



# Annual Report 2011

A Publication for the Pasco Community





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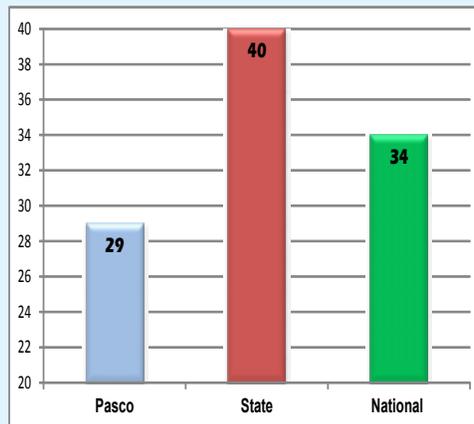
**Gary Crutchfield,**  
City Manager  
citymanager@  
pasco-wa.gov

The past year saw some real progress on the goals set by the City Council in spring 2010. Perhaps foremost was finalization of the understanding between the city and the State Department of Ecology on the amount of additional water rights needed by the city to offset its current level of consumption. That agreement was augmented by commitment of \$2.6 million from the state principally to help construct a new pipeline near the I-182 bridge so the city can move more water from the river to its irrigation system on the plateau. When complete, that project will help several hundred households convert from domestic water to irrigation water, freeing up an equivalent amount of water rights. The long-term agreement will also provide a means for the city to accommodate future community growth.

On another utility, the City Council approved the principles of an agreement with the Port of Walla Walla that will sell a small portion of the unused capacity of the existing sewer plant. The agreement ensures a stream of annual revenue to the city in addition to an initial lump sum payment of nearly \$1 million.

The City was forced to find a new police chief in 2011, as Chief Denis Austin retired from public service. Chief Austin was instrumental in the reduction of the city's crime rate during the 16 years he was chief; it dropped from 95 victims per 1,000 population in 1995 to 29, which is well below the state and national averages. One of the most important missions of the year was to find an able replacement; we have done just that with the October hiring of Chief Bob Metzger.

**Current Crime Rate**  
(victims per 1,000 population)

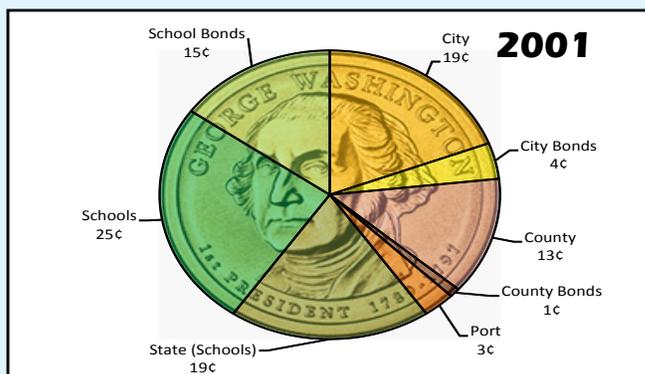


The year ended with the voters' approval of the public safety sales tax measure increasing the local sales tax by three-tenths of a cent. That new revenue stream will not only solve the county jail problem, it will allow the city to hire additional police officers for a "gang task force" as well as construct a new city court and police station over the next decade. All of these efforts will greatly strengthen the community's resolve to keep our crime rate low and quality of life high.

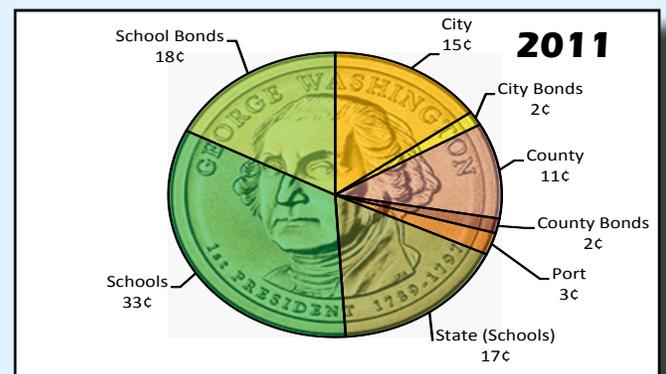
Of course, the most discussed issue of the year was the initiation of talks between the city, fire district and Franklin County to determine if an annexation agreement between the three agencies would be the best method of carrying out city annexation of the "donut hole" (that portion of the west side of Pasco not yet annexed to the city). That effort should reach a decision point by spring of the new year.

On the financial side, the city's finances strengthened a bit in 2011, reflecting further recovery from the dramatic loss experienced in 2009. The 2012 legislative session may bring more pain, however, as the state may have to reduce some of the funds it shares annually with cities. In 2010, Pasco received nearly \$1 million in "state shared revenues" (like liquor profits and taxes, etc.); a substantial portion of those funds could disappear by 2013, as the state solves its own budget woes.

Despite the financial uncertainties, the city was able (once again) to reduce its share of the property tax rate for the ninth time over the past 10 years. As can be seen in the illustration, the city's commitment over the past decade has reduced the city's share of each property tax dollar from 23 cents in 2001 to only 17 cents in 2011, a reduction of 26% and the largest reduction of any of the agencies receiving property tax from city residents.



**Distribution of Property Tax Dollar, 2001 vs. 2011**





# Public Works

## Service Standard

To maintain all city streets, maintain and operate all water and sewer facilities. Construct new facilities and to ensure the highest level of public satisfaction and safety.

Staff: 75  
Director:  
Ahmad Qayoumi



City Engineer:  
545-3444  
Water Quality:  
545-3469  
Sewer Maintenance: 545-3463  
Street/Water Maintenance: 545-3463  
After Hours Emergency: 545-2737  
engineering@pasco-wa.gov  
wwtp@pasco-wa.gov  
streetmaintenance@pasco-wa.gov



## 2011 Accomplishments

### Pavement Management Program

The Public Works Department implemented a new pavement management program designed to preserve scarce resources while maintaining the best quality streets and roadways possible. Under the prior approach, City streets were typically scheduled for asphalt overlays every 15 years. While this approach has been very successful in maintaining virtually pot-hole free streets over the years, the new program employs new techniques which have great preventative value to extend pavement life and stretch tax dollars further.

### 4th Avenue Corridor

Design work was completed in 2011 for improvements to the 4th Avenue Corridor from Sylvester Street to I-182. Bidding the project will take place early in 2012 with construction expected to be completed during the year. A \$350,000 federal grant will supplement a state grant and local funding to complete the project which will include landscaping, pedestrian improvements, bike lanes and the installation of a traffic circle where 3rd and 4th Avenues and Marie Street converge (north end of Volunteer Park).

### Lewis Street Overpass

While construction funding for the replacement of the Lewis Street underpass with a new overpass structure has not yet been secured, considerable progress on the project was made in 2011. The project construction design is 100% complete and approximately 80% of the necessary right-of-way for the project has been secured. When completed, the new overpass will enhance traffic circulation and safety while accommodating further commercial growth in the area.

### Sanitary Sewer Master Plan

The City has undertaken a planning effort to comprehensively evaluate the City's current and future sanitary sewer needs within its urban growth area. The plan will forecast future treatment plant needs as well as major sewer line location and sizing. This important work will help the City respond to growth, plan for needed facility placement and anticipate major expenditures. The plan is expected to be completed by October 2012.

### Road 68 Corridor

In early 2012, the City will complete a traffic study of the Road 68 Corridor from Sandifur Blvd to south of the I-182 interchange. The study area also extends east to include Convention Drive near the TRAC facility. The study will focus on traffic volume, traffic movements and access management. It is expected that the plan will identify improvement measures for implementation later in 2012; measures to be undertaken in the next 2-5 years; as well as longer term improvements which may be in the 5-20 year time horizon. The City anticipates that improvements identified in the Road 68 Corridor Plan will improve traffic flow and safety while providing the most reasonable access to properties within the corridor.



## 2012 Goals

### Traffic Signal Optimization

Engineering will complete work on a comprehensive plan for optimizing capacity of the City's traffic signal system. When implemented, the City will be able to remotely monitor intersections and other locations and respond to emergencies and traffic flow problems. These improvements will enhance public safety and efficiency in the transportation system.

### Process Water Reuse Facility

The City's Process Water Reuse Facility, which provides specialized food processing water treatment (in lieu of more expensive sanitary sewer) and has facilitated in excess of \$125 million in investment in the community, was constructed in 1995 and is nearing original design capacity. The City completed an analysis and improvement plan for the facility in 2011 and is scheduled to begin implementation of improvements (funding by the process water customers) which will increase treatment capacity by some 20%, allowing for expansion of operations for existing users or the opportunity for construction of a new food processing facility that will use the system.



# Community and Economic Development

## Service Standard

To promote and oversee economic and community development; administer land use, housing, property maintenance & construction regulations.

Staff: 15  
Director: Rick White



Planning and Zoning:  
545-3441  
Code Enforcement:  
543-5743  
Building Permits:  
543-5726  
Block Grant Coordinator:  
543-5739  
communitydevelopment@pasco-wa.gov

## 2011 Accomplishments

### Code Enforcement

Pasco code enforcement officers issued over 3,500 correction notices for municipal code violations in 2011. Of this number, approximately 1,500 were issued for dog license violations, 275 for rental and business license violations and 1,300 for property nuisances such as junk vehicles, weeds, accumulations of litter and debris, lack of required garbage removal service and housing and building code violations. Also included were approximately 125 courtesy correction notices issued to address RV's, basketball hoops and utility trailers stored in public streets.



### Bike/Pedestrian Plan

The Updated Bike/Pedestrian Plan was adopted by the City Council in October as a supplement to the

City's Comprehensive Plan. This plan addresses and prioritizes bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements for the entire City.

### Heritage Industrial Park

The rail switch and spur feeding into the Heritage Industrial Area was completed during the second quarter of 2011. Funding is being sought to extend the spur line by an additional 6,000 feet and complete the project before the end of 2012. The new line will open up this area for rail-dependent industrial investments.

### Downtown Revitalization

The Downtown Pasco Development Authority was incorporated as a non-profit organization, full Board appointments were made and the DPDA held its organizational meeting in May of this year.

### Kurtzman Neighborhood

In 2011, the second phase of the Kurtzman Neighborhood Improvement Plan was implemented. Curb, gutter, sidewalk, street, street lighting, storm drainage, and utilities have been installed in the central portion of the neighborhood through a combination of owner investments and federal funds. City Council authorized the use of Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to reduce the cost of improvements in this area and help minimize the financial impact to lower income households. The third phase of the Improvement Plan is expected to be completed by mid-2012 through the recent formation of a third local improvement district (LID). Under the LID, property owners will be assessed a proportionate share of the improvements, and CDBG funds will be used to reduce overall property owner costs and provide payment assistance for qualifying low income homeowners.



## 2012 Goals

### Industrial Development

Partner with the Port, TRIDEC and others to actively market the economic development opportunities offered by the Heritage Industrial Center, Foster Wells Industrial Area and the SR 12 Industrial Corridor. Each area provides favorable marketing, transportation and infrastructure characteristics, and development within these areas will result in private investment in the community which expands the tax base and provides for job growth.

### Infill Incentive Program

Many small sites suitable for commercial/industrial development exist in the older part of Pasco and already have some of the required infrastructure (water, sewer, street, etc.) in place. To encourage small businesses to use those sites and add to the city's commercial/industrial tax base, the City Council approved an "infill incentive program." The new program reimburses a percentage of the public improvement costs incurred by a business in order to use one of the older sites (such as widening the street, extending a water line, etc.), depending upon the value of the project. It is intended that the program, over time, will result in a notable increase in small business development in the older part of the city – reducing the number of vacant parcels and increasing the city's tax base.





# Administrative and Community Services

## Service Standard

Provide a wide range of services to the community, including: leisure and recreation, public facilities, customer service, and internal support to all city departments.

Staff: 46  
Director: Rick Terway



City Clerk: 544-3096  
Facilities: 543-5757  
Finance: 545-3420  
Recreation: 545-3456  
Administrative Services: 543-5757  
Customer Service: 545-3488  
Information Services: 545-3419  
acsadmin@pasco-wa.gov  
cityclerk@pasco-wa.gov  
customerservice@pasco-wa.gov  
recreation@pasco-wa.gov

upgrades for tracking and schedules, as well as the ability for staff to easily run rosters and information for recreation programs. Perhaps the biggest improvement is that participants can now create their own account online with an easier and faster process. If you haven't been to this new site take a minute to view it at [www.pascoparksandrec.com](http://www.pascoparksandrec.com).

firm specializing in the management of golf courses. Sun Willows is the best golfing value in the Tri-Cities. From the beginner to the more advanced player, Sun Willows offers a great golfing experience.



## 2012 Goals

### Park Projects

The city will be working on several park projects this year. A new restroom at Chiawana Park east end, located closest to the boat launch, should be in operation prior to park opening in April 2012. Included in this project is an upgraded playground which will be located near the parking lot off of Road 88. Chiawana Park roads and parking areas, as well Gesa Stadium parking lot, will receive asphalt treatment, extending the life of the pavement an additional 10 years.



### Tournament Increase

The city hosted a total of 20 softball/baseball tournaments during the months of March through September. The city partners with the Tri-Cities Visitors and Convention Bureau and the cities of Richland and Kennewick on many of these tournaments to accommodate bringing larger groups to the area that otherwise would not be possible. Seven of the tournaments were new to Pasco in 2011, including an NSA event which brought in 15 teams as well as an invitational tournament that brought in 22 teams in one day. Our largest tournament of the year was in June and brought in 150 teams to the area. These tournaments bring in visitors to the region and increase revenue for many regional businesses.

### Golf Course Operation

The city has a new management company for operation of Sun Willows Golf Course. After years of leasing the facility to a private company for its operations, the city will now retain more control over day to day activities, using the experience of a

### Rivershore Master Plan

The City of Pasco along with the cities of Kennewick and Richland, the Ports of Pasco, Kennewick and Benton, Franklin and Benton Counties, Ben-Franklin Transit and the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau are working to complete a master plan for rivershore improvements for the Tri Cities portion of the Columbia River. TREC (Tri-Cities Rivershore Enhancement Committee) will be working to design common signage, gateways and access points to the river, throughout the urban segment, to improve the ties between the river and the community.



## 2011 Accomplishments

### Capital Park

Capital Park, located in the Linda Loviisa Subdivision, was 95% completed in 2011. A few items such as benches, trash receptacles, etc., are left for completion in the spring. The park features 2 small shelters, basketball court, trails, and, of course, a playground. It appears by the depressions around the merry-go-round and large play structure that the playground is already being well used. Funding for the park project comes from park impact fees, derived from new residential construction.

### New Recreation Software

Recreation Services Division launched a new recreation management software. The system provides many



# Police Department

## Service Standard

To reduce crime, the fear of crime & improve the quality of life in Pasco.

Staff: 79  
Police Chief,  
Bob Metzger



Administrative:  
545-3481  
EMERGENCY: 9-1-1  
Records Information: 545-3421  
Detective Division: 545-3484  
Non-Emergency Dispatch: 545-3510

## Mini-Stations:

Downtown 544-3085  
Alderwood 545-3415  
Kurtzman 545-3411  
Broadmoor Square 547-5740  
pascopolice@pasco-wa.gov

## 2011 In Review

### New Police Chief

In October the Police Department welcomed new Police Chief Bob Metzger. Chief Metzger came to Pasco from the Midwest where he was a police chief in various departments over a span of 18 years. Over his career he has been involved in many community policing efforts and has initiated changes that have improved efficiency in the departments he has served. In addition to this he has mentored new police chiefs to help them become successful. Chief Metzger looks forward to continuing the efforts of the Department that have made Pasco a great place to live and work.

## 2011 Accomplishments

### Continued Low Crime Rate

Pasco's major crime index continues to remain low relative to other cities in the state of Washington. The Department

continues to target specific crimes through pro-active patrol and efforts toward maintaining our quality of life, keeping our community safe.

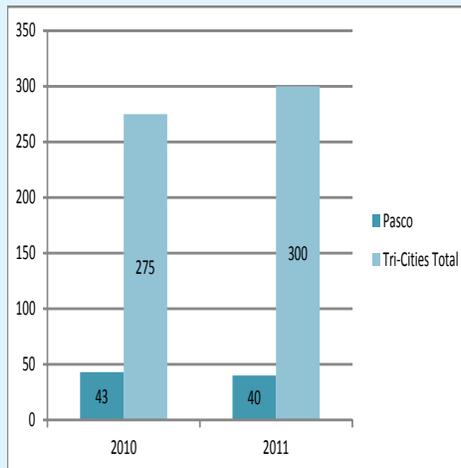
### Public Safety Sales Tax

Voters approved the public safety sales tax initiative in November 2011 with nearly 62% of the county's voters in favor. The sales tax of .3% is scheduled to be collected beginning April 1st and is limited to 30 years. The Department will play a major role in the implementation of two of the three specific undertakings identified by the City, in association with the ballot measure: increasing gang suppression efforts and new facilities for the growing Police force.

### Gang Sweeps

This year the Department, in conjunction with area departments from Benton and Franklin counties, conducted two gang sweeps. These sweeps resulted in the arrest of 40 gang members for warrants ranging from narcotics to weapons offenses in Pasco. For the Tri-City area in 2011, some 300 arrests have been made during the various sweeps that have been done. This continues to be a focus of the department.

### Gang Sweep Arrests, 2010-2011



## 2012 Goals

### Emergency Communications

In conjunction with other public safety providers in the two counties, the Department is assisting the evaluation of police and other emergency radio systems. Numerous studies have been done to determine the needs, costs and benefits. The goal is to have evaluation work completed so that decision and implementation work can begin this year. The need for quality, cost effective communications is vital to not only the officers but also citizens who are in need of police and emergency services.



### Street Crimes Unit

One of the major needs identified prior to the passage of the sales tax was the suppression of street gangs. The Department has identified a plan for a new street crimes unit. The unit will consist of 4 officers, trained and deployed to target groups or individuals that are committing crimes on a continuing basis. Such crimes may range from graffiti to burglary and robbery. The new unit will have the flexibility to quickly address crime trends and serious public safety issues. The new unit is expected to be operational by the end of the year.





# Fire Department

## Service Standard

To provide rapid mitigation of fire, rescue, hazardous materials & provide medical emergency services with compassion, integrity, and respect for the people we serve.

Staff: 52  
Fire Chief, Bob Gear



EMERGENCY 9-1-1  
Administrative:  
545-3246  
Burn Information:  
544-3098  
pascofire@pasco-wa.gov

## 2011 Accomplishments

### Emergency Response Planning

Through the process of working toward our 2011 goals, the Fire Department has been able to cultivate many new relationships that will have far reaching, positive impacts to the City. The Department helped establish the Franklin County Fire Chief's Forum to discuss issues that are specific to emergency services delivery within greater Franklin County. These meetings quite naturally evolved into discussions with both the administrative and political components of Franklin County Fire District #3 regarding the urban growth area. The most notable accomplishments of the forum during 2011 were the development and endorsement of the Franklin County Master Mutual Aid Plan and greater involvement with the Franklin County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

### Communication Improvements

Involvement with the Franklin County Fire Chief's Forum provided an opportunity to advance emergency communications throughout the



County. Throughout this process, the Fire Department has worked extensively with the Franklin County Communications Center in the development of dispatch guidelines and protocols. We have also worked with Franklin County Information Services to expand the capabilities of the Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD) system in order to streamline processing times and provide necessary time-critical information to response agencies throughout the bi-county area.

### Grant Funding

The commitment to provide a more cohesive service to the citizens of Pasco and the greater Franklin County has afforded many opportunities for securing alternative funding. The Department aggressively sought and leveraged additional funding through a variety of grants and programs. The Department was able to secure grant funding in excess of \$100,000 to leverage local tax dollars for equipment and training, including: training reimbursements (\$20,000); technical rescue equipment upgrades (\$10,000); and wildfire equipment and training (\$78,000).



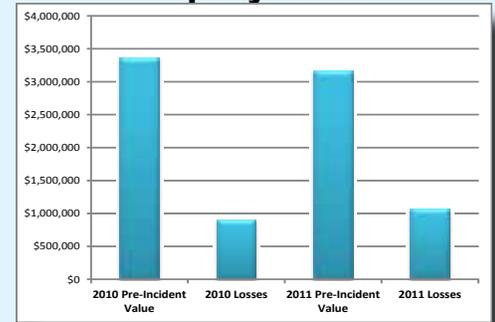
## 2010/2011 Statistics

	2010	2011
Ambulance	3016	3268
Fire/Other	793	952
Total	3809	4220**

\*\*This represents a 12% increase in calls for service

The average response time (turn-out time + travel time) for 2011 was 6.29 minutes.

## Property Losses



## 2012 Goals

- Continue efforts to improve the bi-county emergency communication system.
- Maintain effective partnerships with city and county departments.
- Develop an efficient means of delivering training programs while maintaining response readiness.
- Continue to leverage alternative funding sources to minimize local cost for maintaining equipment inventories and programs.





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Pasco, WA 99301-0923

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## City of Pasco 2011 Annual Report

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### City Council & Managers:

Mayor Matt Watkins (At Large) 416-6696, [councilmatt@mattwatkins.net](mailto:councilmatt@mattwatkins.net)

Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Francik (Dist. 5) 545-6134, [francikcouncil@pasco-wa.gov](mailto:francikcouncil@pasco-wa.gov)

Councilman Mike Garrison (Dist. 2) 545-3404, [Mike.g@a-lcompressedgases.com](mailto:Mike.g@a-lcompressedgases.com)

Councilman Tom Larsen (At Large) 545-9916, [tomlarsenpasco@aol.com](mailto:tomlarsenpasco@aol.com)

Councilman Bob Hoffmann (Dist. 3) 547-7373, [rshoff@juno.com](mailto:rshoff@juno.com)

Councilman Al Yenney (Dist. 1) 547-8021, [yenneycouncil@pasco-wa.gov](mailto:yenneycouncil@pasco-wa.gov)

Councilman Saul Martinez (Dist. 5) 547-7285, [martinezcouncil@pasco-wa.gov](mailto:martinezcouncil@pasco-wa.gov)

City Manager Gary Crutchfield, 545-3404, [citymanager@pasco-wa.gov](mailto:citymanager@pasco-wa.gov)

Deputy City Manager Stan Strebel, 543-5760, [strebel@pasco-wa.gov](mailto:strebel@pasco-wa.gov)

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