



Meet Your West Richland City Council

The City of West Richland’s form of government is Mayor-Council (or strong mayor), which consists of an elected mayor, who serves as the city’s chief administrative officer, and a council, which serves as the municipality’s legislative body. The council has the authority to formulate and adopt city policies and the mayor is responsible for carrying them out. The mayor attends and presides over council meetings but does not vote, except in the case of a tie.

The West Richland City Council is comprised of seven at large members. Council Members are part-time, nonpartisan elected officials who are elected to four-year terms. Like other legislative bodies, the City Council’s main tasks are the adoption and oversight of the City’s annual budget, introducing legislation, setting city policy and giving advice and consent on appointments made by the mayor to city boards and commissions.

City Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, at 7:00 p.m., in City Council Chambers located inside the Library building. Meetings are televised live on Public Access Channel 191.

Brent Gerry is the West Richland Mayor. His current term is 1-1-14 to 12-31-17. He previously served as a City Council Member from 1-1-10 to 12-31-13.

Your City Council Members are:

- Position #1: Byron Martin Current term: 1-18-14 to 12-31-15 (appointed to fill vacancy)
- Position #2: Rich Buel Current term: 1-1-14 to 12-31-17 (1st term began 1-1-2002)
- Position #3: Gail Brown Current term: 1-1-14 to 12-31-17 (1st term began 1-1-1998)
- Position #4: Richard Bloom Current term: 1-1-14 to 12-31-17 (1st term began 1-1-2010)
- Position #5: Robert Perkes Current term: 1-1-12 to 12-31-15
- Position #6: Ron Hayden Current term: 1-1-12 to 12-31-15
- Position #7: Tony Benegas Current term: 1-1-12 to 12-31-15 (1st term began 1-1-2008)

Other City boards and commissions include the West Richland Planning Commission, Park Board, Economic Development Board and Board of Adjustment. For more information on boards and commissions, go to: <http://www.westrichland.org/BoardsandCommissions.cfm>.

Meetings

- Feb 3 City Council Meeting
Library - 7:00 PM
- Feb 4 West Richland Chamber meeting
Sandberg Event Center - Noon
- Feb 12 Planning Commission meeting
Library - 6:00 PM
- Feb 17 City Council meeting
Library - 7:00 PM
- Feb 23 Park Board Meeting
Library - 6:30 PM

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 Government, then Council or Boards and Commissions.

- Feb 14 Happy Valentine’s Day
- Feb 16 President’s Day
City offices will be closed



Code Red - Emergency Alerts

Emergency Management Agencies of Benton and Franklin Counties have begun using CodeRed - a high-speed mass notification system designed to keep you informed in the event of an emergency. This system allows for the delivery of emergency messages to you via phone to your landline or mobile device, as well as through text and email.

Generally, non-life threatening alerts will be sent to email only. Alerts that pose a higher threat or cause significant adverse conditions may be sent to email and text message. Emergency alerts that pose a serious or significant risk to life and/or property will be sent from all devices that you have selected.

To register, visit www.bces.wa.gov in Benton County or www.franklinem.org in Franklin County and click on the CodeRED icon.

A brochure is available for download on the home page of the City's website, www.westrichland.org, under "What's Happening." Or, you can contact Benton County Emergency Management at 509-628-2600 for more information.

Reports to Police Department

The Police Department has received information on suspicious persons or circumstances, loud music, and other types of reports from citizens via the City's website online action form and voice messages on the City's general delivery mailbox after hours.

Please do not use the online action form or general delivery mailbox to report issues to the Police Department because these messages may not be seen for several days. If your issue is an emergency, please call 911. If you are reporting a non-emergency police related complaint, please call non-emergency dispatch at 509-628-0333.



Save the Date!

The City's Annual Earth Day Clean-Up Event is scheduled for **Saturday, April 25, 2015**, between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at Enterprise Middle School.

In the March and April utility bill newsletters, more detailed information will be provided about this event and other associated local events occurring around the same time, such as Benton County's household hazardous waste collection event and Benton County Mosquito Control's tire disposal event.

Water Meters are City Property

Water meters are the property of the City of West Richland. Please do not touch or tamper with the City's meters. If you are experiencing issues with your water service, please contact the Public Works Department at 509-967-5434.

West Richland Municipal Code 13.96.020 states, No person shall maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance, or equipment which is a part of a city-owned utility. No person shall commit, authorize, solicit aid, abet, or attempt to:

- A. Divert, or cause to be diverted, utility services by any means whatsoever.
- B. Make, or cause to be made, any connection or reconnection with property owned or used by the utility to provide utility service without the authorization or consent of the Public Works Director.
- C. Prevent any utility meter or device used in determining the charge for utility services from accurately performing its measuring function by tampering or by other means.
- D. Tamper with any property owned or used by the utility to provide utility services.
- E. Use or receive the direct benefit of all or a portion of the utility service with knowledge of, or reason to believe that, the diversion, tampering, or unauthorized connection existed at the time of use or that the use or receipt was without the authorization or consent of the Public Works Director.