



Police Facility Update From Police Chief Ben Majetich

Election ballots will be mailed on April 5, so this is my last opportunity to share information through our city newsletter about the proposal to build a larger, secure police facility. The City of West Richland is asking voters to consider a bond during the April 23 Special Election to build the facility.

Ballots are due back to the county by April 23rd at 8:00 p.m. You can mail them by that date, or place them in two ballot drop box locations at the police station (3805 Van Giesen Street), or the Municipal Services Building (3100 Belmont Boulevard) in West Richland.

Twenty years ago, former Police Chief Mike Noski called the current facility inadequate. Since that time, the city population has grown 115 percent and we are still operating in the same space.

The proposed facility will provide more space for personnel, and secure areas for interviewing suspects, evidence storage and our armory. It also will provide space for officer training, community meetings and an improved kennel for animal control. The cost is similar to other police facilities our size and includes land acquisition, design, construction, and outfitting the interior.

Policing is getting harder, and departments are being closely scrutinized these days. Adequate facilities are just as important as officers and patrol cars. We can and will rise to the challenge with the tools to succeed.

More information about the proposed facility can be found on our web site at www.westrichland.org or feel free to contact me personally with questions at (509) 967-3425 or bmajetich@westrichland.org. Thank you for considering our request.

Meetings

- Apr. 2 City Council meeting - cancelled
- Apr. 3 West Richland Chamber meeting
Sandberg Event Center - Noon
- Apr. 11 Planning Commission meeting
3100 Belmont Blvd. - 6:00 p.m.
- Apr. 16 City Council meeting
3100 Belmont Blvd. - 6:00 p.m.

A meeting and events calendar is available on the city website on the home page under Quick Links. Agendas are also posted on the web pages for City Council and Boards and Commissions. On the top menu of the home page click on Governance, then click on either City Council or Boards and Commissions.





Annual Earth Day Cleanup Event - April 27th

West Richland's Annual Cleanup Day will be held on April 27th. Residents may dispose of household garbage and yard debris free of charge, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Enterprise Middle School. Commercial garbage will not be accepted. The city is unable to dispose of refrigerators, air conditioner units, propane tanks or household hazardous materials such as motor oil, antifreeze or paint.

This event would not be possible without the more than 60 community volunteers. If you would like to lend a hand, please contact the Planning Department at 967-5902.

Benton County Mosquito Control Tire Collection

Residents will also be able to dispose of old tires (must be removed from rim) FREE of charge at Benton County Mosquito Control, 4951 W. Van Giesen, on April 27th, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Bring your ID or utility statement with home address on it for verification.

This event is for automobile tires only. Rims and wheels and cut up tires will not be accepted. Visit <http://www.mosquitocontrol.org/announcements> for more details or contact Mosquito Control at 967-2414.



Irrigation Water

The city owns and operates three irrigation systems: LuAnne Estates; Brotherhood; and Flat Top Park. These systems pump irrigation water from Columbia Irrigation District's (CID) canal system.

CID will begin slowly filling their canals on April 1st to flush out debris. The filling of the canal takes approximately 9 days. Assuming CID's canals are fully operational and the majority of the debris has been flushed through, the city's Public Works maintenance crew will begin turning on the city operated irrigation systems on Monday, April 15th. During the first couple of weeks of operation the irrigation systems may need to be periodically turned off to make repairs or if there is excessive debris in the irrigation canal.

Please check the city's website at www.westrichland.org or the city's Facebook page, City of West Richland Government, for updated information on the city's irrigation systems.

Spring Means Yard Cleanup Time!

Spring is here and with it comes the opportunity to clean up weeds, junk and debris. Property maintenance requires extra time and effort to make your property look nice, but it is quite rewarding. There are some things that are often overlooked. One is the easement attached to your property, (i.e., next to streets, sidewalks, alleyways, or just on the other side of your fence.) These areas are to be maintained by the property owner by keeping them free of trash, debris, unsightly nuisances, and weeds (or trimmed to six inches or less) per West Richland Municipal Code (WRMC) 8.16.030.

Another common issue is irrigation sprinklers going over sidewalks or roadways. Sprinkler heads need to be adjusted or blocked to keep the water on the intended property per WRMC 8.16.030.

Community Garden

Applications are being accepted for garden plots at the Community Garden at Yellowstone Trail Park.

The fee to reserve a garden plot is \$10 for the 2019 season.

Registration forms and garden policies are available at www.westrichland.org or call 967-5902.