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## City Continues with 2021-2022 Projects... and a Look Back

Pasco has experienced rapid growth over the last two decades. This growth transformed Pasco into a vibrant community of over 77,000 people, which serves the region's hub of commerce. With a diverse population, quickly rising education levels, increasing household incomes, and an excellent multi-modal transportation system, Pasco has become a premier destination for people who want a high quality of life with an affordable cost of living. Pasco has experienced a changing demographic, infrastructure growth, and increased demands for services in all areas as part of this transformation. The City Council has been responsive and strategic throughout these enormous changes, which has led to an impressive level of stability during this dynamic period. Those long-term strategies, as reflected in deliberate investments in critical infrastructure, technology, people, and the community in general, are bearing fruit.

2020 began routinely, with the evaluation of the biennial community survey results and a series of productive community listening sessions in preparation for the Council's biennial goal-setting retreat. Then, in March, the City began responding swiftly to the global pandemic, with community members' and employees' safety and well-being the top priority. Simultaneously, City Council and Staff adapted how services were to be delivered in a remote environment as they managed circumstances along with changing, and sometimes conflicting, federal and state regulations.

In a year of lockdowns, limitations on public engagement methods, and uncertainty, Council and staff have worked diligently to advance goals, initiatives, comprehensive plans, and strategic investments. We saw numerous and noteworthy successes in 2020:

- Completed Urban Growth Area analysis and development of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
- Achieved Police re-accreditation at the national level via the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and the State level via the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC).
- Implemented a community engagement app, "AskPasco", to cultivate effective interactions between the Pasco community and the City.
- Implemented federal CARES Act utility assistance and business assistance programs.
- Collaborated with the Health District to set-up and oversee a COVID testing site.
- Began construction of Fire Station 84 and Administration with estimated completion in August.
- Construction of replacement Fire Station 83.



- Completed Gesa Stadium improvements.

Over the next several months, the community will see significant investments in our services and facilities to promote a high quality of life for all of Pasco. Some of the more notable projects include:

- Completion of Peanuts Park and Farmers Market Renovation.
- Construction of the Lewis Street Overpass project replacing the old underpass.
- The long-awaited construction of a new Animal Control Shelter for the Tri-Cities.
- Construction of Phase 1 of 'A' Street Sporting Complex.
- A Police Strategic Master Plan developed through a vigorous community process.
- Widening of Road 68 south of I-182.
- Completion of the Wrigley Drive extension (see included article).
- Argent Road widening.
- The addition of a one-stop Permit Center.
- Coordination with Port of Pasco on the waterfront-zoning plan and Riemann Industrial Park initiatives.

Substantial private investment in Pasco continues with residential construction and commercial/industrial development at historically high levels. The Road 68 corridor continues to mature, and there is considerable interest in the Broadmoor/Road 100 area as infrastructure develops. The Peanuts Park and Lewis Street Overpass projects will spur interest and economic growth in Downtown.

The public's willingness to present ideas and priorities has added immeasurable value to these plans, as has the City Council's efforts to distill all of this information into clear policy direction and in the development of the 2020-2021 City Council Goals.

Pasco has dedicated considerable time, effort, and investment in infrastructure preparation for the community's bright future. Watch us go!

# AskPasco

The City of Pasco has launched a new app, called AskPasco, to connect the community with City services. The AskPasco mobile app can be downloaded through both the Apple App Store and Google Play. A desktop version (with links to the mobile apps) is available through [www.pasco-wa.gov/askpasco](http://www.pasco-wa.gov/askpasco). The mobile app will also automatically translate into Spanish for those users whose mobile device language is set for Spanish.

Residents are encouraged to submit non-emergency requests for services and report issues from the convenience of their device. After a request is submitted, it is routed to the correct department and staff for follow-up.

### Some things residents can do through the AskPasco app include:

- Requests for City services
- Report potholes and street issues
- Submit property maintenance issues
- Pay utility bills
- Look for City jobs
- Connect to Parks and Recreation information

### To use the app to request services or to report an issue:

- Launch the app on your mobile phone

- Click "Requests" on the home screen
- Select your report type
- Drop a pin where the issue is located or type in an address
- Provide additional details (the more info, the better)
- Add pictures, videos, or audio to the request
- Select submit
- Check your email or the request message center for an update

"The AskPasco app will help the City better provide services in an efficient manner," said City Manager Dave Zabell. "We hope the community takes advantage of this new tool and utilize its many features," he added.



## WRIGLEY CONNECTION NOW OPEN

The long-planned connection of Wrigley Drive between Clemente and Convention was recently opened to vehicle traffic. This critical connection should help better connect neighborhoods to the east of Road 68 and north of Burden to the Road 68 corridor. Sidewalks and other improvements will be made as the surrounding vacant lots are developed.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR:

INDEPENDENCE DAY (OBSERVED) - MONDAY, JULY 5

LABOR DAY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

## Downtown Projects to Help Transform Area

Renovations for Peanuts Park and the Farmers Market in Downtown Pasco are underway. The renovation of Peanuts Park and the Pasco Farmers Market Pavilion has been an important goal of the City Council. The upgrades will include:

- New covers for the Farmer's Market area
- Replacement of the 1970's era concrete features
- Upgraded infrastructure to better support food trucks and events

The project is funded from various sources. The bulk of the funding is through a federal Community Block Grant loan; two Legislative appropriations from the State of Washington have also been secured, and supplemental funding from the City's General Fund.

The City and its contractor will be working closely with area businesses, the Downtown Pasco Development Authority, and the media to inform the community on impacts and project progress as it occurs. The Peanuts Park project is one of two significant projects in Downtown Pasco in 2021; the Lewis Street Overpass is slated for construction soon. For a total of over \$30 million, these projects signify the City's strong commitment to the Downtown area.

"I'm excited about the economic development and vitality these projects will bring to Downtown Pasco," said Pasco Mayor Saul Martinez.



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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 191 on Charter Cable, or on the web at [www.pasco-wa.gov/video](http://www.pasco-wa.gov/video).

Comments about the Pasco Pulse? Email to [communications@pasco-wa.gov](mailto:communications@pasco-wa.gov)

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