



CITY OF SELAH

115 West Naches Ave
Selah, Washington 98942

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Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

July 2025

Hello Selah from the desk of Mayor, Roger Bell

We have a truly exciting year in progress!

The 4th of July celebration was a huge success for an estimated 4,000 people in attendance at Carlon Park and surrounding properties during the fireworks show. Thank you to the SDA and volunteers for your hard work in putting this on. A shoutout to all of the City Departments that provided assistance in making this year's event special.

At the first Council Meeting in July I started out by recognizing the entire Selah Downtown Association's Design Committee for their year-round work in beautifying the City. Their work includes the flower boxes with bright flowers and seasonal displays; utility box wraps; the 98942 art piece establishing identity through colorful art; the Light the Way project; façade grants and many other endeavors. Each member of this hard-working committee received a Selah Community Pride Certificate and coin. Here is the list of special volunteers: Jen Sarett-Ibach, Patty Ferguson, Barb Petrea, Diana Pieti, Ellen Overby, Gerry Moore, Russell Carlson, Lisa Gordon, Bob Bell, Liam Sarett and Cambree Gordon. Please take a moment to thank them when you see them out doing their amazing work.

During the regular Council Meeting we approved resolutions authorizing the purchase for the Police Dept of six 40mm Less-Lethal Launchers and related supplies; one to have HLA continue with the Wastewater Treatment Plant design; also, one allowing for the continued use of funds for Public Transportation for 2025-2027 years; and the last resolution was approving the new position of Assistant Fire Chief. This was followed by three ordinances related to changes needed for the new Asst Fire Chief.

We conducted an open public hearing followed by a closed public hearing both concerning a rezone at Primrose properties allowing for an upscale thrift store to be built. This will create an estimated 45 new jobs in Selah. It will also improve property and sales revenues for the City.

Councilmembers Peterson and Costello along with myself attended the AWC Annual Conference in Kennewick in late June. We each gave a report on trainings we attended during the Council Meeting.

Yes, we had a fire. Sadly, we lost 3 homes as a result; but on the positive side, there were no injuries caused by it. Control of the fire was achieved by an exceptional early response. We had at least 15 agencies respond in mutual aid bringing 80 personnel and many pieces of equipment. This included 2 helicopters and a plane dropping water along with evacuation orders extending to 10th Street. We are extremely fortunate that this was not much worse. The work from not only fire and police departments but also public works, Civic Center,

Red Cross, and County Emergency Services to mention a few should make us all proud that we live in a region quick to respond to emergencies.

At the 2nd Council Meeting we held a study session to discuss options on a new municipal building to house Police, Court and City Hall. The regular meeting started with the reading of a proclamation honoring the Yakima Training Center's long partnering with the City all based on the occasion of the United States Army celebrating it's 250th anniversary. (See attached proclamation) After that we held two closed public hearings on hearing examiner recommendations for Primrose II property and the old Selah Convalescent nursing home. They followed with resolutions completing the actions. The last item was a resolution authorizing the City to apply for a grant for expansion of the Brader Hill reservoir.

The grind and overlay on 3rd Street is in full construction phase including the Orchard Ave water and sewer improvement. The road around the triangle on Fremont and Speyers is included with this project with the repaving of that section completed. Need more information on any of these? Just stop by or give me a call.

NOTE: as soon as the paving is done on 3rd, there will be a closure of 1st Street to extend a sewer line across on Orchard. This will have an affect travel between Naches and Fremont; but access to all businesses will be maintained. This should be a short duration.

I am in the office almost every day and willing to meet with citizens to discuss your concerns and ideas for improving Selah.

Remember to be at Wixson Park for National Night Out on August 5th. This will be another one of those great community events that you will not want to miss.

That is all for this month. Have a safe and fun summer. I look forward to giving my next month's update.

If you wish to be added or removed from the Mayor's Monthly email please send a message to michelle.damron@selahwa.gov

Roger Bell, Selah Mayor



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PROCLAMATION #2025-02

PUBLIC PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF SELAH REGARDING THE YAKIMA TRAINING CENTER

WHEREAS, the City of Selah, Washington proudly proclaims it's heartfelt recognition of the Yakima Training Center on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the United States Army, honoring their enduring legacy of courage, sacrifice and service; and

WHEREAS, the Yakima Training Center is a vital military installation providing essential training grounds for generations of soldiers who have dedicated themselves to protecting the freedoms and values cherished by all of our residents; and

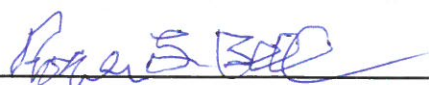
WHEREAS, the men and women who serve and train at the Yakima Training Center exemplify unwavering commitment, resilience and patriotism, thereby strengthening the security and determination of the United States; and

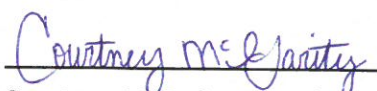
WHEREAS, the families of active duty service members provide indispensable support and make profound sacrifices which are integral to the success of their loved ones service and the vitality of the military community; and

Whereas, the City of Selah embraces it's deep connections and partnerships with the Yakima Training Center and the United States Army and continue to recognize those who serve and their families as a vital part of our community,

NOW, THEREFORE, as Mayor, I hereby proclaim that the City of Selah is joining with other Cities of the Yakima Valley in identifying as a City that proudly supports our military and honors the historic significance of the Yakima Training Center; and pledge continued support, gratitude and respect for their service. I further call upon all who identify as the Selah Community to take a moment to reflect on the freedoms we all enjoy due to their service; and to take an opportunity to thank them as they interact within our City.

ISSUED THIS 22nd DAY OF July, 2025


Roger Bell, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Courtney McGarity, City Clerk

