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City of Yakima e-Newsletter

# ISSUES BRIEF

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## Community input meetings set for possible MLK Jr. pool

*Two opportunities planned for Wednesday, June 12th*

Two community input meetings will be held Wednesday, June 12th, regarding the possibility of a community swimming pool at the City of Yakima's Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

The first meeting will be at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, June 12th at the Henry Beauchamp Jr. Community Center, 1211 South 7th Street.

It will be followed by a second community input meeting at 5:30 pm on June 12th at Yakima City Hall, 129 North 2nd Street. The 5:30 pm meeting will be held during the regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting scheduled that night.

Three conceptual swimming pool designs will be presented during both meetings by Miklos Valdez of the consulting firm Counsilman-Hunsaker.

Designs for the pool are based on the information provided from the Community Swimming Pool Ad Hoc Committee meeting notes from 2017.

Designs are also based on input received during the community input meetings, small focus groups, Yakima City Council Ad Hoc Committee and Park and Recreation Commission meeting in March of this year.



Currently, the City of Yakima's Martin Luther King Jr. Park, located next to Washington Middle School, has a spray park that is open each year from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. It is one of two spray parks offered by City of Yakima Parks and Recreation.

Members of the Yakima City Council Ad Hoc Committee are Mayor Kathy Coffey, Assistant Mayor Dulce Gutierrez and Councilmember Jason White.

"Miklos will share the concepts at the June 12th meetings and then answer questions and gather more input on the three designs," said Parks and Recreation Manager Ken Wilkinson. "He will also share estimated costs to construct and operate the possible pool."

Martin Luther King Jr. Park currently has a splash park, one of two the City offers.

During its regular meeting on January 15th, 2019, the Yakima City Council agreed to a feasibility study contract with Counsilman-Hunsaker for a pool at Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

The cost for the feasibility study with Counsilman-Hunsaker is not to exceed \$35,000.

The pool study is being funded through the City of Yakima's Real Estate Excise Tax 1 funds.

Click <https://yakimaparks.com/> for more about Yakima Parks and Recreation programs.

# City's investment policy receives praise

The City's investment policy has been recognized for meeting or exceeding standards of excellence.

In April, the Washington Public Treasurers Association recognized the City of Yakima's investment policy. City Finance and Budget Director Steve Groom shared the honor with the Yakima City Council during its May 21st meeting.

The award calls the City's investment policy an exemplary model for other cities.

The Yakima City Council laid the groundwork for this honor during its March 5th meeting. That's when it approved revisions to the City's investment policy. Those changes are intended to safeguard and provide stewardship of public funds.

Visit <https://www.yakimawa.gov/services/finance/> or call 575-6070 for more about the City's Financial Services Office.



*A state association's recognition of the City of Yakima's investment policy was shared during the City Council's regular meeting on Tuesday, May 21st. The honor states that Yakima's investment policy is an exemplary model for other cities.*

## Airport training

*In May, the Yakima Fire Department conducted an exercise at Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field. The Yakima Training Center Fire Department provided a mock-up of an aircraft fuselage for the exercise.*



## Briefly

### Parks and Recreation issues summer guide

The Summer 2019 Program Guide published by Yakima Parks and Recreation is now available.

The guide is available at the Yakima Parks and Recreation office, 2301 Fruitvale Blvd.

It is also available online at <https://yakimaparks.com/assets/2019-Summer-Program-Guide.pdf>

### Tahoma Cemetery tours available

Registrations are being accepted for free guided historic tours of Yakima's Tahoma Cemetery.

Tours will be at 6 pm on June 11, July 18 and Aug. 6. They will also be offered at 1 pm on Sept. 15 and Oct. 13.

Space is limited to 25 participants per tour. Call 575-6026 for more info.

Visit <https://www.yakimawa.gov/services/cemetery/> to learn more about Tahoma Cemetery.

# Pickleball courts planned for Franklin Park

## *Work now underway to create eight pickleball courts at City park*

The City of Yakima is starting work on creating eight courts for one of the nation's fastest growing sports – Pickleball.

Three of the six tennis courts at the City's Franklin Park will be converted to pickleball, a sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong.

Pickleball participants can play the sport either as doubles or singles with paddles and wiffle balls.

"The Franklin Park courts are older and need to be renovated," said Parks and Recreation Manager Ken Wilkinson. "We have a pickleball group that has agreed to help with the project and will provide volunteer labor and funding."

The renovation's cost is estimated at \$10,000, with City park maintenance staff providing most of the labor to save costs.

"We will also use the project as an opportunity to train staff on tennis court renovations, as well," said Wilkinson.



photo courtesy USAPA

*Pickleball is one of the nation's fastest growing sports. Eight pickleball courts are planned for the City of Yakima's Franklin Park.*

In addition, Sig Fossum with Sporthaus has agreed to assist with renovating the three Franklin Park tennis courts into eight pickleball courts, applying his experience in renovating other courts in the area.

"Once again, generous people in our community see a need and are willing to step up and do what it takes to make our community a better place," said Wilkinson.

For more about pickleball, visit the USA Pickleball Association (USAPA) website at <https://www.usapa.org/>

The USAPA has posted an introductory video about the sport at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=30&v=hGfk7wTBg3E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=30&v=hGfk7wTBg3E)

Click <https://yakimaparks.com/> for more about Yakima Parks and Recreation programs.

## Volunteers sought for City boards, committees, commissions

### *Community Review Board, Historic Preservation Commission among City volunteer opportunities*

The Yakima City Council is seeking volunteers interested in serving on City of Yakima boards, committees, and commissions.

The Community Review Board and Tree City USA Board each have one available position. There is one vacant youth position on the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Historic Preservation Commission has three vacancies and the Board of Appeals has two available openings.

It is the responsibility of the City Council to appoint people to serve on the governing bodies of those organizations.

The following boards and commissions have term expirations in June and may have positions vacant: Arts Commission, Henry Beauchamp Jr. Advisory Board and Parks and Recreation Commission.

There is no residency requirement for members of the Community Review Board, but the positions must represent different aspects of the public as a whole. Currently there is a vacancy on the board for a representative of the healthcare community.

The Tree City USA Board consists of five members who must live within Yakima city limits. Those with experience related to trees and other plantings, specifically training as arborists, are encouraged to apply, although not all positions on the board require such experience.

Youth members of the Parks and Recreation Commission must live within Yakima city limits and be between 16-22 years of age at the time of appointment in order to be eligible to serve a 2-year term.

There are seven members of the Historic Preservation Commission, all of whom serve four-year terms and must live within Yakima city limits. Currently there are three vacancies on the commission, which shall include at least three professionals who have experience in identifying, evaluating, and protecting historic resources and are selected from among the disciplines of history, architecture, architectural history, landscape architecture, historic preservation, planning, folklore, cultural anthropology, prehistoric and historic archaeology, American studies, curation, traditional building crafts, the practice of historic rehabilitation or restoration, finance and banking, law, real estate, or related disciplines.

There are seven members on the Board of Appeals who serve 3-year terms. It currently needs a mechanical contractor or developer to fill one of its vacancies.

There are no residency requirements for the current openings on the Arts Commission, whose members serve 4-year terms. The possible available positions on the commission needs to be filled by a community member.

There are seven members of the Henry Beauchamp Community Center Advisory Board, all of whom serve 4-year terms and must live within Yakima city limits. The board makes recommendations to the center operator and the City regarding management policies, operations, maintenance, and capital improvement needs. Appointees are based on recommendations of the board of directors.

Visit <https://www.yakimawa.gov/council/boards-commissions/> for more information.

Anyone interested in applying for board openings can download an application from the City of Yakima website – <https://www.yakimawa.gov/council/assets/Application-form-for-City-of-Yakima-Boards-and-Commissions.pdf> – or pick up an application at the City Clerk's office at Yakima City Hall.

For more information about current or future openings on City boards, committees or commissions, contact City Clerk Sonya Claar Tee by phone at 575-6037 or by e-mail ([sonya.claartee@yakimawa.gov](mailto:sonya.claartee@yakimawa.gov)).

# YPD celebrates Community Academy graduates



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<https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofYakimaWA>

## City Contacts

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

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

Questions? Suggestions?

Contact Community Relations Specialist John Fannin at 249-6858 or [John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov](mailto:John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov).