



# CITY OF SELAH

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## Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

September 2025

Hello Selah from the desk of Mayor Roger Bell. We have a truly exciting year in progress, and **September was busy with highlights of success.**

**Once again this year, I brought a proclamation to raise the awareness of mental health for the Selah community.** September was declared as a month to educate ourselves on all forms of mental health that residents are faced with, and September 10th was declared to be a day of being actively involved by participating in the dedication of Selah's first "Wind Phone." The phone booth was installed at Playland Park for anyone to use to be able to talk with someone you have lost and let the wind carry the conversation, or to just talk out an issue that you may not be comfortable voicing to others and let the wings of the wind carry it. Thanks to the 50 or so folks who showed up for the dedication ceremony. I want to give a huge shout-out to our City Clerk, Courtney McGarity, and her daughter, Emilia, for all of the work they did to make this a reality.

The first Council Meeting included a presentation from HLA, our contract engineer, on the progress and plan for completing the new wastewater treatment plant. We also passed resolutions to finalize payment to SAFE for the mural on North 1st Street, approved an agreement with Springbrook, our financial software provider, and one on reclassifying our part-time office assistant position to a new position of financial assistant.

At the second Council Meeting, we passed ordinances amending the salary and wage ordinance to reflect the pay for the newly classified financial assistant, and one to modify SMC 4.32.030(13), reflecting the state-mandated change to business registrations. We also approved a resolution for a contract with Yakima County referencing the Fruity Pebbles project for a \$226,000 grant that we match at 20%, or \$54,000, and a resolution for a state funding grant for our periodic update of the comprehensive plan.

During the last meeting, I also continued my practice of recognizing folks that make Selah such a great place to be. This month I gave Selah Community Pride Awards to the Selah High School Chapter of SkillsUSA students and instructors that built the Wind Phone. These students are preparing for careers in the skilled trades and took this project on as a community service project. The students were Alex Huard, Nick Huard, Joe Gavica, Kacey Pollard, David Pollard, and Lawrence Burmaster. The instructors were Brian Rockenbach and Geoff Anderson. They each received a certificate and a Selah Community Pride Coin.

Our architect for the new municipal building for Police, Court, and City Hall has presented us with the first draft floor plan, and our staff team is currently reviewing it for desired changes before going to design completion.

Most of our construction projects have been completed for this year, with the exception of crack sealing, which will begin in October for several streets around town.

Don't forget that this is Spirit Week around town, and the Chamber has their big event, Wine Dine & Beyond, on October 11th at the Civic Center. Get your tickets soon, as they are nearly sold out.

I encourage all residents to get involved in the community. I am in the office almost every day and willing to meet with citizens to discuss your concerns and ideas for improving Selah.

That is all for this month. Enjoy the nice weather we are experiencing. I look forward to giving my next month's update.

**If you wish to be added or removed from the Mayor's Monthly email, please send a message to [michelle.damron@selahwa.gov](mailto:michelle.damron@selahwa.gov).**

Roger Bell, Selah Mayor