

Written Public Comments
City Council
July 7, 2026 through July 20, 2026

- Les Zaitz, KeizerTimes, Request for Council to waive its executive session claim for the June 1 meeting.
- Robert Husseman, Keizer, Support of KeizerTimes request and support to grant KeizerTimes access to executive session audio tapes concerning performance Evaluations of City Manager Adam Brown. Request for City Councilors to provide related communications.
- Debbie Napier, Keizer, request for release of city council meeting minutes from June 1st, 2026 and request for investigation to be made public.
- The Board of Directors, Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA), Request for Speed reduction and Pedestrian Safety Interventions on Verda Lane NE, and Suggestions for updates to Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP).
- Carolyn Homan, Keizer, request for additional information regarding the investigation.

Keizertimes

July 8, 2026

TO: Keizer City Council

Mayor Cathy Clark
Council President Shaney Starr
Councilor Marlene Parsons
Councilor Dan Kohler
Councilor Soraida Cross
Councilor Lore Christopher
Councilor Kyle Juran

RE: REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

The Keizer City Council on June 15, 2026, by majority vote initiated an investigation into what Councilor Kyle Juran said would be aimed at two members – Mayor Cathy Clark and Councilor Dan Kohler. Based on the June 11, 2026, complaint and remarks at the June 15 meeting, this investigation relates solely to allegations arising from the June 1 meeting of the council.

That meeting was convened in executive session, noticed as the evaluation of the city's chief executive – the city manager.

Conduct in that session has emerged into a public controversy now involving the expenditure of public funds.

I request that the Keizer City Council waive its executive session claim for that June 1 meeting and authorize the immediate release of the records of that session. This would include any recording and minutes. Section 13.5 of the Council Rules of Procedure provides: *"Minutes from Executive Sessions held pursuant to state statute will be kept in the form of a tape recording."*

Such disclosure, while unusual, is significantly in the public interest. This provides the public direct information about what transpired to independently assess the action of councilors. The action to waive the executive session privilege for that one session is allowed under Oregon law. This action and disclosure require only the majority vote of the council.

Transparency at this moment is essential for the effective functioning of the council, of city administration and to serve the community's best interests. There is no benefit to maintaining the executive session privilege in this instance. There is substantial benefit to disclosure – ensuring the community's trust in its city government.

I thank you for your consideration and stand ready to provide any additional amplification on the benefit of taking action. I ask the council to vote on this matter in the next scheduled meeting.

Respectfully,
Les Zaitz, publisher
Keizertimes
142 Chemawa Rd N. * Keizer
publisher@keizertimes.com

Bisset, Melissa

From: Robert Husseman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2026 11:11 AM
To: Bisset, Melissa
Cc: Joey Cappelletti; Publisher
Subject: July 1 Keizer City Council Executive Session

CAUTION: This email originated from Outside Your Organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders. Please contact Information Technology for assistance.

Good morning Melissa, Keizer city staff, Mayor Clark and city councilors,

I understand that the Keizertimes has written to the Keizer City Council requesting to release the audiotapes from the June 1 executive session, which has apparently led to an investigation into Mayor Cathy Clark and Councilor Dan Kohler. The Keizertimes argues that greater transparency is needed to understand why outside investigators have been hired, to be paid out of city funds, and to what ultimate purpose this investigation may serve.

I stand with the Keizertimes and city residents. The public absolutely has a right to know what transpired. The Keizertimes should be granted access to the June 1 executive session audiotapes in addition to ALL executive session audiotapes concerning the performance evaluations of city manager Adam Brown, including the ones I sat in on as councilor (2023-24) and the sessions that predate me.

Keizer city councilors must also grant the Keizertimes comprehensive access to their communications on this matter through official channels (i.e. city-provided email accounts), and they should voluntarily turn over any personal correspondence concerning this city business. The gravity of this matter, and the force of these accusations, require that Keizer city councilors show what they know. This has the potential to materially impact and impair city business as Keizer works toward broader community goals.

Sincerely,

Robert Husseman
[REDACTED]
Keizer, OR 97303

Bisset, Melissa

From: Debbie Napier [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2026 8:13 AM
To: Bisset, Melissa
Subject: Private City Council Meeting minutes

CAUTION: This email originated from Outside Your Organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders. Please contact Information Technology for assistance.

Please release the city council meeting minutes from June 1st 2026. Calling a city council meeting private does not negate the fact that all city business, unless under active investigation, is public record. You can only redact that which directly applies to an active investigation. That investigation also needs to be made public when it concludes or if any part of the public may be endangered.

Thank you,
Debbie Napier
Keizer citizen
[REDACTED]

"Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity." — Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association
530-991-1671 nekna2022@gmail.com - gnekna.com

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY & OUTREACH SUPPORT LETTER

Date: 7/ 13/2026

From: The Board of the Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA / GNEKNW)

To: Keizer City Council, Public Works Department, and the Multi-Modal Safety Committee

Subject: Modernizing the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) to Empower Keizer Neighborhoods

Dear Mayor, Members of the City Council, and Committee Members,

The Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA) is deeply committed to preserving the safety, livability, and community character of our local streets. While we appreciate the City of Keizer's dedication to managing traffic-related concerns, our experiences navigating the current **Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP)** have highlighted significant, systemic barriers that limit our Association's and our Residents' ability to successfully access critical safety resources.

To foster a more equitable, responsive, and collaborative relationship between Keizer's Neighborhood Associations and city staff, GNEKNA formally requests and supports the following structural changes to the NTMP:

1. **Inclusive Community Representation:** We urge the City to modify petition requirements to allow all residents specifically including renters and tenants to participate in the traffic-calming voting process. Limiting petitions strictly to property owners disenfranchises a vital segment of our neighborhood who live with these safety issues daily.
2. **Simplified Application Processes:** The technical and bureaucratic burden of proving traffic safety hazards should not rest solely on the shoulders of neighborhood volunteers. We support transforming the NTMP application into a streamlined intake process, where the City takes immediate ownership of traffic-counting and speed-assessment logistics.
3. **Proactive, Lowered Thresholds for Calming Interventions:** Waiting for severe collisions to occur before deploying engineering solutions is a reactive model. We advocate for lowering the threshold speeds and volumes required to qualify for Level 2 engineering solutions (such as speed tables, traffic circles, or bulb-outs).

4. **Direct Resource Access for Neighborhood Associations:** NAs are the "eyes and ears" on the ground. Providing NAs with direct access to pre-approved, lighter-touch resource kits (such as pedestrian safety flags, educational mailers, and mobile radar speed trailers) would bypass lengthy approval queues and deliver immediate, localized results.

GNEKNA stands ready to act as a primary outreach partner to help educate our community, gather local feedback, and ensure that our streets such as Verda Lane and our interior residential corridors remain safe for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists alike. By dismantling these barriers, the City of Keizer can transform the NTMP from a restrictive checklist into an empowering, collaborative tool for community safety.

We look forward to collaborating on these critical updates to build a safer Keizer for everyone.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors: Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA / GNEKNW) Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Watch



Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association
530-991-1671 nekna2022@gmail.com - gnekna.com

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY & OUTREACH SUPPORT LETTER

Date: 7/14/2026

From: The Board of the Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA)

To: Keizer City Council, Public Works Department, and the Multi-Modal Safety Committee

Subject: Speed Reduction and Pedestrian Safety Interventions on Verda Lane NE (NTMP Application)

Dear Mayor, Members of the City Council, and Committee Members,
The Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA) is writing to formally request immediate traffic calming interventions and a formal speed limit reduction under the City's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) for the stretch of **Verda Lane NE**. Specifically, our community is advocating for targeted safety improvements from **13th Street NE/Dearborn Avenue NE to Claggett Creek Park and the northern roundabouts**.

As traffic patterns have evolved and local housing density has increased notably with the addition of the Verda Crossing development Verda Lane NE has experienced a significant surge in both daily vehicle volume and reckless driving. This corridor is a primary, daily walking and bicycling route for elementary and middle school students. Yet, families and long-term residents currently feel highly vulnerable performing basic daily tasks, such as crossing the street to collect mail or walking along the roadside.

To address these compounding safety issues, GNEKNA requests that the City prioritize the following actions:

- **Implement a 20 MPH Speed Limit:** We strongly support the recent recommendation by the traffic committee to reduce the posted speed limit on Verda Lane NE from 25 mph to 20 mph. Lowering the speed limit is a critical, proven step to improve pedestrian survivability and increase driver reaction times along this active residential and school corridor.
- **Establish Active School-Zone Signage:** We request the installation of highly visible speed warning signs (ideally with active flashing beacons) indicating lower speeds during school commute times, ensuring the safety of children traveling to and from local campuses.
- **Coordinate Physical Traffic Calming Interventions:** While we appreciate ongoing long-term infrastructure discussions, immediate Level 1 and Level 2 NTMP measures are necessary. We ask for the deployment of mobile radar speed trailers to act as an

immediate visual deterrent, alongside plans for physical traffic-calming features to naturally reduce vehicle speeds.

- **Address the Volunteer Burden for Safety Applications:** The residents of Verda Lane have been raising these safety concerns consistently since 2023. Navigating the NTMP should not place an exhausting administrative burden on neighborhood volunteers. We ask the City to expedite the engineering and traffic survey process required by the state to finalize this speed reduction.

Our neighborhood association stands ready to partner with the City to distribute educational safety materials to local residents and coordinate volunteer support. However, we need the City's structural support and resources to make Verda Lane NE safe for everyone.

Thank you for your time, your focus on pedestrian safety, and your continued dedication to Keizer's neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA)



Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association
530-991-1671 nekna2022@gmail.com - gnekna.com

Date: July 16, 2026

To: Keizer City Council, City Manager, Keizer Public Works Department, Multi-Modal safety Committee

Subject: Advocacy for Strategic Reforms in Keizer's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP)

Dear Mayor, Members of the City Council, and City Staff,

On behalf of the Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA), we appreciate the City of Keizer's current initiative to modernize its decades-old Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP). This modernization effort represents a vital opportunity to align our local traffic management tools with the lived realities of our community.

To ensure that Neighborhood Associations can partner effectively with the City to improve street safety, we must address the administrative and procedural barriers that have historically limited the program's accessibility. We respectfully submit the following four strategic reforms for integration into the updated NTMP:

1. Expand Petition Signatory Rights to Tenants

Our neighborhoods thrive because of the families who live, play, and travel on our streets every day, regardless of their homeownership status. Historically, many municipal NTMP processes have restricted petition signatures strictly to property owners.

- **The Change:** We advocate for allowing renters and tenants to sign NTMP petitions. Because tenants experience traffic safety issues firsthand, including them ensures the petition process reflects the immediate safety needs of Keizer's actual residents.

2. Lower Eligibility and Intervention Thresholds

The speed and volume criteria required to trigger traffic calming actions should protect residents proactively rather than reactively.

- **The Change:** We recommend lowering the safety thresholds required to trigger Level 1 (Education and Enforcement) and Level 2 (Engineering and physical Traffic Calming) actions. Modernizing these metrics allows us to install measures like speed humps or signage before preventable, serious accidents occur.

3. Establish a Direct Neighborhood Association Fast-Track Fund

Volunteer-led community groups are often the first to identify localized safety hot spots, yet minor interventions can take months to clear bureaucratic hurdles.

- **The Change:** We propose allocating a dedicated baseline of "quick-strike" mitigation resources directly to Neighborhood Associations. This small-scale fund would allow NAs to immediately deploy minor safety tools, such as temporary radar speed signs or pedestrian crossing flags, without waiting for lengthy committee reviews.

4. Simplify the Application and Data-Gathering Burden

Currently, the burden of collecting technical data acts as a major barrier for busy, volunteer-dependent neighborhood groups.

- **The Change:** We ask the City to shift the responsibility of technical traffic data collection (such as speed and volume studies) from resident volunteers to the City's Public Works and Police Departments. A simplified intake form should automatically trigger the official data-gathering process.

We believe these adjustments will transform the NTMP from a cumbersome bureaucratic process into a highly collaborative, responsive tool that empowers Keizer's neighborhoods and saves lives.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued dedication to the safety of our shared streets. We look forward to discussing these recommendations with you during the upcoming public review sessions.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors

Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA)

July 20, 2026

To: Mayor Clark, Council President Starr, Councilors Christopher, Juran, Cross and Parsons

From: Carolyn Homan, Keizer Resident

In the two weeks since my first email regarding the Council's inquiry into occurrences at an executive session held by Council in June, very little, if any, other information has been provided by the city.

Yes, an executive session requires discretion and few details can be released, but the public has a right to know in general what's going on. Thanks to an expansive article in the July 10 Keizertimes, we know who was being investigated but not for exactly what. We do know a finding that either Mayor Clark or Councilor Kohler violated city rules could result in a "memorandum of concern" or censure by Council.

Outside counsel was retained to handle the investigation. The process was on a 30-day timeline, so depending on exactly when the clock began ticking, the time is nearly up for the episode to come to conclusion. At least an estimate of the cost should be available by now.

One or two councilors and the Mayor are running for re-election. Voters need to know the basics of this investigation and its outcome. The cloak of secrecy attached to an executive session needs to bend enough to accommodate the need for some transparency on an issue this important. I thank the Keizertimes for at least shedding some light on the matter.