



FEBRUARY 5, 2026 NEWSLETTER

UPDATES, MINUTES, AND ACTION ITEMS

As we move towards the next No Kings in March, there have been many questions. Are we beyond the time when rallies are the answer? Do we need more concrete actions to turn our country around and stop the fall to fascism?

Where do we go from here?

Borrowing words from We the People Dissent - [A Case for Corner Protests](#) - we'd like to explain where our local Indivisible North Curry County stands.

A powerful civil resistance movement is a table. At this table, varying forms of dissent gather to improve and defend democracy. If that table were uniform - comprised of just one or two forms of civil resistance, it would fail. It would not be able to innovate or respond. Its uniformity would be a weakness.

Our movement in Port Orford definitely started as more of a café table. It mainly involved street protests and responding to national rallies. However, over the past years, we have added leaves to our table and pulled up more seats. Our direct actions have increased at every level – national, state, and local. Effective civil resistance movements are never just marches or rallies. Other forms of resistance are vital to building pressure and toppling pillars of power.

But we do not discount the importance and effectiveness of where it all began for Indivisible North Curry County – local street protests and marches. They are easy to discount. Few hit the headlines. However, they occupy an integral place at our table.

Between the chants and waves, people can dip a toe into civil resistance. They hear stories, gain boldness, and imagine themselves taking other forms of action.

We believe our street protests act as a neon arrow on an otherwise quiet lane. They shout, “HEY! See this? This is wrong.” They disrupt our routines and compel us to focus on the suffering around us.

Our movement has grown because of community. It is a table surrounded by diverse voices. Every form of nonviolent dissent has a seat—and when a new need arises, we must be ready to add a leaf and pull up another chair.

That is what we strive for in Indivisible North Curry County – we hope this newsletter, social media posts from our members, and our action alerts represent our efforts to bring all actions to the table. The importance lies not in what you choose to do, but in choosing to act.

UPDATE ON OUR JANUARY 31st RALLIES

With just 2 days' notice, Curry County rallied in support of a National Day of Action protesting illegal ICE activity with spectacular success.

Over 200 people rallied up and down Highway 101.

Port Orford – 50

Gold Beach – 80

Brookings – 85

None of this would have been possible without our fabulous point people in each community: Our core INCC group in Port Orford, Lynn and Jerry in Gold Beach, and Rebecca and Iris in Brookings. Because of these community members, INCC will be able to support local rallies where people live!

Now, our task is to stay vigilant, stay united, and continue to push back.

AND COMING UP:

Saturday, February 7th - Pop-up rallies in Port Orford (corner of 16th Street and Hwy 101) and Gold Beach (in front of the Courthouse) from Noon to 1:00 pm.

Tuesday, February 17 – National Day of Action: Impeach the Regime



We demand that our elected officials in Congress act by pushing for the impeachment of the current regime. It's time to show up at their offices in person. It's time to flood them with calls. We realize Val Hoyle's nearest office is in Eugene – but if you're up that way, here's the info: 940 Willamette St Eugene. By appointment only – so call ahead. Phone: (541) 465-6732.

All of us can call or email. See Action Items

below for contact information and suggestions on what to say.

Saturday, February 21 – Curry County Democrats Meeting

Sunday, March 8 – International Women's Day – Keep an eye out for a possible rally.

Saturday, March 28 -

America has no kings, and the power belongs to the people.

The next NO KINGS mass mobilization rallies will be scheduled in

Port Orford, Gold Beach, and Brookings.

More information will be coming soon.



Elections

The May 19th Primary is fast approaching! It will be the start of our efforts to take back our country – to re-establish our nation's core values. It will also affect the course of our state and Curry County. Some of the important open positions are listed below:

Federal Races –

- U.S. Senate – currently held by Jeff Merkley (D), who is running for reelection.
- U.S. Representative for Oregon's 4th Congressional District – currently held by Val Hoyle (D), who is running again. Dr. Melissa Bird (D) has filed. Monique DeSpain (R) has also filed. **Updated information on this race: INCC has voted to endorse Dr. Melissa Bird in the primary on May 19th. Members were impressed with her**

progressive values, her experience in achieving results with people of different ideologies, her clear stance on issues aligned with INCC's goals, her pledge to refuse funds from AIPAC (American-Israeli Political Action Committee), and her commitment to regularly communicate, both in person and through her staff, with her constituents throughout the district. INCC hopes to provide future opportunities for more of our community members to meet Dr. Bird.

State Races –

- Governor – currently held by Tina Kotek (D), who is running again. Six other Democrats have also filed to run, as well as thirteen Republicans. You can look up the candidates [HERE](#)
- State Representative, District 1 – currently held by Court Boice (R). Bret Cecil (D) has filed.

Updated information on this race: Candidate endorsement in this race will be discussed at our Thursday, February 13, INCC meeting.

- Curry County Commissioner (Non-partisan position)- currently held by Lyn Coker. Jeremy Dumier has filed. **WE NEED A CANDIDATE TO FILE WHO WILL REPRESENT A DIFFERENT VIEWPOINT IN THIS POSITION.**

We will keep you updated on candidates and ballot measures, but for now, there is still an opportunity to become a candidate yourself – or to talk to someone that you believe should run for office. **Support is available.** Contact INCC for further information.

Important Election Dates:

March 10 – Last day to file to be a candidate on the Oregon Primary Ballot.

April 28 - Last day to register to vote or change party affiliation. Registration cards postmarked by this date or submitted online no later than 11:59 pm are valid. **You must be a registered Democrat or Republican to vote in partisan primary races.**

INCC Minutes February 5, 2025

- 1) **Monday Community Dinners** – These dinners are still going strong, and participation is growing. 46 dinners were served last Monday. Donations have been generous, and the volunteer list remains steady. At this time, the Community Dinners will remain hosted by Indivisible, with a small committee working out the details. The dinners will continue every Monday, from 5:00 – 6:30 pm, at the Port Orford Senior Center.

- 2) Saturday, January 31 Rallies – Rallies took place in Port Orford, Gold Beach, and Brookings – all were successful. With point people available in each city, it was decided to continue scheduling rallies in all three cities.
- 3) Discussion about the primary election – specifically U.S. Representative for Congressional District 4. Members voted to endorse Melissa Bird for the May 19th primary. Plans will follow to provide opportunities for our communities to meet Dr. Bird. Members wanted it clearly stated that INCC will support the Democratic nominee for District 4 in the November general election.
- 4) Postcard campaigns through Activate America were discussed. It was decided to resume those. We will register for a campaign before our next meeting.
- 5) The next INCC Information/Organizing Meeting – Thursday, February 12, at the Port Orford Library – from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.
- 6) Port Orford Rallies continue every Friday at the corner of 16th and Highway 101 in Port Orford from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1) **From national Indivisible** - One week to halt the ICE terror machine. It's critical we put pressure on every Member of Congress -- especially Democrats -- to insist on real guardrails that put an end to ICE and CBP's lawless thuggery and get them out of our cities. We can't settle for insufficient reforms like body cams -- we've all seen that Trump's goons are perfectly happy to gas, tackle, and kill innocent people on film.

Whether or not you've already called or emailed, we need EVERYONE to be loud over the next week and make capitulation politically impossible.

Use our updated call scripts and email tool to contact your Members of Congress today:

1

[Call your senators.](#)

2

[Call your representative.](#)

3

[Email your Members of Congress](#) to drive the point home.

4

[Check out our explainer](#) for the latest updates, our full list of demands, and answers to common questions about ICE/CBP funding and a potential shutdown.

- 2) Saturday, February 7 - Attend the next Curry County Board of Commissioners Workshop. Participate in a collaborative discussion on potential solutions to hazardous waste associated with transient activity in the Harbor community. The workshop will be held at 6:00 pm at the Brookings-Harbor High School cafeteria.

3) Tuesday, February 17 - Visit. Call. Or email Val Hoyle's office to demand that she act by pushing for the impeachment of the current regime. Short sample of what you might say:

Hi, my name is **[NAME]** and I'm a constituent from [CITY, ZIP].

I'm calling to express my outrage over Trump's ongoing abuses of power and violent authoritarianism. I ask that Representative Hoyle lead on, or support, articles of impeachment and move to convict and remove Trump for his repeated defiance of the law.

IF LEAVING VOICEMAIL: Please leave your full street address to ensure your call is tallied.

Val Hoyle – Eugene - Phone: (541) 465-6732

Washington, D.C. Phone: (202) 225-6416

[email](#)

ATTEND PUBLIC HEARING: Monday, February 9, 2026 1:00 pm

SB1599, Relating to a special election date for Referendum Petition 2026-302 (Transportation Budget HB3991)

Why this Referendum Is Happening

HB 3991 (Transportation Budget) was passed in a September 2026 special legislative session to shore up funding for road maintenance and transportation services that were facing budget shortfalls. But many voters and opponents saw the tax and fee hikes as too high or unfair and used Oregon's referendum process — a constitutional right — to let voters decide whether those parts of the law should become effective.

Effect on Implementation

As long as the referendum campaign is valid and certified, which it is, the contested tax increases won't go into effect until after the vote currently expected in November 2026 — meaning if voters reject the measure, the increases won't take effect leaving us without a Transportation Budget.

SB1599 makes no policy change; rather it reschedules the election in which voters will decide on the referendum to the Primary Election on May 19, 2026 instead of the General Election on November 3, 2026. Nothing more.

Being that Oregonians, especially those of us living along the coast, depend so highly on an operational Road & Highway system it only makes sense that we have the question appear on the ballot that will most quickly resolve our Transportation Budget.

Today, our State Senator David Brock Smith, has made a plea to his constituents not to place the referendum to the Transportation Budget on the May 19 Primary ballot, asking that we testify ***in opposition*** to our own self-interest with regard to maintaining our State Roads & Highways.

A Public Hearing will take place on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 1:00 pm. [Here is the link for information for the hearing.](#)

Read up on SB 1599; watch and listen to the hearing; testify in-person, via video or writing using the [information found at this link](#). Testifying in writing could not be easier.

I respectfully ask that you consider testifying ***in support*** of this bill. We need our public transit funded and running in Curry County as well as Roads & Highways that are open and well maintained and repaired throughout Oregon. The sooner we can make this decision, the better. Our economy depends on it! I don't know about you but I have no desire to have horse and buggy be my daily means of transportation.

Humbly submitted,

Bret Cecil, Chair

Curry County Democrats

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541-366-1992