

CITY COUNCIL SETS GOALS

Continuing a practice that it has followed for more than 20 years, the City Council met in a special goal-setting retreat on April 18-19. Every two years, the goal setting process, which begins with a review of the status of progress on the prior list of goals and includes input from citizens, the City's public partners in the community and staff, results in a list of priorities to guide the Council and City staff for the following two years.

Formally adopted by the City Council in May, the list of goals for 2014-2015 includes, as some of the most important goals, the following:

■ **Industrial Development:** the Pasco community relies on one of the lower "per capita" assessed values (total taxable property value divided by total population) 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 has worked diligently with its partners (Port, PUD, County, etc.) to create "development ready" industrial sites, particularly the Heritage Industrial Center, Foster Wells area and along the SR12 corridor. The City will continue to partner with the Port, TRIDEC and others to focus on the development of "professional wage" jobs through aggressively marketing industrial development opportunities and will provide sewer service to the Kartchner interchange industrial area.

■ **Road 68 Congestion:** the extent and nature of urban growth on the plateau, combined with the limitations imposed by the current configuration of the Road 68 interchange at I-182, have led to a pattern of intolerable congestion at the intersection of Road 68 and Burden Blvd. Though the City has made numerous improvements, and has plans to make additional improvements, the most promising

solutions require modification to the I-182 freeway and are, therefore, subject to approval of WSDOT and FHWA. The City will construct an additional south (Road 68) to west bound (I-182) right turn lane at the Road 68 interchange, obtain approvals for additional on/off ramps east of Road 68, and plan for the completion of the necessary linkages surrounding the Road 68/I-182 corridor.

■ **Police Station:** the explosion of residential growth in the City over the past decade has led to a corresponding increase in City staff necessary to sustain and improve municipal services. The Police Department has outgrown available space at the civic center which is at capacity for virtually all departments. Voter approval of a sales tax for public safety purposes in 2011 provides the City with a funding source which should allow the issuance of bonds for the construction of a new police station. To that end, the City will construct and occupy a new police station by 2016.

See the full list of the City's goals at www.pasco-wa.gov/councilgoals



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

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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 191 on Charter Cable, or on the web at www.pasco-wa.gov/video.

the Pulse

BI-MONTHLY (APRIL - DEC)



JUNE 2014



PROGRESS | PRIDE | PROSPERITY

Parking Regulation Changes



The City Council recently made changes to parking regulations in the City. Incorporating state law regarding violations of handicap parking regulations, the Pasco Municipal Code (PMC) now imposes a penalty of \$250 plus an additional \$200 imposed by the state. The City's Municipal Court cannot suspend more than one-half of the penalties for handicap violations.

Other parking violations are now classified into two groups as opposed to three; fines are \$40.00 for most violations, while penalties of up to \$80.00 may apply to more significant violations. The new regulations became effective May 1. For specific information on parking regulations see Section 10.16.135 of the PMC or Section 10.52.080 for handicap parking regulations on the City's website: www.pasco-wa.gov/pmc.

New Spray Park Opens

The City opened a new spray pad at Kurtzman Park in May. The new 2,800 sq. ft. facility, which features 21 spray toys – from grand geysers and jet streams to a water tunnel and aim able bamboo water cannons is built on the site formerly occupied by the Kurtzman swimming pool. The 47-year-old pool was no longer serviceable and costs of operation far exceeded income from pool use.

The new spray pad will be available daily throughout the summer from 10am to 7pm and is expected to be open for a longer season than the old pool. Additionally, there is no charge to use it and maintenance for a spray pad will be considerably less than a pool.

New Municipal Court Facility

Voter-approved Public Safety Sales Tax continues to show benefits

The Pasco Municipal Court has relocated to new offices in the new Franklin County Justice Center located north of the county jail at the County Courthouse complex on 4th Avenue. Prior to occupying the new space, the Court had been located in the County's Public Safety Building, located on the west side of the Courthouse proper, as a result of a 40-year lease agreement between the City and the County.

The Court had been in crowded quarters and shared courtroom space with Franklin County District Court. The new facility provides for more administration space, two court rooms for the exclusive use of the City, plus more secured conditions for transporting inmates from the jail to the Court. The City has an 80-year lease with the County for the new facility, so Pasco Municipal Court should have an adequate home for decades to come.

The new Court facility was constructed at a total cost of approximately \$3.6 million funded by proceeds of the 2011 voter-approved Public Safety Sales Tax.

GRAND OLD 4TH PARADE AND CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, JULY 3RD

Dust Devils Baseball Game
7:15pm Gesa Stadium

FRIDAY, JULY 4TH

Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast
7:00am Memorial Park

Camp Patriot Fun Run
8:00am Pasco Sporting Complex

Pre-Parade Kids Street Dance
9:15am Memorial Park
(On 14th Ave)

HAPO Grand Old 4th Parade
10:00am Memorial Park

Grand Old 4th Fireworks
10:00pm Gesa Stadium
(Gates Open at 8:30pm)

More info at www.pascoparksandrec.com

HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE City Offices will be closed:

Friday, July 4, 2014
In observance of Independence Day

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

City Manager Retires

36 year career with City



City Manager Gary Crutchfield announced his retirement, effective June 27. After beginning his service as the City Planner in 1978, Crutchfield was promoted to Community Development Director in 1980. He was appointed City

Manager in 1984. Serving in that position for 30 years, Crutchfield is one of the longest-serving City Managers in the history of the state.

Early in his tenure, Crutchfield faced the challenge of shrinking revenues with loss of jobs in the area and corresponding loss of tax revenue. Crime rates were high and the City was fraught with code enforcement problems. Working methodically with the City Council to set City goals on a 2-year cycle, much has been achieved since then. The City has experienced an unprecedented rate of growth over the last 20 years, the crime rate is well below state and national averages, and Pasco is a community on the move.

Some of the lasting examples of Crutchfield's efforts include the soccer and softball complex near TRAC, the baseball stadium that is home to the Tri-City Dust Devils, and the riverfront trail. He conceived the idea of converting the old Pasco High School for use as City Hall, thus preserving part of Pasco's history for another century. During the last 20 years alone, the city's assessed value mushroomed from \$380 million to \$3.5 billion while the population grew from 20,000 to more than 65,000 and the City's portion of property tax declined by 45%.

Pasco owes a great deal of its success to Gary Crutchfield's service and leadership. Enjoy your retirement, Gary - you've certainly earned it!

The City Council is involved in the process of recruiting and selecting Mr. Crutchfield's successor. An appointment is expected sometime this summer.