

ISSUES BRIEF

June 2024 - Vol. XIV, Issue 6, Number 142

Free parking available in Downtown Yakima

Monthly parking permit fees reduced, now available online and City Hall

The Yakima City Council approved a number of changes related to downtown parking that took effect June 1st. They include:

- Reducing the parking violation ticket amount to \$20
- Reducing long-term parking pass costs to \$20 per month
- Ensuring adequate parking for visitors and employees
- Making parking lot parking free for 3 hours
- Making street parking free for 2 hours, while leaving flexibility for street parking time limits
- Changing the boundaries of the area wherein people may qualify to apply for parking permits in city-owned parking lots

Parking permit applications are available online at <https://yakimawa.thepermitportal.com/>

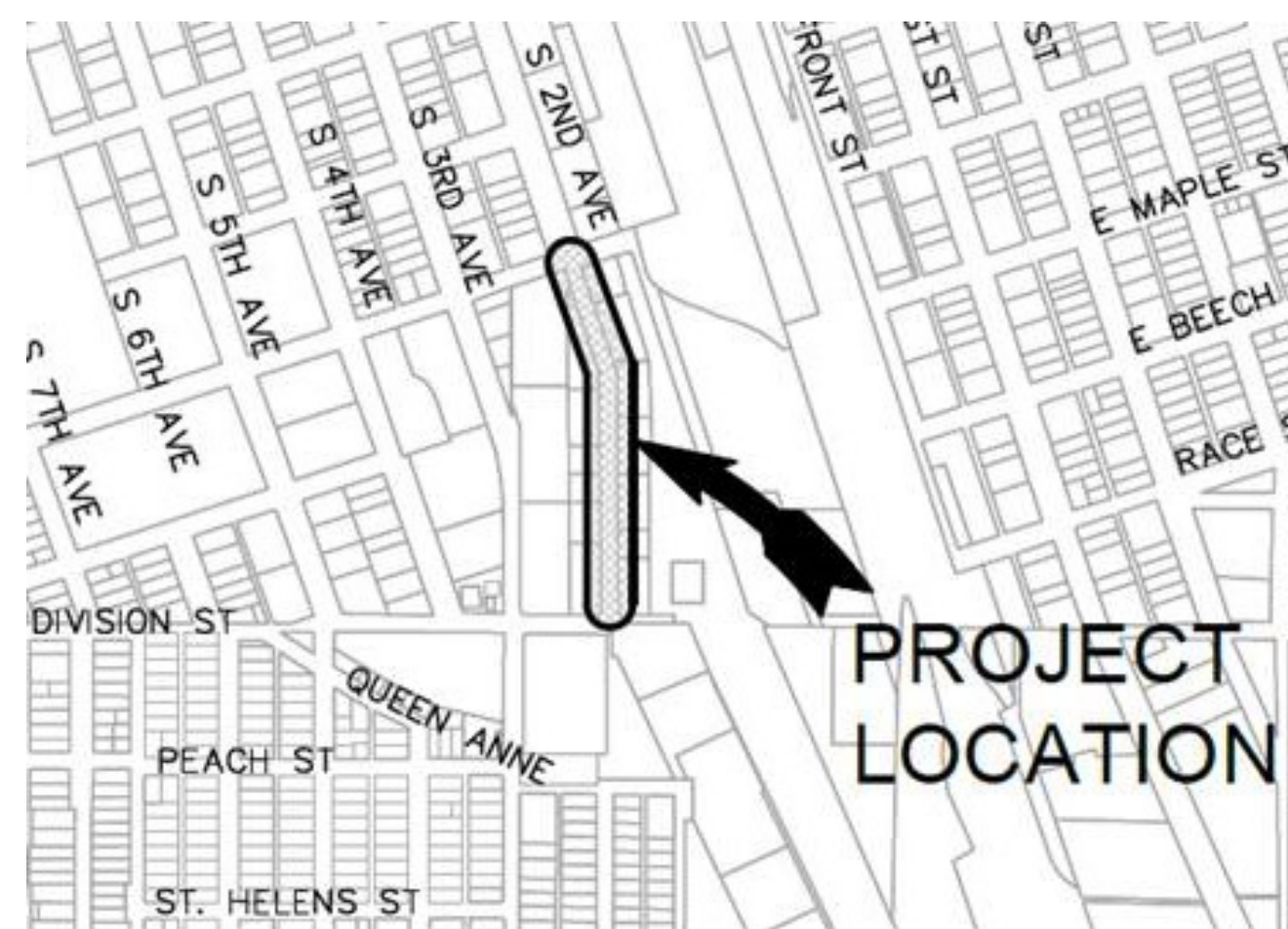
Permits can be paid for online with a card or with cash/check in person at Yakima City Hall customer service windows.



City of Yakima replacing 2nd Avenue water line

City of Yakima crews are replacing and upgrading the water system on S. 2nd Ave between Division St and W. Pine St. Work began June 3rd and is scheduled to be complete by August.

“The existing 12-inch,100-year-old cast-iron water main is being replaced with a new 12-inch ductile iron water main, including new system valves, fire hydrants and water services,” said Water/Irrigation Manager Mike Shane. “Replacement will greatly reduce any on-going maintenance or future repairs. We look forward to working with the community to improve the water system in this area.”



Although local access will be maintained, construction activities may temporarily affect properties in the project area. Traffic will be directed around the immediate areas of construction.

Temporary road closures may be necessary at times. Detours will be in place to provide local access.

Once the new water system has been installed, there will temporary water outages while the new system is being placed into service. A minimum of 24-hours advance notice will be provided for all scheduled water outages.

Contact Water/Irrigation Manager Mike Shane at 509-576-6480 or mike.shane@yakimawa.gov for more about the project

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City receives over \$4.9 million to extend water/wastewater utilities to unserved areas

The City of Yakima was awarded a federal grant of more than \$4.9 million to extend domestic water and wastewater services to currently unserved areas of the community.

The grant funding covers the cost of two of three phases of a project that will bring water and wastewater services to areas with mostly low-income, minority residents who currently rely on wells and septic systems.

The \$4,949,298 grant comes from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Drought Response Program.

"This will help the City of Yakima provide a reliable source of drinking water for hundreds of residents who currently rely on shallow private wells vulnerable to drought and contamination," said U.S. Senator Patty Murray.

Areas in the northeast, northcentral, southcentral and southern parts of Yakima are included in the project.

"This will help the City of Yakima provide a reliable source of drinking water for hundreds of residents who currently rely on shallow private wells vulnerable to drought and contamination."



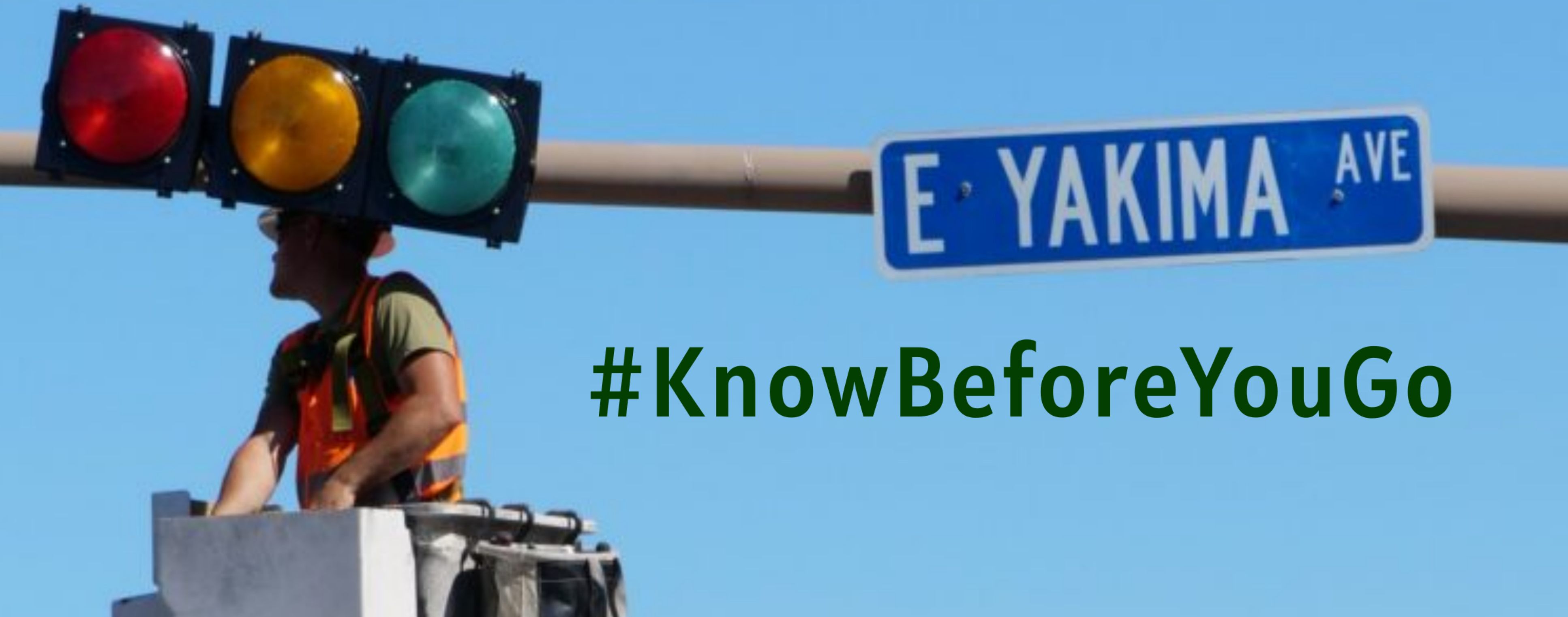
- U.S. Sen. Patty Murray

"Most of the State of Washington is in a drought emergency, with the Yakima region being hit the hardest," said U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell. "Connecting Yakima neighborhoods that currently rely on deteriorating wells to the City of Yakima's water system will help conserve water supplies and ensure more Yakima households have safe water to drink."

The City has applied for additional funding to complete the third phase of the three-phase project. "There are still some processes the City has to complete before the grant funding is distributed," said City of Yakima Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler. "Once those processes are done, a timeline for the first two phases of the project will be established."

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

Briefly

Downtown Summer Nights at new venue

Downtown Summer Nights returns for free concerts every Thursday, 6 to 9 pm, from June 13 to Aug. 22 (excluding the first Thursdays in July and August).

This year the series moves to Rotary Marketplace at 15 W Yakima Ave.

Each night feature a theme:

- 6/13 - Noche De Parranda
- 6/20 - Blue Jeans and Country Dreams
- 6/27 - Ancestral Beats
- 7/11 - Big Band Bash
- 7/18 - Carnival Euphoria
- 7/25 - Sunset Grooves
- 8/8 - Made in Yakima
- 8/15 - 80s vs 90s
- 8/22 - Cookout and Kick Back

More details are available at www.facebook.com/DowntownSummerNights/

Juneteenth closures, celebration planned

City of Yakima offices and most non-emergency services will close Wednesday, June 19, to observe the Juneteenth holiday.

Closures include City Hall, the Public Works office, the Y-PAC office and the Harman Center. Business offices for the police and fire departments will be closed. Emergency services will remain available. Yakima Municipal Court will be closed.

Yakima Transit will not provide bus service on June 19th. Garbage pick-up will not be delayed, but the Refuse Division office will be closed June 19th.

Yakima Parks & Recreation is among local groups participating in a Juneteenth celebration Saturday, June 15, noon to 5 pm at Southeast Community Park. It includes food, music, Mr. & Ms. Juneteenth, free throw or 3-point challenge and resource booths.

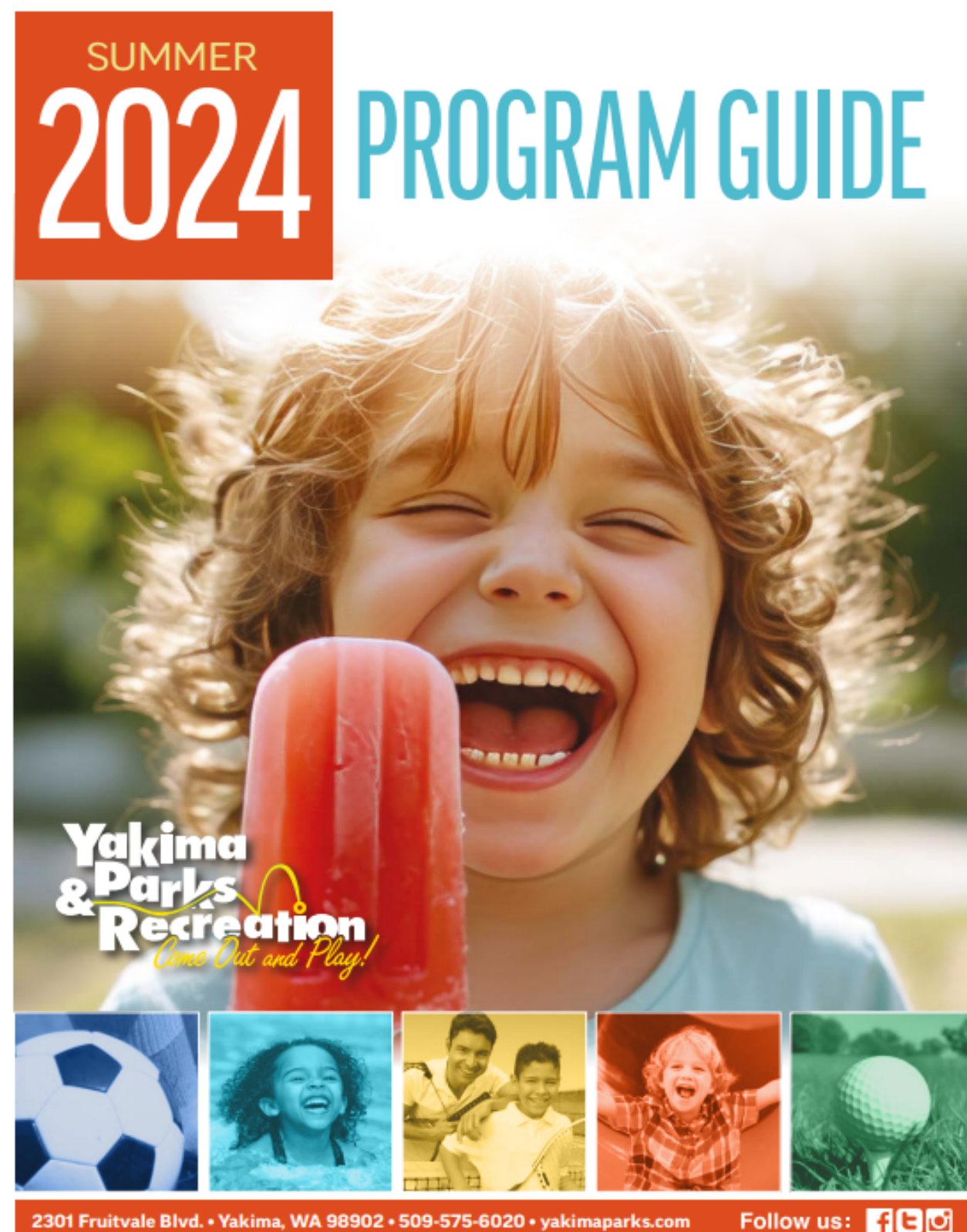
Visit oicofwa.org or call Carol Garza at 206-660-4127 for details.

Harman Center drive continues to June 30

Through June 30th the City's Harman Center is collecting toiletry items for the local Veterans Coalition.

A list of items needed for the drive is available at yakimaparks.com/senior-center/

Yakima Parks & Recreation publishes Summer 2024 guide



The 16-page Summer Program Guide also includes information about:

- Recreational sports lessons, tournaments and leagues
- Citizenship classes at Washington Fruit Community Center
- Summer day camps at Miller and Kissel parks
- Schedules for the free:
 - Viva La Musica series
 - Summer Sunset Concert series
 - Outdoor Summer Cinema series
- A summer blood drive June 7th at the Harman Center

The 18th annual "Paws in the Pool," at Franklin Pool and an update about the Aquatic Center at MLK Jr. Park are just a few of the highlights in the 2024 Summer Program Guide recently issued by City of Yakima Parks and Recreation.

The guide is now available at the Yakima Parks and Recreation office (2301 Fruitvale Boulevard), as well as online at yakimaparks.com.

The guide also has information about Franklin Pool, which opens June 15th for the summer season.

For more information about City of Yakima organized summer activities, visit yakimaparks.com.

Or call Yakima Parks & Recreation at 509-575-6020 for more information.



Please be alert for these traffic signal outages, 6:30 am to noon:

- June 5th 1st Ave & Lincoln Ave
- June 26th 3rd Ave & Lincoln Ave
- July 10th 5th Ave & Lincoln Ave
- July 17th 5th Ave & Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
- July 24th 3rd Ave & Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
- July 31st 1st Ave & Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
- August 7th 16th Ave & Yakima Ave
- August 14th 16th Ave & Summitview Ave
- August 21st 16th Ave & Fruitvale Blvd



Stop signs will be posted while signals are dark
Outages required to upgrade traffic signals

Thank you for your patience!

City of Yakima crews will conduct a series of traffic signal head upgrades at intersections over the next several weeks. The intersections listed above will be reduced to a single lane of traffic in each direction, with stop signs posted in all directions

City Council action summary - May 2024

Yakima City Council action during its regular meetings in May included:

- Authorizing agreement with Tri-Valley Construction, Inc. for South 2nd Avenue Water Main Project 2792
- Authorizing agreement with GN Northern for construction materials testing at the Aquatic Center at MLK Jr. Park
- Authorizing an agreement with Cascade Fire Equipment Inc. for purchase of one KME Custom Pumper Apparatus for the Yakima Fire Department.
- Authorizing the Johnson & Johnson opioid settlement
- Authorizing a memorandum of understanding between the Yakima Police Department, the Yakima School District, and Education Services District 105 to implement a "Handle with Care" program

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

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

City encourages water conservation

Drought declared statewide

With nearly all of Washington, including Yakima County, in a state-wide drought, City of Yakima officials encourage water conservation during what is expected to be a dry summer.

"As we manage our water supply for both our domestic and irrigation systems throughout the summer months, we ask all of our customers to use our water wisely and help us conserve this valuable resource," said Water/Irrigation Manager Mike Shane. Water-saving tips can be found at www.yakimawa.gov

Examples include:

- Water the lawn 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 sink run while wetting your toothbrush, brushing your teeth or 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 the water to get cold.

The City of Yakima provides domestic water service to over 72,000 residents, as well as commercial, industrial and institutional customers. Its main source is the surface water supply from the Naches River through the City's Water Treatment Plant (WTP).

On May 21st, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation began prorationing water supplies for junior water right holders in the Yakima River Basin due to expected drought conditions. Prorationing is currently at 54%, which means junior water right holders are only allowed to take 54% of their surface water right. Senior water rights are unaffected.

"The City of Yakima's domestic surface water supply is made up of both junior and senior water rights," said Shane. "So, when prorationing occurs during storage control, our surface water supply is reduced due to our junior water rights, but our senior water right is not."

The City also has a secondary water supply in the form of four deep groundwater wells. "These are a backup to our surface water supply," Shane said. "If system demands cannot be met by the WTP, we can supplement the supply with our groundwater wells. The wells ensure we have sufficient water supply during prorationing."

Contact Water/Irrigation Manager Mike Shane at 509-576-6480 with any questions about the City of Yakima water supply.



follow the City of Yakima on social media:



watch City meetings any time, on demand:



City of Yakima
129 N. 2nd Street
Yakima, WA 98901
509-576-6614
<https://www.yakimawa.gov/>

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
Purchasing	575.6093
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.**