



CITY OF SELAH

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Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

May 2025

Hello Selah Community, and here's this month's news!

This is a year filled with great possibilities.

At the first Council Meeting in May, we approved the renewal of an Interlocal Agreement to provide fire and EMS services to Yakima Valley School. Also, approval of a participation plan to accept applications for proposed changes to the land use designation map; declared certain old equipment as surplus and authorized its sale; approved the adoption of the City of Selah Commute Trip Reduction 4-Year Plan; authorized a cost estimate update to the 3rd Street Resurfacing Project and authorized the signing of a contract to begin its construction. They passed a resolution authorizing a 1-year extension to the Hillside Estates Preliminary Plat.

The second Council Meeting saw the renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding to allow the Yakima Valley School to utilize the Civic Center in the event of an emergency sheltering need. A resolution passed for the contracting of concession services at Carlon Park. In addition, they authorized the Mayor and staff to commence the process of seeking an architect for the City's plan to construct a modular building for Police and possible City Hall.

Councilmember Longmire gave a report of the status of the Yakima Valley Trolley Association's efforts to preserve service between Yakima and Selah. YVCOG gave a report on the City's Climate Element they are working on as a part of Selah's Comprehensive Plan.

Continuing my program of recognition, I presented a "Selah Community Pride Award" to Parker Casey for his work with FCCLA national organization and being named as one of five finalists for the National Member of the Year Award. The winner will be announced at the National Leadership Conference this summer. He is an amazing young man and deserving of recognition.

Community Days is done for another year and was a rousing success, having moved back to Wixson Park. A huge shout-out to Barb Petrea and her team for all of their hard work making this a real community highlight. During the celebration, Michelle Damron, HR/Community Outreach Specialist, and I manned the City's information booth and fielded questions from hundreds of you on where the City is headed in the future. I also made a similar presentation at the Chamber's monthly meeting.

If you have not heard, we have a Pickleball Tournament at the Carlon Park Tennis Courts on Saturday, June 7th. Come out and enjoy the fun, compliments of the Selah Downtown Association and their enthusiastic group of volunteers.

Our Legislative Committee continues to work on securing Selah's fair share of state and federal dollars through meetings and lobbying efforts with agencies and legislators, and we have some positive results to report. Our legislators—Senator Nikki Torres, Representatives Chris Corry and Jeremie Dufault—have confirmed that we will receive \$11 million for our Wastewater Treatment Plant and \$1 million for the upgrades to the Civic Center. This is huge, and we are hopeful that it is just the beginning of great results.

Projects that are being worked on include the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Civic Center Refresh, Fruity Pebbles (the extension of Naches Ave to Exit 29 on I-820), Police/City Hall facility, new Well #9, Third Street completion, and Hill Crest water main improvement. Just a note that Speyers Road will see a temporary closure from 14th to Lander for utilities installations, and Goodlander and Lancaster will have the traffic light installed in the next few weeks. Need more information on any of these? Just stop by or give me a call.

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. Have a safe and fun summer, and don't forget to participate in our 4th of July celebration that the Selah Downtown Association is hard at work bringing it all together. 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.

Roger Bell, Selah Mayor