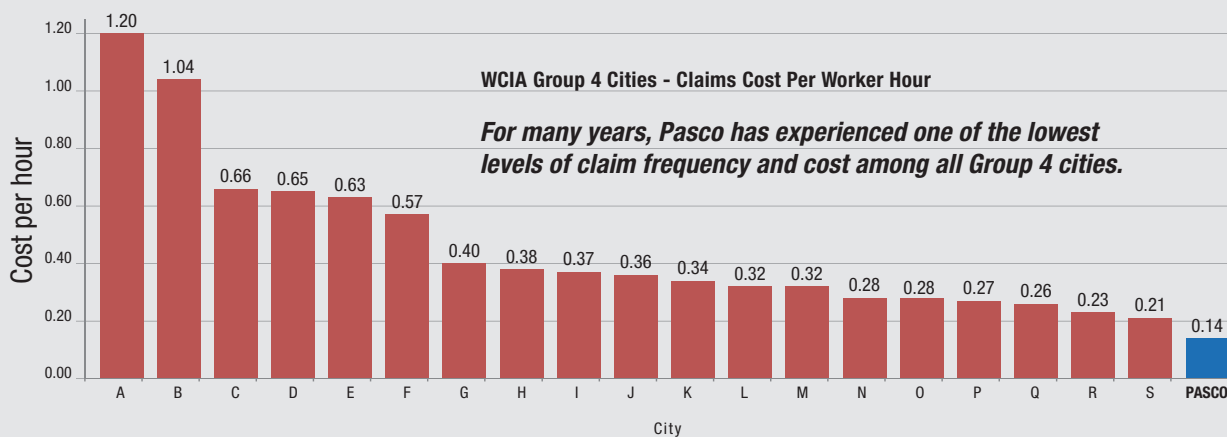


Pasco Leads with Lowest Insurance Risk



As a result of Pasco’s favorable liability claims history and risk management practices, the City stands to save over \$200,000 on its 2014 insurance costs for liability insurance coverage, compared to similar sized cities. Pasco’s use of a large deductible results in additional savings of over \$100,000 per year. Training of staff and careful risk management practices have resulted in significant annual cost savings to Pasco taxpayers.

For its liability coverage, Pasco has participated as a member of the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA), a risk management pool, since 1986. The pool was formed in 1980 by nine Washington cities which were facing difficult challenges and increasing costs for private liability insurance due to hard market conditions nationwide. Since its formation, WCIA has grown to be one

of the largest and most successful municipal risk pools in the country, currently serving over 150 members consisting of Washington cities and associated agencies (such as joint fire authorities, 911 call centers, etc.).

Pool members are grouped into four classes based on size (as measured by worker hours on an annual basis). As Pasco is one of the larger pool members, its claims experience is measured against 19 other similar-sized cities (Group 4). During the last two consecutive years, the cost of Pasco’s liability claims (calculated as cost per worker hour) has been the lowest of all cities within the group (14 cents per worker hour, well under the average of 43 cents). Maintaining a lower cost to handle claims keeps Pasco’s annual insurance costs as low as possible.

Visit our website at: www.pasco-wa.gov

CITY COUNCIL:

Mayor Matt Watkins (At Large)
416-6696, councilmatt@mattwatkins.net

Mayor ProTem Rebecca Francik (Dist. 5)
545-6134, francikcouncil@pasco-wa.gov

Councilman Mike Garrison (Dist. 2)
545-3404, garrisoncouncil@pasco-wa.gov

Councilman Bob Hoffmann (Dist. 3)
547-7373, rshoff@juno.com

Councilman Al Yenney (Dist. 1)
547-8021, yenneycouncil@pasco-wa.gov

Councilman Tom Larsen (At Large)
545-9916, tomlarsenpasco@aol.com

Councilman Saul Martinez (Dist. 4)
547-7285, martinezcouncil@pasco-wa.gov

MANAGER & OFFICIALS:

City Manager Gary Crutchfield
545-3404, citymanager@pasco-wa.gov

Deputy City Manager Stan Strebel
543-5760, strebels@pasco-wa.gov

Police Chief Bob Metzger
545-3481, pascopolice@pasco-wa.gov

Fire Chief Bob Gear
545-3426, pascofire@pasco-wa.gov

Community Dev. Director Rick White
545-3441, communitydevelopment@pasco-wa.gov

Public Works Director Ahmad Qayoumi
543-5738, publicworks@pasco-wa.gov

**Admin. & Community Services
Director Rick Terway**
543-5757, acsadmin@pasco-wa.gov

Comments about the Pasco Pulse?
Email to communications@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 12 on Charter Cable, or on the web at www.pasco-wa.gov/video.



PROGRESS | PRIDE | PROSPERITY

Faster, Safer, Cheaper

An emergency occurs in your Pasco home and you quickly dial 911 on your cell phone only to hear “Benton County Dispatch!” It takes an extra few minutes (at least) to explain you are in Pasco, so the Benton dispatcher can call Franklin County Dispatch and then transfer the call. When that finally happens, the police, ambulance or fire unit is dispatched to your home. This used to be a rare occurrence but cell phones are so prevalent now this problem occurs thousands of times every year – and will continue to get worse.

The city learned of this problem two years ago when a consultant (with national experience) studied the two separate dispatch systems (one in Pasco and one in Richland) operated by the two counties. The consultant’s report recommended the two separate systems be combined, which would eliminate the noted cell phone problem. Consolidation would also reduce the present combined cost of dispatch operations, as there are some current duplications (software upgrades and maintenance as well as supervision) that could be eliminated or reduced without harming service delivery.

In view of the 2011 study, the Pasco City Council approved its Resolution No. 3369 in January 2012 endorsing the concept of a single, regional emergency communications system and urging the Franklin County Commission and Sheriff to take all steps necessary to make it happen. Benton and Franklin Counties agreed recently to work with Pasco, Kennewick and Richland to develop a regionalization plan and cost benefit analysis to ensure such an effort will be successful and avoid unintended consequences. The consultant should have the report completed by October, so the two counties and three cities can define and implement a regionalization effort in early 2014. Doing so will allow the delivery of emergency communication services to be less costly to the taxpayer and more reliable and responsive for cell phone users by the end of 2014.



Major Crimes on the Decrease

Voters in 2011 approved an additional sales tax for public safety operations. Part of the new revenue allowed the Police Department to hire 4 additional officers and begin a new undercover unit called the Street Crimes Unit. Due to the efforts of patrol staff, supplemented by this unit, major crime has continued to decline in Pasco.

In 1995, the City had a crime rate of about 95 crimes per 1000 residents, which was among the highest in the state. Through the efforts of the police and community, this rate has shown a steady decline to where it is now at about 29 crimes per 1000 population (a nearly 70% decline) which is below both state and national averages.

The police department, along with the City Council and staff, is committed to keeping the crime rate low in Pasco. The Pasco Police Department is proud to be able to provide quality service to the community and, with the cooperation of the residents of the community, the City can continue to enjoy low crime rates.



Be sure to send in your ballot for the general election on November 5!



Memorial Park Improvements

After a 3 million dollar renovation of the swimming pool, Memorial Park is in the middle of additional upgrades to make this community park even more attractive for all residents. In August, the Pasco Kiwanis Club formally dedicated its new picnic shelter to the City, honoring former Superior Court Judge Duane Taber with a plaque mounted on the shelter. The City is also upgrading the play structure to be the first fully wheelchair accessible playground in Pasco. This playground will also be the first use of rubberized surfacing in a Pasco park, thanks to a \$50,000 grant from Boundless and American Tire Distributors.

The City will be linking the playground and picnic shelter via a trail system from the parking lot, to be completed early in 2014. These new additions to the park will continue to make Memorial Park a point of pride for Pasco.

The City’s irrigation utility has scheduled the end of watering season for Friday, October 25. Please call 545-3463 for any service question on your City irrigation service. The Franklin County Irrigation District will be ending their watering season on October 21. Call 547-4912 for questions about the FCID.



Change Your Clock - Change Your Batteries

As daylight savings time ends on November 3rd, the Fire Department wants to remind us to make another change that could save our lives – changing batteries in smoke alarms. This is the 26th year of the “Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery” campaign. The program urges Americans to change their smoke alarm batteries when changing clocks back to standard time on Sunday, November 3rd.

The most commonly cited causes of non-working smoke alarms are worn or missing batteries. Working smoke alarms nearly cut in half the risk of dying in a home fire. For more information about fire safety, call the Fire Department at 545-3426.

Cable Bridge Run



The 35th annual Cable Bridge Run is scheduled for Saturday, December 21st – register today! Visit www.pascoparksandrec.com for more information.

HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE

City Offices will be closed:

Monday, November 11, for Veteran’s Day.
The City of Pasco thanks all of our veterans for their service to the nation!

Thursday, November 28, and Friday, November 29 in observance of Thanksgiving.

For more information about the City, visit our website at www.pasco-wa.gov