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## **City of Pendleton Receives LOC's Excellence Award**

PENDLETON, Ore. – During the second day of the Local Government Spring Conference, the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) presented its 2026 Award for Excellence to the city of Pendleton for its Wastewater Treatment Resource Recovery Facility. The award, which recognizes progressive and innovative city operations and services, was presented to co-recipients, with the cities of Yachats and Medford also winning.

### **About the Pendleton Wastewater Treatment Resource Recovery Facility**

This multi-phase initiative is advancing the city's goal of net zero energy consumption and improving the resiliency and efficiency of its wastewater treatment plant. Increased utility costs led to the creation of a comprehensive energy portfolio, including: a 240-kilowatt solar canopy; a 500-kilowatt battery energy storage system; and future renewables like hydropower and wind. By leveraging state grants, energy performance contracting, and innovative financing, Pendleton has created a model for mid-sized cities that will modernize infrastructure and protect ratepayers. This collaborative program reduces energy costs and reinvests savings into community priorities. It demonstrates how thoughtful planning and partnership can transform essential infrastructure into a strategic community asset.

### **About the League of Oregon Cities**

Founded in 1925, the LOC is a voluntary association representing all 241 of Oregon's incorporated cities. The League helps city governments serve their citizens by providing legislative services, policy setting, intergovernmental relations, conferences and training, technical assistance and publications.

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