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The Pulse

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Progress



Pride



Prosperity



Citizen Survey Shows Improvements

Getting the “pulse” of Pasco residents is important. In fact, every other year since 2005, the city has undertaken a survey of citizens which provides an assessment of residents’ satisfaction with community amenities and government services.

The survey, taken by 244 random Pasco citizens last November, was conducted by the National Research Center. It looks at a wide variety of community conditions and services through a series of standard questions and is used by more than 500 cities across the country.

2009 Results

In February, the Council reviewed the 2009 survey, which found higher ratings of overall community quality (24% higher than in 2007).

Areas that showed positive trends included the availability of affordable quality housing (up 14% since the 2007 survey), extent of nuisance problems in Pasco (an 11% reduction since 2005 survey) and increased use of the city’s website

(with 53% of citizens indicating they use the website versus 32% just four years ago). The survey also indicated areas where the trend was not improving, including reporting of crimes and feeling safe in downtown after dark.

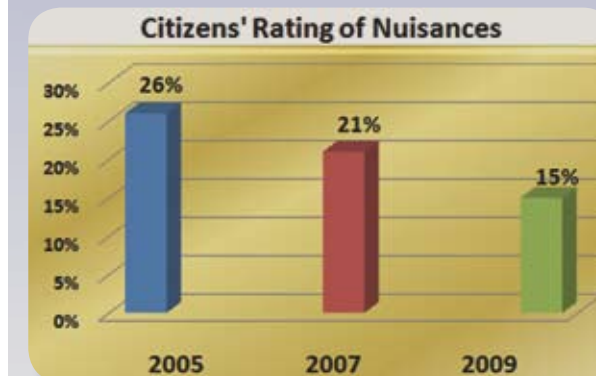
In addition to the standard questions, Pasco was able to include policy questions, designed to gauge the opinion of the community regarding three particular, current issues.

Recycling Service: 63% support the notion of curbside recycling even if it requires an increase in service cost of \$4 to \$5 per month. 19% strongly opposed. Given the response the Council will likely examine alternatives for curbside recycling.

Regional Centers: 77% preferred a sales tax increase versus a property tax increase to support development of regional centers. This underscores the tentative conclusion previously reached by the regional committee of city council members, investigating the best way to finance projects like an aquatic facility or performing arts center.

Fluoride: 73% support the City’s practice of adding fluoride to the city’s drinking water system. 16% strongly oppose it. This significant support seems to ratify the Council’s action, 12 years ago, to promote dental health, particularly among children.

The City Council will use the survey in its biennial goal-setting retreat and it will guide staff in improving city services. The entire survey document is available on the city’s website at www.Pasco.Wa.gov.



Proud to be your home!



Honor that Beautiful Yard!

Throughout the city, many residents and businesses take a great deal of pride in their yards. The annual Yard of the Month program is a way to recognize some of these people. Those selected are honored at a City Council meeting and receive a certificate of recognition. Photographs of the winning yards, along with the winners' names, are published in the Tri-City Herald, posted on the City's website and displayed at City Hall.

To nominate a yard, you can submit your entry via:

Website at <http://www.pasco-Wa.gov/Yards>

E-mail acsadmin@pasco-Wa.gov

Regular mail to

City of Pasco, Attention: D. Buell/YOM,
525 N. Third Avenue., Pasco, WA 99301

Enjoy Your Music, Yet Keep it Down

With the warmer weather here, it's easy to turn up the music and roll down the windows.

Again this year, the City of Pasco Police Department is reminding

citizens about Pasco's Noise Ordinance.

Any noise from a motor vehicle audio system such as a radio or compact disc player, must not be operated at a volume so that it can be audible greater than 75 feet from the vehicle itself. The fine for a noise ordinance violation is \$250.

So, keep your music turned down!



Memorial Pool Update

Pasco's Memorial Pool was built in the 1940s and has been in need of substantial remodeling and modernization. The city is spending \$3.4 million to upgrade the facility which includes adding a zero-depth entry pool complete with two water slides, spray toys and deck areas for sun bathing and socialization.

The bathhouse is being totally redone. The locker rooms are now covered, adding increased privacy and security. In addition, mechanical equipment is being modernized to meet today's standards.

The city is considering different operational schedules for the facility to enhance the experience of the more leisure activities such as sunbathing and picnicking. Work on Memorial Pool is expected to be finished for opening in mid-June.

It's Earth Month, Join in!

April is designated as Earth Month in order to foster environmental education and understanding of issues affecting the health and well-being of our community and beyond. This year there are a number of ways you can get involved.

Recycle and reuse. Look for ways to cut down on waste. Clean up your yard and your neighborhood. The city has projects available for volunteers, too, to help spruce up the entire community. For more information on these projects, email acsadmin@pasco-wa.gov or contact Dan Dotta at 543-5759.

Enjoy a Bird Walk on April 10, sponsored by the Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society. It starts at 8 a.m., at the Sacajawea Heritage Trail, Port of Pasco. For information on more Earth Month activities visit <http://www.earthmonthmc.org>.

Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste Free

Residents can dispose of household hazardous waste at the HHW

Collection Facility, 1721 Dietrich Rd., Pasco. (Located just off the Kahlotus Highway).

Monday – Friday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Limited to 5 gallons of liquid hazardous waste per household. Residential-generated waste only.

HHW accepts:

- * Transmission & brake fluid
- * Wood preservatives & stain
- * Pesticides
- * Paint
- * Cleaning agents
- * Batteries
- * Adhesives & glues
- * Motor oil
- * Aerosols
- * Pool chemicals

For special arrangements, call 547-2088.

Spring Cleaning

Basin Disposal Inc. has coupons for a one-day usage for up to 500 pounds of eligible waste per coupon (limit two coupons per resident and/or 1,000 pounds of waste). Coupons are available at BDI: 2021 N. Commercial Avenue. (Residents must bring picture ID and a current garbage bill.)



When you take your waste to the BDI Transfer Station, bring:

Coupon

Picture ID

Current garbage bill (no late fees).

Let's all pitch in and keep Pasco clean!

Contact BDI at 547-2476 for more information.

Summer Recreation Programs Expanding

Summer is just around the corner! This summer, the city's Recreation Service Division is adding additional programs, while keeping your favorites!



New additions include an all-day, nine-week summer day camp, with an early drop-off time and late pick up available. The new camp is designed for kids 6 to 12 years of age, and will include swimming, movies, arts and crafts, and much more.

Other new classes include activities from fitness to music, pottery and child/parent programs.

The favorites are back, too, including swimming lessons and sports camps. Watch for the Summer Recreation Guide, or visit the website at www.pasco-wa.gov for an overview of each activity, sports league or program. There really is something for everyone, so take a few minutes to review the activities and then register!

Dates to note: Registration for summer classes online www.pasco-wa.gov and at the recreation department begin Tuesday, May 18; Swimming Lessons begin June 21st.

Holiday Observance:

City Hall will be closed:

Monday, May 31, 2010

In observance of Memorial Day

For information regarding City Council meetings, visit our web site at www.Pasco-WA.gov

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