your employment status will be made. The City will decide whether to: (1) Move you to regular, full-time or regular, part-time status; or (2) Terminate your employment.

Employees are not guaranteed any length of employment upon hire or transfer/promotion; both you and the City may terminate the employment relationship during the probationary period for any or no reason. Further, completion of the probationary period does not entitle you to remain employed by the City for any definite period of time. Both you and the City are free to terminate the employment relationship, at any time, with or without notice and for any reason not prohibited by law.

## B. Promotional Probation

Every promoted employee shall serve a probationary period of six (6) months. The promoted employee shall be compensated at the permanent rate of the higher job classification. If, before the end of the probationary period, the promoted employee fails to meet the required work standard, or at the employee's option, the promoted employee shall return to his/her previously held position and wage rate. No promoted employee shall be terminated from employment without just cause.

## C. Employee Classification

The City classifies employees as follows:

- 1. Regular Full-time: Employment in an established position requiring 40 hours or more of work per week.
- 2. Regular Part-time: Employment requiring less than 40 hours of work per week. Normally a part-time schedule, such as portions of days or weeks, will be established. Occasional workweeks of over 40 hours will not constitute a change in status from part-time to full-time.
- 3. Temporary: Employment in a job established for a specific purpose, for a specific period of time, or for the duration of a specific project or group of assignments. Participation in benefits programs for temporary employees is limited to eligibility for workers' compensation. Temporary employment can either be full-time or part-time.

Additionally, all employees are defined as either "exempt" or "nonexempt," which determines whether the employee is eligible for overtime. Employees will be instructed as to whether they are exempt or non-exempt at the time of hire or when a promotion or demotion occurs. All employees, regardless of employment classification, are subject to all the City's rules and procedures.

## D. Reinstatement

Employees who resign from the City of Yachats in good standing may be eligible for reemployment consideration. To determine eligibility, former employees must re-file an employment application with the City of Yachats. Applications received from former employees will be considered and processed using the same procedures and standards that govern all other applicants. When a position becomes available, the hiring supervisor will review the former employee's performance record and the circumstances surrounding his/her departure from the City of Yachats. We are not obligated to rehire former employees.

## E. Prior Service Credit

Employees who are rehired by the City of Yachats will receive credit for prior time worked as follows:

Employees who were terminated because of a reduction in workforce will receive credit for prior time worked for the purposes of benefit eligibility if they are re-employed within 12 months after the termination date.

Employees who voluntarily terminate their employment with the City of Yachats will receive credit for prior time worked for the purposes of benefit eligibility, subject to management approval, if re-employed within 12 months after the termination date. However, a new anniversary date will be established based on the date of reinstatement.

Rehired employees may be subject to a six-month probationary period and may be asked to attend all medical assessments required of employees otherwise hired.

## F. Timekeeping Requirements

All non-exempt employees must accurately record time worked on a time card for payroll purposes. Employees are required to record their own time at the beginning and end of each work period, including before and after the meal period. Employees also must record their time whenever they leave the building for any reason other than City business. Filling out another employee's time card, allowing another employee to fill out your time card, or altering any time card will be grounds for discipline up to and including termination. An employee who fails to record his or her time may be subjected to discipline as well.

Salaried exempt employees also may be required to record their time on either a time card or time sheet. These employees will be instructed separately on this process.

## E. Employee-Incurred Expenses and Reimbursements

The City will pay actual and reasonable business-related expenses you incur in the performance of your job responsibilities if they are: (1) listed below or elsewhere in this handbook; and (2) pre-approved by your supervisor/manager before they are incurred. The City will not pay for or reimburse the costs incurred by a spouse, registered domestic partner or travel companion who accompanies the employee on City - approved travel.

Employees must provide a completed and signed expense report and evidence of proof of purchase (receipts) within one month of the expense being incurred or the employee risks forfeiting their payment or reimbursement.

Some examples of actual and reasonable business-related expenses that the City will reimburse/pay for are:

- Conferences or Workshops:
- Education:
- Meals:
- Mileage and Parking: Employees will be reimbursed for authorized use of their personal vehicles at a rate established by the Internal Revenue Service. Reasonable parking costs are also reimbursed upon submission of receipts on an expense report. Any traffic citations or court-ordered fees relating to driving or parking offenses (including parking tickets) are the responsibility of the employee and will not be reimbursed by the City.

### F. Payroll Policies

The City of Yachats issues payroll checks twice a month: the 15th and the last day of the month. If either of those days falls on a weekend or Monday Holiday, the payroll checks will be released on the Friday before. Payroll is calculated including the last day of the payroll period. In order to provide adequate time for personnel to process payroll, the time sheets will be submitted at least one day prior to the end of the period, using estimated hours for the final day. Adjustments will be made on the timesheet for the next payroll period if needed to accurately reflect time worked. Supervisors review and approve time sheets. Processed and signed checks may be released the day before payday. However they are not be deposited until the date shown on the check.

## G. Reporting Changes to an Employee's Personal Data

Because personnel records are used to administer pay and benefits, and other employment decisions, employees are responsible for keeping information current regarding changes in name, address, phone number, exemptions, dependents, beneficiary, etc. Keeping your personnel records current can be important to you with regard to pay, deductions, benefits and other matters. If you have changes in any of the following items, please notify the City Administrator to assure that the proper updates/paperwork are completed as quickly as possible:

- Name;
- Marital status/Domestic Partnership (for purposes of benefit eligibility determination only);
- Address or telephone number;
- Dependents;
- Person to be notified in case of emergency;
- Other information having a bearing on your employment; and
- Tax withholding.

Employees may not intentionally withhold information from the City about the items listed above in order to continue to receive benefits or anything of value for themselves or anyone else. Upon request, the City may require employees to provide proof of marital status/domestic partnership status. Employees who violate this policy may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination.

### H. Performance Reviews

All City employees will receive periodic performance reviews. Performance reviews serve as one factor in decisions related to employment, such as training, merit pay increases, job assignments, employee development, promotions, retention and termination. Any employee who fails to satisfactorily perform the duties of their position is subject to disciplinary action.

It is the City's goal is to provide an employee with his/her first formal performance evaluation within six months after hire or promotion. After the initial evaluation, the City will strive to provide a formal performance review on an annual basis.

Reviews will generally include the following:

- An evaluation of the employee's quality and quantity of work
- A review of exceptional employee accomplishments
- Establishment of goals for career development and job enrichment
- A review of areas needing improvement
- Setting of performance goals for the employee for the following year

Employees who disagree with a performance evaluation may submit a written response with reasons for disagreement. The employee's response shall be filed with the employee's performance evaluation in the employee's personnel file. Such response must be filed not later than thirty days following the date the performance evaluation was received.

Supervisors and managers are encouraged to provide employees with informal evaluations of their employees' work on an as-needed basis.

## **III.** Time Off and Leaves of Absence

## A. Attendance, Punctuality and Reporting Absences Policy

Employees are expected to report to work as scheduled, on time and be prepared to start work. Employees are also expected to remain at work for their entire work schedule, except for unpaid break periods or when required to leave on authorized City business, and perform the work assigned to or requested of them. Late arrivals, early departures, or other absences from scheduled hours are disruptive and must be avoided.

Unless specified otherwise in a policy below, employees who will be unexpectedly absent from work for any reason or who will not show up for work on time must inform their supervisor via a telephone call. Not reporting to work and not calling to report the absence is a no-call/no-show and is a serious matter. The first instance of a no call/no show will result in a final written warning. The second separate offense may result in termination of employment with no additional disciplinary steps. A no call/no show lasting three days may be considered job abandonment and may be deemed an employee's voluntary resignation of employment.

### B. Vacation

It is the policy of the City to provide each full-time employee with vacation time on a periodic basis. The amount of vacation to which an employee becomes entitled is determined by the employee's contract.

Employees shall be eligible for paid vacation after six (6) months of continuous service with the City. Vacation benefits shall be computed from the date of hire.

Employees will accrue vacation hours on a monthly basis.

Vacations will be granted at the time requested by the employee, subject to supervisory approval and reasonable operational requirements. If the City is compelled by operational requirements to limit vacations, the employee with the greatest seniority shall be given preference of choice for vacation dates. This seniority right shall be exercised only once per fiscal year.

Any employee who resigns, is laid off, discharged, or retires from the service of the City for any reason prior to taking his/her vacation shall be compensated by check for all earned but unused vacation she/he accumulated at the time of separation.

In case of death, compensation for accrued vacation leave shall be paid in the same manner that salary due the decedent is paid.

Employees are not entitled to pay in lieu of taking time off for vacation.

### C. Sick Leave

The City recognizes that an employee's inability to work because of illness or injury may cause economic hardship. For this reason, the City provides paid sick days employees. The days are provided only for the employee's own illness or injury.

Employees shall accrue sick leave at the rate of eight (8) hours for each calendar month of active employment.

Employees shall be allowed sick leave compensation when an employee is unable to work because of illness or injury or communicable disease. Sick leave may be used for attending to illness, injury or disease in the employee's immediate family.

Abuse of sick leave is cause for disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

An employee who returns following a layoff or a leave without pay shall have reinstated sick leave credits previously accrued.

In the event of any employee's death or retirement, the beneficiary or employee shall receive fifty (50) percent cash value of all accrued sick leave. All lump sum payment or credits for accumulated sick leave in these instances will be calculated at the same pay rate as existed at the time of the employee's death or retirement. Only employees who have worked for the City for ten (10) years shall be eligible for the retirement cash-out.

Any City employee may donate a portion of their own accumulated sick leave to another City employee who is off work and who has exhausted their sick leave. Employees may donate up to eighty (80) hours of sick leave, as long as they retain a balance of at least forty (40) hours of their own account.

A medical leave of absence without pay for a period of six (6) months may be granted any regular employee with at least one (1) year continuous service prior to the medical leave. The City shall maintain the employee's insurance benefits during their absence and the employee shall continue to accrue seniority. The employee shall be returned to his/her same position upon completion of such leave. The leave period may be extended with the approval of the City.

### D. Holidays

The following days shall be recognized and observed as paid holidays: New Year's Day Martin Luther King's Birthday President's Day Memorial Day Independence Day Labor Day Veteran's Day Thanksgiving Day Day after Thanksgiving Day Christmas

Whenever a holiday shall fall on a Sunday, the succeeding Monday shall be observed as the holiday. Whenever the holiday shall fall on a Saturday, the preceding Friday shall be observed as the holiday. An employee on an authorized sick leave or vacation when a holiday occurs shall not have such holiday charged against the leave or vacation.

The rate an employee shall be compensated for working a holiday shall not exceed the rate of two (2) times the normal rate of pay in addition to holiday pay.

Regarding covering holidays for state-mandated tests, the Public Works supervisor shall solicit volunteers previous to each holiday. Holiday overtime assignments shall be assigned on the basis of seniority if there is more than one volunteer. If all employees refuse then the supervisor may assign the overtime to the least senior employee.

If the holiday falls on the employee's scheduled day off, the employee shall receive hour-for-hour compensated time off.

E. Family Medical Leave

## Statement of No FMLA/OFLA Coverage

City employees are not eligible for leaves of absence under the Oregon Family Leave Act (OFLA) or the federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) due to the entity's small size.

One exception is that the City will honor requests from eligible employees to take a leave of absence under the Oregon Military Family Leave Act. Thus, during a period of military conflict, as defined by law, eligible employees with a spouse or registered samesex domestic partner who is a member of the Armed Forces, National Guard, or military reserve forces ("Military Spouse"), and who has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty (or who has been deployed) is entitled to a total of 14 days of unpaid leave per deployment after the Military Spouse has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty and before deployment and when the Military Spouse is on leave from deployment. To be an eligible employee and entitled to this leave, the employee must have worked an average of 20 hours per week prior to beginning the requested leave.

## F. Bereavement Leave

A leave of absence with pay for up to three (3) days if in-state and five (5) days if out-ofstate shall be granted an employee when a death in the employee's family requires the employee's absence. Should circumstances require an employee to be absent longer than the three (3) or five (5) days, the days in excess shall be charged against accumulated sick leave and vacation leave.

## G. Jury and Witness Duty

When an employee is called for jury duty or subpoenaed to appear in court as a witness related to his/her employment with the City, he/she will not suffer any loss of pay. She/he shall transfer any and all compensation less mileage allowance received to the City and receive his/her regular compensation for the time covered by the absence. Time not worked because of such service will not affect vacation or sick leave accrual.

## H. Religious Observances Leave and Accommodation Policy

The City respects the religious beliefs and practices of all employees. The City will make, upon request, an accommodation for such observances when a reasonable accommodation is available that does not create an undue hardship on the City's business. Employees may use vacation or unpaid time for religious holy days or to participate in a religious observance or practice; if accrued leave is not available, then an employee may request to take unpaid leave. Requests for religious leave or accommodation should be made with the City Administrator.

## I. Crime Victim Leave Policy

Any employee who has worked an average of at least 25 hours per week for 180 days is eligible for reasonable, unpaid leave to attend criminal proceedings if the employee or his or her immediate family member (defined below) has suffered financial, social, psychological or physical harm as a result of being a victim of certain felonies, such as kidnapping, rape, arson, and assault.

"Immediate family member" includes a spouse, registered same-sex domestic partner, father, mother, sibling, child, stepchild or grandparent.

Employees who are eligible for crime victim leave must:

- Use any accrued, but unused vacation/sick leave during the leave period;
- Provide as much advance notice as is practicable of his/her intention to take leave (unless giving advance notice is not feasible); and
- Submit a request for the leave in writing to the City Administrator as far in advance as possible, indicating the amount of time needed, when the time will be needed, and the reason for the leave.

In all circumstances, the City may require certification of the need for leave, such as copies of any notices of scheduled criminal proceedings that the employee receives from a law enforcement agency or district attorney's office, police report, a protective order issued by a court, or similarly reliable sources.

## J. Domestic Violence Leave and Accommodation Policy

All employees are eligible for reasonable unpaid leave to address domestic violence, harassment, sexual assault, or stalking of the employee or his or her minor dependents.

Reasons for taking leave include the employee's (or the employee's dependent's) need to: seek legal or law enforcement assistance or remedies; secure medical treatment for or time off to recover from injuries; seek counseling from a licensed mental health professional; obtain services from a victim services provider; or relocate or secure an existing home.

Leave is generally unpaid, but the employee may use any accrued vacation or similar paid time off while on this type of leave.

When seeking this type of leave, the employee should provide as much advance notice as is practicable of his or her intention to take leave, unless giving advance notice is not feasible. Notice of need to take leave should be provided by submitting a request for leave in writing to the City Administrator as far in advance as possible, indicating the time needed, when the time will be needed, and the reason for the leave. The City will then generally require certification of the need for the leave, such as a police report, protective order or other evidence of a court proceeding, or documentation from a law enforcement officer, attorney, healthcare professional, member of the clergy, or victim services provider.

If more leave than originally authorized needs to be taken, the employee should give the City notice as soon as is practicable prior to the end of the authorized leave. When taking leave in an unanticipated or emergency situation, the employee must give oral or written notice as soon as is practicable. When leave is unanticipated, this notice may be given by any other person on the employee's behalf.

Finally, employees who are victims of domestic violence, harassment, sexual assault or stalking may be entitled to a "reasonable safety accommodation" that will allow the employee to more safely continue to work, unless such an accommodation would impose an "undue hardship" on the City. Please contact the City Administrator immediately with requests for reasonable safety accommodations.

### K. Military Leave

Employees who wish to serve in the military and take military leave should contact the City Administrator for information about their rights before and after such leave. You are entitled to reinstatement upon completion of military service, provided you return or apply for reinstatement within the time allowed by law.

## **IV.** Employee Benefits

## A. Healthcare Benefits

Employees who meet the definition of "benefit eligible" under both City policy and that of its health insurance provider are entitled to the benefit options offered by the City. Generally speaking, that means the City offers medical/vision and dental insurance for all of its regular, full-time employees and their dependents. The City and the employee split the increase in premium 50/50 each year over the base rate that was established to be paid by the City.

The group insurance policy and the summary plan description issued to employees set out the terms and conditions of the health insurance plan offered by the City. These documents govern all issues relating to employee health insurance. As other employee benefits are offered by the City, employees will be advised and provided with copies of relevant plan documents. Copies are available from the City Administrator.

## B. Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

This free, confidential service is provided to all employees covered by our medical insurance benefits, and their covered dependents who may be experiencing life problems. Information regarding this service can be obtained by contacting the City Administrator..

## C. Workers' Compensation and Safety On the Job

You are protected by Workers' Compensation Insurance under Oregon law. This insurance covers you in case of occupational injury or illness by providing, among other things, medical care and compensation and temporary or other disability benefits. Employees are expected to work safely and in a safe environment.

### Steps to Take if You are Injured on the Job

To ensure that you receive any workers' compensation benefits to which you may be entitled, you must do all of the following:

- 1. Immediately report any work-related injury to your supervisor. You must report the injury at the time it happens, and no later than 24 hours after injury.
- 2. Seek medical treatment and follow-up care if required.
- 3. Promptly complete a written Employee's Claim Form (Form 801) and return it to City Administrator.

### Failure to timely follow these steps may negatively affect your ability to receive benefits.

### Return to Work

If you require workers' compensation leave, the City will strive to reemploy you to the most suitable vacant position available. However, you must first submit documentation from a health care provider who is familiar with your condition demonstrating your ability to return to work and perform the essential functions of the position.

When returning from a workers' compensation leave you have no greater right to reinstatement than if you had been continuously employed rather than on leave. For example, if you would have been laid off had you not been on leave, or if your position

is eliminated, and no equivalent or comparable positions are available, then you may not be entitled to reinstatement. These are only examples and all reinstatement/reemployment decisions are subject to the terms of any applicable collective bargaining agreement. The City does not discriminate against employees who suffer a workplace injury or illness.

### Early Return-to-Work Program

Our Return-to-Work program provides guidelines for returning you to work at the earliest possible time after you have suffered an on-the-job injury or illness that results in time loss. This program is not intended as a substitute for reasonable accommodation when an injured employee also qualifies as an individual with a disability. The Return-to-Work Program is intended to be transitional work, to enable you to return to your regular job in a reasonable period of time.

The Return-to-Work program for job-related injuries consists of a team effort by the City, injured employees and their treating physicians, and our workers' compensation insurance carrier claims staff. The goal is to return our employees to full employment at the earliest possible date that is consistent with their medical condition and the advice of the treating physician.

If your doctor determines that you are able to perform modified work, the City will attempt to provide you with a temporary job assignment for a reasonable period of time until you can resume your regular duties (except where provided as an accommodation for a disability). If, due to a work related injury, you are offered a modified position that has been medically approved, failure to phone in or report at the designated time and place may affect your compensation and employment with the City. While you are on modified or transitional work, you are still subject to all other City rules and procedures.

### Overlap with Other Laws

The City will account for other leave and disability laws that might also apply to your situation, such as the ADA and FMLA or OFLA. If, after returning from a workers' compensation leave, it is determined that you are unable to perform the essential functions of your position because of a qualifying disability, you may be entitled to a reasonable accommodation, as governed by the Americans with Disabilities Act and/or applicable Oregon laws covering disabilities in the workplace.

## I. PERS (Public Employees' Retirement System) Benefits

The City participates in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS); therefore, your designation as a Tier I, Tier II, or Oregon Public Service Retirement Plan (OPSRP) member will depend on your prior PERS service and PERS rules. An employee's designation and eligibility for participation in PERS or the OPSRP are determined by law. For more information about these plans, please contact PERS at 1-888-320-7377 or visit their website at www.oregon.gov/PERS. For information about the City's contributions to employee PERS or OPSRP plans, please see the City Administrator.

## V. Miscellaneous Policies

## A. Alcohol/Drug Use, Abuse and Testing

## Alcohol/Drug Use, Abuse and Testing Policy

### Prohibited Conduct

The following conduct is strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination:

- a. Possession, sale and/or use of drugs on City premises, while in City provided clothes, while on City or work-related travel, or while on City business;
- b. Failure to notify the City of an arrest or conviction under any criminal drug or alcohol statute within two days of the arrest or conviction;
- c. Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages or being under the influence of alcohol during work hours, while in City provided clothes or on City premises, while operating a City vehicle (or while operating a personal vehicle in connection with the performance of City business), or while performing job functions other than at the employee's home; or.
- d. Being under the influence of drugs while on duty, on City premises, on City work time, while in City provided clothes, while on City business, or while operating an City vehicle (or while operating a personal vehicle in connection with the performance of City business).

As used in this policy, "drug" includes, but is not limited to, any controlled substance listed in Schedules I through V of the Federal Controlled Substance Act, including marijuana that is otherwise lawful to use under Oregon, Washington or any other state's law.

### Prescription Medication and Medical Marijuana

An employee who uses prescription or over-the-counter drugs that may impair the employee's ability to safely perform the job, or that may affect the safety or well-being of others, must notify the City Administrator of such use immediately before starting or resuming work. This includes, without limitation, medical marijuana. Employees who use medical marijuana in connection with a disability should discuss with their Supervisor other means of accommodating the disability in the workplace, as City will not agree to allow an employee to use medical marijuana as an accommodation. (See "Disability Accommodation Policy," above.)

### <u>Testing</u>

The City reserves the right to:

- a. subject applicants who are given a conditional offer of employment in a safety-sensitive position to a drug and/or alcohol test;
- b. test employees reasonably suspected of using drugs or alcohol in violation of this policy;

- c. discipline or discharge employees who test positive or otherwise violate this policy; and
- d. test employees after an on-the-job accident.

The phrase "reasonable suspicion" (or in any variation) used in this policy means an articulable belief based on specific facts and reasonable inferences drawn from those facts that an employee is more likely than not under the influence of controlled substances or alcohol, or has used drugs or alcohol in violation of this policy. Circumstances which can constitute a basis for determining "reasonable cause" may include, but are not limited to:

- a pattern of abnormal or erratic behavior;
- information provided by a reliable and credible source;
- a work-related accident;
- direct observation of drug or alcohol use;
- presence of the physical symptoms of drug or alcohol use (*i.e.*, glassy or bloodshot eyes, alcohol odor on breath, slurred speech, poor coordination and/or reflexes);
- unexplained significant deterioration in individual job performance;
- unexplained or suspicious absenteeism or tardiness;
- employee admissions regarding drug or alcohol use; and
- unexplained absences from normal work areas where there is reason to suspect drug or alcohol related activity.

Supervisors should detail in writing the specific facts, symptoms or observations that form the basis for their determination that reasonable cause exists to warrant alcohol or controlled substance testing of an employee or a search. This documentation shall be forwarded to the City Administrator. Whenever possible, supervisors should locate a second employee or witness to corroborate his/her "reasonable cause" findings.

An employee whose initial laboratory screening test for controlled substances yields a positive result shall be given a second test. The second test shall use a portion of the same test sample withdrawn from the employee for use in the initial screening test. If the second test confirms the initial positive test result, the employee shall be notified of the results in writing by the City Administrator. The letter of notification shall state the particular substance identified by the laboratory tests. The employee may request a third test of the sample within 24 hours of receiving the letter of notification, but such testing will be paid for by the employee.

#### Search of Property

When reasonable cause exists to believe an employee possesses alcohol or a controlled substance on City property, or has otherwise violated provisions of this rule regarding possession, sale or use of controlled substances or alcohol, the City may search the employee's possessions located on City property, including but not limited to, clothes, locker, lunchbox, toolbox, and desk. Employees should have no expectation of privacy in any items they bring on to City property, or in property, equipment or supplies provided by City to employee.

### Employee Refusal to Test/Search

An employee who refuses to consent to a test or a search when there is reasonable cause to suspect that the employee has violated this policy is subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. The reasons for the refusal shall be considered in determining the appropriate disciplinary action.

An employee who refuses to cooperate with any and all tests required by this policy is also subject to discipline, up to and including termination. This includes, but is not limited to, tampering with, or attempting to tamper with, a specimen sample, using chemicals or other ingredients to mask or otherwise cover up the presence of metabolites, drugs or alcohol in a specimen, or providing a blood or urine specimen that was produced by anyone or anything other than the employee being tested.

#### Crimes Involving Drugs and/or Alcohol

Employees shall report:

- any criminal arrest or conviction for drug- or alcohol-related activity within five days of the arrest or conviction;
- entry into a drug court or diversion program; or loss or limitation of driving privileges when the employee's job is identified as requiring a valid driver's license (regular or CDL).

Failure to report as required will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

### Drug and Alcohol Treatment

The City recognizes that alcohol and drug use may be a sign of chemical dependency and that employees with alcohol and drug problems can be successfully treated. The City is willing to help such employees obtain appropriate treatment.

An employee who believes that he or she has a problem involving the use of alcohol or drugs should ask a supervisor or the City Administrator for assistance.

The City will work with an employee to identify all benefits and benefit programs that may be available to help deal with the problem. Attendance at any rehabilitation or treatment program will be a shared financial responsibility of the employee and the City to the extent its existing benefits package covers some or all of the program costs.

Although the City recognizes that alcohol and drug abuse can be successfully treated and is willing to work with employees who may suffer from such problems, it is the employee's responsibility to seek assistance *before* drug or alcohol problems lead to disciplinary action. Once a violation of the City's policy is discovered, the employee's willingness to seek the City's or outside assistance will not "excuse" the violation and generally will have no bearing on the determination of appropriate disciplinary action.

### Confidentiality

All information from an employee's drug and alcohol evaluation is confidential and only those with a need to know are to be informed of test results. Disclosure of such

information to any other person, agency, or the City is prohibited unless written authorization is obtained from the employee.

### B. Cellular Devices Policy

This policy applies to employee use of cell phones, smart phones (including iPhones, Androids, and similar devices), tablets and similar devices, all of which are referred to as "Cellular Devices" in the Cellular Devices Policy.

Cell Phones and Cellular Devices in General (both City provided and personal cell phones/cellular devices)

Employees are allowed to bring personal cell phones and Cellular Devices to work with them. During working hours, however, employees should refrain from using them except in an emergency or during a meal period or rest break.

Employees who use personal or City provided cell phones/Cellular Devices may not violate the City's policies against harassment and discrimination. Thus, employees who use a personal or City provided cell phone/Cellular Device to send a text or instant message to another employee (or to a citizen or someone not employed by the City) that is harassing or otherwise in violation of the City's no-harassment and no-discrimination policies will be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

Nonexempt employees may not use their personal or City provided cell phone/Cellular Device for work purposes outside of their normal work schedule without written authorization in advance from the City Administrator. This includes, but is not limited to, reviewing, sending and responding to emails or text messages, and responding to calls or making calls. Employees who violate this policy may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination.

### Employee Use of City Provided Cell Phones/Cellular Devices

Cell phones/Cellular Devices are made available to City employees on a limited basis to conduct City business. Determinations as to which employees receive City provided cell phones will be made on a case-by-case basis; employees are not guaranteed a cell phone or Cellular Device. In some cases, the City may provide a monthly cellular telephone allowance to employees who regularly make calls on behalf of the City away from the office (see City Administrator for more information).

Employees who receive a cell phone or Cellular Device from the City must agree to not use the cell phone/Cellular Device for personal use except in emergency situations and must abide by all aspects of the Cellular Device Policy. Further, employees who receive a cell phone or Cellular Device from the City must acknowledge and understand that because the cell phone/Cellular Device is paid for and provided by the City, or subsidized by the City, any communications (including text messages) received by or sent from the cell phone/Cellular Device may be subject to inspection and review if the City has reasonable grounds to believe that the employee's use of the cell phone violates any aspect of the Cellular Device Policy or any other City policy. An employee who refuses to provide the City access to his/her personal cell phone/Cellular Device in connection with an investigation and after reasonable notice may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination. Employees may not use City provided cell phones or Cellular Devices to call 1-900, 1-976 or similar "pay per minute" services. Further, family and friends may not use an employee's City provided cell phone/Cellular Device.

### Employee Use of Cell Phones/Cellular Devices with Cameras

Cameras of any type, including cell phones with built-in cameras and video photography devices, may not be used during working hours, or at any City sponsored function unless authorized to do so by the City Administrator.

### Cell Phones/Cellular Devices and Public Records

City related business conducted on City provided or personal cell phones/Cellular Devices, may be subject to disclosure under Oregon's Public Records laws.

### Cell Phone/Cellular Device Use While Driving

The use of a cell phone or Cellular Device while driving may present a hazard to the driver, other employees and the general public. Subject to a few narrow exceptions for emergency or public safety purposes, Oregon law also prohibits the use of hand-held cell phones while driving, even if the driving is for work-related reasons. This policy is meant to ensure the safe operation of City vehicles and the operation of private vehicles while an employee is on work time. It applies equally to the usage of employee-owned cell phones and phones provided or subsidized by the City.

Employees are prohibited from using hand-held cell phones for any purpose while driving on City authorized or City related business. This policy also prohibits employees from using a cell phone or other device to send or receive text or "instant" messages while driving on City business. Should an employee need to make a business call while driving, the employee must locate a lawfully designated area to park and make the call, unless the employee uses a hands-free cell phone or Cellular Device for the call. In either situation, such calls should be kept short and should the circumstances warrant (for example, heavy traffic, bad weather), the employee should locate a lawfully designated area to park to continue or make the call, even if the employee is using a hands-free device. Violation of this policy will subject the employee to discipline, up to and including termination.

### C. Use of City Email and Electronic Equipment, Facilities and Services

The City uses multiple types of electronic equipment, facilities and services for producing documents, research and communication including, but not limited to, computers, software, e-mail, copiers, telephones, voicemail, fax machines, online services, cell phones (including text messaging), the Internet and any new technologies used in the future. This policy governs the use of such City property.

### <u>Ownership</u>

All information and communications in any format, stored by any means on or received via the City's electronic equipment, facilities or services is the sole property of the City.

### <u>Use</u>

All of the City's electronic equipment, facilities and services are provided and intended for City business purposes only and not for personal matters, communications or entertainment. Access to the Internet, web sites and other electronic services paid for by the City are to be used for City business only. This means, for example, that employees may not use the City provided Internet, or City electronic equipment, facilities and services to:

- Display or store any sexually explicit images or documents, or any images or documents that would violate the City's no-harassment, no-discrimination or bullying policies;
- Play games (including social media games) or to use apps of any kind ;
- Engage in any activity that violates the rights of any person or company protected by copyright, trade secrets, patent or other intellectual property (or similar laws or regulations);
- Engage in any activity that violates the rights to privacy of protected healthcare information or other City specific confidential information;
- Engage in any activity that would introduce malicious software purposefully into a workstation or network (e.g., viruses, worms, Trojan horses).
- Download or view streaming video for personal use. This includes, without limitation, YouTube videos, and movies and TV shows. Streaming audio is allowed, providing it does not contain explicit material, adversely affect network speed, or interfere with others' ability to work.

Further, employees may not use City provided email addresses to create or manage personal accounts (e.g., shopping websites, personal bank accounts, and social media accounts). City email addresses for professional-based social media accounts such as LinkedIn may be allowed with the approval of the employee's supervisor.

### Inspection and Monitoring

Employee communications, both business and personal, made using City electronic equipment, facilities, and services are not private. Any data created, received or transmitted using City equipment, facilities or services are the property of the City and usually can be recovered even though deleted by the user.

All information and communications in any format, stored by any means on the City's electronic equipment, facilities or services, are subject to inspection at any time without notice. Personal passwords may be used for purposes of security, but the use of a personal password does not affect the City's ownership of the electronic information, electronic equipment, facilities, or services, or the City's right to inspect such information. The City reserves the right to access and review electronic files, documents, archived material, messages, email, voicemail and other such material to monitor the use of all of the City's electronic equipment, facilities and services, including all communications and internet usage and resources visited. The City will override all personal passwords if it becomes necessary to do so for any reason.

#### Personal Hardware and Software

Employees may not install personal hardware or software on the City's computer systems without approval from the City Administrator. All software installed on the City's computer systems must be licensed. Copying or transferring of City owned software may be done only with the written authorization of the City Administrator.

### Unauthorized Access

Employees are not permitted unauthorized access to the electronic communications of other employees or third parties unless directed to do so by City management. No employee can examine, change or use another person's files, output or user name unless they have explicit authorization from the City Administrator to do so.

#### **Security**

Many forms of electronic communication are not secure. Employees who use cell phones, cordless phones, fax communications or email sent over the Internet should be aware that such forms of communication are subject to interception and these methods of communicating should not be used for privileged, confidential, or sensitive information unless appropriate encryption measures are implemented.

#### Inappropriate Web Sites

The City's electronic equipment, facilities or services must not be used to visit Internet sites that contain obscene, hateful or other objectionable materials, or that would otherwise violate the City's policies on harassment and discrimination.

### D. Social Media

For purposes of this policy, "social media" includes all means of communicating or posting information or content of any sort on the Internet, including to your own or someone else's web log or blog, journal or diary, personal web site, social networking or affinity web site, web bulletin board or a chat room, whether or not associated or affiliated with the City, as well as any other form of electronic communication.

Ultimately, you are solely responsible for what you post online. Before creating online content, consider some of the risks and rewards that are involved. Keep in mind that any of your conduct that adversely affects your job performance, the performance of co-workers, or otherwise adversely affects our citizens or people who work on behalf of the City or the City's legitimate business interests may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

#### **Prohibited Postings**

Employees will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination, if they create and post any text, images or other media that violate the City's no-harassment and nodiscrimination policies and that include discriminatory remarks, harassment, or threats of violence or similar inappropriate or unlawful conduct.

Do not create a link from your blog, website or other social networking site to a City owned or City maintained website without identifying yourself as a City employee.

Express only your personal opinions. Never represent yourself as a spokesperson for the City. If the City is a subject of the content you are creating, be clear and open about the fact that you are a City employee, and make it clear that your views do not represent those of the City or its employees or elected officials.

### Encouraged Conduct

Always be fair and courteous to co-workers, the citizens we serve, the City's employees and elected officials, and suppliers or other third parties who do business with the City. Also, keep in mind that you are more likely to resolve work-related complaints by speaking directly with your co-workers or by utilizing our Open Door Policy than by posting complaints to a social media outlet. Nevertheless, if you decide to post complaints or criticism, avoid using statements, photographs, video or audio that reasonably could be viewed as malicious, obscene, threatening or intimidating, that disparage citizens, co-workers, City employees or elected officials, or that might constitute harassment or bullying. Examples of such conduct might include offensive posts meant to intentionally harm someone's reputation or posts that could contribute to a hostile work environment on the basis of race, sex, disability, religion or any other status protected by law or City policy.

Maintain the confidentiality of the City's confidential information. Do not post internal reports, policies, procedures or other internal, City related confidential communications or information. (See "Confidential City Information" policy, below.)

### Request for Employee Social Media Passwords

The City's supervisors and managers are prohibited by law from requiring or requesting an employee or an applicant for employment to disclose or to provide access through the employee's or applicant's user name and password, password or other means of authentication that provides access to a personal social media account. This includes, without limitation, a user name and password that would otherwise allow a supervisor/manager to access a private email account not provided by the City.

Nothing in this policy prohibits the City from requiring an employee to produce content from his or her social media or internet account in connection with a City sponsored investigation into potential misconduct, unlawful or unethical behavior, or policy or rule violations.

## E. Confidential City Information

Employees must not access, use or disclose sensitive or confidential information or data except in accordance with City policies, practices and procedures, and as authorized by state or federal laws or regulations. Employees with access to confidential information, including but not limited to customer or employee financial, medical or personal information (including, without limitation, Social Security numbers), are responsible for the safekeeping and handling of that information to prevent unauthorized disclosure. Employees who access, use or disclose confidential information contrary to Oregon or federal laws or for personal use or financial gain may be subject to civil or criminal penalties under those laws, in addition to appropriate disciplinary action for violating this policy.

No records or information including (without limitation) protected medical data, documents, files, records, computer files or similar materials (except in the ordinary course of performing duties on behalf of the City) may be removed from our premises without permission from the City. Likewise, any materials developed by the City's employees in the performance of their jobs is the property of City and may not be used

for personal or financial gain. Additionally, the contents of records or information otherwise obtained in regard to the City's business may not be disclosed to anyone, except where required for a business purpose or when required by law.

## F. Ethics

At the City, we believe in treating people with respect and adhering to ethical and fair business practices. We expect employees to avoid situations that may compromise their reputation or integrity, or that might cause their personal interests to conflict with the interests of the City or the City's citizens.

We at the City are public employees, and as such, are also subject to the State of Oregon's ethics laws. In some cases, these laws provide additional limitations on employees, such as prohibitions on gifts and strict definitions of conflict of interest. If you are coming to the City from work in the private sector, you may find that some activities that are common business practices in the private sector are prohibited in the public sector. Information on these laws is available at the Oregon Government Ethics Commission website: http://www.oregon.gov/OGEC.

If you have questions about whether an activity meets the City's or Oregon's ethical standards, please talk with your manager. Employees who violate the Ethics Policy, or who violate Oregon ethics laws, may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

## G. Open-Door Policy

The City's Open Door Policy is based on our belief that employee suggestions for improving the City are welcome at any time. If you have a complaint, suggestion, or question about your job, working conditions, or the treatment you are receiving from anyone in the City, please raise them first with your immediate supervisor. If you are not satisfied with the response from your immediate supervisor, or if your issue involves your immediate supervisor, request to have the facts/situation reviewed by the City Administrator.

## H. Outside Employment

Generally, employees may obtain employment with an employer other than the City or engage in private income-producing activity of their own so long as that activity is not otherwise prohibited by these rules. Employees are responsible for assuring that their outside employment does not conflict with these rules.

An employee is prohibited from, directly or indirectly, soliciting or accepting the promise of future employment based on the understanding that the offer is influenced by the employee's official action.

Employees may not accept outside employment that involves:

• The use of City time (including the employee's work time), facilities, equipment and supplies, or the prestige or influence of the employee's position with City. In other words, the employee may not engage in private business interests or other employment activities on the City's time or using the City's property;

- The performance of an act that may later be subject to control, inspection, review or audit by the department for whom the employee works; or
- Receipt of money or other consideration for performance of duties that the employee is required to perform for the City.

The City requires employees to report outside employment to their City Administrator on an annual basis, or sooner if any changes in outside employment occurs.

I. Criminal Arrests and Convictions

Employees must promptly and fully disclose to their supervisor on the next working day:

- All drug- or alcohol-related arrests, citations, convictions, guilty pleas, no contest pleas or diversions that result from conduct which occurred while on duty, on City property, or in an City vehicle (see "Alcohol/Drug Use, Abuse and Testing" policy above);
- 2. All arrests, citations, convictions, guilty pleas or no contest pleas that result from crimes involving the theft or misappropriation of property, including money; or
- 3. If you are arrested, cited or convicted of a violation of any law that will prevent you from performing the essential functions of your position.

Reporting an arrest or conviction will not automatically result in termination of employment. Situations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Employees who are unavailable to report for work because they have been sent to jail or prison may not use sick leave or vacation time to cover the absence, and may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination.

J. Political Activity

Employees may engage in political activity except to the extent prohibited by Oregon law when on the job during working hours. This means that employees cannot:

- Be required to give money or services to aid any political committee or any political campaign;
- Solicit money or services (including signatures) to aid or oppose any political committee, nomination or election of a candidate, ballot measure or referendum, or political campaign while on the job during working hours (this is not intended to restrict the right of City employees to express their personal political views.); or
- Be disciplined or rewarded in any manner for either giving or withholding money or services for any political committee or campaign.

## K. Bad Weather/Emergency Closing

Except for regularly scheduled holidays identified by the City (see "Holidays" section, above), the City is open for business on Mondays through Fridays during normal business hours. If there are circumstances beyond our control, such as inclement weather, a national crisis, or other emergencies that make one or more of our office locations inaccessible for all or part of a regularly scheduled workday, the City Administrator (or his/her designee) will decide whether to and to what extent the City will close. Employees will be reached via phone or text message.

In the event of extreme bad weather, we recognize that each employee's ability to safely reach work may be different. If you cannot safely report to work in such circumstances, you should contact your manager. If staff cannot reach the office and are able to serve the City from home, you should do so subject to approval by your manager or supervisor. Safety and a trustworthy approach are your guides.

## L. Driving While on Business

Employees using a private vehicle to conduct the City's business must possess a valid driver's license and must carry auto liability insurance. Employees who use their own vehicles for authorized City business use should make any necessary arrangements with their insurance carriers.

The City may verify the validity of your driver's license and/or your driving record at the time of hire and at any point during your employment. Once you are employed with the City, we will receive automated reports from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The reports notify the City when there are transactions on your driving record such as speeding tickets and citations.

While on City business, drivers are expected to make every reasonable effort to operate their vehicle safely, with due regard for potential hazards, weather, and road conditions. Drivers are to obey all traffic laws, posted signs and signals, and requirements applicable to the vehicle being operated. Seatbelts are to be used in all vehicles while on business. Drivers are to ensure that the use of prescribed or over the counter drugs does not interfere with their ability to drive while on business; operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances is prohibited. Employees are responsible for notifying their manager of any subsequent restrictions, limitations, or other change in their driving status within 72 hours of the change or new restrictions/limitations. See also, "Cell Phone Use While Driving" policy, above.

### M. Workplace Violence

The City recognizes the importance of a safe workplace for employees, customers, vendors, contractors, and the general public. A work environment that is safe and comfortable enhances employee satisfaction as well as productivity. Therefore, threats and acts of violence made by an employee or member of the public against another person's life, health, well-being, family, or property will be dealt with in a zero tolerance manner by the City.

All employees have an obligation to report any incidents that pose a real or potential risk of harm to employees or others associated with the City, or that threaten the safety, security or financial interests of the City. Employees should make such reports directly to the City Administrator.

The City also may conduct an investigation of a current employee where the employee's behavior raises concerns about work performance, reliability, honesty, or potentially threatens the safety of co-workers or others. See policy on "Workplace Inspections."

## N. Workplace Inspections – No Right to Privacy or Confidentiality

This policy applies to inspections and investigations conducted by the City pursuant to policy or law unless otherwise modified by a different policy in this Handbook.

An employee investigation may include, but is not limited to, investigation of criminal records; it may also include a search of desks, work areas, file cabinets, voice mail systems and computer systems. *Employees are strongly discouraged from storing personal items in the desks, lockers, work areas, file cabinets and other office equipment or furniture, as well as voice mail and computer systems assigned to them by the City; these areas are not private.* 

All information related to reports generated from inspections and investigations, including the name of the reporting employee(s), will be kept as confidential as possible under the circumstances.

## O. Smoke-Free Workplace

The City provides a tobacco-free environment for all employees and visitors. For purposes of this policy, "tobacco" includes the smoking of any tobacco-based product, smoking in any form (including, without limitation, cigars and e-cigarettes), and the use of oral tobacco products or "chew/spit" tobacco. This policy applies to employees, volunteers, and any visitors to City property, vehicles or facilities/buildings.

The City buildings and vehicles are tobacco-free areas. Tobacco use is prohibited during working hours. Further, the City prohibits tobacco use in or around City vehicles and equipment or machinery.

If you wish to smoke, you must do so outside of the City's facilities/buildings, only in designated smoking areas, and out of visitor view. Smoking is not allowed near building entrances; Oregon law prohibits smoking within 10 feet of building entrances and other openings, including second-story windows. The City has established employee smoking areas that your supervisor can show you.

## VI. Termination of Employment

## A. Workplace Rules and Prohibited Conduct

Any violation of the rules or prohibited conduct in this policy may result in discipline, up to and including termination. This list of prohibited conduct is illustrative only; other types of conduct injurious to security, personal safety, employee welfare and the City's operations, some of which are described elsewhere in this Handbook, may also be grounds for discipline, up to and including termination.

- Falsification of employment or other City records.
- Recording of work time of another employee of allowing any other employee to record your work time, or allowing falsification of any time sheets (your own or another employee's).
- Theft or the deliberate or careless damage or destruction of any City property, or the property of any other employee, citizen, vendor or third party.
- Unauthorized use of City equipment, materials or facilities.
- Provoking a fight or fighting during work hours or on City property.
- Carrying firearms or any other dangerous weapon on City premises at any time.
- Engaging in criminal conduct while at work.
- Causing, creating or participating in a significant or substantial disruption of work during working hours on City property.
- Insubordination, including but not limited to failure or refusal to obey the orders or instructions of a supervisor or member of management, or the use of abusive or threatening language toward another City employee, customer or vender.
- Failure to notify a supervisor when unable to report to work, or when leaving work during normal working hours without permission from a supervisor to do so.
- Failure to observe work schedules, including rest breaks and meal periods. You are expected to be at work on time, remain until your workday ends, and perform the work assigned to or requested of you.
- Sleeping or malingering on the job.
- Excessive personal telephone calls during working hours.
- Unprofessional appearance during normal business hours.
- Failing to attend scheduled work sessions and related activities at conferences, workshops, or educational events that are paid for by the City.
- Misrepresentation of City policies, practices, procedures, or your status or authority to enter into agreements on behalf of the City. Employees may not use the City's name, logo, likeness, facilities, assets or other resources of the City for personal gain or private interests.
- Violations of the Ethics Policy or Oregon's Ethics laws.
- Violation of any safety, health, security or City policy, rule or procedure. Employees are expected to act in accordance with all appropriate codes, laws, regulations, and policies, regardless of whether they are set by the City or outside regulatory or legislative bodies.
- Failing to timely pay water/sewer/tax accounts with the City on time, and/or whose City provided services are disconnected. This includes, without limitation,

situations where the employee writes a check to the City that is refused for payment due to non-sufficient funds.

• Harassment or discrimination that violates City policy.

This statement of prohibited conduct does not alter the City's policy of at-will employment. With the exception of employees subject to a collective bargaining agreement or contract of employment, the City remains free to terminate the employment relationship at any time, with or without cause or notice.

## B. Corrective Action/Discipline Policy

Employees are expected to perform to the best of their abilities at all times. There will be occasions, however, where employees perform at an unsatisfactory level, violate a policy or law, or commit an act that is inappropriate. When performance or conduct does not meet City standards, the City will determine whether it will terminate the employee's employment or provide the employee a reasonable opportunity to correct the deficiency through progressive discipline (such as, in no particular order, verbal warnings, written warnings, suspensions without pay, and demotions). The corrective action process will not always commence with a verbal counseling or include a sequence or steps. Some acts, particularly those that are intentional or serious, warrant more severe action (including termination) on the first or subsequent offense.

In lieu of terminating employment of an employee for serious violations of City policies, procedures and rules and for other inappropriate behavior or conduct, the City may choose to provide the employee a final opportunity to continue employment in the form of a last-chance agreement. The City may also choose to send the employee to training or an education opportunity.

In all cases, the City retains sole discretion to determine the nature and extent of any discipline based upon the circumstances of each individual case. Accordingly, the City reserves the right to proceed directly to a written warning, demotion, last chance agreement, or termination for misconduct or performance deficiency, without any prior disciplinary steps, when the City deems such action appropriate. The City retains the right to terminate any employee's employment at any time and for any reason, with or without advance notice or other prior disciplinary action (other than those employees who are subject to a collective bargaining agreement or contract of employment).

## B. Retirement or Resignation From Employment

If you choose to resign or retire, it is anticipated that you will give the City as much notice as possible – preferably a minimum of two weeks. When giving your two-weeks' notice, vacation, personal, or sick days should not be used in lieu of notice. If you do not give two-weeks' notice of your intent to leave the City, you will not be eligible for reemployment at a later date.

Employees who miss three or more consecutive work days without contacting their immediate supervisor are typically considered to have resigned their employment.

If the employee's decision to resign is based on a situation that could be corrected, the employee is encouraged to discuss it with the City Administrator before making a final decision.

Employees must return all City property, including phones, computers, identification cards, credit cards, keys, and manuals, to the City Administrator on or before their last day of work.

### C. References

All requests for references or recommendations must be directed to the City Administrator. No manager, supervisor or employee is authorized to release references for current or former employees. Managers and supervisors are expressly prohibited from providing LinkedIn "recommendations" or using a website on the internet to discuss a current or former employee's performance.

By policy, the City discloses only the dates of employment and position(s) held of former employees. Former employees who authorize additional disclosures must make a request to do so in writing.

## Employee Acknowledgement

### Acknowledgment of Receipt of 2016 Personnel Policies

I acknowledge that I have received and will read a copy of City of Yachats 2015 Personnel Policies. I also understand that a copy of the Personnel Policies] is available to me at any time to review in the Document Library and in the City Administrator's Office.

I understand that the City of Yachats has adopted the Personnel Policies only as a general guide about policies, work rules and the work environment, and that they are subject to change at any time in the City's sole discretion. I also understand that the Personnel Policies control over any other contradictory statements, other than those found in applicable collective bargaining agreements. I acknowledge that the Personnel Policies are not an employment contract and are not intended to give me any express or implied right to continued employment or to any other term or condition of employment.

I understand that either the City or I may terminate my employment relationship at any time, for any or no reason, with or without cause, and with or without advance notice, unless my employment is covered under a collective bargaining agreement. Other than promises that may be found in that collective bargaining agreement, I acknowledge that no promises have been made to me that are inconsistent with this "at will" statement.

I have reviewed or will review the City's policies regarding equal employment opportunity and provides a workplace free of harassment and discrimination. I will bring any questions or concerns I have regarding equal employment opportunities, discrimination, retaliation or harassment to my supervisor, the City Administrator, or any trusted manager or supervisor.

During my employment with the City, I understand that it is my responsibility to remain informed about the policies as revisions, updates and new polices as issued, and to ask questions about any interpretation of any of the policies.

I have read this acknowledgement carefully before signing.

Employee Signature

Date

The original of this document will be kept in the Employee's personnel file. A copy will be provided to the Employee upon request.