

CITY OF YAKIMA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Date: October 22, 2025

Time: 5:30 p.m

Place: City Hall Council Chambers

Staff: Connor Kennedy, Associate Planner

I. Call to Order Commission Chair

II. Roll Call Staff Liaison

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 9/24/25 Commission Chair

IV. Audience Participation Commission Chair

V. New Business Staff Liaison

VI. Old Business Commission Chair

HPC Postcards - updates

VII. Adjournment

Adjourn to next scheduled Historic Preservation Commission meeting November 26, 2025, at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers.



CITY OF YAKIMA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION Council Chambers, City Hall

Date: September 24, 2025

Time: 5:30 P.M.

Place: Council Chambers, City Hall, 129, N. 2nd St.

Staff: Connor Kennedy, Associate Planner/ Historic Preservation Liaison

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Bussey, Hall, and King were present, with Commissioners Edmonson and Mann absent.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 8/27/25

Commissioner Bussey moves for approval of minutes, passes unanimously

IV. Audience Participation

No audience participation

V. New Business

Commissioner Bussey presents a drafted letter to the commission in support of the Yakima Trolleys Organization which he would like the commission to present to City Council. The commission members discuss the contents of letter and decide to remove a paragraph from the draft. Commissioner King moves to send the letter as discussed to each member of City Council, Commissioner Bussey seconds the motion, vote passes unanimously. The commission discusses how they would like to deliver the letter and decide to have Commissioner Bussey email the Council Members directly. (copy of letter as sent has been included in this document).

VI. Old Business

HPC discusses postcard / certificate of appreciation campaign. The commission discusses how these postcards will be designed. Commissioner King motions to approve the proposed design, Chair Hall seconds the motion, motion passes unanimously.

Commissioner Bussey makes a motion to include a letter with future postcards, Commissioner King seconds, vote passes unanimously.

VII. Other Business

Commission Members

HPC discusses updating bylaws in the future but no actions are taken.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn to October 22, 2025 was passed with a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 P.M.



CITY OF YAKIMA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION Yakima City Hall 129 N. 2nd St, Yakima, WA 98901

September 25, 2025

To the City Council of Yakima:

In its capacity as an advisory commission to the City Council on matters of Yakima history and historic preservation (YMC 11.62.040 D.10) and to fulfill its obligation to safeguard structures which reflect significant elements of Yakima history (YMC 11.62.010 A), the Yakima Historic Preservation Commission writes the following.

Recently, a number of comments have been made to Council citing concerns about the Yakima Valley Trolleys, their cost of operation, and the status of their application to become a National Historic Landmark. We urge Councilmembers to employ discernment when evaluating these comments for veracity and relevance.

The City has enjoyed a long and productive relationship with the volunteers of the Yakima Valley Trolleys organization. Their combined efforts have kept a truly unique element of Yakima's history alive, operating, and accessible to all the city's residents for decades. The future of trolley operations and a potential National Historic Landmark within our city limits hang in the balance. Now is the time to strengthen the collaboration and work together to preserve an historic icon for future generations, rather than be wedged apart and see that icon lost to us all.

We are fortunate to have the trolley as an heirloom of Yakima's heritage and a vibrant thread in our cultural tapestry. The trolley is irreplaceable and we hope the Council will recognize the importance of preserving its tremendous historic value.

Respectfully,

The Yakima Historic Preservation Commission

Cynthia Hall, Chair Joe Mann Dawn King

Paul Edmondson Clayton Bussey