

the Pulse

BI-MONTHLY

PROGRESS | PRIDE | PROSPERITY

www.pasco-wa.gov

FEB. - MAR. 2020



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Community Risk Reduction

The City of Pasco Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Program serves as the focal point of a collaborative effort with City departments, community partners, and social services to identify, mitigate, and reduce the dependence of “at-risk” populations on emergency services. The program has received numerous “referrals” from the field (operational paramedics, police officers, and Mid-Columbia Meals on Wheels volunteers).

For example, in 2019, the program conducted smoke alarm service checks for 100 homes, which resulted in servicing or replacing 400 smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms. Servicing alarms may be as simple as replacing batteries or replacing old alarms, so homeowners, many of them elderly, do not have to climb ladders. These checks also provide an opportunity to offer home fire safety checks. The result has been a decrease in the Fire Department’s fully involved structure fire calls. Besides the reduction of injury or death from these structure fires (for both residents and firefighters), this also helps keep insurance rates lower for everyone.

By staying connected with residents, the CRR partnerships allow the continuation of an independent lifestyle for these community



members for as long as possible. Our local first responders (Fire and Police), as well as our social service partners and healthcare associates, are collaboratively committed to preventing the “next” emergency call, a higher level of patient advocacy, and a safer community.

“This helps the community in a non-typical way by reaching out to vulnerable folks before we get the 2 a.m. emergency call,” said Pasco Fire Chief Bob Gear. “By working collaboratively with our community partners, the Fire Department is taking our mission of “Honorably Protect and Serve our Community” to a new level.”

For more information, call the Pasco Fire Department at (509) 545-3497.

LISTEN TO

The Pulse

The City has partnered with Cherry Creek Media to produce 60-second bi-weekly radio updates that air periodically on 610AM KONA, Mix 105.3FM, and in Spanish on La Super 92.5FM. These radio updates supplement this printed version of The Pulse to better inform the community of the latest news from the City.

City Council selects new Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem



Saul Martinez, Mayor



Blanche Barajas, Mayor Pro-Tem

The Pasco City Council, in its first meeting of 2020, elected Saul Martinez as Mayor and Blanche Barajas as Mayor Pro-Tem. The Council elects a Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem every two years. The Mayor (or Mayor Pro-Tem) acts as chair of the City Council, appoints volunteers to City Boards and Commissions with Council consent, signs proclamations, and represents the City at various events. Both appointments mark the first time a member of Pasco’s Latino community will serve as Mayor or Mayor Pro-Tem.

Mayor Martinez was appointed to the City Council in June 2010. He serves as the District 3 representative.

Mayor Martinez has been a resident of Pasco since 2002 and is married to Neddy Martinez, his wife of over 30 years. Together, Saul and Neddy have four children.

Mayor Martinez is currently employed by the Mission Support Alliance at Hanford as an Environmental Compliance Officer and is the owner of a small business in Pasco.

Before his appointment to the City Council,

Martinez held the position as President for the Pasco School Board and served on the Pasco School Board for five years.

Mayor Pro-Tem Blanche Barajas was elected to serve the City Council starting in January 2018.

Mayor Pro-Tem Barajas holds a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration (1991) and an Associate in Applied Science in Criminal Justice (2013). She currently works for a not-for-profit managed care organization and regularly works with underserved and underrepresented individuals in the state that lack health services.

Mayor Pro-Tem Barajas serves as a volunteer board member with Elijah Family Homes, a mentor for ALAS (Ambassadors of Lakeview Achieving Success) youth, and a mentor with Ignite Youth Mentoring. She is a member of the Latino Professional Leadership group and serves in several youth health awareness coalitions. Most recently, she has served as Co-Chair for the Downtown Pasco Cinco de Mayo planning committee and is regularly involved or volunteering to help her community.

Meeting Agenda

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA NOTIFICATIONS

Get notifications of Pasco City Council agendas as soon as they are published! Visit the City Council’s online agenda portal and sign up for email notifications for agendas.

To subscribe to a City Council meeting type, check the box next to the meeting name that you would like to subscribe to, enter your email address, and complete the verification code. The next time an agenda is published, you will receive a notification directly to your email’s inbox. Visit www.pasco-wa.gov/agendas to sign up!

MEET YOUR CITY COUNCILMEMBERS - ZAHRA ROACH



Zahra Roach is the only “At-Large” (not assigned to a district) representative on the Pasco City Council and began her term in January 2020.

Pasco has been home to Councilwoman Roach since 1988. She is a proud graduate of Washington State University Tri-Cities and went on to receive her Masters in Teaching at Simmons University.

Councilwoman Roach worked first as a Para-Professional in the Pasco School District before becoming a teacher. She has worked in Special Education & Life Skills classrooms, New Horizons High School, and Pasco High School within Pasco School

District for seven years before she and her husband began their own family.

Prior to joining the Pasco City Council, Zahra Roach served on Pasco’s Planning Commission for eight years. She also was a WSU Master Gardener, a Board Member of the Children’s Developmental Center, a Board Member of the Children’s Developmental Center Foundation, a Benton Franklin Fair and Rodeo Scholarship Committee person, and a Benton Franklin League of Women Voters member. She is passionate about community service and her hometown of Pasco.

CITY COUNCIL:

- Mayor Saul Martinez (Dist. 3)**
545-3404, martinezcouncil@pasco-wa.gov
- Mayor Pro-Tem Blanche Barajas (Dist. 1)**
545-3404, barajascouncil@pasco-wa.gov
- Councilmember Ruben Alvarado (Dist. 2)**
545-3404, alvaradocouncil@pasco-wa.gov
- Councilmember Pete Serrano (Dist. 4)**
545-3404, serranocouncil@pasco-wa.gov
- Councilmember David Milne (Dist. 5)**
545-3404, milnecouncil@pasco-wa.gov
- Councilmember Craig Maloney (Dist. 6)**
545-3404, maloneycouncil@pasco-wa.gov
- Councilmember Zarah Roach (At Large)**
545-3404, roachcouncil@pasco-wa.gov

MANAGER & OFFICIALS:

- City Manager Dave Zabell**
545-3404, zabellid@pasco-wa.gov
- Administrative & Community Services Director**
Zach Ratkai, 543-5757, ratkaiz@pasco-wa.gov
- Public Works Director Steve Worley**
543-5738, worleys@pasco-wa.gov
- Community Development Director Rick White**
545-3441, whiter@pasco-wa.gov
- Finance Director Richa Sigdel**
544-3065, sigdelr@pasco-wa.gov
- Fire Chief Bob Gear**
545-3426, gearb@pasco-wa.gov
- Police Chief Ken Roske**
545-3421, roskek@pasco-wa.gov

Keep in Touch



Follow the City’s social media channels on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

For information regarding the City, including public meeting schedules, visit our website at www.pasco-wa.gov.

The Pasco City Council meets every Monday at 7pm (except for 5th Mondays) at City Hall, 525 N. 3rd Ave. Watch the Council meetings LIVE on PSC-TV Channel 191 on Charter Cable, or on the web at www.pasco-wa.gov/video.

Comments about the Pasco Pulse? Email to communications@pasco-wa.gov