



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**2301 Fruitvale Blvd., Yakima, Washington 98902**  
**Phone (509) 575-6005**

DATE: November 21, 2019

TO: The Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council  
Alex Meyerhoff, Interim City Manager

FROM: Scott Schafer, Public Works Director

RE: Clean City Activities and Timeline

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Staff respectfully submits a proposed timeline and activities related to the Clean City Program.

September 26, 2019	Refuse Division submitted a 2020 Policy Issue to increase the Utility Tax from commercial solid waste haulers from 16% to 20%. The increase was estimated to generate an additional \$173,500 in utility tax revenue to implement the Clean City program.
October 1, 2019	The proposal was amended by Council to increase the Utility Tax from 20% to 25% which would generate approximately \$390,400 for the Clean City Program.
October 8, 2019	In anticipation of the Clean City Program, Jacob Rufer, Solid Waste Maintenance Worker attended training and received limited commission as a Refuse Code Compliance Officer.
November 1, 2019	Acting Refuse Code Compliance Officer hired.
November onward	Refuse, Parks and Codes are conducting daily inspections of Naches Ave. Refuse and Parks conduct daily clean ups of garbage on Naches Ave. Refuse conducts daily inspections and cleanups problem areas. These areas include Naches Ave, the alleys in the immediate vicinity of Naches Ave including East Chestnut to Spruce and South 1 <sup>st</sup> Street to South 7 <sup>th</sup> Street and North 1 <sup>st</sup> Street Bartlett to Gordon Rd.
November 5, 2019	A Public Hearing and Ordinance to amend the Yakima Municipal Code 4.16.180 to increase the license tax for private refuse haulers was held. Ordinance No. 2019-037 amending the License Tax section of Municipal Code 4.16, Garbage storage, Collection and Disposal was passed, signed and approved.
November 6, 2019	Convened Clean City Team comprised of YPD, Legal, Code, Community Development, Purchasing, PW and Refuse to begin to develop an Action Plan for the Program.
November 21, 2019	Clean City Team conducted a coordinated clean up emphasis on Naches Ave.
December 15, 2019	Yakima Waste Systems Inc. will file rate increase with Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC). It will take 45 days to be implemented.
February 1, 2020	The rate adjustment to the Utility Tax becomes effective.

The Clean City Team, consisting of representatives from YPD, Codes, Legal, Community Development, IT Services, Refuse Division, Camp Hope and Union Gospel Mission, are in the process of developing an Action Plan for the Clean City Program. The Plan will include:

Administration 575-6005 • Equipment Rental 575-6005 • Parks & Recreation 575-6020  
• Solid Waste and Recycling 575-6005  
Street 575-6005 • Traffic 575-6005 • Transit 575-6005

Currently in Process November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Increase Encampment Outreach Capacity:</b> Developing a Request for Proposal and/or Qualifications for a Case Manager. The City will contract with a community partner to provide case management services. This puts an additional Case Manager on the street to help support the needs of those experiencing homelessness, to connect them with services, or provide support as needed.</li> </ul>
Currently in Process November 2019 – February 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Training and Referral Tools for Front-Line City Employees</b> -Developing and Conducting a Homeless Cleanup Training Protocol. This training is designed to assist front line field staff in proper protocols for addressing unauthorized encampments on public property. This includes how to conduct outreach, notification and storage of personal belongings before removal of encampments. Developing uniform protocols will not only help to mitigate the impact that is felt by our neighborhoods and business districts, but will also help meet the need of individuals who are living unsheltered.</li> </ul>
January – March 2020	Trainings are expected to occur Jan-March with Legal taking the lead.
In Process and to be Expanded Once Funded November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Encampment Site Cleanup Response Teams:</b> Currently City divisions and departments share the daily responsibility for cleaning up homeless encampments and other illegal dumps however there is limited funding for these activities. The Clean City Program will fund uniform cleanup efforts of homeless encampments, illegal dumps and community clean ups.</li> </ul>
In Process November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IT is updating website additions to include expanded resources and information about homelessness in Yakima.</li> </ul>
March-April when budget is available to support the position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Expanded Once Clean City is Funded: Hire an Additional Code Compliance Officer in Code Administration:</b> The additional staff person in Codes will be a compliance officer that is specifically tailored to assist in a task force setting to address homeless and neighborhood cleanups. This will occur when the budget is available to support the position</li> </ul>

- To date the Public Works Department has identified, cleaned and closed 1,143 illegal dumps throughout the City.
- 53 of those cleanups have been directly related to homeless encampments.
- 361 shopping carts have been removed.
- 1,915 tires have been collected and disposed.
- The total cost to date for the illegal dumps and community cleanups is \$109,379.