

CITY COUNCIL:

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Progress



Pride



Prosperity



City Council sets goals

Every two years, the City Council establishes specific goals designed to guide the work of the City. Following two community forums and a business forum, the Council held a goal-setting retreat at the end of March. The 15 goals which grew out of the retreat were adopted by the Council on April 16. Three of the most important goals are:

DNR PROPERTY NEAR ROAD 68 & I-182:

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) controls the western half of the property adjacent to the City’s busiest freeway interchange – Road 68 and I-182. DNR’s lease requirements effectively discourage retail developers, which indirectly harms the Pasco community. Continued DNR control of the property at this interchange neither benefits the state nor allows the City to realize the benefits of urban use of the property and also conflicts with the objectives of the state’s Growth Management Act. The City will endeavor to initiate urban infill development of the DNR property at the Road 68 interchange.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT:

The Pasco community relies on one of the lower “per capita” assessed property values in the state. The City needs to foster more industrial investment to increase the non-residential tax base and, in turn, improve the ability of local public agencies to deliver needed services. The City will continue to partner with the Port of Pasco, TRIDEC, and others to actively market the particular development opportunities offered by industrial areas of the City and seek professional wage jobs.



EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS:

For more than 30 years, the City has relied on the Franklin County Sheriff for emergency communication services (police and fire). Operational and technological constraints, along with growth of the City, have resulted in an increasingly ineffective emergency communications system. Regionalization of call processing and dispatch services has been evaluated and promises to be the most cost effective and reliable way to assure future emergency communication services for the public as well as emergency responders. To that end, the City Council will diligently work to fulfill the regional emergency communications recommendations.

For the full list of the City’s goals, visit www.pasco-wa.gov/councilgoals.

PROUD TO BE YOUR HOME!



City, County work on TRAC’s future

The City and Franklin County are working together to plan the future of TRAC after the bonds used to construct the center are paid off in 2014. TRAC (Trade, Recreation, and Agriculture Center), located off Road 68, was constructed in 1994 with a 20 year agreement between the County and City to share operating expenses at the Center until the original construction debt was paid off. While the use of TRAC has greatly expanded, the Center still loses about \$400,000 every year; that figure is likely to grow over time, as the facility ages and requires repairs or renovations. The City and County are in discussions about the future of TRAC after 2014 and whether re-purposing the facility to other uses (such as a year-round aquatic facility) may require less financial support from the taxpayers. In any event, decisions regarding the future of TRAC will not be made without opportunity for input from the public.



City looks to better fund Ambulance Service



The Pasco City Council enacted an increase to the monthly ambulance fee to better fund the service with a goal of making the ambulance fund self-supporting. The City’s “Ambulance Utility” fund is financed primarily through transport fees and a monthly “availability” fee. However, in recent years, the fund has needed significant contributions from the City’s General Fund (\$890,000 projected for 2012) to remain solvent. One of the major factors in the deficit has been the rate of payment for transport of Medicare/Medicaid patients, which is considerably less than the actual cost. The City Council will be increasing the monthly ambulance fee from \$3.60/month to \$5.85/month starting May 1, and a further increase to \$6.25/month in January 2013. The transport fee for City residents will remain the same at \$660 per transport.



Grand Old 4th of July Celebration

The Grand Old 4th Celebration is filled with fun activities for the whole family. Run in a fun run. Take in the parade. Enjoy the pancake breakfast. Attend a baseball game. And, most of all, don’t miss the fireworks!

Tuesday, July 3

7:15pm	Dust Devils Baseball Game (GESA Stadium)
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Wednesday, July 4

7:00am	Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast (Memorial Park)
8:00am	Camp Patriot Fun Run (Pasco Sporting Complex)
9:15am	Pre-Parade Kids Street Dance (Memorial Park, 14th Avenue)
10am	HAPO Grand Old 4th Parade (Memorial Park)
10pm	Grand Old 4th Fireworks (GESA Stadium - gates open at 8:30pm)

Holiday Observance - City Offices will be closed:

Wednesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day

For information regarding City Council meetings, visit our website at www.pasco-wa.gov



Code Enforcement reminds citizens of proper disposal of trash

Does your property or neighborhood adjoin an open field or unimproved right-of-way used by irrigation, electric or gas utilities? If so, please note that the City prohibits dumping of any yard waste, trash or debris in fields, alleys or utility rights-of-way and easements. In Pasco, all household and residential yard wastes must be placed in proper containers or in bags at your curb (extra bags are free) for weekly disposal with the City’s solid waste contractor, Basin Disposal. Unsecured piles of dumped lawn trimmings, yard and household waste create an increased chance for fire and are attractive as nesting areas for rodents, wasps and bees.

If you observe someone dumping illegally in these areas, please report it immediately to the City of Pasco Inspection Services Division by calling 543-5743 and describe the dumped material and location of the incident as well as possible.

Let’s all do our part to keep Pasco looking good!