

ISSUES BRIEF

July 2023 - Vol. XIII, Issue 7, Number 131

City celebrates Miller Park upgrades



A ribbon-cutting with state and local community partners on June 22 marked completion of work at Miller Park.

Completion of a project nearly three years in the making was celebrated June 22nd with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Miller Park.

A partnership led by Yakima Parks & Recreation created a host of improvements including new rims, backboards, lighting and fencing for basketball courts, performance area, walkways, restrooms, playground, picnic shelter and mosaics.

The mosaic murals, including a “selfie” butterfly mural at nearby Washington Fruit Community Center, 602 N. 4th Street, were made possible by the Millennium Foundation and its partnership with Tieton Mosaics.

In addition to community support, the Miller Park Improvement Project received \$625,000 in state funds.

A fundraising drive for Miller Park improvements was launched in September 2020 by Yakima Parks & Recreation in collaboration with local community members.

Miller Park celebrates a centennial this year. The City of Yakima purchased the nearly 4-acre site at 4th Street and E Street in 1923 and developed Miller Park as the City’s first designated neighborhood park.

Sister City visit

In June, the Yakima Police Department and Yakima Fire Department welcomed visitors from the City of Yakima sister city, Morelia Michoacán.

The delegation, which included Morelia Fire Chief Camacho, is pictured with Yakima police during a tour at the Richard Zais Law and Justice Center.



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Briefly

City begins sewer line inspections

The City of Yakima Wastewater Division is managing a project to inspect the condition of 360 miles of public sewer pipelines.

Work began June 12 and is expected to continue through 2025. It is being performed by RedZone Robotics, Inc. from Warrendale, PA.

Pipelines will be accessed through manholes that may be located in the backyard or side yard of residential properties, in city streets and rights-of-way.

During this project, the public may notice RedZone vehicles, crews and equipment in the area. Inspection work is scheduled for completion in 2025. RedZone will be working 7 am to 7 pm, seven days a week.

There may be brief, occasional traffic impacts.

For more information, or if there is a sewer manhole on your property requiring special attention or scheduling, contact Wastewater Operations Superintendent Marc Cawley at marc.cawley@yakimawa.gov or (509) 575-6077.

Residents asked to conserve water

Summer 2023 is expected to be a drier-than-usual season, which means it's a good time to be aware of our water usage and make every drop count.

Suggestions from the City's Water/Irrigation Division include:

- To reduce evaporation, water the lawn in early morning or evening. Avoid watering during the heat of the day or when it is windy.
- Check toilets for leaks.
- Don't let the bathroom sink run while wetting your toothbrush, brushing your teeth or when shaving
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks.
- Keep a bottle or pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator. This eliminates letting the tap run while waiting for water to get cold.

City's annual chip sealing program is now underway

The City of Yakima Streets Division began its annual chip sealing program on June 26th.

This year's project will be completed in the following order:

- 40th Avenue to 48th Ave, Tieton Drive to Nob Hill Blvd
- 40th Avenue to 48th Ave, Tieton Drive to Summitview Ave
- 32nd Ave to 40th Ave, Tieton Drive to Nob Hill Blvd
- 1st St to railroad tracks, D St north to the freeway

The City will have flaggers on site to help drivers access their homes and businesses and also assist emergency vehicles through the work areas as needed..

There will be intermittent road closures and detours during the project. The chip seal program in these areas is expected to last three to four weeks.



Chip sealing is underway. Your help is needed...



Please do not park on the street during chip sealing



Please keep irrigation water off of the chip seal so oil sets up properly

Thank you!

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- 40th Ave to 48th Ave, Tieton Dr to Summitview Ave
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yakimawa.gov/services/streets/

Drivers are encouraged to avoid work zones if possible. In order to reduce dust and to keep work crews safe, 20-mile-per-hour speed limits will be strictly enforced on the streets where chip sealing is underway.

Access to homes and businesses on roads to be chip sealed may be restricted for short durations during the project.

It's Summer. City of Yakima crews are busy with several projects.

What are they?
What are traffic impacts?
Find out at www.yakimawa.gov



#KnowBeforeYouGo

From traffic signal upgrades to Nob Hill Boulevard resurfacing to chip sealing, the City of Yakima has several infrastructure projects now underway this summer.

Stay connected and follow our projects - and related traffic impacts - on our social media platforms and on the City website at <https://www.yakimawa.gov/>

Yakima parks offer free concerts, movies



The new performance area at Miller Park will host some of the Viva La Musica concerts this summer, including the Sept. 10th grand finale.

City of Yakima parks will be alive with the sound of music and movies during three different series this summer.

The Summer Sunset Concert Series at Franklin Park, 2101 Tieton Drive, is 6 pm to 8 pm on the following Fridays:

- July 7 Genevieve
- July 14 Rice
- July 21 Rod Giles Band
- July 28 Ockham's Razor
- Aug. 4 Naughty Pine
- Aug. 11 XYZ and the Boomers

Viva La Musica begins at Miller Park, on the corner of N. 4th St and E. E St. Miller Park will host the following concerts on Sundays from 5 to 7 pm:

- July 9th Rancho Unido
- July 16th Paso Firme
- July 23rd Super Escandalo

Martin Luther King Jr. Park, corner of S. 8th St. and E. Beech St. will feature Viva La Musica concerts 5 to 7 pm on the following Sundays:

- July 30th Los de Alla
- Aug. 6th Tormenta de Durango
- Aug. 13th Banda la Palmera

The Viva La Musica concert series finale for 2023 will be 4 pm to 7 pm on Sunday, Sept. 10th, at Miller Park. The concert will feature bands Raza Michoacana as well as Los Hermanos Gonzales.

The Outdoor Summer Cinema Series returns to the City's Chesterley Park, on the corner of 40th Avenue and River Road.

The movies will each begin at sunset, about 8:30 pm, on six Sundays. The film series features:

- July 9 Dora & The Lost City of Gold (PG)
- July 16 Lightyear (PG)
- July 23 Puss in Boots: The Last Wish (PG)
- July 30 Minions: The Rise of Gru (PG)
- Aug. 6 Shazam (PG-13)
- Aug. 13 Frozen (PG)

For more information, call 509-575-6020 or see Page 9 of the City of Yakima Parks and Recreation 2023 Summer Program Guide.

The guide is available at 2023-YPR-Summer-ProGuide-fpw.pdf (yakimaparks.com)

Remember your pets when traveling this summer

Pets provide comfort and companionship, but as the weather warms your vehicle can be unsafe or even deadly.

Temperatures in the Yakima area often top 90 and even 100 degrees during summer.

However, even on an 85-degree day, leaving your pet in a vehicle for just 7 minutes exposes them to temperatures reaching 100 degrees. After 30 minutes, the interior reaches 120 degrees.

Windows cracked open don't make a difference. Studies show even when windows are left open temperatures in a vehicle can reach dangerous levels.

The Code Enforcement Office reminds the community that those who leave pets in a vehicle in dangerous temperatures are subject to a \$500 fine per pet.

It's Hot Out!

Don't Leave Your Pet in the Car!



A car can overheat **even** when the window has been left cracked an inch or two.



Young, overweight or elderly animals, or those with short muzzles or thick or dark-colored coats are **most** at risk for overheating.



Shady spots offer **little** protection on hot days, and move with the sun.

90°
102°
120°

Even if the temperature outside is only 70°, the inside of your car may be as much as 20 degrees hotter!

On an 85° day, it only takes ten minutes for the inside of your car to reach 102°.

Within just 30 minutes, the car's interior can climb from 85° to a scorching 120°.

City Council action summary - June 2023

Yakima City Council action during its meetings in June included:

- Receiving update on condition of structures on W. Nob Hill Blvd in vicinity of S. 30th Ave
- Adopting the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for 2024-2029
- Amending City of Yakima Municipal Code Chapter 6.08 to adopt provisions of SB 5536, "Blake Fix"
- Recognition of Eisenhower High School athletic trainers Joel Buffum and Josh Holliday
- Authorizing agreement with Yakima Area Arboretum for operation and maintenance of Yakima's arboretum
- Proclamations for Juneteenth Freedom Week, Pride Month, Narcissa Whitman Chapter NSDAR Day
- Accepting design for Aquatic Center at Martin Luther King Jr. Park
- Approving appointments to City boards and committees

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

All council meetings air live on Y-PAC and online at [Live Stream | City Council \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/live-stream).



City Clerk send-off

Yakima City Clerk Sonya Claar Tee retired June 22nd after 31 years with the city.

With her family by her side, Claar Tee was honored for her many years of service to the city during the June 20th Yakima City Council meeting.



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.

City Directory

Airport:	575-6149
Animal Control:	575-6038
City Clerk:	575-6000
City Manager:	575-6000
Codes/Licenses:	575-6126
* Fire:	575-6060
Human Resources:	575-6090
Municipal Court:	575-3050
Parks:	575-6020
Planning:	575-6183
* Police:	575-6200
Refuse:	575-6005
Streets:	575-6005
Transit:	575-6175
Utilities:	575-6080
Wastewater:	575-6077
Water/Irrig:	575-6154
YCTV/YPAC:	575-6092

* NON-EMERGENCY. Call 911 in an emergency.