

# Issues Brief

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## Yakima Transit Seeks Input on New Bus Shelters

*Lights for the City's 20 new bus shelters will use solar power*

The Yakima City Council organized two neighborhood forums in October and one in November.

Officials with Yakima Transit want to hear from riders about where to place 20 new bus shelters.

During its November 21<sup>st</sup> regular meeting, the Yakima City Council approved a grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) that will provide funding for 20 new bus shelters.

"We want to hear from the public regarding where they think the shelters should be placed," Yakima Transit Manager Alvie Maxey said. "They can call us, visit our website, attend a Transit Advisory Committee meeting, or give their suggestions directly to their bus driver."

Comments and suggestions on locations for new shelters can be offered by calling 575-6175, e-mailing [asktransit@yakimawa.gov](mailto:asktransit@yakimawa.gov) or clicking the "Leave a Comment" link on the Yakima Transit website, <https://yakimatransit.org>.



***Yakima Transit officials want to hear suggestions from riders about where to place 20 new bus shelters next spring. The shelters are being largely funded through a Washington State Department of Transportation grant.***

The website also has information about the Transit Advisory Committee.

Yakima Transit currently has 629 bus stops, of which 205 are benches and 32 have shelters.

With Council approval in hand, Yakima Transit has begun the planning process for adding the 20 new transit shelters. The shelters will be ADA compliant and have solar-powered lights.

Yakima Transit staff have been actively evaluating the best locations for the new shelters. At the same time, they also want the community's suggestions about locations for those shelters. The goal is to have everything in place so construction and installation

can start in the spring, after winter weather subsides.

The \$152,000 WSDOT grant will cover all but \$38,000 of the cost for 20 new, ADA-compliant bus shelters. They will be lighted using solar power.

"Because Yakima Transit operates year-round bus service from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm, there are times in which insufficient lighting exists; particularly early mornings and evenings," Maxey said.

"The lighted bus shelters will improve visibility of passengers to our drivers; while providing an area that feels safer for our passengers while utilizing Yakima Transit," he said.

## High School Seniors Encouraged to Apply for \$1000 AWC Scholarship

*Deadline to apply is February 16, 2018*

The City of Yakima is encouraging area high school seniors to apply for a \$1000 scholarship being offered by the Association of Washington Cities ("AWC"). The AWC 2018 Center for Quality Communities Scholarship will be awarded to six high school seniors this spring.

The AWC Center for Quality Communities promotes municipal leadership and civic engagement.

The Center, which is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, helps community members understand the important role their cities and towns play in Washington State. The Center believes in supporting the education of student leaders who care about their communities.

The AWC Center for Quality Communities Scholarship supports high school students who are actively engaged in their community and/or city government.

The AWC provides a variety of services to the 281 cities and towns in Washington State. Each of those cities and towns is eligible to select one scholarship applicant, whose application is then forwarded to the AWC office in Olympia.

A committee formed by the AWC then makes the final decision about which six applicants will receive scholarships.



*Yakima area high school seniors are encouraged to apply for a \$1000 scholarship being offered by the Association of Washington Cities Center for Quality Communities by filling out an application form on the City of Yakima website at [yakimawa.gov](http://yakimawa.gov).*

The City of Yakima's website front page includes a link to information about the eligibility requirements for the AWC Center for Quality Communities Scholarship, an application form, the date applications must be submitted, etc. The City's website front page can be accessed at [yakimawa.gov](http://yakimawa.gov).

Under the criteria that the City of Yakima established, the AWC scholarship is open to students in the Yakima School District and West Valley School District who:

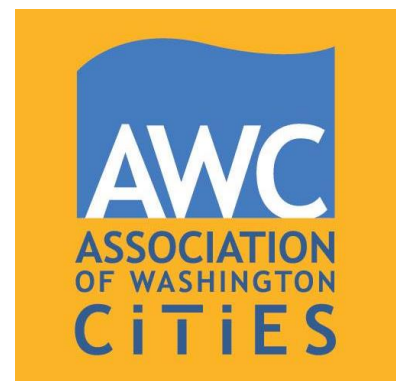
- Will graduate from high school, complete home school, or receive a GED in spring/summer 2018
- Are currently or have been involved in significant school/community leadership activities and/or city government
- Plan to continue their education in the 2018-2019 academic year at an accredited college, community college, or trade school on a half-time or more basis
- Are residents of Washington State.

Applications for the AWC Center for Quality Communities Scholarship **are due by 5:00 pm on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. Completed scholarship applications should be sent by postal mail to:

**Randy Beehler  
Communications &  
Public Affairs Director  
City of Yakima, Wa.  
129 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yakima, Wa. 98901**

Yakima-area scholarship application packets will be review, evaluated, and scored by a committee consisting of Yakima City Council members and City staff.

For more information about the AWC scholarship process, contact Randy Beehler by phone (901-1142) or by e-mail ([randy.beehler@yakimawa.gov](mailto:randy.beehler@yakimawa.gov))





# Tips, Flight Tracker Offered For Holiday Travel

*Yakima Airport offers web link to track flights*

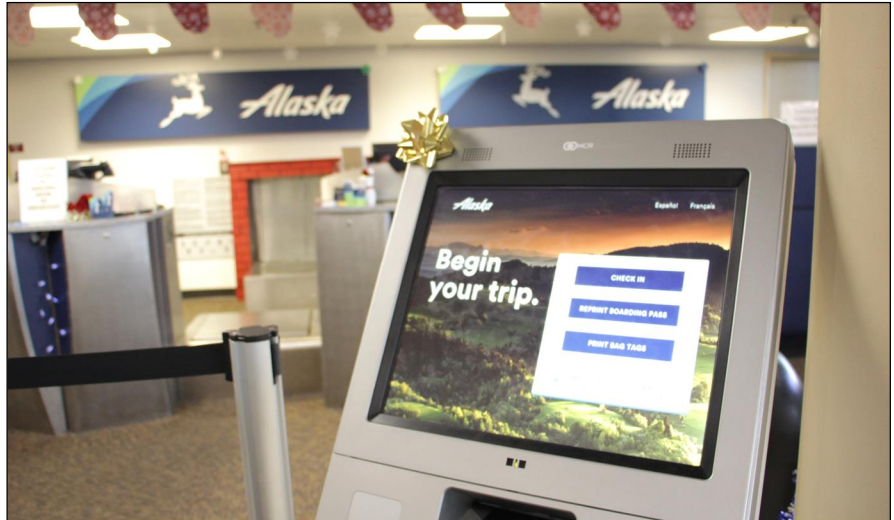
With the peak Holiday travel time approaching at Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field, there are steps travelers can take to prepare for their holiday trips.

"Make sure you show up at least an hour to an hour-and-a-half before your flight," Airport Director Rob Peterson said.

"You need adequate time to park at the airport and get your luggage checked. With more travelers it also takes a little additional time for TSA to screen passengers," Peterson said.

Travel is already picking up at Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field.

"We're starting to see high travel volumes and our flights are getting full," Peterson said. "The holiday season is really kicking in."



***Planning your trip and arriving early at Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field can ease some of the stress of travel during the busy holiday season. The airport also offers a link to track your flights.***

The Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field website also has an on-line link to track your flights at Christmas, New Year's, and year-round.

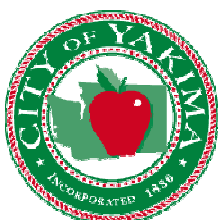
Visit <http://flightaware.com/live/airport/KYKM> for a live flight tracker provided by Flight Aware.

The site is not just catered to Alaska Airlines, which offers flights from the Yakima airport.

Instead, it tracks all flights. It shows both commercial and private passenger planes, in real time, with updates on arrivals and departures.

Those updates can be helpful, especially if winter weather causes minor flight delays.

For more about Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field, visit <https://flyykm.com>



The City of Yakima Issues Brief e-Newsletter is a monthly publication of the City of Yakima Community Relations Office. Questions or suggestions? Contact Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler at 509-575-6045 or [randy.beehler@yakimawa.gov](mailto:randy.beehler@yakimawa.gov).

Visit <https://www.yakimawa.gov> for more information about the City of Yakima.