



2015 City Budget: Your input needed!

The City's annual operating budget approximates some \$140 million in revenues and expenditures across some 37 different funds. The other significant part of the City's total budget is the Capital Improvement Plan (or CIP) which typically includes some \$20-\$40 million in spending for large projects or "one-time" purchases each year. The Council will normally begin to receive proposed budget information for the ensuing year in October and the City's proposed preliminary budget must be made available to the public at least six weeks prior to January 1 (November 13, 2014) of the budget year. To make these deadlines and afford the City Council time to evaluate the proposed budget, the process of budget development begins in late spring of each year for City staff.

Responding to City Council goals and direction, laws or regulations of the state and federal governments, and the needs of the community, the directors and managers in each department begin by spring to develop lists and preliminary costs of programs and/or projects for the ensuing year.

In early summer, the City Council considers the proposed six-year CIP which identifies "near certain" spending plans and revenue sources for projects in early years, with less firm projects for later years of the plan. Revising and adopting a six-year plan each year helps the City to focus both on short-term projects as well as prospective longer-term projects, together with their costs, scope and

Continued on following page

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)



OCTOBER 2014

PROGRESS | PRIDE | PROSPERITY

(Continued)

timetables. The City's 2015-2020 CIP was adopted in July and identifies some \$27 million in construction projects or large purchases in 2015.

With large project expenditures identified in the CIP, staff continues to work through the summer and into September to develop the proposed operations budget. While expenditures include personnel costs, utilities, materials and supplies as well as a host of other categories, the total expenditures in each fund must be offset by equal revenues which are legally available to the respective fund. By law, the City's budget must be balanced for each fund, and in total.

The City's general fund, which is the largest (accounting for approximately 30% of all City expenditures) and provides services such as police, fire, parks, municipal court and other general government operations, is funded primarily by City taxes on property, retail sales, and utility services.

The City Council is scheduled to hold a public hearing on revenue sources for the budget on Monday, November 17, 2014. The final public hearing, prior to Council adoption of the 2015 Operating and Capital Improvement Budgets, is scheduled for Monday, December 1.

For further information on the City's budget process, contact the Finance Division at 544-3065 or visit the City's webpage at www.pasco-wa.gov/budget.



Downtown Pasco Development Authority Improving Downtown

The Downtown Pasco Development Authority (DPDA) has been busily working to help improve Pasco's downtown area since it was formed in 2012. A semi-autonomous agency of the City, the DPDA is led by a nine person Board of Directors and 10 Liaison/Ex-Officio Members from key partner organizations. The DPDA helps coordinate downtown revitalization/events and operates the Farmer's Market and Specialty Kitchen. Some of the most notable accomplishments of the DPDA in recent months include:

- Fiery Food Festival
- Cinco de Mayo Festival
- Holiday Celebration
- Peanuts Park improvements
- City adoption of the DPDA Strategic Plan
- Main Street Accreditation process under way
- New website (www.downtownpasco.com) and branding
- Farmer's Market and Specialty Kitchen incorporated into website
- Established the "Passport to Pasco Loyalty" program

For more information on the many ways the DPDA is helping downtown Pasco, visit the DPDA website at www.downtownpasco.com and follow them on Twitter (@downtownpasco).



Three Rivers Park Shows the Value of Cooperation

The City and the Pasco School District are again joining forces to build a combined school and public park facility, this time at Road 60 and Sandifur. Taxpayers of both agencies save valuable construction dollars due to the combining of these projects. The park is designed to function under new safety constraints of having the school use area fenced off during school hours, while keeping the play area, basketball court, and picnic shelters available to the general public. However, the fenced playfield will be open during non-school hours like any other park. The City plans to spend \$420,000 to build the park, while the District will pay for the fence that surrounds the playfield. The City and the District will also share maintenance and upkeep costs, another "win-win" for the citizens of Pasco. For more information on Three Rivers Park, contact Administrative & Community Services at 543-5757.

HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE

City Offices will be closed:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

In observance of Veteran's Day
The City thanks all veterans for their service to our nation!

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27 & 28

In observance of Thanksgiving

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

Change Your Clock - Change Your Batteries

As daylight savings time ends on November 2, the Fire Department wants to remind us to make another change that could save our lives – changing batteries in smoke alarms.

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.

City Takes Over Sewer Pretreatment Program

Due to the recent growth of Pasco, the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) is requiring the City to manage its own Industrial Sewer Pretreatment Program, which was previously handled by DOE. A pretreatment program helps identify potential industrial uses of the sewer system which may affect the City's sewer discharge into the Columbia River. All businesses within the City of Pasco boundaries will be subject to the City's Pretreatment Program, effective in January 2015. For most businesses, the only impact will be to periodically complete a required "Industrial User Screening" form. Businesses which generate wastewater, which could potentially negatively affect the wastewater treatment plant, may be subject to additional monitoring and may need to be permitted. A mailer with the screening form was sent to all Pasco businesses on record and an open house was held in August to answer questions from the business community and public. For more information on the City's Pretreatment Program, call 545-3444.