



# VISION QUEST: Canby looking at the future

City administrator wants to get  
Canby looking to the long-term

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*What issues, changes or improvements would you like to see for Canby in the coming years? A chance to be part of the process is coming soon.*

What could Canby look like in the future — and why? Two questions loaded with possibilities for success and potential for conflict. But that's okay, according to City Administrator Greg Ellis, he just wants to know.

To that end, Ellis will hold a Canby Community Visioning Meeting Tuesday, Sept. 25, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the new Canby Police facility, 1175 NW Third Ave.

It's open to any and all who'd like to offer their thoughts about what Canby can become.

"This grassroots process will help set priorities to guide community investment, programs and projects for years to come," Ellis said. "It has been a while since the city as a whole has done a visioning plan."

Currently, the city has visioning plans for downtown and some council goals, but an all-encompassing vision for the city doesn't seem to exist, Ellis said. He'd like to see what one would look like. Hence, getting a taste of people's vision for Canby Sept. 25.

What will happen, Ellis said, is that the first meeting is a large, kind of broad strokes look at what people would like to see the city become and what it might have.

Then, he hopes to take those areas and break them down into smaller groups that will meet in October to come up with some substantive plans and details.

Then, he said, another large group meeting to get the small groups' presentations and to hash out a vision for Canby.

"We did one in Independence, and I think it's a good thing," Ellis said. "It lets people look at all the different aspects of the city and the future. There are all kinds of different things you can put into a visioning plan.

"The purpose is to help build a better community," he added.

Ellis was also clear that the meeting isn't a chance for complaints and pessimism, but an opportunity to express where Canby is headed and how it can get there.

"I'm wanting to leave it up to the citizens, but I'll have some ideas," Ellis said of the visioning concepts. "The real key to me is that once you do the visioning, then you have to implement it. That's the hard part, but I also think it's the fun part because you now have a roadmap — and I can follow a roadmap.

"This can be an exciting process, and I want people to get involved," Ellis added. "I'd like to see a lot of people there."