



# *Interim City Manager*

The City of Yakima seeks an Interim City Manager who is a leader; someone who is intelligent, outgoing, fair, organized, and progressive; someone with common sense and a can do attitude; someone who is visionary, yet practical; and someone willing to provide administrative leadership during a period of transition.

The ideal candidate will possess a Master's Degree in Public Administration, Business, Law, Political Science or related field and at least five (5) years of experience in City Management with a strong background in Finance and Budget, Economic Development, Public Works and/or Public Safety. The successful Interim City Manager candidate will have outstanding interpersonal and communication skills while being open and approachable. She/he will work in the best interest of the City of Yakima in accordance with the City Charter and policies determined by the City Council. The position is responsible for the administration of City government, including but not limited to, the supervision and direction of Department Directors, and other staff.

At the City of Yakima, customer service is not be just a catch phrase but rather, along with integrity, a core principle. The best candidate will be respectful of council, staff, and the public; encourage an environment where creativity flourishes; and ensure results and accountability. Other important characteristics are experience managing in lean times and the ability to anticipate and resolve issues before they escalate.

## **City of Yakima**

### **Departments & Staff**

The City of Yakima employs 779 permanent employees in addition to approximately 200 temporary employees.

#### **Operating Departments**

- City Administration
- Public Works
- Finance & Budget
- Human Resources
- Community Development
- Yakima Air Terminal
- Legal
- Municipal Court
- Police
- Fire

## City Government

Yakima is a Charter Civil Service City governed by a seven-member Council operating within the traditional Council – Manager form of government. Council members serve staggered four-year terms and are elected by specific districts. The Mayor is selected by the Council from among its members.

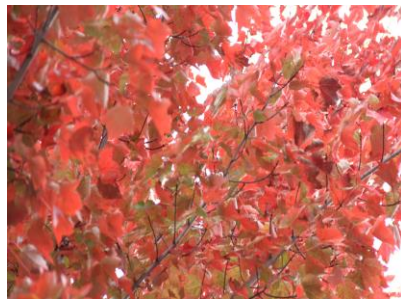
As a full service city, the 2019 General Government budget is \$78.4 million and its total budget is just over \$254 million. Based on the 2017 CAFR, approximately 19% of employees are in General Government, 25% in Police, 18% in Fire, 27% Public Works and 11% in other activities.



## Geography, Demographics & Climate



Yakima is located in the south central region of Washington State and covers about 28 square miles. Sunshine is the norm with 270 to 300 blue sky days per year. The area enjoys four separate and distinct seasons with the summers being hot and dry while the winters are cool with light snowfall.



Yakima is the largest city in Yakima County, serves as the county seat, and, with a population of more than 94,000, is the 11<sup>th</sup> largest city in Washington State. Most of the people who founded Yakima were of European decent, although significant numbers of African-Americans and Asian-Americans homesteaded in the area well. Relatively recently, the Yakima Valley has experienced a large influx of Latino immigrants, which now account for approximately 49% of the population in Yakima County. Today, the Yakima community enjoys a rich mixture of people from many cultural and ethnic backgrounds. 72% of the population has at least a high school degree and 15% has a Bachelor's degree or higher. The median annual household was estimated to be \$47,500 in 2017.



The cost of living in Yakima is below the national average at 95%. The average sales price of a home is \$270,000 and the average commuting time to work is about 15 minutes. Beyond K through 12, the area boasts a private technical college, a community college, a university, an osteopathic medical school, and a number of vocational education programs.



Yakima has been the cultural, business, educational, health services, and governmental focal point of the Central Washington region since it was founded more than 125 years ago. Originally built along the then-new Northern Pacific Railway company line, Yakima has grown from its agricultural roots into a vibrant, diverse, metropolitan city. With a rich history and a bright future, Yakima is the Heart of Central Washington.

Yakima's economy has traditionally revolved around agriculture and a wide variety of crops are grown in the Yakima Valley. These include more than 30 varieties of fruit (apples, cherries, peaches, pears, nectarines, apricots and berries) and vegetables (such as asparagus and eggplant). Not many people know that the region produces about 75% of all of the hops (a key ingredient in beer) grown in the United States.

While Yakima still relies on agriculture to drive its economy, over 250 manufacturing firms call the area home and produce a variety of products including aircraft parts, wood products, plastic products, recreational vehicles, and communications technology. Healthcare plays a large role in the Valley as represented by five hospitals and over 400 first-class physicians covering 36 specialties. Clinics provide a full range of treatment with open heart surgery, neurosurgery, and cancer care among them.

Tourism is the fastest growing segment of the Yakima economy. More than 70 wineries are located in the Valley and regularly draw visitors to sample and buy internationally renowned varietals. Multiple craft breweries and distilleries utilized home-grown products in their unique offerings. Outdoor recreation, including water and snow skiing, fishing, boating, hiking, horseback riding, and white water rafting, also makes Yakima a favorite destination for people from throughout the Northwest and around the world. Finally, Yakima is home to a minor league baseball team (the Yakima Pippins, a member of the West Coast League) and hosts numerous regional sports tournaments (baseball, basketball, softball and soccer, for example).

## City of Yakima

129 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yakima, WA 98901



Questions:  
Connie Mendoza  
Director of Human  
Resources  
509-249-6868

## ***How to apply***

Complete application packet must include:

- Cover letter and Resume
- Name and complete contact information for 5 references; to include at least one current or previous supervisor
- Professional licenses or certifications

Submit application packet by email to [Connie.Mendoza@yakimawa.gov](mailto:Connie.Mendoza@yakimawa.gov) by August 16, 2019 for priority consideration.

## ***Learn more about Yakima***

<http://www.visityakima.com/>

<http://www.ycda.com/why-yakima/>

<https://downtownyakima.com/>

<http://safeyakimavalley.com/>