



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
129 North Second Street
City Hall, Yakima, Washington 98901
Phone (509) 575-6050 • Fax (509) 576-6335

November 18th, 2020

Governor Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee,

The Yakima City Council encourages you to join the grassroots effort being led by committed Yakima community members to restore and enhance historic Miller Park by including funding for significant upgrades to the park in your 2021-2022 state budget proposal.

Miller Park has a long and rich history. It has served as a central gathering place for Northeast Yakima families and friends for nearly a century. It has hosted picnics and concerts, basketball games and reunions, and so much more. It has been a play space for kids and is home to recreation facilities and a community center. Miller Park has been and remains a key element of life in Northeast Yakima.

However, as Yakima has aged, so has Miller Park. The facilities and amenities in the park are subpar. Resources needed for improvements are scarce and Miller Park is no longer able to meet the needs of the area.

Those realities sparked an enthusiastic response from a core group of community members who have launched a local fundraising effort to spur much-needed updates to the park. A new pavilion, a covered performance stage, a new playground, resurfaced basketball courts with new lighting, restrooms, tables and benches, and walking paths are all part of the vision for a renewed and rejuvenated Miller Park.

Funds donated locally will help make Miller Park better, but additional support is needed to realize the full vision for Yakima's first designated neighborhood park.

On behalf of the entire Yakima City Council, I urge the inclusion of funding in your 2021-2022 state budget proposal for the Miller Park Improvement Project to ensure that it continues to serve as the core of Northeast Yakima for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Mayor Patricia Byers