



... the best of the best of the Northwest.

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Agenda
February 25, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Live stream of the meeting may be viewed on the City's website at <https://www.wallawallawa.gov/government/city-council>. Members of the public also may attend and participate in this regular meeting by using this Zoom meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81396862609> or by calling 253-215-8782 and entering meeting ID 813 9686 2609#.

Individuals who need auxiliary aids for effective communication are encouraged to make their needs and preferences known by contacting the Human Resources Department at 509-527-4475.

Mission: Dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in Walla Walla.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: (3 Min. Time Limit) Persons making irrelevant, personal, impertinent, overly redundant, vulgar, or slanderous remarks that disrupt, disturb or otherwise render orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible may be barred by the presiding officer from making further comments before the Council during the meeting.**

The public may comment at this time on matters of City business. To provide comments virtually, please use the Zoom meeting link, raise your virtual hand, wait to be recognized, and then unmute. If you are calling in, dial *9 to raise your virtual hand, wait to be recognized, and dial *6 to unmute the connection. Public comments may also be provided by emailing the City Clerk at CityClerk@wallawallawa.gov

If you would like to request staff follow-up regarding your public comments, please email your contact information (email and phone number) to CouncilFollowup@wallawallawa.gov and please summarize the topic of your comment so it can be directed to the correct department.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Pgs. 3-6 Resolution 2026-012: Authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract with ATS Inland Northwest for maintenance and support of the City's HVAC energy management system in the amount of \$94,892
- B. Pgs. 7-17 Resolution 2026-013: Approval of 2026 Walla Walla County EMS Levy Contract

- C. Pgs. 18-22 Resolution 2026-014: Acceptance of Greater Health Now \$228,000 grant to support the CARES program
- D. Pgs. 23-27 Approves the minutes of the February 11, 2026 Regular Meeting.

6. **ACTIVE AGENDA**

- A. Pgs. 28-47 Resolution 2026-015: Approves the recommendation from the City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner for the Harvey Ranch Village Subdivision Preliminary Plat. (CLOSED RECORD - QUASI JUDICIAL)
- B. Pgs. 48-55 Resolution 2026-016: Authorizes a professional services contract with Turner & Townsend Heery for owner's representative services for the library renovation project.
- C. Pgs. 56-154 Continued Discussion of Process and Potential Appointment to Fill Vacancy in Walla Walla Council Position #6

Possible Resolution 2026-017 Appointing _____ to fill the vacancy in Walla Walla City Council Position #6.

7. **COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS**

8. **UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION - IF COUNCIL DETERMINES IT TO BE NECESSARY**

- A. Executive Session Subject: QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATE FOR APPOINTMENT TO ELECTIVE OFFICERCW 42.30.110(1)(h) To evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. However, any interview of such candidate and final action appointing a candidate to elective office shall be in a meeting open to the public.

10. **MEETING ENDS**

Values: Service, Integrity, Collaboration, Equity, Leadership, and Community

The City of Walla Walla complies with Title VI, ADA, and other applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex.



ar-5907

Pgs. 3-6

City Council - Regular Meeting

Meeting Date: 02/25/2026

Item Title: Authorize contract with ATS for HVAC control system

Submitted For: Andy Coleman, Parks and Recreation, Parks Administration

Financial Comments:

The total 5-year contract amount is \$94,892.

All Contracts:

Yes

Federally funded contracts only:

Not Applicable

Construction contracts only:

Not Applicable

Brief Summary of Requested Action:

Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with ATS for support and maintenance of the City's HVAC control system.

Information

HISTORY:

The City of Walla Walla currently uses Alerton systems to provide environmental control and central monitoring of its mechanical and HVAC systems. City maintenance staff will use this maintenance plan to augment their knowledge and keep the City's HVAC systems optimized. The top priorities are to lower costs on energy consumption and prevent lapses in functionality.

The goals of this agreement include:

- Develop a regular maintenance relationship to promote automated operation of the building systems, minimize facility downtime and conserve energy
- Support City staff with pre-season inspections/maintenance with regularly scheduled service visits
- Keep system software current
- Maximize the capabilities of the Energy Management System

This contract is a 5-year agreement.

The procurement method is sole source, since ATS Inland Northwest is the only authorized company to provide maintenance to the Alerton Energy Management System.

POLICY ISSUES:

Contracts over \$50,000 require City Council approval.

PLAN COMPLIANCE:

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

CFU Policy 4.3 Support energy efficiency by encouraging the use of energy efficient building designs and land use.

ALTERNATIVES:

Choose not to have support and maintenance for the City's HVAC controls and energy management systems.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with ATS for support and maintenance of the City's HVAC control system.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

Concur with staff recommendation and approved for City Council action.

Attachments

Res 2026-012

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-012

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH ATS INLAND NORTHWEST TO PROVIDE SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE FOR THE CITY'S HVAC CONTROL SYSTEM AND RELATED WORK, AND TAKING SUCH FURTHER ACTION NEEDED THEREWITH

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla passed Municipal Ordinance A-2405 on May 13, 1970 which classified the City of Walla Walla as a nonchartered code city under Title 35A of the Revised Code Washington (RCW); and

WHEREAS, the Washington Supreme Court held in *U. S. v. Town of Bonneville*, 94 Wn.2d 827, 832, 621 P.2d 127 (1980) that optional code cities organized under RCW Title 35A have “the broadest powers of local self-government consistent with the Constitution of this state.” RCW 35A.01.010. Such municipalities are capable of entering into contracts without restriction[;]”and

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla uses Alterton systems to provide environmental control and central monitoring of the city's mechanical and HVAC systems; and

WHEREAS, the city needs maintenance and related work for its HVAC control systems; and

WHEREAS, ATS Inland Northwest is the only authorized company to provide maintenance for the Alterton Energy Management System; and

WHEREAS, RCW 39.04.280 supplementary authority to cities to waive competitive bidding requirements for purchases which are clearly and legitimately limited to a single source of supply; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla City Council has considered this matter during a regularly and duly called public meeting of said Council, has given this matter careful review and consideration, and finds that good government and the best interests of the City of Walla Walla will be served by passage of this resolution,

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Walla Walla resolves as follows:

Section 1: The contract to provide support, maintenance, and related work for the city's HVAC control system is awarded to ATS Inland Northwest. The City Manager, and designees of the City Manager, are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to execute such purchase orders, contracts, agreements, and other documents that may be required; provided that sufficient appropriations therefor have been made by the Walla Walla City Council.

Section 2: The City Manager of the City of Walla Walla, and designees of the City Manager, are hereby authorized and empowered to execute amendments, modifications, and change orders to the purchase orders, contracts, agreements, and other documents

authorized by this resolution on behalf of the City of Walla Walla; provided that sufficient appropriations have been made by the Walla Walla City Council, and provided further that the amendments, modifications, and change orders are reported to the City Council and made available for public inspection.

Section 3: Competitive bidding requirements are hereby waived for the procurement of support and maintenance services for the city's HVAC control system.

Section 4: The City Clerk of the City of Walla Walla is hereby authorized and directed to attest the purchase orders, contracts, agreements, and other documents authorized by section 1 herein and any amendments, modifications or change orders authorized by section 2 herein, and to attach to each duplicate thereof a copy of this resolution.

PASSED by the Walla Walla City Council on February 25, 2026.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

City Attorney



ar-5869

Pgs. 7-17

City Council - Regular Meeting

Meeting Date: 02/25/2026

Item Title: Approval of 2026 Walla Walla County EMS Levy Contract

Submitted For: Fred Hector, Fire/Ambulance Department

Financial Comments:

The City budgeted \$1,875,000 in revenue from the EMS Levy. Once the City receives the 2026 levy amount, the Finance Director will propose a revenue budget adjustment that will be approved by the City Council later in 2026.

All Contracts:

Not Applicable

Federally funded contracts only:

Not Applicable

Construction contracts only:

Not Applicable

Brief Summary of Requested Action:

Approval to accept the Walla Walla County EMS Levy distribution of funds for contracted Emergency Medical Services within Walla Walla Valley.

Information

HISTORY:

The City of Walla Walla has provided Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county through inter-local agreements with Walla Walla County for the past 30 plus years. The first agreement was instituted with the passing of the initial Walla Walla County EMS Levy and provides for distribution of EMS levy monies collected by the county. The agreement also provides the legal description of the response area served by the City of Walla Walla. The defined response area meets the Washington State approved South Central EMS and Trauma Care Plan for the Walla Walla area of the South Central Region.

POLICY ISSUES:

Contract is an interagency agreement pursuant to RCW 39.34 requiring City Council authorization.

ALTERNATIVES:

Not approving this resolution would require us to find other funding options to maintain the service that we provide, as this provides for approximately 1/4 of the EMS operating budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends City Council approve the 2026 EMS Levy Contract for Emergency Medical Services.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

Concur with the staff recommendation and approved for City Council action.

Attachments

Res 2026-013

EMS Levy Contract

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-013

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WALLA WALLA TO EXECUTE AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WALLA WALLA COUNTY AND EXECUTE AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND TAKING OTHER ACTION CONNECTED THEREWITH

WHEREAS, Chapter 39.34 of the Revised Code of Washington authorizes political subdivisions to enter into intergovernmental cooperation agreements, and

WHEREAS, commercial ambulance service is not readily available in the City of Walla Walla and surrounding rural areas and such areas are not adequately served by existing private ambulance service, and the City is authorized to operate an ambulance and emergency medical service in such areas pursuant to RCW 35.21.766, RCW 35.23.456, RCW 35A.11.020, and RCW 35A.21.160; and

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla provides emergency medical services as defined by RCW 36.01.030; and

WHEREAS, Walla Walla County is authorized by RCW 36.01.095 to establish a system of emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, Walla Walla County is authorized to make arrangement and provide for ambulance and emergency medical services pursuant to RCW 36.32.470 and RCW 36.01.100; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla City Council has reviewed an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Walla Walla and Walla Walla County regarding emergency medical services during a regularly called public meeting of said Council, has given said agreement careful review and consideration, and finds that participation in the agreement is an appropriate function for the city and that the best interests of the City of Walla Walla will be served by entering into the agreement,

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Walla Walla resolves as follows:

Section 1: The terms of a certain intergovernmental agreement between the City of Walla Walla and Walla Walla County regarding emergency medical services are accepted on behalf of the City of Walla Walla, and the City Manager of the City of Walla Walla, and/or the designee of the Walla Walla City Manager, is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute the agreement on behalf of the City of Walla Walla, and the City Clerk of the City of Walla Walla is hereby authorized and directed to attest said agreement and to attach to each duplicate thereof a copy of this resolution.

Section 2: The City Manager of the City of Walla Walla, and/or the designee of the Walla Walla City Manager, is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute such amendments to the agreement authorized by section 1 herein subject to the following conditions: (a) no amendment by the executed in accordance with this section shall relieve

the City of Walla Walla from compliance with enactments of the Walla Walla City Council or any other obligation or responsibility imposed by law, (b) any amendment executed in accordance with this section shall be reported to the Walla Walla City Council at the first meeting of the Walla Walla City Council following its execution, and (c) any amendment executed in accordance with this section may be revoked and terminated by the Walla Walla City Council at the meeting that it is first reported to the Walla Walla City Council.

Section 3: Unless revoked and terminated by the Walla Walla City Council at the meeting that it is first reported to the Walla Walla City Council, the Walla Walla City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to attest any amendment executed in accordance with section 2 of this resolution after the meeting at which the agreement is reported to the City Council and prior to its entry in force.

PASSED on February 25, 2026 by the Walla Walla City Council.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

**WALLA WALLA COUNTY
INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
2026**

AN AGREEMENT by which the **CITY OF WALLA WALLA**, a municipal corporation, hereinafter referred to as CITY, agrees to provide certain emergency medical services to Walla Walla County, a municipal corporation, hereinafter referred to as COUNTY, in accordance with the provisions of the Interlocal Cooperation Act, RCW 39.34.

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla County Commissioners recognize the need for a comprehensive emergency medical services program in Walla Walla County, and

WHEREAS, the County of Walla Walla has no full time Fire Department or Emergency Medical Services staff, and

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla through the utilization of its resources is equipped to operate and administer Emergency Medical Services as defined by RCW 18.73.030(10), and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto recognize the advantages to be gained from the establishment of a single integrated comprehensive Emergency Medical Services Program, and the County has the authority pursuant to RCW 36.01.095 to establish such a system, Now, Therefore, the parties agree as follows:

WITNESSETH:

1. Ambulance response and transportation within Walla Walla County will be limited to the agencies assigned areas of response and transport as provided in Appendix A.
2. The City agrees to provide emergency medical services for the term of this agreement and in so doing shall provide all personnel and equipment required for such service. The City shall provide advanced life support, technician services, as defined by RCW 18.71.200 and WAC 248-15, to the County of Walla Walla. In connection therewith, the City further agrees to provide sufficient qualified personnel and equipment to operate such emergency medical care services twenty-four (24) hours every day. The area to be served by the City's emergency medical services is described in Appendix A, attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein. This agreement does not preclude contracting with a provider for these services so long as the provider complies with Department of Health regulations.
3. **The County shall pay to the City the annual sum of One Million Nine Hundred Forty-One Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars (\$1,941,427) to be used only for provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services under this agreement, including related personnel costs, training for such personnel, and related equipment, supplies, vehicles, and structures needed for the provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services pursuant to RCW 84.52.069(5). Distribution by the Walla Walla County Treasurer's Office shall be made at least every two months with the distribution method determined by the County Treasurer.**
4. The City agrees to provide said services Twenty-four (24) hours per day, Seven (7) days per week.

When said service is required and dispatched, the City's operator of such service shall be ready to respond to such assignment, provided, however, that should the operator be temporarily unable to provide services because of conditions beyond its control, including but not limited to illness or other disability of operator's employees or failure as to operator's vehicles or equipment, the dispatcher shall be immediately notified to that effect and shall also be notified when the operator is once again able to respond to emergency calls. Persistent and repeated failure by the City's operator to notify the dispatcher of unavailability shall be deemed just cause for immediate cancellation of this contract by Walla Walla County without the necessity of providing the notice specified.

5. The City, its employees, and contract providers shall comply with all applicable State and Federal laws and ordinances relating to the operation of emergency medical services and County EMS protocols.
6. The City agrees to save and hold the County harmless from any and all causes of action, judgments, claims, or demands, or from any liability of any nature rising out of omissions of the City's employees or agents; and, the County, likewise, agrees to save and hold the City harmless from any and all causes of action, judgments, claims, or demands, or from any liability of any nature rising out of the exercise of this agreement due to the acts or omissions of the County's employees or agents.
7. This contract shall be in effect from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026, provided, however that each party shall have the option to terminate the contract by giving the other party Sixty (60) days advanced written notice thereof. Funds payable by the County to the City shall be prorated for the term remaining in the contract.
8. In the event a new contract is not executed by January 1, 2027, and the parties continue to cooperate in this program, this agreement shall be deemed to continue from month to month until written notice of termination is given, as outlined above.
9. Any modification to this agreement shall be made by both parties in writing.
10. The County shall have the right at all times to inspect and review the records maintained by the City and the County Auditor of expenditures by the City of sums received by it under this agreement, in order to comply with any requirements made of the County by the State Auditor, and for any other purposes deemed necessary.
11. The City has no authority, as agent or otherwise, to bind the County to any legal obligation with any other entity, and the City and its employees and agents are independent contractors as to the County and are not the agents or employees of the County.
12. If sufficient funds are not received by the County from EMS tax revenues for payment under this agreement for any fiscal period, the County will prorate and distribute available funds. The Department of EMS shall have priority for the budgeted amount for the year and remaining available funds will be distributed to EMS agencies. No penalty or expense shall accrue to the County in the event this provision applies.
13. All collected back taxes will be distributed to the agency at the next scheduled distribution date.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have set their hands this _____ day of _____, 2026.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

WALLA WALLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

City Manager

Chairman

Attest:

Commissioner

City Clerk

Commissioner

Approved as to form:

Attest:

City Attorney

Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form:

Prosecuting Attorney

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

2013

APPENDIX A

The area to be served by the Advanced Life Support response and ALS emergency medical transport services of the City of Walla Walla Emergency Medical System shall include all portions of Walla Walla County, **except:**

THAT portion of Township 7 North, Range 31 East, W.M.; lying within Walla Walla County, North of the Walla Walla River in Sections 25, 26, 27 and 28.

AND all of Sections 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,15,16,17,18,, and those portions of sections of 19, 20, 21, 22, North of the Walla Walla River; and those portions of sections 1,12,14,23, lying generally North and West of the east right of way of Nine Mile Canyon Road; Township 7 North, Range 32 East, W.M.;

AND the part of section 6, Township 7 North, Range 33 East, lying West of Nine Mile Canyon Road;

AND all of Township 8 North, Range 30 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND all of Township 8 North, Range 31 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND all of Township 8 North, Range 32 East, W.M.;

AND all of Sections 4,5,6,7,8,9,16,17,18,19,30,31, those portions of Section 3,10 and 15 lying west of the line at 118 degrees 40' East, and those portions of Sections 20,29 and 32, lying West of a line lying parallel to the sections lines and intersecting with center of the intersection of Nine Mile Canyon Road, Dodd Road and Johnson Road, in Section 32, all in Township 8 North, Range 33 East, W.M.;

AND all of Township 9 North, Range 30 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND all of Township 9 North, Range 31 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND all of Township 9 North, Range 32 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND Township 9 North, Range 33, East, 1/2 of Section 6, lying N W diagonally, west of Highway 124;

AND Township 10 North, Range 32 East, W.M.-Sections 25 and 36: parts of Sections 26 and 35 that lie in Walla Walla County. Response restricted to the east and north side of Page Road from SR 124 to intersection of Fishhook Park Road. (South and west side of Page Road are District #5 response area.)

AND Township 10 North, Range 33 East, Sections 30 and 31.

The area to be served by the Basic Life Support transport services of the City of Walla Walla Emergency Medical System shall include all portions of Walla Walla County, **except:**

All of sections 1, 12, and 13, Township 8 North, Range 36 East, W.M.;

AND all of sections 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17, and 18, Township 8 North, Range 37 East, W.M.;

AND all of Sections 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, and 11, Township 8 North, Range 38 East, W.M.;

AND Section 12,13,24,25 and 36, Township 9 North Range 36 East, W.M.;

AND all of Township 9 North, Range 37 East, W.M.;

AND Section 1,2,3,10,11,12, and all those parts of sections 4,8,9,13,14,15,16, and 17, Township 6 North, Range 31 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND Section 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, and those parts of Section 15,16,17,18, lying within Walla Walla County, Washington, Township 6 North, Range 32 East, W.M.;

AND that entire portion of Township 7 North, Range 31 East, W.M.; lying within Walla Walla County;

AND all of Sections 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,27,28,29, 30,31,32,33, and 34, and those portions of sections 1,12,14,23, lying generally North and West of the east right of way of Nine Mile Canyon Road; Township 7 North, Range 32 East, W.M.;

AND all of Township 8 North, Range 30 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND all of Township 8 North, Range 31 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND all of Township 8 North, Range 32 East, W.M.;

AND all of Sections 4,5,6,7,8,9,16,17,18,19,30,31, those portions of Section 3,10 and 15 lying west of the line at 118 degrees 40' East, and those portions of Sections 20,29 and 32, lying West of a line lying parallel to the sections lines and intersecting with center of the intersection of Nine Mile Canyon Road, Dodd Road and Johnson Road, in Section 32, all in Township 8 North, Range 33 East, W.M.;

AND all of Township 9 North, Range 30 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND all of Township 9 North, Range 31 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND all of Township 9 North, Range 32 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

AND Township 9 North, Range 33, East, 1/2 of Section 6, lying N W diagonally, west of Highway 124;

AND all of Township 10 North, Range 32 East, W.M. Sections 25 and 36; and parts of Sections

26 and 35 that lie in Walla Walla County. Response restricted to the east and north sides of Page Road from SR 124 to intersection of Fishhook Park Road. (South and west side of Page Road are Fire District #5 response area.)

AND all of Township 10 North, Range 33 East, lying West of the line at 118 degrees 40'; lying within Walla Walla County, Washington, **except** those portions of Sections 3, 4,7,8,9 and 10 within Walla Walla County.

The area to be served by the Basic Life Support response services of the City of Walla Walla Emergency Medical System shall include all portions of the City of Walla Walla.

Reviewed and updated 1/2/13

WALLA WALLA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 5

EMS Response Area for WWCO

Established: February 14, 1994

Section 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12 and all those parts of sections 8, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17, Township 6 North, Range 31 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

ALSO, Section 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and those parts of Section 15, 16, 17, 18, lying within Walla Walla County, Washington, Township 6 North, Range 32 East, W.M.;

ALSO, that entire portion of Township 7 North, Range 31 East, W.M.; lying within Walla Walla County;

ALSO all of Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34, and those portions of sections 1, 12, 14, 23, lying generally North and West of the east right of way of Nine Mile Canyon Road; Township 7 North, Range 32 East, W.M.;

ALSO, all of Township 8 North Range 31 E, W.M.; lying within Walla Walla County, Washington;

ALSO, all of Township 8 North, Range 32 E, W.M.;

ALSO all of Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 30, 31, those portions of Section 3, 10 and 15 lying west of the line at 118 degrees 40' East, and those portions of Sections 20, 29, and 32, lying West of a line lying parallel to the section lines and intersecting with center of the intersection of Nine Mile Canyon Road, Dodd Road and Johnson Road, in Section 32, all in Township 8 North, Range 33 E, W.M.;

ALSO, all of Township 8 North, Range 30 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

ALSO, all of Township 9 North, Range 30 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

ALSO, all of Township 9 North, Range 31 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

ALSO, all of Township 9 North, Range 32 East, lying within Walla Walla County;

ALSO, Township 9 North, Range 33 East, 1/2 of Section 6, lying N W Diagonally and west of Highway 124.

ALSO, Township 10 North, Range 32 East, W.M.-Sections 25 and 36 and parts of Sections 26 and 35 that lie in Walla Walla County. Response restricted to the west and south sides of Page Road from SR 124 to intersection of Fishhook Park Road. (North and east side of Page Road are Walla Walla ALS response area.)

ALSO, Township 10 North, Range 33E, W.M. Sections 24, 25.

All situate in Walla Walla County, Washington

Adopted by WWEMS & TC, 02-16-94
Reviewed and updated 1/1/13

COLUMBIA-WALLA WALLA JOINT FIRE DISTRICT #2

BLS Transport Service Area - WW County

Established: January 1, 2017

All of sections 1, 12, and 13, Township 8 North, Range 36 East, W.M.;

AND all of sections 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17, and 18, Township 8 North, Range 37 East, W.M.;

AND all of Sections 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, and 11, Township 8 North, Range 38 East, W.M.;

AND Section 12,13,24,25 and 36, Township 9 North Range 36 East, W.M.;

AND all of Township 9 North, Range 37 East, W.M.;



ar-5891

Pgs. 18-22

City Council - Regular Meeting

Meeting Date: 02/25/2026

Item Title: Acceptance of Greater Health Now Grant Funding

Submitted For: Fred Hector, Fire/Ambulance Department

Financial Comments:

Up to \$228,000 in grant revenue to support the CARES team from Greater Health Now.

All Contracts:

Not Applicable

Federally funded contracts only:

Not Applicable

Construction contracts only:

Not Applicable

Brief Summary of Requested Action:

Requesting approval to accept the grant funding from Greater Health Now, which would provide up to \$228,000 in funding to support the CARES program.

Information

HISTORY:

The Greater Health Now Grant is a merit-based funding opportunity, and this marks the fifth consecutive year our agency has been awarded this support.

The grant sustains our CARES Program by providing financial assistance to support wages and benefits within our CARES Program. The overall mission of the CARES program is designed to reduce the burden on the broader healthcare system borne by 911- and emergency room–dependent individuals. Through proactive outreach, case management, and coordinated care, the program addresses underlying behavioral health, chronic medical, and social service needs that contribute to high system utilization.

Beyond financial support, the grant provides structured opportunities for statewide collaboration with organizations pursuing similar objectives. These partnerships foster best-practice sharing, data-driven evaluation, and coordinated system improvements across jurisdictions. Over the past five years, our team has developed significant expertise in grant administration, program implementation, and outcome reporting, positioning us as recognized leaders in the effective management and execution of this initiative.

POLICY ISSUES:

Acceptance of grant funding exceeding \$50,000 requiring Council approval.

PLAN COMPLIANCE:

STRATEGIC PLAN: SAFE COMMUNITY: Community safety through response/risk reduction.
Initiative: Expand Community Paramedic Program.

ALTERNATIVES:

Council could decline the grant funding and choose to seek other funding sources.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval to accept the grant funding with Greater Health Now.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

Concur with staff recommendation and approved for Council action.

Attachments

Res 2026-014

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-014

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FUNDING FROM GREATER HEALTH NOW, AND TAKING OTHER NECESSARY ACTION WITH RESPECT TO SUCH GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla passed Municipal Ordinance A-2405 on May 13, 1970 which classified the City of Walla Walla as a nonchartered code city under Title 35A of the Revised Code Washington (RCW); and

WHEREAS, RCW 35A.11.020 provides in pertinent part that “[t]he legislative body of each code city shall have all powers possible for a city or town to have under the Constitution of this state, and not specifically denied to code cities by law;” and

WHEREAS, Walla Walla has “all of the powers which any city of any class may have and shall be governed in matters of state concern by statutes applicable to such cities in connection with such powers to the extent to which such laws are appropriate and are not in conflict with the provisions specifically applicable to code cities” pursuant to RCW 35A.21.160; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35A.11.040 authorizes the Walla Walla City Council to “accept any gift or grant for any public purpose and may carry out any conditions of such gift or grant when not in conflict with state or federal law;” and

WHEREAS, Chapter 39.34 of the Revised Code of Washington authorizes political subdivisions to enter into intergovernmental cooperation agreements, and

WHEREAS, grant funding is available from Greater Health Now to support the Walla Walla Fire Department’s Community Assistance Referral and Education Services (CARES) team; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla City Council has considered this matter during a regularly and duly called public meeting of said Council, has given said matter careful review and consideration, and finds that passage of this resolution is an appropriate function for the city and that the best interests of the City of Walla Walla will be thereby served;

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Walla Walla resolves as follows:

Section 1: The Walla Walla City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager of the City of Walla Walla to accept grant funding from Greater Health Now, and the Walla Walla City Manager, and/or designees of the Walla Walla City Manager, are hereby authorized and empowered to execute a grant agreement and all other documents that may be required to participate in the grant program.

Section 2: The Walla Walla City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager of the City of Walla Walla to accept additional grants on behalf of the City of Walla Walla to support the Walla Walla Fire Department's CARES program, and the Walla Walla City Manager, and/or designees of the Walla Walla City Manager, are hereby authorized and empowered to execute a grant agreements and all other documents that may be required to participate in the grant program(s).

Section 3: The City Manager of the City of Walla Walla is designated as the chief administrative official and authorized representative in all matters arising out of participation in the grant program(s) authorized by section 1 and 2 herein, and the City Manager of the City of Walla Walla, and/or designees of the Walla Walla City Manager, are hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to comply with program requirements and to make such certifications, funding commitments, reports, or other representations which may be necessary on behalf of the City of Walla Walla.

Section 4: The Walla Walla City Manager, and/or designees of the Walla Walla City Manager, are hereby authorized and empowered to approve and execute amendments and other documents related to and required by the grant program(s).

Section 5: The Walla Walla City Manager, and/or designees of the Walla Walla City Manager, are hereby authorized and empowered to negotiate and execute an intergovernmental agreements regarding usage of grant funds subject to the following conditions: (a) no agreement executed in accordance with this section shall relieve the City of Walla Walla from compliance with enactments of the Walla Walla City Council or any other obligation or responsibility imposed by law, (b) any agreement executed in accordance with this section shall be reported to the Walla Walla City Council at the first meeting of the Walla Walla City Council following its execution, and (c) any agreement executed in accordance with this section may be revoked and terminated by the Walla Walla City Council at the meeting that it is first reported to the Walla Walla City Council.

Section 6: The City Manager of the City of Walla Walla, and/or designees of the Walla Walla City Manager, are hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute amendments to agreements authorized by section 5 herein subject to the following conditions: (a) no amendment executed in accordance with this section shall relieve the City of Walla Walla from compliance with enactments of the Walla Walla City Council or any other obligation or responsibility imposed by law, (b) any amendment executed in accordance with this section shall be reported to the Walla Walla City Council at the first meeting of the Walla Walla City Council following its execution, and (c) any amendment executed in accordance with this section may be revoked and terminated by the Walla Walla City Council at the meeting that it is first reported to the Walla Walla City Council.

Section 7: The Walla Walla City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to attest any agreement, amendment or other document executed in accordance with this resolution

PASSED on February 25, 2026 by the Walla Walla City Council.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

City Attorney



ar-5906

Pgs. 23-27

City Council - Regular Meeting

Meeting Date: 02/25/2026

Submitted For: Lisa Neissl, Support Services, City Clerk

Add'l Contributors:

Information

ITEM TITLE:

Approves the minutes of the February 11, 2026 Regular Meeting.

Attachments

02-11-2026 Minutes

DRAFT

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL Regular Meeting Minutes February 11, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Councilmember Rick Eskil; Councilmember Rodney Outlaw; Mayor Gustavo Reyna; Councilmember Monte A. Willis; Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson; Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

City Staff in attendance: City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain; Deputy City Manager Preston Frederickson; City Attorney Tim Donaldson; Police Chief Chris Buttice; Police Captain Kevin Bayne; Police Detective Kevin Toon; Police Sergeant Salvador Diaz; Police Detective Kristen Daschofsky; Police Officer Eric Eastman; Police Officer Sierra Roberts; Public Works Director Ki Bealey; Human Resources Director Pam Taylor; Deputy Fire Chief Fred Hector; City Clerk Lisa Neissl

Attendees: Chief and Officers, College Place Police Department, Sheriff and Deputies, Walla Walla County Sheriff Department

Mayor Reyna called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- A. Thanking Councilmember Scribner for his service. July 1991 through 1995, and 2016 through 2025. Mayor from 2020 through 2025.

City Manager Chamberlain highlighted the accomplishments of the city during Councilmember Scribner's tenure and presented him with an appreciation plaque. Councilmember Scribner expressed his gratitude and spoke about some of his memorable times as a member of the council.

- B. Proclamation - Black History Month - February 2026

Mayor Reyna read a proclamation declaring February 2026 as Black History Month in the City of Walla Walla. Mahdee Kirkpatrick, president of the Black Student Union at Whitman College accepted the proclamation and provided some information about Black History Month.

- C. Proclamation - National Engineers Week, February 23-27, 2026.

Mayor Reyna read a proclamation declaring February 23-27, 2026, as National Engineers Week in the City of Walla Walla. Public Works Director, Ki Bealey, accepted the proclamation and said a few words about the engineers who work for and with the city.

- D. Police Awards - Award of Valor & Life Saving Award

Mayor Reyna and Chief Buttice recognized Walla Walla Police Detective Kevin Toon and Sergeant Salvador "Sal" Diaz and presented them with the Award of Valor for their extraordinary service saving a family in responding to an active shooter incident on August 31, 2025.

Following that recognition, Mayor Reyna and Chief Buttice recognized Walla Walla Detective Kristen Daschofsky, Walla Walla County Deputy Ashley Dashofsky and Walla Walla Police Officers Eric Eastman and Sierra Roberts and presented them with the Life Saving Award for their heroism in saving the life of a woman who was trapped unconscious in a burning vehicle after a traffic accident on December 31, 2025.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Robert Leigh provided a proposal on changes he would like to see made to the public comment process. Sharon Kay Schiller spoke about healthcare privacy. Paul Lynn expressed concerns about the logging in the Mill Creek Watershed. Don Hogue gave an update on the proposed Walla Walla Valley Sweet Onion Bikeway proposal. Jim Wilson spoke about transparency and receiving input from all citizens.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Staff introduced consent agenda items A through C as follows:

- A. Resolution 2026-009: Sets April 22, 2026, as the Public Hearing date to consider the 60 percent Annexation Petition for the Prospect Avenue and Williams Road Annexation.
- B. Resolution 2026-010: Sets March 25, 2026, as the date to consider a 10 percent Annexation Petition for property located on Cottonwood Road, west of Kendall Road. - *Moved to the Active Agenda as Item A-1*

- C. Approves the minutes of the January 28, 2026 Regular Meeting.

Item B was moved to the active agenda as item A-1.

Moved by Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss, **seconded by** Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson **to approve the modified consent agenda consisting of items A and C.**

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A 1. Resolution 2026-010: Sets March 25, 2026, as the date to consider a 10 percent Annexation Petition for property located on Cottonwood Road, west of Kendall Road. - *Formerly Consent Item B.*

There was discussion regarding if this petition has any relation or implication to the ongoing lawsuit filed by Cottonwood LLC regarding the decision made on the annexation and development proposal last year. It was noted that this item before council was only to set the date for the hearing which is statutorily required. Public comment: R.L. McFarland expressed concerns of a conflict of interest.

Moved by Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss, **seconded by** Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson **to approve Resolution 2026-010 setting March 25, 2026, as the date to consider a 10 percent Annexation Petition for property located on Cottonwood Road, west of Kendall Road.**

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

- A 2. Resolution 2026-011: Authorizes an amendment to the Water Treatment SCADA Support Services contract with Taurus Power and Controls.

Staff provided some information about the need for this amendment to the current contract.

There was discussion including:

- The audit looked at system weakness and recommended the upgrades.
- This amendment is for upgrades in the communication systems to reduce or eliminate the reliance on land line phone systems that are outdated and becoming obsolete.
- There have been a number of communication failures over the past year.
- Future maintenance and costs related to this process.

Moved by Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss, **seconded by** Councilmember Rodney Outlaw **to approve Resolution 2026-011 authorizing an amendment to the Water Treatment SCADA Support Services contract with Taurus Power and Controls.**

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

- B. Approve the January 2026 Accounts Payable Register

Moved by Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss, **seconded by** Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson **to accept the January 2026 accounts payable register totaling \$7,917,705.02, except for the following check numbers: 35226 and 35627 to the Blue Mountain Action Council for \$1,396.71.**

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

Moved by Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss, **seconded by** Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson **to approve the payment of check numbers 35226 and 35627 to the Blue Mountain Action Council, with Mayor Reyna abstaining.**

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

- C. Approve the January 2026 Payroll and Benefits Transactions.

Moved by Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss, **seconded by** Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson **to approve the Payroll Register certification for the January 31, 2026, pay period.**

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Robinson reported attendance at the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting and the Ad-hoc Housing Committee meeting.

Councilmember Eskil reported a meeting with City Manager Chamberlain.

Councilmember Willis reported attendance at the Arts Commission meeting, the Ad-hoc Housing Committee meeting and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) meeting.

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the agenda setting, the Ad-hoc Housing Committee meeting, a meeting with City Manager Chamberlain and with City Attorney Donaldson.

Mayor Reyna reported attendance at the agenda setting, the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) Meeting, and a meeting with City Manager Chamberlain and City Attorney Donaldson.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion on the process for selecting a candidate to fill the vacant council position and if it was necessary to go into executive session. The council decided not to go into executive session at this time.

A. Discussion on candidates to interview for City Council Position #6.

Candidates (in alphabetical order):

Julie Balten
Michael Beatty
Emily Brown
Frances C. Chvatal
Dominick Elia
Roger Esparza
Traci Hickman
Liz Jessee
Carolyn Knowles
Mical Meldahl
Jeff Strickler
Paul Vandervort
James Wilson

Moved by Councilmember Rick Eskil, seconded by Councilmember Monte A. Willis to give each of the thirteen candidates an opportunity to speak to council at a public meeting.

Discussion ensued.

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Councilmember Monte A. Willis

No: Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

3 - 3 Failed

There was additional discussion on the timing of meetings and timeline in which council is required to make an appointment.

Public Comment: Paul Vandervort commented on the discussion regarding qualifications that were not mentioned in the application process. R.L. McFarland expressed his opinions on the process including the time limit and noted some people may not be available at that date and time for an interview.

There was additional discussion including:

- Time deadlines and meeting dates.
- Length of time for each interview.
- Questions to ask at an interview.
- When to provide those questions to the candidates.
- What can and cannot be discussed in an executive session.

Moved by Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss, seconded by Councilmember Rick Eskil to interview all thirteen candidates at a time to be established.

There was additional discussion on the process.

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

There was additional discussion including:

- How to conduct the interviews.
- Considering the time available with thirteen people to interview.
- The information in the applications and how or what questions could be asked.
- Being fair and equitable to all in the process.
- Potential for ranked voting.

Moved by Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss, **seconded by** Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson **to hold the interviews at the February 23, 2026 work session beginning at 4:00 p.m. with staff to schedule.**

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

Moved by Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss, **seconded by** Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson **that the interview/interaction be within a twenty-minute time frame.**

There was clarification that there would be up to twenty-minutes for each candidate.

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

There was discussion on how additional questions should be asked.

Moved by Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, **seconded by** Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss **that any candidate who is unable to be at the February 23rd work session be allowed to either submit a video or written statement that would be read or played at that work session so they are heard by the general public, or they can attend via Zoom.**

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

There was discussion on how to decide what questions would be asked and how the time would be allocated. Several options were suggested including potential special meetings to decide upon the questions. Public comment: Paul Vandervort made suggestions about how questions could be decided upon.

There was additional discussion on questions and answers that were already provided in the application packet.

Moved by Councilmember Monte A. Willis, **seconded by** Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson **to allow each candidate five-minutes to speak to the council, then the council would have up to an additional fifteen-minutes to ask clarifying quesitons based upon what they said or what is in their application.**

Yes: Councilmember Rick Eskil, Councilmember Rodney Outlaw, Mayor Gustavo Reyna, Councilmember Monte A. Willis, Councilmember Jeffrey Robinson, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Moss

6 - 0 Carried - Unanimously

Staff verified what their understanding of the process is to be based upon the last several motions.

B. Additional New and Unfinished Business.

Staff provided information on the status of the library bid and award.

9. MEETING ENDS

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9:16 p.m.

Approved:

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk



ar-5759

Pgs. 28-47

City Council - Regular Meeting

Meeting Date: 02/25/2026

Item Title: Preliminary plat for Harvey Ranch Village Subdivision

Submitted For: Jon Maland, Development Services Department

Project No:
PPL-24-0004

Financial Comments:

Review fees for civil engineering plans to be submitted by the applicant and future building permit fees for housing unit construction. The developer shall be responsible for public facility improvements.

All Contracts:

Not Applicable

Federally funded contracts only:

Not Applicable

Construction contracts only:

Not Applicable

Brief Summary of Requested Action:

The City Council shall review the recommendation of the City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner and render a decision on the Preliminary Plat request.

Information

HISTORY:

December 16, 2024: Harvey Ranch Inc., submitted a Preliminary Plat application to subdivide the subject property of approximately 10.99 acres into a 53-lot preliminary plat. The subject property is located on Mimi Street, at the intersection of Highway 12 and Lower Waitsburg Road.

June 11, 2025, Richland 132 LLC, assumed the role of the applicant and the application was determined to be complete.

June 16, 2025: The Notice of Application notification process was completed, as required by Walla Walla Municipal Code 20.14.065. The Notice of Application and the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist was circulated to the City Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC), SEPA contacts and State and Local agencies.

Comment letters were received from the following:

- Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, dated July 2, 2025.
- Washington State Department of Ecology, dated July 3, 2025
- Washington State Department of Transportation, dated July 7, 2025
- Kara Breymeyer, Dated July 7, 2025.
- July 17, 2025: The City of Walla Walla Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) completed the review of the preliminary plat.

August 28, 2025: The City of Walla Walla SEPA Responsible Official issued a final SEPA threshold determination of a Mitigated Determination of Non Significance (MDNS) on the proposal.

October to December 2025. The revisions to the subdivision design are required amendments to the stormwater design and the submission of a tree planting/landscaping plan. The plans were submitted and reviewed by city staff.

December 30, 2025: The notice of a public hearing process was completed, as required by Walla Walla Municipal Code 20.14.085.

January 15, 2026: The Hearing Examiner conducted the public hearing. Testimony was received from Erica Nelson of Hayden Homes and Kara Breymeyer, a resident on Michele Avenue. Kara Breymeyer had concerns about traffic impact, the intersection of Highway 12 and speeding cars on Michele Avenue. The City Engineering department provided comments and answers about the traffic impact and an update on the pending/future Highway 12 intersection.

January 21, 2026: The City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner provided a recommendation to the City Council for the approval of the preliminary plat.

To view the full Hearing Examiner report and other relevant documents visit the below link:

- [City of Walla Walla's document archive page HERE.](#)

POLICY ISSUES:

Policy issues related to the Residential Subdivision and Preliminary Plat procedures are discussed in the staff report to the Hearing Examiner and is an attachment to this report.

PLAN COMPLIANCE:

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Strategic Objective 1, Addressing Housing Crisis in the Community.

- Approval of this residential development will provide additional housing and implement the Regional Housing Action Plan Policy Recommendations.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

- Land Use Policy 1.1 Accommodate new residential and commercial development in areas with available infrastructure and services.
- Land Use Policy 1.3 Encourage infill development that provides additional housing within the city.
- Land Use Policy 1.4 Review new development proposals to ensure they support the objectives of the Comprehensive Plan such as land use, transportation, community character, historic preservation, and sustainability.
- Land Use Policy 3.7 Support a variety of housing types such as tiny homes, duplexes, multi-family development, cottage housing, and single family residential
- Land Use Policy 4.4 Ensure that new subdivisions and housing development retains natural qualities including topography, natural features, and native vegetation, to minimize impacts to the surrounding ecosystem. Retaining or restoring riparian woody vegetation should be a priority.
- Land Use Policy 5.2 Ensure that new subdivisions and housing are designed to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle access within the development and to nearby community facilities and amenities such as schools, parks, shopping areas, transit corridors, and employment centers.

- Housing Policy 2.1 Integrate housing for lower and moderate-income households and those with special needs into a variety of geographical locations throughout the city.

- Environment and Natural Resources Policy 1.3 Ensure that buffers are adequately defined, regulated, and controlled to limit the disturbance of vegetation and disruption of ecological function.

- Transportation Policy 5.2 Create a well-connected network of streets, paths, and transit service to provide active transportation options.

- Capital Facilities and Utilities Policy 2.7 Ensure that facilities and infrastructure are designed and located with consideration of their impacts on community character

REGIONAL HOUSING ACTION PLAN:

The Regional Housing Action Plan (RHAP), adopted by the Walla Walla City Council via Ordinance 2021-23, states the need for additional housing, with the following:

"The Walla Walla Region should plan to add approximately 4,685 net new housing units over the next 20 years." [... and] "Based on the residential capacity analysis and this housing needs assessment, the following conclusions are made: [...] Walla Walla UGA: the projected 20-year housing need of 3,570 dwelling units is below the potential UGA capacity of 3,740 dwelling units... It is recommended that the [City of Walla Walla ...] ensure that new housing density can be optimized within current UGA's..." (See page V of the Regional Housing Action Plan)

The Regional Housing Action Plan also finds that it is anticipated of the 3,570 dwelling units needed within a projected 20 years, 1,714 dwellings will come from infill redevelopment and 1,686 dwellings will come from vacant land. (See page 20 of the Regional Housing Action Plan, Exhibit 16)

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council may decide to approve, approve with modifications, deny, or remand the request back to the Hearing Examiner for further consideration.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Preliminary Plat as recommended by the City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

Concur with the staff and Hearing Examiner recommendation and approved for City Council Action.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-015

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HARVEY RANCH VILLAGE PRELIMINARY PLAT FOR RICHLAND 132, LLC, INVOLVING APPROXIMATELY 10.99 ACRES OF PROPERTY, LOCATED AT MICHELE AVENUE AND MIMI STREET, WEST OF LOWER WAITSBURG ROAD

WHEREAS, an application was made for a Preliminary Plat (File# PPL-24-0004) to the City of Walla Walla, for approval of the Harvey Ranch Village Preliminary Plat of 52 residential lots, generally located at Michele Avenue and Mimi Street, west of Lower Waitsburg Road; and

WHEREAS, the responsible official for the City of Walla Walla under Washington’s State Environmental Policy Act issued a Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance upon the proposal on August 28, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner, after notice and a public hearing on January 15, 2026, made findings of fact, conclusions of law and recommendations to the City Council, approval of the preliminary plat based upon certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla City Council has considered the application, the environmental documents, and the recommendation made by City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner, during a regularly and duly called public meeting of said Council, and has given careful review and consideration, and finds that good government and the best interests of the City of Walla Walla will be served by passage of this resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of Walla Walla does resolve as follows:

Section 1: The Walla Walla City Council Finds:

- A. The proposed preliminary plat is in conformance with the goals and policies of the Walla Walla Comprehensive Plan, as amended, if developed in accordance with the conditions stated herein.
- B. The proposed use and corresponding preliminary plat have been designated in accordance with the permitted uses within the Residential Comprehensive Plan Land Use classification and standards for development set forth in the City’s zoning and subdivision codes, if developed in accordance with the conditions stated herein.
- C. Appropriate provisions have been made for public health, safety, and general welfare and for such other factors enumerated in RCW 58.17.110(2)(a) if the preliminary plat is developed subject to the conditions stated herein. Public facilities, such as streets, sewer and water and other public facilities are adequate to support the use and layout of the proposed preliminary plat if developed in accordance with the conditions stated herein.

D. The public use and interest will be served if the preliminary plat is developed in accordance with the conditions stated herein.

E. The proposal for the preliminary plat development conforms to the policies and standards and design principles specified in Section 19.14.020 of the Walla Walla Municipal Code, if developed in accordance with the conditions stated herein.

F. The findings of fact, conclusions of law and recommendations of the City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner, the Staff Report and attachments dated January 21, 2026, are hereby adopted and incorporated herein as the findings of the Walla Walla City Council with respect to the Preliminary Plat.

Section 2: The preliminary plat involving property generally located on Michele Avenue and Mimi Street, west of Lower Waitsburg Road and legally described as follows:

PARCEL B-1 AS SHOWN ON THE BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT SURVEY RECORDED JULY 21, 2021, IN BOOK 13 OF SURVEYS, PAGE 287 AS AUDITOR'S FILE NUMBER 2021-08849, RECORDS OF WALLA WALLA COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON. EXCEPTING THEREFROM THAT PORTION DEDICATED TO THE CITY OF WALLA WALLA FOR ROADWAY PURPOSES ALONG THE WESTERLY EDGE OF LOWER WAITSBURG ROAD AS SHOWN ON THE FINAL PLAT OF HARVEY RANCH ESTATES PHASE 1, RECORDED NOVEMBER 17, 2022, IN BOOK 7 OF PLATS, PAGE 110 AS AUDITOR'S FILE NUMBER 2022-09186, RECORDS OF WALLA WALLA COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON. BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 17, TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 36 EAST OF THE WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, WALLA WALLA COUNTY, WASHINGTON AND RUNNING THENCE S88°19'52"W A DISTANCE OF 44.16 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF PARCEL A-1 AS SHOWN ON SAID BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT SURVEY; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID PARCEL A-1 S88°17'11"W A DISTANCE OF 10.00 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 8 OF HARVEY RANCH PHASE 1 AS SHOWN ON THE OFFICIAL PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED NOVEMBER 17, 2022, IN BOOK 7 OF PLATS, PAGE 110 AS AUDITOR'S FILE NUMBER 2022-09186, RECORDS OF WALLA WALLA COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON; THENCE ALONG THE WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF LOWER WAITSBURG ROAD AS DEDICATED BY SAID PLAT, S01°31'46"E A DISTANCE OF 627.75 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY THE FOLLOWING FIVE COURSES, S01°31'46"E A DISTANCE OF 437.58 FEET; THENCE WITH A CURVE TURNING TO THE RIGHT WITH A DELTA ANGLE OF 14°11'49", WITH AN ARC LENGTH OF 47.08 FEET, WITH A RADIUS OF 190.00 FEET, WITH A CHORD BEARING OF S05°34'08"W, WITH A CHORD LENGTH

OF 46.97 FEET; THENCE S12°40'03"W A DISTANCE OF 135.01 FEET; THENCE S08°02'15"W A DISTANCE OF 123.83 FEET; THENCE S36°05'10"W A DISTANCE OF 67.67 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF U.S. HIGHWAY 12; THENCE ALONG SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY THENCE S63°36'25"W A DISTANCE OF 540.81 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID PARCEL B-1; THENCE ALONG THE BOUNDARY OF SAID PARCEL B-1 THE FOLLOWING SIX COURSES, N26°22'19"W A DISTANCE OF 500.17 FEET; THENCE N63°37'41"E A DISTANCE OF 396.31 FEET; THENCE WITH A CURVE TURNING TO THE LEFT WITH A DELTA ANGLE OF 65°09'27", WITH AN ARC LENGTH OF 170.58 FEET, WITH A RADIUS OF 150.00 FEET, WITH A CHORD BEARING OF N31°02'57"E, WITH A CHORD LENGTH OF 161.54 FEET; THENCE N01°31'46"W A DISTANCE OF 261.27 FEET; THENCE WITH A CURVE TURNING TO THE RIGHT WITH A DELTA ANGLE OF 89°55'43", WITH AN ARC LENGTH OF 31.39 FEET, WITH A RADIUS OF 20.00 FEET, WITH A CHORD BEARING OF N43°26'05"E, WITH A CHORD LENGTH OF 28.27 FEET, THENCE N88°23'57"E A DISTANCE OF 314.99 FEET; THENCE WITH A CURVE TURNING TO THE RIGHT WITH A DELTA ANGLE OF 90°04'17", WITH AN ARC LENGTH OF 31.44 FEET, WITH A RADIUS OF 20.00 FEET, WITH A CHORD BEARING OF S46°33'55"E, WITH A CHORD LENGTH OF 28.30 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. HAVING AN AREA OF 10.998 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

Section 3: The Harvey Ranch Village Preliminary Plat (File# PPL-24-0004) shall be developed in accordance with the following conditions:

- A. Stormwater generated within the development shall be retained on site with a stormwater system designed to retain, at a minimum, 100% of the 25-year, 24-hour event. A final stormwater report shall be provided and reviewed to ensure compliance with the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington and the City of Walla Walla's Stormwater Design Standards Handbook prior to Civil Review Approval.
- B. The stormwater design shall include a private lot stormwater management plan. Any new stormwater improvements capturing runoff from private property will be privately owned and maintained, with appropriate maintenance responsibilities defined, and the City of Walla Walla will not be responsible for these systems.
- C. All improvements shall be constructed consistently with City Standards and the Walla Walla Municipal Code, or as approved by the City Engineer. The applicant shall comply with all provisions of the City of Walla Walla Public Works Department, SPRC comment letter, dated January 8, 2026.
- D. The applicant shall apply for coverage under Washington State Department of Ecology's Construction Stormwater General Permit.

- E. Construction of a minimum six-foot-tall fence (no gates) on the property line between the proposed residential lots and the proposed Tract B, as shown on the preliminary plat.
- F. The existing right-of-way fence between the trail and US 12 must not be altered or moved for this project, and any proposed lighting should be directed down towards the site and away from Highway US 12 according to the WSDOT comment letter.
- G. The applicant shall prepare a professional archaeology survey of the project area, prior to any earth or ground disturbing activities. The applicant shall comply with any recommendations and/or requirements identified from this survey.
- H. The applicant shall prepare and provide, prior to any earth work or grading, an inadvertent discovery plan (IDP) which is available from the City. Once approved by the City of Walla Walla, this completed IDP is to be kept on site during all grading, filling and any construction activities for the purpose of guiding construction crews, in the event that archaeological resources are discovered during site development or construction. All staff, contractors, and persons on site should be familiar with its contents and know where to find it.
- I. The proposed Tract A, as shown on the preliminary plat, shall be dedicated as the stormwater facility/common space and the ownership retained by the Homeowners Association.
- J. The applicant shall dedicate the proposed Tract B, as shown on the preliminary plat, to the City of Walla Walla as mitigation for the traffic impacts.
- K. The applicant, developer, and owner shall comply with all the requirements of Titles 12, 13, 15, 19, 20, and 21 of the Walla Walla Municipal Code.
- L. An application for the Final Plat and complete civil improvement plans must be submitted to the City within five years from the City Council's approval of the Preliminary Plat in accordance with Walla Walla Municipal Code 19.14.050(A) and RCW 58.17.140.

Section 4: This resolution is the final decision of the City of Walla Walla upon this matter. Notice is hereby given that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes notwithstanding any program of revaluation.

Section 5: Notice is hereby given that appeal of the land use decision shall be barred unless a petition requesting review is filed in the Superior Court of the State of Washington and properly served within twenty-one (21) days after passage of this resolution in accordance with Chapter 36.70C of the Revised Code of Washington.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Walla Walla, Washington, this 25th day of February, 2026.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

**CITY OF WALLA WALLA
LAND USE HEARING EXAMINER**

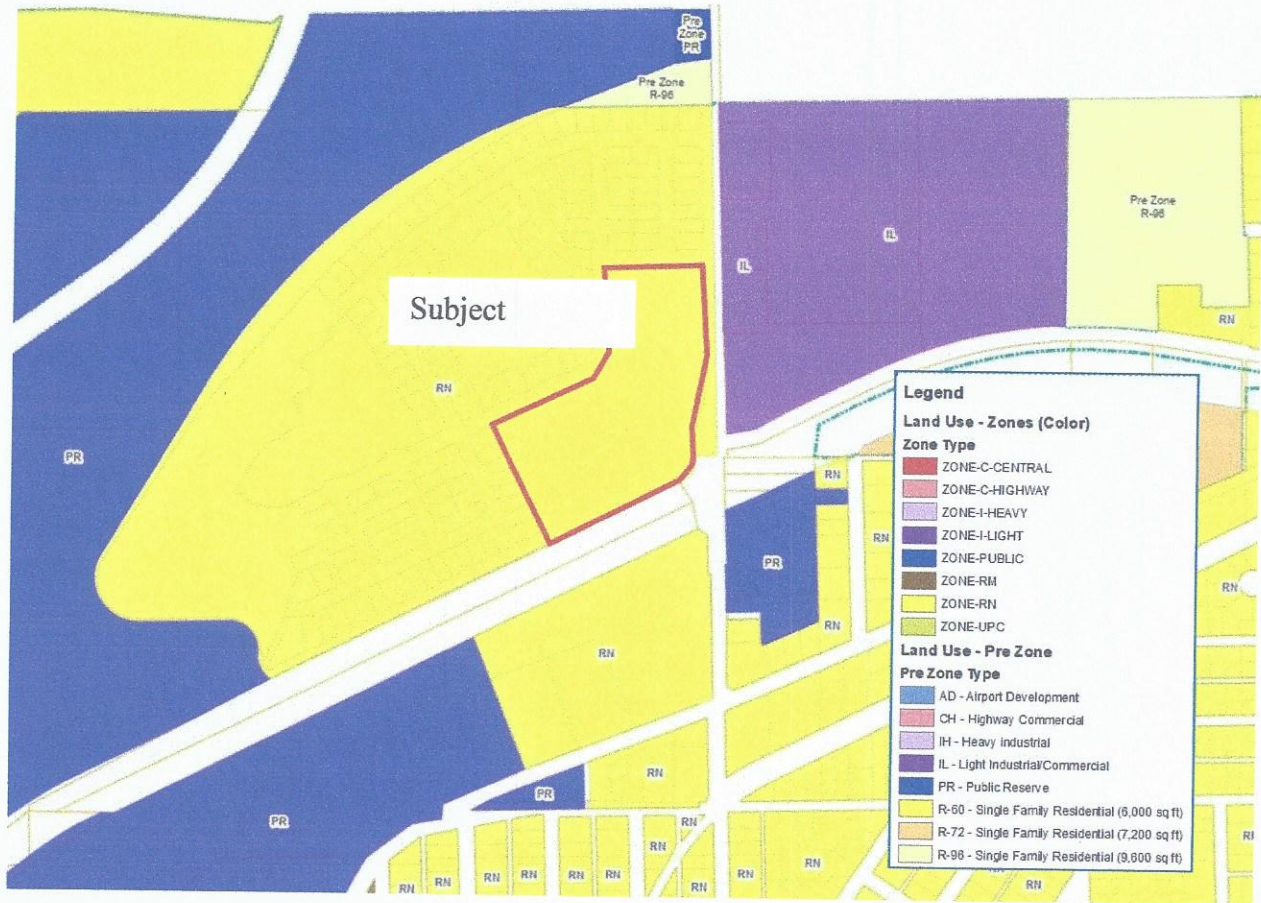
IN THE MATTER OF)	RECOMMENDED FINDINGS OF
)	FACT, RECOMMENDED
PPL-24-0004)	CONCLUSIONS OF LAW,
Mimi Street and Lower Waitsburg Road)	RECOMMENDED DECISION, AND
Preliminary Plat)	RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF
		APPROVAL.

THIS application having come on for hearing in front of the City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner on January 15, 2026, the Hearing Examiner having taken evidence hereby submits the following Recommended Findings of Fact, Recommended Conclusions of Law, Recommended Decision, and Recommended Conditions of Approval as follows:

I. RECOMMENDED FINDINGS OF FACT

1. **Applicant:** Richland 132 LLC, 250 SE Timber Avenue, Redmond, OR 97756
2. **Project Description:** The applicant is requesting preliminary plat approval to subdivide the subject property of approximately 10.99 acres into a total of 52 residential lots.
3. **Proposed Location:** Mimi Street and Lower Waitsburg Road, (Highway 12 at Middle Waitsburg Road)
4. **Parcel Number:** 360717440028
5. **Subject Property, Adjacent Property Zoning and Land Use:**

	Comprehensive Plan	Zoning	Current Land Use
Project Site	Residential/Commercial	Neighborhood Residential	Vacant Field
North	Residential	Neighborhood Residential	Residences
South	Residential	Neighborhood Residential	Highway 12, Field and Residences
East	Industrial	Light Industrial/Commercial	Residences and Warehouses
West	Residential	Neighborhood Residential	Residences



6. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- 6.1. The applicant prepared a SEPA Environmental Checklist for review under the provisions of Walla Walla Municipal Code (WWMC) Chapter 21.08.
- 6.2. The Notice of Application and SEPA Checklist was circulated to the SEPA distribution list and listed on the Washington State Department of Ecology SEPA register on June 16, 2025.
- 6.3. The City of Walla Walla Development Services Department has determined that this proposal is unlikely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Pursuant to WAC 197-11-350(3), the proposal has been clarified, changed, and conditioned to include necessary mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for probable significant impacts. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030.
- 6.4. Staff reviewed the submitted SEPA Checklist, Traffic Report, Preliminary Storm Drainage Design Report and proposed Landscape Plan.
- 6.5. The City of Walla Walla SEPA Responsible Official issued a final SEPA threshold determination of a Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS) on August 28, 2025.
7. The applicant filed a Preliminary Plat application to subdivide the subject property of approximately 10.99 acres into a total of 52 residential lots.

8. The application is subject to a Level IV review for the Preliminary Plat approval pursuant to WWMC 20.27. A public hearing is conducted by the City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner with a recommendation to the City Council.
9. The application was filed on December 16, 2024, and determined to be a complete application on June 13, 2025.
10. A Notice of Application was issued on June 16, 2025, with a public comment period, which concluded on July 7, 2025. The Notice of Application was mailed to property owners within 400 feet of the subject property, posted on the City's website, published in the Union Bulletin, posted on-site, as required by WWMC 20.14.065 and provided to parties that requested special notice per WWMC 20.14.015.
11. The Notice of Application is sent to the City of Walla Walla Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC), local and state agencies, for comments on the preliminary plat. The local agencies include the Walla Walla Public School District, Valley Transit, Port of Walla Walla, Walla Walla County Public Works and Walla Walla County Community Development.
12. Comment letters/emails were received from:
 - 12.1. Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation dated July 2, 2025.
 - 12.2. Washington State Department of Ecology, dated July 3, 2025.
 - 12.3. Washington State Department of Transportation, dated July 7, 2025.
 - 12.4. Kara Breymeyer, Dated July 7, 2025.
13. On July 17, 2025, the City of Walla Walla Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC), with representatives from the various city departments, met and reviewed the preliminary plat proposal. The SPRC reviewed the proposal and recommended approval with the applicable conditions of approval.
14. A Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) report was submitted as part of the preliminary plat application review. The City staff has reviewed this report and concur with the proposed mitigation of traffic impacts, which includes the dedication of Tract B to the City of Walla Walla. The proposed Tract B, as shown on the preliminary plat, is land that would be utilized for a future Highway 12 intersection project.
15. The proposed subdivision will not have a direct connection to Lower Waitsburg Road or Highway 12. The internal loop street will connect the proposed residential lots with Michele Avenue at two locations. Nonmotorized pedestrian access connections are available on the sidewalk along Lower Waitsburg Road and on a multi-use trail along US Highway 12.
16. The City of Walla Walla SEPA Responsible Official issued a Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS) on August 28, 2025.
17. A public hearing was scheduled to be conducted in September of 2025, and staff advised the applicant for a revision to the preliminary plat. Notice was provided to cancel the hearing and that a public hearing would be conducted at a future date.

18. A Notice of Public Hearing was issued on December 30, 2025. The Notice of Public Hearing was mailed to property owners within 400 feet of the subject property, posted on the City's website, published in the Union Bulletin, posted on-site as required by Walla Walla Municipal Code 20.14.085 and provided to parties that provided comment or requested special notice per Walla Walla Municipal Code 20.14.015.
19. The Residential and Commercial future land use designations are assigned to the subject property. The City of Walla Walla Comprehensive Plan supports affordable housing, a variety of housing types within residential zones, and encourages connectivity and development where infrastructure exists.
20. As noted above, the property is located within the Neighborhood Residential (RN) zoning district. The underlying Zoning of Neighborhood Residential allows for a variety of housing types such as single-family residential, duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, townhomes, cottage housing, tiny homes, stacked flats, and accessory dwelling units. Development standards for the Neighborhood Residential zone are provided in Walla Walla Municipal Code 20.50.020.
21. Walla Walla Municipal Code 20.50.020 requires a minimum net density of 4 dwelling units per acre. Based on the buildable land area of the proposed preliminary plat, the minimum net density would be 28 units, and the applicant has proposed 52 parcels for future residential units.
22. Water is provided by the City of Walla Walla and will be provided to the new lots per Walla Walla Municipal Code 19.32.030 and 19.32.050. There is an existing 8-inch water main in Michele Avenue that will be utilized for this development.
23. Sewers are provided by the City of Walla Walla. The applicant has proposed that sanitary sewers be extended to each lot within the development as provided by Walla Walla Municipal Code 19.32.040. There is an existing 12-inch within Michele Avenue that will be utilized for this development.
24. As stated by the Washington State Department of Transportation, US Highway 12 is an existing facility with existing traffic noise, and the proponent will be expanding a more noise-sensitive land use. The proponent and future residents should expect traffic noise to grow into the future.
25. Recreational opportunities are available at the adjacent US Highway 12 bicycle and pedestrian path, Veterans Memorial Park, Veterans Memorial Swimming Pool, Veterans Memorial Golf Course. Additionally, Borleske stadium and Martin Field are in the vicinity.
26. The proposed Tract A will be dedicated as the stormwater facility and ownership retained by the Homeowners association.
27. The proposed Tract B would accommodate the future right of way for the intersection development at US Highway 12 and Lower Waitsburg Road.
28. Walla Walla Municipal Code 20.50.020(E) requires that no building height shall exceed the required 35 feet within the Neighborhood Residential zone. Impacts on views will be minimized by the height limit.
29. After the open record public hearing, the Hearing Examiner shall determine whether the proposed preliminary subdivision "conforms to policies, standards and accepted design principles" based upon the criteria below:

- 29.1. Consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and Municipal Code;
- 29.2. Appropriate provisions for the factors enumerated in RCW 58.17.110 within and around the proposed subdivision;
- 29.3. Adequate means of ingress and egress to the proposed lots in accordance with the provisions of this code;
- 29.4. Appropriateness of the site, scale, and density of development;
- 29.5. Maximization of green space within a plat and minimization of the impact of development upon views;
- 29.6. Energy usage requirements and maximization of energy efficiency; and
- 29.7. Mitigation of probable adverse environmental impacts.

30. CONSISTENCY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND MUNICIPAL CODE

30.1. WALLA WALLA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

30.1.1. The Hearing Examiner has reviewed the proposed preliminary plat against the goals and policies of the City of Walla Walla Comprehensive Plan and provides the following Goals and Policies which the proposal implements.

30.1.1.1. Land Use Policy 1.4 Review new development proposals to ensure they support the objectives of the Comprehensive Plan such as land use, transportation, community character, historic preservation, and sustainability.

30.1.1.2. Land Use Policy 4.4 Ensure that new subdivisions and housing development retains natural qualities including topography, natural features, and native vegetation to minimize impacts to the surrounding ecosystem. Retaining or restoring riparian woody vegetation should be a priority.

30.1.1.3. Land Use Policy 5.2 Ensure that new subdivisions and housing are designed to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle access within the development and to nearby community facilities and amenities such as schools, parks, shopping areas, transit corridors, and employment centers.

30.1.1.4. Transportation Policy 5.2 Create a well-connected network of streets, paths, and transit service to provide active transportation options.

30.2. Regional Housing Action Plan

30.2.1. The Regional Housing Action Plan (RHAP), adopted by the Walla Walla City Council via Ordinance 2021-23, states the need for additional housing, with the following:

30.2.1.1. “The Walla Walla Region should plan to add approximately 4,685 net new housing units over the next 20 years.” [...] and] “Based on the residential capacity analysis and this housing needs assessment, the following conclusions are made: [...] Walla Walla UGA: the projected 20-year housing need of 3,570 dwelling

units is below the potential UGA capacity of 3,740 dwelling units... It is recommended that the [City of Walla Walla ...] ensure that new housing density can be optimized within current UGA's..." (See page v, *Regional Housing Action Plan*)

30.2.2. The Regional Housing Action Plan also finds an anticipated development of 3,570 dwelling units that will be needed within the projected 20 years, of which 1,714 dwellings will come from infill redevelopment, and 1,686 dwellings will come from vacant land. (See page 20, *Regional Housing Action Plan*)

30.3. Walla Walla Municipal Code 20.50.020

- 30.3.1. The Neighborhood Residential Zone is intended to provide for a variety of housing dwelling unit types, including but not limited to single-family residential, duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, townhomes, cottage housing, tiny homes, stacked flats, and accessory dwelling units.
- 30.4. The preliminary plat is located within the Residential and Commercial Land Use designation of the Walla Walla Comprehensive Plan and is zoned Neighborhood Residential. The proposed residential subdivision is consistent with the applicable Comprehensive Plan land use designation and Zoning designation.
- 30.5. The design of the plat is vested to the Walla Walla Municipal Code effective at time of complete application. Construction permits and the final plat application are subject to building and land use codes in effect at that time.
- 30.6. The subdivision is subject to the preliminary plat requirements of the Subdivision Chapter 19 of Walla Walla Municipal Code, and the application submittal requirements.
- 30.7. The subdivision has been reviewed under the provision of WWMC 19.30 Subdivision Design. The lot areas, residential density, lot access, block length and lot widths conform to the Neighborhood Residential development standards. No double frontage lots, stub streets, or cul-de-sacs are proposed in this development.
- 30.8. The proposed preliminary plat will consist of 52 residential lots. The required minimum net density for the Neighborhood Residential zone is four (4) dwelling units per net acre. Based on the buildable land area of the proposed preliminary plat, the minimum net density is 28 units, and the applicant has proposed 52 parcels for future residential units. Future residences shall comply with provision of WWMC 20.50.020 for Minimum Yard Requirements, Lot coverage, building height and off-street parking. The proposed parcels shall comply with the provisions of the Neighborhood Residential as addressed in Walla Walla Municipal Code 20.50.020.
- 30.9. The traffic impact analysis was submitted to the City for review, and has evaluated traffic impacts, trip generation, concurrency, sight distance, and the operations of the adjacent intersections. The traffic assessment has been reviewed by staff, the project received concurrency approval and staff grants a certificate of concurrency.
- 30.10. For vehicular access, the proposed subdivision will not have a direct connection to Lower Waitsburg Road or US Highway 12. The internal loop street will connect the proposed residential lots with Michele Avenue at two locations. Nonmotorized pedestrian

access connections are available to a sidewalk along Lower Waitsburg Road and to a multi-use trail along US Highway 12. Tract B, as shown on the plat, is land that would be used for future Highway 12 intersection improvements, and this dedication is mitigation for the traffic impacts.

- 30.11. Based on the staff review, the proposed preliminary plat will contribute to creation of new housing units, as recommended within the Regional Housing Action Plan, and the preliminary plat has been determined to be consistent with the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan pertaining to Land Use and Housing and the provisions of the Walla Walla Municipal Code, if the conditions of approval are implemented.

31. APPROPRIATE PROVISIONS FOR FACTORS ENUMERATED IN RCW 58.17.110

- 31.1. The proposed preliminary plat meets the “factors to be considered” and requirements of RCW 58.17.110. The plat includes appropriate provisions for utilities, (potable waters supplies, sanitary wastes), streets, open spaces, and drainageways. Sidewalks will provide safe walking routes to school bus stops. Appropriate provisions are made for the public health, safety and general welfare and the public use and interest will be served by the platting and dedication. Staff review resulted in the following findings:

- 31.1.1. Open space - Open space and walking areas are available at the adjacent US Highway 12 bicycle and pedestrian path, areas of the Veterans Memorial Park, and Vista Terrace Park on Cookerly Drive.
- 31.1.2. Stormwater/Drainage ways - Storm water facilities will be provided and maintained for the proposed development and required to meet the City of Walla Walla Stormwater Design Standards Handbook and the Eastern Washington Stormwater Design Manual. The stormwater system is to be designed to hold the 25-year 24-hour storm event.
- 31.1.3. Private Lot stormwater - The stormwater design shall include a private lot stormwater management plan. Any new stormwater improvements capturing runoff from private property will be privately owned and maintained, with appropriate maintenance responsibilities defined, and the City of Walla Walla will not be responsible for these systems.
- 31.1.4. Streets, roads, alleys, and other public ways - Street and frontage improvements are proposed to provide access and accommodate the needs of the residents as part of the proposed project. The proposed subdivision is accessed via the residential street network of the Harvey Ranch Estates subdivision. This design will contain a loop street and will accommodate the intersection spacing on Michele Avenue and limit access to Lower Waitsburg Road for the spacing of the current intersection and any future intersections.
- 31.1.5. Street trees will be required as part of the development of the subdivision.
- 31.1.6. Transit stops - Public Transportation provided by Valley Transit is available on Melrose Avenue and Sumach Street.
- 31.1.7. Potable water & sanitary sewer - The project will be served by City water and City sewer.

31.1.8. Parks, recreation & playgrounds - Recreational opportunities are available at Veterans Memorial Park and Vista Terrace Park.

31.1.9. Sidewalks and other planning features for walking to and from school - The preliminary plat is located within the Green Park Elementary and Pioneer Middle School boundaries, as shown on the school routes map. Sidewalks, within the development, will be constructed to city standards and provide safe walking routes to school bus stops. The Walla Walla School District has bus service to the existing Harvey Ranch subdivision and will provide service for this development.

32. ADEQUATE MEANS OF INGRESS AND EGRESS

32.1. The Hearing Examiner has determined, after review by the City of Walla Walla Engineering Division, that there is adequate means for ingress and egress to all lots within the proposed preliminary plat.

32.1.1. *Connectivity:* The proposed subdivision is accessed via the residential street network of the Harvey Ranch Estates subdivision. Adequate vehicle access is available on Mimi Street and the existing street network of Harvey Ranch Estates for the development. Walla Walla Municipal Code Section 19.30.030(2) requires that a subdivision of 15 or more lots shall have a minimum of two access points, and this requirement is satisfied by the proposed development layout. This design will contain a loop street and will accommodate the intersection spacing on Michele Avenue and limit access to the existing intersection on Lower Waitsburg Road. The proposed Tract B will accommodate the future right-of-way for the intersection development at US Highway 12 and Lower Waitsburg Road.

33. APPROPRIATENESS OF THE SITE, SCALE, AND DENSITY OF DEVELOPMENT

33.1. *Density/Type of Use:* The subject property has a Comprehensive Plan Land Use designation of Residential and Commercial, with the zoning of Neighborhood Residential. The subject property has been within the City of Walla Walla's Urban Growth Area (UGA) since 1996. The Walla Walla Comprehensive Plan provides for goals and policies for Housing and the implementation of the city-wide rezone to Neighborhood Residential.

33.2. The Neighborhood Residential Zone is intended to provide for a variety of housing dwelling unit types including but not limited to single-family residential, duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, townhomes, cottage housing, tiny homes, stacked flats, and accessory dwelling units.

33.3. *Infrastructure:* The development of the property will require complete street and frontage improvements, utility improvements, applicable street tree placement and construction on the improvements to city standards. The City Engineering Department will review civil engineering plans for improvements.

34. MAXIMIZATION OF GREEN SPACE WITHIN A PLAT AND MINIMIZATION OF THE IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT UPON VIEWS

34.1. Rear and front yards will provide green space and open space areas that will be required within the development for setbacks. Future construction is subject to Walla Walla

Municipal Code which will limit the building height to thirty-five feet. The standard height limit is applicable to all the Neighborhood Residential areas of the city.

35. ENERGY USAGE REQUIREMENTS AND MAXIMIZATION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY

35.1. Future residential development will be required to comply with the Washington State Energy Code.

36. MITIGATION OF PROBABLE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

36.1. The environmental review was completed under the SEPA process, and a Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS) was issued. The mitigation conditions are contained within the attached MDNS.

36.2. Additionally, City staff has recommended the construction of a minimum six-foot-tall fence (no gates) on the property line adjacent to the proposed Tract B, along Lower Waitsburg Road for public safety and screening of the eastern boundary of the development.

37. The proposed preliminary plat is consistent with the City of Walla Walla Comprehensive Plan, the Walla Walla Municipal Code and RCW 58.17.110 as conditioned. The project, as reviewed above and conditioned below, provides appropriate provisions for the public health, safety, and general welfare.

38. An open record public hearing was held on January 15, 2026.

39. The following exhibits were considered in rendering this decision:

39.1. Ex. 1 STAFF REPORT WITH ATTACHMENTS

39.1.1. Ex. A Application

- 39.1.1.1. Ex. 1.A.1 Title Report - Legal Description
- 39.1.1.2. Ex. 1.A.2 Preliminary Plat Map
- 39.1.1.3. Ex. 1.A.3 Routes to school Maps
- 39.1.1.4. Ex. 1.A.4 SEPA Checklist
- 39.1.1.5. Ex. 1.A.5 Traffic Impact Analysis
- 39.1.1.6. Ex. 1.A.6 Preliminary Stormwater Report
- 39.1.1.7. Ex. 1.A.7 Landscaping/Tree plan

39.1.2. Ex. 1.B Determination of Completeness

39.1.3. Ex. 1.C Notice of Application

39.1.4. Ex. 1.D SEPA Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS)

39.1.5. Ex. 1.E Notice of Public Hearing

- 39.1.6. Ex. 1.F Proof of Posting/Mailing/Publishing Certificates
- 39.1.7. Ex. 1.G Notification List
- 39.1.8. Ex. 1.H Regional Housing Action Plan, Page 20.
- 39.1.9. Ex. 1.I Comment Letters/Emails –
 - 39.1.9.1. Ex. 1.I.1 Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, dated July 2, 2025.
 - 39.1.9.2. Ex. 1.I.2 Washington State Department of Ecology, dated July 3, 2025.
 - 39.1.9.3. Ex. 1.I.3 Washington State Department of Transportation, dated July 7, 2025.
 - 39.1.9.4. Ex. 1.I.4 Kara Breymeyer, Dated July 7, 2025.
- 39.1.10. Ex. 1.J City of Walla Walla Public Works Department, SPRC comment letter, dated January 8, 2026.
- 39.1.11. Ex. 1.K Staff Power Point
- 39.1.12. Ex. 1.L Applicant Power Point

40. The City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner considered all evidence within the record in rendering this decision.

41. Appearing and testifying on behalf of the Applicant was Erica Nelson. Ms. Nelson testified that she was an agent authorized to appear and speak on behalf of the property owner and applicant. She stated that she had reviewed the staff report and had no objection to any of the representations contained therein. She also stated that she had reviewed all of the conditions of approval and had no objection to any of those.

42. Testifying from the public was the following individual:

42.1. Kara Breymeyer: Ms. Breymeyer had concerns regarding the traffic impacts on Michelle Avenue and the Highway 12 intersection with lower Waitsburg Road. She cited her own safety concerns. She also had questions about wildlife that are seen in the area and how they will be protected.

43. Speaking on behalf of the City was Doug Eaton, Development Engineer for the City of Walla Walla. Mr. Eaton testified that the City does not put up speed limit signs in residential areas because the default speed limit is 25 miles an hour. He stated that a traffic impact analysis had been performed and that future improvements to the US Highway 12 intersection include a diamond intersection. He stated that the subdivision cannot make a direct connection to Lower Waitsburg Road because of the future highway alignment plans.

44. Also, Planning Staff indicated that there were no comments about wildlife from the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

45. Any Conclusion of Law that is more correctly a Finding of Fact is hereby incorporated as such by this reference.

II. RECOMMENDED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The City of Walla Walla Hearing Examiner has been granted the authority to render this recommended decision pursuant to RCW 35A.63.170 and Walla Walla Municipal Code Sections 19.14.020B and 20.27.040.
2. As conditioned, the proposed preliminary plat is consistent with the Goals and Policies of the Comprehensive Plan pertaining to Land Use and Housing and the Walla Walla Municipal Code, so long as Conditions of Approval are implemented.
3. Any Finding of Fact that is more correctly a Conclusion of Law is hereby incorporated as such by this reference.

III. RECOMMENDED DECISION

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Hearing Examiner hereby **RECOMMENDS APPROVAL** of PPL-24-0004 subject to the following Conditions of Approval

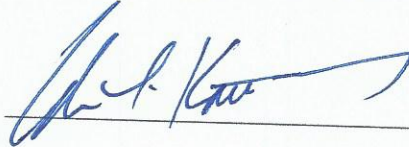
IV. RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. Stormwater generated within the development shall be retained on site with a stormwater system designed to retain, at a minimum, 100% of the 25-year, 24-hour event. A final stormwater report shall be provided and reviewed to ensure compliance with the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington and the City of Walla Walla's Stormwater Design Standards Handbook prior to Civil Review Approval.
2. The stormwater design shall include a private lot stormwater management plan. Any new stormwater improvements capturing runoff from private property will be privately owned and maintained, with appropriate maintenance responsibilities defined, and the City of Walla Walla will not be responsible for these systems.
3. All improvements shall be constructed consistently with City Standards and the Walla Walla Municipal Code, or as approved by the City Engineer. The applicant shall comply with all provisions of the City of Walla Walla Public Works Department, SPRC comment letter, dated January 8, 2026.
4. The applicant shall apply for coverage under Washington State Department of Ecology's Construction Stormwater General Permit.
5. Construction of a minimum six-foot-tall fence (no gates) on the property line between the proposed residential lots and the proposed Tract B, as shown on the preliminary plat.
6. The existing right-of-way fence between the trail and US 12 must not be altered or moved for this project, and any proposed lighting should be directed down towards the site and away from Highway US 12 according to the WSDOT comment letter.
7. The applicant shall prepare a professional archaeology survey of the project area, prior to any earth or ground disturbing activities. The applicant shall comply with any recommendations and/or requirements identified from this survey.

8. The applicant shall prepare and provide, prior to any earth work or grading, an inadvertent discovery plan (IDP) which is available from the City. Once approved by the City of Walla Walla, this completed IDP is to be kept on site during all grading, filling and any construction activities for the purpose of guiding construction crews, in the event that archeological resources are discovered during site development or construction. All staff, contractors, and persons on site should be familiar with its contents and know where to find it.
9. The proposed Tract A, as shown on the preliminary plat, shall be dedicated as the stormwater facility/common space and the ownership retained by the Homeowners Association.
10. The applicant shall dedicate the proposed Tract B, as shown on the preliminary plat, to the City of Walla Walla as mitigation for the traffic impacts.

Dated this 21 day of January, 2026.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA HEARING EXAMINER



Andrew L. Kottkamp



ar-5864

Pgs. 48-55

City Council - Regular Meeting

Meeting Date: 02/25/2026

Item Title: Authorizes a professional services contract with Turner & Townsend Heery for owner's representative services for the library renovation project.

Submitted For: Heather VanTassell, Library

Project No:
785

Financial Comments:

The professional services contract is not to exceed \$220,251. This will be funded by the library capital improvement fund.

All Contracts:

Yes

Federally funded contracts only:

Not Applicable

Construction contracts only:

Not Applicable

Brief Summary of Requested Action:

Adopt a resolution authorizing a professional services contract with Turner & Townsend Heery for observation and monitoring of the construction activities throughout the library renovation.

Information

HISTORY:

BACKGROUND:

The library was built in 1970 with a 5000 SF addition constructed in 2006. The building will be undergoing a complete renovation with an approximately 700SF expansion beginning in April 2026. Recognizing that this is a complex project that requires professional oversight, the City issued a request for proposals for owner's representative services in December 2025. A committee consisting of City staff actively involved with the project selected Turner & Townsend Heery as the most qualified to provide owner's representation throughout the library renovation.

WHAT IS THE CONTRACT FOR? This is a professional services contract with Turner & Townsend Heery to serve as the Owner's Representative during the bidding, construction, and closeout phases of the library renovation project. They will represent the City's best interests, coordinating between the design team and the contractor. Services to be provided include, but are not exclusive, to:

- Assist with the bidding process by coordinating pre-submittal meetings and site access for potential bidders.
- Regular site visits, inspection reports, and schedule tracking.
- Attend all construction meetings and review minutes to ensure proper documentation.
- Collection and review of certified payrolls.
- Review and track submittals to ensure purchasing and installation matches design.
- Track and advise on requests for information and any change orders.
- Coordination of materials testing consultants and private utility providers.
- Assist with the Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment process.
- Back check all items are done on project close-out and coordinate training on building systems.

WHY DO WE NEED TO HIRE A CONSULTANT?

An owner's representative is needed for their technical expertise in vertical construction. Staff lack availability and significant knowledge to oversee all aspects of this project.

IS THE COST FAIR AND REASONABLE?

The not-to-exceed cost has been reviewed by staff and found to be fair and reasonable. Total not-to-exceed contract value is \$220,251. This includes 1,143 labor hours over approximately 12 months, mileage and direct cost reimbursements if needed, and a 3% contingency in case additional hours are needed.

CONSULTANT SELECTION:

The City posted an RFP for Owner's Representative for the Walla Walla Library Renovation Project on December 22, 2025. From the proposals received, Turner & Townsend Heery was ranked as the most qualified of the five (5) firms who submitted proposals in accordance with RCW 39.80. Staff negotiated a scope and fee for owner's representation services.

Staff considers the scope of work and fee to be fair and reasonable.

POLICY ISSUES:

Contracts greater than \$50,000 require Council authorization.

PLAN COMPLIANCE:

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

Community Character Goal 6: Walla Walla adds new and attractive features to its historic qualities as it grows. Incorporating Walla Walla's unique identity and diverse culture in the library renovation is one of the primary goals of this project.

Capital Facilities and Utilities Goal 1: Walla Walla's capital facilities and utilities are well maintained and up-to-date to meet the demands of growth and economic development.

ALTERNATIVES:

Council may reject this contract or direct staff to renegotiate the scope of work and associated fee.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Council adopt a resolution authorizing a contract with Turner & Townsend Heery.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

Concur with the staff recommendation and approved for City Council action.

Attachments

Res 2026-016
Request for Proposal

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-016

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WALLA WALLA TO EXECUTE A SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WALLA WALLA AND TURNER & TOWNSEND HEERY, TO EXECUTE AMENDMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, AND CHANGE ORDERS THERETO, AND TAKING SUCH FURTHER ACTION NEEDED THEREWITH

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla requires construction observation and monitoring for the Library remodel project and related services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla passed Municipal Ordinance A-2405 on May 13, 1970 which classified the City of Walla Walla as a nonchartered code city under Title 35A of the Revised Code Washington (RCW); and

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla is authorized to procure professional services from rosters maintained in accordance with Chapter 39.80 RCW; and

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla published a request for proposals on December 22, 2025 in accordance with the requirements of RCW 39.80.030 requesting submission of proposals and statements of qualifications and performance data from qualified professionals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla evaluated the statement of qualifications and performance data of those parties and firms on file with the City of Walla Walla, and finds that Turner & Townsend Heery is the most qualified firm to provide such services to the City of Walla Walla; and

WHEREAS, the price of the professional services contract negotiated with Turner & Townsend Heery to provide services is fair and reasonable to the City of Walla Walla; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla City Council has considered this matter during a regularly and duly called public meeting of said Council, has given said matter careful review and consideration, and finds that good government and the best interests of the City of Walla Walla will be served by passage of this resolution,

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Walla Walla resolves as follows:

Section 1: The City Manager of the City of Walla Walla is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to execute a contract on behalf of the City of Walla Walla with Turner & Townsend Heery for construction observation and monitoring for the Library renovation project and related services.

Section 2: The City Manager of the City of Walla Walla is hereby authorized and empowered to execute amendments, modifications, and change orders to the contract approved by section 1 herein on behalf of the City of Walla Walla, provided that sufficient appropriations have been made by the Walla Walla City Council, and provided further the

aggregate value of all amendments, modifications, and change orders may not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

Section 3: The City Manager of the City of Walla Walla is also hereby authorized and empowered to execute amendments, modifications, and change orders to the contract authorized by section 1 herein, which do not materially alter such contract, and also do not increase the financial obligations beyond amounts authorized by sections 1 and 2 herein.

Section 4: The City Clerk of the City of Walla Walla is hereby authorized and directed to attest the contract and any amendments, modifications or change orders authorized by this resolution, and to attach to each duplicate thereof a copy of this Resolution.

PASSED by the Walla Walla City Council on February 25, 2026.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
Owner's Representative for the Walla Walla Library Renovation Project
Date of Request: Monday, December 22, 2025
Proposals Due: Tuesday, January 13, 2026 by 4:00 P.M. PST

INTRODUCTION:

The City of Walla Walla is requesting proposals from qualified consultant teams with expertise in the State of Washington performing:

- Owner's representative responsibilities for the Walla Walla Library Renovation Project, bid review and construction phase to project close out.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Walla Walla is embarking on a \$16M renovation project for the Walla Walla Public Library that includes full interior renovation, addition of approximately 700 square feet, a great hall, updated HVAC, electrical, and plumbing, and all new exterior landscaping. The city is primarily funding the renovation through a capital fundraising campaign and we are 74% fundraised.

The project has been designed by the city's architect, Buildingwork. Building permits have been submitted to the city for review.

ANTICIPATED SCOPE OF SERVICES:

- Review of the bid documents prior to issuing a notice of construction bid
- Daily site inspection and preparation of daily inspection reports
- Attendance of weekly construction meetings
- Reviewing pay estimates
- Tracking the contractor's schedule
- Coordination/Communication with design team and City staff
- Coordination of submittal review with the design team, response/coordination and tracking
- RFI review, response/coordination and tracking
- WCD preparation, tracking, and issuance
- Change Order preparation, tracking, and issuance
- Project close-out, including coordination of all requirements for O&M manuals, warranties, and system training

Questions

For further project information or questions, please contact the City of Walla Walla's Library Director, Heather VanTassell by email **only** at hvantassell@wallawallawa.gov.

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE:

- December 23, 2025 – Issue RFP
- January 13, 2026 – Consultant RFP responses due
- January 20, 2026 – Consultant selection notification (City reserves the right to conduct interviews of top proposers)
- January 23, 2026 – City receives bid set to review. Consultant would also review and would be a separate time and material task with a not to exceed amount within the City Manager's

authority

- January 28, 2026 – Consultant contract to City Council for approval
- February 2026 – Execute contract
- February 18, 2026 – Call for bids notice issued (5week bid window)
- March 25, 2026 – Bid Opening
- April 8, 2026 – City Council date to award construction contract
- April 2026 – Contract execution and notice to proceed to contractor
- April 2027 – Project completion

PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL:

The proposal response shall be concise and limited to 10 pages (5 sheets of paper printed duplex). This number of pages excludes resumes, dividers, and a cover letter. Submittal shall be printed duplex on 8 ½" x 11" papers with margins set at 1" minimum and have a text font of 11 pt. minimum. Provide one (1) electronic PDF copy by the due date and time specified above. Proposals shall be submitted to Heather VanTassell, Library Director via email only at hvantassell@wallawallawa.gov.

Proposals received after the deadline and/or not responsive to the content requirements noted may not be considered. All determinations are at the City's sole discretion. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive minor irregularities.

ADDENDA

Any changes, additions, or deletions to the RFP by the City will be made by written addendum only and will be posted on the City's website under "Bids and RFPs." Prior to submitting a proposal, all vendors/proposers shall check the City's website after 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 8, 2026 to confirm receipt of all addenda. Acknowledgement of addenda shall be clearly stated in the proposer's cover letter.

SELECTION OF CONSULTANT

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee of 3-5 City employees. The City reserves the right to conduct interviews of top proposers prior to selecting a firm. The number of firms chosen to interview will be at the City's sole discretion and may be none. Proposals shall be clearly organized and concise with each section labeled accordingly. Proposals will be ranked against each other based on responses to the following elements. The City reserves all rights to select the consultant team believed to provide the best overall value to the city.

- **Cover letter:** Describe the focus of your company and identify key personnel involved, their role(s), availability, and their contact information. Additionally, the cover letter shall acknowledge receipt of issued addenda.
- **Introduction, History and Qualifications of the Firm:** Describe your firm by stating time in business, number of employees, office locations, familiarity with Washington State Building Codes and City of Walla Walla Municipal Code, along with other information that helps characterize and qualify it for this project.
- **Project Manager and Team:** Identify and introduce the project manager(s) who will be responsible for being the city's owners representative and the experience and qualifications they bring to this specific project. Identify other team members, their role on the project and their relevant qualifications.
- **Similar Experiences, Quality of Past Work and References:** Provide a brief description of similar projects describing the relevant experience obtained within the last ten (10) years. List three (3)

client references with name, address, phone number and email from this list of projects that the City may contact.

- **Proposed scope of work:** Briefly describe the tasks that must be accomplished to complete the project, comment on the proposed schedule contained in this RFP, and a narrative description of how the firm proposes to execute them.
- **Cost:** A cost estimate shall be included with the proposal (does not count against the page limitation). The summary of cost shall include estimated hours, hourly billing rates, applicable cost allocations, subconsultant hours and costs, and expenses per task with a total shown for the complete scope of work. Include footnotes on the cost summary for key assumptions if necessary.

Upon selection of the consultant, the City will negotiate a contract, detailed scope of work and fee. If unable to reach an agreement, the City reserves the right to terminate negotiations and begin discussions with the next highest finalist. Work performed under the contract will be on a time and material basis with a not-to-exceed fee. The agreement shall be per the city's standard professional services contract (a copy can be requested). Upon successful completion of negotiations, a contract will be presented to the City Council for approval, if required. If such approval is not granted, this agreement shall be void and neither party shall have any further obligations or liabilities hereunder.

A number of state and federal equal opportunity and affirmative action requirements will apply to the selection process and conduct of the project. The City of Walla Walla is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. Minority and women owned firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

Limitations:

The City reserves the right to request clarification of information submitted, and to request additional information from the consultant.

The City reserves the right to modify or withdraw the request for proposals at any time without prior notice. The City reserves the right at its sole discretion to reject any and all proposals received without penalty. The City may reject proposals without providing the reasons underlying the declination. The City also reserves the right to not issue a contract as a result of this request for proposals. A failure to award a contract will not result in a cause of action against the City. The request for proposals does not obligate the City to contract for services described herein.

The City will not be liable for any costs incurred by applicants in the preparation or submittal of a proposal in response to this request for proposals, in the conduct of an interview presentation, or any other activities related to responding to this request for proposals.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

The City of Walla Walla in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), commits to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all of its programs and activities. This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing Preston Frederickson at pfrederickson@wallawallawa.gov or by calling 509-527-4540.

Title VI Statement

The City of Walla Walla, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be

afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.



ar-5861

Pgs. 56-154

City Council - Regular Meeting

Meeting Date: 02/25/2026

Item Title: Continued Discussion of Process and Potential Appointment to Fill Vacancy in Walla Walla Council Position #6

Submitted For: City Council, City Council

Financial Comments:

N/A

All Contracts:

Not Applicable

Federally funded contracts only:

Not Applicable

Construction contracts only:

Not Applicable

Brief Summary of Requested Action:

Continued Discussion of Process and Potential Appointment to Fill Vacancy in Walla Walla Council Position #6

Information

HISTORY:

City Council determined at the January 14, 2026, regular meeting to open an application process to fill the vacant City Council Position #6. Applications were opened on Friday, January 16 with a closing date of 4:00 pm on February 6, 2026. Staff issued a press release, posted information on the city's website, and communicated the open application process via our social media platforms. Fifteen applications were received by the deadline. Since the application deadline, two applicants have withdrawn.

At the February 11, 2026, regular meeting, City Council discussed the next steps in the process. At the conclusion of the discussion and motions to determine the process, the City Council approved to interview the 13 remaining candidates at the February 23 work session.

At the February 25, 2026, regular council meeting, the City Council will continue to discuss the next steps in the process. The Council may determine to break into executive session to discuss the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. Any discussion and/or decision must be made in open session.

POLICY ISSUES:

RCW 35A.13.020

RCW 35A.12.05

ORCW 42.12.010

RCW 42.12.010(2)

City Council has 90 days from the resignation to fill the vacancy.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

No staff recommendation.

If City Council appoints a candidate to fill the vacancy, it is recommended that the council should consider passing a motion to approve a resolution confirming the appointment. A draft resolution has been included in this agenda report for consideration should it be appropriate.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

City Council process to fill a council vacancy.

Attachments

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Application for City Councilmember Position #6 - James Wilson
Date: Friday, February 6, 2026 11:01:57 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Application for City Councilmember Position #6

Name	James Wilson
Complete Home Mailing Address	397 Catherine Street, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Home Phone	(206) 660-5912
Cell	(206) 660-5912
Email	jcwilson16@hotmail.com
Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation)	Management Consultant
Business Address	N/A - Fully Remote
Educational Background	Bachelor of Science, University of Puget Sound Certified Change Management Practitioner, Prosci
1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla?	Yes
2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.)	Yes
3. Have you ever been	

convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation?

No

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla?

No

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla?

Yes

If yes, please explain.

I serve on the Citizen Advisory Committee for the Transportation Benefit District (TBD). I am also the Chair and Treasurer of Citizens for Walla Walla Parks, supporting the creation of a new Metropolitan Park District for Walla Walla (WW City Prop. 1).

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest?

No

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages).

[Jim_Wilson_Resume_Feb_2026.pdf](#)

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume).

Member, National Eagle Scout Association. Member, Beta Theta Pi fraternity (served as chapter president in college). Other volunteer & club affiliations listed on my LinkedIn profile: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jcwilson>

	Experience	From when?	To when?
1.	Board Member, Community Council	1/2019	12/2025
2.	Singer and former Board	1/2019	present

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

	Member, WW Choral Society		
3.	Philanthropy Committee, Providence St. Mary Foundation	2/2021	6/2024
4.	Founding Board Member, current Board Secretary, WW Summer Theater	1/2022	present

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? **Yes**

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council? **Yes**

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

	Name	Address	Phone number
1.	Andy Coleman	15 N 3rd, WW, 99362	509-520- 1937
2.	Jolene Riggs	3120 Canberra Dr., WW, 99362	509-520- 6442
3.	Norma	805 SE 4th St, CP,	206-280-

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

I want to answer the supplemental questions on this form.

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

I believe that Walla Walla is a very unique and special community, with rich history and traditions and poised to find ways to improve and strengthen. I'm dedicated to learning more about the perspective and expectations of our citizens, and to working hard to ensure we cultivate a thriving community, both economically and culturally.

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

First and foremost, I am a skillful relationship- and coalition-builder. Throughout my career, I have cultivated a depth and breadth of experience in communication, marketing, change management, strategic planning & budgeting, reporting & KPIs. I have served in leadership roles in Tech, Banking & Nonprofit organizations, both large and small, which give me additional perspectives and experience.

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

A City Council member must be curious and purposefully seek input from a range of perspectives and experiences. In addition, City Council members must apply a disciplined approach to decision-making to balance current needs with thoughtful planning for the future. Each member must abide by the Council's values: Service, Integrity, Collaboration, Equity, Leadership, and Community.

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

Building consensus relies on establishing clear objectives and measurements up front: what outcome or impact is desired? In addition, we need to have a process to scope and prioritize decisions relative to others. I will approach decisions with an open mind and curiosity to ensure I consider all perspectives.

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

Top issues include availability and affordability of housing, childcare, and medical care (including mental health). We must work to strengthen our local economy by attracting and retaining businesses and professionals while maintaining and improving core infrastructure and services. Prioritization and tradeoffs will need to be made within a balanced budget, and with consideration to preserve and honor the history, traditions, culture, and community "feel" that make Walla Walla special.

F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

I believe my commitment to collaboration, coalition-building, and allyship may be the most important attributes I bring to this position. With four generations of my family living in Walla Walla and my active involvement in wide range of organizations and events, I have a great starting point for understanding the needs of a wide range of constituents. But I remain I'm curious and eager to learn new perspectives and processes that can help make Walla Walla a wonderful place to live for all of our residents.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "W".

Date

02-06-2026

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

JIM WILSON

397 Catherine St., Walla Walla, WA 99362 | 206.660.5912 | jcwilson16@hotmail.com | [linkedin.com/in/jcwilson](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jcwilson)

Summary

Experienced business program manager with extensive experience landing new programs, tools, and processes across global organizations. Skilled at building stakeholder alignment, activating champions communities, and crafting executive and internal communications that drive clarity and adoption. Adept at navigating cross-functional teams, managing complex projects, and translating strategy into field-ready execution that delivers measurable impact.

Professional Experience

AG CONSULTING PARTNERS

Principal Consultant, Change Management | Client: Microsoft

Leading change management and field landing for offerings and tools for Microsoft's Customer Success Unit, focused on accelerating adoption and business outcomes across the commercial cloud.

Jun 2024 - Nov 2024 & Feb 2026 - present

Bellevue, WA (Remote)

AQUENT STUDIOS

Client Partner, Microsoft

Recruited to lead new business development and engagement management for projects and outsourced managed services at Microsoft, with an emphasis on marketing and communications.

Nov 2024 - Aug 2025

Boston, MA (Remote)

DERFLAN INC.

Sr. Business Management Consultant | Client: Microsoft

Managed FY25 planning for Microsoft's Azure + Industry Marketing (AIM) Solution Play team: strategy, budget, headcount, stakeholder communications, content creation, field engagement, and change management.

Nov 2023 - May 2024

Bellevue, WA (Remote)

LAUNCH CONSULTING GROUP

Engagement Manager | LCG Retail & Enterprise Tech Business Units

Managed offshore, nearshore, and onshore teams to ensure project delivery excellence and business development. Established and strengthened executive stakeholder relationships through KPIs, presentations, and regular communications. Portfolio included more than 100 consultants and over \$25M annual revenue.

Apr 2021 - Sep 2023

Bellevue, WA (Remote)

Sr. Marketing Program Manager | Client: Microsoft

Azure program lead for Microsoft Global Demand Center (GDC) developing content for emails, whitepapers, webinars, and SEM aligned with audience segmentation and customer journeys. Utilized Marketo marketing automation and analytics to measure and optimize content performance.

Sr. Change Manager | Client: Microsoft

Change Manager for the MSX Content project, driving and optimizing utilization of the Seismic sales and marketing enablement platform for the Microsoft US subsidiary. Applied the Prosci methodology, tools, and best practices, including executive/sponsor engagement, and recruiting and activating a field "champions" community.

BAKER BOYER BANK

AVP | Marketing Director

Led marketing team for Baker Boyer, including consumer and commercial banking & lending, trust management, and investment services. Responsible for marketing strategies, branding, messaging, and content creation for full funnel marketing, including: design and launch of a new website, introduction of marketing automation and CRM integration, and effective implementation of marketing vehicles including email, SEO/SEM, print & digital advertising, local & national PR, collateral, social media, video & podcast production, community engagement & donations, and both internal and external communications.

Oct 2017 - Jan 2021

Walla Walla, WA

MICROSOFT CORPORATION

Sr. Marketing Program Manager, WW Enterprise Services

Led worldwide go-to-market strategy and execution for the Premier Fast Start program, using a proof-of-concept approach to initiate and accelerate cloud adoption, consumption, and services revenue. Developed messaging, pitch decks, and other content to drive integration and enablement of global field staff to deliver business results and analytics.

Jun 2014 - Apr 2017

Redmond, WA

MICROSOFT CORPORATION*Executive Communications Director, US Marketing & Operations*

Managed integrated marketing communications in alignment with Microsoft's corporate goals across the US subsidiary in support of the CMO/Corporate Vice President of Marketing & Operations. Included internal and external executive communication strategy and execution, demos, keynotes, events, "CMO Roadshow," written and face-to-face communications, social presence, and field engagement plans.

Sep 2013 - Jun 2014*Redmond, WA***AK GROUP LLC***Executive Communications Director, Microsoft WW Enterprise and Partner Group (WW EPG)*

Responsible for executive messaging and communications for CVP of WW EPG. This included setting the "tone from the top" with internal and external keynote presentations, demos, videos, blog posts, social media, and town hall meetings, and other organizational communications.

Sep 2012 - Sep 2013*Redmond, WA***AK GROUP LLC***Executive Communications Director, Microsoft U.S. Enterprise and Partner Group (US EPG)*

Responsible for executive messaging and communications for CVP of EPG for the U.S. Subsidiary. This included developing and executing a comprehensive internal messaging and comms calendar, keynote presentations, videos, blog posts, social media, and town hall meetings. Partnered with HR and Leadership Team to manage the cascade of communications for a major field reorg that included role and compensation changes for nearly 6,000 employees.

Sep 2011 - Sep 2012*Redmond, WA***UNITED WAY OF KING COUNTY***Director of Corporate Philanthropy, Workplace Giving & Employee Engagement*

Introduced "consultative selling" approach to lead a team of 16 full time employees and 35 loaned executives (seasonally) to engage 1300+ companies to set and achieve corporate social responsibility and employee engagement goals through a mix of presentations, events, communications, volunteer projects, employee giving campaigns, and corporate grantmaking. Recruited and managed executive Campaign Cabinet comprised of CXOs from leading local corporations. Directed customization and deployment of Microsoft Dynamics CRM system for donor, company, and grants management to improve performance management, reporting, and analysis.

Jun 2007 - Jun 2011*Seattle, WA***MANAGEMENT ACTION PROGRAMS, INC.***Executive Consultant*

Training and coaching for executives and senior staff to help drive accountability and results, utilizing DiSC assessments and the MAP Management Development Program, a non-confrontational management system based on "vital factors."

Nov 2006 - Jun 2007*Sherman Oaks, CA (WA-based territory)***ONE/NORTHWEST (aka Groundwire)***Development Director*

Nearly doubled this nonprofit's revenue in less than three years, from \$630,000 to \$1.1 million. Wrote grant proposals and reports, developed new major donor program, and worked closely with board of directors and program staff. Customized Salesforce.com CRM system for the specific needs of donor and grants management.

Aug 2004 - Oct 2006*Seattle, WA***MICROSOFT CORPORATION***Account Management, Product/Channel Marketing, Consulting Services*

Cultivated a strong portfolio of sales, marketing, and leadership skills and experience focused primarily on the global enterprise market, professional services, and solution selling. Participated in start-up and initial launch of the Visual Studio developer suite, the Microsoft Solutions Framework (MSF) methodology and training curriculum/certification program, and the first "software as a service" volume licensing program (Select, Open). Built and executed go-to-market strategies and campaigns, branding, messaging, digital and print content, press and analyst relations, global field and partner training & engagement, and performance measurement. Delivered presentations to internal and external audiences at global conferences, trainings, and events. Performed as both individual contributor and people manager.

Apr 1991 - May 2004*Redmond, WA***FOURGEN SOFTWARE, INC.***Regional Manager, Business Development*

Drove VAR business development for this two-time Inc. 500 "fastest growing software company." Products included a suite of financial modules and a suite of code-generation tools for Informix 4GL & RDBMS.

Aug 1989 - Apr 1991*Seattle, WA***Education**

University of Puget Sound*Bachelor of Science***Certification**

- Prosci Change Management Practitioner

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Application for City Councilmember Position #6 - Mical Meldahl
Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 3:41:36 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Application for City Councilmember Position #6

Name	Mical Meldahl
Complete Home Mailing Address	1841 Belair St, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Home Phone	(509) 273-4940
Email	micalmeldahl@gmail.com
Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation)	Host
Business Address	1604 Plaza Way, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Educational Background	Currently pursuing a Business degree at WWCC, Class of 2010-Mount Vernon High School
1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla?	Yes
2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.)	Yes
3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation?	No

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla?

No

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla?

No

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest?

No

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages). [Copy of MICAL RESUME.pdf](#)

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume).

None

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council?

No

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla

Yes

Walla City Council.

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

	Name	Address	Phone number
1.	Theresa Heitstuman	1841 Belair	5095291809
2.	Kayla Watkins	13 E Main	5096295995
3.	Jose Vasquez	1604 Plaza	5095260075

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

I want to answer the supplemental questions on this form.

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

I decided to put myself out there for this position because I have alot of great ideas to revitalize the city and bring more tourists (which in turn boosts revenue), but also making it citizen friendly! I think the city looks a little run down with all the empty storefronts. I also think younger energy would be good for the council. Sometimes, bringing in that next generation is good for the mindset and goals, that the older generation may not see.

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

As I said above, I think just a younger energy. Influencing that younger next generation of voters, and citizens.

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

Heading committees, voting for those committees, listening to concerns and comments of citizens and business owners in the city obviously is a very important part of this too!

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

I think that if the projects and services benefit the public, and are not all about raising taxes, but finding sources of revenue internally, that the citizens would be more apt to be on board with things. I have several projects and services in mind, and would enjoy educating the community on those things.

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be

I think the biggest issue right now, plaguing our community is the homeless population. Something has to be done. I dont even feel safe at night walking through downtown because every block theres people sleeping in doorways and benches. Rooks Park needs to be revitalized, and the homeless camp up there needs to pack up and move. We have a beautiful trail along the creek up there, but we can't use it due to being fearful of the homeless inhabitants!

Secondly, the taxes are already really high here, and it's pushing families out. We need to bring more people in, not push them away!

addressed?

The chalk downtown is unacceptable! I know the city charged and fined the responsible parties for that, but we have to realize that said party is never going to be able to pay the fine. So really, nothing is being done.

We need to pump some revenue into our fair, and other events, to make them a little more inviting. The fair has gotten out of control with pricing, and that makes people not want to go! But it's a huge revenue draw for our city.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. H. ...', written over a horizontal line.

Date

01-20-2026

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

Mical A. Meldahl
Phone Number: 509-273-4940
micalmeldahl@gmail.com

Work Experience:

Famous Footwear
Jan 2026-present
Sales Associate

Applebees
Dec 2024-present
Host

Safeway
2019-2024
Self Checkout Manager and Cashier

Amavi Cellars
Feb 2019-Apr 2019
Tasting Room Associate

Safeway
May 2012 to Sep 2017
Deli Clerk, Cashier, and Courtesy Clerk

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Application for City Councilmember Position #6 - Jeff Strickler
Date: Thursday, January 22, 2026 5:17:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Application for City Councilmember Position #6

Name	Jeff Strickler
Complete Home Mailing Address	221 Whitman Street, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Home Phone	(509) 540-5027
Email	jeff@jeffstrickler.com
Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation)	Realtor
Educational Background	BA, Luther College, Computer Science and Business Management
1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla?	Yes
2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.)	Yes
3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation?	No
5. Do you or your spouse,	

or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla?

No

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla?

No

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest?

No

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages). [Jeff_Strickler_2026_cv.pdf](#)

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume). Walla Walla Noon Rotary

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

	Experience	From when?	To when?
1.	City of Walla Walla Planning Commission	January 2024	Present
2.	City of Walla Walla Water and Wastewater Advisory Committee	July 2024	Present
3.	Walla Walla Valley Association of Realtors Board	January 2025	Present
	Washington		

4.	Realtors, Legislative Steering Committee	January 2024	Present
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11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? **Yes**

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council. **Yes**

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

	Name	Address	Phone number
1.	Amy Schwab	5 S Blue Street	5035397397
2.	Alayna Brinton	2580 Chisholm Ct	5098404618
3.	Everett Maroon	1009 Francis Street	5092000388

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

I want to answer the supplemental questions on this form.

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

Eleanor Roosevelt stated "Government exists for one purpose: to make things better for all people." On my father's desk as he served his community in elected office, there was a plaque that read "Leave the world better than you found it." These two statements together represent my interest in this role. Having lived in Walla Walla since 2010 and having familiarity with this community stretching back to the 1980s, I'm invested in making Walla Walla a place where all people can make a home and thrive. Over the course of my time here, I've grown increasingly concerned about the state of

our economy and the way residents are feeling left behind or leaving our community altogether because of housing costs and a lack of economic opportunities. As a business owner, father, homeowner, volunteer, and civically-engaged person, I want to offer my skills in service to our community.

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

As someone with a background in business, working for the past 6 years in real estate, I have first-hand experience with the most pressing issues facing our city. For many years I was in the technology world supporting early stage and growing ventures and understand the needs of entrepreneurs. I'm a connector who seeks to bring people and groups together to solve problems. I've worked on committees at the local and state level that have given me background and relationships that I can leverage for our community. I've formed relationships across our local business community, with civic and elected leaders, where I will be able to build coalitions and bring people together around issues like housing, jobs, and attracting additional health care and child care services. Above all, I'm a person of great compassion who seeks to understand the human condition and wants to take action to see the members of our community thrive.

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

The primary role of the council is to act as a steward of public resources. From Annexations to Zoning, the council must thoughtfully consider the impact of its decisions on the pocketbooks of our residents, their quality of life, and to the future of this community. It is the responsibility of each member to rise above one's personal beliefs or philosophy and direct those resources - financial, personnel, or otherwise - in the best long-term benefit of the community. Especially as we enter a time of economic uncertainty and potential austerity, it is important to have members of the council skilled in economic development, able to keep us on track with providing basic services.

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

Council members should think in terms of being connectors, advocates, and relationship-builders. For example, council can partner with staff to forge intergovernmental connections with the county, port, other municipalities, and can advocate on behalf of the city with the legislature and federal government — all areas where I have already built relationships. Council can act as ambassadors for the city with private industry, for example in business recruitment. Building ties across the community and advocating on behalf of constituents with other council members is key in forming consensus. Legislative bodies like the council function best when each member is proactively seeking collaboration with other members and continuous feedback from constituents.

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do

Every issue radiates from our lack of economic diversity. Want more affordable housing? We need to recruit more builders not only for new construction but also for rehabilitation and infill. Want to attract more health care workers and options? We must demonstrate viability as a community so that they want to come here to practice. Dislike our retail options? New businesses and retail opportunities will only come if they see sufficient community support, regulatory support, and growth to support their ventures. The city must work in partnership with private enterprise, local

you believe they should be addressed?

non-profits, and with other government agencies to recruit and support business growth in our community so that we can augment the success we've established as a tourist economy. An Economic Development Commission, continued work on regulations including expedited permitting, and a focus on new business recruitment will create new employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for our residents and a pathway to the prosperity needed to secure our city's future.

F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

This position is for only a partial term, which means the person filling it must come up to speed quickly to be a productive member of the body. Having forged relationships with city staff and across the community and state, served on city committees, attended the majority of council meetings and work sessions over the past year, I've done the preparation to be a successful member of this council.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.



Date

01-22-2026

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

221 Whitman Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Jeff Strickler

+1.509.540.5027
jeff@jeffstrickler.com
<https://www.jeffstrickler.com>

Real Estate Experience

Cascadian Real Estate

Title: Washington Designated Broker, Oregon Principal Broker November 2023 to Present

- Real estate professional operating in Washington and Oregon
- Experience with residential, commercial, and land transactions
- Experience with commercial leasing
- Broker for a small team of agents

EXP and Sotheby's

January 2020-November 2023

- Self-employed licensed real estate broker in Washington and Oregon

Technical and Executive Experience

Mercenary Technologies LLC

May 2005 to December 2019

Title: Principal Consultant / Owner

Mercenary is a boutique technical consulting firm offering:

- Stand-in CTO services
- Site reliability consulting
- Application performance management expertise
- Software architecture and development
- Technical training
- Project management

J9 Technologies, Inc. - Seattle, WA

March 2008 - August 2012

Title: Vice-President, Products - August 2011 - August 2012

Title: Vice-President, Products and Delivery - March 2008 to August 2011

Responsibilities:

- Managed a team of 30 consultants spread throughout the US.
- Acted in a sales engineer and account management role on customer accounts.
- Created curriculum and led classroom and virtual training sessions.
- Conducted high-visibility performance analyses of mission-critical software applications.
- Site reliability consulting
- Consulted with customers in the US, Canada, Germany, Turkey, and Indonesia.
- Demonstrated expertise in ITSM, APM, and ITIL.
- Hands-on expertise with New Relic, SolarWinds, MicroFocus, CA, Dynatrace, Quest, and VMWare products.
- Designed, built, and launched CloudRunner, an automated software testing service.
- Developed protocols and integrations for multiple HP products.

Real Networks – Seattle, WA

August 2004 - May 2006

Title: Program Manager – September 2005 to May 2006.

Responsibilities: Project management and commerce team operational support. Responsible for the commerce features in the Rhapsody subscription music service. Experience included coordinating offshore teams in Japan and India.

Lead Software Development Engineer – August 2004 to September 2005

Responsibilities: Lead developer for the Real SuperPass product, a \$60 million digital media subscription service. Responsibilities include management of a small team, architectural oversight, and technical development of the product. Work appeared in conjunction with television program Big Brother 6.

Jeff Strickler

Expeditors International – Seattle, WA

September 2003 to August 2004

Title: Software Developer

Responsibilities: Maintenance of e.dms, a distribution management system written in Smalltalk

Group Health Cooperative – Seattle, WA

March 2001 - September 2003

Title: Technical Project Manager – March 2002 to September 2003

Responsibilities: Coordination of a 40+ person technical team to develop, test, and release four customer-facing portals under a strict regulatory and market-driven timeline.

Title: Application Systems Analyst Programmer III – March 2001 to March 2002

Responsibilities: Design and implementation of a secure messaging and scheduling system that provided a key differentiator in the regional market and was one of the first of its kind in the country.

Walt Disney Internet Group – Seattle, WA

May 2000 to February 2001

Title: Software Development Engineer

Responsibilities: Design and implementation of a content brokering system for news syndication that cut development of new content feeds by weeks and contributed directly to the business goals of the site. Maintained core publishing applications for abcnews.com.

Education

Bachelor of Arts, Computer Science and Business Management. Luther College, Decorah, Iowa.

- One semester at the Universität Münster, Münster, Germany.
- One month in China and Australia studying international business practices.

Civic Engagement

- Planning Commission, City of Walla Walla
- Water / Wastewater Advisory Board, City of Walla Walla
- Legislative Steering Committee Member, Washington Realtors
- Board Member, Walla Walla Valley Association of Realtors
- Government Affairs Committee Member, Tri-Cities Association of Realtors
- Rotary Club of Walla Walla
- Chair, Washington 16th LD Democratic Party
- Member, Executive Committee, Washington State Democratic Party
- Co-Chair, Rural Engagement Committee, Washington State Democratic Party
- Co-Chair, Platform Drafting Committee, Washington State Democratic Party

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Application for City Councilmember Position #6 - Tracii Hickman
Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 8:34:58 AM

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Application for City Councilmember Position #6

Name	Tracii Hickman
Complete Home Mailing Address	1835 Woodmere Loop, Walla Walla, Washington, 99362
Home Phone	(509) 240-8231
Cell	(509) 520-7595
Email	tmww@charter.net
Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation)	Fisheries Biologist, U.S. Forest Service
Business Address	72510 Coyote Road, Pendleton, OR, 97801
Educational Background	Ridgefield High School 1978 BA Biology 1983, Lewis and Clark College, Portland OR Graduate Classwork for Fisheries Biologist, Oregon State University 1986-1987 (did not finish Master's thesis)
1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla?	Yes
2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.)	Yes

3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation? **No**

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla? **No**

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla? **No**

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest? **No**

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages). [Resume Tracii Hickman 2026.doc](#)

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume). American Association Of University Women - Walla Walla; currently co-chair of Women in Trades project at Walla Walla Community College; member of academic scholarship grant committee; many other previous positions including President * Tri-State Steelheaders Board Member; currently Secretary * Walla Walla Swim Club Board Member, Secretary (2009 - 2014)

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

	Experience	From when?	To when?
1.	City of Walla Walla Ward Boundary Committee	2017	2017
2.	Rebuild Memorial Pool Bond Committee	2013	2015
	see resume for		

3.	other volunteer positions
4.	

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? **Yes**

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council. **Yes**

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

	Name	Address	Phone number
1.	Kris Margart, WW Community College	500 Tausick Way, WW	509-301- 8084
2.	Robin Cosani, Sweetwater Paper	101 E Alder Street, WW	206-229- 3842
3.	Brian Burns, Tri-State Steelheaders	216 N. Roosevelt Ave, WW	509-520- 5078

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

I want to answer the supplemental questions on this form.

I've always been interested in government. I follow the news, I'm an informed voter, I occasionally get involved in political campaigns, and spent my career as a federal government employee. My two occasions to be actively involved in city of Walla Walla government was volunteering on the Rebuild Memorial Pool Committee when the bond was successfully

passed, and the Ward Boundary Committee.

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

My interest was really piqued this past summer and fall during City Council discussions of the Forest Service Tiger-Mill project. I attended and spoke at several meetings. I was one of a few voices in support of the project, but felt it was important to present information that was factual and not based on emotion-driven statements. I knew some of the public that spoke against the project, it was interesting and a little uncomfortable to take a public stand in that environment. That experience re-enforced my belief that you can never over-communicate on a controversial project.

I am interested in the City Council position because I will bring an informed, reasoned position to the issues facing the City of Walla Walla. In my career as a federal employee, I felt a responsibility to do my best to manage the national forests that belong to the American people. The City Council has a similar responsibility to the citizens and tax payers of Walla Walla through sound fiscal management and wise use of limited financial resources. I have much to learn, will listen and respect my fellow City Council members, and to the best of my ability will represent with the best interests of the citizens of Walla Walla in my votes and actions.

One of my strengths is a proven ability to work on a team and help the team be successful. My last job with the Umatilla National Forest before retirement was compliance with the Endangered Species Act. I worked with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, livestock ranchers, conservation organizations, wildland fire fighters, small claims miners and many others interested in activities on the Umatilla National Forest. My approach with all these individuals and organizations was to be sure to understand their position and needs through active listening and collaboration, and generally was able to guide all of us to a successful outcome.

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

I am proud of my ability to see a need and find a way to be fair in resolving that need. As an example, I am part of a team that has developed a program at Walla Walla Community College to support Women in Trades through the American Association of University Women. We've established a scholarship to pay for tuition, and this past month launched a fund to buy personal protective equipment.

I am a good listener. When you are talking, you aren't listening. I have professional training as a facilitator, and have observed over and over during meeting facilitation how important a good listener is to moving a discussion forward and understanding others viewpoints.

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City

The facts: the City of Walla Walla operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The City Council is the legislative governing body for the city. The City Council sets policies, adopts ordinances and the annual budget, levies taxes, approves contracts and appoints city advisory boards, commissions and committees; and hires the professional City Manager and City Attorney. The City Manager acts as the chief executive officer to oversee all city operations. This provides separation between policy-making (Council) and

Council?

administration (Manager).

It is the role of a City Council member to support an effective city government while also representing constituents. Not many citizens attend city council meetings, so representing our diverse citizens, including those less engaged, is important.

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

Similar to my earlier response, the ability to be a good listener is the first step to building consensus or majority support. I found during my career when a discussion was based on a common understanding of facts, differences were more easily resolved. Understanding the facts of a situation, knowing the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches to resolve a conflict or difference has served me well.

If there was a project or service where I differed from the majority I would articulate my reasons and basis for that difference, and then support the decision of the majority.

Emergency Services – First and foremost, citizens want to feel safe and protected. Adequately funding WWPDP and other emergency response departments is a priority. An associated issue is the Mill Creek watershed. Reducing risk of catastrophic wildfire to our municipal water supply and risks to our firefighters is paramount, and I support actions the City Council has taken up to now.

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

Long term economic sustainability and housing affordability – the Union-Bulletin recently highlighted the long-term financial challenges if Walla Walla growth stagnates or stalls.

Economic growth and stability affect all branches of city government.

it would be a priority of mine to work with the City Council, City manager and others to explore solutions and long-term effective strategies. Housing costs in Walla Walla are high, and lower-income citizens have additional challenges. The health of our city government relies on facing this challenge headfirst. I have much to learn, but I know continuing to tackle this fundamental problem is imperative.

Business Friendly Environment – Long term economic sustainability depends on a business-friendly environment with commercial development that creates jobs and provides tax revenue. I recognize these are complex issues that city employees continue to explore and develop strategies to address.

Cost of Childcare – The ability of parents with young children to work because they have safe and affordable childcare is a current challenge and part of a business-friendly environment. Many organizations and non-profits in Walla Walla and the greater community are tackling this problem.

The City Council has role to stay informed and participate in solutions where appropriate.

F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review

I recognize the economic challenges facing Walla Walla. Developing a personal, strong working relationship with the Port of Walla Walla and Walla Walla County Commissioners to explore additional ways to collaborate would be a priority.

of your application?

An example would be completion of the Highway 12 project.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Traci Hickman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Date

02-03-2026

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

Tracii L. Hickman

1835 WOODMERE LOOP
WALLA WALLA, WA 99362
CELL 509-520-7595 EMAIL TMWW@CHARTER.NET

BORN: COEUR D'ALENE, ID USA
HIGHEST FEDERAL GRADE: GS-12

EMPLOYMENT

Fish Biologist Tiger-Mill Fuels Reduction Project Contractor (20 hours per week) 2024 - 2025
FOREST SERVICE RETIREE WORK FORCE SOLUTIONS
As a contractor I wrote the Biological Evaluation and Assessment for Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation for the Tiger-Mill Fuels Reduction Project.

Booth 60 / Antique Mall of Walla Walla 2019 – present
Through a small business sell vintage goods through consignment at a rented booth at the Antique Mall.

Fish Biologist Forest Resiliency Project (GS-482-12) (40 hours per week) 2016 - 2019
UMATILLA NATIONAL FOREST
SUPERVISOR DAVID HATFIELD 541-215-9590
PENDLETON, OR

I served as an Interdisciplinary Team Member for a four National Forest project reducing catastrophic wildfire risk. I served as a fisheries biologist, and also assisted in facilitation and meeting management.

ESA Consultation Biologist (GS-482-12) (30 hours per week) 2009 - 2016
UMATILLA NATIONAL FOREST
SUPERVISOR DAVID HATFIELD 541-278-3875
PENDLETON, OR

I managed Section 7 Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation for the Umatilla National Forest. I served on the Level 1 streamlining consultation team; and wrote, edited and review Biological Evaluations and Assessments, write take permit applications (Section 4(d) and Section 10), and all other functions for ESA consultation. I assisted with other land management projects and roles as needed, such as serving on environmental document teams, assisting in stream habitat restoration and other projects.

Assistant Forest Fish Biologist (GS-482-11) (20 hours per week) 1999 - 2009
MT. HOOD NATIONAL FOREST
SUPERVISOR DAN SHIVELY 503-231-2270
SANDY, OR

I managed Section 7 ESA fisheries consultation for the Mt. Hood National Forest. I provided all aspects of ESA consultation. I managed accomplishment reporting, including inputs to national databases, annual fisheries accomplishment reports and the Forest Plan monitoring report. I prepared other information as needed, such as PowerPoint presentations, grants, and materials for educational projects.

District Fish Biologist (GS-482-11) (40 hours per week) 1988-1998
CLACKAMAS RIVER RANGER DISTRICT
ESTACADA, OR
FLOOD REPAIR PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION COORDINATOR (1996-1998)
WATERSHED ANALYSIS TEAM LEADER (1995-1995)
DISTRICT FISH BIOLOGIST (1989-1995)

Fisheries Technician (GS-406-7) (40 hours per week) 1983-1988
FORESTRY SCIENCES RESEARCH LABORATORY
JUNEAU, ALASKA AND CORVALLIS, OREGON
I assisted Forest Service Research Fisheries Biologists studying habitat needs of juvenile salmonids in locations throughout Southeast Alaska, and Oregon and Washington. I managed field crews, data collection and computer input and data analysis. I also completed coursework for a Master's in Fisheries Biology.

EDUCATION

High School Diploma 1978
RIDGEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
RIDGEFIELD, WA
Bachelor of Arts, Biology 1983
LEWIS AND CLARK COLLEGE
PORTLAND, OR
Post-Graduate Study, Fisheries Biology 1986-88
OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY
CORVALLIS, OR

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- BOARD MEMBER TRI-STATE STEELHEADERS (2020 – PRESENT)
- MEMBER OF THE WALLA WALLA REBUILD MEMORIAL POOL COMMITTEE (2013 – 2016)
- MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, WALLA WALLA CHAPTER (12 YEARS)
CURRENT AAUW WOMEN IN TRADES COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEMBER
- WEBSITE DESIGNER FOR LOCAL SPORTS TEAMS (WALLA WALLA 2 YEARS)
- SECRETARY, WALLA WALLA SWIM CLUB (2 YEARS)
- SWEET HOME COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, BOARD MEMBER AND LEAD GRANT WRITER (6 YEARS)
- VICE-PRESIDENT, OAK HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY PARENT TEACHERS CLUB (5 YEARS)
- VOLUNTEER, PUBLIC RELATIONS, SWEET HOME SWIM CLUB (5 YEARS)
- INTERNAL DIRECTOR, VICE-PRESIDENT, OREGON CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY (2 YEARS)
- PRESIDENT, RIVERMASTERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB (2 YEARS)

REFERENCES

KRIS MARGART

CHAIR, INDUSTRIAL MANUFACTURING
WALLA WALLA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
509-301-8084

ROBIN COSANI

OWNER
SWEETWATER PAPER GOODS
206-229-3842

BRIAN BURNS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TRI-STATE STEELHEADERS
509-529-3543



CITY OF WALLA WALLA

15 N. 3rd Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-524-4348

APPLICATION FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBER POSITION # 6

Thank you for your interest in serving the Walla Walla community as a member of the Walla Walla City Council.

To be considered, applications must be completed, signed, and received by the City Clerk **no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, February 6, 2026 (late arrivals will not be accepted)**. Applications can be submitted using the online form, downloading the fillable PDF and emailed to the City Clerk at cityclerk@wallawalla.gov or mailed/hand delivered at 15 N. 3rd Avenue Walla Walla, WA 99362 Attention: City Clerk.

Name: Dominick J. Elia

Complete Home Mailing Address (you must have resided within the city limits for at least a year):
302 S. Roosevelt Walla Walla, WA. 99362

Home Phone: 509-529-9418

Business Phone: 509-525-7270

Cell:

E-mail: scp@bmi.net

Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation): former CEO Snyder-Crecelius Paper Co.

Business Address:

Educational Background:

Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Central Washington University

- 1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla? Yes No
- 2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.) Yes No
- 3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation? Yes No

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4. If you answered "YES" to #3 above, please explain:

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla? YES NO

If yes, please explain:

sold business in August of 2025. Will receive residuals from retained business including City of WW. Last year would have resulted in approximately \$300. Would abstain from any bill payment to Grapeland Supply. Any questions on this can be directed to the City Attorney who has successfully solved this

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla? YES NO

If yes, please explain:

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest?

YES NO

If yes, please explain:

see #5 maybe an appearance to some. I don't believe it is an issue but wanted full disclosure.

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages).

Snyder- Crecelius Paper Co. 1979-1985 Office Mgr & co-owner
1985-2018 CEO & co-owner
2018-2025 CEO & sole owner

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume).

Italian Heritage Assoc. WW Senior Center Former member of WW Chamber of Commerce
Downtown WW Foundation

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

Walla Walla City Council including	FROM: 1992	TO: 2011
several boards & committees	FROM: _____	TO: _____
Borleske Stadium Association	FROM: 2014	TO: 2023
St. Francis Church Finance Comm.	FROM: 1995	TO: 2024

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? YES NO

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council. YES NO

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

1. Mark Driver 1942 Gemstone Drive Walla Walla, WA. 99362 509-386-2219
2. Greg Nass 2579 Cottonwood Road Walla Walla, WA 99362 509-386-5015
3. Barbara Clark 717 N. Main Walla Walla, WA. 99362 509-522-0414

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

I would like to continue my long history of service to the community. I believe my skill set would be an asset to the Council and the community as a whole.

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

experience--50 years private sector over 20 years various city of WW activities
leadership--I have risen to leadership positions in most activities in which I have participated
financial background--city Finance chair for 14 years--have served as treasurer and
finance committees for many groups

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

To set policies for the city. Also evaluation of City Manager & City Attorney

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

The two most important things are being prepared and having a good understanding of the issue. Being prepared requires work and research. A good understanding requires anticipating areas of disagreement in order to move forward

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

There are many issues facing the community. These include public safety (police & fire), infrastructure repair and replacement including streets, housing costs & jobs among others. The issues are how to provide the services people want and need with limited financial resources. The city needs to be an active participant in the groups that work on the issues that are not directly under our purview.

F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

As stated at the work session there are many issues on the horizon. Someone who could "hit the ground running" would be valuable to the council, staff and the community at large.

Once submitted, applications and related materials become a public record subject to public disclosure and will appear in the Council agenda packet. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for February 23, 2026 at the regular work session from 4-6pm. Selected applicants will be notified of the exact date and time of the interview once all applications have been received and whether to hold interviews is determined by Council. Final action appointing a candidate to elective office will take place in an open public meeting. No City elected officer shall hold any other office or employment within the Walla Walla City government.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature:

Date: 2/5/26

Dominick J. Elia

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Application for City Councilmember Position #6 - Michael Beatty
Date: Sunday, February 1, 2026 7:57:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Application for City Councilmember Position #6

Name	Michael Beatty
Complete Home Mailing Address	207 Howard St, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Home Phone	(509) 540-6314
Business Phone	(509) 540-6314
Cell	(509) 540-6314
Email	mike.a.beatty@gmail.com
Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation)	Construction Management
Business Address	5702 Industrial Way #102, Pasco, WA, 99301
Educational Background	Master's Degree in Civil Engineering - University of Washington, 2011
1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla?	Yes
2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.)	Yes

3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation?

Yes

4. If you answered "Yes" to #3 above, please explain.

Negligent Driving with Alcohol - 2002

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla?

Yes

If yes, please explain.

My company, McKinstry, is a commercial HVAC and Plumbing company. Though I am not positive, I do not believe we have ever done work with the City of Walla Walla, but we have possibly done work for the County. In the future, we could potentially bid for work for the city.

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla?

Yes

If yes, please explain.

I volunteer on the Parks, Recreation, and Urban Forestry Advisory Board. I also have, and still plan to, volunteer as a coach for Parks and Recs sports teams.

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest?

Yes

If yes, please explain.

If Ministry was to bid work for the city of Walla Walla this could appear to be a conflict of interest. I would make a point of abstaining from any bids (at work) or votes (city council) that would have a conflict of interest.

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages).

[Michael Beatty - Resume City Council Postion 6 - Attachment B.pdf](#)

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your

See attached

resume).

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

	Experience	From when?	To when?
1.	Parks, Rec, & Urban Forestry Advisory Board	January 2025	Present
2.	Coaching WW Valley Youth Football	March 2023	Present
3.	Coaching Parks and Recs, sports teams	September 2022	Present
4.	Intown Ventures Christmas Dinner Giveaway	December 2022	Present

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? **Yes**

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council. **Yes**

	Name	Address	Phone number
	Luke	1420 SW Greeley St,	509-540-

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

1.	Watson	College Place WA 99324	9679
2.	Andy Coleman	119 Chapelwood Ave, Walla Walla WA 99362	509-520-1937
3.	Allen Pomraning	22 McKay Place, Walla Walla WA 99362	509-386-1919

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

I want to answer the supplemental questions in a separate attachment.

Please attach a file with your answers to the supplemental questions.

[Council Position 6 - Questions - Attached A.pdf](#)

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.



Date

02-01-2026

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

MICHAEL BEATTY

207 Howard St Walla Walla WA 99362 | Mike.A.Beatty@gmail.com | (509) 540-6314

SKILLS & CERTS

Member of Parks, Recreation, and Urban Forestry Advisory board for the City of Walla Walla.

Master's Degree in Civil Engineering.

LEED GA Certified.

Life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

OSHA 30 Trained.

WORK EXPERIENCE

PROJECT MANAGER & ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE – MCKINSTRY – SEATTLE/PASCO SEPT 2019 – PRESENT

In 6 years managed 46 projects for a total volume of \$19M. Responsible for the creation, coordination, and installation of mechanical and plumbing systems. This includes managing all stages of design, permitting, acquisition of equipment, construction and installation, commissioning, and closeout. Also maintained submittal schedules, RFI logs, cost tracking, negotiating change orders, and resolving field issues.

SUPERINTENDENT AND ENGINEER – AECOM - U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS JUNE 2018 – MARCH 2019

Responsible for the delivery, sequencing, and assembly of 29 modular school classrooms and 1 steel framed structure on a remote U.S. Virgin Island. Guided and controlled all phases of field operations including clearing and grading, underground utilities, concrete, data/communications, quality control, safety, scheduling, and punch-list.

PROJECT MANAGER – GERDAU REINFORCING STEEL – AUBURN/SEATTLE WA FEBRUARY 2015 – JUNE 2018

In 3.4 years, 79 independent projects managed in the coordination of: fabricating, supplying, and installing reinforcing steel for a net volume of \$21 million. Responsibilities included managing detailers and field personnel in the supply of shop drawings, ordering, and placing rebar.

CONCRETE AND COST ENGINEER - TURNER CONSTRUCTION – SEATTLE WA OCTOBER 2011 – JANUARY 2015

Managed a \$10.7 mil GC self-performed concrete package. Included subcontract and supplier buyout, change order management, RFI and submittal processing, and productivity and cost tracking. Assisted project teams in tracking and forecasting over \$100 million in construction expenses as well as performing contract review for risk analysis

EDUCATION

MASTERS OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING - UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 2006 – SEPTEMBER 2011

MILITARY

U.S. ARMY – INFANTRYMAN, BRADLEY GUNNER, AND RECRUITER AUGUST 2002- AUGUST 2006

Awards

- Combat Infantryman's Badge – Earned by engaging enemy combatants.
- Army Commendation Medal – Successful completing all combat missions in Iraq.
- Expert Infantryman's Badge – Completed over 50 attention-to-detail challenges.
- Gold Recruiting Badge – Consistently met recruiting goals at challenging times.

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

I strongly believe in building community. I was born and raised in Walla Walla and I returned after being gone for nearly 20 years to raise my own family in the valley. I want to see this town grow and thrive, and I believe I have a unique perspective on how to do that due to my time in the military, and my years in construction managing both projects and auditing budgets.

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

As a native, born and raised, of Walla Walla I know the town and its people very well. At the same time, I've gained a lot of experience by leaving and seeing the world which included the Army, 2 years in Germany, 1 year in Iraq, and 1 year in Pendleton Oregon. I attended college at the University of Washington where I received a Master's degree in Civil Engineering and I have 14 years of construction management experience in the Seattle, Tri-cities, and Hermiston Oregon regions.

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

I believe the primary role of a city council member is to listen to the community and represent their voice. To have their best interests at heart for both current situations and the future with my vote matching accordingly. I also believe it's a council member's job to hire and hold high level city officials accountable and to ensure a level of trust and transparency when it comes to all city financial matters.

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

I believe the way to build consensus support for a project requires both an online and in real life approach of listening and understanding the people's and other councilmembers issues and needs, give the facts in the clear and concise manner, be informed to answer questions and to express my individual viewpoint when needed and mostly be open to others opinions and be willing to look into them. I am capable of being in the community fielding questions as well as able to perform at public speaking events to spread information on any proposal needed.

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

I believe the biggest issue facing Walla Walla is affordable housing, childcare costs and bringing employment to town. To help solve this I would investigate removing barriers and offering incentives to developers and citizens looking to build new homes. I would like to explore avenues to convert unused commercial space located above ground floor shops into apartments or condos. I would also include asking for and understanding the needs of the towns wineries and farmers, understanding small business's struggles to initially, and remain, open. Talk with the colleges on how to encourage enrollment and staff, and last look into providing a liaison to larger companies like Amazon and Sabey to see if they would be interested in building data centers outside of town potentially bringing billions in construction as well as potentially 100's of permanent jobs to town, this would be similar to what has happened in Umatilla, Hermiston, and Boardman Oregon.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Application for City Councilmember Position #6 - Julie Balten
Date: Friday, February 6, 2026 4:00:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Application for City Councilmember Position #6

Name	Julie Balten
Complete Home Mailing Address	298 Champagne Way, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Home Phone	(703) 927-5556
Email	julie.a.balten@gmail.com
Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation)	Program Manager/Engineer
Business Address	201 North 3rd Ave, Walla Walla , WA, 99362
Educational Background	Please see resume - Three Master of Science Degrees
1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla?	Yes
2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.)	Yes
3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation?	No

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla?

Yes

If yes, please explain.

Husband, Michael Vantzelfden is an Engineer with the City.

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla?

Yes

If yes, please explain.

Husband, Michael Vantzelfden is an Engineer for the City.

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest?

No

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages).

[Julie Balten Resume 2026.pdf](#)

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume).

Board Member, YMCA, Walla Walla
Board Member, Army Engineer Association
Class Officer, USMA Class 1997

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

	Experience	From when?	To when?
1.	YMCA Board	June 2025	Present
2.	Army Engineer Association	January 2024	Present
3.	Class Officer, USMA Class 1997	June 2022	Present
4.			

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council?

No

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council.

Yes

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

	Name	Address	Phone number
1.	Jessica Wright, MG (Ret)		717-829-1599
2.	Richard Stevens, MG (Ret)		812-881-0523
3.	Antoinette Gant, BG		872-463-9147

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

I want to answer the supplemental questions on this form.

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

I want to make a difference in the community in which I now call home. I think it is important to understand challenges and find solutions to problems that everyone can support.

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

My strengths include transparency and integrity. I think it's important to provide clear understanding of why we do what we do and how we do it. I also think I do that through being an honest and humble person.

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

Listen to the community, understand the challenges, and find solutions that could be a win-win for all. And if not, communicate the reasons why that is not possible.

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

Listen to all sides of the discussion/topic, learn the facts, and ask questions while also providing additional context when needed.

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

Increasing cost of living, low income housing and others. Wholistic approaches that develop public private partnerships.

F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

Not at this time.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.



Date

02-06-2026

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

Julie A. Balten

298 Champagne Way, Walla Walla WA 99362

Mobile: 703-927-5556

Email: julie.a.balten@gmail.com

Work Experience

Division Chief, Planning, Programs, and Project Management (GS15)

United States Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District

11/2024 – Present

- Senior civilian leader for a 900-employee district, overseeing the Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division.
- Direct and plan non-routine operational and maintenance projects and capital life cycle projects for 8 dams providing hydropower, navigation, flood risk management, environmental stewardship, and recreation in the Snake and Columbia River basins.
- Coordinate and collaborate with Non-federal Partners and Tribal Nations in the study, design, and implementation of Civil Works Programs throughout Eastern Washington and Idaho.

Commander, Colonel (GS-15 equivalent)

United States Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District

07/2020 – 07/2023

- Supervised and managed a workforce of 900 staff across a 225,000 square mile area covering California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona.
- Managed a \$500 million budget and a \$990 million program encompassing planning, engineering, construction, real estate, regulatory, emergency management, and environmental services for military installations and civil water resources infrastructure.
- Oversaw the operation and maintenance of \$650 million in assets, including seven flood control dams.
- Managed the district's information technology, logistics, human resources, and security operations.
- Optimized the vehicle fleet from 212 to 185, reducing the annual budget from \$1.5M to \$1.2M and introducing hybrid and electric vehicles.

Team Chief, Colonel (GS-15 equivalent)

Department of Defense, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, VA

07/2019 – 06/2020

- Led a multi-disciplined team of 7 specialized subject matter experts in cyber security, general engineering, security operations, and emergency management.
- Conducted world-wide mission assessments of DoD Defense Critical Infrastructure and Installations.

- Evaluated anti-terrorism and defense critical infrastructure programs against DoD and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff guidance.

Deputy Team Chief/Structural Engineer, Lieutenant Colonel (GS-14 equivalent)

Department of Defense, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, VA

07/2018 – 06/2019

- Served as Deputy Team Chief and Structural Engineer on a seven-member team conducting full-spectrum Joint Mission Assurance of Department of Defense Critical and Tiered assets world-wide.

Commander, Lieutenant Colonel (GS-14 equivalent)

United States Army, 249th Engineer Battalion and Commandant of the U.S. Army Prime Power School, VA

07/2015 – 07/2017

- Commanded the Army's only Prime Power Battalion of 500 personnel across five geographically dispersed companies.
- Deployed specialized medium voltage electricians and linemen worldwide for contingency support.
- As Commandant, oversaw training for DoD personnel in prime power assets.
- Deployed over 600 soldiers for the Global War on Terror and FEMA emergency response missions.

Military Assistant, Major/Lieutenant Colonel (GS-13/14 equivalent)

Department of Defense, Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Pentagon, Washington D.C.

09/2012 – 06/2015

- Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, supporting a portfolio with 33,000-person staff and a \$57 billion budget.
- Coordinated policy and activities related to Readiness and Force Management, Health Affairs, and National Guard and Reserve Affairs.

Battalion Executive Officer/Deputy, Major (GS-13 equivalent)

United States Army, 15th Engineer Battalion, Forward Deployed Kuwait/Germany

01/2011 – 08/2012

- Deputy Commander of a 670-person Construction Effects Engineer Battalion deployed to Kuwait.
- Supervised the battalion's human resources, maintenance, logistics, contracting, and budget activities.

Chief of Plans and Exercises, Major (GS-13 equivalent)

United States Army Europe, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff Engineer, Germany

01/2010 – 01/2011

- Responsible for the integration of Army engineer planning, operations, and exercise support for the European Command Area of Responsibility.
- Managed a \$1.3 million exercise-related construction program.

Program Manager, Major (GS-13 equivalent)
Multi-National Corps-Iraq, Headquarters, C7 Engineering, Iraq
09/2007 – 11/2008

- Oversaw planning and operations of Coalition facilities, utilities, base master planning, real property, leasing, and construction projects in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- Managed over \$150 million in minor military construction and design projects.

Project Manager and Forward Engineer Support Team Leader, Captain/Major (GS-12/13 equivalent)
United States Army Corps of Engineers, Japan Engineer District
01/2006 – 06/2007

- Managed life cycle project management of U.S. and Host Nation funded programs, including a \$70M housing relocation project.
- Led a six-member Forward Engineer Support Team.
- Earned Project Management Professional (PMP) Certification.

Early Career (1998-2004)

- Company Commander, Captain (GS-12 equivalent), United States Army, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Engineer Battalion, South Korea (10/2002 – 05/2004)
- Battalion Adjutant/Human Resources Officer, Captain (GS-13 equivalent), United States Army, 2nd Engineer Battalion, South Korea (02/2002 – 10/2002)
- Battalion Maintenance Officer, Captain (GS-13 equivalent), United States Army, 29th Engineer Battalion, Fort Shafter, HI (12/2000 – 04/2001)
- Executive Officer/Deputy, Lieutenant (GS-11 equivalent), United States Army, 70th Engineer Company, Fort Shafter, HI (06/2000 – 11/2000)
- Battalion Adjutant/Human Resources Officer, Lieutenant (GS 9/11 equivalent), United States Army, 29th Engineer Battalion, Fort Shafter, HI (02/1999 – 06/2000)
- Platoon Leader, Lieutenant (GS-9 equivalent), United States Army, 70th Engineer Company, Fort Shafter, HI (01/1998 – 01/1999)

Education

- Master of Science, National Resource Strategy, National Defense University, 2018
- Master of Science, Civil Engineering, University of Washington, 2005
- Business Certificate, University of Washington, 2005
- Master of Science, Project Management, Missouri University of Science and Technology, 2002
- Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering, United States Military Academy, West Point, 1997



CITY OF WALLA WALLA

15 N. 3rd Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-524-4348

APPLICATION FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBER POSITION # 6

Thank you for your interest in serving the Walla Walla community as a member of the Walla Walla City Council.

To be considered, applications must be completed, signed, and received by the City Clerk **no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, February 6, 2026 (late arrivals will not be accepted)**. Applications can be submitted using the online form, downloading the fillable PDF and emailed to the City Clerk at cityclerk@wallawallawa.gov or mailed/hand delivered at 15 N. 3rd Avenue Walla Walla, WA 99362 Attention: City Clerk.

Name: Emily Brown

Complete Home Mailing Address (you must have resided within the city limits for at least a year):
40 Lenore St. Walla Walla, WA 99362

Home Phone: 509-386-7673

Business Phone: NA

Cell: 509-386-7673

E-mail: emilyrmbrown@gmail.com

Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation): Policy Director for Blue Zones (remote)

Business Address: 40 Lenore St. Walla Walla, WA 99362 (I work remotely)

Educational Background:

Master of Community and Regional Planning from University of Oregon; Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science from Willamette University

- 1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla? Yes No
- 2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.) Yes No
- 3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation? Yes No

A WONDERFUL PLACE TO **LIVE WORK PLAY**

4. If you answered "YES" to #3 above, please explain:
NA

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla? YES NO

If yes, please explain:
NA

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla? YES NO

If yes, please explain:
NA

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest?
YES NO

If yes, please explain:

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages).
See resume attached

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume).
Inland Northwest Musicians Orchestra
Walla Walla Pride

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

<u>City of Walla Walla Planning Commission</u>	FROM: <u>2022</u>	TO: <u>Present</u>
<u>Walla Walla Pride Event Planning Committee</u>	FROM: <u>2025</u>	TO: <u>Present</u>
<u>Walla Walla Immigrant Rights Coalition</u>	FROM: <u>2025</u>	TO: <u>Present</u>
<u>Walla Walla Climate Policy Advisory Team</u>	FROM: <u>2025</u>	TO: <u>2025</u>

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? YES NO

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council. YES NO

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

1. Katie DePonty, 821 Whitman St. Walla Walla, WA 99362, (909) 213-7313
2. Jim Williams, 1500 Catherine St. C216, Walla Walla, WA 99362, (360) 601-2821
3. Kol Medina, 22 E. Poplar Street, Suite 206 Walla Walla, WA 99362 (509) 557-0062

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

See attachment

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

See attachment

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

See attachment

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

See attachment


E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

See attachment

F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

Once submitted, applications and related materials become a public record subject to public disclosure and will appear in the Council agenda packet. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for February 23, 2026 at the regular work session from 4-6pm. Selected applicants will be notified of the exact date and time of the interview once all applications have been received and whether to hold interviews is determined by Council. Final action appointing a candidate to elective office will take place in an open public meeting. No City elected officer shall hold any other office or employment within the Walla Walla City government.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature: **Emily Brown**  Digitally signed by Emily Brown
Date: 2026.01.31 17:02:25 -08'00' Date: 1/31/2026

EMILY R.M. BROWN

40 Lenore St. Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 386-7673 | emilyrmbrown@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Master of Community and Regional Planning, University of Oregon **2016**
B.A. Environmental Science, *cum laude*, Willamette University **2012**
Minors in Political Science and Spanish

RELEVANT SKILLS

Policy Analysis & Development	Facilitation & Public Engagement	Community Planning
Program Management	Budget Management	Consensus Building
Collaboration	Conversational Spanish	Problem Solving

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Blue Zones

Director of Policy & Transformation

2024 - Present

- Oversee the implementation of evidence-based policy, systems, and environmental changes in 17 Blue Zones communities across the United States.
- Manage an annual budget of over \$1.6 million, allocating funds to advance policy strategies through contractor/consultant engagement, equipment purchases, and legal agreements.
- Track national trends and build partnerships with nationally-recognized policy experts.

Blue Zones

Policy Advocate - Blue Zones Project Walla Walla Valley

2020 - 2024

- Convened and empowered a diverse coalition of resident advocates, city staff, and nonprofit partner organizations to advance policy, systems, and environmental changes.
- Researched, developed, and presented policy solutions in the areas of built environment, food systems and substance use to address barriers to well-being in the Walla Walla Valley.

North Dakota Department of Commerce Community Engagement Manager

2018 - 2020

- Designed and implemented a statewide Main Street Initiative in partnership with the Governor's office, including facilitating community site visits and asset-based discussions.
- Empowered community leaders to achieve local goals through one-on-one support, statewide webinars and conferences, and resource development.
- Built local capacity to ensure impactful and sustainable community transformation resulting in enhanced quality of life, improved well-being, and economic diversification.

USDA Rural Development, North Dakota Community Planning & Development Specialist

2016 - 2018

- Led the implementation of a federal Promise Zones initiative in partnership with two Tribal Nations, serving as liaison between local, state, tribal, and federal partners.
- Streamlined resource access and delivered technical assistance to support community planning and economic development projects, and grow rural prosperity.
- Developed and implemented the North Dakota Livable Community planning program focusing on building thriving, vibrant communities.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EMILY R.M. BROWN

40 Lenore St. Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 386-7673 | emilyrmbrown@gmail.com

University of Oregon Institute for Policy Research and Engagement 2015 - 2016 Project Manager; Planning Associate

- Defined project scopes, developed implementation plans, and completed economic development and community planning projects for client municipalities across Oregon.
- Facilitated public forums, delivered presentations, and conducted research.
- Delegated tasks, monitored project timelines, and coordinated client relationships.

Association of Oregon Counties, Salem, OR May - August, 2016 Research Associate

- Analyzed housing-related challenges and opportunities for Oregon communities.
- Researched evidence-based interventions and affordable housing best practices.
- Developed policy recommendations and presented findings to leadership.

National Housing Conference, Washington, D.C. June - August, 2015 Policy Intern

- Monitored housing legislation, researched and wrote policy briefs for members and clients.
- Delivered trainings for local housing organizations highlighting policy best practices and legislative updates; represented NHC at Congressional hearings.

OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon, Portland, OR 2013 - 2014 Community Organizer

- Engaged transit riders and community members with low incomes through one-on-one organizing and events to collectively advance environmental/transportation justice goals.
- Designed and facilitated workshops to empower residents to deliver public testimony.

LEADERSHIP & AFFILIATIONS

City of Walla Walla Planning Commission (Chair: 2024-2026)	2022 - Present
North Dakota Commission on the Status of Women	2018 - 2020
BisMarket Farmers Market Board of Directors (Co-Chair)	2017 - 2020
BisMan Community Food Cooperative Board of Directors	2017 - 2019

CONFERENCES & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Washington State Public Health Association <i>"Public Private Partnership: Filling the Gaps for Effective Tobacco Policy Work in Rural Communities"</i>	2022
AARP Rural Livability Conference <i>"Engaging Youth in North Dakota"</i>	2019
International Society of Community and Regional Planners Conference <i>"The Unpaved Road to Housing Affordability: What Role Does Technology Play?"</i>	2017
Oregon American Planning Association (OAPA) Conference <i>"Providing for the Unhoused: A Review of Transitional Housing Strategies."</i>	2015

Emily Brown
City Council Application Supplemental Questions

14a. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

This is a challenging time for our community, nation, and world. Successfully navigating these issues will require leaders who are willing to approach old challenges in innovative ways and strengthen non-traditional partnerships. I don't think that I have all of the answers, but I believe I have the creativity and determination to contribute to the collective problem solving that the Council undertakes.

I love this community and feel lucky to have returned to live my adult life here. I have lived in a number of other communities and deeply appreciate the elements of Walla Walla that make this a wonderful place to live. I also understand that large portions of our community face significant barriers to experiencing the high quality of life we all deserve. I am driven to work hard to protect the things that are working for our community and to implement solutions that can help Walla Walla be an even better place for everyone.

During the last five years I've enjoyed serving the community through my roles on the City of Walla Walla's Planning Commission, as the Policy Advocate for Blue Zones Project, and as a community volunteer. I have had the opportunity to partner with city staff in a variety of departments, and I believe my combination of educational training, professional experiences, and community ties will allow me to serve my community effectively as a City Councilmember.

Finally, I want to be a voice for community members whose identities I feel are underrepresented on the current Council. Perspectives from all backgrounds strengthen our collective decision making.

14b. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

One strength I would bring to the City Council is my familiarity with the City's current planning process, policy framework, and priorities. While serving on the City's Planning Commission (including two years as Chair), I've worked with staff to update City plans and policies to advance local priorities. I have also held public hearings and facilitated conversations with members of the public and fellow Commissioners about complex policy situations.

Other important strengths and skills that I would bring to this role include:

- The ability to draft and critically review ordinances, resolutions, and code amendments.
- Experience presenting to elected leadership and convening conversations with partner organizations about policy priorities.
- Strong relationships with the organizations who play essential roles in our community.
- An ability to listen deeply, find common ground, and respectfully navigate challenging discussions across differences; facilitation and de-escalation skills.
- Conversational Spanish language skills.
- Over 10 years of experience working with local, state, and federal policies and programs.
- The ability to change my mind when presented with new information and to acknowledge when I am wrong or was misinformed.

Emily Brown

City Council Application Supplemental Questions

- As a woman and young professional, I hold identities and experiences currently underrepresented on the City Council.

Finally, I understand that sustainable policy change is slow but residents and interest groups often want quick drastic change. Finding the right balance between the two approaches is essential for being responsive to changing circumstances while still achieving a sustainable, long-term vision.

14c. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

- Help set priorities for the community and advance policies that are equitable, financially feasible, legal/constitutional, and impactful.
- Weigh all sides of an issue before making decisions, including listening carefully to the voices of those who speak for and against any given issue.
- Always act in the long-term best interest of the community as a whole (including future generations).
- Empower and trust the expertise of City staff; advance decisions different from their recommendations only when necessary.
- Engage community members in envisioning a stronger, vibrant community that serves everyone.
- Listen to and understand the opinions and ideas of community members the Council represents; serve and represent all constituents.
- Understand the legal implications of Council decisions, including upholding the laws that govern Council operations.
- Support fiscally responsible management of the City.
- Carefully navigate and prioritize among the competing interests inherent in the topics of preservation and growth, environmental justice, economic and community development, housing, public safety, privacy, community well-being, and infrastructure development and maintenance.

14d. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

To build consensus or majority support for a decision, the conversation has to start with respectfully listening to understand different points of view. It requires acknowledging that there is often more than one “right” way to do something, that seemingly contradictory ideas can all be true, and that complicated decisions will usually require compromise. I believe there are a few specific ways to achieve this:

- Have respectful one-to-one conversations in order to understand the values underlying someone’s approach to a situation - we usually share values even when we don’t have a shared vision of an outcome.
- Seek to find common ground based on these shared values and identify where each side may be willing to compromise in order to meet closer to the middle.

Emily Brown

City Council Application Supplemental Questions

- Accept that we likely won't agree on everything and understand that different perspectives strengthen group decision making.

Ultimately no decision will make everyone happy, and there will always have to be tradeoffs. The goal of collaborative decision making is to find a workable solution that achieves the best overall outcome for the most people.

14e. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

Many of the issues facing the Walla Walla Valley are not new and leaders have navigated these challenges for decades. There are also some new issues arising that will require innovation and adaptability. For the most part, I don't personally have a solution to many of these challenges that is different from what the City is either currently doing or has already tried. That said, I believe that my combined understanding of these challenges and the creative options available to us can contribute to addressing these challenges. Some priority challenges include:

- Population trends that will challenge our ability to have a tax base that can fund the services community members want and need.
- The availability and cost of childcare which forces families to make tough decisions about employment, family size, housing, and community of residence.
- Housing diversity, availability, quality, and affordability; a housing market that has been skewed by investment properties and vacation rentals.
- Mental health and substance use challenges, particularly among youth, and access to care.
- A population of young people who don't feel empowered to proactively contribute to change in the community.
- Monopoly of commercial land ownership; vacant residential and commercial spaces.
- The need to continue diversifying our economy, currently reliant on tourism and wine sales.
- Community apprehension about growth and change during a time that is requiring both of these things.
- Balancing interests with regard to watershed management and protection; adapting to a rapidly changing climate.
- Political polarization and a declining ability to discuss contentious issues with respect.
- Funding investments in public facilities and infrastructure like roads and sidewalks.
- Changes to federal programs that may impact the financial viability of operating a hospital in Walla Walla.
- A cost of living that has outpaced wage growth, particularly for care professions and the service industry; growing wealth and income inequality.
- Perceived lack of economic opportunities for young people and new professionals.
- Overreliance on sales and property tax to fund essential programs and services.

Some approaches to addressing these challenges include:

- Continue and enhance collaboration with neighboring jurisdictions.

Emily Brown

City Council Application Supplemental Questions

- Strengthen partnerships with major employers to find ways to build workforce housing.
- Maintain strong collaboration with community organizations; seek out new partnerships with nontraditional organizations.
- Empower young people through more direct engagement with City leaders and by establishing a youth council.
- Model respectful disagreement among leadership; serve as a unified voice who believes in the future of our community.
- Continue advancing innovative policy strategies to encourage more housing types while still maintaining certain standards.
- Consider establishing a vacant property registry with an annual fee for vacant commercial and residential buildings and land.
- Find more ways to support artists and entrepreneurs; encourage economic development partners to invest in local small-scale agriculture.

Regardless of the issue, I believe that increased communication and transparency about these challenges and related decisions will benefit relationships between City leadership and community members.

14f. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Application for City Councilmember Position #6 - Roger Esparza
Date: Friday, January 30, 2026 12:15:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Application for City Councilmember Position #6

Name	Roger Esparza
Complete Home Mailing Address	537 Locust St, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Home Phone	(509) 301-1575
Business Phone	(509) 301-1575
Email	rogesparza@gmail.com
Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation)	Real Estate Broker
Business Address	38 E Main St #206, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Educational Background	Walla Walla High School Graduate
1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla?	Yes
2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.)	Yes
3. Have you ever been convicted for anything	No

other than a minor traffic violation?

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla? **No**

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla? **No**

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest? **No**

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages). [Roger_Esparza_Resume.pdf](#)

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume). **Milton Freewater Rotary Board**

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

	Experience	From when?	To when?
1.	Milton Freewater Rotary Board	June 2025	present
2.	Friends of Children Board	2017	2023
3.	Chamber of Commerce Board	2014	2020
	Walla		

4.	Walla Association of Realtors Board	2015	2018
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11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? **Yes**

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council. **Yes**

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

	Name	Address	Phone number
1.	Tom Scribner	1712 Durum Dr Walla Walla, WA	509-529-8628
2.	Mary Campbell	336 McCorkle Lane Walla Walla, WA 99362	509-520-9079
3.	Cruz Castillo	105 Videl Lane, Walla Walla, WA 99362	509-386-6646

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

I want to answer the supplemental questions in a separate attachment.

Please attach a file with your answers to the supplemental questions.

[Roger_Esparza_Walla_Walla_Council_Application_QA.pdf](#)

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RG Curt".

Date

01-30-2026

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

Roger Esparza

537 Locust St, Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-301-1575 | rogesparza@gmail.com

Professional Summary

Experienced Real Estate Broker with over 15 years of success representing buyers and sellers across Washington and Oregon. Proven expertise in negotiation, client advocacy, transaction management, and strategic marketing. Highly respected community leader with extensive board service and volunteer involvement.

Core Competencies

Residential & Commercial Real Estate Transactions
Buyer & Seller Representation
Contract Negotiation & Mediation
Client Relationship Management
Real Estate Marketing & Branding
Transaction Coordination & Compliance

Professional Experience**Real Estate Broker – The Provost Team**

March 2010 – Present | Washington & Oregon

- Represent buyers and sellers in residential and commercial real estate transactions
- Develop and execute comprehensive marketing strategies
- Negotiate contracts, repairs, and concessions on behalf of clients
- Provide consulting and mediation to facilitate successful closings
- Maintain consistent long-term client follow-up

Leadership & Community Involvement

Milton-Freewater Rotary Board (2025–Present)

Friends of Children of Walla Walla – Board Member & Mentor (2017–2023)

Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce – Board Member (2014–2020), Chair (2018)

Walla Walla Realtor Association – Board Member (2015–2018)

Community Council – Board Chair (2015–2018)

Junior Achievement – Volunteer Instructor (2018–2019)

Habitat for Humanity – Construction Volunteer (2017)

Port of Walla Walla – Public Forum Facilitator (2019)

Professional Development

Sherwood Leadership Trust – Graduate (2006)

Washington Student Leadership (WSL) (1998)

City of Walla Walla Councilmember Application – Responses

Applicant: Roger Esparza

City: Walla Walla, Washington

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

I am interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember because my heart tells me it is time to serve this community in a broader way. Walla Walla has given me so much, and I feel a strong responsibility to give back through thoughtful, engaged public service. I believe I bring a perspective that has not been consistently represented on the City Council—one grounded in real-world experience, community involvement, and collaboration. My goal is to listen, bridge differences, and help guide decisions that support a strong, inclusive, and forward-looking Walla Walla.

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

I bring a strong background in civic involvement and community engagement, with experience working alongside people from all walks of life. I am approachable, accessible, and a clear communicator. I value listening first, asking thoughtful questions, and helping connect residents, staff, and elected officials in a respectful and productive way.

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

I believe the primary role of a City Councilmember is to listen to the community and represent their interests thoughtfully and responsibly. This includes working collaboratively with fellow councilmembers, understanding the city budget, and gaining a working knowledge of city departments and how they function. It also means collaborating with partners such as Walla Walla County, the Port of Walla Walla, the State of Washington, and neighbors like College Place when appropriate.

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy on building consensus or majority support?

My philosophy is rooted in preparation, respect, and collaboration. I believe it is essential to do thorough research before forming opinions, to understand the facts, and to consider the perspectives of fellow councilmembers. Building consensus starts with listening, being open to different viewpoints, and working toward solutions that serve the broader community rather than individual interests.

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community, and how should they be addressed?

Communities across the country are experiencing division, and Walla Walla is not immune. I believe we need leaders who can help bring people together, encourage respectful dialogue, and focus on shared goals. Affordability is also a growing challenge for many residents. Addressing these issues will require thoughtful planning, collaboration, and policies that balance growth with quality of life.

F. Is there anything else you would like to add to assist in the review of your application?

I would be honored to serve the City of Walla Walla in this capacity and to work alongside the dedicated councilmembers currently serving. I am committed to leading with integrity, treating others with respect, and living by the Golden Rule in all decisions and interactions.



CITY OF WALLA WALLA

15 N. 3rd Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-524-4348

APPLICATION FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBER POSITION # 6

Thank you for your interest in serving the Walla Walla community as a member of the Walla Walla City Council.

To be considered, applications must be completed, signed, and received by the City Clerk **no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, February 6, 2026 (late arrivals will not be accepted)**. Applications can be submitted using the online form, downloading the fillable PDF and emailed to the City Clerk at cityclerk@wallawallawa.gov or mailed/hand delivered at 15 N. 3rd Avenue Walla Walla, WA 99362 Attention: City Clerk.

Name: Lizabeth (Liz) Jessee

Complete Home Mailing Address (you must have resided within the city limits for at least a year):
142 Leonard Street, Walla Walla, WA 99262

Home Phone: n/a

Business Phone: n/a

Cell: (509)520-2222

E-mail: lizabethjess@gmail.com

Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation): Emergency Management Director

Business Address: c/o Walla Walla County Commissioners, 314 W Main, Walla Walla, WA 99362

Educational Background:

- 1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla? Yes No
- 2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.) Yes No
- 3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation? Yes No



12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council. YES NO

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

1. Norma Hernandez, 805 SE 4th, Walla Walla, WA, (509) 529-5661
2. Mike Rizzitiello, 1954 Sheridan Place, Richland, WA 99352, (509) 288-0741
3. Todd Kimball, 2902 Lower Waitsburg Rd, Walla Walla, WA, (509) 520-4604

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

Once submitted, applications and related materials become a public record subject to public disclosure and will appear in the Council agenda packet. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for February 23, 2026 at the regular work session from 4-6pm. Selected applicants will be notified of the exact date and time of the interview once all applications have been received and whether to hold interviews is determined by Council. Final action appointing a candidate to elective office will take place in an open public meeting. No City elected officer shall hold any other office or employment within the Walla Walla City government.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature: **Lizabeth Jessee** Digitally signed by Lizabeth Jessee
Date: 2026.01.22 18:45:50 -08'00' Date: 1/22/25

Lizbeth (Liz) Jessee

Emergency Management Director (retired)

Contact

142 Leonard Street
Walla Walla, WA
509.520.2222
lizbethjess@gmail.com

Key Skills

Collaboration
Planning
Fiscal Management
Communication

Objective

Retired Walla Walla County Emergency Management Director with experience in public safety, intergovernmental coordination, emergency preparedness, and community resilience. Proven leader with a strong understanding of local government operations, budgeting, policy development, and collaborative decision-making. Committed to thoughtful, transparent governance and serving the residents of Walla Walla.

Experience

June 2015 – December 2023

Walla Walla County Emergency Management Director
C/o Walla Walla County Commissioners
314 W. Main Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Directed the planning, organization, and administration of the system wide emergency management program for Walla Walla County and the incorporated cities within Walla Walla County. Provided careful stewardship of public funds, prioritization of limited resources, and compliance with state and federal requirements.

Collaborated with stakeholders to develop and align coordinated response plans essential for community resilience. Stakeholders included Walla Walla County, the Cities of Walla Walla, College Place, Waitsburg, and Prescott, fire districts, non-profit and faith-based organizations, volunteer agencies, healthcare organizations, and the residents of Walla Walla County.

Oversaw and controlled the department's budget to reliably sustain daily operations.

Obtained grant funding necessary to sustain the county's emergency management program. Secured post-disaster FEMA funding, including \$2.5 million for recovery from the 2020 Mill Creek flood event. Funding for this event required detailed documentation to justify a presidential disaster declaration.

Participated in countywide response to the COVID-19 pandemic in collaboration with local, state, and federal partners. The Emergency Management office distributed over two million pieces of personal protective equipment to the healthcare sector, coordinated Washington National Guard food bank support, facilitated use of the County Fairgrounds for immunizations, and served as public information officer for the county. Performed background checks of 2,000+ individuals to volunteer under the Washington State Emergency Worker Program, thereby providing indemnity to Walla Walla County.

Previous Experience

September 2001 – May 2015

Walla Walla County Emergency Management Coordinator

June 1986 – September 2001

Quality Management Coordinator

Walla Walla General Hospital

June 1976 – March 1986

Investor Reporting Supervisor

Meridian Mortgage Corporation

Education

Walla Walla High School Graduate

FEMA Professional Development Series

Multiple FEMA and state emergency management certifications and courses

Volunteer

Board Member of Walla Walla Area Crimewatch

Charter Member of Blue Mountain Evening Rotary

References

Norma Hernandez, City of College Place Mayor

805 SE 4th St

Walla Walla, WA 99362

(509) 529-5661

Mike Rizzitiello, City of College Place Administrator (former)

1954 Sheridan Place

Richland, WA 99352

(509) 288-0747

Todd Kimball, Walla Walla County Commissioner

2902 Lower Waitsburg Rd.

Walla Walla, WA 99362

(509) 520-4604

Steven R. Ruley, WESCOM Manager (retired)

501 E. Cherry Street

Walla Walla, WA 99362

(509) 386-4647



Supplemental Questions for the Application for City of Walla Walla Council Position

14. Supplemental Questions

- A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

After a career in emergency management, I want to continue serving my community in a role where experience, judgment, and collaboration matter. I've spent decades working with local governments, public safety agencies, and the public to solve complex problems, manage risk, and make decisions under pressure. Serving on the city council allows me to bring that practical experience, a long-term perspective, and a strong commitment to public service to help guide the city forward.

- B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

The greatest strength I will bring is a simple desire to continue serving and caring for my neighbors. I bring strong and confident leadership, collaboration, and decision-making skills developed through years of public service. My background in emergency management equips me with experience in risk assessment, crisis response, budgeting, and long-term planning, as well as the ability to work effectively with elected officials, staff, and the public. I am skilled at listening, building consensus, and making thoughtful decisions under pressure, always with a focus on public safety, fiscal responsibility, and the long-term well-being of the community.

Furthermore, I offer impartiality. I will not bring prior ideas or obligations of personal, professional benefits, or political ambitions in mind when I vote. I will be an independent thinker, carefully listening to staff recommendations and considering what is best for the future of Walla Walla as a whole.

- C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

A city council member serves as a bridge between the community and local government, with a responsibility that goes beyond votes and ordinances. The role requires listening carefully to residents, especially those who feel overlooked or unheard, and ensuring their concerns are taken seriously in public decision-making. Effective council members seek out diverse perspectives, ask hard questions, and work collaboratively with fellow councilmembers, staff, and community partners to find practical, balanced solutions. By building trust, encouraging respectful dialogue, and focusing on the long-term well-being of the city, a council member helps shape policies that reflect shared values and serve the entire community, not just the loudest voices.

- D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

My philosophy for building consensus starts with listening first to understand concerns, values, and impacts. I ask questions, respect different viewpoints, and use clear information to explain options and tradeoffs. When people feel heard and understand the reasons behind a decision, it's much easier to build majority support and move projects forward.

- E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

Housing Affordability & Development

There's a shortage of affordable housing and workforce housing, which makes it hard for employers to attract and retain workers and can push young families out of the community.

I would support zoning and development policies that encourage a wider range of housing types (duplexes, ADUs, affordable units). I believe that the City of Walla Walla should partner with non-profit developers and leverage state/federal housing funds. I believe that housing should be prioritized in the city's Comprehensive Plan.

Budget & Cost Management

The City of Walla Walla is facing budget challenges due to a combination of factors. Revenues such as property tax, sales tax, and permits have fallen short of predictions. Inflation and rising operating expenses have made delivering services more expensive. Firefighters, police, streets, parks and other community services cost more to run than in past years.

The decline in sales tax can be attributed in part to fewer people drinking wine and fewer people traveling to Walla Walla. The city should partner with tourism organizations in Walla Walla to promote Walla Walla as a destination. Alternatives to wine drinking as the incentive to visit should be encouraged. Wineries should be urged to provide alcohol-free alternatives.

The city recently adopted a service fee for credit and debit cards payment to recoup the losses attributable to credit card fees. In 2023 the city paid over \$900,000 in credit card fees. The revenue from implementing credit and debit card service fees needs to be monitored, and adjusted as needed, to ensure that it is effectively offsetting costs. Residents enrolling in autopayment for payment of their utility bill should be encouraged to provide bank information in lieu of a credit or debit card to further reduce costs.

In summary, I would address budget challenges by prioritizing essential services, finding efficiencies, and reducing unnecessary costs. I support long-term financial planning, smart infrastructure investments, pursuing grants or partnerships and engaging with community partners. I would also engage the community in transparent decision-making on revenue and service priorities to ensure the city's resources are used effectively.

Homelessness

Homelessness in Walla Walla is a visible and growing challenge driven by housing affordability gaps, limited behavioral health services, substance use disorders, and economic instability. While our city benefits from strong nonprofits and community partners, the demand for shelter, treatment, and permanent housing continues to outpace available resources, impacting public safety, neighborhood livability, and the dignity of those experiencing homelessness.

As a city council member, I would support a balanced, solutions-oriented approach: expanding affordable and supportive housing, strengthening partnerships with service providers, and improving access to mental health and addiction treatment. I have personally experienced the impact of homelessness within my own family. My son has a debilitating mental health diagnosis. I have seen him fall through the cracks despite my best efforts. He has been homeless, living under a bridge in Portland. Upon his return to Walla Walla, he was able to secure Section 8 housing but lacked the basic skills to take care of himself. He couldn't shop, cook, clean or take care of himself. Drug use and his declining mental health made his situation increasingly dire. I was faced with multiple obstacles to getting him the help he needed. What is clear is that that housing is not enough.

Long-term success depends on prevention, regional collaboration, and data-driven investments that help people transition from crisis to stability. Long-range planning should be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan.

Capital Improvement Planning and Infrastructure Funding

Maintaining and upgrading critical infrastructure (e.g., vehicles, landfill, wastewater treatment, stormwater systems) remains a priority and a cost challenge. Maintaining and upgrading Walla Walla's infrastructure is a priority because streets, utilities, and public facilities are aging and directly affect public safety and quality of life. At the same time, rising construction costs, regulatory requirements, and years of deferred maintenance have made these projects increasingly expensive, while city revenues have not kept pace. This creates an ongoing challenge to fund and prioritize critical improvements responsibly.

I support the City's Infrastructure Repair and Replacement Plan (IRRP) which provides a systematic approach to replace the City's three failing critical infrastructure systems: water, sewer, and streets. Phasing infrastructure upgrades over time allows for careful planning and minimizes disruption while aligning expenditures with the city's financial capacity. The City of Walla Walla should leverage a variety of funding sources, including state and federal grants, to support infrastructure projects.

Equally important is responsible rate-setting. By thoughtfully establishing utility rates and associated fees, the city can maintain reliable infrastructure and services without placing an undue burden on taxpayers. This balanced strategy will ensure long-term infrastructure reliability, fiscal responsibility, and continued service to the Walla Walla community

- F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

I want to emphasize that I approach public service with a deep sense of responsibility, curiosity, and respect for the community. I believe effective local government is based on listening first, asking thoughtful questions, and making decisions grounded in both data and lived experience.

If appointed, I would commit to being accessible, prepared, and collaborative, taking the time to understand the history behind current issues while also looking ahead to sustainable, inclusive solutions. I am motivated to ensure that voices that are often underrepresented feel heard in city decision-making and that city policies reflect fairness, fiscal responsibility, and long-term community well-being.

I understand that this role requires not only vision, but consistency and follow-through. I am ready and excited to do the work between meetings, engage respectfully with differing viewpoints, and represent the city with integrity and professionalism. I would be honored to earn the council's trust and contribute meaningfully to the city's continued growth and success.

I would like to thank the City of Walla Walla for this rare and exciting opportunity to apply for a position on the City Council. I appreciate your consideration and look forward to answering any questions you may have.

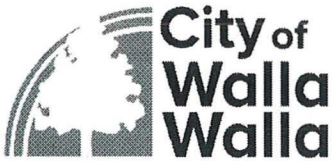
City of Walla Walla

Application for city council member position # 6.

Applicant - Frances Chvatal

Please find the following documents.

City of Walla Walla Application	4 pages
Resume	2 pages
Supplemental questions	2 pages
References	1 page



CITY OF WALLA WALLA

15 N. 3rd Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-524-4348

APPLICATION FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBER POSITION # 6

Thank you for your interest in serving the Walla Walla community as a member of the Walla Walla City Council.

To be considered, applications must be completed, signed, and received by the City Clerk **no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, February 6, 2026 (late arrivals will not be accepted)**. Applications can be submitted using the online form, downloading the fillable PDF and emailed to the City Clerk at cityclerk@wallawalla.gov or mailed/hand delivered at 15 N. 3rd Avenue Walla Walla, WA 99362 Attention: City Clerk.

Name: *Frances C. Chvatal*

Complete Home Mailing Address (you must have resided within the city limits for at least a year):

*150 E. Chestnut St.
Walla Walla. Wa 99362*

Home Phone:

Business Phone: *Na*

Cell: *509 386 0566*

E-mail: *kammerchvatal@gmail.com*

Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation): *Retired registered nurse.*

Business Address: *Na*

Educational Background: *See Resume*

- 1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla? Yes No
- 2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.) Yes No
- 3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation? Yes No

A WONDERFUL PLACE TO **LIVE WORK PLAY**

4. If you answered "YES" to #3 above, please explain:

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla? YES NO

If yes, please explain:

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla? YES NO

If yes, please explain:

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest? YES NO

If yes, please explain:

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages).

See Resume

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume).

See Resume

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

See Resume, Community activities FROM: _____ TO: _____

FROM: _____ TO: _____

FROM: _____ TO: _____

FROM: _____ TO: _____

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? YES NO

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council. YES NO

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

1.

2.

See attached

3.

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment) *See attached.*

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

Once submitted, applications and related materials become a public record subject to public disclosure and will appear in the Council agenda packet. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for February 23, 2026 at the regular work session from 4-6pm. Selected applicants will be notified of the exact date and time of the interview once all applications have been received and whether to hold interviews is determined by Council. Final action appointing a candidate to elective office will take place in an open public meeting. No City elected officer shall hold any other office or employment within the Walla Walla City government.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature: 

Date: 1/30/2026

Frances C Chvatal

150 East Chestnut Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362

509-386-0566
kammerchvatal@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020 - 2022 **Walla Walla County Department of Community Health**
Public Health Nurse
Temporary position to fill for RN on maternity leave
Covid investigation, testing, and vaccination effort
Communicable disease investigation and follow up
- 1993 - 2020 **Providence Health and Services St. Mary Medical Center**
1993 - 1994 Assistant Nurse Manager – Same Day Surgery (SDS)
-Provided direct pre/post-operative patient care.
-Directed staff activity including; creative staff scheduling, established predictable communication processes and timely completion of performance reviews.
-Enhanced patient flow by facilitating room remodel and strengthening pre admission testing protocols.
- 1994 – 2015 Director Surgical Service Line
-Areas of responsibility: Operating Room, Post Anesthesia Care Unit, Outpatient Procedure Center (SDS), GI services, Pre Admission Testing, Central Processing Department, Out Patient Infusion Services, Acute Surgical Care Unit (3 East) and clinical responsibility for Inpatient Rehabilitative Services.
-Organized and supported all clinical and technical staff. Directed up to 130 employees including 4 mid-level supervisors. Reported to the Chief Nursing Officer. Structured and adjusted work standards and staffing levels to meet or exceed clinical and quality expectations **and** annual productivity goals.
-Interim assignments: Chief Nursing Officer and Director Women’s Services, each for 6 months to support staff and providers during recruitment processes.
-Cheerful participation in regulatory and accrediting surveys: State Department of Health – Licensing and Trauma Care survey, The Joint Commission, Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities CARF, and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to assist in the organization’s continued success.
-Safely executed construction projects, while maintaining all clinical services; new construction: Out Patient Procedure Center, GI Services, and Post Anesthesia Care Unit and remodel: all Operating Rooms, 3 East, and Central Processing Department. Projects required coordination and cooperation with Engineering, contractors, Infection Control Committee and consistent communication with clinical staff, providers, and the entire organization.
-Executed and managed labor and operating annual budgets to meet the financial targets. Strategized growth opportunities and enthusiastically participated in capital budget planning to maintain cutting edge market share advantage.
- 2015 - 2020 Quality Department
-Quality utilization review analyst and medical staff office special projects.
- 1989 – 1992 **University of Washington – Harborview Medical Center**
Seattle, WA
Adult Burn Intensive Care Unit – 12 bed, staff nurse.
- 1987 – 1989 **Johns Hopkins Hospital**
Baltimore, MD
Adult Neuro-Critical Care Unit – 8 beds, staff nurse.

1984 – 1987 **St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center**
Boise, ID
Adult acute neuro medical / surgical unit – 33 beds, staff nurse.

EDUCATION

1983 **Washington State University**
Pullman, WA
Bachelor of Science Nursing

SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Washington State RN license 00079682, inactive

OTHER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

2015 - 2024 Providence St. Mary Medical Center
Community Ministry Board of Directors, Chair 2 years
2016 - 2019 City of Walla Walla Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Council, Chair 2019
2017 , 2018 Staffed winter warming center

Member of the Walla Walla Progressives
Member of the Walla Walla County Democrats

City of Walla Walla

Application for city council member position # 6

Applicant: Frances Chvatal

Date: 1/30/2026

Page 3 of 4

#14, Supplemental Questions

- A. I am curious about city government. I have spent my professional nursing career as a helper. Also, my experience in operational leadership and governance are well suited for this type of role. I would like to actively work towards a more liveable, safe and economically healthy city.
- B. Throughout my career as a registered nurse, I have developed and crafted my interpersonal skills. I am an active listener and oftentimes able to diffuse situations. I am able to consider a problem, and, through active listening, work to find compromise and occasionally agreement. I have experience creating, maintaining and working within a budget. I have experience with rules, regulations and other protocols or procedures. While my experience is specific to healthcare, the basic processes to successfully navigate regulatory work would apply to city governance and its rules. During my clinical leadership role at St. Mary, I worked with human resources including a labor union representing RNs in the hospital. The success of any organization depends on how the employees feel seen, heard, respected and fairly compensated. Finally, I support evidence based decision making and the consistent use of 'good' data.
- C. The most important role of a city council member is to listen and respond to the voice of the community. My understanding is also that the city council is responsible for the city budget; operational, labor and capital development. The city council tracks progress through a strategic plan and oversees departmental plans, assuring that municipal codes and state laws are followed. Volunteer advisory committees are maintained to consistently hear from the public.

- D. Consensus building starts with building relationships with peers and staff. I have found that listening is key to this work. I will research an issue and try to understand why a specific issue is important to stakeholders (pro or con). I would ask, how will this issue will impact the people, the environment and the budget? Also, the appropriate rules and regulations pertaining to an issue (state and local) must be considered.
- E. I would defer to the current city council strategic plan, departmental plans and other large scale developed plans (watershed resilience plan, for example) for direction. I do not have an agenda other than to help advance ongoing work. I strongly feel that coordination with other governing bodies and civic organizations and partners (Port of Walla Walla, BMAC, BOCC, Chamber of Commerce) may help to create better decisions and avoid duplication and redundancy.
- F. I have long held the belief that some people have to do more so others can do better. I would like to have the opportunity to do this for my community.

City of Walla Walla

Application for city council member position # 6

Applicant: Frances Chvatal

Date: 1/30/2026

Page 3 of 4

#13, References

Danielle Garbe Reser
509 520 9827
1134 Alvarado Terrace
Walla Walla WA 99362
garbedn@gmail.com

Linda Gunshefski, MD
509 386 3153
59-119 Lauipala Place
Kamuela, Hawaii, 96743
49drlgun@gmail.com

Kathryn Barron
206 427 0400
2491 Country Club Road
Walla Walla, WA 99362
Krbarron@charter.net

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Application for City Councilmember Position #6 - Paul Vandervort
Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026 3:54:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Application for City Councilmember Position #6

Name	Paul Vandervort
Complete Home Mailing Address	1306 Center Street, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Home Phone	(541) 870-3644
Cell	(541) 870-3644
Email	paul.m.vandervort@outlook.com
Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation)	Winery Sales Management
Business Address	18 N 2nd Ave, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Educational Background	High school graduate with some college experience
1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla?	Yes
2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.)	Yes
3. Have you ever been convicted for anything	No

other than a minor traffic violation?

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla? **No**

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla? **No**

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest? **No**

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages). [Vandervort Paul Resume 2026.pdf](#)

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume). **The Collective on 2nd**

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

	Experience	From when?	To when?
1.	Walla Walla Sustainability Committee	07/01/2025	Present
2.			
3.			
4.			

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? **Yes**

12. Appointment to the City

Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council.

Yes

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

	Name	Address	Phone number
1.	Rick Moody	1202 Umatilla Street, Walla Walla, WA 99362	(509) 629-0314
2.	Evan Heisman	1312 2nd Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362	(609) 970-4714
3.	Richard Holmes	1625 S 374th Ct, Federal Way, WA 98003	(253) 906-6317

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

I want to answer the supplemental questions on this form.

A. Why are you interested in serving as a City of Walla Walla Councilmember?

Communities like Walla Walla currently face a number of challenges borne of a number of social, economic, & political factors. Navigating these challenges requires a council built with a diverse mixture of viewpoints, ideas, & expertise drawn from different segments of the community. I believe that I can help round out our council by helping to provide a unique point-of-view borne from my experience and investment in Walla Walla.

I have lived in a number of different communities in my life, ranging from small timber towns on the Oregon Coast to Army barracks and military towns to cities such Eugene & Portland to here, Walla Walla. While each community has its

B. What strengths would you bring to the City Council?

own unique character and identity, all have one commonality: the need to adapt to changing times while maintaining the core of what makes each community unique. Having observed this in other communities, I believe the interpersonal skills and cooperative experience I acquired during my military service and further refined during my working life in those communities can help to move Walla Walla toward a future that benefits all of our residents, businesses, & guests.

C. What do you consider the primary role(s) of a member of the City Council?

To plan for the future prosperity of Walla Walla while both guarding against unforeseen dilemmas and addressing the needs of our residents and business owners. A councilmember takes responsibility for the social, economic, and political wellbeing of the city.

D. As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service, or regulations?

Consensus is achieved through several steps, starting with gathering information. This requires collecting all the factual data involved and soliciting the opinions of any and all both interested and/or affect by any such project, service, or regulation. An informed decision can only be made when the data and concerns are considered. Then it falls to opening a dialogue with objectors based on the nature of their objection. In the end, it's best to reach an understanding amongst all interested parties. This way, expectations can be both set and achieved with little to no conflict. However, there are some occasions when, in the interest of those a councilmember represents, that a position must be taken and adhered to.

E. What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed?

In the short term, the contractions in the wine industry and the rapid rise in property values are of great concern. A significant portion of our city's economy is tied to the tourism attracted by the wine industry. On a Main Street with tasting rooms closing and left empty we risk the impression of a community in decline when the opposite is quite true. Our downtown (and the city as a whole) has a number of vacant properties that have stood so for years, some as long as a decade or more. Attracting both new residents and tourists depends on not just the fact of growth, but also the perception of growth. An ordinance such as that recently passed in Spokane or more recently in Pendleton that encourages property owners to fill vacant properties rather than let them stand is a solution worth exploring for Walla Walla.

F. Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

Housing is certainly still a great concern. The middle housing initiative is great start to addressing rising home prices in a market undersupplied for working families. I confess, I have no immediate solution in mind beyond examining every aspect of our housing market to find other ways that we, as a city, can encourage growth.

In a time where our public discourse is increasingly dominated by emotional extremes, I believe in first examining data before drawing any conclusions. When, for example, data shows crime on the decline while prevailing public opinion is that crime is rising to ever greater highs, how are we to make wise decisions that avoid doing more harm than good? It starts with sharing data and then directly asking why people feel otherwise. Data-based actions are good, but such

actions guided with an eye to the feelings elicited by them are better.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. J. U. H. T.', written in a cursive style.

Date

02-05-2026

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

PAUL M. VANDERVORT

FOOD & WINE PROFESSIONAL

PROFILE

- Over 15 years customer service with strengths in technical troubleshooting, logistics, and staff training & support
- Extensive experience developing plans, conducting audits, and controlling inventory
- Broad knowledge of PNW wines, specializing in Walla Walla Valley, Red Mountain, Columbia Gorge, & Umpqua Valley AVA's

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Increased Wine Club enrollment by 80% – *Lagana Cellars*
- Implemented training initiative that engaged employees and increased targeted sales by 5% – *RadioShack*
- Army Achievement Medal for exceptional management & control of unit small arms – *US Army*

CONTACT

1306 Center Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362

T (541) 870-3644

E paul.m.vandervort@outlook.com

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

CÔTES DE CIEL, WALLA WALLA, WA
11/2020 - PRESENT
DTC (Direct-to-Consumer) Manager

LOCATI CELLARS, WALLA WALLA, WA
12/2018 – 1/2025
Tasting Room Associate

LAGANA CELLARS, WALLA WALLA, WA
9/2017 – 11/2020
Tasting Room Associate

L'ECOLE NO. 41 WINERY, LOWDEN, WA
9/2015 – 9/2017
Tasting Room Educator

RADIOSHACK, EUGENE, OR
6/2010 - 9/2014
Sales Associate & Assistant Store Manager

US ARMY, FORT DRUM, NY
9/2001 - 9/2006
Unit Logistics Specialist
Honorably Discharged

EDUCATION

**WINE COUNTRY CULINARY INSTITUTE
WALLA WALLA, WA**

Menu Development & Cost Control; Food & Beverage Pairing;
Baking & Patisserie; World Cuisines; Nutritional Cooking

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

- Food Handler's Permit – Washington
- MAST Class 12 Mixologist Permit – Washington
- MS Office, OrderPort & other POS systems

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- Asst. Store Manager; *RadioShack, Eugene, OR*
- Asst. Conductor & Jazz Band Leader; *WWVB, Walla Walla, WA*
- Librarian; *Eugene Symphonic Band, Eugene, OR*
- Asst. Director; *Oregon Coast Lab Band, North Bend, OR*
- Unit Small Arms Repair Specialist & Instructor; *US Army*

**PAUL M.
VANDERVORT**
FOOD & WINE PROFESSIONAL

CONTACT

1306 Center Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362

T (541) 870-3644

E paul.m.vandervort@outlook.com

REFERENCES

PROFESSIONAL

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CÔTES DE CIEL

OWNER/WINEMAKER

(253) 906-6317

richard@cielducheval.com

JASON FOX

LAGANA CELLARS

OWNER/WINEMAKER

LOCATI CELLARS

MANAGER/PRODUCTION WINEMAKER

(509) 529-5871

jason@locaticellars.com

JAY ENTRIKIN

WINE COUNTRY CULINARY INSTITUTE

CHEF INSTRUCTOR

(509) 524-4800

jay.entrikin@wwcc.edu

PERSONAL

RICK MOODY

1202 Umatilla St, Walla Walla, WA 99362

(509) 629-0314

moodmaniv@gmail.com

EVAN HEISMAN

1312 2nd Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362

(609) 970-4714

62heisman@gmail.com

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: Application for City Councilmember Position #6 - CAROLYN KNOWLES
Date: Friday, January 30, 2026 8:37:34 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Application for City Councilmember Position #6

Name	CAROLYN KNOWLES
Complete Home Mailing Address	505 Sheridan Road, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Home Phone	(503) 544-0236
Business Phone	(503) 544-0236
Cell	(503) 544-0236
Email	knowleswalla2@gmail.com
Occupation (if retired, please indicate former occupation)	Bookkeeper, Wine Specialist
Business Address	505 Sheridan Road, Walla Walla, WA, 99362
Educational Background	Bachelor's Degree Political Science Specialist in Latin American Studies and Economics, University of Washington M.A. course work in Education, Teaching Asst & Scholarship, Southern Oregon University, Ashland Oregon M.A course work in Profession Writing and Editing, Emerson College, Boston MA CSW. Certified Wine Educator, Society of Wine Educators
1. Are you a registered voter in the City of Walla Walla?	Yes
2. Have you continuously resided within the city limits of the City of Walla Walla for a year or more? (State law requires a	

councilmember to be a resident of Walla Walla for at least a year prior to appointment, and to be a registered voter at the time of application.) **Yes**

3. Have you ever been convicted for anything other than a minor traffic violation? **No**

5. Do you or your spouse, or any immediate family member (spouse, children, siblings, parents) have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which does business with the City of Walla Walla? **No**

6. Is any member of your immediate family currently employed, either full time or part time, by the City of Walla Walla, or currently perform any volunteer work for the City of Walla Walla? **No**

7. Would your appointment create a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest? **No**

8. Please include your past employment history for the past ten years by attaching a resume (no longer than 3 pages). [Carolyn Knowles Resume' 1-2026.docx](#)

9. Please list the professional affiliations, clubs, social, or fraternal organizations to which you belong or hold office (this can be included in your resume). **Please see on resume'.**

	Experience	From when?	To when?
1.	Associated Students of the University of Washington (ASUW)	1970	1974

10. Please list your volunteer experience, and include any volunteer or paid positions held on any governmental board, committee or commission:

2.	ASUW Minority Affairs Commission	1972	1974
3.	Associated Students of Southern Oregon University (ASSOU)	1976	1977
4.	Ashland OR School District Parent Teacher Organization	1985	1989

11. Have you ever attended a meeting of the Walla Walla City Council? **Yes**

12. Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at regularly scheduled and special meetings, which generally occur on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Councilmembers are also expected to represent the City of Walla Walla by serving on other committees and as a liaison representative to the city's boards and commissions. Are you able to commit your time and energy to participate fully as a member of the Walla Walla City Council. **Yes**

13. References: Please list name, address and phone number:

	Name	Address	Phone number
1.	John Patterson	1564 Whiteley Rd. Walla Walla WA	425-443- 4248
2.	Mara Palumbo	2862 S. 3rd Ave, Walla Walla	509-593- 9862
3.	Paula Buck Nichols	2042 Gemstone Dr. Walla	940-595- 0603

14. Supplemental Questions (can be submitted as a separate attachment)

I want to answer the supplemental questions in a separate attachment.

Please attach a file with your answers to the supplemental questions.

[City Council new app.1-28-26.docx](#)

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Knowles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Date

01-30-2026

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

Carolyn Knowles

505 Sheridan Rd. Walla Walla, WA 99362

503-544-0236

carolyn@carolynforcitycouncil.com

EMPLOYMENT

Wine Industry Background, Sales and Marketing

Patterson Cellars, Walla Walla WA

August 2023 – Present

Tasting Room Associate

Thomas Cellars, Portland OR

June 2016 – Present

Manager Accounts Receivable

L'Ecole # 41 Wine Cellars , Walla Walla WA

May 2021 – August 2023

Tasting Room Associate Walla Walla, WA

Knomad Wine Group, Portland OR

April 2009 to 2016

Owner and CEO

Watermill Winery & Blue Mountain Hard Cider Milton-Freewater, Oregon

March 2008-2010

National Sales Manager, with office in Portland Oregon

Kendall -Jackson Wines

October 2006 to 2008

Regional On Premise Fine Wine Account Manager

Young's Columbia Distributing Co. Portland, Oregon

January 2002- October 2006

On Premise Fine Wines Key Account Specialist

Young's Columbia Distributing Co. Portland, Oregon

September 1999 - January 2002

Wines Sales Account Manager

Hospitality Industry

It's A Moveable Feast, Ashland, OR

Caterers and Bed & Breakfast Management

Owner

1986-1998

Harry & David's Corp, Medford OR

Fall 1995-1999

Retail and Food and Beverage Manager

Medford Clinic, Medford OR

Spring 1991-1995

Café Manager

Rogue Valley Medical Center, Medford OR
1987-1991
Café Manager

Nendell's Hotel Chain, Medford OR
1985-1987
Director of Catering Sales

Westin Hotel, Boston MA
1983-1985
Front End Manager Turner Fisheries Fine Dining

Education

Dorchester House, Boston, MA
1979-1983
Boston Public Schools
Swimming Pool Mgr. and Instruction Director

Forestry

U.S. Forest Service
1974-1982 Seasonal
Fire and Aviation
Fire Crew
Fire Lookout
Aerial Observer

Professional affiliations, clubs, social or fraternal organizations

Alpha Lambda Delta National Scholastic Honor Society
University of Washington Student Association
University Southern Oregon University Graduate Student Association
American Association of University Women
League of Women Voters
Ashland Oregon Schools Parent Teacher Association
Common Cause Oregon, Lobbyist.
Society of Wine Educators
Women for WineSense , Instructor

Education

Bachelor's Degree Political Science Specialist in Latin American Studies and Economics, University of Washington
M.A. course work in Education, Teaching Asst & Scholarship, Southern Oregon University, Ashland Oregon
M.A course work in Profession Writing and Editing, Emerson College, Boston MA
CSW. Certified Wine Educator, Society of Wine Educators

Questions on the City Council App

Why are you interested in serving

A healthy community must have people with a broad spectrum of lifestyles, beliefs and histories held together by mutual respect and the knowledge that it will take the goodwill of every member to confront the challenges we must meet in the coming years. Our democracy was never meant to be a closed club. I would strive to be an independent, people-powered leader, because communities deserve representatives who answer to them, not to parties or special interests I want Walla Walla to be a vibrant and sustainable city, now, and for my grandchildren.

What strengths would you bring to the City Council

I bring to this endeavor a unique perspective. I know my community; My family has roots here in Walla Walla that go back to the 1850's. I worked harvest in the summers and spent 7 years in fire management with the Forest Service. I put myself through the University of Washington working at the UofW Law School Library under Marion Gallaher so I can read briefs and understand legal terminology. I have been a part of the growth of the wine industry in Walla Walla, in all aspects, for over 20 years. This gives me an extensive knowledge base that will be vital as we confront the issues.

As a business manager I discovered that the most successful teams know they are partners in decision making, are being heard, and their concerns and solutions are taken into consideration. I bring the communication skills needed to engage families, young people, educators, and the broader Valley community—including farmers, property owners, and the wine industry—so their voices are heard and their priorities are represented at the Council table.

A strong economy is the foundation of the City's Comprehensive Plan, and achieving it requires leaders who can work across differences to get things done. I bring a collaborative, bipartisan approach that brings together business owners, educators, families, and community leaders to focus on practical solutions—not politics. By working together to attract new businesses and create good-paying jobs, we can build the economic stability that draws young families to our community and strengthens our local economy. When we put our community first, we all win

What do you consider the primary role of a member of the City Council

A city council member's core role is to balance representing community interests with governing responsibilities—ensuring local laws, budgets, and policies reflect the needs and values of the people they serve while promoting effective, transparent governance. It means putting people over politics, finding common ground, providing strong oversight of city operations, and ensuring that growth, fiscal responsibility, and quality of life remain top priorities.

As a Councilmember, your only legal authority is the ability to cast one of seven votes. What is your philosophy of how to build consensus or majority support for a project, service or regulations.

My philosophy is that leadership in a legislative body is not about winning arguments — it's about building bridges. I would use my vote as the culmination of a process centered on dialogue, respect, evidence, and shared community purpose. Through that process, majority support isn't just a procedural milestone — it's a reflection of a community thinking and deciding together.

What do you see as the issues facing the community and how do you believe they should be addressed

1. Walla Walla is not thriving as it should be, as are many small communities across the country. If we do nothing, we risk losing our schools, our hospital, and the unique lifestyle that living in a beautiful rural city offers. To protect our future, we must grow. We need more business opportunities and good-paying jobs that allow current residents—and future generations—to live and thrive here. With that awareness also comes the responsibility to foster sustainable growth. Walla Walla has a unique, historical small-town vibe. That is why people move here and it is critical that we maintain that sense of place. We don't want to look like the Tri Cities we need to rebuild and renew our core area housing and workplaces, before we look at growing outside of our current boundaries.
2. Our water, energy, and agricultural resources are essential to our city's safety, economic strength, and long-term sustainability, but they will only secure our future if we lead with responsibility, innovation, and vision. I am committed to supporting infrastructure improvements, and responsible resource management that balance development with environmental stewardship. By investing wisely and planning strategically, we can strengthen resilience, expand economic opportunities, and protect vital services for all residents.
3. We must also stop the hollowing out of our downtown core. Empty buildings are more than an eyesore; they are unsafe and attract mold, mildew, rodents, and other health hazards. As downtown loses vitality, problems that would be minimized in a vibrant commercial district become larger and harder to manage. When absentee owners fail to maintain these properties, they become costly liabilities for the city and taxpayers. Vacabuildings generate significant public expense while contributing little in return. We are losing millions of dollars annually in unrealized property tax revenue that would exist if these spaces were occupied and productive. While property owners share responsibility, the city must also take an active role in creating solutions. One option is implementing a vacancy tax on abandoned buildings. Revenue from this could be reinvested into incentives that encourage new businesses and support redevelopment. The city could also explore converting unused second floors into housing, helping address both vacancies and housing shortages. Additionally, streamlining the permitting process and offering engineering or technical assistance to help bring older buildings up to code would remove barriers to redevelopment.

Revitalizing downtown is not just about buildings—it is about preserving our community, strengthening our economy, and securing Walla Walla's future.

Is there anything else you would like to add that would assist in the review of your application?

As many of you know, I ran for the #3 position on City Council this fall. I returned to Walla Walla in 2020 after spending 28 years in Portland, a large city where I often felt my ability to influence local government was limited. Coming home changed that. My children are grown, I am economically secure, and I care deeply about this valley and the people who call it home.

Running for City Council was my way of giving back—of trying to make a difference and using my unique background in business management and the wine and hospitality industry to serve our community. It was one of the best experiences of my life. I believe a healthy democracy depends on real choices. Every candidate deserves a challenger — it strengthens accountability, improves leadership, and pushes all of us to serve our community better.

I am deeply committed to being successful as a city council person, and to mentoring and ensuring that the next generation of leaders and engaged citizens has both a voice and the tools to use it, most of my campaign committee and "kitchen cabinet" were much younger than I am. They organized meet-and-greets and events and brought tremendous energy and perspective to the campaign. And together, we earned nearly 35% of the vote. I truly believe that a healthy democracy requires real choices.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-017

A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE VACANCY IN WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL POSITION #6 AND TAKING SUCH FURTHER ACTION NEEDED THEREWITH

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla City Council passed Walla Walla Municipal Ordinance A-2405 on May 13, 1970 adopting the classification of non-chartered code city for the City of Walla Walla under Title 35A of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW); and

WHEREAS, RCW 35A.12.050 incorporates RCW 42.12.010 specifying potential causes of Council position vacancies including resignation; and

WHEREAS, Tom Scribner was duly elected to Walla Walla City Council position #6 in 2015 and served with distinction until his resignation effective January 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35A.12.050 provides that “[a] vacancy ... in the council shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW”; and

WHEREAS, RCW 42.12.070(1) provides in the event of one vacancy that “the remaining members of the governing body shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacant position”; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla City Council interviewed candidates to fill the vacancy at an open public meeting on February 23, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla City Council considered this matter during a regularly and duly called public meeting of said Council, has given said matter careful review and consideration, and finds that good government and the best interests of the City of Walla Walla will be served by passage of this resolution;

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Walla Walla resolves as follows:

Section 1: _____ is hereby appointed to the vacancy in Walla Walla City Council position #6 to serve until such time that a qualified person is elected on November 2, 2027, the election returns have been certified, and the person elected is qualified in accordance with RCW 29A.04.133.

PASSED on February 25, 2026 by the Walla Walla City Council.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

City Attorney