

The Oregonian

Officials Break Ground on Downtown Portland Classroom, Clinic and Office Building

*By Elliot Njus
January 11, 2019*

Officials from three higher education institutions and Portland's city government broke ground on a \$104 million, seven-story building where they'll all share space.

The building at the corner of Southwest Fourth Avenue and Montgomery Street is a joint effort between the city, Portland State University, Oregon Health & Science University and Portland Community College.

It will house classrooms for the Portland State College of Education; a School of Public Health shared by Portland State and OHSU; and Portland Community College's dental hygiene and dental assisting programs.

It will also include offices for the city's Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, as well as a community dental clinic and low-cost mental health services. The ground floor includes retail and restaurant space.

The project is expected to open in the fall of 2020.

Mayor Ted Wheeler Orders Portland Police to Give Victims Crime Reports for Free

*By Gordon Friedman
January 11, 2019*

Mayor Ted Wheeler has ordered the Portland Police Bureau to release copies of police reports to crime victims free of charge, following through on a promise to do so.

Wheeler had made the commitment in December in response to a series published by The Oregonian/OregonLive called "On Hold." The reports shed light on the long waits and high fees people – even crime victims – often faced when trying to get police reports, and the consequences of those delays.

For example, in 2017 it took the Police Bureau an average of 133 days to release a police report. Seattle, by contrast, provides most reports in less than a week. Seattle charges about \$1 per report and waives fees for victims; Portland charges \$30 up front plus additional copying costs.

In a Twitter post Friday, state Public Records Advocate Ginger McCall called the fee waivers for crime victims "a very positive development."

Wheeler's directive does not address head-on the long records backlog within the Police Bureau, a problem Chief Danielle Outlaw told The Oregonian/OregonLive is a "huge issue" that must be fixed with additional staffing.

Outlaw said at the time that she does not want her department to "re-victimize anyone again by making them wait for a long time" to access police reports.

Wheeler's spokeswoman, Eileen Park, has said the mayor's office is readying a 2019 Police Bureau budget that includes more funding for the records unit. And city commissioners Nick Fish and Amanda Fritz have said they would support more hiring to address the deep backlog.

The directive, which was signed Jan. 4 and provided to The Oregonian on Thursday, said Wheeler will continue to consider ways to make Portland's public records process "cheaper and more efficient."

"In the spirit of creating a culture of transparency and accountability for how records are handled, I want to encourage the release of public records whenever possible," it states.

The memo also ordered the many bureaus Wheeler oversees to notify his office if officials intend to keep public records from members of the press.

It asked that officials carefully vet the legal justifications for keeping information from the news media. Such decisions should be made at the highest levels of city government, it stated.

It's unclear whether any bureaus affected by the directive – which include the Police Bureau and departments in charge of housing, planning, economic development, permitting and administration – have notified the mayor that they withheld information from journalists.

The Police Bureau denied The Oregonian/OregonLive access to two arrest reports Thursday. Mayoral aide Sophia June said Friday no notices of that action or any other to withhold records from the press have been received by the mayor's office. The mayor's office was not notified about denial of The Oregonian/OregonLive's request because the district attorney had asked for the police reports to be withheld, June said. A police spokeswoman did not return a request for comment.

Portland Will Close Eastbank Esplanade for Two Months, Bring Better Naito Back Early

*By Andrew Theen
January 11, 2019*

Portland will close the Eastbank Esplanade for two months starting Feb. 1, in one of the most extensive maintenance projects in the popular trail's nearly 20 year history.

Mark Ross, Portland Parks and Recreation spokesman, said the \$500,000 maintenance project includes repairing concrete on the esplanade, repairing lights, cleaning out trash and painting over graffiti, removing dead trees and planting additional trees and native plants. The project also calls for "polishing up" existing public art pieces on the trail such as the Vera Katz statue.

The closure, which will stretch from the Steel to Hawthorne Bridge, will likely force thousands of people to alter their commutes. The city will route traffic to Naito Parkway. "We're fortunate that we have the detour on the other side of the river," Ross said. The closure is expected to end April 1. The City Council also approved \$200,000 in ongoing maintenance for the path in future years.

Hannah Schafer, spokeswoman with the Bureau of Transportation, said Friday the city would install the seasonal separated bike and pedestrian path known as Better Naito by Jan. 28 to give the thousands of cyclists and pedestrians a new route as the city closes the esplanade.

During the summer months, the popular eastside route draws some 2,400 daily bike commuters and 1,200 pedestrian trips. Schafer said those number fall roughly by half during the winter.

"We're still seeing over 1,000 people biking everyday on the esplanade," she said.

With that route closed for two months, those riders need someplace to go, especially once they hit the westside of the Willamette River, and the riverfront multi-use path would be clogged with all the detoured riders and walkers.

Better Naito typically starts in late May and lasts until the end of September.

The project, which converts one northbound travel lane to a two-way bike and pedestrian path, was recently included on a list of transit and mobility projects approved for funding through the Central City in Motion plan.

When asked whether Better Naito would be removed as scheduled at the end of September this year, Schafer said, "That has not been decided." She said the design is still not yet finalized and the bureau faces a roughly \$1 million funding shortfall to make the project a reality.

Despite the esplanade closure, two previously scheduled events will still make use of the pathway. The Feb. 10 Worst Day of the Year Ride and the March 17 Shamrock Run will still have access to the esplanade.

Portland Police Revive Effort to Equip Officers with Body Cameras

*By Maxine Bernstein
January 12, 2019*

Portland police are reviving their effort to equip officers with body cameras nearly four years after a federal judge urged their use in the city.

A new program manager is leading a team within the Police Bureau to seek public input to draft policies to govern use of the cameras, retention of the recordings and access to the footage.

Tammy Mayer, a civilian employee, kicked off the first of 18 community meetings Friday in Northeast Portland.

Police also hope to work closely with Western Oregon University's criminal justice graduate program to develop performance measures to evaluate the impact of the cameras.

The City Council four years ago awarded \$834,610 to put more cameras in police cars, but the bureau decided instead to use the money for body cameras. The city also put aside another \$1.6 million in annual funding for the program in fiscal 2016-17.

But the reserve remained untapped after Mayor Ted Wheeler expressed a reluctance to move forward without more information.

"We haven't really done anything with that money. We're ready now," Mayer said Friday.

She plans to address the City Council about her team's efforts and research by the end of the month.

She hopes to post a request for proposals for vendors in February and select two companies to provide cameras for testing by Central Precinct officers during a six-month pilot program from June through December.

The goal, she said, is to equip officers across the bureau with cameras by October 2020.

If the plan sounds familiar, it's because the city embarked on a similar exercise in 2014 and 2015. A now-retired police captain held community sessions to draw feedback on policy questions, the bureau evaluated potential vendors and officers tested out a variety of cameras.

What's changed since Wheeler put the idea on hold in March 2017?

Nicole Grant, Wheeler's senior policy adviser, and Katie Shipley, an analyst from the city budget office, traveled with Police Bureau members last spring to Phoenix and Oakland to review their body camera programs and policies. Portland police also visited police departments in Anaheim and Fullerton, Calif.

"The mayor supports developing a limited pilot at the moment, supported by data collection and analysis," Eileen Park, the mayor's spokeswoman, said in an email. "Once the pilot is complete, the question of whether to proceed with full deployment will be revisited."

In an end-of-the-year message to her officers last month, Police Chief Danielle Outlaw wrote that the bureau plans this year to continue community outreach and internal discussions to set parameters and select a camera system for the pilot project.

Portland would follow Beaverton and Portland State University officers, who already wear cameras. Oregon State Police, Hillsboro and the Washington County Sheriff's Office are now implementing body camera programs.

More than half of all medium-to-large police departments in the United States now use or are testing body-worn cameras, according to the Police Executive Research Forum. But many agencies are still grappling with deciding what footage to make public and how long to retain the recordings.

Mayer and the mayor's office contend Portland police have had an advantage by waiting and learning from the mistakes other police agencies have made. But many community leaders have urged the city for years to adopt body cameras for officers, hoping they'll increase police accountability and transparency.

Mayer is a former U.S. Air Force security forces officer and commander who joined the Police Bureau in October 2015 and spearheaded the rollout of a new regional law enforcement computer records management system. She said she recognizes she's repeating a process that others in the Police Bureau have already undertaken and will incorporate the earlier public comments on body cameras in the renewed effort.

Questions to work out, she said, include: Determining who will wear the cameras, when they must be turned on or shut off, how long to keep the footage and whether officers can view the video before writing reports or getting interviewed for internal affairs inquiries.

State lawmakers approved a bill in 2015 that set some basic guidelines for law enforcement agencies that choose to outfit their officers with the cameras. Under the guidelines, when an officer has reasonable suspicion or probable cause that a crime has occurred or is about to occur, they can film an encounter. Police would be obligated to retain the footage for a minimum of 180 days.

In its earlier planning, the Police Bureau was leaning toward giving officers some discretion on when to turn the cameras off and on. They also were leaning toward not allowing video to roll inside a medical facility where a patient's privacy could be violated, during interviews of a reluctant witness or sexual assault victim or inside a private home when a suspect is no longer present.

Two years ago, a draft police union policy drew community criticism. It would allow officers who witness another officer's use of deadly force to review video recordings of the encounter from their own body cameras before writing their reports or view video taken from their body cameras before being interviewed in internal affairs cases that don't involve deadly force or deaths in police custody.

The draft agreement the city reached with the union in 2016, however, says "substantial additional public input" would be required before the policy is finalized.

The proposal calls for officers to turn the camera system power to the "on" position when they begin their shift and initiate an audio/video recording upon receiving a call for service where a possible crime is in progress or has just occurred. This includes any self-initiated activity where enforcement action occurs. The camera shall remain in record mode until the completion of the contact. This also includes unknown disturbances or calls involving people in a mental health crisis, with the caveat that officers be aware of privacy regulations, the draft agreement says.

The city also must budget ongoing costs to cover the program manager, an IT staff person, and four additional staff members in the records division to support the program, estimated to be roughly \$500,000 per year.

U.S. District Judge Michael H. Simon, who monitors the city's settlement with the U.S. Justice Department over police use of force against people with mental illness, has voiced support for the cameras. In a 2014 ruling approving the agreement that called for police reforms, he wrote:

"The court notes that as the technology in this area continues to improve and become more dependable and affordable, more city police departments in the United States are choosing to employ this technology in ways that protect both law enforcement officers and the public they serve."

Next week, the Police Bureau will include Mayer's PowerPoint presentation on its website and more information about the revived body camera project.

Editorial: Dan Saltzman and the Importance of the 'Nitty, Gritty Stuff of Governing'

*By The Oregonian Editorial Board
January 13, 2019*

Throughout all of the changes Portland has experienced over the past 20 years, there has been one quiet, but consistent constant.

Dan Saltzman.

Before taking his final bow last month, the native Portlander served five four-year terms -- nearly surpassing the combined service of his four former colleagues on Portland City Council. An environmental engineer by training, his methodical leadership style was never particularly flashy or politically masterful. He chose a set of solid issues that he felt would have a direct impact on Portlanders. And he stuck with them, year after year.

Children, the environment and an eye toward making the city more efficient and fiscally responsible.

In a recent op-ed in these pages, Saltzman offered advice to other leaders on how to work with such single-mindedness: "Set priorities for your tenure and keep a relentless focus on them... Be

willing to take some risks, even fail.” They’re wise words from a veteran leader whose legacy serves as evidence of his ability to stay disciplined – a rare quality in local leadership these days.

One of Saltzman’s proudest achievements was creating the Portland Children’s Levy, a property tax that raises about \$15 million annually for more than 70 local nonprofits focused on education, foster care, child abuse prevention and hunger relief programs. Four times he campaigned for the levy and four times, voters followed his lead. He should be proud.

Not only has his levy provided valuable services to our city’s youngest residents, it’s also stood out for its efficient and cost-effective administration – especially when compared to its more troubled sibling, the Portland Arts Tax.

And while it may not be as memorable, Saltzman also holds up his work delivering the massive public works project, The Big Pipe: “On time and on budget.” Saltzman took office in 1999, inheriting the 2-year-old, \$1.4 billion project aimed at ending regular overflows of runoff and sewage into the Willamette River and Columbia Slough. The project had huge potential for unanticipated costs, project creep and lengthy delays.

Yet as head of the city’s Bureau of Environmental Services, Saltzman saw it through major milestones and on to its completion in 2011. The project has vastly reduced the number of times sewage seeps into the Willamette, allowing Portlanders a new appreciation of the Willamette, whether they’re swimming, fishing or boating.

There are a handful of other accomplishments Saltzman holds dear. He helped create the Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services, secured a place for the Bridge Meadows program for foster children and families, imposed zoning that would require affordable housing with new building projects and saved taxpayer money with firefighter pension and benefits reforms.

Yet Saltzman’s list failed to note some of his more courageous work toward transparency and police accountability. In January 2010, a year after Mayor Sam Adams handed Saltzman oversight of the Portland Police Bureau, an officer shot and killed Aaron Campbell during a standoff. Campbell, who had been suicidal after his brother’s death earlier in the day, was shot in the back.

Saltzman requested Multnomah County District Attorney Michael Schruck record the grand jury testimony and release it once a ruling was made – a first in Oregon for a police use-of-force case. Schruck complied and it became routine for the transcript to be released for officer-involved shootings in Portland. “I realize there is nothing we can do to ease the pain that his death is causing his family, his friends and our community,” Saltzman wrote to Schruck at the time. “That being said, I believe that the community deserves a public and thorough airing of the facts surrounding his death.”

Saltzman later pushed for the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate the Campbell shooting, which led to the finding that the Police Bureau showed a “pattern and practice” of unreasonable force with people suffering mental illness.

Indeed, some city councilors craft highly effective political strategies around projects, compiling dense reports and persuasive sound bites they shop to other leaders, reporters and editorial boards. Others orchestrate dramatic – and also sometimes successful -- council meeting performances, publicly grilling or dressing down bureau chiefs or other city leaders.

Not Saltzman. He has preferred to sit back and listen. He saved any roadshows and heavy lobbying for only his most prized projects, the Children’s Levy, the 2016 affordable housing

bond and most recently, the appropriate move to require warning signs on buildings most likely to collapse in a major earthquake.

And still, he leaves behind some unfinished work. The children's levy remains dependent on voters as Saltzman was never able to secure a permanent stream of funding. He's also cited concerns about Portland's budget process, in which committees are often led by advocates who have long lists of needs but who cannot stomach any cuts. He's recommended that city leaders revisit that process. It's good advice as Portland loses one of its more critical set of eyes.

Saltzman is spot on describing his work as made up not of "broad, sweeping ideological causes" but basic "nitty, gritty stuff of governing." Indeed, that steady, moderate style has served Portlanders well and serves as a fine reminder for those leaders who remain.

Public Money Goes to Fund Shelter Billed as Privately Funded Homelessness Solution

*By Molly Harbarger
January 12, 2019*

Despite promises of a private-sector solution to homelessness, the city-county Joint Office of Homeless Services have agreed to pitch in at least \$1 million to make sure a new shelter actually opens.

The 100-bed shelter, built inside a tent-like structure, in northwest Portland at the base of the Broadway Bridge was billed as the business community's answer to local government's inability to get people off the street. Prominent developer Homer Williams announced the plan with a starting \$1.5 million contribution from Columbia Sportswear CEO Tim Boyle.

The project quickly began to run behind schedule and over budget.

The "navigation center" model of shelter is a new one for Portland. Williams and former Portland Development Commission director Don Mazzioti wanted to replicate what they saw in San Francisco and other cities that have used this model that combines traditional shelter space with intensive help from service providers to help the people who stay at the shelter get into permanent housing as quickly as possible. It will also have laundry, showers and other amenities.

Through Harbor of Hope, Williams and Mazzioti's nonprofit, project officials estimated that it would cost \$3.5 to get the shelter built and running for the first year. By December, they began to worry that the \$3.5 million would only cover construction.

But warning signs showed up as early as last summer.

Harbor of Hope broke ground in April on land donated by Portland's urban renewal agency, which will retain ownership. The city waived permit fees, as well.

The cost to clean up the lead, arsenic, fossil fuels and other contaminants on the site ended up higher than expected. Officials reported at the end of July that environmental cleanup was earmarked as \$100,000 in the budget. But Harbor of Hope had already spent \$600,000 on it.

Harbor of Hope leaders also found that construction costs were going to be more expensive than imagined.

By the time the original \$3.5 million was raised, the project cost had doubled.

While the mayor's office had said they had no plans to finance a shelter that wasn't feasible, city and county officials have wanted more shelter beds in the Old Town Chinatown area for years. They first saw an empty warehouse on Hoyt Street as an option, but that location would have taken up to \$10 million to make usable.

So while Williams and others vowed that Harbor of Hope would not require any taxpayer money, officials saw this shelter as a more cheaper option than building or renovating their own.

The Joint Office of Homeless Services agreed to contribute the first year's operating budget, which will pay for staff, programming and day-to-day needs at the shelter.

"Our elected leaders and service providers don't get enough credit for their success in adding hundreds of shelter beds across our community," Williams said in a statement. "It's difficult and expensive to find and invest in good sites, close to the right services."

Williams has pitched other ideas in the past that have largely gone nowhere. He gained some traction under former Mayor Charlie Hales with an idea to turn marine Terminal 1 into a homeless shelter campus, but lost city council support when it came to who would run the shelter.

He has also proposed a land trade to build workforce housing in industrial-zoned areas and asked Multnomah County to continue to pay the upkeep costs of Wapato Jail instead of selling it immediately so that Harbor of Hope could evaluate whether the nonprofit could make an offer on the building.

But at the end of 2017, Harbor of Hope was nearly \$110,000 in the hole.

Still, Williams managed to attract Boyle's investment as well as others, such as gas utility Northwest Natural.

The Joint Office has worked with developers for years now on shelter space. The Menashe family and Project^ head Tom Cody, among others, have donated buildings that are slated to be demolished or renovated to be used as temporary shelters.

The navigation center will be the first permanent shelter that the business community has contributed.

It is unclear whether the building will stay in the hands of Harbor of Hope, which would allow the Joint Office to pull operating expenses but not lose capital costs in the future, or if public money will go to its maintenance eventually.

"To sustain our effective and compassionate response to this housing crisis, we need more partnerships like this one," Mayor Ted Wheeler said in a statement. "This shows the power of public-private collaboration."

The Harbor of Hope navigation center would be one of the largest shelters in the city, once it is completed.

The Hansen Shelter, which was the largest in the state, closed earlier this year because the building was in poor condition.

Some of those beds will be moved to the Foster Shelter in southeast Portland, which is expected to open this summer. That will have 120 beds, as well as more room for services.

Transition Projects, a homelessness service provider, will operate both the Foster and Harbor of Hope shelters.

“Shelter saves lives and keeps people safe. But let’s never forget that the only thing that actually ends someone’s homelessness is a home,” said Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury. “That’s the promise of this navigation center and the full suite of services it will offer.”

The Harbor of Hope shelter continues a push by the Joint Office since 2015 to double the number of shelter beds in Multnomah County. According to the Joint Office, the number of people who spent a night in shelter doubled over the last four years.

That is also true of the 6,000 people who transitioned from homelessness to housing last year.

However, Portland still ranks as having the second largest rate of unsheltered homeless people in the country -- and the highest for families with children who are homeless.

“It’s not enough to get someone inside a few nights,” Kafoury said. “We need them inside, in homes of their own, each and every night.”

The Portland Tribune

Campaign Finance Reform Challenge on City Council Agenda

*By Jim Redden
January 13, 2019*

Legality of Portland voter-approved measure to be determined by ordinance before council on Wednesday.

The constitutionality of the campaign finance reform measure approved by Portland voters would be tested in court under an ordinance to be considered by the City Council on Wednesday.

Portland voters approved the reform measure by 87 percent at the Nov. 6, 2018, general election. But a similar measure approved by Multnomah County voters was ruled to violate the free speech protections in the Oregon Constitution by a Multnomah County judge.

The council will consider an ordinance to enact the city's reform measure on Jan. 16. But the ordinance also authorizes the City Attorney's Office to initiate a "validation action" in Multnomah County Circuit Court to determine its constitutionality. That was the process that ended up striking down the county measure.

Reforms approved by Portland voters included limiting campaign contributions and spending. The council had previously adopted a public campaign financing program that is in the process of being implemented.

You can read the ordinance [here](#).

The Daily Journal of Commerce

Many Parties Working to Transform a Community

*By Josh Kulla
January 11, 2019*

Grand plans are being formed for Portland's Albina community, and the Historic Landmarks Commission got its first look at them on Monday. The concept is to redevelop and revitalize the disconnected area between the Lloyd District and the Willamette River.

"The thing to take away is that the city had a grid," Rukaiyah Adams, chief investment officer for the Meyer Memorial Trust, told the commission.

Getting back to that grid is largely the idea for Albina Vision, which calls for new mixed-use development scattered among public open spaces and parks stretching potentially all the way to the riverfront. It even calls for "capping" portions of Interstate 5 that run through the neighborhood and building above the freeway. If that were to happen, however, work likely wouldn't wrap up until at least 2027.

Hennebery Eddy Architects is leading design efforts for Albina Vision, an effort that began in 2015. Project partners include the city of Portland, Portland Public Schools, the Meyer Memorial Trust, the Portland Trail Blazers and many others.

The Oregon Department of Transportation and the Portland Bureau of Transportation, meanwhile, are developing plans for the expansion of Interstate 5 in the Rose Quarter. That work is expected to tie in with new development.

Albina Vision has four main components, Hennebery Eddy founding principal Tim Eddy said Monday. The most important, he said, is the connection to the Willamette River and how that can drive the designs of public spaces.

"These sites are really the only remaining places on the east side of downtown in the central city where there is a potential to create a significant public space that has access to the river," Eddy said.

Some renderings for the district show that portions of streets could be pedestrianized, while mixed-use high-rises would be built along those corridors.

Another component is the need to establish a vibrant public realm based on public spaces, whether on the riverfront or not.

The other two components are incorporation of the area north of Veterans Memorial Coliseum, including a large parcel of land owned by Portland Public Schools, and tying the entire area back into the eastside grid.

"It was tempting to go beyond these areas," Eddy acknowledged. "But we had to draw a boundary."

Albina Vision also represents an opportunity to right historical wrongs of decades ago, when numerous buildings in the largely African-American community were razed to make way for the Veterans Memorial Coliseum and other development. By some estimates, more than 800 homes were demolished in a roughly 100-acre area.

"There have been lots of conversations about what should happen," Adams told the Historic Landmarks Commission. "It took us a year of talking to each other and learning the history before we could really talk about the really hard history about why that neighborhood was bulldozed. We wanted to learn a little more about the people who lived there."

The area once was the heart of Portland's cultural scene, and Albina Vision plans call for at least partial restoration of that dynamic. Recreating the past isn't realistic, she added. But the future certainly can be informed by it.

“This entire area was disconnected from the rest of the city due to the 1950s and 1960s decisions,” she said. “We realized we couldn’t define what would be there, so we wanted to set out a series of values to drive what would happen there that we would hope to inform the process.”

OPB

Disabled, Possibly Homeless Man Federally Charged For Threatening Portland Mayor Online

By Amelia Templeton

January 10, 2019

The Department of Justice has charged a Montana man, Kermit Tyler Poulson, this week with attempting to extort Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler in a threatening post to Instagram.

Poulson is disabled, uses a wheelchair and may have been homeless at the time of the alleged crime.

The case was investigated by the Portland FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force and the Portland Police Bureau.

Poulson’s arrest and indictment comes as civil liberties activists are campaigning to withdraw the city from the JTTF. They have gained a powerful ally on the City Council, Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty, who was sworn into office this month. Hardesty is joining the ACLU and Unite Oregon next week for a public discussion on how to withdraw from the partnership.

In a meeting with reporters in December to defend Portland’s involvement in the JTTF, agency leaders argued that working with Portland police officers makes it easier for FBI agents to assess — and often debunk — threats made by homeless people suffering from mental illnesses.

“The PPB has mental health professionals with whom they work on the regular basis,” said Special Agent-in-Charge Renn Cannon. “They have much more familiarity with the people on the street. They know the different players.”

FBI Makes Case For Portland To Remain In Joint Terrorism Task Force

Poulson allegedly sent the mayor a threat on Oct. 9 over Instagram with the intent to extort money from him, according to court records. The indictment in the case does not go into the specifics of the threat.

In November, a Portland police officer and an FBI agent interviewed Wheeler about Poulson’s threat, which involved a Molotov cocktail.

“Using social media to extort or threaten violence against any citizen is a crime. This conduct is unacceptable in any context and has no respectable place in public discourse. Threats of violence, both in person and on social media, are taken very seriously by federal law enforcement,” said Billy J. Williams, U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon.

Poulson was arrested on a federal warrant in Missoula, Montana on Jan. 8 after he visited the police department to file an unrelated complaint.

If convicted, Poulson faces a maximum sentence of two years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

According to the FBI, Poulson recently lived in Portland, but has no known permanent residence. Last May, Poulson was cited by TriMet for fare evasion, and listed his address as the Transition Projects Day Center.

In Missoula, Poulson appeared in his wheelchair for a brief court appearance. In past court filings, he's indicated that he is disabled and has no income apart from social-security disability payments.

Poulson has a prior criminal record in Utah, where he was convicted of felony assault on a police officer.

He also has a long history of filing specious lawsuits in Montana. In 2017, a judge issued an order barring him from emailing or calling, or physically entering the District Court of Montana.