



City of Yakima e-Newsletter

ISSUES BRIEF

January 2023 - Vol. XIII, Issue 1, Number 125

City Council seeks airport expansion

Survey seeks community input about possible YKM growth

Washington state plans to build a new regional airport in the next decade, and the Yakima City Council wants Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field (YKM) to be considered as the new preferred airport location.

Council approved a letter on January 3rd, outlining its request to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

"YKM has a historic partnership with SeaTac Airport, including serving as the emergency back-up site for aircraft unable to land at SeaTac," the City Council's letter to WSDOT and the Commercial Aviation Coordinating Committee (CACC) stated.



Scan the above QR code to participate in an anonymous survey about possible airport expansion

"Yakima provides an excellent option because of its central location with easy transportation access to the west and east sides of the state."

The City of Yakima wants to hear from the community about the possibility of YKM expanding and becoming this new regional airport.

The public is encouraged to participate in a brief, 2-question survey at <https://surveys.zencity.io/yakima/6gfyJX/?s=sd> or snap the QR code at left.

In seeking consideration of YKM for enhanced cargo and commercial air service, Council's letter lists benefits for Yakima as the site for a new airport location. Among them are:

- Ample land within a 5-mile radius of the airport for developing long-term parking, rental cars, hotels and other industrial/commercial uses
- Yakima's easy access to Interstate 82, Interstate 90 and commercial rail

'Tis the season: Snow removal in Yakima

Winter can be a snowy experience in the City of Yakima. Snow and ice can be challenging for residents and the City street crews to control.

When snow accumulation reaches three inches, the City will plow the major arterial streets, and the streets near schools, hospitals, hills and other critical locations. Visit [Snow Removal Policies & Tips | Streets & Traffic \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/streets-traffic/snow-removal-policies-tips) for City snow removal policies and tips. If you have concerns with the plowing of your street, please call 509-576-6713.

Property owners are responsible to remove snow from sidewalks in front of their homes or businesses. The best time to shovel snow is immediately after it falls, before ice forms.

After clearing the sidewalk of snow, you may choose to apply an ice-melting substance. The City of Yakima recommends use of Calcium Chloride, (sometimes called "hot melt") rather than Sodium Chloride (Rock Salt) because it is less damaging to sidewalks and plants. Also, it works at a much lower temperature, so it is more effective in freezing conditions.

Those with a home or business on a street corner are advised to remove snow from sidewalk ramps and dig out fire hydrants as a safety precaution.

Other snow-related tips for residents:

- Don't throw snow from your sidewalk or driveway into the street - it's against the law.
- To avoid snow covering your driveway from city plows, shovel snow to the left of your driveway into your yard and not the street.
- If you are elderly, disabled or have other special conditions that makes snow removal hazardous, please contact 2-1-1.
- Put safety first. Drive only if necessary during winter storms. Dress warmly and prepare for travel delays. Carry blankets, flashlights, water and other emergency supplies.
- Try to keep your vehicle off the street. If you must park on the street, park as close to the curb as possible.
- Don't follow a de-icing spray truck, snowplow or sanding truck too closely. They may stop suddenly or spray sand, rocks or other material.
- Do not sled on streets or sidewalks.

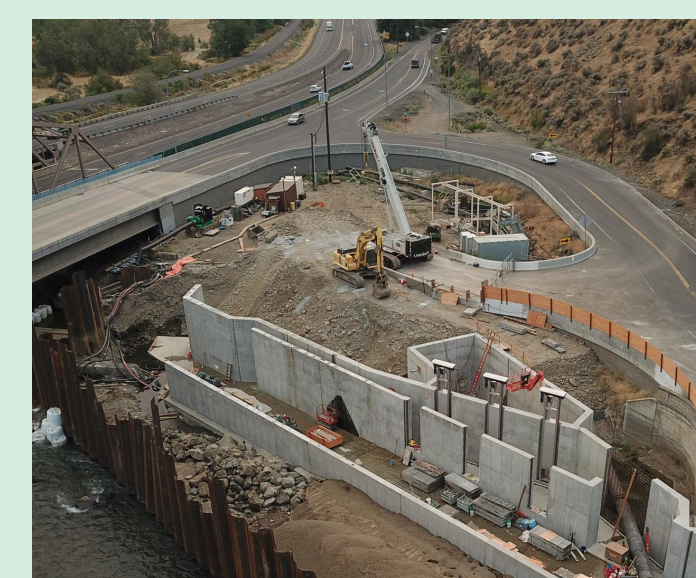
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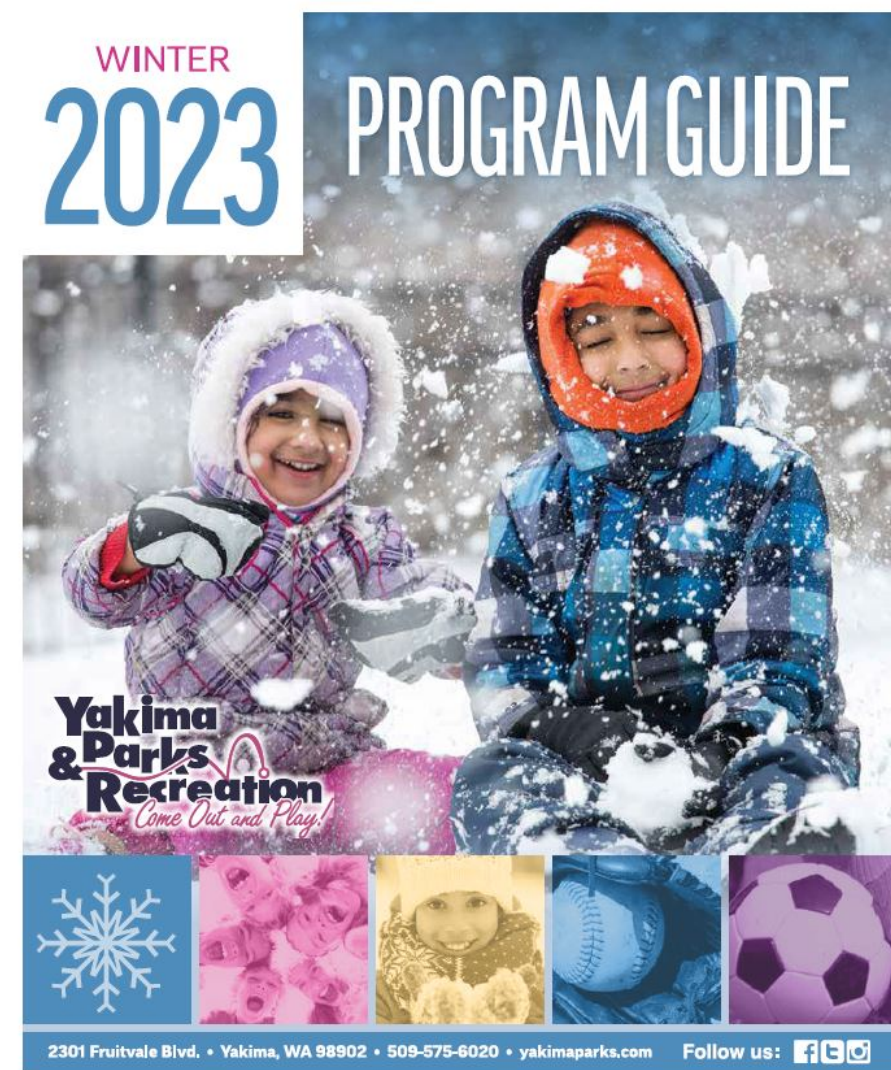


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Winter Program Guide available



April Pools Day (a free family swim activity) and an Egg Hunt/Candy Dash are just a few of the activities in the 2023 Winter/Spring Program Guide issued recently by Yakima Parks and Recreation.

The 16-page guide – which also includes information on winter co-rec volleyball, Fisher Park Golf, youth soccer, the Harman Center and much more – is available at Yakima Parks and Recreation offices (2301 Fruitvale Boulevard) and online at [2023-YPR-Winter-ProGuide.pdf \(yakimaparks.com\)](https://www.yakimaparks.com/2023-YPR-Winter-ProGuide.pdf).

For more about City of Yakima organized Winter/Spring activities call Yakima Parks and Recreation at 509-575-6020.



Holiday Helpers

On Dec. 10, Yakima Parks & Recreation's third annual Letters to Santa drive-thru event was held at the City Public Works facility. Staff provided colorful decorations, lights and treats during the free event.

Help us help you during winter garbage pick-up

The public's cooperation is much appreciated to help City of Yakima refuse operators keep on schedule during winter weather.

To provide the best service possible, the City's Refuse Division is asking customers to:

- Make sure garbage carts are accessible and clear of all snow and ice at the curbside
- Maintain a 36-inch-wide path around the garbage carts to enable equipment to safely pick them up
- If your garbage cart is not collected on the normal pickup day, leave it out so it can be collected later
- Do not jam garbage into carts



- If you live on steep terrain, please bag your garbage, as operators may need to drive a smaller refuse vehicle to retrieve your garbage.

Having it bagged allows operators to remove refuse in a safe and timely manner.

- Maintain clearance and access around dumpsters
- Avoid parking on the street on collection days to ensure access to your garbage cart.

While trying to maintain regular schedules, garbage collection could be suspended if a street is considered unsafe due to snow and icy conditions.

If you have any questions, please contact the City of Yakima Refuse Division at 509-575-6005.

Yakima City Council action summary for December 2022

Yakima City Council action during meetings in December included:

- Issuing a Homeless Persons Memorial Declaration
- Receiving a Yakima County public safety radio presentation
- Approving a resolution amending the Fire and Life Safety Fee Schedule
- Receiving the City Administration report on Regional Crime Lab
- Ranking ARPA grant applications to Yakima County
- Adopting the City Council business meeting schedule for 2023
- Amending the six-year Transportation Improvement Plan for 2023 through 2028
- Amending the lease agreement with Grace City Outreach
- Tabling the first reading of an ordinance creating a Parking Services Fund
- Apple Award for Rich Hunt
- Recognition of Corrections Officer Edward Opsahl for 21 years of service
- A grant with the Department of Commerce to provide funding to private and public utilities to help address residential customer arrearages as a result of the COVID pandemic

Complete minutes and agendas from council meetings are available at [Agendas and Minutes | City Council \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/Agendas-and-Minutes).



2022 in review

From Nelson Dam to the NBA, from community action to community partnerships, 2022 was an eventful year for the City of Yakima.



follow the City of Yakima on social media:



watch City meetings any time, on demand:



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The City of Yakima Issues Brief e-Newsletter is published monthly by the City's Community Relations Office.

Questions? Suggestions?

Contact Community Outreach Specialist John Fannin at 509-249-6858 or John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov.