Tuesday, February 4, 2025
City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)

5:30 P.M.
City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)

Agenda: https://go.boarddocs.com/wa/cocp/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DD8LVP586E12
In-Person at College Place City Hall, 625 S College Avenue, College Place Washington

Workshop may be viewed at: Live Stream on City of College Place, Washington YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbx3qrqzLDL_05NusReSl-g/featured
Zoom Attendee Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85400054575

Or you may call this number to listen: 1-669-900-9128 ID#854 0005 4575
Phone controls: *6 - toggle mute/un-mute and *9 - raise hand

1. Opening Items.

Subject :	1.01 Call To Order
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	1. Opening Items.
Access :	Public
Type :	Procedural

Public Content

Mayor Hernándezwill call the workshop to order.

Subject :	1.02 Roll Call
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	1. Opening Items.
Access :	Public
Type :	Procedural

Public Content

Mayor	Norma L. Hernández
	Paul T. Jessup,
	Michael Cleveland,
	Tito Espinoza Jr.,
Council Members	Loren Peterson,

Melodie Williams,

Heather Schermann,

Monica Boyle

Administrator, Mike Rizzitiello;

City Attorney, Rea Culwell;

Finance Director, Brian Carleton;

Public Works Director, Robert McAndrews;

Staff Police Chief, Troy Tomaras;

Fire Chief, David Winter;

Community Development Director, Jon Rickard;

HR Manager, Shawn Doering;

City Clerk, Maryelizabeth Garcia

Subject :	1.03 Pledge of Allegiance
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	1. Opening Items.
Access :	Public
Type :	Procedural

Public Content

"Ipledge allegianceto the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Subject :	1.04 Public Comment -
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	1. Opening Items.
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Council meetings are primarily structured to permit Council Membersto arrive at the decisions necessary to govern the City.

Meeting Protocol for Public Comment:

When submitting public comments, include the following information regardless of the manner you are using: (Note that there are deadlines for writtencomments to be included in the meeting documents.)

- Your Name
- Your Address

WrittenPublic comments may be provided by submitting comment to Clerk@cpwa.usno later than 4:30 PMon the meeting date to be included in the record.(If typewritten, no less than 11 pt font).

VerbalPublic Comments may be made during the meeting:

- In-person at the meeting location - provided at the beginning of each agenda.

Telephone and Virtual Comments:

Any member of the public who desires to make a public comment at the City Council meeting by telephone or remote access, shall provide at least 24 hours notice (excluding weekends and holidays) prior to the start of the meeting at which the member of the public wants to make a comment, notify the City Clerk or designee in writing or by direct verbal communication of their desire to make a comment. Those notice shall include the member's first and last name, address or place of residence, and the topic or topics the comment will touch upon.

- Telephone comment - Call1-669-900-9128, entering the meeting ID (provided at beginning of agenda) and raise your hand (*9 to raise hand, *6 to mute/un-mute) when comments are requested.
- Virtual comment -Join using theZoom Attendee link (provided at beginning of agenda) and raise your hand when comments are requested.

Once recognized, you will have five minutes to speak on any subject that is under the control of the Council.

2. Workshop Topics.

Subject :	2.01 Drinking Water Well #8 Issue - Steve Nelson (RH2 Engineering)
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	2. Workshop Topics.
Access :	Public
Type :	Discussion, Information

Public Content

Workshop Only - No Action

File Attachments

PaulCross_Discussion.pdf (1,061 KB)
Withers_Notification.pdf (605 KB)

Subject :	2.02 Countywide Hazard Mitigation Plan - Mr. Chris Lee/Mr. Patrick Purcell
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	2. Workshop Topics.
Access :	Public
Type :	Discussion, Information

Public Content

Historical Perspective:

The last Hazard Mitigation Plan dates back to 2018.

Information for Consideration:

It is critical to update a Hazard Mitigation Plan every six years to remain eligible for FEMA Hazard Mitigation and BRIC grant funding. The County received a grant to work on this over the last year and a half for jurisdictions within the County.

File Attachments

2024 Walla Walla County HMP REVIEW DRAFT.pdf (5,193 KB)
WAWallaWallaCountyAPA2025-wls.pdf (243 KB)
WAWallaWallaCountyReview2025.pdf (313 KB)

Subject :	2.03 FY 2025 Community Grants - Mr. Rizzitiello
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	2. Workshop Topics.
Access :	Public
Type :	Discussion, Information

Public Content

Historical Perspective:

The City has held a competitive Community Grant program annually since 2020. It allows orderly submission and ranking of community projects. This concept is borrowed from City of Ellensburg, Washington.

Information for Consideration:

File Attachments

CP Community Block Grant Program_2025_ VGC Application V6 & V7.pdf (575 KB)
CPHS Grant Application.pdf (151 KB)
Community Grant CP HEYNN.pdf (156 KB)
CP Community Grant 2025_Ice Rink.pdf (141 KB)
Council_CommunityGrantProgram_2025_Application - Andys Market Mural.pdf (760 KB)
Council_CommunityGrantProgram_2025_Application - Enable Art Mural.pdf (713 KB)
Council_CommunityGrantProgram_2025_Application - Operating Costs.pdf (276 KB)
CP FY25 Community Grant Program App - WWYMCA.pdf (124 KB)
SummaryScores.pdf (444 KB)

Subject :	2.04 District Court Services Evaluation - Ms. Culwell
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)

Category :	2. Workshop Topics.
Access :	Public
Type :	Discussion

Public Content

Historical Perspective:

Since 2013, the City has prosecuted misdemeanor crimes and processed civil infractions utilizing the Walla Walla County District Court which also handles the City of Walla Walla misdemeanors and civil infractions; an interlocal agreement governs the parties duties, including court services to be provided and sharing of costs for said services. Council authorized a new agreement in 2023. A Copy of said Agreement is attached.

Information for Consideration:

In recent years, the City staff and some community members and partners have expressed frustration over how District Court operates, in particular, case outcomes and decisions regarding conditions of release of individuals, often finding cases being dragged out for years, multiple warrants being issued for defendants to be released without bail again, no meaningful punishment for probation violations, and requests for more severe punishment be routinely rejected. Staff believes the time, money and effort the City provides to District Court is producing less and less benefit to the City. Staff desire to explore the option of operating a stand alone Municipal Court at the City level and terminating the combined court arrangement.

Staff reached out to the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) which is a private non-profit organization founded in 1971 for assistance in how to go about evaluating the current court operations and what a separate municipal court would look like for the City, including costs benefits. Staff proposes reaching out to the City of Walla Walla and Walla Walla County to see if they would be interested in partnering with an broader analysis of the current court system, to include impact to the County and/or the City of Walla Walla with College Place having their own court or other possible scenarios.

Attached hereto is a copy of a report produced by the NCSC for the City of Auburn.

File Attachments

Walla_Walla_District_Court_Services_Agreement.pdf (417 KB)
NCSC_WA_College Place_Municipal Court Services_Proposal_17Jan2025_Final.pdf (964 KB)

Subject :	2.05 Agreement with Valley Transit to Coordinate capital and Public Works projects - Ms. Culwell
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	2. Workshop Topics.
Access :	Public
Type :	

Public Content

Historical Perspective:

The City and Valley Transit have been working for some time to come to an agreement to provide the option of the City performing Public Works services for VT when VT desires to install, upgrade, move, or remove a transit stop or other capital facility at or near a City Public Works project. The goal is to reduce total costs and disruption for both Parties and the public and provide ADA accessible bus stops in the locations to best serve the community.

Information for Consideration:

Various practical implementation concerns have been addressed and staff needs direction on two remaining items:

1. Public Works capacity to take on additional work for another agency;

2. Risk of liability associated with proposed Agreement.

A copy of the proposed Agreement with comments and concerns is attached. Also attached is a recent exchange between VT and the City regarding risk and liability and separate agreements for any specific project.

File Attachments

VT - City email exchange re liability.pdf (1,044 KB)
INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT.pdf (151 KB)

3. Closing Items.

Subject :	3.01 Good of the Order
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	3. Closing Items.
Access :	Public
Type :	Discussion, Information
Subject :	3.02 Conclusion
Meeting :	Feb 4, 2025 - City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic)
Category :	3. Closing Items.
Access :	Public
Type :	Procedural

Public Content

Mayor Hernández will conclude the workshop.

Michael Rizzitiello

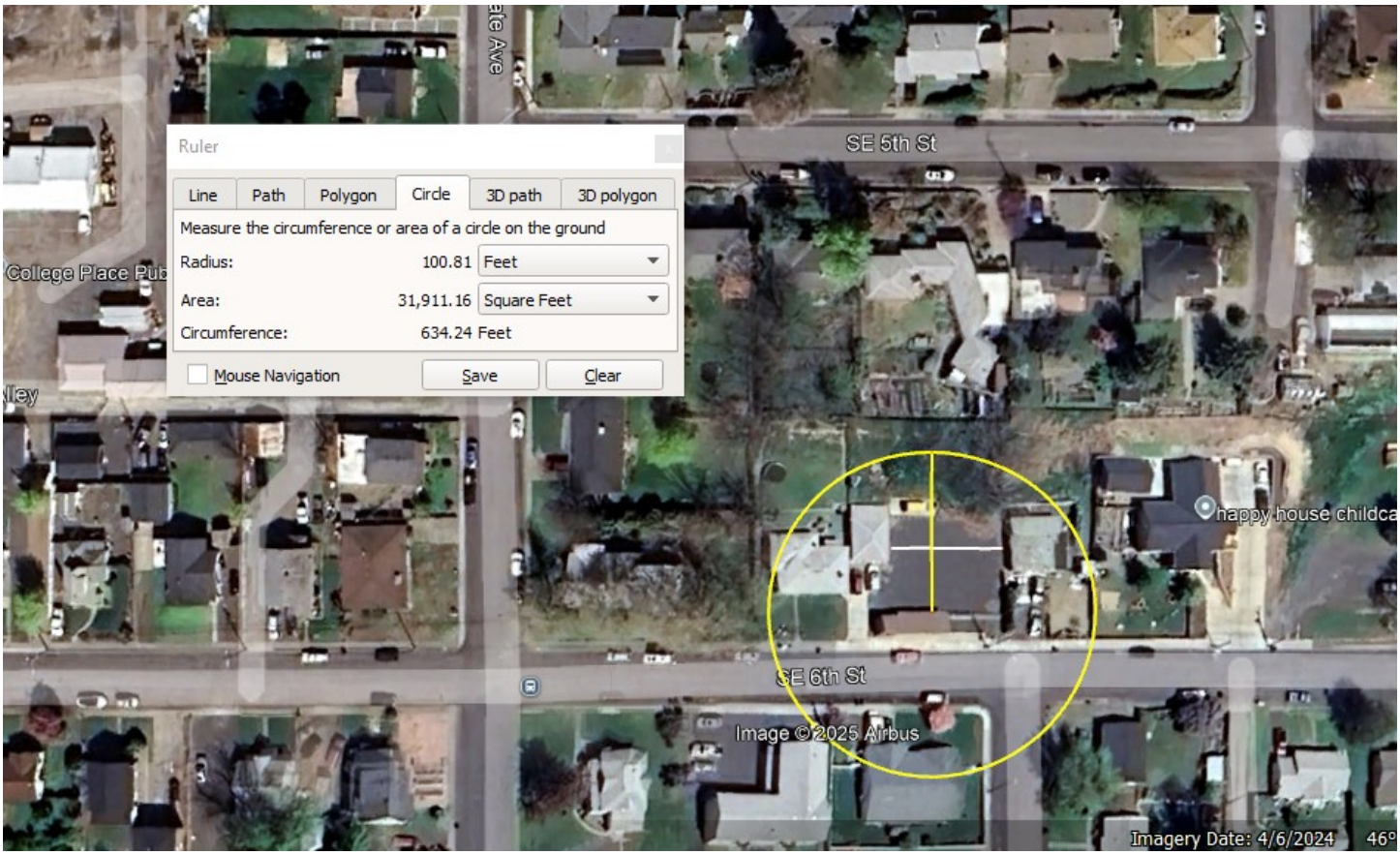
From: Paul Cross <pcross@rh2.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2025 11:33 AM
To: Michael Rizzitiello; Steve Nelson; Robert McAndrews; Mike Holden
Cc: Ryan Withers; Kyle Palmer
Subject: RE: College Place next steps

Mike,

It is disappointing to us also, but drilling wells is not for the faint of heart. We've seen many successful wells and other sites that seemed like good locations that just don't work. I remember presenting to Council a few years ago when we cautioned them that there is no certainty when you drill and dry or near-dry holes are not uncommon. In many parts of the state, 1 in 3 successful wells is pretty much expected.

I will let Steve opine on the difficulty of re-drilling on an existing drilled hole within a site within a wellhouse, but if it is even possible it would be very expensive and problematic. What I can opine on is the very difficult sell you would have to DOH on how this site is well protected from a sanitary control point of view. DOH's standard is for the City to control a 100-foot radius from the well so that activities that might pollute the well are not present.

The SE 6th Street well site is only approximately 70 feet wide with houses on either side. While this site was grandfathered in as an existing well, it would be very difficult to show how spending the effort to drill a new well at this site would meet any current design standards within such a constrained area. It would also be a very disturbing activity to last for several months right next to the homes in this neighborhood. Well drilling is noisy, dusty, smelly and once you drill it, you need a place to put significant volumes of water during testing.



I'm not sure where the detention area is on SW Doans. Is it in Veteran's Park or is it the property just across SW Homestead to the west? Are both City owned parcels within the subdivision?

Let us brainstorm this a bit and get back to you next week when Ryan is back from vacation. I'd like to review your current supply capacity to grow within your current wells and if there are other opportunities including acquiring wells from other users in the area that might be considered.

While not adding another new well may not be a long-term solution, the new storage that is planned and perhaps some added transmission from Well No. 4 to the west may be options to consider.

We will want to discuss the level of effort and costs before we dive into any significant evaluation of supply alternatives.

Best regards,

Paul Cross, PE | RH2 Engineering, Inc.

(509) 392-6502
(800) 720-8052, Ext 5452

From: Michael Rizzitiello <MRizzitiello@cpwa.us>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2025 10:37 AM
To: Steve Nelson <snelson@rh2.com>; Robert McAndrews <RMcAndrews@cpwa.us>; Mike Holden <MHolden@cpwa.us>
Cc: Paul Cross <pcross@rh2.com>; Ryan Withers <rwithers@rh2.com>; Kyle Palmer <kpalmer@rh2.com>
Subject: RE: College Place next steps

Hi,

Well this whole thing is very disappointing. One item I would like us to take a super close look at is what would be the expense of maybe redrilling Well Number 1 on SE 6th? To my knowledge the reason the well is unworkable currently is because the shaft back in the day wasn't reinforced correctly and it sluffed off. Would it be possible to lift off the roof of the wellhouse and redrill to a greater depth and put a casing around the shaft? To me given the fact we have a wellhouse, a generator, we own the land, and that area with our other well sites has had water that seems like the path of least resistance to me.

I think the other area could be within the fenceline of that detention site we have in the Homestead subdivision on SW Doans. However, personally I am starting to be skeptical as to water availability in the ground the further west we go. Just my two cents.

Either way we need to move in a judicious timely manner. The Stone Creek subdivision is on a trajectory to go and Tarragon is starting discussions with us on Martin Airfield. So we need sufficient points of withdrawal asap.

Sincerely,
Mike Rizzitiello
City Administrator
City of College Place
625 S. College Ave
College Place, WA, 99324
Office Direct: 509-394-8506
Cell: 509-520-9091

From: Steve Nelson <snelson@rh2.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2025 10:11 AM
To: Robert McAndrews <RMcAndrews@cpwa.us>; Mike Holden <MHolden@cpwa.us>; Michael Rizzitiello <MRizzitiello@cpwa.us>
Cc: Paul Cross <pcross@rh2.com>; Ryan Withers <rwithers@rh2.com>; Kyle Palmer <kpalmer@rh2.com>
Subject: College Place next steps

I put this summary together after discussion with Ryan per your request for an update on well 8 and potential directions going forward. The attached map shows locations of wells that have well logs, and the locations of City authorized areas of groundwater withdrawal that are not developed.

Please review and reply with any questions.

I am out of the office for the next several hours, but will check emails and voice mails, and available late this afternoon and all next week.

Well 8 Summary – brief, more details to follow in a summary memo once well video is completed and water quality data are available.

- Geologic units encountered at Well 8 were similar in character and thickness and depth to those at Well 4 and 6, although we did observe more zones of siltstone and loose basalt than at the two other borings.
- The loose character of the formation was a challenge with recirculating fluids and cuttings as the borehole advanced and in maintaining an open borehole during well construction
- The well screen design has sufficient open area to accept a flow of 1500 gpm and the flow was not restricted by the well screen.
- The discharge was a bit cloudy at the beginning of the pumping, but steadily cleared over time. The drawdown was very stable after 30 minutes of pumping indicating that the well efficiency was not a factor in well yield.
- The water levels recovered after pumping in about 60 minutes and recovered back to the static level, indicating that the aquifer was stressed during pumping and recovered in comparable response. Much like a steel spring that rapidly compresses and rebounds. A long tail in drawdown and a long tail in recovery would indicate that the aquifer was more extensive and flow was coming from farther and deeper zones over time. The rapid drawdown and rapid recovery indicates that the aquifer is limited in thickness and volume at this location. Water could only come from zones close to the well and not from an extensive fracture network at this location.
- Unfortunately, it was not possible to significantly evaluate the aquifer condition during drilling other than to evaluate the characteristics at the borehole. The loose character of the aquifer would have prevented flow testing the borehole during drilling as it would have likely collapsed the borehole or entrapped the drilling tools.

College Place Opportunity for Further Exploration

Water Availability

- Regional groundwater studies and individual well logs indicate a consistent stratigraphy underlying the College Place water service area. Productive wells have been developed for the area underlying central

and eastern College Place but very few wells have been drilled in the western portion of College Place except for a few Walla Walla College farm wells completed at 1000 feet. These wells are west of the City service area.

- The geologic units appear very consistent: a shallow groundwater zone to depths of 200 to 250 feet, a clay aquitard down to 500 to 550 feet, and basalt to at least 1000 feet and likely much deeper.
- Groundwater in the basalt is typically developed for supply in the first few hundred feet of the top of the basalt; most wells are completed at depths between 600 and 800 feet.

Water Rights

- The City water right portfolio includes undeveloped potential points of withdrawal in the western and southern portions of the City. Developing groundwater in these areas would not require a change in water rights.
- Developing groundwater source elsewhere would require changing water rights similar to the process that added the well 8 location as a new point of withdrawal. The process is straightforward and should not have any new challenges that were not addressed in the previous successful changes.

Well Interference

- There are no significant competing groundwater users in the western and southern portions of the City. There are several competing groundwater users in the central portions of the City (Consolidated, Blalock, Hydro, and Orchard, for example). Consequently, groundwater in these undeveloped areas would not experience similar rate of decline in the competing areas.

Going forward

- Detailed review of well logs in area west and south of City. Look for indications of silty zones in the range 500 to 800 feet to indicate potential for limited yield.
- Discuss with Walla Walla University regarding the performance of the deeper farm wells west of City limits and why these wells were completed at 1000 feet
- Consider options for exploring in areas of existing undeveloped authorized points of withdrawal – prioritized areas shown in red on map
- Consider options for exploring in areas that would require a water right change – secondary areas, near the airfield, for example – shown in tan on map
- Consider a focused exploration approach using small diameter test borings at promising locations to evaluate unknown aquifer productivity at depths of 500 to 1000 feet before committing to production well at these locations.
- Consider potential for deepening well 8 to 1000 feet. I am checking with drillers to ask for feasibility and cost.

Steve

RH2

Steve Nelson LG, LHG, LEG
Principal Hydrogeologist, Engineering Geologist | RH2 Engineering, Inc.

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snelson@rh2.com
www.rh2.com

Michael Rizzitiello

From: Ryan Withers <rwithers@rh2.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 7:58 AM
To: Robert McAndrews; Mike Holden; Michael Rizzitiello
Cc: Paul Cross; Kyle Palmer; Steve Nelson
Subject: Well No. 8 Update

Unfortunately, the Well No. 8 testing revealed a very low pumping rate yesterday.

The drawdown did not stabilize until we pumped as low as 125 gpm, significantly lower than everyone's expectations.

We re-reviewed Well No. 8 and compared it to Well Nos. 4 and 6, and there are not any significant differences from our perspective.

- Wells No. 4 and 6 screened 120 feet and 170 feet, respectively, and Well No. 8 has 150 feet screened.
- Well No. 8 is finished in fractured, porous basalt, which is typically a very good indicator.
- Well No. 8 is blanked against the silty clay.
- Well No. 8 water is slightly warm with no odor, which is what we expect to see in basalts.
- The last ~25 feet of Well No. 8 drilling was into very high density basalt, which is typically a good indicator that the water bearing zone has stopped.

We are reassessing all options and will review possible paths forward over the next few days. City, a small submersible pump with a much smaller well building than we currently designed is likely viable, if you would like to pursue it. Kevin Wolpert is collecting a raw water sample today so we can have an understanding of the water quality at this location.

At this time, one hypothesis is that the aquifer system that Well Nos. 4 and 6 were completed within became compartmentalized in the ~2 miles between those wells and Well No. 8, and that this new well is in a different compartment of the aquifer that does not have nearly the water available within it.

More information to come this week as it becomes available.

Thanks, Ryan

RH2
Ryan Withers PE
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Walla Walla County

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN
2024 UPDATE

2020 MILL CREEK FLOOD

Walla Walla County - Emergency Management

Emergency Management
Walla Walla County

Prepared By:

Northwest Management Inc.

NORTHWEST MANAGEMENT, INC

Draft October 1, 2024

FORWARD

Each year in the United States, disasters take the lives of hundreds of people and injure thousands more. Nationwide, taxpayers pay billions of dollars annually to help communities, organizations, businesses, and individuals recover from disasters. These monies only partially reflect the true cost of disasters because additional expenses to insurance companies and nongovernmental organizations are not reimbursed by tax dollars. Many disasters are predictable, response and recovery costs can be lessened when attention is turned to mitigating the effects and impacts of hazards before they occur or re-occur.

"Hazard mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. Mitigation activities may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. However, it has been demonstrated that hazard mitigation is most effective when based on an inclusive, comprehensive, long-term plan that is developed before a disaster occurs."[1]

The 2024 Walla Walla County, Washington Multi-Jurisdiction All Hazard Mitigation Plan serves as the five-year update of the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Walla Walla County, Washington and the incorporated cities that lie within the county are vulnerable to natural, technological, and human-caused hazards that have the potential to cause serious harm to the health, welfare, and security of its residents.

This plan seeks to identify the hazards in the county, understand the vulnerabilities to those hazards, and craft solutions that, if implemented, will significantly reduce threats to life and property. This is not an emergency response or management plan. The focus of this plan is to support better decision making directed toward avoidance of future risk and to implement activities or projects that will identify and reduce current risks. This Plan satisfies the requirements for a local multi-hazard mitigation plan and flood mitigation plan under 44 CFR Part 201.6 and 79.6.

1 Federal Emergency Management Agency. "Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation planning Guidance." July 1, 2008.

APPROVAL OF ADOPTING JURISDICTIONS

FEMA APPROVAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 OVERVIEW OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

This Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), 2024 update, is the result of analyses, professional cooperation and collaboration, assessments of hazard risks and other factors considered with the intent to reduce the potential for hazards to threaten people, structures, infrastructure, and unique ecosystems in Walla Walla County, Washington. This collaborative effort was led by Walla Walla County Emergency Management.

In January 2024, Walla Walla County Office of Emergency Management contracted services to update the HMP to Northwest Management, Inc. (NMI) of Moscow, Idaho. The plan update process kicked off in February 2024.

Throughout the update process the planning team reached out to several stakeholders, government agencies, private industries, non-governmental organizations, and other groups to invite them to participate by either providing input on certain components of the plan or by serving as a regular planning team member. Most groups and individuals were invited through an email invitation and by sending meeting invites to join the planning team meetings in person or virtually. Some groups did not participate via planning meetings but provided information or reviewed parts of the plan. Below is a brief list of some of the organizations and groups that were invited to participate in the plan in some way.

Washington DNR	Oregon Department of Forestry
U.S. Forest Service	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Washington State Patrol	NOAA
Walla Walla County departments	Incorporated cities
Washington Military Department	Walla Walla Conservation District
Washington State DOT	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Public school districts	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Franklin County, WA	Columbia County, WA
Providence St. Mary Medical Center	Umatilla County, OR
Local colleges and universities	Senior living communities and veterans' homes
BNSF Railway	Union Pacific
Agriculture production groups	Local utilities

GOALS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Local hazard mitigation plans form the foundation of a community's long-term strategy to reduce disaster losses and break the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repetitive damage. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) supports local mitigation planning to achieve the following:

- Foster partnerships among all levels of government.
- Develop and strengthen non-governmental and private partnerships.
- Promote more disaster-resilient and sustainable communities.
- Reduce the costs associated with disaster response and recovery by promoting mitigation activities.

The following guiding principles should be considered in advance of developing or updating a local mitigation plan:

Plan and Invest for the Future: The plan is based on the experiences of the past and present and on projections for the future, including long-term climate change considerations and changes in development. The planning process sets the direction for years and decades into the future, using the best available information, tools and resources from partners and stakeholders to make a strong case for mitigation investments and implementing actions. Consider all possible types of mitigation actions (land use regulations, building codes, nature-based solutions, etc.) to address current and future risks.

Collaborate and Engage Early: The planning process brings together diverse community-based partners representing the interests of the whole community. It includes those able to implement mitigation actions using a wide range of resources, and leaders from underserved communities and socially vulnerable populations. Meaningful representation from and conscious collaboration with underserved and vulnerable populations are critical for equitable outcomes. federal, state, and local engagement is also critical for successful mitigation planning, as partners from all levels of government bring additional resources including, but not limited to, data, funding, and technical expertise.

Integrate Community Planning: Design the planning process to fit the unique needs of each community. Integrating hazard risk with the most appropriate planning scale and processes, such as land use, economic development, housing, infrastructure, resilience planning and/or natural resource planning, will minimize conflicting initiatives, such as development in hazard prone areas. Prepare a single-jurisdiction plan or participate in a multi-jurisdictional one, based on local capabilities.

The plan development process and each five-year update are opportunities to advance the previous and ongoing mitigation efforts, integrate the plan with other community planning initiatives, improve engagement with community-based organizations that represent underserved communities, accurately reflect changes in risk and recalibrate the mitigation strategy and priorities.

FEMA makes funding available for planning through the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs: the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP); the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program; and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program. Approved mitigation plans are a requirement for local governments, including special districts, to be eligible for the projects funded under the HMA and other FEMA programs, including the Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams (HHPD). Additionally, Public Assistance funding is available to implement mitigation measures for damaged eligible facilities to protect against future damages, so long as the recipient has an approved state mitigation plan. Mitigation plans must be reviewed and updated every five years and formally adopted by each participating jurisdiction's governing body as part of receiving approval.

FEMA will only review a local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan submitted through the appropriate State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO). Draft versions of local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans will not be reviewed by FEMA. FEMA will review the final version of a plan prior to local adoption to determine if the plan meets the criteria, but FEMA will be unable to approve it prior to adoption.

In Washington the SHMO is:

Washington State Military Department – Emergency Management Division
20 Aviation Dr. Bldg. 20
Camp Murray, WA 98438-5122

WALLA WALLA COUNTY PLANNING PHILOSOPHY

This effort will utilize the best and most appropriate science from all partners and will integrate local and regional knowledge about natural hazards while meeting the needs of local citizens and the regional economy.

MISSION STATEMENT

To make Walla Walla County residents, communities, state agencies, local governments, and businesses less vulnerable to the effects of natural hazards through the effective administration of hazard mitigation grant programs, hazard risk assessments, wise and efficient infrastructure hardening, and a coordinated approach to mitigation through federal, state, regional, and local planning efforts. Our combined prioritization will be the protection of people, structures,

infrastructure, and unique ecosystems that contribute to our way of life and the sustainability of the local and regional economy.

JURISDICTIONAL PLANNING AND MITIGATION GOALS

As part of the 2024 revision process, the planning team reviewed the planning and mitigation goals from the 2018 plan and discussed how the goals may need to be edited or reworded to better reflect current priorities and other planning efforts.

Walla Walla County County-wide Hazard Mitigation Goals:

1. This planning process will involve planning for the natural hazards of Flood, Earthquake, Wildland Fire (excerpted from existing Mill Creek and Walla Walla County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)), and Severe Weather;
2. Prioritize the protection of people, structures, infrastructure, and unique ecosystems that contribute to our way of life and the sustainability of the local and regional economy;
3. Educate communities about the unique challenges of natural hazard preparedness in the county, especially regarding flood, earthquake, wildfire, and severe weather;
4. Reduce the impact of hazard events and potential losses incurred by both public and private residents and entities;
5. Consider land use policies to alleviate potential hazard risks and impacts for future development;
6. Improve enrollment in the National Flood Insurance Program within communities that are at risk to floods through increased outreach and education;
7. Establish mitigation priorities and develop mitigation strategies in Walla Walla County;
8. Strategically locate and plan infrastructure projects that take into consideration the impacts of natural hazards.
9. Reduce the area of wildland-urban interface (WUI) land burned and losses experienced because of wildland fires;
10. Provide recommendations for fuels reduction projects and alternative treatment methods to mitigate wildland fire potential;
11. Emphasize structure hardening and other practices landowners can utilize to increase wildfire resilience;
12. Meet or exceed the requirements of the National Fire Plan, FEMA Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan;
13. Utilize regional expertise and resources for collaborative training exercises; and
14. Integrate climate change impacts into predictive models and account for these impacts when proposing mitigation efforts.

INTEGRATION WITH OTHER LOCAL PLANNING MECHANISMS

During the development of this HMP several planning and management documents were reviewed in order to avoid conflicting goals and objectives. Existing programs and policies were reviewed in order to identify those that may weaken or enhance the hazard mitigation objectives outlined in this document. The following narratives help identify and briefly describe some of the existing planning documents and ordinances considered and list other planning resources that may be of additional interest to residents. This list does not necessarily reflect every plan, ordinance, or other guidance document within each jurisdiction; but rather a summary of guidance documents available and recommended for review, by members of the Planning Team. Many of these documents are available on the Walla Walla County Emergency Management webpage located at:

https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/residents/emergency_management/index.php

WALLA WALLA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN (CEMP) 2017

The CEMP has been promulgated by the Walla Walla County Board of Commissioners and City Mayors of Walla Walla, College Place, Prescott and Waitsburg. The plan establishes the framework for an effective system to ensure that Walla Walla County and its municipalities will be adequately prepared to respond to the occurrence of natural, manmade and/or technological related emergencies or disasters. The plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of local government, State and Federal agencies and volunteer organizations.

The intention of this plan is to unite the efforts of these groups under each of the Emergency Support Function (ESF) and Annex formats listed throughout the document. Each of these ESFs has a designated lead agency for a comprehensive approach to mitigation, planning, response and recovery activities set forth in the “State of Washington Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan” and the “National Response Framework”. The plan helps to guide interested parties in how State, Federal and other outside resources will be coordinated to supplement county resources and response. There are 20 ESF sections and two Annex in the CEMP.

WALLA WALLA COUNTY FLOOD RESPONSE PLAN, 2022

The purpose of this flood response plan is to prepare Walla Walla County to respond to the numerous flooding hazards that exist locally and provide officials with procedures for managing and implementing flood response and recovery in accordance with the Walla Walla County Flood Response Policy and the Walla Walla County Mutual Aid Agreements.

This plan defines what, when, where, how, and who will implement flood response actions and activities in accordance with current policies. It is divided into two major components – the General Plan and the more specific, Implementing Procedures. The General Plan addresses assumptions, responsibilities, and relationships while the Implementing Procedures consist of checklists, procedures, and maps. The checklists are intended to help users remember specific items that may be applicable to the situation at hand. By training on, and following this plan, emergency responders can reduce the danger to themselves and the public and lessen the likelihood and extent of damage to property and the environment. This plan follows the principles of the Incident Command System and is compliant with the National Incident Management System, as required by Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5) established a single, comprehensive approach to incident management, with the objective of ensuring that all levels of government across the nation have the capability to work together efficiently and effectively.

WALLA WALLA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, 2019

The official document, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, that serves as a guide in decision making regarding future development of Walla Walla County. This plan is a legal document that establishes goals and policies with the aim of both supporting the financial ability of the community to support growth while also protecting the environment and natural resources of the county. The 2019 update references the county's HMP in several places and attempts to dovetail its goals and policies with past hazard mitigation planning efforts.

OTHER PLANNING MECHANISMS

- Walla Walla County Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan – 2018
- Walla Walla County Continuity of Operations Plan – 2018
- City of College Place Continuity of Operation Plan and Evacuation Map – 2018
- City of Walla Walla Evacuation Plan – 2004; currently under review/revision
- City of Walla Walla Continuity of Operations Plan – 2017
- City of Waitsburg Flood Response Plan – 2022
- Walla Walla Regional Airport Emergency Contingency Plan – 2022

2 DOCUMENTING THE UPDATE PROCESS

Documentation of the planning process, including public involvement, is required to meet FEMA's DMA 2000 (44CFR§201.6(b) and §201.6(c)(1)) for an updated local mitigation plan. This section includes a description of the planning process used to update this plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how all of the involved agencies participated.

THE PLANNING TEAM

This update to the Walla Walla County HMP was developed through a collaborative process involving several organizations and agencies. The planning effort began by organizing and convening a countywide Planning Team. The Walla Walla County Emergency Management Director utilized the Planning Team to begin the update process. Once the meetings began in February 2024, the Team identified other individuals/agencies that should be invited to participate and continually worked to keep them and others engaged throughout the process through regular meetings, phone calls, and emails. Throughout the process several individuals participated in some way. Many attended meetings and some collaborated behind the scenes with other members of the Planning Team. Table 1 shows the documented involvement.

Table 1: Specific Individuals from the adopting jurisdictions, stakeholder groups, and agencies who participated in the development and updates of the 2024 Walla Walla County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Chris Lee, Walla Walla County Emergency Management, Director	Gunner Fulmer, Walla Walla County, Commissioner
Patrick Purcell, Walla Walla County Emergency Management, Coordinator	John Knowles, Walla Walla Fire Department, Chief
Tammy Johnson, City of Prescott Clerk/Treasurer	Annie Byerley, Walla Walla County Conservation District, Conservation Scientist
Mark Higgins, Walla Walla Public Schools	Mike Rizzitiello, City of College Place, City Administrator
Chris Buttice, City of Walla Walla, Police Chief	Randy Hinchliffe, City of Waitsburg, City Administrator
Charlie Landsman, WA DNR, Community Wildfire Resilience Coordinator	Rocky Eastman, Walla Walla County Fire District 4, Chief
Jacob LeBaron, WA DNR, Assistant Fire Management Officer	John Golden, Walla Walla County Fire District 4, Deputy Chief
Justin Lauer, Oregon Department of Forestry, Unit Forester	David Winter, City of College Place, Fire Chief
Heather Lee, Walla Walla County EMS, Director	Mike Smith, Providence St. Mary Medical Center
Angie Peters, Valley Transit, General Manager	Susan Leathers, Providence St. Mary Medical Center
Greg Lybeck, Walla Walla Fairgrounds, Manager	Troy Tomaras, City of College Place, Police Chief
Tony Garcia-Morales, Walla Walla County Public Works, Director	Lonna Leno, Walla Walla Veterans Home, Administrator

Mike Moore, USFS, Fire Management Officer	Darran Maestretti, Walla Walla Veterans Home, Facilities
Esther Click, WESCOM, Manager	Alan Harlan, Walla Walla Veterans Home, Facilities
Kendall Corn, Walla Walla County GIS, Coordinator	Jodi Ferguson, Walla Walla County Department of Community Health, Manager
Melissa Shumake, Walla Walla County Community Development, Deputy Director	Rick Dawson, Walla Walla County Department of Community Health, Environmental Health Director
Mark Crider, Walla Walla County Sheriff	Bob Carson, Whitman College, Emeritus Professor
Jennifer Ballard, Walla Walla Community Development, Associate Planner	Alyssa Wells, Walla Walla County EMS, Administrative Assistant/Coroner
Robert McAndrews, City of College Place, Public Works Director	Dan Mack, Walla Walla County Public Works, Road Operations Chief
Jon Rickard, City of College Place, Community Development Director	Renee Hadley, Walla Walla County Conservation District, District Manager
Tracy Klem, Walla Walla Community College	Scott Tucker, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Emergency Management Specialist
Shane Clark, Regency at the Park, Maintenance Director	Don Schwerin, Walla Walla County Conservation District, Commissioner
Randall Son, homeowner on Mill Creek	Tina Babbitt, Columbia County EM, Director
Sean Davis, Franklin County, Emergency Manager	Nancy Berentsen, Columbia County EM, Programs Manager
Natalie Atkins, Northwest Management, Inc.	Adam Herrenbruck, Northwest Management, Inc.
Erica Wimme, Northwest Management, Inc.	Tanner Paulson, Northwest Management, Inc.

MEETINGS

Five planning team meetings were held from February to June, where all aspects of the plan were covered. Topics discussed at these meetings include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The goals and objectives of the plan update
- Recent hazard occurrences
- High-risk areas
- Conditions that lead to increased hazard risk
- Resources at risk to hazard events
- Vulnerable populations in the county
- The role of climate change in hazard mitigation and recovery
- Changes in the landscape, development, or land use that also change vulnerability
- Possible mitigation activities and solutions to hazard “problems”
- Other planning partners to involve now and in the future
- Current and desired hazard management capabilities
- Other planning mechanisms to consider
- Potential funding opportunities

Meeting agendas and sign-in sheets are located in the Appendices for documentation purposes. While the meetings served as the primary venue for discussion, brainstorming, and collaboration from a diverse group, much of the update process was also conducted outside of meetings. Some planning team members served as the representative of a larger group and would bring the planning process back to others in their respective department or organization.

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PARTICIPATION

44 CFR §201.6(a)(4) allows for multi-jurisdictional planning in the development of Hazard Mitigation Plans that impact multiple jurisdictions. To be included as an adopting jurisdiction in the Walla Walla County HMP representatives from each adopting jurisdiction regularly attended planning meetings, communicated consistently with the contractor (NMI) and the planning team, provided information necessary to update the plan, and offered feedback to drafts and suggestions produced by NMI and the planning team. Records have been retained that show this participation in the following forms:

- FEMA worksheets
- Questionnaires
- Meeting notes
- Meeting sign-in sheets
- Email correspondence. A non-exhaustive sample of this record is retained in the Appendices.

The following is a list of jurisdictions that have met the requirements for an adopting jurisdiction and are thereby included in this update of the 2024 Walla Walla HMP. The Walla Walla Conservation District has been included as an adopting jurisdiction in the 2024 planning cycle.

Walla Walla County
Walla Walla Public Schools
Walla Walla County Conservation District
City of College Place
City of Prescott
City of Waitsburg
City of Walla Walla

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Walla Walla County and the 2024 planning team sought public involvement through multiple means during the update process including via news releases, social media postings, attendance at public events, a series of surveys on social media, and a public review and comment period of the near-final draft of the HMP.

NEWS RELEASES AND POSTINGS

A news release was distributed to local news outlets in early March to announce the initiation of the planning process and to report the success of the kickoff meeting. This announcement was also posted on social media sites, including the Walla Walla County Emergency Management Facebook page.

Progress on the plan update process was tracked through postings on the Walla Walla County Emergency Management Facebook page on February 14, March 6, and April 17, 2024. These postings summarized the discussion topics from planning team meetings on February 13, March 5, and April 9 and also featured photos of the roundtable collaboration from those meetings.

A second news release was issued on October 1, 2024 to announce the posting of the first review draft of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The news release was distributed to local news outlets and was also posted to the Walla Walla County Emergency Management Facebook page and web page. This news release detailed the comment period duration, the location of plans for review, and instructions on how to submit comments.

Records of all postings, news releases, and published articles are documented in the appendices.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Members of the planning team attended several public events throughout the life of the planning process. During these events the HMP update process was introduced to attendees, information was given about the HMP and CWPP, and the public was asked to participate in the process through the surveys and the forthcoming public comment period. Below is a list of the events that were attended by at least one member of the planning team where the HMP update was discussed, and public input was requested.

Waitsburg Community Health and Protection Committee – May 14, 2024
Return the River Salmon Festival – May 18, 2024
City of College Place Spring Block Party – May 19, 2024
Walla Walla County Fire District 4 Firewise Meeting – June 20, 2024
Prescott City Council Meeting – August 12, 2024
Walla Walla County Fair – August 28, 2024

PUBLIC SURVEY SERIES

A series of short surveys created by Walla Walla GIS and the planning team was distributed throughout the plan update process. These surveys sought to learn about public perception and knowledge of hazard risk and mitigation solutions. The surveys also asked questions about how people prefer to receive information and give feedback. Some questions were also intended to generate interest in the HMP and the update process and encourage the public to participate in

the future. The surveys are recorded in the appendices along with documentation of their postings and responses.

The surveys were posted in several places, including on the main page of the county's website, the Emergency Management Facebook page, and were shared by the Conservation District and other community partners. Links to the surveys were shared during several public events.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

A public comment period was conducted from October 2 through October 25, 2024, to allow members of the general public an opportunity to view the full review draft of the plan and submit comments and any other input to the planning team for consideration. An emailed .PDF and paper copy drafts were made available for any interested participant upon request. Each paper copy was accompanied by a letter of instruction for submitting comments to the planning team. The draft plan was also posted for public review on the Walla Walla County Emergency Management website and a link to the plan was posted on the Walla Walla County Emergency Management Facebook page. A synopsis of the comments received is included in the appendices and all records of comments received are housed with Walla Walla Emergency Management.

PLAN MAINTANACE AND MONITORING

This entire Hazard Mitigation Plan should be reviewed annually, from the date of adoption, at a special meeting of a joint planning committee, open to the public and involving all jurisdictions, where action items, priorities, budgets, and modifications can be made or confirmed. Walla Walla Emergency Management (or an official designee of the joint committee) is responsible for the scheduling, publicizing, and leadership of the annual review meeting. During this meeting, participating jurisdictions will report on their respective projects and identify needed changes and updates to the existing plan. Maintenance of the plan should be detailed at this meeting, documented, and attached to the formal plan as an amendment. A re-evaluation of this plan should be made on the 5th anniversary of its acceptance, and every 5-year period after.

ANNUAL REVIEW AGENDA

The focus of the joint planning committee at the annual review meeting should include at least the following topics:

- Update historical events record based on any events in the past year.
- Review county profile and individual community assessments for each hazard and note any major changes or mitigation projects that have altered the vulnerability of each entity.
- Add a section to note accomplishments or current mitigation projects.

- All action items will need to be updated as projects are completed, and as new needs or issues are identified.
- Incorporate additional hazard chapters as funding allows.
- All meeting notes, news releases, and other documentation of revisions should be kept on record by Walla Walla Emergency Management.

FIVE YEAR RE-EVALUATION AGENDA

The focus of the planning committee at the five-year re-evaluation should include all the topics suggested for the annual review in addition to the following items:

- Update demographic and socioeconomic data.
- Address any new planning documents, ordinances, codes, etc. that have been developed by the county or cities.
- Review municipal water sources, particularly those in the floodplain or landslide impact areas.
- Redo all risk analysis models incorporating new information such as an updated county parcel master database, new construction projects, development trends, population vulnerabilities, changing risk potential, etc.
- Update county risk profiles and individual community assessments based on new information reflected in the updated models.
- All meeting notes, press releases, and other documentation of revisions should be kept on record by Walla Walla County Office of Emergency Management.

CONTINUED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Walla Walla County is dedicated to keeping the public informed of reviews and updates of the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. A public announcement will go out as part of each annual evaluation or when deemed necessary by the planning team. The public will have the opportunity to provide feedback about the plan annually on the anniversary of the adoption at a meeting of the County Board of Commissioners. Copies of the Plan will be kept at the Walla Walla County Emergency Management office. A public meeting will also be held as part of each annual evaluation or when deemed necessary by the planning team. The meetings will provide the public with a forum for which they can express concerns, opinions, or ideas about the plan. The County Commissioners will be responsible for using county resources to publicize the annual meetings and maintain public involvement through the county's webpage and local newspapers.

3 COMMUNITY PROFILE

WALLA WALLA COUNTY CHARACTERISTICS

Walla Walla County is located in southeastern Washington along the Oregon border. The counties that border Walla Walla County are Benton County to the west, Franklin County to the north, Columbia County to the east and Umatilla County in Oregon to the south. The border of the county is also made up in the west by the Columbia River and the north by the Snake River. Walla Walla County is home to three colleges: Walla Walla University, Whitman College, and Walla Walla Community College. The county has a strong agriculture presence with 86% of its 1,270 square miles being used for agriculture.

UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

Unincorporated communities in Walla Walla County include Burbank, Dixie, Eureka, Lowden, Touchet, and Wallula. The US Census Bureau also identifies two additional Census Designated Places in the greater Walla Walla urban area – Walla Walla East, and Garrett – though these CDPs are not generally considered communities by local residents.

Burbank is a fast-growing unincorporated community in far west Walla Walla County and is heavily influenced and supported by Franklin County. Burbank, about a 5-mile drive from Pasco, Washington, is considered part of the Tri-Cities urban area and has limited services. Burbank is serviced by irrigation districts for potable water. Burbank has some sewer service via a trunk line that goes under the Snake River from the city of Pasco.

Dixie, Lowden, and Touchet are small agricultural communities located just northeast and west of Walla Walla, respectively. These communities are located along US-12 and have few services. Dixie and Touchet have school districts while Lowden students attend school in either Touchet or Walla Walla. Wallula is a community located along the Columbia River in southwest Walla Walla County. Industries in the nearby Attalia Urban Growth Area (UGA) include fruit production, meat processing, and a paper packaging plant.

Other important areas within the county of note include the Mill Creek Watershed, Blue Mountain Foothills, northern Walla Walla County, and areas with concentrations of residences such as southeast facing draws like Coppei Creek.

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

The city of College Place is located in the southern part of the county on the west side of the city of Walla Walla. The population of College Place was 9,902 in 2020 which is a 12% increase from

the 2010 census of 8,765. The prominent economic drivers in College Place are Walla Walla University, health care services, and retail trade.

RECENT CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENT

The city of College Place has several infill development projects and is seeing new growth in several areas. Industrial cluster growth is planned around Martin Airfield and some residential development. The Lakeside development in the southwest is being planned during the summer of 2024 and includes 700 new residential units. There is a proposal for 80 single-family units and is expected to go through the entitlement process within two years. The Martin Airfield area was annexed into the city in November 2023. Part of this area is zoned for light industrial use and part is zoned for single-family residential use.

Several projects have been completed recently to improve the city's drinking water system, including replacing two wells and drilling for another new well. There have also been projects to improve the wastewater treatment facilities in the city. Expansion of Martin Airfield will support more local airplane visitors and the new aerospace employer will bring more jobs. Walla Walla University continues to grow and is seeing more diversification in degree programs offered. College Avenue is becoming more of a mixed-use, traditional downtown area in College Place.

CITY OF PRESCOTT

The City of Prescott is located in the central part of the county along WA-124. The population of Prescott in 2020 was 372 which is an increase from 318 people in 2010. The railroad runs though the city which allows access to the grain elevator for transporting grains.

CITY OF WAITSBURG

The City of Waitsburg is located in the central part of the county near the eastern border of the county. The city is at the intersection of WA-124 and US-12. City records show that the population of Waitsburg is about 1,370 which is an increase from 2010 when the US Census reported the population at 1,217. Waitsburg is the only city in Washington that operates under a territorial charter. The Touchet River and Coppei Creek runs through the city and poses flood risks. Both Coppei Creek and the Touchet River now have seasonal flow gauges that were installed by the USGS through a cooperative agreement with the city a few years ago.

RECENT CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENT

The city has seen little development in recent years. Some development has occurred on existing infill lots around the city. On average, this consists of around two new homes per year. Land use in and around the city has not changed recently. The city has made improvements to its infrastructure over the past five years, including projects to improve the water system, sewer system, and streets. A backup generator was obtained to support city hall and the post office.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

The City of Walla is located in the south-central part of the county near the Oregon border. Walla Walla is the largest city in Walla Walla County with a population of 34,060 which is an increase from 31,731 in 2010. Both of the county's hospitals reside in Walla Walla which includes the VA Medical Center and Providence St. Mary Medical Center, though the VA hospital is currently outpatient only. There are two colleges in Walla Walla as well – Walla Walla Community College and Whitman College.

RECENT CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENT

The city has recently seen an increase in downtown restoration projects that include upgrading and modernizing some of the older downtown buildings. The industrial sector in the city of Walla Walla has experienced limited expansion over the past five years. The housing sector in the city continues to grow noticeably. Major developments that have been approved contain a combined total of more than 440 new units. There are also close to 30 minor developments throughout the city that have been approved, averaging a few units each.

In 2018 the city made changes to its residential zoning districts. The changes allow for and create greater density within the new Neighborhood Residential zone. This has led to greater infill development and density.

WALLA WALLA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Walla Walla School District is made up of 9 physical schools, an online program, a skills center, a contract-learning program (opportunity program), and HomeLink to support homeschool families. There are five elementary schools, two middle schools, and two high schools. In the 2023-2024 school year there were 5,556 students and 791 total staff. Of that, 900 of the students were special education and 788 were a part of the bilingual services.

RECENT CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENT

The number of students enrolled in the district has decreased over time from 6,333 students in the 2014-2015 school year. The graduation rate has increased in the same time period from 80.4% with the lowest rate of 75.1% in the 2016-2017 school year to 95.8% in 2022-23[2].

[2] Report Card - Washington State Report Card
https://washingtonstatereportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/ReportCard/ViewSchoolOrDistrict/100283

WALLA WALLA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Walla Walla County Conservation District (WWCCD) works to conserve and enhance natural resources in the county through voluntary participation and education. WWCCD is overseen by a 5-person board of supervisors and maintains roughly 8 employees. The district consists of 762,151 acres of privately owned land and approximately 45,000 acres of publicly managed lands totaling 807,315 acres. These lands drain into the Walla Walla, Snake, and Columbia Rivers, all of which host populations of ESA listed as threatened bull trout and steelhead. The majority of the acreage of the district is cropland with approximately 312,000 acres of non-irrigated land and 91,000 acres under irrigation. Native forest and rangelands make up the balance of the district.

POPULATION

The 2020 Census established the Walla Walla County population at 62,584, which shows a 6.5% increase from a population of 58,781 in 2010. There are four incorporated cities within Walla Walla County: College Place, Prescott, Waitsburg, and Walla Walla. Since 1890 the population of Walla Walla County has been steadily increasing with the only decrease in population occurring between 1910 and 1920. Walla Walla County's increase in population is largely within the urban areas, the City of Walla Walla, and other outlying communities.

The Census Bureau also reported 22,971 households with an owner-occupied rate of 66.2% in 2020. The median income for a household in Walla Walla County is $66,635, which is less than the statewide median of $91,306[3].

Table 2: Populations of cities and CDPs in Walla Walla County in 2020 and the percent-change from 2016 to 2020 according to the U.S. Census.

City/Census Designated Place	Population	Percentage Change
Walla Walla	34,060	+7%
College Place	9,902	+11%
Burbank	3499	+6%
Waitsburg	1370	+1%
Touchet	425	+1%
Prescott	372	+15%

[3] U.S. Census Bureau. State & Quick Facts: https://data.census.gov/profile/Walla_Walla_County,_Washington?g=050XX00US53071#income-and-poverty

City/Census Designated Place	Population	Percentage Change
Dixie	225	+12%
Wallula	140	-28%
Walla Walla East	2,286	
Garrett	1,771	

DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

Development in Walla Walla County is increasing in unincorporated rural areas and in parts of the county attached to urban areas. The next several years are expected to also contain more growth and development outside of incorporated cities, especially in areas adjacent to currently inhabited parts of the county. As of spring 2024, multiple housing developments have been proposed in the Burbank area, totaling 500 new units.

There have also been development and expansion trends in industrial sectors. In March 2024 the Port of Walla Walla announced that Rockwool North America signed an agreement to acquire 250 acres at the Wallula Gap Business Park to build a manufacturing facility for stone wool insulation products.[4] Also in the same area there is a proposal for Sky NRG to build a sustainable aviation fuel production facility. The Port of Walla Walla's Burbank Business and Industrial Park has experienced continued development, including in retail, manufacturing, and a 100,000+ square foot food distribution warehouse.

A noticeable trend observed by some members of the planning team is the tendency to build homes closer together in urban areas and cities. This practice causes some concern among fire responders. There are many areas, especially near the southern end of the county, north of US-12 where agricultural lands are being converted into residential uses. Agricultural lands, especially in the vicinity of the city of Walla Walla, have been repurposed for residential or clustered development within the designated urban growth area and parts of unincorporated Walla Walla County surrounding the city.

There has been an increase in development in rural and/or remote, sometimes mountainous areas throughout the county, especially in the Blue Mountain foothills, in areas such as Lewis Peak, the south fork and north fork of Coppei Creek, and the Kooskooskie area. In some cases, these are small cabin sites in areas where infrastructure like roads and utilities were never meant

[4] https://www.portwallawalla.com/images/pdf/Tax_Increment/Port_of_Walla_Walla_Wallula_Gap_Business_Park_Project_Announcement_03072024.pdf

for larger, full-time residency structures. This is part of a trend toward increased homes in the wildland-urban interface, especially in the foothills of the Blue Mountains.

There are plans to increase the capacity of a natural gas pipeline that currently runs through western Walla Walla County. This project has been approved but some state and federal officials have requested that the approval be removed on the grounds that the pipeline is potentially hazardous.

TRANSPORTATION

The transportation system within Walla Walla County includes roads, bridges, and a bus system. The county contains 960 miles of county roads which are maintained by the county Public Works department. Public Works also maintains 180 bridges throughout the county[5]. The road system allows access to remote parts of the county for personal use, emergency services and access to farms and agriculture product transportation. There are also two State Highways and two U.S. Highways: WA-124, WA-125, US-12 and US-730. The county has a six-year Transportation Program set in place for 2024-2029 that lists all planned road and bridge improvements. This plan is broken down into outside funded, county funded and unfunded projects by year[6].

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

There are several types of critical infrastructure in Walla Walla County including the flood control levee system, railroad, airports, hospitals, water system, emergency services, utilities, and dams.

The levee system in Walla Walla protects 21,700 people and 9,600 structures from floods. There is a left bank and right bank system that goes along the river for 1.7 miles. There is also 0.3 miles cut-and-cover tunnel that goes through downtown and 4.8 miles of earth-fill levees[7]. Irrigation is an important part of Walla Walla County's economy since it is used to irrigate many of the crops within the county. Some of the irrigation canals have been converted to pipeline to reduce water loss to protect sensitive fish species[8].

[5] https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/public_works/index.php

[6] STIP 2024-2029.pdf (revize.com)

[7] https://cms7files.revize.com/wallawallacounty/document_center/Public%20Works/Projects/Mill%20Creek%20Channel/Mill%20Creek%20LB-Levee%20System%20Summary_20210903.pdf

[8] Irrigation in the Walla Walla River Valley - HistoryLink.org

The railroad that goes through Walla Walla County is called the Columbia Walla Walla Railroad. This railroad is used primarily for the transportation of agricultural products, especially wheat and vegetables.

The airports in Walla Walla County include the Walla Walla Regional Airport, Martin Field-S95, Page Airport, and Weller Canyon Airport. The Walla Walla Regional Airport is the only airport meant for passenger planes. The other three airports are used for agriculture and general aviation. Life Flight Network now has a base at the Walla Walla Regional Airport for rotor-wing services.

Walla Walla County has one inpatient hospital, Providence St. Mary Medical Center. Additionally, the county has an outpatient Department of Veterans Affairs medical center, several urgent care centers, an express care, and many outpatient clinics. Adventist Health Walla Walla General Hospital, a small inpatient hospital, closed in 2017. Providence St. Mary hired many of its physicians and staff members and purchased the building to try to preserve health care access in the community. Nationwide shortages of specialists, primary care providers, nurses and some other medical professionals are presenting challenges in recruiting here, just like in other rural communities. Providence St. Mary has built closer ties and is sharing resources with sister hospitals in the Providence system such as Kadlec Regional Medical Center in Richland to further build health care access for Walla Walla residents.

The city of Walla Walla has two sources of water. The first is water supplied by the Mill Creek Watershed and supplies 88-90% of the city's water. The rest of the water is from wells that are used when the water level is too low or water quality changes. The water that feeds the treatment plant goes through a hydropower generator that provides power to roughly 1,500 homes[9]. Other utilities include electricity which is provided by Pacific Power throughout most of the county. Trash is collected from about 9,500 households in Walla Walla and taken to Sudbury Landfill. The city also has a Compost Facility and Household Hazardous Waste Facility[10]. Wastewater goes to the Wastewater Treatment Plant where it can treat up to 9.6 million gallons of water a day but generally treats around 4 to 8 million gallons of water a day[11].

The city of College Place water supplies come from a deep aquifer (about 900 feet deep). Roughly 75% of the city is served via the city water utility. The area from NE Rose, Myra, NE C to College

[9] Water | City of Walla Walla (wallawallawa.gov)

[10] https://www.wallawallawa.gov/government/public-works/solid-waste/garbage-collection-sanitation

[11] Wastewater | City of Walla Walla (wallawallawa.gov)

is served by Green Tank Irrigation District. The section NW of College/Whitman intersection is served via Irrigation District 14. College Place has active agreements with Irrigation 14, Walla Walla University, and City of Walla Walla. Walla Walla University and College Place High School also have their own drinking water systems.

A large portion of the county's power is supplied by Pacific Power and Columbia REA. The power that comes from the Columbia River Basin is administered by the Bonneville Power Administration.

Emergency services include dispatch, firefighting, and ambulance services. Dispatch in Walla Walla is controlled by Walla Walla Emergency Services Communications and is staffed by 12 dispatchers, 3 supervisors, 1 administrative secretary, and 1 dispatch manager who take around 111,000 calls every year and of those, 24,000 are 911 calls[12]. The Walla Walla Fire department has two stations serving 33,680 people as of 2021 and staffs one command vehicle, two Type 1 Engines and two Advanced Life Support ambulances daily which are staffed by 11 personnel and at least three certified Advanced Life Support Paramedics[13]. The county has a total of 8 fire districts and 29 fire stations.

LAND USE

The predominant land use in Walla Walla County is agriculture, in the form of dryland and irrigated fruits, berries, grain crops, federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and livestock grazing. As of 2017 Walla Walla County had 903 farms covering 702,537 acres which represented 86% of the total land area in the county. The average farm size is 778 acres. The 2017 Agriculture Census found that irrigation occurs on 14% of the farmland or on approximately 101,678 acres while dryland agriculture occurs on the remaining 600,859 acres. The 2017 Agriculture Census ranked Walla Walla County fifth in Washington State for volume of agriculture sales, with a total of $526.2 million in 2017 and an average of total of $582,765 in annual sales per farm. Recently there has been an increase of vineyards in the area leading to increased tourism. The largest urban population is located in the County seat of Walla Walla with roughly 34,000 people or 54% of the total County population. The City of Walla Walla is also the home of two higher education establishments, Whitman College and Walla Walla Community College. The City of College Place is the home of Walla Walla University.

[12] https://www.wallawallawa.gov/government/police/dispatch

[13] Firefighting/Rescue | City of Walla Walla (wallawallawa.gov)

Table 3: Land ownership breakdown for Walla Walla County, Washington as of 2012.

Landowner	Acreage	Percentage of County
Private	1,249,949	89%
US Forest Service	101,197	7%
State	20,607	2%
Water	2,317	<1%
Bureau of Land Management	3,547	<1%
US Fish and Wildlife Service	610	<1%

CLIMATE

According to the Koppen-Geiger classification system Walla Walla, Washington is a hot Mediterranean, dry-summer climate. The average monthly temperature varies from a low of 34 degrees Fahrenheit to a high of 75 degrees in July, averaging 53 degrees. There is an average of 205 frost-free days in the growing season with annual precipitation averaging 20 inches[14]. Rainfall in Walla Walla County averages around 16.5 inches a year, with an additional 12 inches of snowfall a year on average, and 107 days of precipitation. Winters are generally moderated by prevailing westerly winds from the Pacific Ocean; however, extreme cold temperatures periodically occur during inflows of arctic air masses. The county has one of the longest growing seasons in Eastern Washington. A milder winter is usually experienced in the lower elevations, with colder temperatures and higher precipitation in the Blue Mountains and the surrounding foothills. Precipitation varies widely in the county, ranging from less than 10 inches in lower drier areas to over 40 inches in the higher reaches of the Walla Walla River basin.

CLIMATE CHANGE

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)[15], most of the state of Washington has seen a 1-2 degree (F) increase in temperatures over the past century. Some of the significant concerns regarding climate change in the region are changes in snowpack and stream flows, less water availability, drought, and wildfires. There is an observed trend of earlier

[15] https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/climate-change-wa.pdf

spring snowmelt, resulting in more stream flow in late winter and early spring but less stream flow in summer. Warmer winters are resulting in a reduced average snowpack in the state of Washington and the EPA states that "by 2050 the snow is likely to melt three to four weeks earlier". Rising temperatures can also increase evaporation rates, also leading to less water draining into rivers and streams. The EPA also states that the area in the state burned by wildfire on average each year is likely to double by the end of the century.

TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of the county varies from wide, low elevation river valleys (350 to 500 feet) and rolling foothills, to steep canyons (about 4,300 feet) leading into the high elevations (6,000 feet) of the Blue Mountains. Topography varies from the Blue Mountains at the East end of the county to the Snake and Columbia Rivers on the West end as most major creeks and rivers generally flow toward the West. Nearly all of the land in the county lies below 4,300 feet. Approximately 90% of the county lies between about 450 feet and 1,600 feet in elevation. However, the watersheds of Mill Creek and the Touchet and Walla Walla Rivers originate outside of the county at elevations of about 6,000 feet in the Blue Mountains.

In general, the upper portions of the Walla Walla River basin flow from steep, narrow, well-defined mountainous canyons. Many of the lower reaches of the creeks and rivers are incised in narrow steep-sided shallow canyons formed in easily erodible soils. The shallow canyons are inset into wide floodplains bounded on either side by gently rolling hills or steep walled bluffs. (Stalzer and Associates, 2009)

Located on the western edge of the Blue Mountains, the highest peak in Walla Walla County is Lewis Peak at 4,888 ft above sea level. The lowest point in the county lies along the Columbia River at 340 ft elevation[16].

ECONOMY

The agriculture industry remains the main driver of the economy of Walla Walla County. The largest employer in the county is FirstFruits Farms, previously Broetje Orchards, an apple orchard which employs over 2,800 people. FirstFruits Farms is located in northwest Walla Walla County on more than 4,300 acres along the Snake River and grows over 15 varieties of apples, pears and cherries. Other major employers include the Washington State Penitentiary, Tyson Fresh Meats,

[16] Carson et al. 2008, Where the Great River Bends.

Inc., area healthcare facilities, schools, and college/universities, Packaging Corporation of America, city and county government, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and retail companies.

Recent trends in consumer activity include increased online retail sales and movement away from brick-and-mortar retail sales. The number of residents in the county who telecommute has increased recently. In many cases, this is due to individuals who moved to the county while continuing to work for companies located where they previously resided. Many of these trends can be attributed to fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Western Walla Walla County tends to be home to industrial uses due to railroads, land, and infrastructure. The Walla Walla metro economy is more based on wine, tourism, government, healthcare, higher education, etc.

SOILS

Most soils in the county are composed of highly erodible loess and Missoula Flood outwash deposits. Loess is composed of wind-blown loamy deposits and Missoula Flood outwash is composed of deposits of gravel and cobbles. Loams are friable (crumbly) mixtures of sand, clay, silt, and organic matter, and are well suited to various types of irrigated or dryland agriculture. Contributing to their erodibility is the fact that in some of the foothill areas there are shallow deposits with sparse vegetation overlying basalt bedrock. Generally, the soils along the Southeastern most portion of the county are derived from the local parent material, which includes basalt.

This leads to landslide hazards on steeper slopes during wet periods, particularly if there is an earthquake. Areas susceptible to landslide hazard areas are located in the Southeast, and intermittently on steeper slopes in Southwest, corners of the county away from urban areas. When the county reviewed the best available science, including soil and slope data, in 2008 with the county's critical areas ordinance update, these landslide hazard areas were mapped. Development regulations are in place to ensure that any new development in these areas is done in such a way as to protect public health and safety.

The loess soil deposits, known as the Palouse Formation, cover most of the county. The action of wind over many millennia eroded the bedrock into the characteristic gently rolling hills and deposited the loess throughout the region. River valley portions of the western area of the county are covered with the Touchet Beds. These are water-deposited soils composed of fine sands and silts with lenses of gravel. Lower river valley soils are often composed of recent alluvium deposits.

The potential for wind and water erosion varies greatly depending on the physical properties of individual soil associations. Erosion potential attributed to stormwater runoff and other water

runoff generally increases with slope. According to the county's critical areas regulations, slopes over 15% are considered to be "erosion hazard areas."

Another geologically hazardous area regulated under the county's critical areas ordinance are areas with a moderate to high liquefaction susceptibility rating. Liquefaction is a significant impact that can be caused by earthquakes. A summary of County liquefaction potential is included in this hazard analysis.

GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

The region is composed of an irregularly shaped portion of the Columbia River basin bounded on the south and east by the Blue Mountains, on the north and northwest by the Touchet Highlands, and on the west by the Columbia and Snake Rivers.

The majority of the county is part of the Walla Walla River basin. The Walla Walla River flows into the Columbia River near Wallula. The Walla Walla River basin (and the county) is located between the physiographic regions of the Blue Mountains and the Columbia River Plateau. Geologic folding and faults in the region formed the Walla Walla River basin. The county is underlain by the Columbia River Basalt Group that was formed by successive lava flows during the Miocene Age (15-20 million years ago). The basalt is over 6,000 feet thick in some areas. Individual lava flows tend to be on the order of 50 to 150 feet thick. Gravel and clays overlie the basalt. Soils overlie gravel and clay materials (HDR, 2008) (Stalzer and Associates, 2009).

The Columbia Plateau is made up of loess covered basalt plains, modified by glacial action and scoured by repeated floods during the Miocene and Pliocene eras. This includes features such as plateaus, buttes, and channels. Channels are made up of outwash terraces, bars, loess islands and basins. The plateaus contain circular mounds of loess (biscuits) surrounded by cobble-size fragments of basalt.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER RESOURCES

The main waterways in the county are:

- Columbia River (forms entire western boundary of the county)
- Snake River (forms entire northern boundary of the county)
- Walla Walla River (tributary of the Columbia River)
- Touchet River (including Coppei Creek, tributary of the Walla Walla River)
- Dry Creek (tributary of the Walla Walla River)
- Mill Creek (including Blue Creek, tributary of the Walla Walla River)
- Miscellaneous small creeks (some partially regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Mill Creek Project)

GEOHYDROLOGY

The county is underlain by two subsurface aquifers, which supply approximately 60% of total water rights in the Walla Walla River basin. A deep basalt aquifer, covering approximately 2,500 square miles, lies beneath a smaller and shallower gravel aquifer. The gravel aquifer covers about 190 square miles. While the basalt aquifer underlies the entire river basin, the gravel aquifer is located only in the central lowlands, near the Cities of Walla Walla and College Place and rural areas surrounding Touchet and Lowden.

The gravel aquifer may receive recharge from surface water which is hydraulically connected. Due to its porous nature, the gravel aquifer is susceptible to contamination from surface pollutants, such as urban runoff, agricultural chemicals or leaking septic systems.

VEGETATION RESOURCES

The two primary habitat types in the county are agricultural/pasture and shrub-steppe. The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) lists shrub-steppe as a Priority Habitat under its Priority Habitats and Species program due to its high habitat value and because of the unique plant and wildlife species associated with it.

Shrub-steppe habitat was historically dominant in the county; however, much of it has been converted to the agricultural habitat type, which now dominates the central portion of the county. Evergreen forests, dominated by Douglas fir and Grand fir, occur in the higher elevations near the Blue Mountains, and a riparian vegetation community dominated by cottonwood, white alder, willow, and various shrubs occurs along streams and rivers throughout the Walla Walla River basin.

FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Wildlife habitat, as a result of vegetation conditions, is of relatively high quality in the upper reaches of the main rivers and tributaries (Walla Walla River, Touchet River, and Mill Creek). The mountain and foothill forests and associated habitats provide essential benefits to large mammals such as elk, mule and white-tailed deer, black bear, coyote, mountain lion, bobcat, and occasionally moose. Furbearers such as beaver, river otter, mink, and raccoon are also common. Ruffed grouse, woodpeckers, a variety of aquatic species, hummingbirds, and dozens of other songbirds inhabit the upper drainages. Habitat complexity and quality in the lowland valleys is influenced by the presence of highly cultivated agricultural lands and remnant riparian strips and pockets. These lowland valleys are inhabited by white tailed and mule deer, ring necked pheasant, quail, mourning dove, and a variety of raptors, songbirds, and small mammals.

Historically, the Walla Walla River and the Touchet River are reported to have supported Chinook. Currently, the watershed supports bull trout and steelhead, which are considered threatened species under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

A large expanse of riparian habitat exists on the 1,896-acre Wallula Habitat Management Unit that is managed by the USACE. This unit is located at the mouth of the Walla Walla River and offers a mixture of cottonwood forest, various shrubs, wetlands, sagebrush, and agricultural lands used by many species of waterfowl, shorebirds and songbirds, raptors, upland game birds, mule and white-tailed deer, furbearers, and small mammals.

The McNary National Wildlife Refuge, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW), near Burbank in Western Walla Walla County hosts more than 15,000 acres of habitat for migratory birds and developing fall Chinook salmon. Rare and endangered birds, including bald eagles and peregrine falcons, and thousands of nesting water birds can be found in the refuge.

RECREATION

There are various places for recreation within Walla Walla County. One of the most popular forms of recreation in the county is golfing. There are four golf courses in the county which are Veterans memorial Golf Course, Divots Golf course, Wine Valley golf course, and Walla Walla County Country Club. The Wine Valley Golf Course has been recognized nationally. The county also has 21 public parks in the four incorporated cities. 15 of those are in Walla Walla. Parks are owned or operated by the Port, Army Corps, City of Walla Walla, College Place, Prescott, and Waitsburg. The county does not have direct park operations. There are several recreation areas and parks including Wallula State Park, South Shore Recreation Area, Charbonneau Park, Fishhook Park, and Bennington Lake. Other common recreation activities known to the county are hiking, road and mountain biking.

SCENIC AND AESTHETIC RESOURCES

The main scenic area of the county is found in the Blue Mountains. Other scenic areas are found along the rivers and creeks, particularly along the Columbia and Snake Rivers and the upper Mill Creek area. U.S. Highway 12 and State Highway 124 are part of the Lewis and Clark Trail Scenic Byway. There are also scenic areas along the Touchet and Walla Walla Rivers and Bennington Lake.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

The county has the benefit of historic and cultural resources that reflect the unique heritage of the area. Native Americans (Umatilla, Walla Walla, and Cayuse Tribes) were the first people in recorded history to live in Walla Walla County. Lewis and Clark explored the area between 1804

and 1806 and missionary settlements followed around 1836. The City of Walla Walla was settled in 1859 and became the county Seat on November 7, 1859.

HAZARD MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES

Walla Walla Emergency Management is responsible for the administration and overall coordination of the disaster management program for Walla Walla County and the incorporated cities. The Incident Command System (ICS) is the basis for all direction, control and coordination of emergency response and recovery efforts. Emergency response and supporting agencies and organizations have agreed to carry out their objectives in support of the incident command structure to the fullest extent possible.

Walla Walla Emergency Management oversees emergency management personnel trained and dedicated to mitigating the negative impacts of natural and man-made disasters within the county. City offices throughout the county are equally dedicated to reducing catastrophic losses from disasters despite limited budgets.

Many states, counties, and communities in the nation believe they are prepared for disasters; however, many have not been tested. Too often, resources are required beyond the ability of counties and communities to match the response need. The Washington Bureau of Homeland Security and FEMA work with counties through desktop exercises and preparedness drills to increase preparation and abilities of first responders.

SOCIALLY VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

The FEMA National Risk Index[17] reports that social groups in Walla Walla County have a "Relatively High susceptibility to the adverse impacts of natural hazards when compared to the rest of the U.S." The index also reports that communities in the county have a "Relatively Moderate ability to prepare for anticipated natural hazards, adapt to changing conditions, and withstand and recover rapidly from disruptions when compared to the rest of the U.S."

Some communities in Walla Walla County that the planning team has identified as among the vulnerable include non-English speakers, the homeless, those with disabilities, and those living in poverty. The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that in 2022, about 19.5% of the county's population spoke something other than English at home and 16% spoke Spanish at home. The Census Bureau also estimated that in 2022, 11.1% of the people in Walla Walla County lived in poverty, this is

17 https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map

slightly higher than the state average (10%). The 2022 census estimates found that 15.6% of the population is disabled, higher than the 13.5% state average for Washington.

Members of the planning team have noticed an increase in homelessness locally. The 2023 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress [18] produced by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) found that the state of Washington saw a 19.9% increase in experiences of homelessness between 2007 and 2023, a total of 4,657 people. The growing homeless population seems to be primarily located in the downtown area of Walla Walla city. There are challenges in how to communicate with these people and how to serve them during a disaster or some other emergency.

work with counties through desktop exercises and preparedness drills to increase preparation and abilities of first responders.

18 https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2023-AHAR-Part-1.pdf

4 HAZARD RISK ASSESSMENT

The 2018 Walla Walla County HMP identified several hazards deemed significant for the county. Those same hazards were retained and examined for the 2024 update. This section lists the hazards addressed in this plan as well as an explanation for how they were addressed and why other hazards were omitted.

CHANGES IN PRIORITY

To select hazards for the 2024 plan update, the hazards from the previous plan were re-evaluated for relevance and whether they adequately addressed risk from natural hazards, collectively, in the county.

The following hazards have been selected by the Planning Team for the 2024 HMP update:

- Earthquake
- Flooding
- Severe Weather
- Wildland Fire

OMITTED HAZARDS

The hazards of "Avalanche" and "Landslide" have had no significant historical impacts and are not expected to have any significant future potential impacts. Any discussion of these hazards in the 2024 update has been limited to avalanche and landslide impacts as secondary hazards. These hazards were not included in previous versions of the Walla Walla County HMP.

Avalanche: This hazard has been excluded from the risk analysis as there are no incidents of avalanche on record for the county (1950 to 2024; NOAA Storm Events Database). Additionally, the planning team did not identify any avalanche hazard areas or areas of concern, so mitigation strategies or efforts are not necessary at this time.

Landslide: Based on the frequency at which landslides or mudslides occur in the county and the minimal impact such events have on people and infrastructure; landslides have not been addressed in a sperate annex in the plan update. Historically, heavy rains and flooding served as triggers for landslides and mudslides in the county. It is expected that landslides would, potentially, be associated with seismic activity as well. Because of these associations with other hazards, landslides have been included as a secondary hazard in the Earthquake, Flooding, and Severe Weather Hazard annexes.

HAZARD RISK SUMMARIES & SELECTION

This section includes an overview of the hazards that will be addressed for each adopting jurisdiction. Each adopting jurisdiction assigned a significance ranking to the selected hazards using a modified version of FEMA worksheet 5.1 from the 2013 version of the Local Mitigation Planning Handbook. Hazards were evaluated using these descriptions and scores.

Table 4: Hazard ranking criteria, developed using FEMA worksheet 5.1 from the 2013 version of the Local Mitigation Planning Handbook.

Location (Geographic Area Affected)		
Negligible	1	Less than 10% of planning area or isolated single-point occurrences
Limited	2	10 to 25% of the planning area or limited single-point occurrences
Significant	3	25 to 75% of the planning area or frequent single-point occurrences
Extensive	4	75 to 100% of the planning area or consistent single-point occurrences
Maximum Probable Impact (Magnitude/Strength based on historic events or future probability)		
Weak	1	Limited classification on scientific scale, moderate speed of onset or moderate duration, resulting in little to no damage
Moderate	2	Moderate classification on scientific scale, moderate speed of onset or moderate duration, resulting in some damage and loss of services for days
Severe	3	Severe classification on scientific scale, fast speed of onset or long duration, resulting in devastating damage and loss of services for weeks or months
Extreme	4	Extreme classification on scientific scale, immediate onset or extended duration, resulting in catastrophic damage and uninhabitable conditions
Probability of Future Events (Occurrence in the next 50 years)		
Unlikely	1	Less than 1% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of greater than every 100 years
Occasional	2	1 to 10% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of 11 to 100 years
Likely	3	10 to 90% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of 1 to 10 years
Highly Likely	4	90 to 100% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of less than 1 year
Overall Significance		
Low	3 to 5	Two or more criteria fall in lower classifications or the event has a minimal impact on the planning area.
Medium	6 to 8	The criteria fall mostly in the middle ranges of classifications and the event's impacts on the planning area are noticeable but not devastating
High	9 to 12	The criteria consistently fall in the high classifications and the event is likely/highly likely to occur with severe strength over a significant to extensive portion of the planning area

WALLA WALLA COUNTY

Hazard	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Total Score
Severe Weather	4	2.5	4	10.5 – High
Flooding	3	3.5	3	9.5 – High
Earthquake	3.5	3	2	8.5 – Medium
Wildland Fire	3	3	3	9 – High
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

Hazard	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Total Score
Severe Weather	3	3	4	10 – High
Flooding	3	3	2	8 – Medium
Earthquake	4	2	2	8 – Medium
Wildland Fire	4	2	3	9 – High
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

CITY OF PRESCOTT

Hazard	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Total Score
Severe Weather				
Flooding				
Earthquake				
Wildland Fire				
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

CITY OF WAITSBURG

Hazard	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Total Score
Severe Weather	2	2	2	6 - Medium
Flooding	3	3	4	10 – High
Earthquake	1	1	2	4 - Low
Wildland Fire	2	1	1	4 – Low
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

Hazard	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Total Score
Severe Weather	4	2	4	10 - High
Flooding	4	3	4	11 – High
Earthquake	1	1	1	3 - Low
Wildland Fire	3	3	4	10 – High
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

WALLA WALLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Hazard	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Total Score
Severe Weather	2	1	2	5 – Low
Flooding	1	1	1	3 – Low
Earthquake	1	1	1	3 – Low
Wildland Fire	1	1	1	3 – Low
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

WALLA WALLA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Hazard	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Total Score
Severe Weather	4	3	4	11 - High
Flooding	2	3	4	9 - High
Earthquake	2	3	2	7 - Medium
Wildland Fire	4	3	3	10 - High
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

DISASTER DECLARATIONS

The following disaster declarations are all those that are on record for Walla Walla County. Declarations made since the previous plan update are highlighted below.

Table 5: Presidential Disaster Declarations for Walla Walla County.

Declaration Date	Incident Subcategory	Disaster Number	Declaration Title
04/23/2020	Flood	4539	Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, And Mudslides
03/22/2020	Biological	4481	Covid-19 Pandemic
03/13/2020	Biological	3427	Covid-19
04/21/2017	Flood	4309	Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, Landslides, Mudslides
07/21/2015	Fire	5090	Blue Creek Fire
2/3/2009	Severe Storm	1825	Severe Winter Storm and Record and Near Record Snow
08/22/2006	Fire	2668	Columbia Fire Complex
7/9/2005	Coastal Storm	3227	Hurricane Katrina Evacuation
1/3/2001	Earthquake	1361	Earthquake
17/01/1997	Severe Storm	1159	Severe Winter Storms, Land & Muds Slides, Flooding
9/2/1996	Flood	1100	High Winds, Severe Storms and Flooding
21/05/1980	Volcanic Eruption	623	Volcanic Eruption, Mt. St. Helens
29/12/1964	Flood	185	Heavy Rains & Flooding

DECLARATION 4539 – FLOOD (APRIL 23, 2020)

On March 25, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee requested a major disaster declaration due to severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides during the period January 20 to February 10, 2020.

The Governor requested a declaration for Individual Assistance for 6 counties, Public Assistance for 15 counties, and Hazard Mitigation statewide. During the period of February 24 to March 6, 2020, joint federal, state, and local government Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) were conducted in the requested areas and are summarized below. PDAs estimate damages immediately after an event and are considered, along with several other factors, in determining whether a disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and the affected local governments, and that Federal assistance is necessary.

On April 23, 2020, President Trump declared that a major disaster exists in the State of Washington. This declaration made Public Assistance requested by the Governor available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides in Columbia, Garfield, Grays Harbor, Island, King, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum, Walla Walla, and Whatcom Counties. This declaration also made Hazard Mitigation Grant Program assistance requested by the Governor available for hazard mitigation measures statewide.

DECLARATION 4481 – BIOLOGICAL (MARCH 22, 2020)

On March 20, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee requested a major disaster declaration due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic beginning on January 20, 2020, and continuing. The Governor requested a declaration for Individual Assistance, including the Individuals and Households Program, Crisis Counseling Program, Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Disaster Case Management, and Disaster Legal Services statewide and emergency protective measures (Category B), including direct Federal assistance under the Public Assistance program statewide. This event was of the severity and magnitude that the need for supplemental Federal assistance was determined to be necessary prior to the completion of joint Federal, State, and local government Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs). Per 44 C.F.R.§ 206.33(d) and § 206.36(d), the requirement for a joint PDA may be waived for those incidents of such unusual severity and magnitude that formal field damage assessments are not required to establish the need for supplemental Federal assistance under the Stafford Act.

On March 22, 2020, President Trump declared that a major disaster exists in the State of Washington. This declaration made Individual Assistance limited to the Crisis Counseling Program requested by the Governor available in all areas in the State of Washington. This declaration also made emergency protective measures (Category B) not authorized under other Federal statutes, including direct federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program requested by the Governor available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for all areas in the State of Washington.

- Primary Impact: Damage to roads and bridges
- Total Public Assistance cost estimate: $4,883,715 (all affected counties)
- Walla Walla Countywide per capita impact: $98.50

DECLARATION 3427 – BIOLOGICAL (MARCH 13, 2020)

No Preliminary Damage Assessment Report is available for this declaration.

5 NATURAL HAZARDS

EARTHQUAKE HAZARD OVERVIEW

The planning team collectively examined earthquake hazard risk at the county and adopting jurisdiction level using FEMA worksheet 5.1. The worksheet definitions for classifications are located in the appendices. The summary conducted by the planning team is here compared to FEMA's National Risk Index.[19] The planning team summarized Walla Walla County's overall significance rating for earthquake as Medium (8.5) while FEMA rates it as "Relatively Moderate".

Table 6: FEMA Hazard Summary Rating Worksheet for Earthquake

Adopting Jurisdiction	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Overall Significance Ranking
Walla Walla County	3.5	3	2	8.5
City of College Place	4	2	2	8
City of Prescott				
City of Waitsburg	1	1	2	4
City of Walla Walla	1	1	1	3
Walla Walla Public Schools	1	1	1	3
Walla Walla County Conservation District	2	3	2	7
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

19 https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/

Table 7: FEMA National Risk Index Report for Walla Walla County, Washington.

Hazard Type	Expected Annual Loss Rating	Social Vulnerability	Community Resilience	Risk Value	Risk Index Score	Risk Index Rating
Earthquake	Relatively Moderate	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$6,800,269	93.8	Relatively Moderate

"Hazard type Risk Index scores are calculated using data for only a single hazard type, and reflect a community's Expected Annual Loss value, community risk factors, and the adjustment factor used to calculate the risk value."

"Expected Annual Loss scores for hazard types are calculated using data for only a single hazard type and reflect a community's relative expected annual loss for only that hazard type."

"Social Vulnerability is measured using the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)."

"Community Resilience is measured at the County level using the Baseline Resilience Indicators for Communities (HVRI BRIC) published by the University of South Carolina's Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute (HVRI)."

An earthquake is a sudden release of stored energy generally caused by a sudden slip along a fault. Forces in the earth's crust push the sides of the fault together and when a plate slips suddenly it releases energy in waves causing the shaking felt during an earthquake. A fault is a fracture or zone of fractures between two "blocks" of rock allowing for a certain degree of movement. This movement may occur rapidly, in the form of an earthquake - or may occur slowly, in the form of creep over geologic time frames.

Earthquake magnitude is a logarithmic measure of the force released when plates move. Seismic monitors exist throughout the region to alert us when an earthquake is occurring and measure its magnitude. The effects from earthquakes are caused by ground shaking, surface faulting, and ground failure.

A geological system called the Olympic-Wallowa Lineament (OWL) stretches from the Olympic Mountains to the Wallowa Mountains through Walla Walla County. The OWL is a series of geological features that indicate a history of earthquake action.

Two fault systems are located in Walla Walla County. The Hite Fault System is located along the foothills of the Blue Mountains stretching generally north and south. The Wallula Fault Zone stretches from the Wallula Gap on the Columbia River toward Touchet.

LANDSLIDE HAZARD OVERVIEW

Only a small portion of unincorporated Walla Walla County is likely to experience landslides; none of the other jurisdictions would be susceptible. The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WADNR) has stated that landslides are generally confined to areas with slopes that exceed 40%. This generally confines the risk of this hazard to the southeastern portion of the County in the foothills of the Blue Mountains.

There are several types of landslides that can take place in conjunction with earthquakes. The most abundant are earthquake-induced rock falls and slides of rock fragments that form on steep slopes. Shallow debris slides on steep slopes, soil and rock slumps, and block slides on moderate to steep slopes can also occur and lower frequencies. Significant landslides are most likely to occur during a significant earthquake event, which is why landslide hazards were not addressed separately in this hazard plan update.

INTENSITY

The USGS notes the following: "Whereas the magnitude of an earthquake is one value that describes the size, there are many intensity values for each earthquake that are distributed across the geographic area around the earthquake epicenter." In the United States, the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale is commonly used to measure intensity of earthquakes.[20]

1936 MILTON-FREEWATER EARTHQUAKE

The July 16, 1936, Milton-Freewater earthquake (sometimes called the State Line earthquake) had an estimated magnitude of 6.1 and a maximum reported Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) of VII (very strong). It is unclear where exactly the epicenter was – somewhere near the Oregon/Washington border northwest of Milton-Freewater, Oregon and southeast of Walla Walla. Depending on which fault caused the earthquake there are different implications for hazard vulnerability because the Hite fault lies mostly east of the Milton-Freewater area in a largely remote area, while the Wallula fault runs northwest and lies near the large population of the Tri-Cities (Pasco, Richland, Kennewick, Washington).[21]

20 https://www.usgs.gov/programs/earthquake-hazards/earthquake-magnitude-energy-release-and-shaking-intensity

21 Brocher, T. M.; Sherrod, B. L. (2018), "Intensities, Aftershock Sequences, and the Location of the 1936 Milton-Freewater Earthquake near the Oregon–Washington Border, U.S.A", *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America*, **108** (5A): 2594–2613.

Intensity	Shaking	Description/Damage
I	Not felt	Not felt except by a very few under especially favorable conditions.
II	Weak	Felt only by a few persons at rest,especially on upper floors of buildings.
III	Weak	Felt quite noticeably by persons indoors, especially on upper floors of buildings. Many people do not recognize it as an earthquake. Standing motor cars may rock slightly. Vibrations similar to the passing of a truck. Duration estimated.
IV	Light	Felt indoors by many, outdoors by few during the day. At night, some awakened. Dishes, windows, doors disturbed; walls make cracking sound. Sensation like heavy truck striking building. Standing motor cars rocked noticeably.
V	Moderate	Felt by nearly everyone; many awakened. Some dishes, windows broken. Unstable objects overturned. Pendulum clocks may stop.
VI	Strong	Felt by all, many frightened. Some heavy furniture moved; a few instances of fallen plaster. Damage slight.
VII	Very strong	Damage negligible in buildings of good design and construction; slight to moderate in well-built ordinary structures; considerable damage in poorly built or badly designed structures; some chimneys broken.
VIII	Severe	Damage slight in specially designed structures; considerable damage in ordinary substantial buildings with partial collapse. Damage great in poorly built structures. Fall of chimneys, factory stacks, columns, monuments, walls. Heavy furniture overturned.
IX	Violent	Damage considerable in specially designed structures; well-designed frame structures thrown out of plumb. Damage great in substantial buildings, with partial collapse. Buildings shifted off foundations.
X	Extreme	Some well-built wooden structures destroyed; most masonry and frame structures destroyed with foundations. Rails bent.

Figure 1: Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale[22]

RECENT EVENT HISTORY

The USGS Earthquake Catalog[23] was used to analyze recent earthquakes in Walla Walla County and earthquakes that occurred outside the county that were reported as "felt" inside the county through the Did You Feel It?[24] program. Since 2018, no earthquakes have been recorded inside Walla Walla County with the closest being a 2.9 Magnitude event just south of Richland in April of 2024. This earthquake was not reported as "felt" inside Walla Walla County. Going back 40 years, there were only 14 recorded earthquakes inside the county with a magnitude greater than 2.5, the most significant being a 3.4 Magnitude earthquake west of Walla Walla in 2006. Since 2018, all the "felt" earthquakes in Walla Walla County in recent history had epicenters outside of the county. The MMI responses have been recorded at III or less.

22 https://www.usgs.gov/media/images/modified-mercalli-intensity-scale

23 https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/search/

24 https://earthquake.usgs.gov/data/dyfi/

11/20/2018 – STITES, IDAHO – 4.1 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE

Location Felt	MMI	Number of Responses
Walla Walla	II	1

3/31/2020 – STANLEY, IDAHO – 6.5 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE

Location Felt	MMI	Number of Responses
Walla Walla	II	17
Waitsburg	II	1
Waitsburg	III	3
Prescott	II	1
Touchet	I	1
Eureka	III	1

4/1/2020 – CHALLIS, IDAHO – 5.0 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE

Location Felt	MMI	Number of Responses
Prescott	II	1

PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE

It is not possible to predict when an earthquake might occur, only measure the frequency of small seismic events and estimate the probability of a larger, potentially damaging, event. Given the history of Walla Walla County it is reasonable that the county is over-due for a larger seismic event.

History has recorded earthquakes that would be considered “strong” and “very strong” on the MMI scale which implies intensity up to 6.5 magnitudes on the Richter Scale. Since those earthquakes recorded in Walla Walla County are generally shallow earthquakes, significant damage would be expected.

“It is not a question of if; it is question of when a 6.5 magnitude earthquake strikes Walla Walla County.” John Winter, Ph.D. - Professor of Geology, Whitman College

Frequency is one metric FEMA uses in the Expected Annual Loss calculation. They report an "Annualized Frequency" of 0.145% chance per year."[25]

EARTHQUAKE VULNERABILITY

LIQUEFACTION

According to the USGS: "Liquefaction takes place when loosely packed, water-logged sediments at or near the ground surface lose their strength in response to strong ground shaking. Liquefaction occurring beneath buildings and other structures can cause major damage during earthquakes."[26]

Much of the County's infrastructure and buildings are located in areas of moderate to high liquefaction risk. Although the County has adopted new standards for construction in areas of significant geologic hazards, these protections do not apply to existing development. The map below shows that the cities predominantly sit in these more susceptible areas as do some of the highway corridors.

25 https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/report/viewer?dataLOD=Counties&dataIDs=C53071#SectionExpectedAnnualLoss

26 https://www.usgs.gov/faqs/what-liquefaction

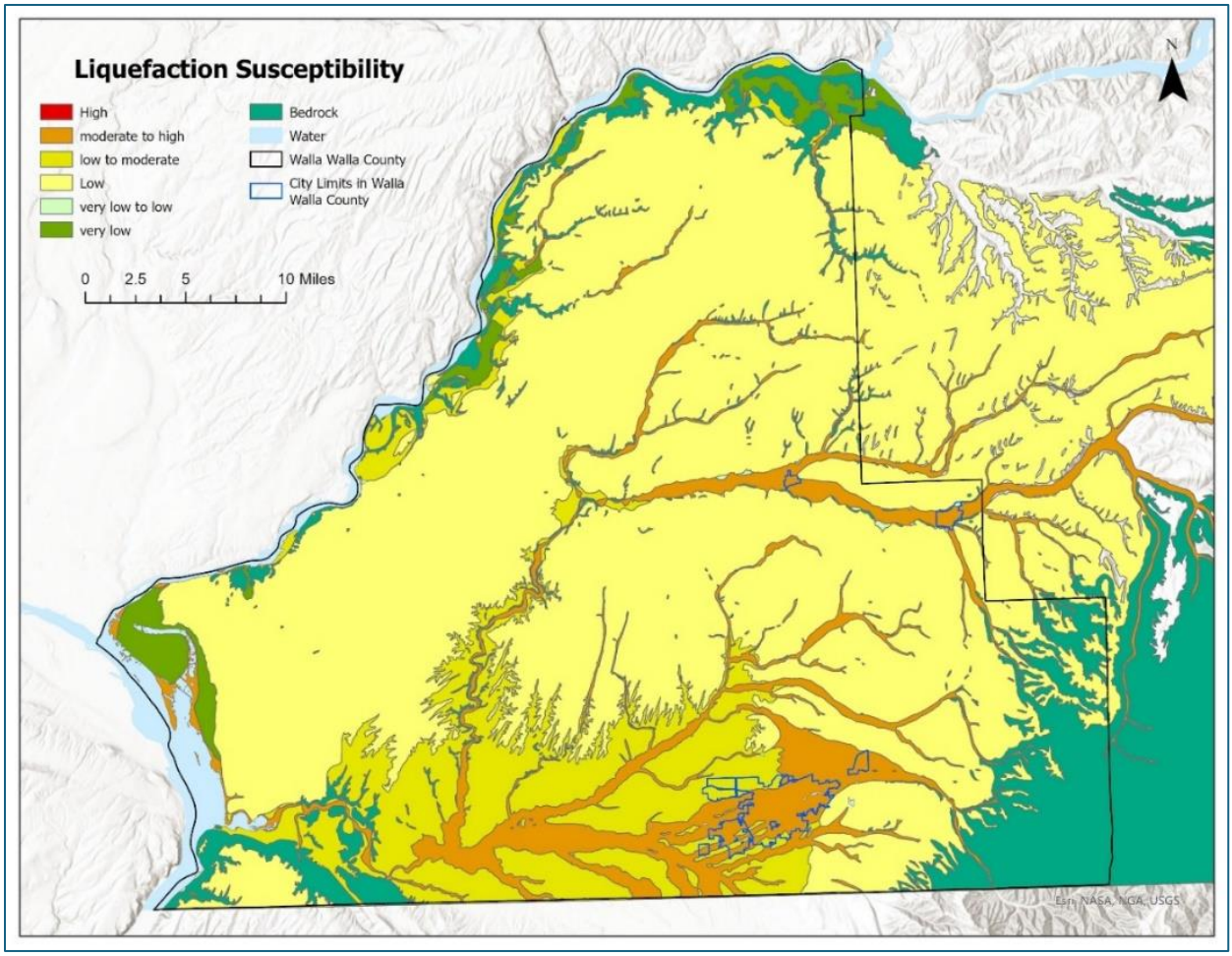


Figure 2: Walla Walla County soil liquification-susceptibility risk map[27]

IMPACTS

The population, property, economy, and infrastructure of Walla Walla County are all vulnerable to the impacts of an earthquake. The scope of damage is a function of the event magnitude and level of preparedness. Damage could range from minimal to high, with a large event resulting in loss of life and significant destruction of property. Beyond property damage and endangering the safety of people, earthquakes can impact the county through short- or long-term disruptions in emergency services, communications, transportation routes, and commerce.

27 https://geologyportal.dnr.wa.gov/2d-view#natural_hazards?-13369985,-13174306,5770607,5870357

A major regional earthquake event within the state could potentially require EMS and Fire responders in Walla Walla County to provide assistance to other areas outside the county that are impacted by the event.

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

The impacts to the city of College Place are similar to overall impacts to Walla Walla County. Specifically, an earthquake has potential to impact emergency services and residents of College Place if damage occurs. Minor damage to buildings, property, and infrastructure is possible in a smaller seismic event, while a larger event similar to the 1936 earthquake could make that damage more significant. The city lies in a moderate-to-high liquefaction susceptibility area, theoretically increasing the vulnerability for the buildings in College Place.

CITY OF PRESCOTT

Potential impacts to the city of Prescott from an earthquake would be similar to those in Walla Walla County, including temporary disruptions in services, communications, and commerce. Minor damage to buildings, property, and infrastructure is possible in a smaller seismic event, while a larger event similar to the 1936 earthquake could make that damage more significant. The city lies in a moderate-to-high liquefaction susceptibility area, as does SR 124, increasing the vulnerability for the buildings in Prescott and local transportation routes.

CITY OF WAITSBURG

Potential impacts to the city of Waitsburg from an earthquake would be similar to those in Walla Walla County, including temporary disruptions in services, communications, and commerce. Minor damage to buildings, property, and infrastructure is possible in a smaller seismic event, while a larger event similar to the 1936 earthquake could make that damage more significant. The city lies in a moderate-to-high liquefaction susceptibility area, as does SR 124 and parts of US 12, increasing the vulnerability for the buildings in Waitsburg and the transportation routes.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

A large earthquake would have major impacts on the City of Walla Walla, especially historic buildings downtown since they were built on high liquification soil. While many are reinforced, they are still at risk of damage. Minor damage to buildings, property, and infrastructure is possible in a smaller seismic event. Potential impacts to the city of Walla Walla from an earthquake would be similar to those in Walla Walla County, including temporary disruptions in services, communications, and commerce.

WALLA WALLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The impacts to the Walla Walla School District are similar to overall impacts to Walla Walla County and to the impacts to the city of Walla Walla. Building damage could impact schools as could temporary disruptions in communications, transportation routes, and emergency services. Getting students evacuated from buildings during an earthquake, communicating with parents and guardians, and organizing the logistics of getting students home if necessary are some of the considerations and secondary impacts of an earthquake event.

WALLA WALLA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The impacts to the Walla Walla Conservation District are similar to overall impacts to Walla Walla County. In the event of an earthquake, the ecosystem would experience significant disruption, particularly affecting the Walla Walla, Snake, and Columbia Rivers due to heavy sedimentation. This sedimentation would negatively impact overall stream health, including critical habitats for ESA-listed species found in these waters.

RESOURCES AT RISK

Critical infrastructure located in the moderate-to-high liquefaction susceptibility areas include the Providence St. Mary Medical Center campus. Utilities and communications are also at risk of disruption in the event of an earthquake. Using county tax parcels, there is a total value in the county of more than $4.9 billion. FEMA calculates the Expected Annual Loss (EAL) value for Walla Walla County for earthquake at $4.9 million, or roughly .001% of the total parcel value. EAL is calculated by multiplying Exposure, Annualized Frequency, and Historic Loss Ratio.[28]

FEMA calculates the total Exposure value for earthquake in Walla Walla County at $737,212,116,000. “Exposure is defined as the representative value of buildings (in dollars), population (in both people and population equivalence dollars), or agriculture (in dollars) potentially exposed to a natural hazard occurrence.”[29]

“Annualized frequency is defined as the expected frequency or probability of a hazard occurrence per year. Annualized frequency is derived from either the number of recorded hazard

28 https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/expected-annual-loss

29 https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/exposure

occurrences each year over a given period or the modeled probability of a hazard occurrence each year."[30]

FEMA calculates the Historic Loss Ratio of Walla Walla County as Very High. "The historic loss ratio (HLR) is defined as a hazard- and county-specific estimate of the percentage of the exposed consequence type (building value, population, or agriculture value) expected to be lost due to a hazard occurrence. For example, building historic loss ratio is the estimated percentage of the exposed building value expected to be damaged by a hazard occurrence."[31]

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

Reservoir #1, a water tower at the Public Works Yard needs a seismic retrofit. The fire station and City Hall are also vulnerable to seismic activity. Since the Public Works Yard and Police Department are being used differently from what they were built for, upgrades or replacement may be required. Parcel values that intersect the city limits total more than $1.33 billion.

CITY OF PRESCOTT

The city of Prescott has mostly private property exposed to damage from earthquakes but there are municipal buildings also. Parcel values that intersect the city limits of Prescott total $29,870,900.

CITY OF WAITSBURG

The city of Waitsburg consists mostly of privately owned buildings, some municipal buildings, and a school at risk to earthquake. Parcel values that intersect the city limits of Waitsburg total $152,919,514.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

The Providence St Mary Medical Center is at risk from an earthquake because of the high liquification. There would also likely be impacts to communications and utilities. Important infrastructure such as Walla Walla Emergency Management which is located downtown is at risk because of the age and vulnerability in this location. The city of Walla Walla contains many buildings used for critical functions such as hospitals, emergency services, communications, and utilities, as well as government buildings, industrial facilities, education facilities, and centers of

30 https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/annualized-frequency

31 https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/historic-loss-ratio

commerce and trade. Parcel values that intersect the city limits of Walla Walla total more than $4.5 billion.

WALLA WALLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The biggest resource at risk to earthquake throughout the school district is the many buildings across the campuses of the district's nine schools. The school district also owns sports facilities, buses, and technology that could be exposed to damage in an earthquake event. Parcel values owned by the school district total more than $104 million.

WALLA WALLA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Lands managed by the District are the primary resources at risk, as they actively work to improve ecosystem health and land function. Waterways and private land holdings, including agricultural lands, are also vulnerable to the impacts of an earthquake.

CHANGES IN LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

Since 1984 when building codes placed Walla Walla County in Seismic Zone 2-B, additional seismic reinforcement was required, but buildings built before that were not subject to seismic reinforcement. Building codes have seen increased requirements for seismic planning for all new construction associated with hospitals over the last 25+ years. Infill development within the cities increases the population density and density of structures in a given area which can, over time, increase exposure to earthquake damage if the event is significant.

CLIMATE CHANGE

According to a 2019 article[32] by Alan Buis from NASA, currently there are no verified correlations between weather and earthquakes. Earthquake occurrences are statistically distributed equally across all weather conditions. However, there are some climate change-related factors that could contribute to earthquake activity.

Buis discusses how stress changes due to climate change might be affecting seismicity at a micro level as some studies have found correlations between micro seismicity and climate-related changes. However, scientists are not at a point where they understand these relationships and cannot definitively say that climate processes could cause large earthquakes. Drought seems to contribute to changes in stress loads on the Earth's crust and over time the changes can be

32 https://science.nasa.gov/earth/climate-change/can-climate-affect-earthquakes-or-are-the-connections-shaky/

significant. Recent studies have focused on drought causing stress changes and not their impact on faults. Studies have shown that pumping groundwater from underground aquifers alters stress patterns. Over time continually pumping groundwater, especially heightened in times of drought, could change seismicity.

Climate change and its effects on water is a big factor in considering impacts to earthquake activity. Buis says, "In addition to climate-related impacts of water on seismicity, human management and applications of water can also affect earthquakes through a phenomenon known as induced seismicity. For example, water stored in large dams has been linked to earthquake activity in various locations around the world, though the impact is localized in nature." Buis cites historical earthquake occurrences that studies have linked to fluctuations in the reservoir level and changes in the stress loads on a local fault.[33]

Seasonal variations and precipitation can influence liquefaction. A seismic event in July would have a different impact on an area compared to one in March. A notable instance of this occurred during the 2011 Japan earthquake in March, when soil and groundwater saturation levels were at their peak.[34]

SOCIAL VULNERABILITY

Social Vulnerability refers to the demographic and socioeconomic factors (such as poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing) that adversely affect communities that encounter hazards and other community-level stressors.[35]

The FEMA National Risk Index reports that Social Vulnerability in Walla Walla County is "Relatively High". This is based on social groups in Walla Walla County having a "Relatively High susceptibility to the adverse impacts of natural hazards when compared to the rest of the U.S."[36] This calculation is not specific to any one hazard. One significant factor found in Walla Walla County that might contribute to earthquake vulnerability is the population of people with disabilities. Surveys indicate that Walla Walla County has a higher-than-average percentage of the population with disabilities.

33 https://science.nasa.gov/earth/climate-change/can-climate-affect-earthquakes-or-are-the-connections-shaky/

34https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/04/110418135537.htm https://www.npr.org/2011/04/07/135181474/in-japan-shaken-soil-turned-soft-after-quake

35 https://hazards.fema.gov/social-vulnerability

36 https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map

A 2020 fact sheet [37] released by FEMA presents earthquake information for people with disabilities. The document highlights some of the aspects of earthquake safety that might prove challenging to individuals with decreased mobility, hearing impairment, and those who require medical devices in everyday life. Anxiety caused by the experience of a natural disaster like an earthquake is another challenge that individuals with intellectual disabilities and anyone else might face.

37 https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20230425/fact-sheet-earthquake-information-people-disabilities

SEVERE WEATHER HAZARD OVERVIEW

The planning team collectively examined the hazard risk of severe weather at the county- and adopting jurisdiction- level using FEMA worksheet 5.1. The worksheet definitions for classifications are located in the appendices. The summary conducted by the planning team is here compared to FEMA's National Risk Index[38] for various components of severe weather. The planning team summarized Walla Walla County's overall significance rating for severe weather as High.

Table 8: FEMA Hazard Summary Rating Worksheet for Severe Weather

Adopting Jurisdiction	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Overall Significance Ranking
Walla Walla County	4	2.5	4	10.5
City of College Place	3	3	4	10
City of Prescott				
City of Waitsburg	2	2	2	6
City of Walla Walla	4	2	4	10
Walla Walla Public Schools	2	1	2	5
Walla Walla County Conservation District	4	3	4	11
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

The FEMA National Risk Index breaks down separate components of the category into the various types of severe weather. These hazard breakdowns are included here to show how FEMA reports severe weather hazard risk for Walla Walla County.

[38] https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/

Table 9: FEMA National Risk Index Report by Natural Hazard for Walla Walla County, Washington

Hazard Type	Expected Annual Loss Rating	Social Vulnerability	Community Resilience	Risk Value	Risk Index Score	Risk Index Rating
Cold Wave	Relatively High	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$6,800,269	93.8	Relatively High
Drought	Relatively Low	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$124,655	69.1	Relatively Low
Hail	Very Low	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$16,341	14.8	Very Low
Heat Wave	Relatively High	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$3,133,722	96	Relatively High
Ice Storm	Relatively Moderate	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$421,355	85.2	Relatively High
Lightning	Very Low	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$23,405	13.6	Very Low
Strong Wind	Relatively Low	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$199,795	30.8	Relatively Low
Tornado	Very Low	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$91,047	12.3	Very Low
Winter Weather	Relatively Low	Relatively High	Relatively Moderate	$36,176	37.8	Relatively Low

"Hazard type Risk Index scores are calculated using data for only a single hazard type, and reflect a community's Expected Annual Loss value, community risk factors, and the adjustment factor used to calculate the risk value."

"Expected Annual Loss scores for hazard types are calculated using data for only a single hazard type and reflect a community's relative expected annual loss for only that hazard type."

"Social Vulnerability is measured using the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)."

"Community Resilience is measured at the County level using the Baseline Resilience Indicators for Communities (HVRI BRIC) published by the University of South Carolina's Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute (HVRI)."

Severe Weather comes in many forms. This plan uses the descriptions taken from the FEMA National Risk Index website[39] as the basic subcategories of severe weather for this hazard assessment. Some additional severe weather definitions from the previous plan are also included in this section to help explain what can be meant by severe weather.

[39] https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/natural-hazards

FEMA SEVERE WEATHER NATURAL HAZARDS

Cold Wave: A Cold Wave is a rapid fall in temperature within 24 hours and extreme low temperatures for an extended period. The temperatures classified as a cold wave are dependent on the location and defined by the local National Weather Service (NWS) weather forecast office.

Drought: A Drought is a deficiency of precipitation over an extended period of time resulting in a water shortage.

Hail: Hail is a form of precipitation that occurs during thunderstorms when raindrops, in extremely cold areas of the atmosphere, freeze into balls of ice before falling towards the earth's surface.

Heat Wave: A Heat Wave is a period of abnormally and uncomfortably hot and unusually humid weather typically lasting two or more days with temperatures outside the historical averages for a given area.

Ice Storm: An Ice Storm is a freezing rain situation (rain that freezes on surface contact) with significant ice accumulations of 0.25 inches or greater.

Lightning: Lightning is a visible electrical discharge or spark of electricity in the atmosphere between clouds, the air and/or the ground often produced by a thunderstorm.

Strong Wind: Strong Wind consists of damaging winds, often originating from thunderstorms, that are classified as exceeding 58 mph.

Tornado: A Tornado is a narrow, violently rotating column of air that extends from the base of a thunderstorm to the ground and is visible only if it forms a condensation funnel made up of water droplets, dust, and debris.

Winter Weather: Winter Weather consists of winter storm events in which the main types of precipitation are snow, sleet, or freezing rain.

ADDITIONAL SEVERE WEATHER DEFINITIONS

Heavy Snow: Generally, a snowfall accumulating to 6 inches or more in depth in 12 hours or less or a snowfall accumulating 6 inches or more in depth in 24 hours or less.

Funnel Cloud: Funnel clouds are twisting clusters of air and clouds that form the beginning of a tornado. They may lower slightly below the cloud line, but do not make contact with the ground.

Dust Storm: Dust storms occur when wind, following dry periods, blows dirt and light debris aloft. In worst case scenarios, blowing dust clouds can result in zero visibility.

Severe Thunderstorm: A thunderstorm that produces a tornado, winds of at least 58 mph (50 knots), and/or hail at least 1 inch in diameter. A thunderstorm with wind equal to or greater than 40 mph (35 knots) and/or hail at least ½ inches in diameter is defined as approaching severe.

RECENT EVENT HISTORY

The NOAA Storm Events Database[40], tracks hazardous weather-related events and has records that can be filtered by county. Many types of severe weather and disasters caused by weather are contained within the dataset. Event history in Walla Walla County was examined for this plan update for the time period since the previous plan was adopted. The period of January 2018 through April 2024 was selected for this exercise and wildfire was excluded from the dataset. More than 100 events were recorded for weather events (including flood) for this timeframe. Many of these events were regional in nature and the event recorded was not observed in Walla Walla County. The table below highlights some significant selected severe weather events during the time period in the county. These events are then described below the table.

Table 10: Selected Severe Weather Events in Walla Walla County January 2018 through April 2024

Location	Date	Event Type	Magnitude	Property Damage	Crop Damage
Kooskooskie	4/9/2019	Flood, caused by heavy rain		$150,000	$2,000
Waitsburg	8/10/2019	Hail	1”		
Touchet	2/6/2020	Flood, caused by snow and rain		$8,770,000	
Prescott	5/30/2020	Thunderstorm Wind	61 mph		
Walla Walla Regional Airport, College Place	1/12/2021	High Wind	61 mph		
5 miles ENE of Walla Walla	2/12/2021	Heavy Snow			
Martin Airport	6/15/2021	Thunderstorm Wind	52 mph		
Kooskooskie, Langdon	6/13/2022	Flood			
Waitsburg	2/20/2023	High Wind	56 mph		

[40] https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/

RECENT SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS

The dated descriptions below are taken from the episode narratives and event narratives collected in the NOAA Storm Events Database.[41]

8/10/2019 – WAITSBURG HAIL

A strong cutoff low drifted eastward into Oregon and Washington on the 10th. Modest instability and adequate moisture lead to afternoon thunderstorm development, resulting in a few severe reports and at least one cold air funnel.

2/6/2020 – FLOOD, CAUSED BY SNOW AND RAIN

Heavy snow on February 4-5, 2020, was followed by a period of heavy rain, February 5-7. Snow levels rose to near 5000 feet. There was record flooding on several rivers, including the Walla Walla and Touchet rivers with widespread flooding of numerous other creeks and streams and rivers across the county. Across the northern Blue Mountains of Oregon and northern Blue Mountains of Washington the snowpack was near normal. A weather system brought heavy snow to this region on February 4th and the first part of the day on February 5th with snow amounts from around 10 to 20 inches for locations between 2000 to 4000 feet. During the afternoon of the 5th, snow changed to rain at elevations below 5000 feet. The rain continued over through February 6 and 7th. Precipitation amounts in the form of rain at the headwaters of the rivers, ranged from 3 to 5 inches. There was 1.98 inches over 72 hours at 1.1 NE Walla Walla. In addition, the snowpack from the preceding day was melted, contributing to the runoff. Satellite snowpack images show 1-3 inches of snow water equivalent (or water held in the snowpack) melted out along both the east and west sides of the northern Blue Mountains.

Record high water levels were seen on Upper Mill Creek with extensive damage along upper Mill Creek to homes as well as roads and bridges. A number of residents had to be evacuated via helicopter or 4-wheeler. There was minimal damage along Mill Creek through Walla Walla as water was diverted through the Mill Creek Flood Project. Downstream of Walla Walla, there was damaging flooding in College Place with a bridge being washed out near Wallula Road. In Waitsburg, flood waters from both the Touchet River and Coppei Creek inundated the town as levees were damaged. 60 homes were damaged as well as numerous roads and bridges. Damage countywide is estimated at 8.77 million dollars.

[41] https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/swdi/stormevents/csvfiles/Storm-Data-Export-Format.pdf

5/30/2020 – PRESCOTT THUNDERSTORM WINDS

A major severe weather event by Pacific Northwest standards occurred over central and northeast Oregon and southeast Washington on May 30. A powerful upper-level storm system moved across the area during the afternoon and evening helping to trigger severe thunderstorms. The airmass was unusually unstable for this area of the country with surface dewpoints well into the 60s. With strong upper-level winds in place the stage was set for numerous fast-moving intense storms through the afternoon and early evening. Numerous reports of damaging winds were received across southeast Washington as the storms moved through causing roof damage.

1/12/2021 – WALLA WALLA REGIONAL AIRPORT AND COLLEGE PLACE HIGH WIND

A non-thunderstorm wind gust of 70mph was measured by the ASOS at the Walla Walla Regional Airport at 12:53am PST on Jan. 13th. A non- thunderstorm wind gust of 60mph was measured 4 miles WSW of College Place, WA at 2:47am PST on Jan. 13.

2/12/2021 – WALLA WALLA HEAVY SNOW

A social media report originating 5 miles ENE of Walla Walla, WA estimated 8.5 inches of snowfall over a 48-hour period ending at 10:21am PST on Feb. 13th. A local newspaper from Walla Walla, WA estimated 5 inches of snowfall in a 24-hour period ending at 2:00pm PST on Feb. 12th.

6/15/2021 – MARTIN AIRPORT THUNDERSTORM WIND

The Walla Walla County Sheriff confirmed that a thunderstorm producing gusty winds had uprooted several trees, downed power lines, and had flipped a small plane that was not tied down at Martin Airfield. An upper-level trough with mid to high level jet support moved northeast across Oregon and Washington, producing showers with embedded strong thunderstorms during the early morning hours and in the afternoon.

6/13/2022 – KOOSKOOSKIE AND LANGDON FLOOD, CAUSED BY HEAVY RAIN

A persistent upper trough pushed several shortwave troughs supported by a moderate plume of moisture in the middle of June. Persistent rain showers that develop as a result of each shortwave trough produced enough rainfall for area rivers to swell, with minor flooding being observed along portions of Mill Creek.

Kooskooskie: Emergency Manager relayed reports of flooding along Mill Creek between Thomas and Kooskooskie, WA. There were reports of water over roadways as well as pictures showing minor flooding on a property adjacent to Mill Creek. The creek and flood waters receded on June 14th.

Langdon: Emergency Manager for Walla Walla County relayed several reports of flooding within the area. Near Lanette Cir and Old Milton Hwy reports indicated that there was water over the roadway and that a property had flooding up to the house. Near Powerline Road further east, reports of water over the roadways were also reported.

2/20/2023 – WAITSBURG HIGH WIND

The Washington State University reported via social media that a weather station in Waitsburg, WA recorded a wind gust of 64mph at 2300 PST on Feb. 20. The ASOS at the Walla Walla Regional Airport recorded a wind gust of 59mph at 0222 PST on Feb. 21.

OTHER EVENTS

Other occurrences of note include several incidences of mid-April frost/freeze events in 2023 and 2024 which endangered fruit crops. Extreme heat events in June and July 2021 saw calculated heat risk values recorded for several consecutive days that met or exceeded excessive heat warning criteria. Heat-related fatalities were recorded in the region, near Walla Walla County. Late July and August 2022 also saw several days of extreme heat in Walla Walla County and the region.

PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE

Severe Weather events in Walla Walla County can and do occur every year and at any time of year. Tornados are extremely rare. High wind and severe storms occur annually but do not always cause significant damage. Drought is the most frequent according to the FEMA National Risk Index, however, drought events do not always cause measurable losses in agricultural or other environmental damages. The biggest hazard associated with lightning is wildfire, addressed in another section. Large hail, ice storms, and cold waves are relatively infrequent events in the county but when they occur property and crops are exposed to significant damage. Heat waves are an annual concern, especially affecting socially vulnerable populations.

Table 11: FEMA Reported Annualized Frequency Values by Hazard in Walla Walla County[42]

Hazard Type	Annualized Frequency	Events on Record	Period of Record
Cold Wave	0.2 events per year	3	2005-2021 (16 years)
Drought	20.7 events per year	455	2000-2021 (22 years)
Hail	0.3 events per year	12	1986-2021 (34 years)
Heat Wave	1.3 events per year	21	2005-2021 (16 years)
Ice Storm	0.5 events per year	37	1946-2014 (67 years)

[42] https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/report/viewer?dataLOD=Counties&dataIDs=C53071

Hazard Type	Annualized Frequency	Events on Record	Period of Record
Lightning	1.9 events per year	41	1991-2012 (22 years)
Strong Wind	0.4 events per year	13	1986-2021 (34 years)
Tornado	0 events per year	2	1950-2021 (72 years)
Winter Weather	2.3 events per year	37	2005-2021 (16 years)

SEVERE WEATHER VULNERABILITY

Although extreme damage as a result of storms is usually isolated to a relatively small area or set of areas, various types of severe weather occur everywhere in Walla Walla County and the entire county is vulnerable to impacts from severe weather.

The National Weather Service Forecast Office in Pendleton, Oregon provides weather advisories, watches, and warnings for Walla Walla County.

In addition, Walla Walla County has achieved the StormReady designation through the National Weather Service Program to be better prepared to respond to weather and water threats to the community (https://www.weather.gov/StormReady). Notice is provided to residents of severe storms well in advance if possible.

IMPACTS

Severe Weather events can cause significant damage to trees and power lines and interrupt transportation, commerce, communications, and power distribution. Storms can damage crops and cause hazardous conditions that can result in the perpetuation of additional incidents such as a hazardous material spill along a transportation route or the start of a lightning-caused wildfire. Storm events impact the ability of first responders to provide emergency assistance. Accidents are more likely to occur for travelers and others working outside during storms.

Extreme heat and extreme cold events can endanger vulnerable populations, such as the homeless and those in poverty. Cold waves, hail, and drought can negatively affect the agriculture industry and lead to economic losses. Extended cold snaps can also have effects on pipes, especially in older buildings. Drought also impacts the regional drinking water supply. Lightning is a major ignition source for wildfires. Heavy snow accumulations can damage buildings by collapsing roofs and awnings

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

The impacts of severe weather that affect Walla Walla County can and do also impact the city of College Place. The city has especially dealt with tree damage from storms over the past several years, resulting in public safety concerns, damage to property, cleanup costs, and landscaping expenses. Other effects from severe weather have included loss of power for extended periods of time. When this occurs, the city has experienced problems with their well system.

CITY OF PRESCOTT

The impacts of severe weather that affect Walla Walla County can and do also impact the city of Prescott.

CITY OF WAITSBURG

The impacts of severe weather that affect Walla Walla County can and do also impact the city of Waitsburg, especially high wind events that cause downed trees and powerlines.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

The impacts of severe weather that affect Walla Walla County can and do also impact the city of Walla Walla. Wind events cause downed trees and downed power lines. This is a safety hazard for residents, destroys personal property, and leaves them without power. Residents sometimes become trapped because of these events. In some areas of the city's emergency response zone, first responders have found response difficult during weather events. Severe storms have presented challenges for emergency responders because access is cut off or response times are delayed.

Lightning and high winds, sometimes exacerbated by heat waves and/or drought, causes wildfires in the area around the city. This puts residents in the area at direct risk from wildfires, but it also could impact the Mill Creek Watershed – the city's main source of water.

Extreme heat and extreme cold episodes are occurring more often, creating issues with vulnerable people, especially the homeless population.

WALLA WALLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The impacts of severe weather that affect Walla Walla County can and do also impact the Walla Walla School District. The school district must plan for and react to travel hazards, power outages, and other unsafe weather conditions that might impact the students and teachers at their schools.

WALLA WALLA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The impacts of severe weather that affect Walla Walla County can and do also impact the Walla Walla Conservation District. Heavy rainfall can introduce sedimentation and pollution into local waterways, degrading water quality and negatively affecting critical aquatic habitats for ESA species. Additionally, prolonged drought conditions could stress overall water supplies, impacting both conservation efforts and local agriculture. Combined, the effects of severe weather could hinder the district's initiatives aimed at promoting ecosystem health and effective land management.

RESOURCES AT RISK

Table 12: Expected Annual Loss Ratings and Values for Severe Weather as Reported by FEMA[43]

Hazard Type	Expected Annual Loss Rating	EAL Value	Score
Heat Wave	Relatively High	$2,443,370	95.8
Cold Wave	Relatively High	$724,432	90.9
Ice Storm	Relatively Moderate	$325,376	83.5
Strong Wind	Relatively Low	$153,628	31.1
Drought	Relatively Low	$100,359	68.3
Tornado	Very Low	$71,704	13.9
Winter Weather	Relatively Low	$28,361	38.4
Lightning	Very Low	$18,450	12.2
Hail	Very Low	$12,998	16.4

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

Parcel values that intersect the College Place city limits total more than $1.33 billion. If the power grid is impacted during a wind event or another storm, several city resources could be impacted including Drinking Water Well #3, City Hall, the Public Works yard, and the police station. The technology room at Municipal Complex is vulnerable to extreme temperatures and could be damaged. Wind events could damage many trees throughout the city, including trees that have become unhealthy such as the trees along SE Lamperti Street, in Kiwanis Park, and in Lions Park.

CITY OF PRESCOTT

Parcel values that intersect the city limits of Prescott total $29,870,900. The agricultural resources in the Prescott area are at risk from extreme weather events such as hail, winds, and drought, and agricultural losses would impact the economy of the area. Transportation routes, like SR 124, are local resources at risk of disruption or damage from various storm events or other disasters (fire, flood) that might be caused by severe weather like severe storms or lightning.

CITY OF WAITSBURG

Parcel values that intersect the city limits of Waitsburg total $152,919,514. The local water supply is a resource that is at risk during drought conditions as residents use more water and put a strain on the aquifer. The agricultural resources in the Waitsburg area are at risk from extreme weather events such as hail, winds, and drought, and agricultural losses would impact the economy of the area. Transportation routes, like US 12 and SR 124, are local resources at risk to disruption or

[43] https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/report/viewer?dataLOD=Counties&dataIDs=C53071#SectionExpectedAnnualLoss

damage from various storm events or other disasters (fire, flood) that might be caused by severe weather like severe storms or lightning.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

Parcel values that intersect the city limits of Walla Walla total more than $4.5 billion. Severe winter weather caused approximately $1.5 million in damage from 2016-2018 from damage to roads and bridges. The city has several resources of high value to the residents of the city and the entire region, such as Providence St. Mary Medical Center, food and grocery services, public works, emergency services, large employers, education facilities, and many other resources that are at risk of damages or temporary disruptions in these services during a severe weather event like a windstorm or a winter weather event.

WALLA WALLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Parcel values owned by the school district total more than $104 million. There are many buildings across the campuses of the school district's nine schools as well as sports facilities, buses, and technology that all could be at risk during a severe weather event. A disruption in school activities and endangerment of student and teacher safety because of a severe weather event is the most likely vulnerability in terms of resources at risk from severe weather.

WALLA WALLA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Walla Walla Conservation District faces several resources at risk from damage due to severe weather events. Agricultural lands, which encompass 312,000 acres within the District, are particularly vulnerable and drain directly into vital waterways that support endangered species. Additionally, severe weather can result in the loss of vegetation, including fallen trees that provide essential wildlife habitat. These impacts not only threaten the ecological balance but also jeopardize the District's efforts in enhancing and conserving local resources.

CHANGES IN LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

Arguably the biggest impact new development or new land use has on severe weather vulnerability is increased resource usage. There are concerns about droughts being exacerbated by increased water usage in areas where water usage has been historically low. People moving to rural parts of the country and increased populations concentrated in urban centers both can impact water usage during drought times. Increased populations in general tends to put more strain on the infrastructure of a county also. Severe weather events like strong wind, heavy snowfall, ice storms, and storm-induced flooding can cause wear and damage to utilities, bridges, culverts, road surfaces. This is exacerbated by increased usage of this infrastructure.

Another change in land use is the number of people living in remote areas of the county in buildings not originally intended for long-term residency and using roads and other infrastructure more frequently than the infrastructure was designed for. This increases human exposure to severe weather events such as extreme winter storms and extreme cold, where people attempting to live in these situations are not prepared for some of the extreme weather conditions they might face. Also, in the event of a natural disaster caused by severe weather, such as lightning causing wildfire, first responders are now faced with a remote, sometimes unknown human population that must be assisted or evacuated.

CLIMATE CHANGE

According to an article published by NASA, climate change is causing severe weather events be more frequent and more extreme. "Record-breaking heat waves on land and in the ocean, drenching rains, severe floods, years-long droughts, extreme wildfires, and widespread flooding during hurricanes are all becoming more frequent and more intense." The article states that scientists are using climate change models along with scientific observations to help determine when and if severe weather events are linked to climate change.[44]

According to an article published by the United Nations, climate change is a "threat multiplier" which suggests that a changing climate will exacerbate already existing challenges for the socially vulnerable. The article states that one way this can happen is by negatively affecting food production and increasing hunger. The article also states that climate change can increase poverty and inequalities because it "disproportionately affects the poorest and most vulnerable".[45]

SOCIAL VULNERABILITY

Social Vulnerability refers to the demographic and socioeconomic factors (such as poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing) that adversely affect communities that encounter hazards and other community-level stressors.[46] The FEMA National Risk Index reports that Social Vulnerability in Walla Walla County is "Relatively High". This is based on social groups in Walla Walla County having a "Relatively High susceptibility to the adverse impacts of natural

[44] https://science.nasa.gov/climate-change/extreme-weather/

[45] https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/science/climate-issues/human-security

[46] https://hazards.fema.gov/social-vulnerability

hazards when compared to the rest of the U.S."[47] This calculation is not specific to any one hazard.

Walla Walla County has a homeless population mostly residing in urban areas. Severe weather hazards may cause more significant hardship to the poor and homeless. In a 2024 article for the Texas Homeless Network, Katie Good highlights some ways that extreme heat may impact those without stable housing.

"Extreme heat can exacerbate pre-existing health conditions that are statistically more prevalent among people experiencing homelessness, including respiratory issues, cardiovascular disease, and pulmonary disease. In addition to worsening pre-existing health conditions, unhoused people are at increased risk of third-degree burns from the sun and hot surfaces, severe dehydration, heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke."[48]

Extreme cold can impact homeless people as well. When temperatures drop to unusually cold temperatures, especially when this is unexpected for the time of year, individuals without stable housing are in danger. Severe storms that cause flooding, damaging winds, or heavy snow can also endanger the lives of homeless people.

Extreme weather events affect human health generally, but some individuals may be especially vulnerable. Those impacted by poverty and those with disabilities may be disproportionately affected by severe weather hazards.[49]

[47] https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map

[48] https://www.thn.org/2024/04/03/the-disproportionate-impact-of-climate-change-on-people-experiencing-homelessness/

[49] https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/programs/climatechange/health_impacts/weather_related_morbidity

WILDLAND FIRE HAZARD OVERVIEW

The planning team collectively examined the hazard risk of wildland fire at the county- and adopting jurisdiction- level using FEMA worksheet 5.1. The worksheet definitions for classifications are located in the appendices. The planning team summarized Walla Walla County's overall significance rating for wildland fire as High. This is compared to USDA Forest Service analysis below.

Table 13: FEMA Hazard Summary Rating Worksheet for Wildland Fire

Adopting Jurisdiction	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Overall Significance Ranking
Walla Walla County	3	3	4	10
City of College Place	4	2	3	9
City of Prescott				
City of Waitsburg	2	1	1	4
City of Walla Walla	3	3	3	9
Walla Walla Public Schools	1	1	1	3
Walla Walla County Conservation District	4	3	3	10
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

This section incorporates the 2024 update to the 2017 Mill Creek and Walla Walla County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Both the 2024 updated CWPP and the updated 2024 HMP were conducted simultaneously during the same planning effort. More wildfire analysis is retained in the 2024 CWPP, which serves as an appendix to this document.

The USDA Forest Service tool, *Wildfire Risk to Communities*[50], identifies wildfire risk across the United States using the best available science and data. The CWPP examines their various models

[50] https://wildfirerisk.org/

that analyze risk and vulnerability based on different criteria and factors. These models, examined throughout this section, include *Risk to Homes*, *Wildfire Likelihood*, *Risk Reduction Zones*, and *Vulnerable Populations*.

Wildfire Risk to Communities states that Walla Walla County has a high risk of wildfire, higher than 87% of counties in the United States.

RECENT EVENT HISTORY

Wildfire occurrence data was analyzed for Walla Walla County dating back to the previous CWPP update. Data was sourced by The Wildland Fire Interagency Geospatial Services (WFIGS) Group, who "provides authoritative geospatial data products under the interagency Wildland Fire Data Program."[51]

Several of the recent fires in Walla Wall County have occurred on private lands and in fine fuels like grasses and shrubs. These fires often grew quickly and consumed acreage rapidly but were also contained relatively quickly without damaging structures or injuring people or livestock. Because of proximity to residences, evacuation orders were given on several occasions but were usually lifted quickly. Fires that impacted parts of the county with heavy fuels like timber did not directly impact the county since the previous plan update. However, there have been fires that have consumed large amounts of timberlands to the east of Walla Walla County and have approached the Mill Creek Watershed in recent years.

Table 14: Selected Wildland Fire Events originating in Walla Walla County 2017 through September 1, 2024, sorted by size

Incident Name	Fire Discovery Date	Incident Size (acres)	Fire Cause	Estimated Cost to Date
Hair Road	6/21/2021	7,255	Information unavailable	$1,500
Oasis	6/19/2023	4,250	Undetermined	$500,000
Touchet North	6/28/2022	3,000	Undetermined	$2,000
Neff Road	6/15/2024	1,435	Undetermined	$5,000
Van Ausdle	7/29/2022	1,100	Human	$2,500
Joe Barker Rd	6/19/2017	518	Information unavailable	$1,000
Harvey Shaw	8/16/2023	>500	Human	Unavailable
Weaver Pit	10/28/2022	204	Undetermined	$1,000
Lambdon Road	9/11/2018	200	Unknown	$3,000
Madame Dorian	9/18/2023	200	Human	Unavailable

[51] https://data-nifc.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/nifc::wildland-fire-incident-locations/about

Incident Name	Fire Discovery Date	Incident Size (acres)	Fire Cause	Estimated Cost to Date
Jubilee	9/1/2024	200	Undetermined	Unavailable
Page Road	5/20/2024	150	Undetermined	Unavailable
Hanson Loop	6/13/2021	115	Undetermined	$1,500

RECENT WILDLAND FIRE EVENTS

6/21/2021 – HAIR ROAD FIRE

This Type-4 incident took place about 33 miles northwest of Prescott, just south of lower monumental dam on private property. The primary fuels involved were grasses and total personnel included 69 people. The official size was calculated at 7,255 acres.[52] Some sources reported the fire at more than 9,000 acres.

6/19/2023 – OASIS FIRE

Figure 3: Oasis Fire burn footprint north of Oasis orchards near Nine Mile Hill[53]

The Oasis Fire was reported at 3:22 p.m. near Oasis Road and grew rapidly throughout the afternoon and evening of June 19 as it burned in grass and sagebrush. Evacuation order Level 2 was issued for Cameo Heights Mansion and level 1 for Touchet North Road as the fire initially threatened several structures, agriculture, and infrastructure. Washington State fire assistance was mobilized to support local firefighters to contain the fire just a few hours after it was

[52] https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/pdfs/archives/2021_NWCC_Annual_Fire_Report.pdf

[53] https://www.union-bulletin.com/news/local/topics/wildfire/fire-that-threatened-touchet-contained-before-damaging-structures/article_ca0729e8-0fbd-11ee-841a-c3880e8f84bf.html

discovered. Fire response crews and aircraft contained the fire by that evening and as of 8:30 a.m. on June 20, all evacuations were lifted. The final size was recorded at 4,250 acres.

6/28/2022 – TOUCHET NORTH FIRE

Roughly 3,000 acres burned in a fire, starting on the 600 block of Touchet Road North and the fire was contained by the next morning. About 70 personnel were involved in suppression efforts as the fire largely burned in short and tall grass fuels. Most of the acres that were burned were farmland in CRP. The cause of the fire was not determined.

6/15/2024 – NEFF ROAD FIRE

This fire occurred SR-124 and ½ mile east of Vista Hermosa. Almost 1,500 acres of pasture and CRP fields burned quickly as high winds increased fire activity. Several local fire districts assisted the Walla Walla North County Fire District in suppressing the fire. No injuries were reported and no structures or livestock were lost.

7/29/2022 – VAN AUSDLE FIRE

A fire broke out in a standing wheat field near Van Ausdle Lane north of Walla Walla on July 29 and burned more than 1,000 acres before it was contained that evening. The fire was later determined to be human caused and the area impacted by the fire is predominantly privately-owned agricultural lands and farming infrastructure. Residences on Bergevin Springs Road, including the Eritage Resort, were issued a level 2 evacuation order.[54]

SIGNIFICANT NEIGHBORING EVENTS

Recent fires that occurred outside Walla Walla County but either threatened the county or came close to the Mill Creek Watershed include the following:

- Hat Rock Fire, 2023 – burned 16,816 acres in Umatilla County, Oregon and crossed the state line burning a small part of Walla Walla County.
- Three fires in 2023 that burned along the Columbia River in Benton County, just west of the Wallula area:
    - Toothtaker Fire – 189 acres
    - Hover Park Fire – 528 acres
    - Yellepit Fire – 997 acres

[54] https://elkhornmediagroup.com/wheat-fire-near-walla-walla-contained/

- Green Ridge Fire, 2021 – burned more than 43,000 acres about 30 miles east of Walla Walla in Columbia and Garfield Counties.
- Kahlotus Fire, 2020 – burned more than 21,000 acres along the Snake River in Franklin County just on the other side of the northwest boundary of Walla Walla County.
- Lake Wallula Fire, 2018 – burned more than 12,000 acres in Umatilla County, Oregon along the Columbia River and stopped just south of the Walla Walla County border south of Wallula Junction.
- Grizzly Bear Complex Fire, 2015 – burned more than 83,000 acres across three counties over two states just east of the Mill Creek Watershed.

The 2006 Columbia Complex Fire was a significant regional incident at more than 109,000 acres. It entered Walla Walla County just east of Dixie but mostly burned across Columbia County, just north of the Mill Creek Watershed, and into Garfield County.

PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE

Wildland fire events in Walla Walla County can and do occur every year. The *Wildfire Likelihood*[55] tool estimates the probability of wildfire occurrence in any given year. This is based on fire behavior modeling across thousands of simulations of possible fire seasons. Several other factors contribute to the model including weather, topography, and ignition history. This model reports that the county has a greater wildfire likelihood than 58% of counties in Washington state and a greater wildfire likelihood than 88% of counties in the United States.

The tool also looks at communities within Walla Walla County and compares their wildfire likelihood (WL) to the rest of the county. The table below expresses how much greater wildfire likelihood each community has than the rest of the communities in the county and the rest of the counties in the state of Washington. All other communities in Walla Walla County were found to have a greater wildfire likelihood than Dixie. Wallula was found to have a greater wildfire likelihood than all other communities in the county.

[55] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/wildfire-likelihood/53/53071/

Table 15: Wildfire Likelihood among Walla Walla County communities compared to the county and Washington state[56]

Community Name	Wildfire Likelihood compared to county	Wildfire Likelihood compared to state
College Place	22%	65%
Prescott	89%	76%
Waitsburg	33%	66%
Walla Walla	44%	68%
Burbank	78%	75%
Dixie	-	18%
Garrett	56%	70%
Touchet	67%	72%
Walla Walla East	11%	55%
Wallula	100%	81%

WILDLAND FIRE VULNERABILITY

IMPACTS

Wildfires impact the county in several ways, including via direct and indirect impacts. Wildfires threaten to damage homes, other structures, and infrastructure. Wildfire smoke causes unhealthy air quality conditions that affect health compromised individuals. Wildfire events can put major strain on emergency responders and can interrupt transportation, commerce, communications, and power distribution. Wildfires cause environmental damage, greatly impacting sensitive habitats and ecologically significant areas. In the wake of wildfires, post fire rehabilitation is a costly expense to help the landscape and recover from fire damage.

RISK TO HOMES

The USDA's *Risk to Homes*, "… measures the relative consequence of wildfire to residential structures everywhere on the landscape, whether a home actually exists there or not." All areas are taken into consideration based on wildfire likelihood and intensity simulation models, this way future construction can be taken into account. Homes in Walla Walla County have, on average, a greater risk than 87% of counties in the US, and a greater risk than 61% of counties in Washington state.[57]

[56] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/wildfire-likelihood/53/53071/

[57] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/risk-to-homes/53/53071/

RISK REDUCTION ZONES

The USDA's *Risk Reduction Zones* model expresses the "… areas where mitigation activities will be most effective at protecting homes and other buildings from wildfires." The zones are calculated using the following criteria: "Risk Reduction Zones are based on the interplay between wildfire likelihood, flammable vegetation, and populated areas. Wildfires can start in any zone and pose a risk to homes and communities. We calculate the number of buildings in each Risk Reduction Zone based on building footprints within the political boundary of the selected location." In Walla Walla County, 57% of buildings are found to be at minimal exposure to wildfire while 15% of buildings are considered at indirect exposure, and 28% of buildings are at direct exposure. The figure below shows the buildings by what exposure level they represent as well as areas where flammable vegetation may exist to expose homes to wildfire.[58]

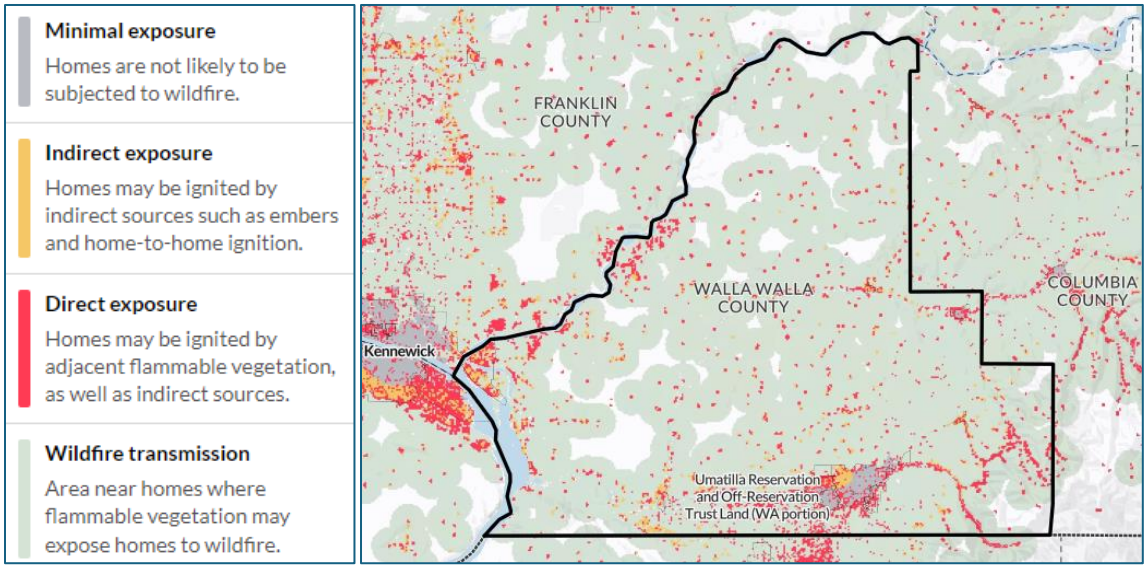


Figure 4: Risk Reduction Zones in Walla Walla County

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

The impacts of wildland fire that affect Walla Walla County can also impact the city of College Place. The city has recognized some areas of wildfire vulnerability in some privately owned stream areas, including Garrison Creek, the Stone Creek area near Walmart, and wooded areas in some HOAs. Homestead Acres HOA and Villages at Garrison Creek HOA both own nature areas

[58] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/risk-reduction-zones/53/53071/

containing old growth forest. The Homestead nature area is 8 acres, while the Villages nature area is 12 acres. These are densely wooded areas that could burn and threaten homes in a wildfire event. Based on visual analysis of the *Risk Reduction Zones* tool, both the Villages at Garrison Creek HOA and the Homestead Acres HOA fall in a "direct exposure" zone. Thus, these areas are prime candidates for locations in College Place where wildfire mitigation projects are likely to make a positive impact.

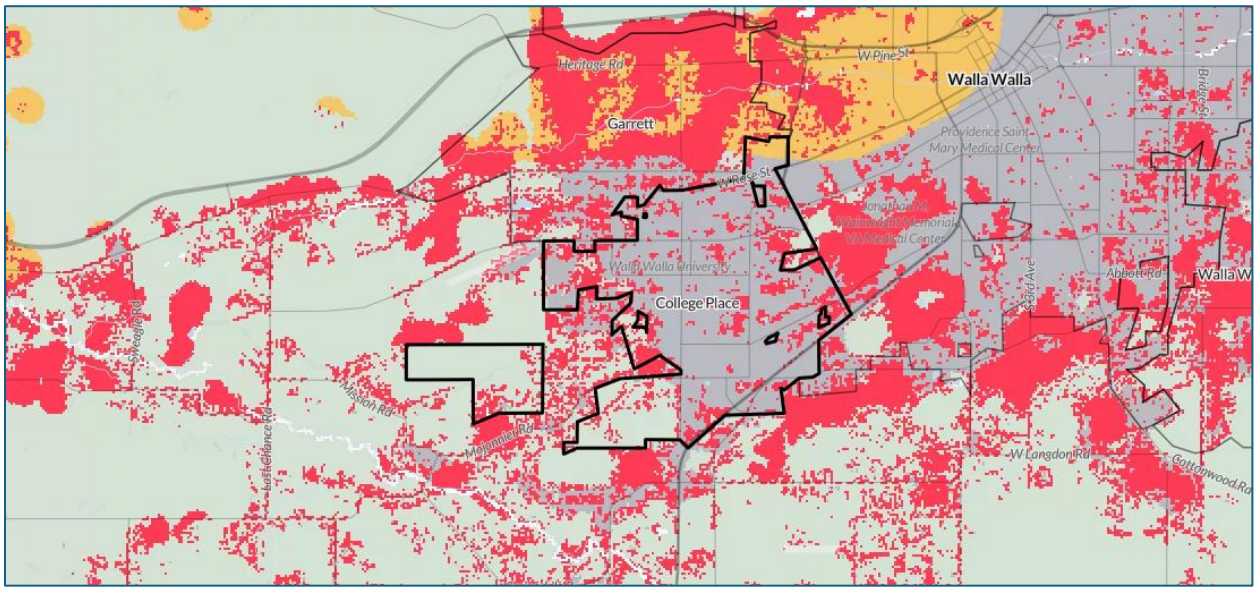


Figure 5: Risk Reduction Zones in College Place

The *Risk to Homes* model for College Place finds that the city has on average, greater risk than 63% of communities in Washington state, and greater risk than 22% of communities in the county. Despite urban areas in the city, there are areas where the model shows some risk to homes.[59] The *Risk Reduction Zones* model for College Place finds that 6% of all buildings are considered to be at direct exposure to wildfire (204 buildings) and 3% of all buildings are at indirect exposure (103 buildings).[60]

CITY OF PRESCOTT

The impacts of wildland fire that affect Walla Walla County can also impact the city of Prescott. Because of the potential for intense fire behavior in the Prescott area, there is a high risk to homes. The *Risk to Homes* model reports that homes in Prescott have on average a greater risk

[59] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/risk-to-homes/53/53071/5300013855/

[60] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/risk-reduction-zones/53/53071/5300013855/

than 75% of communities in Washington state and greater risk than 78% of communities in the county.[61] The *Risk Reduction Zones* model for Prescott shows that most buildings in the city limits fall in the indirect exposure category (81%, 194 buildings) with 19% of all buildings (46 buildings) in the direct exposure category.[62]

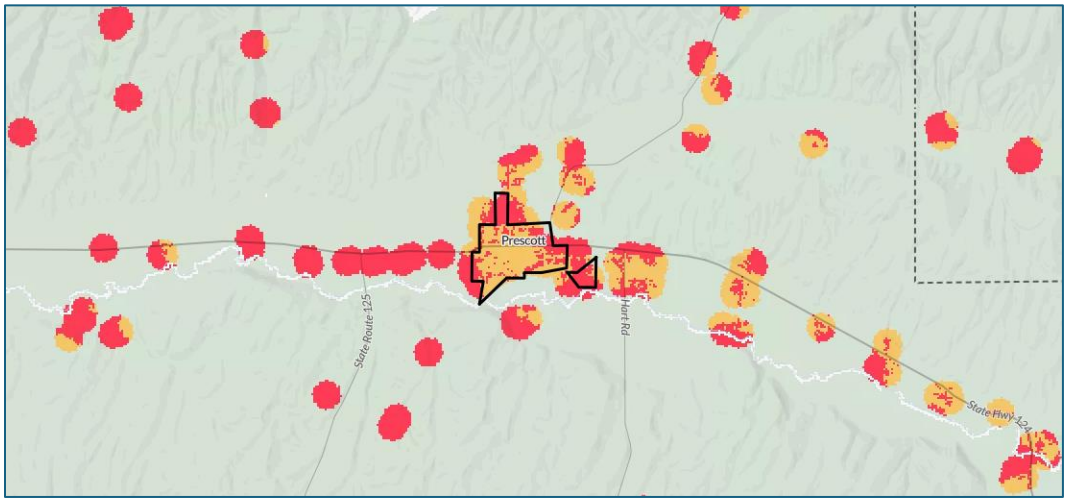


Figure 6: Risk Reduction Zones in Prescott

[61] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/risk-to-homes/53/53071/5300056240/

[62] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/risk-reduction-zones/53/53071/5300056240/

CITY OF WAITSBURG

The impacts of wildland fire that affect Walla Walla County can also impact the city of Waitsburg. The *Risk Reduction Zones* model for Waitsburg reports that many of the buildings (77%) are at minimal exposure to wildfire and thus unlikely to be subjected to wildfire. However, 23% of all buildings in Waitsburg (183 buildings) are considered at direct exposure to wildfire. These buildings are predominantly located around the edges of the city limits.[63]

Figure 7: Risk Reduction Zones in Waitsburg

[63] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/risk-reduction-zones/53/53071/5300075565/

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

The impacts of wildland fire that affect Walla Walla County can also impact the city of Walla Walla. The *Risk Reduction Zones* model for Walla Walla reports that most buildings in the city fall in the minimal exposure zone (82%). The model also puts 11% of buildings in the indirect exposure zone. This is more than 1,400 buildings, mostly located in the northwest part of the city. The model places 7% of buildings in the direct exposure zone (978 buildings) and these are spread mostly along the less urban parts of the city and along the city limit edges.[64]

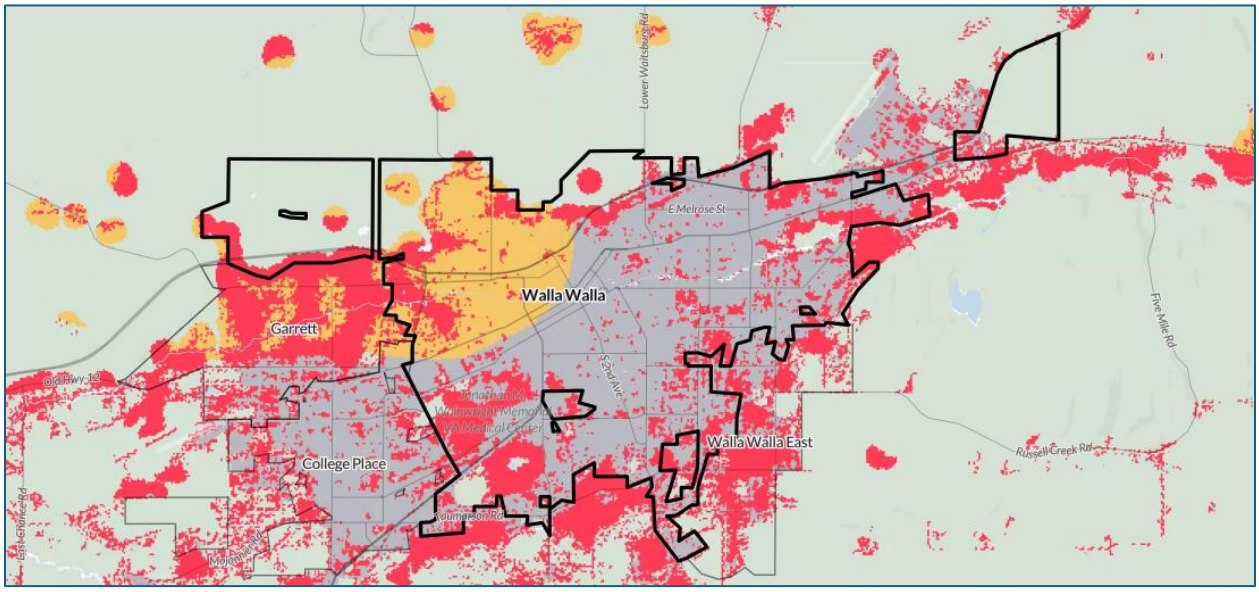


Figure 8: Risk Reduction Zones in the city of Walla Walla

WALLA WALLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The impacts of wildland fire that affect Walla Walla County can also impact the Walla Walla School District, especially disruptions in travel, wildfire smoke creating unhealthy air quality, and in the event of evacuations. Many school district properties fall within the indirect and direct exposure zones expressed in the *Risk Reduction Zones* model for Walla Walla County.

WALLA WALLA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The impacts of wildland fire that affect Walla Walla County can also impact the Walla Walla Conservation District, primarily the impacts to natural resources and the environment that are mentioned in the Walla Walla County discussion. Wildfires are capable of destroying agricultural

[64] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/risk-reduction-zones/53/53071/5300075775/

lands in a short period of time, due to the fuel structure of wheat fields, CRP fields, and other agricultural lands. Many of the recent fires in Walla Walla County have directly impacted agricultural properties, often burning at vegetation-replacement severity before being contained.

RESOURCES AT RISK

Table 16: Expected Annual Loss Values for Wildfire as reported by the FEMA National Risk Index[65]

EAL Total	Building Value	Population Equivalence	Agricultural Value
$182,231	$181,930	$38	$263

FEMA's *Expected Annual Loss* calculation uses a multiplicative equation that factors in *Exposure*, *Annualized Frequency*, and *Historical Loss Ratio*. Building and agricultural values are measured in dollars. *Exposure* considers the representative value of buildings and agricultural potentially exposed to wildfire, *Annualized Frequency* represents the expected frequency of a wildfire event, and *Historic Loss Ratio* represents estimated percentages of building and agricultural values that are exposed and would be expected to be lost in wildfire occurrence.[66]

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

Parcel values that intersect the College Place city limits total more than $1.33 billion. A wildfire event could impact several city resources including water system storage (Reservoir #4 and Well #7). The city may need additional water storage, future reservoirs, and wells. Improvements could be made to increase fire hydrant capacity on the west side of town, like West Whitman Drive and SW Owens Road.

CITY OF PRESCOTT

Parcel values that intersect the city limits of Prescott total $29,870,900. The agricultural resources in the Prescott area are at risk from wildfire and agricultural losses would impact the economy of the area. Transportation routes, like SR 124, are local resources at risk of disruption or temporary closure during a wildfire event.

CITY OF WAITSBURG

Parcel values that intersect the city limits of Waitsburg total $152,919,514. The local water supply has been impacted by fire events in the past and is a valuable resource at short and long term

[65] https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/report/viewer?dataLOD=Counties&dataIDs=C53071#SectionExpectedAnnualLoss

[66] https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/expected-annual-loss

risk to wildfire. The agricultural resources in the Waitsburg area are at risk from wildfire and agricultural losses would impact the economy of the area. Transportation routes, like US 12 and SR 124, are local resources at risk of disruption or temporary closure during a wildfire event.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

Parcel values that intersect the city limits of Walla Walla total more than $4.5 billion. One very valuable resource to the city is the Mill Creek Watershed. About 90% of the municipal water supply comes from the watershed and many essential services, such as the hospital, depend solely on the municipal water supply. A significant wildland fire would likely threaten the city's primary water source for an extended period of time. Fire responders across multiple agencies have responded to and contained numerous fires in the watershed over the past several fire seasons.

WALLA WALLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Parcel values owned by the school district total more than $104 million. There are many buildings across the campuses of the school district's nine schools as well as sports facilities, buses, and technology that all could be at risk of wildfire damage, however, school district officials don't see wildfire as a likely direct threat to these assets. The water supply for Walla Walla is an essential resource at risk for the school district.

WALLA WALLA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The primary concern of the conservation district is the natural resources in the county and therefore the main resources at risk to the conservation district are the natural features, soils, wildlife and wildlife habitat, agricultural lands, water resources, vegetation, fisheries, and other natural resources. There are land values at risk to wildfire in the county, including agricultural and non-agricultural property values. These values are noted in Table 4 in the *Expected Annual Loss* discussion for Walla Walla County.

CHANGES IN LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

A significant shift in land use, especially as it relates to wildfire vulnerability, is the number of people living in remote areas of the county in areas surrounded by wildland fuels and far away from fire responders. This increases both human and structure exposure to wildfire. More than half of homes and buildings in the county are still located in the "minimal exposure zone" mentioned in the *Risk Reduction Zones* discussion, but areas of higher wildfire probability are seeing increasing numbers of full- and part-time residents. Also, in the event of a wildfire event, first responders are now faced with a remote, sometimes unknown human population that must be assisted or evacuated.

Another way that land use changes have impacted wildland fire vulnerability is in the trend toward agricultural lands in the vicinity of Walla Walla (city) being repurposed for residential or clustered development. These lands naturally contain fine wildland fuels when not being cultivated for agricultural purposes and more homes or other structures in these types of wildland fuel environments increase exposure and wildfire vulnerability. The area around the cities of Walla Walla and College Place are considered "wildfire transmission" zones, or areas where "… flammable vegetation may expose homes to wildfire." As homes and structures are built in these areas there will likely be more buildings in the "direct exposure" zones that are already common around the cities as well.[67]

CLIMATE CHANGE

The USDA Northwest Climate Hub website discusses how climate is inextricably related to wildfire both in the past, present, and future: "Climate and wildfire have been strongly related in the past, and changes in climate will affect future fire frequency and severity. Climate change will result in longer wildfire seasons, increased wildfire frequency, size, and total area burned, and possibly increased wildfire severity."[68]

Some ways that changes in the climate might be expected to impact the wildfire hazard risk in Walla Walla County include increased temperatures, more frequent drought events, warmer springs leading to faster snowmelt, reduced winter snowpack, and drier soils and vegetation leading to lower wildland fuel moistures. Longer, hotter, and drier fire seasons are anticipated to be the general trend, though there will not necessarily be an exponential increase each year and some fluctuation is still expected. Increased wind events are a concern for Walla Walla County as wind is a major factor in rapid fire spread in the grass- and brush-type fuels that are prevalent in the county.

SOCIAL VULNERABILITY

Social Vulnerability refers to the demographic and socioeconomic factors (such as poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing) that adversely affect communities that encounter hazards and other community-level stressors.[69] The FEMA National Risk Index reports that Social Vulnerability in Walla Walla County is "Relatively High". This is based on social groups

[67] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/risk-reduction-zones/53/53071/5300075775/

[68] https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/hubs/northwest/topic/climate-change-and-wildfire-idaho-oregon-and-washington

[69] https://hazards.fema.gov/social-vulnerability

in Walla Walla County having a "Relatively High susceptibility to the adverse impacts of natural hazards when compared to the rest of the U.S."[70] This calculation is not specific to any one hazard.

Walla Walla County has a homeless population mostly residing in urban areas. Wildland fire may not be a direct hazard risk to these people, but the indirect impacts of wildfire may cause more significant hardship for the poor and homeless. The most significant factor might be decreased air quality during fire season. The homeless are not always able to go indoors to escape poor air quality and if they also have compromised health this will pose even greater challenges.

The *Wildfire Risk to Communities* tool also offers a *Vulnerable Populations* model that looks at, "social and economic factors that can make it more difficult for some people to prepare for, respond to, and recover from wildfire." These populations include people who experience some or all of a variety of social and medical challenges. In Walla Walla County, there are areas within Walla Walla County that rank above the local median in the following categories:[71]

Limited English	Over 65 years of age
People of color	Disabilities
No car	Mobile homes
Under 5 years old	Poverty

[70] https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map

[71] https://wildfirerisk.org/explore/vulnerable-populations/53/53071/

FLOODING HAZARD OVERVIEW

Table 17: FEMA Hazard Summary Rating Worksheet for Flood

Adopting Jurisdiction	Location (Geographic Area Affected)	Maximum Probable Extent (Magnitude/Strength)	Probability of Future Events	Overall Significance Ranking
Walla Walla County	3	3.5	3	9.5
City of College Place	3	3	2	8
City of Prescott				
City of Waitsburg	3	3	4	10
City of Walla Walla	4	3	4	11
Walla Walla Public Schools	1	1	1	3
Walla Walla County Conservation District	2	3	4	9
Ranking Value	1 – Negligible 2 – Limited 3 – Significant 4 – Extensive	1 – Weak 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe 4 – Extreme	1 – Unlikely 2 – Occasional 3 – Likely 4 – Highly Likely	3 to 5 – Low 6 to 8 – Medium 9 to 12 – High

Flooding occurs when an overflow of water submerges land that was previously dry. This typically occurs when the volume of water within a water body, such as a river or lake, exceeds its capacity. Walla Walla County is susceptible to riverine and flash flooding. Flooding can also occur as a result of dam failure.

Flooding in Walla Walla County is most likely to occur in winter and spring when localized rainstorms, snowmelt, and/or rain-on-snow events can overwhelm channels with rapid runoff. Frozen soil conditions are often present during these periods and help to increase the volume and rate of runoff by preventing infiltration. With deeper snowpack conditions or spring snowfall events large volumes of water can result in flood events that can last several days.

There have been four severe floods in Walla Walla County since about 1925. These floods took place in March 1931, December 1964, February 1996 and February 2020. Primary flood hazard areas include Mill Creek, the Touchet River, and Coppei Creek.

FLOODPLAIN

Most flood damage occurs in floodplains. Much of the development within Walla Walla County occurs near streams in low-lying areas and often times floodplains which increases the risk of damage by rising water. The floodway and 100-year floodplain are the two areas most likely to experience flooding. The floodway experiences frequent inundation and within Walla Walla County construction is not permitted within this zone.

A 100-year floodplain is defined as a 1% annual probability of flooding. Recent studies suggest an increased risk to infrastructure can be anticipated during the 21st century as a result of climate change. The floodway and the 100-yr floodplain have been mapped for Walla Walla County by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). However, with a few exceptions, floodplain and floodway boundaries have not been reassessed since their initial mapping in 1983.

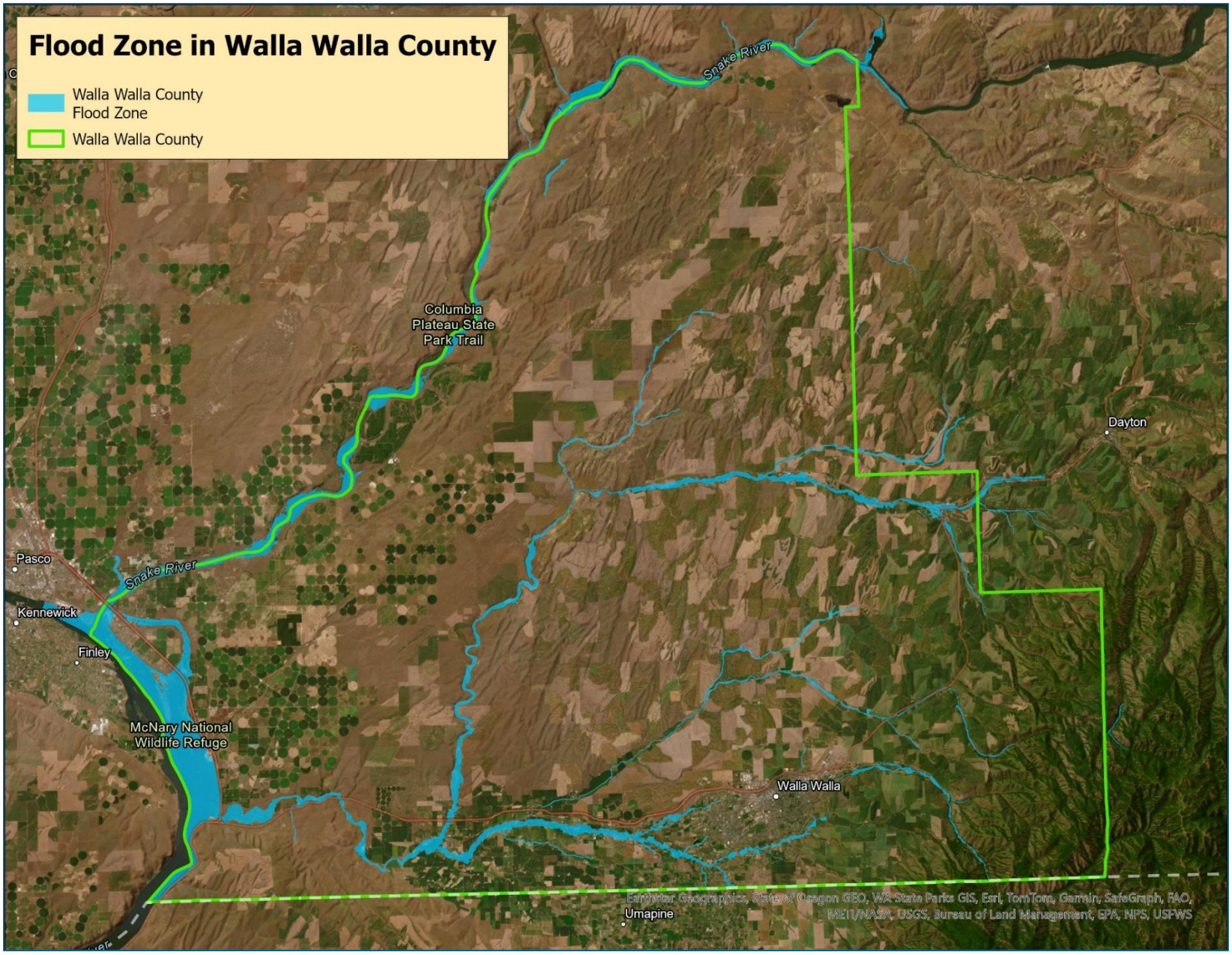


Figure 9: National Flood Hazard Layer (Flood Zone) in Walla Walla County

FEDERAL DAMS

Mill Creek Dam is currently classified as Low Risk by the National Inventory of Dams.[72] The Hazard Potential Classification is High due to the potential hazard to the downstream area resulting from failure or mis-operation of the dam or facilities – not because of the condition of the dam or the risk of the dam failing. The last inspection date was conducted on 10/22/2022 and the last Emergency Action Plan was revised on 07/07/2022; it meets FEMA guidelines.

Ice Harbor Lock and Dam on the Snake River is currently classified as Low Risk by the National Inventory of Dams. The Hazard Potential Classification is High due to the potential hazard to the downstream area resulting from failure or mis-operation of the dam or facilities – not because of the condition of the dam or the risk of the dam failing. The last inspection date is 05/08/2024 and the last Emergency Action Plan was revised on 07/07/2022; it meets FEMA guidelines.

RECENT EVENT HISTORY

12/30/17 – TOUCHET

On December 29 and 30 a weather system brought 3 to 4 inches of heavy rain to the Blue Mountains. This resulted in a swift increase in flows in streams and creeks, with the Walla Walla River near Touchet rising to 14.2 feet, exceeding the flood stage of 13 feet on December 30. A FEMA Disaster Declaration was made for this flood event which caused damage in 15 counties across Washington. Walla Walla County was given $21.63 per capita to repair or replace facilities damaged by the flood.

2/5/2018 – TOUCHET

On February 1 through February 4, two to three inches of rain fell in the Blue Mountains causing the Walla Walla River to briefly hit the flood stage of 13 feet on February 5. There were no property damage, injuries, or deaths associated with this event.

4/9/2019 – KOOSKOOSKIE

On April 9, minor flooding was reported on Titus Creek after the above-normal snowpack in the Blue Mountains began melting in warm weather. On the same day the Touchet River changed course and began eroding nearby buildings. This event caused the flooding of a tractor and two

72 https://nid.sec.usace.army.mil/#/

buildings to fall into the river. This amounted to $150,000 in property damage and $2000 of crop damage.

2/6/2020 – TOUCHET

On February 4 and 5 there was heavy snow followed by over 8 inches of heavy rain on February 5 through 7. This caused extensive flooding throughout the region especially on Mill Creek, the Walla Walla River, and the Touchet River. The Kooskooskie gage in Mill Creek recorded a new record flow of 7,050 cfs (cubic feet per second). Extensive damage occurred on upper Mill Creek to homes, roads, and bridges. There were no direct injuries or deaths associated with this event, but many residents had to be rescued from homes. In Waitsburg, the Touchet River and Coppei Creek flooded because the levees became damaged which led to the damage of 60 homes along with many roads and bridges. At its peak, the Walla Walla River reached 20.26 feet, over 7 feet above the flood stage of 13 feet. The total damage from this event is estimated at 8.77 million dollars. A FEMA Disaster Declaration was made for this flood event which caused damage in 15 counties across Washington. Walla Walla County was given $98.50 per capita for damage repair.

Figure 10: Images of 2020 flood damage

6/14/2022 – KOOSKOOSKIE

On June 14, after a persistent rain, flooding occurred near Langdon. There were no property damage, injuries, or deaths associated with this event but reports of flooding along roadways were reported.

JUNE 2022 – COTTONWOOD CREEK

Record-breaking rains in June of 2022 caused flooding of Cottonwood Creek along Old Milton Highway, south of College Place. Flooding led to erosion and minor damage to private property, requiring cleanup of pastures, yards, and basements.[73]

PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE

Flood hazard probabilities were assessed for the 2018 MHMP and this analysis was reaffirmed for the 2022 Walla Walla Flood Response Plan and the probability of flood damage occurring within Walla Walla County within the next 25 years is reported as HIGH. During the 2024 MHMP update, the probability of future flood events was rated as "Likely" for Walla Walla County overall. The cities of Walla Walla and Waitsburg were rated as "Highly Likely". This is consistent with past hazard assessments and planning efforts.

WALLA WALLA RIVER FLOODING

The largest recorded flood on the Walla Walla River occurred in February 1996 and had a stage of 20.58 ft. Flooding of the Walla Walla River also occurred in January of 1965, as well as 1906, 1931, 1949, 1951, 1972, 1997, and 2020. Most flood damage on the lower Walla Walla River are related to various types of road and bridge impacts, bank and field erosion, and sediment deposition. The 2022 Walla Walla Flood Response Plan lists the probability of occurrence as MEDIUM.

TOUCHET RIVER

In Walla Walla County, flooding of the Touchet River has mainly caused damage in the communities of Prescott and Waitsburg. Flooding also causes various types of roads and bridge damage, bank and field erosion, and sediment deposition along the Touchet River to the Walla Walla River. Widespread severe damage and disruptions occurred in Waitsburg during the flood

73 https://www.union-bulletin.com/news/local/governments/old-milton-highway-residents-want-solutions-after-walla-walla-creeks-flooded-in-mid-june/article_c54e0862-f36d-11ec-a047-8b157c0245c7.html

of February 1996. The 2022 Walla Walla Flood Response Plan lists the probability of occurrence as MEDIUM.

COPPEI CREEK

Coppei Creek has experienced significant flooding several times. The flows and levels on Coppei Creek are not gauged. However, it is known that Coppei Creek contributed to the severe level of damage in Waitsburg during the floods of February 1996 and February 2020. The creek left its channel and was diverted down Coppei Avenue where it collected behind the existing levee along the Touchet River causing damages to local structures. Other Coppei flood problems were related to road and bridge damage, bank and field erosion, and sediment deposition. Using high water marks, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has estimated the February 1996 peak flood discharge on Coppei Creek to have been about 1,700 cfs. The 2022 Walla Walla Flood Response Plan lists the probability of occurrence as MEDIUM.

MILL CREEK

Due to the topography of its watershed, Mill Creek tends to have short duration, high volume-flood events. The largest of these floods are usually caused by prolonged intense rainfall on saturated soils, or rapid snowmelt in conjunction with rain and warming temperatures. The FEMA Flood Insurance Study reported in 1983 stated Mill Creek flow exceeded the bank-full capacity (600 cfs) 29 times out of 36 years of records. The 1931 flood that impacted the City of Walla Walla and spurred the construction of the Mill Creek Reservoir was partially in response to the hydrology of the Mill Creek Watershed. The USACE completed the Mill Creek flood control project in 1942 diverting a portion of Mill Creek floodwaters to Bennington Lake reservoir and successfully decreasing discharges through the City of Walla Walla. Flows in Garrison, Russell, and Yellowhawk Creeks are also controlled by this project. The project consists primarily of a constructed concrete floodwater conveyance channel with a 5,400 csf capacity through the City of Walla Walla. This channel is now aging and in many areas of the city it needs significant repairs or reconstruction to remain functional.

Major flood events on Mill Creek have occurred in 1931, 1964, 1996, and 2020. The City of Walla Walla sustained only minor damages during the February 1996 and February 2020 flood due to the operation of the diversion and detention system. Mill Creek has regularly caused damaging impacts in the Kooskooskie area due to infrastructure and private dwellings occurring within flood zones. Mill Creek flooding has also consistently led to bank undercutting and erosion downstream of the City of Walla Walla. The 2022 Walla Walla Flood Response Plan lists the probability of occurrence as HIGH.

YELLOWHAWK, COTTONWOOD, RUSSELL, GARRISON, AND RESER CREEKS

There is little flooding data available regarding flows on Garrison, Yellowhawk, Cottonwood, Russell, and Reser Creeks. Flows in Russell, Garrison, and Yellowhawk Creeks are partially regulated by the Mill Creek Diversion and Reservoir project. In the absence of the USACE project the causes and frequency of flooding on these creeks would be expected to be similar to Mill Creek. The 1983 FEMA FIS reported that there was evidence of at least five floods in the last 50 years. These were in 1926, 1927, 1931, 1949, and 1964. The largest flood may have occurred in 1949. Only nuisance flooding was reported in these drainages during 1996. The 2022 Walla Walla Flood Response Plan lists the probability of occurrence as LOW. However, repeated spring creek flooding has increased as recently as 2022 and resulted in erosion and some damage to private properties, especially in the Cottonwood Creek area.

FLASH FLOODING

Flash floods are characterized by a rapid rise in water level that exceeds bank-full capacity of any measurable water course (i.e., stream, river, dry ravine). In an extreme case, a flash flood could be a wall of water moving down a steep canyon or ravine. Flash floods are common in areas of steep terrain and alluvial fans. Flash floods are distinguished from other types of flooding by the short time frame in which they can develop and intensify. They can occur within a short time (≤ six hours) of a rain event or following a sudden release of water held by an ice or debris dam. There is often little warning of a flash flood.

The brief, intense rainfall from a thunderstorm is usually the cause of a flash flood. Inadequate urban drainage systems increase the likelihood of flash food. In urban environments where vegetation has been removed, where bridges and culverts constrict flow, or where buildings and paving have greatly expanded impermeable surfaces, there is an increased flash flood risk. Several factors contribute to flash flooding. Two key elements are rainfall intensity and duration. As discussed above, other factors include topography, soil conditions, and ground cover.

Currently, development regulations are in place which limit impervious surface, plan for flooding, and require that storm-water run-off is contained within property boundaries and not allowed to flow onto adjacent roadways and properties. These regulations are enforced by local public works and planning departments under a general stormwater permit and implementing guidance from Washington State Department of Ecology.

Damage from localized flash flooding would most likely be contained to a relatively small area or drainage and vulnerability has been significantly reduced for many areas due to state and local flooding and storm water regulations.

The National Weather Service has reported three flash flood events since the year 2000: April 23, 2005, in the Waitsburg area, May 8, 2005, in the City of Walla Walla area, and July 16, 2012, near Touchet. No damage was reported in the Waitsburg incident, and the City of Walla Walla reported approximately $20,000 in damages. The Touchet incident was caused by thunderstorms that produced 1-2 inches of rain suddenly in isolated areas. Flash floods and mudslides caused damage to several county roads and completely submerged a parked pickup. The 2022 Walla Walla Flood Response Plan lists the overall probability of a flash flood event as MEDIUM.

FLOODING VULNERABILITY

Local, state, and federal agencies have taken steps to reduce the vulnerability of flooding for both municipal and rural jurisdictions. These jurisdictions can regulate development within the floodplain through construction standards and critical-area regulations, increase the communities' flood disaster preparedness, plan response, conduct mitigation projects, encourage participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and educate the public. All these activities reduce vulnerability.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Walla Walla County and the four cities listed in the table below participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). As defined by the NFIP, there are no "repetitive loss", or "severe repetitive loss" properties located within Walla Walla County's planning area.

Table 18: Summary of National Flood Insurance Program Participation

Community Name	Policies in Force	Total Coverage	Total Written Premium + FPF	Total Annual Payment
Walla Walla County	115	$32,343,000	$105,039	$128,994
City of College Place	6	$1,535,000	$3,457	$4,178
City of Prescott	4	$670,000	$4,371	$5,450
City of Waitsburg	39	$7,741,000	$48,489	$60,111
City of Walla Walla	13	$5,150,000	$8,870	$11,132

Description	Definition
Policies in Force	The number of policies in force for a given state and combination of attributes.
Total Annual Payment	This represents the sum of submitted written premium, discounts, fees, assessments and surcharges.
Total Coverage	The total building and contents coverage for the policies in force.

Total Written Premium + FPF	This represents the sum of the premium and FPF (federal policy fee) for the policies in force.

For Walla Walla County, in response to the flood events of 1996, the County worked with other agencies to develop the *Walla Walla County Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (CFHMP),* completed in 1999. This plan presents a comprehensive floodplain management strategy regarding flood hazards and providing guidance for mitigation actions. Additionally, in June 2009 the first phase of the Walla Walla County Flood Response plan (FRP) was adopted. The first phase focused on Mill Creek but additional phases addressing the Walla Walla, Touchet, and Coppei Rivers are planned. The FRP provides a plan for response to a flood event on Mill Creek but also supports efforts to "develop community awareness and understanding of flood hazards" which is a key component in mitigating flood hazards and reducing vulnerability.

The Walla Walla County Flood Response Plan was written in 2022 with the stated purpose to "… provide a framework for the effective utilization of government and private sector resources to mitigate, respond to, and recover from flooding events; protect lives, property, and preserve the environment." This plan addresses both flood response and flood mitigation and integrated the analysis done for the 2018 MHMP.

IMPACTS

WALLA WALLA COUNTY

Future floods may threaten lives, damage property, and impact transportation infrastructure located in floodways and within 100- and 500-year floodplain zones. Although the total population of the county is not directly exposed to this hazard, the effect of the hazard will affect all residents indirectly.

Flooding has both immediate and short-term impacts as well as long-term impacts throughout the county. For example, flooding in 2020 cut off roadways which had multiple layers of impact:

- disrupting daily life and regular travel patterns,
- affecting commerce and impacting economic functions, and
- preventing or delaying emergency response.

Long-term impacts include damage to roads, bridges, structures, and to the landscape through erosion. The 2020 floods damaged a bridge and washed out a hiking trail at Harris Park. The bridge was repaired but the bank where the trails were located has eroded and the trails have not been replaced. Flooding has had other environmental impacts. Work had been completed

along Mill Creek to improve roads and build fish conservation infrastructure. Soon after, 2020 flood events destroyed much of that work.

Over the last decade, residents have reported to the Walla Walla County Conservation District incidents of damage due to high flow events or "flashier" flood events. Most often these events occur during or shortly after a significant amount of precipitation coupled with rapid warm winds, called Chinook winds. The events seem to be more volatile and their frequency increasing. In spring 2017, one of these events resulted in damage to existing infrastructure and loss of economic land with an estimated cost of $1.3 million to repair the damage; acres of land lost to rapid erosion cannot be replaced.

Waterways naturally move but a concern is that movement is impacting private property, residences, and undermining roads and bridge abutments. Levees, armored banks, and channelization of waterways send river energy downstream and can exacerbate erosion and damage from these events. For example, the levee system that protects the town of Waitsburg from flooding has been implicated in the rapid erosion occurring on the reach between the town and the Bolles Bridge.

There is a common expectation that Dixie could experience significant flooding resulting from a heavy rain event.

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

Flooding can have impacts on employee availability especially for emergency and medical service workers who are vital for first response after a disaster.

Flooding has also been seen to close sections of roads throughout the city which disrupts transportation and can strand residents in their houses. Some roads such as NW Evans, NW Destito Court, NW Earl Lane, and SW Puff Lane have seen repetitive flooding. The Public Works yard where equipment is located is in a low part of town and at risk to flooding.

CITY OF PRESCOTT

The Touchet River which runs just south of Prescott occasionally floods which mostly causes damage to roads, bridges, and causes erosion.

CITY OF WAITSBURG

The eastern section of Waitsburg is vulnerable as seen during the 2020 flood as well as erosion caused by the flood water as it goes through the town's levee system.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

The hospital has seen employee and patient transportation issues during flood events and employees needing time off work to recover and sheltering for some. Modeling suggests that a Mill Creek Dam failure would significantly increase the risk to the hospital campus.

WALLA WALLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Flooding can have impacts on the school buildings and facilities but most of the impacts will be disruptions to students from canceled school. School could be canceled due to disrupted transportation infrastructure, which could result in teachers unable to report to work.

WALLA WALLA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

A flood event can lead to a significant influx of sedimentation, and both point and non-point source pollution, including harmful chemicals such as herbicides and pesticides used by nearby crop growers. Additionally, flooding can result in culvert failure, disrupting fish passage and affecting their sensitive habitat requirements. Severe flooding may also cause substantial damage to crops, potentially leading to total loss.

RESOURCES AT RISK

WALLA WALLA COUNTY

Official county parcel data and the National Flood Hazard Layer (commonly referred to as the "flood zone") were used to analyze values of resources at risk to flood. The analysis showed that as of 2024, Walla Walla County recorded 2,737 parcels with an assessed value that intersected with the flood zone. The value of these parcels totaled more than $1.1 billion county wide. Some of these properties are owned by major industrial companies, colleges, and governmental authorities. Not all properties that intersect with the flood zone have the same risk of flood damage or vulnerability in the event of a flood, despite their proximity in the flood zone.

A structure data layer was updated in 2024 that represents all structures 450 sq. ft. or larger in Walla Walla County. Using this layer, analysis shows that 1,000 structures in the county intersect with the flood zone. Not all these structures are located completely or even primarily in the flood zone, as some are only partially touching the flood zone. The table below summarizes the structures located in the flood zone based on how they are classified by the County Assessor.

Table 19: Structures in Flood Zone in Walla Walla County by Classification

Structure Classification	Number of Structures
Agriculture	199
Commercial	33
Education	4
Government	11
Industrial	43

Structure Classification	Number of Structures
Residential	677
Unclassified	33
All	1000

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

The Public Works Yard, where equipment is stored is located in a low-lying part of town. There are 24 parcels that intersect both the city of College Place and the flood zone that have assessed values. These property values combine to almost $13.4 million.

CITY OF PRESCOTT

Flooding impacts to roads and bridges can create issues with transportation if there is significant enough damage. Sedimentation from the river can also affect water quality as it drains into the Walla Walla River. There are 46 parcels that intersect both the city of Prescott and the flood zone that have assessed values. These property values combine to more than $7 million.

CITY OF WAITSBURG

Flooding impacts private residences and the transportation systems, such as in 2020 when 1/3 of the city was inundated. Property values in the flood zone within the city limits of Waitsburg total more than $96.5 million according to county parcel data. However, it is not likely that all of these properties would be put at risk during any one flood event.

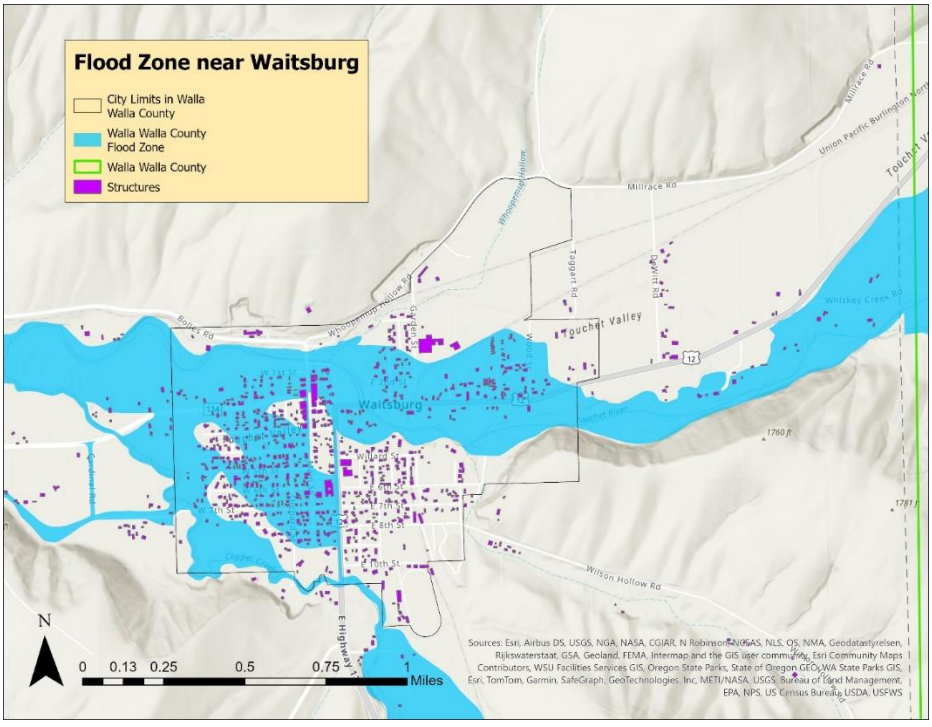


Figure 11: Flood Zone in Waitsburg Area

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

When the water transmission line is damaged, as it was in 2020, the city must switch to well water. The hospital has generators on the bottom level which are vulnerable to a flood if it breaches the levees. Transportation systems such as roads and bridges are the main resources at risk as they are likely to be affected by floods. There are 38 parcels that intersect both the city of Walla Walla and the flood zone that have assessed values. These property values combine for more than $44.8 million. However, four of those parcels account for almost $34.7 million. These four properties appear to have minimal exposure to the flood zone.

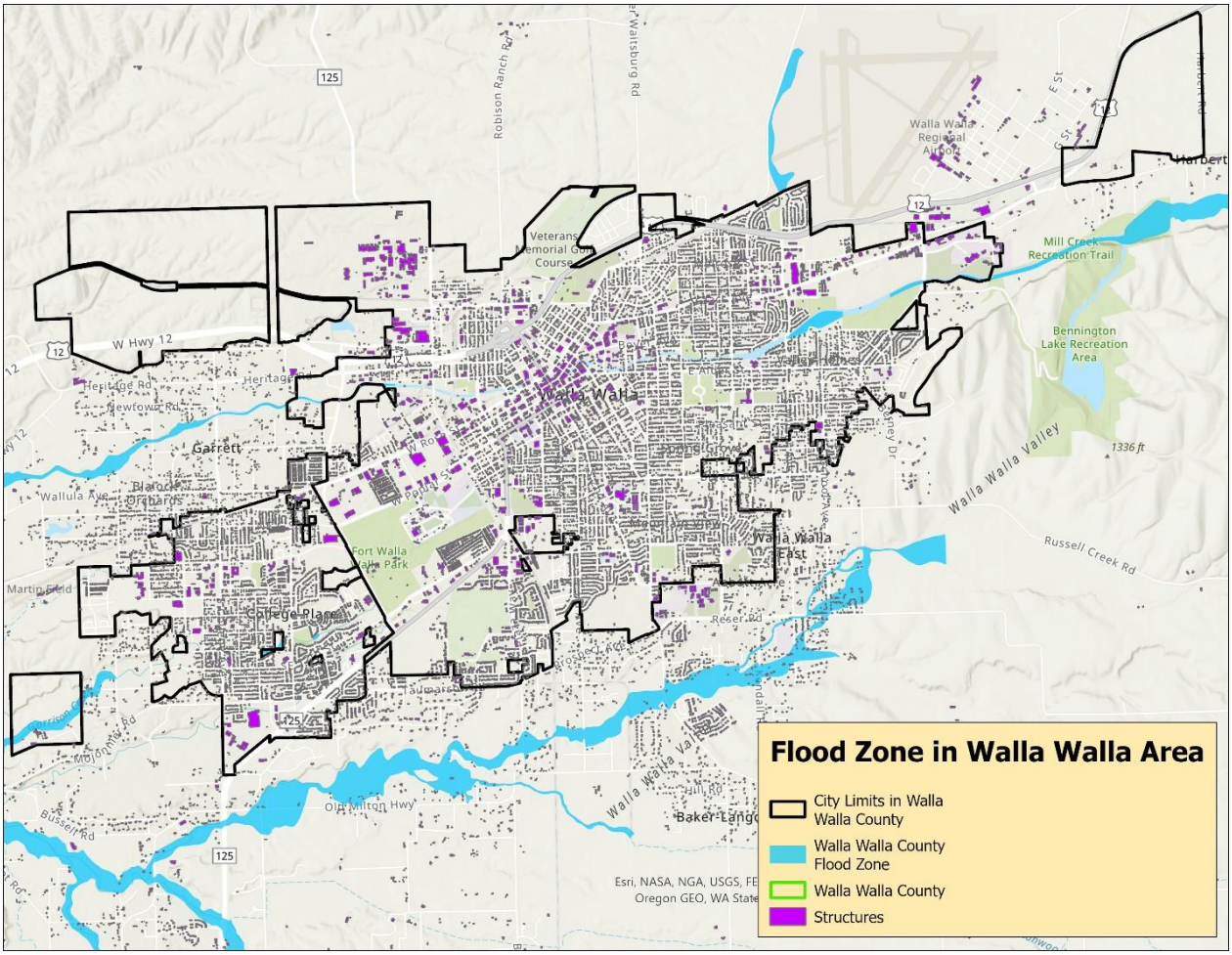


Figure 12: Flood Zone in Walla Walla Area

WALLA WALLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Parcel values owned by the school district total more than $104 million, however, few of these properties are likely to be impacted by flooding. Edison Elementary is one school located nearby the FEMA flood zone along Mill Creek. A larger concern would be a disruption in services or transportation from flooding.

WALLA WALLA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

A key resource at risk from flooding is the agricultural land that the district helps conserve. In Walla Walla County, flooding can significantly affect agricultural growers by causing direct crop damage and total loss, leading to increased costs for repairs, replacement seeds, and potentially higher insurance premiums. Additionally, flooding directly impacts waterways and overall ecosystem health.

CHANGES IN LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

A worst-case scenario of flooding could occur within Walla Walla County and is likely to have moderate to major impacts given the aging flood control infrastructure, increasing population and increased urban and rural development. Infill projects in some cities have increased the urban density, thus theoretically increasing flood exposure. However, this is only true if flood hazards were present in these areas already. Much of Waitsburg is located in the 100-year flood zone but the infill development is minimal in Waitsburg.

Some of the cities have improved a variety of infrastructure over the recent past, some in part to mitigate flood damage. Wastewater treatment facilities, drinking water treatment facilities, backup generators in key facilities, and streets are some examples of improvements that have been hardened against flood potential. Bridges in the county have been repaired and improved since damage from the 2020 flooding, including the Mill Creek Bridge near Kooskooskie and the Del Sharpe Bridge near Prescott. The Bennington Lake and Mill Creek projects overseen by the US Army Corps of Engineers are some examples of flood risk mitigation projects in the county.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Washington Department of Ecology discusses climate change and flooding on their website regarding planning for flood hazards. “Increased temperatures driven by climate change are influencing variables that contribute to flooding. Storm surges, sudden snowmelt, and atmospheric rivers can exacerbate flooding.”[74] Overall, increases in flood events or increases in severity of flood events due to climate change could result in more damage and higher costs of recovery. This would also necessitate greater need for pre-disaster mitigation.

74 https://ecology.wa.gov/air-climate/responding-to-climate-change/flood-impacts

SOCIAL VULNERABILITY

Social Vulnerability refers to the demographic and socioeconomic factors (such as poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing) that adversely affect communities that encounter hazards and other community-level stressors.[75] The FEMA National Risk Index reports that Social Vulnerability in Walla Walla County is "Relatively High". This is based on social groups in Walla Walla County having a "Relatively High susceptibility to the adverse impacts of natural hazards when compared to the rest of the U.S."[76] This calculation is not specific to any one hazard.

Areas of Walla Walla County that are subject to flooding have a strong possibility of disproportionately impacting socially vulnerable populations, including those experiencing poverty, those with compromised health, and the disabled. Flooding events in the county impact everyone, however, those who are not financially stable might experience greater challenges in recovering from flood damage to their homes and properties. Disruptions in services, utilities, and transportation due to flooding might compromise the safety of people who rely on those services for medical supplies, food and water, and healthcare. Those who do not have the means or physical ability to evacuate quickly from a flooded area are at risk to injury or death during a serious flood event.

[75] https://hazards.fema.gov/social-vulnerability

[76] https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map

6 MULTI-JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION STRATEGY

Mitigation Action Items (MAIs) are central to the overall purpose of the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP). As these MAIs are developed, implemented, and reviewed, Walla Walla County will build disaster resistance into everyday operations and become more protected from potential losses. For the purposes of this document, mitigation action items are defined as activities designed to reduce or eliminate losses resulting from natural hazards. Losses can include life, physical property, and monetary value.

WALLA WALLA COUNTY

This section focuses on jurisdiction-specific mitigation action items for unincorporated Walla Walla County. Action items from the 2018 HMP were reviewed by the planning team and were either updated for the 2024 plan update or they were removed if they had been completed or are no longer relevant. New action items were also considered and included when appropriate.

CURRENT POLICIES, CODES AND ORDINANCES

Walla Walla County has adopted the most current state-adopted versions of the International Building Code (IBC) and International Fire Code (IFC) (Walla Walla County Code Title 15.04). The purpose of this is to provide minimum standards to protect public health and safety. The IBC provides general standards for seismic design, high wind design and high snow load design based on local characteristics. Both the building and fire codes are enforced through the County's Community Development Department.

Listed below are other applicable codes, plans, ordinances, and programs:

- Walla Walla County Comprehensive plan
- Countywide planning Policies (CPPs)
- Title 8, Health and Safety
- Title 11, Stormwater
- Title 15, Buildings and Construction
- Title 16, Subdivisions
- Title 17, Zoning
- Chapter 18.08, Critical Areas
- Chapter 18.12, Flood Damage Prevention
- Participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC MITIGATION STRATEGIES AND ACTION ITEMS

Although the various mitigation strategies and/or projects listed on the following pages are contained in the Unincorporated Walla Walla County portion of this plan, many of these strategies and/or projects would most likely benefit multiple jurisdictions, special purpose districts or agencies, and may ultimately be funded by a variety of sources.

While these mitigation strategies and/or projects have been suggested by various county officials and staff through the planning process, they have not been officially approved by the Walla Walla County Board of Commissioners and funding has not been allocated. In many cases, funding for these is dependent upon Walla Walla County receiving future federal and/or state hazard mitigation grant funding.

Walla Walla County also supports and recommends the multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures contained in this plan.

MULTIPLE HAZARDS

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

One of Walla Walla County's top mitigation priorities is increasing public awareness regarding all hazards within the County. The Walla Walla County Emergency Management Department (EMD) is the lead, working closely with other County departments, as well as local, state and federal agencies. Throughout the year EMD provides information through the County website, informational meetings, educational presentations, and written materials.

Walla Walla County also participates in annual Building Safety Month, which is organized by the International Code Council, every May. The Walla Walla County Community Development Department provides information to the public regarding building and fire safety. Information on creating disaster supply kits, developing a family action/evacuation plan, and where to get up-to-date information regarding hazards and events was provided to members of the public. Tips for easy non-structural hazard mitigation were also provided.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CO-1			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Multi-Hazard	Medium		Ongoing
Relocate the Emergency Management Department and Walla Walla Emergency Services Communications Center (WESCOM/911 dispatch) offices to a seismically sound building. Additional office space and communication facility space are needed to continue to support			

the growing needs of the County. Therefore, this mitigation goal will continue to further support Walla Walla County hazard risk mitigation efforts.	
Lead Agency	Emergency Management Department
Potential Resources	County budget

Project ID: CO-2			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Multi-Hazard	High		Partially Funded, long term from funding

Conduct structural mitigation projects to protect public roadways and bridges from flooding and earthquake hazards and ensure that critical transportation routes are intact, including, but not limited to the following projects:

McEntrye Bridge
Gardena Bridge – Touchet Gardena Road
Cottonwood Road MP 0.47 – 0.81
Reser Road MP 0.00 – 0.50
Lewis Peak Road MP 0.00 – 9.24
Sudbury Road MP 11.6 – 17.0
Touchet Gardena Road – MP 0.00 – 1.53
Goble Bridge MP 0.62 – 1.40
Harvey Shaw Road MP 3.40 – 3.50
Hart Road at Walter Bridge
Paxton Bridge
Lower Whetstone Road MP 0.00 – 2.20
CM Rice Road MP 6.40 – 6.80
Depping Culvert on Depping Road
Substation Bridge on Lower Hogeye Road

This mitigation measure incorporates several measures from the 2018 plan. The list of road and bridge projects included above is based on current knowledge from the County Public Works Department. The Department has procedures in place to conduct assessments of roads and bridges and maintains an internal list of projects. This mitigation measure was modified during the 2018 planning cycle to incorporate several different measures including upgrades to transportation facilities to reduce possible damage from multiple hazards. This mitigation objective has been re-affirmed for the 2025-2029 planning cycle.

Lead Agency	Emergency Management Department
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

FLOOD HAZARDS

A significant portion of the County Is located within the 100-year floodplain and there are also parts of the County located within the floodway and the 500-year floodplain. The most significant losses due to flooding occurred in 1996, 2012, and 2020.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Walla Walla County has adopted floodplain development standards under **Walla Walla County Code Chapter 18.12, Flood Damage Prevention**, which is enforced by the Community Development Department and contains methods and provisions to minimize the potential public and private losses from flooding. It also promotes the public health, safety and welfare of all citizens through:

- Restricting or prohibiting uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- Requiring that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- Controlling the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels and natural protective barriers, which help accommodate or channel floodwaters;
- Controlling filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase flood damage; and
- Preventing or regulating the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert floodwaters, or which increase flood hazards in other areas.

In 2008-2009 the County completed a mandatory update of the Walla Walla County Critical Area Ordinance (CAO) which was based on a review of best available science (BAS). This review recommended a few minor updates to conduct in order to meet FEMA and Department of Ecology minimum requirements for the NFIP program. Primary recommendations were to:

1. Update Chapter 18.12 to incorporate the most recent revisions to the Ecology requirements contained in Chapter 173-158 WAC, Floodplain Management; and
2. Check cross references to other sections.

The County employs the following specific food hazard mitigation policies, standards and planning mechanisms:

- The **Walla Walla County County-wide Planning Policies (CPPs)**, adopted in 1993, form a basis for planning and multi-jurisdictional coordination within the County and have been adopted by Walla Walla County as well as each of the cities within the County who are all planning partners in this plan. The following CPPs directly address flood hazard mitigation:

  CPP 11.3 Priority should be given to preserving and protecting resource and critical lands. Development that is permitted that is associated or adjacent to these areas should be properly managed.

  CPP 11.5 The County will continue to utilize the Federal Emergency Management Agency program for floodplain management.

- The **Walla Walla County Comprehensive Plan** serves as a guide to make decisions about future development within unincorporated Walla Walla County. In addition to the annual amendment process, since the Hazard Mitigation plan was adopted in 2018 the County completed the update to the Comprehensive Plan in 2019. As required by the Washington State Growth Management Act, in addition to providing a land use policy framework for accommodating growth in the County, the Comprehensive Plan also provides policies for critical areas, including flood hazard areas, and serves as the basis for the County development standards. Past planning efforts, including the 2018 HMP were considered during the update to the Comprehensive Plan. The following goals and policies related to flood hazards are included in the Comprehensive Plan:

  Goal CA-1 Promote public health, safety, welfare, economic and environmental well-being in the County for present and future citizens by identifying and protecting critical areas.

  Policy CA-1.2 Update studies on a regular basis to identify critical areas and make the information available to the public.

  Policy CA-1.7 Convert, update, and maintain critical area/flood mapping in a digital format whenever possible. Make this data available to the public via the Internet if feasible.

  Policy CA-1.8 Promote public health and welfare by instituting local measures to protect, preserve and enhance where applicable, wetlands for their associated values that exist in this county. Wetlands serve a variety of vital functions, including, but not limited to: flood storage and conveyance, water quality protection, recharge and discharge areas for groundwater, erosion control, sediment control, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, education, and scientific research.

Policy CA-2.1 Minimize construction of structural shoreline stabilization and flood control works in favor of methods utilizing setback levees and bioengineering.

Policy CA-2.2 Provide suitable wildlife corridors to prevent isolation of populations by utilizing land features such as riparian zones/floodplains and ridges which provide natural connecting corridors.

Goal CA-3 Utilize floodplain planning to protect human life and health as well as the riparian ecosystem in order to minimize public and private economic losses and expenditures related to flood control and to protect and preserve wildlife habitat.

Policy CA-3.1 Use the FEMA supplied Flood Insurance Rate Maps and Floodway maps to determine areas of special flood hazard and manage these areas through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Policy CA-3.2 Refine and improve upon FEMA flood mapping whenever possible by working with the Corps of Engineers, FEMA, individual agencies, and landowners.

- Walla Walla County has adopted and implemented **Flood Damage Prevention Standards**, at Walla Walla County Code Chapter 18.12. These standards guide new development and growth within unincorporated Walla Walla County in such a way as to reduce potential damage. Included below is a summary of the key components of these development standards.
    - All new construction and substantial improvements shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse or lateral movement of the structure (WWCC 18.12.190A).
    - All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage and using methods and practices that minimize flood damage (WWCC 18.12.200A-B).
    - Electrical heating, ventilation, plumbing and/or air-conditioning equipment or other service facilities shall be designed and/or otherwise elevated or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding (WWCC 18.12.200C).
    - All new and replacement water supply systems, sanitary sewage systems, and on-site waste disposal systems shall be located and designed to minimize infiltration of floodwaters and avoid impairment and contamination (WWCC 18.12.210A-C).
    - All subdivision proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage (WWCC 18.12.220A-E).

- Within the 100-year floodplain, new construction and substantial improvement of any residential structure shall have the lowest floor, including basements, elevated to one foot above base flood elevation. Additionally, fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are subject to flooding are prohibited or must be flood proofed and accommodate the entrance and exit of flood waters (WWCC 18.12.250).
- Within the 100-year floodplain, new construction and substantial improvement of any commercial, industrial or other nonresidential structure shall have either the lowest floor, including basements, elevated to the level of one foot above the base flood elevation or be flood proofed so that below the base flood level the structure is watertight and has structural components capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy (WWCC 18.12.260).
- Encroachments and obstructions, including fill, new construction, substantial improvement and other uses are generally prohibited. Construction and reconstruction within the designated floodway is generally limited to only projects where it has been certified by a registered professional engineer or architect that the construction will not result in any increase in flood levels and where all applicable flood hazard reduction provisions are met. Minor repairs and reconstruction if the structure has been damaged and if the ground floor area will not increase are permitted (WWCC 18.12.290).

- Walla Walla County completed a mandatory update of **Walla Walla County Chapter 18.08, Critical Areas**, which satisfies the Growth Management Act requirement to have a Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO). All areas within the County meeting the frequently flooded designation criteria –in the Identification and Delineation Manual, regardless of any formal identification, are designated critical areas. Both the floodway and floodplain are subject to regulation under Chapter 18.12. These frequently flooded areas are the same areas regulated by Chapter 18.12 and Title 15 and no additional development standards are provided in Chapter 18.08.

- The plan rewrite of the **Walla Walla County Flood Response Plan (FRP)** was completed in 2022 and builds on tprevious **Walla Walla Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (CFHMP)** completed in 1999. The FRP primarily focuses on areas within the County that have been determined to be at risk of flooding due to either seasonal hydrological fluctuations or flash flooding resulting from storm-water run-off. The current FRP provides valuable information regarding flood hazards within Walla Walla County and, as part of the implementation component, provides guidance on mitigation measures. The plan incorporates planning efforts conducted during the 2018 HMP update.

The Walla Walla County Public Works Department administers the **Mill Creek Flood Control Zone District**, working closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other local, state and federal agencies to manage flood risk.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CO-3			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Flood	High		Unfunded, Long term based on funding
Conduct embankment enhancement to alleviate Mill Creek Flooding near the intersection of Wallula Avenue and Highway 12. This mitigation measure was new in the 2010 plan and this area along with three others have been identified as needing additional flood mitigation work. The additional three priority areas for the 2018-2022 planning period are: The Touchet River between Hwy 125 and Donnelly Rd; Mill Creek from Blue Creek Road extending upstream approximately three (3) miles between Gose Street and the Walla Walla River (which includes the Wallula Avenue flooding concern location), and; Coppei Creek throughout the majority of its length. These three areas have a direct impact on adjacent infrastructure and residences.			
Lead Agency	County Public Works Department and City of Walla Walla		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CO-4			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Flood	Medium		Partially funded, long term from funding
Make physical dam safety modifications and conduct non-structural maintenance to Mill Creek Storage Dam. This mitigation measure is on-going for the 2018-2022 planning cycle.			
Lead Agency	US Army Corps of Engineers		
Potential Resources	Federal		

Project ID: CO-5			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Flood	High		Partially funded, long term from funding

Plan and conduct mitigation projects to protect critical bridges and roadways threatened by flooding based on semi-annual inspections and evaluations. This mitigation measure has been re-worded based on discussions with the County Public Works Department and is re-affirmed for the 2018-2022 planning cycle.	
Lead Agency	County Public Works Department
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: CO-6			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Flood	Medium		Current and ongoing
Conduct public outreach to increase the awareness of the State-provided system for identification of culverts in need of maintenance. This mitigation measure has been modified from the 2010 plan to focus on public outreach and increasing awareness of this tool for the 2018-2022 planning cycle. Better us of this system will ensure the County has more up-to-date information and enable the more efficient dispatching of resources.			
Lead Agency	County Public Works Department		
Potential Resources	Local		
Project ID: CO-7			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Flood	Medium		Current and ongoing
Improve and maintain the capacity of storm water ditches and drainages as part of on-going maintenance program. This mitigation measure is on-going for the 2018-2022 planning cycle.			
Lead Agency	County Public Works Department		
Potential Resources	Local budgets		

WILDFIRE HAZARDS

In Walla Walla County the highest wildfire hazard area is in the wildland urban interface (WUI) in the eastern part of the County. This area has been the primary focus of wildfire hazard mitigation in the past. There are, however, dry-land portions of the County which also have an elevated wildfire risk. Recognizing this fact, the Planning Team added a mitigation measure during the

2010 update to prepare a wildfire protection plan addressing risk throughout the rest of the County. This mitigation measure was completed in 2017.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The County has participated in wildfire hazard mitigation through a variety of different mechanisms:

- The City of Walla Walla receives 90% of its municipal water supply from the Mill Creek Municipal Watershed which is located adjacent to the wildland urban interface (WUI). The watershed is characterized by forest conditions with heavy fuel loads and is vulnerable to wildfire. A destructive wildfire could have serious negative effects on water quality. The city completed a **County-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan in 2017** that included a reassessment of the Mill Creek watershed and associated fire risk ratings. During the 2024 update to the HMP, the 2017 CWPP was also updated and serves as an appendix to this plan. This plan contains many mitigation measures to be implemented within the WUI which will reduce wildfire vulnerability within the unincorporated areas of Walla Walla County.
- Walla Walla County works closely with the Washington State Department of Ecology, local fire districts, and the Walla Walla County Conservation District to implement the local **burn program**. The Community Development Department issues residential burn permits and works with other agencies to conduct enforcement and provide valuable information to property owners regarding alternatives to burning and recommendations on safe practices that can reduce risk. A daily burn decision is issued by the Department of Ecology Eastern Regional Office.
- Walla Walla County has adopted the International Code Council family of codes through Walla Walla County Code Title 15. The County has incorporated the most current state-adopted version of the **International Fire Code (IFC)** into Chapter 15.04 of its Code. The IFC provides regulations to protect life and property from all types of fire and explosion hazards. The regulations include general precautions against fire, emergency planning and preparedness, fire department access, hydrants, sprinkler and alarm systems, hazardous materials storage and use, etc. The fire code applies to all new construction and land development and some modifications to existing buildings.
- In addition to access requirements in the fire code, the County has also adopted standards in **Walla Walla County Code (WWCC)** Title 12 for access and road/address marking which are enforced through the County Public Works Department. The Community Development Department ensures through **Title 16, Subdivisions**, that all lots in new land divisions have necessary ingress/egress and meet fire protection and access standards.

- In 2010 the County adopted new **development standards** to reduce wildfire vulnerability for new construction in the Wildland-urban Interface and additionally adopted wildfire protection standards later that year that apply to the Mill Creek area. The County has also adopted access standards, road standards, and address marking requirements and is continuing to adapt and apply them.
- The 2019 Comprehensive Plan contains the following goals and policies that pertain to wildfire:
    - Goal RL-6
        - Protect the environmentally sensitive features that are present in Rural Remote lands and reduce the threat of hazards such as flooding, slope failure, and wildfire.
    - Policy RL 6.1
        - Implement the Community Wildfire Protection Plan to reduce the risk of wildfire and mitigate the impacts if a fire occurs.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CO-8			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Wildfire	High		Unfunded, long term reoccurring funding need
Walla Walla County will continue working on implementation of fire mitigation measures following the updated recommendations of the Mill Creek and Walla Walla County Community Wildfire Protection Plan updated in 2024, that includes a reassessment of the fire risks in the Mill Creek Municipal Watershed. This mitigation measure is renewed for the 2024-2029 planning period.			
Lead Agency	Emergency Management Department and Fire Districts		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS

There are several indicators which suggest that Walla Walla County could experience a large earthquake: proximity to large faults, evidence of large earthquakes in the recent geologic past and historical seismicity. Although it is very difficult to predict when an earthquake will occur, we do have valuable information regarding vulnerability which helps focus hazard mitigation efforts. Although Walla Walla County has significant geologic hazard, damage and loss from an earthquake has not occurred recently.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Other plans, policies, and development standards relevant to mitigation of earthquake and other geologic hazards include the following:

- As part of the 2008 **Critical Areas Ordinance** update completed by the County in 2009 the County adopted new standards and background information related to various geologic hazards including landslide, erosion, and seismic hazard areas. In areas with steep or unstable slopes or with soil characteristics prone to liquefaction, geotechnical reports are required as part of development permits. When design and construction methods cannot reduce the risk to acceptable levels development may be prohibited.
- Walla Walla County has adopted the **International Building Code** which classifies the County as seismic zone D0. The IBC also provides design/construction requirements for geologic hazard areas including areas with steep slope which are landslide and erosion hazards which could be exacerbated by an earthquake.
- The 2019 Comprehensive Plan contains the following goals and policies that pertain to earthquake hazards:
    - Goal CA-4 Reduce the threat posed to the health and safety of citizens that could occur when development is sited in areas of significant geologic hazard.
    - Policy CA-4.1 Implement development regulations that minimize risk to the public health, safety, and welfare in areas of significant geologic hazard.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CO-9			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Earthquake	High		Unfunded, Long term from funding
Conduct non-structural mitigation in County-owned buildings. This mitigation action is current and on-going and has been re-affirmed for the 2018-2022 planning cycle.			
Lead Agency	Walla Walla County		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal (Defined by entity in Section 3.5 on Page 25)		

Project ID: CO-10			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Earthquake	High		Partially funded, Current and on-going

Plan and conduct mitigation projects to protect critical roadways threatened by earthquakes based on semi-annual inspections and evaluations. This mitigation action is current and on-going and has been re-affirmed for the 2018-2022 planning cycle.	
Lead Agency	County Public Works Department
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal (Defined by entity in Section 3.5 on Page 25)

Project ID: CO-11			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Earthquake	High		Partially funded, Current and on-going
Plan and conduct mitigation projects to protect critical bridges threatened by earthquakes based on semi-annual inspections and evaluations. This mitigation action is current and on-going and has been re-affirmed for the 2018-2022 planning cycle.			
Lead Agency	County Public Works Department		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal (Defined by entity in Section 3.5 on Page 25)		

SEVERE WEATHER HAZARDS

Walla Walla County experienced notable damage and loss from severe weather events that have caused millions of dollars in damage because of high winds, flooding, ice, cold waves, and other severe weather events. *Expected Annual Loss* values calculated by FEMA have the potential to reach hundreds of thousands or millions.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Walla Walla County implements the following mitigation measures through other planning and enforcement mechanisms:

- Through adoption of the International Building Code (IBC) Walla Walla County requires structures to be built to resist wind speeds up to 110 mph and allows installation of wind-resistant roofing. The building code also provides snow load, winter design, and severe weathering design requirements.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Walla Walla County does not have any jurisdiction specific mitigation projects but does commit to all the severe weather multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures.

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

This plan is an update of the 2018 Walla Walla County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). This section has been updated through Planning Team efforts and collaboration by city staff. All previous mitigation action items from the 2018 plan were removed because they are outdated and no longer a priority. New action items are listed by identified natural hazard category.

CURRENT POLICIES, CODES AND ORDINANCES

The City of College Place has adopted the 2009 editions of the International Building Code (IBC) as adopted by Washington State with the Washington State Amendments, effective July 1, 2018 and International Fire Code (IFC). The purpose of these codes is to provide minimum standards to protect public health and safety. The IBC provides general standards for seismic design, wind design and snow load design based on local characteristics. As a city, College Place enforces all building and fire codes as adopted by the State of Washington.

Listed below are other applicable codes, plans, ordinances, and programs:

- City of College Place Comprehensive Plan
- Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs)
- Title 15, Buildings and Construction
- Chapter 18.10, Critical Area Protection
- Ordinance No. 867, Flood Protection Measures

JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC MITIGATION STRATEGIES AND ACTION ITEMS

It should be noted that although the various mitigation strategies and/or projects listed on the following pages are contained in the City of College Place portion of this plan, many of these strategies and/or projects would most likely benefit multiple jurisdictions, special purpose districts or agencies and may ultimately be paid for through a variety of sources.

While these mitigation strategies and/or projects have been recommended by various city officials and staff through the planning process, these strategies and/or projects have not been officially approved by the city of College Place City Council and funding for these strategies and/or projects has not been allocated. In many cases, funding for these mitigation strategies and/or projects is dependent upon the city receiving future federal and/or state hazard mitigation grant funding.

The city also supports and recommends the multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures contained in this plan that cover the extent of Walla Walla County.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CP-1			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Severe Weather/ Wildfire	High	$2,899,000	Unfunded, Short term from funded
Reservoir #4 improvement. Add a 1-million-gallon water storage tank to increase water supplies and support community resiliency.			
Lead Agency	City of College Place		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CP-2			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake/ Flooding/ Severe Weather	High	$9,000,000	Unfunded, Short term from funded
Public works yard relocation. The Public Works yard has issues and concerns related to water as it is situated in a surface depression and a creek runs through it (the lot was originally used for chicken coops). The yard needs to be relocated and upgraded.			
Lead Agency	City of College Place		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CP-3			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Multi-Hazard	High	$8,054,051	Unfunded, Short term from funded
SE 12th Street (College to Myra). SE12th street needs to be rebuilt as it is a designated evacuation route. Utilities should be buried so they are better protected and less likely to be interrupted or compromised due to a natural disaster.			
Lead Agency	City of College Place		

Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: CP-4			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Multi-Hazard	High	$1,048,617	Unfunded, Short term from funded
West Whitman Drive (Academy Way west to City Limits). Reconstruct West Whitman Drive so it is fully in appropriate condition since it is a designated evacuation route.			
Lead Agency	City of College Place		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

FLOOD HAZARDS

No frequently flooded areas are located within the City of College Place at this time, although the city still has potential to experience losses due to flood events, including flash flooding.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- As mentioned above, Ordinance No. 867 provides **flood protection measures** for the City of College Place. This ordinance provides standards which regulate all new development in the 100-year floodplain in an effort to reduce potential damage. These regulations were adopted as an element of the requirements for the City's participation in FEMA's NFIP Program.
- The city adheres to the **Walla Walla County Flood Response Plan (FRP), 2022**. See the section under Walla Walla County above.
- The **Walla Walla County County-wide Planning Policies (CPPs)**, adopted in 1993, form a basis for planning and multi-jurisdictional coordination within Walla Walla County and have been adopted by the City of College Place. The following CPP directly addresses flood hazard mitigation:

CPP 11.5 – The County will continue to utilize the Federal Emergency Management Agency program, FRIMs and NFIP requirements for guidance and floodplain management.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS

In addition to the objectives identified below there are action items that address flooding under the *Multiple Hazards* heading. The City of College Place additionally commits to participating in the countywide flood mitigation measures where applicable.

Project ID: CP-5			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	Medium	$2,000,000	Unfunded, Short-term type of funding
Outfall replacements. Reconstruct outfalls to correctly pass and filter stormwater. Replacement priorities include Garrison Creek, Stone Creek, and Military Springs Watersheds.			
Lead Agency	Public Works		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CP-6			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	Medium	$1,998,600	Unfunded, Short-term type of funding
Drywell installations. Install drywells in flood prone areas surrounded by Date, Academy, 11th, and Rose.			
Lead Agency	Public Works		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

WILDFIRE HAZARDS

Due to thick vegetation in some places within the city and proximity to wildland fuels on the outskirts of the city, there are properties within College Place at some risk to damage from a wildfire event.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- The **Walla Walla County and Mill Creek Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)**, updated in **2024**. This Plan contains wildfire mitigation action items that are supported by the city of College Place, where appropriate.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS

The City of College Place does not house any jurisdiction specific mitigation projects specific only to wildfire here but does include a multi-hazard action item (CP-1) that addresses wildfire hazards. College Place also commits to all the wildfire multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures of the County and is in support of the recently completed Mill Creek and Walla Walla County Community Wildfire Protection Plan as it includes recommendations for the Mill Creek Watershed that could influence the City's municipal water.

EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS

There are indicators which suggest that the city of College Place could experience a large earthquake: proximity to large faults, evidence of large earthquakes in recent geologic past, and historical seismicity. Although it is very difficult to predict when an earthquake will occur, we do have valuable information regarding vulnerability which helps focus hazard mitigation efforts. Although the area has significant geologic hazards, damage and loss from an earthquake has not occurred recently.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Other plans, policies, and development standards relevant to mitigation of earthquake and other geologic hazards include the following:

- As part of the 2008 **Critical Areas Ordinance** update completed in 2008 the city adopted new standards and background information related to various geologic hazards including landslide, erosion, and seismic hazard areas. In areas with steep or unstable slopes or with soil characteristics prone to liquefaction, geotechnical reports are required as part of development permits. When design and construction methods cannot reduce the risk to acceptable levels development may be prohibited.
- Walla Walla County has adopted the **International Building Code** which classifies the city as seismic zone D0. The IBC also provides design/construction requirements for geologic hazard areas including areas with steep slope which are landslide and erosion hazards which could be exacerbated by an earthquake.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CP-7			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	High	$960,000	Unfunded, Short term from funding

Establish information technology room. There is a need for a temperature controlled fanned room for Information Technology infrastructure in City Hall. Security also needs to be upgraded.	
Lead Agency	Administration
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: CP-8			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	Medium	$15 million	Unfunded, Short term from funding
Replace building for the police department. A new facility with proper security would increase the resiliency of the city. The current building is a former apartment building that is highly susceptible to natural hazards, particularly earthquake, flooding, and fire.			
Lead Agency	Police		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CP-9			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	Medium	$1,532,720	Unfunded, Short term from funding
Fire station renovation. Upgrade Fire Department with improvements that address issues related to natural hazard resiliency. Upgrade cooling tower, heat exchanger, lighting, and boiler.			
Lead Agency	Fire		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CP-10			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	Medium	$3,049,361	Unfunded, Short term from funding
Elevated water tank #1 seismic retrofit and upgrade. The tank dates from 1947. It needs cross bracing and additional work to address stabilization concerns.			
Lead Agency	Public Works		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

SEVERE WEATHER HAZARDS

The City of College Place last experienced significant damage and loss from a severe storm event on January 4, 2008, when central Oregon and the foothills of the Blue Mountains experienced a windstorm. The strongest gust speed at the Walla Walla airport was 78 mph and the strongest sustained wind speed was 55 mph. Estimates were that 4.9 million dollars in damage was experienced within Walla Walla County (not just unincorporated). In the Walla Walla Valley approximately 4 in 10 homes received damage from the storm. Much of the damage was due to falling trees.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The City of College Place implements the following mitigation measures through other planning and enforcement mechanisms:

Through adoption of the **International Building Code (IBC)** the City of College Place requires structures to be built to resist wind speeds up to 110 mph and allows installation of wind-resistant roofing. The building code also provides snow load, winter design, and severe weathering design requirements.

The City of College Place ensures that trees and vegetation are pruned and trimmed as necessary to protect roads, bridges and other infrastructure from damage. In past years the City has conducted a semi- annual **"Yard Debris Collection"** to work with citizens to prune and trim trees and reduce other yard debris which might result in damage during a severe storm event.

The City of College Place encourages the installation of **underground utilities** in all areas and included the policy outlined in item CP-5 in the Comprehensive plan regarding the City's primary commercial area.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CP-11			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Severe Weather	Medium	$373,680	Unfunded, Short to Long-term from funding
Well #3 generator. The most reliable drinking water well is in need of an electricity generator.			
Lead Agency	Public Works		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CP-12			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Severe Weather	High	$4,036,000	Unfunded, Short term from funding
Well #7. An additional well is needed to provide water to parts of the city that currently lack or have inadequate service. An additional well would also increase the natural hazard resiliency of the water system.			
Lead Agency	Public Works		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CP-13			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Severe Weather	Low	$1,000,000	Unfunded, long range planning project
Aquifer Storage and Feasibility Study. Declining aquifers are a potential concern, especially if persistent drought occurs. This study could investigate solutions, such as taking water from the Walla Walla system in the winter and injecting existing groundwater wells for underground storage to be pumped out during the summer. This would require water purchase from Walla Walla and an agreement.			
Lead Agency	Public Works		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CP-14			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Severe Weather	Low	$100,000,000	Unfunded, long range planning project
Irrigation System (Class A) Upgrade at Wastewater Treatment Plant. Upgrades at the WWTP to produce Class A Reuse effluent to send to Gardena. That water could someday be used to irrigate areas in the city instead (depending on if any agreement with Gardena has a sunset). This would require building a second water distribution system to convey the water where it is needed. The benefit of this is reducing demand on the potable water system.			
Lead Agency	Public Works		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: CP-15			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Severe Weather	Medium	$20,000,000	Unfunded, mid-range planning project
Wastewater Treatment Plant Solids. City currently dewaters solids and stores on a drying pad where they are annually hauled off and land applied. This is a large source of odors and pending regulations may make land application of biosolids less feasible in the future. At the very least, adding a cover for the biosolids storage area to prevent re-wetting of the dried solids would be a good idea to minimize odors and reduce haul cost for disposal. Even better would be adding some further treatment/processing (digestion) to reduce odors and potentially create Class A solids that can be used as fertilizer.			
Lead Agency	Public Works		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

CITY OF PRESCOTT

This plan is an update of the 2018 Walla Walla County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Although it is only an update, the plan has been redesigned and reorganized so it is easier to use. This section has been updated through Planning Team efforts to include new and reconfirmed mitigation measures by identified natural hazard category.

CURRENT POLICIES, CODES AND ORDINANCES

The City of Prescott has adopted the most recent editions of the International Building Code (IBC) and International Fire Code (IFC). The purpose of these codes is to provide minimum standards to protect public health and safety. The IBC provides general standards for seismic design, high wind design and high snow load design based on local characteristics.

Listed below are other applicable codes, plans, ordinances, and programs applicable to the City of Prescott jurisdiction:

- City of Prescott Comprehensive plan
- Countywide planning Policies (CPPs)
- International Building Code (IBC)
- International Fire Code (IFC)
- Critical Areas Regulations
- Floodplain Development Standards

JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC MITIGATION STRATEGIES AND ACTION ITEMS

It should be noted that although the various mitigation strategies and/or projects listed on the following pages are contained in the City of Prescott portion of this plan, many of these strategies and/or projects would most likely benefit multiple jurisdictions, special purpose districts or agencies and may ultimately be paid for from a variety of sources.

While these mitigation strategies and/or projects have been recommended by various city officials and staff through the planning process, these strategies and/or projects have not been officially approved by the City of Prescott City Council and funding for these strategies and/or projects has not been allocated. In many cases, funding for these mitigation strategies and/or projects is dependent upon the City receiving future federal and/or state hazard mitigation grant funding.

The city also supports and recommends the multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures contained in this plan that cover the extent of Walla Walla County.

MULTIPLE HAZARDS

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: PR-1			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Earthquake/ Severe Weather	High		Unfunded, 2025-2029
Evaluate structural integrity of City Hall and conduct structural mitigation to ensure the building meets current seismic design standards and is wind resistant. During the update process in 2024 the Planning Team did not feel this project was completed to satisfaction and so the project was re-affirmed in the 2024 plan.			
Lead Agency	City of Prescott		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: PR-2			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Multi-Hazard	High		Unfunded, 2025-2029
Acquire emergency power to serve fire station and public water system. The 2010 and 2018 plans sought to provide an emergency power source for critical facilities. During the update process in 2024 the Planning Team did not feel this project was completed to satisfaction and so the project was re-affirmed in the 2024 plan.			
Lead Agency	City of Prescott		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

FLOOD HAZARDS

A few properties on the north side of the city are located within the 100-year floodplain for Whetstone Creek on a portion of the city on the south side is in the 100-year floodplain for the Touchet River. The last time there were significant losses due to flooding was in 1996.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- The city adheres to the **Walla Walla County Flood Response Plan (FRP), 2022**. See the section under Walla Walla County above.

- The **Walla Walla County County-wide Planning Policies (CPPs)**, adopted in 1993, form a basis for planning and multi-jurisdictional coordination within Walla Walla County and have been adopted by the City of Prescott. The following CPPs directly address flood hazard mitigation:

CPP 11.5 The County will continue to utilize the Federal Emergency Management Agency program for floodplain management.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: PR-3			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Flood	High		2025-2029
Improve culverts on the north side of the City to accommodate a 100-year flood event from Whetstone Creek. This mitigation measure was carried over from the 2018 plan. Planning team members did not deem this project to be completed as of the 2024 planning effort.			
Lead Agency	City of Prescott		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

WILDFIRE HAZARDS

Direct damage to properties within the City of Prescott is not likely to result from a wildfire event. Participation in a joint effort to develop a community wildfire protection plan will help the city reduce vulnerability.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- The City of Prescott has adopted the International Code Council family of codes. This includes the **International Fire Code (IFC)**. The IFC provides regulations to protect life and property from all types of fire and explosion hazards. The regulations include general precautions against fire, emergency planning and preparedness, fire department access, hydrants, sprinkler and alarm systems, hazardous materials storage and use, etc. The fire code applies to all new construction and land development and some modifications to existing buildings.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: PR-4			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Wildfire	Medium		Some funding from CWPP, 2025-2029
The City of Prescott will work toward implementation of the Mill Creek and Walla Walla County Community Wildfire Protection Plan recommendations from the 2017 update to reduce wildfire vulnerability. This mitigation measure is new for the 2018-2022 planning period.			
Lead Agency	City of Prescott		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS

There are indicators which suggest that the city of Prescott could experience a large earthquake: proximity to large faults, evidence of large earthquakes in the recent geologic past, and historical seismicity. Although it is very difficult to predict when an earthquake will occur, we do have valuable information regarding vulnerability which helps focus hazard mitigation efforts. Although the area has significant geologic hazards, damages and losses from an earthquake have not occurred recently.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Other plans, policies, and development standards relevant to mitigation of earthquake and other geologic hazards include the following:

- The City of Prescott has adopted a **Critical Areas Ordinance** which includes standards and information related to various geologic hazards including areas that could be prone to landslides and erosion during earthquakes.
- The City of Prescott has adopted the **International Building Code** which classifies the City as seismic zone D0. The IBC also provides design/construction requirements for geologic hazard areas including areas with steep slope which are landslide and erosion hazards which could be exacerbated by an earthquake.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: PR-5			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Earthquake	High		Short term and ongoing

Conduct structural assessment of water system to ensure that there are no leaks or weak sections which might be vulnerable to damage during an earthquake event. This mitigation measure has been carried over from the 2018 plan.	
Lead Agency	City of Prescott
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

SEVERE WEATHER HAZARDS

Like the rest of the county, Prescott is likely to experience severe storms and other types of severe weather, although vulnerability is low.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The City of Prescott implements the following mitigation measures through other planning and enforcement mechanisms:

- Through adoption of the **International Building Code (IBC)** the City of Prescott requires structures to be built to resist wind speeds up to 110 mph and allows installation of wind-resistant roofing. The building code also provides snow load, winter design, and severe weathering design requirements.
- The City of Prescott trims trees and other vegetation as necessary to protect roads and other infrastructure as part of an on-going maintenance program. The City also works with private property owners to ensure that trees and other vegetation do not increase vulnerability to severe storm damage.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: PR-6			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Severe Weather	Medium		Unfunded, Long term mitigation project
Install vegetative wind break surrounding the city. This was a new mitigation measure in the 2010 plan and was reaffirmed for the 2018-2022 planning period but was not completed. The planning team reaffirmed this project for the 2024 plan update.			
Lead Agency	City of Prescott		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

CITY OF WAITSBURG

This plan is an update of the 2018 Walla Walla County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Although it is only an update, the plan has been redesigned and reorganized so it is easier to use. This section has been updated through Planning Team efforts to include new and reconfirmed mitigation measures by identified natural hazard category.

Some action items from the 2018 plan were completed and one (previously WG-4) was removed because it is unattainable and no longer a priority. The remaining projects have all been carried over into the 2024 plan because they are ongoing or still needed. The new list of projects has been renumbered to reflect the new order and completed projects are listed below.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Project ID: WG-3 (COMPLETED)			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	High		Unfunded, Long term from funding
Participate in the 2018-2022 planning period update (Phase II) of the 2009 Flood Response Plan for the County. This mitigation measure is new for the 2018 update.			
Lead Agency	City of Waitsburg		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal (Defined by entity in Section 3.5 on Page 25)		
Project ID: WG-6 (COMPLETED)			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	High		Partially funded, Short term from funding
Reconstruct and improve road behind fairgrounds. This elevated road is critical during flood events because it allows equipment access necessary for flood protection and response. The road needs to be widened and armored.			
Lead Agency	City of Waitsburg and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal (Defined by entity in Section 3.5 on Page 25)		
Project ID: WG-7 (COMPLETED)			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
Improve flood monitoring and warning systems for Coppei Creek and the Touchet River, support installation of river gauge near Dayton on Coppei Creek, south of the city limits. This measure is continued in the 2018 plan. The 2010 plan contained a general project to "improve flood monitoring and warning systems." The Planning Team identified this mitigation measure as a specific project during the update and refined it to specify a particular location.			

Lead Agency	City of Waitsburg
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal (Defined by entity in Section 3.5 on Page 25)

CURRENT POLICIES, CODES AND ORDINANCES

The City of Waitsburg has adopted the most recent editions of the International Building Code (IBC) and International Fire Code (IFC) (Waitsburg Municipal Code Title 15). The purpose of these codes is to provide minimum standards to protect public health and safety. The IBC provides general standards for seismic design, high wind design and high snow load design based on local characteristics. Both the building and fire codes are enforced and regulated through the City's Development Services Department.

Listed below are other applicable codes, plans, ordinances, and programs:

- City of Waitsburg Comprehensive plan
- Countywide planning Policies (CPPs)
- Title 11, Building Codes
- Article 10.2, Critical Areas
- Article 10.7, Flood Hazard Areas

JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC MITIGATION STRATEGIES AND ACTION ITEMS

It should be noted that although the various mitigation strategies and/or projects listed on the following pages are contained in the City of Waitsburg portion of this plan, many of these strategies and/or projects would most likely benefit multiple jurisdictions, special purpose districts or agencies and may ultimately be paid for from a variety of sources.

While these mitigation strategies and/or projects have been recommended by various city officials and staff through the planning process, these strategies and/or projects have not been officially approved by the City of Waitsburg City Council and funding for these strategies and/or projects has not been allocated. In many cases, funding for these mitigation strategies and/or projects is dependent upon the City receiving future federal and/or state hazard mitigation grant funding.

The city also supports and recommends the multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures contained in this plan that cover the extent of Walla Walla County.

MULTIPLE HAZARDS

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: WG-1			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Multi-Hazard	Medium		Funded, Current and on-going
Protect government records and priority systems by archiving records electronically and backing-up of this system in an off-site location. This mitigation measure has been reworded and reaffirmed as a priority for the jurisdiction during the 2025-2029 planning cycle.			
Lead Agency	City of Waitsburg		
Potential Resources	City budget		

FLOOD HAZARDS

Significant portions of the city of Waitsburg are located within the 100-year floodplain. There are also parts of the city located within the floodway and the 500-year floodplain. Significant losses due to flooding for Waitsburg have occurred in 1996 and in 2012.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- As mentioned above, Article 10.7 provides **flood protection measures** for the City of Waitsburg. This ordinance provides standards which regulate all new development in the 100-year floodplain in an effort to reduce potential damage.
- The city adheres to the **Walla Walla County Flood Response Plan (FRP), 2022**. See the section under Walla Walla County above.
- The **Walla Walla County County-wide planning Policies (CPPs)**, adopted in 1993, form a basis for planning and multi-jurisdictional coordination within Walla Walla County and have been adopted by the City of Waitsburg. The following CPPs directly address flood hazard mitigation:

CPP 11.5 The County will continue to utilize the Federal Emergency Management Agency program for floodplain management.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: WG-2			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	High		Unfunded, Long term from funding

Relocate City shop building outside the floodplain. This mitigation measure was identified during the 2010 update, was carried over in 2018, and is re-affirmed for the 2025-2029 planning cycle.	
Lead Agency	City of Waitsburg
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: WG-3			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	High		Unfunded, Long term planning project
Support reactivation of the Prescott-Bolles Flood Control District and encourage public participation for continued operation. The flood control district stalled after 1996 and has not been active since. There has been no levy and, therefore, no money available. It has also been difficult to get the necessary public participation to sustain the district. The Planning Team identified this mitigation measure during the 2018 HMP update confirming that planning and implementation would be more efficient with the flood control district in place and with resources to support it. This action item was considered incomplete in 2024 and thus carried over into the 2024 plan.			
Lead Agency	City of Waitsburg and Walla Walla County		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

WILDFIRE HAZARDS

Direct damage to properties within the city of Waitsburg is not likely to result from a wildfire event. Vulnerability to wildfire for the city is primarily based on the location of the municipal watershed within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). The city has conducted hazard mitigation to reduce vulnerability within the watershed in the past, and it is critical that the city continue these efforts in order to protect water quality.

Participation in a joint effort to develop a community wildfire protection plan will help the city reduce vulnerability.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- The City of Waitsburg has adopted the International Code Council family of codes through Waitsburg Municipal Code Title 11. This includes the **International Fire Code**

(IFC). The IFC provides regulations to protect life and property from all types of fire and explosion hazards. The regulations include general precautions against fire, emergency planning and preparedness, fire department access, hydrants, sprinkler and alarm systems, hazardous materials storage and use, etc. The fire code applies to all new construction and land development and some modifications to existing buildings.

- Between 2008 and 2009 the city conducted mitigation projects within the City of Waitsburg Watershed, cutting and trimming trees to reduce wildfire hazard. It will be necessary to continue such mitigation projects within the watershed. Assessments and planning are necessary to identify a comprehensive mitigation strategy for this critical area.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: WG-4			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Wildfire	Medium		2025-2029
The City of Waitsburg will work toward implementation of the Mill Creek and Walla Walla County Community Wildfire Protection Plan recommendations from the 2024 update to reduce wildfire vulnerability. This mitigation measure is continued for the 2025-2029 planning period.			
Lead Agency	City of Waitsburg		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS

There are indicators which suggest the city of Waitsburg could experience a large earthquake: proximity to large faults, evidence of large earthquakes in the recent geologic past, and historical seismicity. Although it is very difficult to predict when an earthquake will occur, we do have valuable information regarding vulnerability which helps focus hazard mitigation efforts. Although the area has significant geologic hazards, damage and losses from an earthquake have not occurred recently.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Other plans, policies, and development standards relevant to mitigation of earthquake and other geologic hazards include the following:

- The city of Waitsburg has adopted a **Critical Areas Ordinance** via Article 10.2 which includes standards and information related to various geologic hazards including areas that could be prone to landslides and erosion during earthquakes.
- The city of Waitsburg has adopted the **International Building Code** which classifies the city as seismic zone D0. The IBC also provides design/construction requirements for geologic hazard areas including areas with steep slope which are landslide and erosion hazards which could be exacerbated by an earthquake.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: WG-5			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	High		Partially funded, Current and on-going
Minimize damage to public sewer and storm water systems by making structural upgrades to systems including limning sewer lines. Although general goals to reduce vulnerability to critical facilities and infrastructure were included in the 2004, 2010, and 2018 plans, this mitigation measure has not been completed and was reaffirmed as a priority for the 2025-2029 planning period by the Planning Team.			
Lead Agency	City of Waitsburg		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

SEVERE WEATHER HAZARDS

The city of Waitsburg last experienced significant damage and loss from a severe storm event on January 4, 2008, when central Oregon and the foothills of the Blue Mountains experienced a wind storm. The strongest gust speed at the Walla Walla airport was 78 mph and strongest sustained wind speed was 55 mph. Estimates were that $4.9 million dollars in damage was experienced within Walla Walla County (not just unincorporated). In the Walla Walla Valley approximately 4 in 10 homes received damage from the storm. Much of the damage was due to falling trees.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The City of Waitsburg implements the following mitigation measures through other planning and enforcement mechanisms:

- Through adoption of the **International Building Code (IBC)** the City of Waitsburg requires structures to be built to resist wind speeds up to 110 mph and allows installation of wind-resistant roofing. The building code also provides snow load, winter design, and severe weathering design requirements.

- The City of Waitsburg trims trees and other vegetation as necessary to protect roads and other infrastructure as part of an on-going maintenance program. The City also works with private property owners to ensure that trees and other vegetation do not increase vulnerability to severe storm damage. Letters are sent to property owners are problem areas are identified.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

The City of Waitsburg does not have any jurisdiction specific mitigation projects for severe weather alone but does commit to all the severe storm multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures at the county level.

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

This plan is an update of the 2018 Walla Walla County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Although it is only an update, the plan has been redesigned and reorganized so it is easier to use. This section has been updated through Planning Team efforts to include new and reconfirmed mitigation measures by identified natural hazard category.

Some action items from the 2018 plan were completed and two (formerly WW-1 and WW-2) were removed because they are no longer priorities. Several projects have been retained but with updated language to reflect either the progress in the project or new realities. Those action items that have been retained are listed below by their new Project ID:

WW-5, WW-7, WW-11, WW-12, WW-13, WW-14

The new projects developed for this plan update are listed below by their new Project ID:

WW-1, WW-2, WW-3, WW-4, WW-6, WW-8, WW-9, WW-10

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Project ID: WW-4 (COMPLETED)			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
The City of Walla Walla in cooperation with multiple stakeholders is planning to complete an update on the 2009 Flood Response Plan (FRP) that includes the addition of other jurisdictions within the County (Phase 2). This is a new mitigation goal as of the 2018 update process.			
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal (Defined by entity in Section 3.5 on Page 25)		

Project ID: WW-5 (COMPLETED)			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
Conduct flood vulnerability assessment of Cottonwood Sewage Lift Station. This station is an identified critical facility. Through the 2018 risk assessment it was noted that the facility is located within the 100-year floodplain, and it was unknown what the vulnerability level for the lift station is. This project is continued from the 2018 plan.			
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal (Defined by entity in Section 3.5 on Page 25)		

CURRENT POLICIES, CODES AND ORDINANCES

The City of Walla Walla has adopted the 2021 editions of the International Building Code (IBC) and International Fire Code (IFC) (Walla Walla Municipal Code Title 15). The purpose of these codes is to provide minimum standards to protect public health and safety. The IBC provides general standards for seismic design, high wind design and high snow load design based on local characteristics. Both the building and fire codes are enforced and regulated through the City's Development Services Department.

Listed below are other applicable codes, plans, ordinances, and programs:

- City of Walla Walla Comprehensive plan
- Countywide planning Policies (CPPs)
- Title 15, Buildings and Construction
- Chapter 21.04, Critical Areas
- Chapter 21.08, State Environmental Policy Act
- Chapter 21.10, Floodplain Management

JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC MITIGATION STRATEGIES AND ACTION ITEMS

It should be noted that although the various mitigation strategies and/or projects listed on the following pages are contained in the City of Walla Walla portion of this plan, many of these strategies and/or projects would most likely benefit multiple jurisdictions, special purpose districts or agencies and may ultimately be funded from a variety of sources.

While these mitigation strategies and/or projects have been suggested by various city officials and staff through the planning process, these strategies and/or projects have not been officially approved by the City of Walla Walla City Council and funding for these strategies and/or projects has not been allocated. In many cases, funding for these mitigation strategies and/or projects is dependent upon the City receiving future federal and/or state hazard mitigation grant funding.

The city also supports and recommends the multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures contained in this plan that cover the extent of Walla Walla County.

MULTIPLE HAZARDS

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: WW-1			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Multi Hazard	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding

Plan and construct emergency generators and automatic transfer switches at drinking water wells.

The city requires emergency generators at two key wells to ensure a reliable water supply during power outages, floods, or earthquakes. These natural and man-made disasters can disrupt the power grid, leaving essential infrastructure, such as water wells, without electricity. In the absence of power, the city's ability to pump water from the wells would be compromised, leading to a shortage of potable water for residents and businesses. Emergency generators would provide the necessary backup power, allowing the wells to continue operating, thus maintaining a steady water supply during critical times

In addition to ensuring access to drinking water, having emergency generators at these wells is vital for fire protection. During a power outage, particularly in the aftermath of a natural disaster, the risk of fire can increase due to compromised infrastructure and emergency situations. The availability of water for firefighting efforts becomes even more crucial. By equipping the wells with backup generators, the city can ensure that firefighters have access to sufficient water pressure and volume to combat fires effectively, thereby protecting lives, property, and the overall safety of the community.

Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: WW-2			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Multi Hazard	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding

Acquire emergency power generation for the city's seven deep basalt wells.

These wells are used to supplement supply when stream levels decline in summer months. More importantly, in an emergency these wells would completely supply the city's needs for water should the Mill Creek Watershed become compromised due to a natural disaster. During the 2024 update process, the need for emergency power at these facilities was specifically identified by the City's Planning Team.

Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: WW-3			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Multi Hazard	Medium		Unfunded, Short term from funding

Develop a Disaster Debris Management Plan.

Safe, proper and timely management of debris is an essential but often overlooked component of an emergency response or disaster incident. Debris management is also one of many competing priorities agencies must manage during such events. It is important that disaster debris be properly managed so as to protect human health, comply with regulations, conserve disposal capacity, reduce injuries, and minimize or prevent environmental impacts.

Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: WW-4			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Multi Hazard	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding

To ensure that the local emergency communication system remains operational and remains resilient should a disaster take place. The City of Walla Walla currently utilizes a colocation data center for its critical network and server infrastructure. The City of Walla Walla does not have a secondary datacenter or disaster recovery site.

For business continuity, a secondary datacenter or disaster recovery site would be a critical asset in the event of a natural or manmade disaster. A secondary datacenter would reduce downtime and provide a high availability for 24/7 operations, in particular, public safety services. SaaS solutions are being explored for the public safety system.

Although the City of Walla Walla has invested in SaaS applications, not all business systems and operational systems are cloud hosted. The City of Walla Walla continues to explore a secondary and cloud disaster recovery solution. Investment in a secondary datacenter or a cloud disaster recovery solution should be highly considered.

Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

FLOOD HAZARDS

No frequently flooded areas are located within the city of Walla Walla at this time although the city still has potential to experience losses due to flood events, including flash flooding. The infrastructure associated with Mill Creek is of concern and the multiple jurisdictions controlling parts of the hydrologic control system associated with it have come together to begin a plan to address these concerns. A breakdown of the authorities involved, and the location of their stream reaches and infrastructure are included in the following.

- The **Walla Walla County County-wide planning Policies (CPPs)**, adopted in 1993, form a basis for planning and multi-jurisdictional coordination within Walla Walla County and have been adopted by the City of Walla Walla. The following CPPs directly address flood hazard mitigation:

CPP 11.5 The County will continue to utilize the Federal Emergency Management Agency program for floodplain management.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- The city adheres to the **Walla Walla County Flood Response Plan (FRP), 2022**. See the section under Walla Walla County above.
- The 2020 Mill Creek flood inflicted significant damage on both the intake structures and the City's water transmission main and took the City’s surface water supply offline. In February 2022, the city enlisted the services of Perteet Inc. to aid in the application process for FEMA Hazard Mitigation grants. In 2023 the city was awarded a hazard mitigation grant to evaluate strategies to improve resiliency to/from natural disasters. The Consor consultant team will prepare a ten-chapter hazard mitigation project/plan that aims to prioritize the protection of the watershed and enhance water supply resilience while safeguarding fish and wildlife habitat. To achieve these goals, the consultant will conduct a comprehensive study, encompassing the identification of problems, proposed strategies, and available funding options. The primary focus will be on fortifying critical water supply infrastructure against a spectrum of threats including wildfires, floods, earthquakes, droughts, and the impacts of climate change. The plan will entail an examination of the watershed and various drinking water system components, with the aim of identifying future projects and the corresponding grant funding requirements necessary to strengthen these vital assets against natural disasters and climate change. This project is expected to span approximately two years and will involve consultations with various local, state, and federal partners.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: WW-5			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	High		Federal funding recently acquired
In 2021, the City of Walla Walla, in cooperation with local, State, and Federal Legislators, worked with the United States Corps of Engineers to complete a General Investigative Study of the Mill Creek Channel. This Study addressed structural improvement needs for the existing channel. This initiative has since been moved to the CAP 205 program with planned construction to begin on or after July 1, 2026			
Lead Agency	Mill Creek Flood Control Zone District		
Potential Resources	Federal		

Project ID: WW-6			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
Construct a large slide gate at the city water intake dam as a Water System Flood Risk Reduction project. Installing a large slide gate at the city water intake dam and reservoirs is vital for protecting the intake/fish screens and the intake building from gravel deposition and high-water damage during flood events. During floods, the force of the water can carry significant amounts of gravel, sediment, and debris downstream, which can accumulate around the intake structures. This gravel deposition can clog the intake screens, obstructing water flow, and potentially damaging the fish screens designed to protect aquatic life. Other elements of this project should include a river gaging site at the intake dam and a weather station at the site. A large slide gate can be opened during flood events to temporarily This helps to avoid clogging and reduces the risk of damage to both the screens and the intake infrastructure. Additionally, by controlling the flow of water into the intake, the slide gate can protect the intake building from being inundated by high water levels, which could lead to structural damage and disrupt the water supply. Overall, the slide gate serves as a critical defense mechanism, ensuring that the intake system remains functional and secure even during severe flood conditions, thereby safeguarding the City's water supply and infrastructure.			
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla		

Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

WILDFIRE HAZARDS

Direct damage to properties within the City of Walla Walla is not likely to result from a wildfire event. Vulnerability to wildfire for the city is primarily based on the location of the Mill Creek Municipal Watershed adjacent to the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). The municipal watershed provides approximately 90 percent of the City's municipal water supply. Large fires in the watershed have been avoided for the past 100 years due to effective USFS fire suppression. The City has completed fire fuels reduction projects in 2008, 2015, and 2018 on areas within the watershed it has ownership. It is critical that the City continue the maintenance and progress of these efforts into the future in order to protect water quality.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The City has participated in wildfire hazard mitigation through a variety of different mechanisms:

- The watershed is characterized by forest conditions with heavy fuel loads and is vulnerable to wildfire. A destructive wildfire could have serious negative effects on water quality. The City and Walla Walla County completed and adopted the **Mill Creek and Walla Walla County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)** in 2024. The CWPP contains many mitigation measures to be implemented within the WUI which will reduce wildfire vulnerability to the municipal watershed. Additionally, the USFS has jurisdiction over more than 90% of the Mill Creek watershed and the City is dependent on the fire protection services of that agency for those areas.
- The USFS has implemented a prescribed fuels treatment with additional treatments planned in the Tiger Creek Drainage that lies adjacent to the Mill Creek Watershed. The first phase of this project included prescribed fire treatment on USFS and City of Walla Walla lands which was conducted in the fall of 2022. The USFS is also in the planning process of the Tiger-Mill Fuels Reduction project with the intent to reduce fuels in and around the Mill Creek Watershed. Implementation of the Tiger-Mill project is anticipated to start in 2025.
- The City of Walla Walla has adopted the International Code Council family of codes through Walla Walla Municipal Code Title 15. This includes the **International Fire Code (IFC)**. The IFC provides regulations to protect life and property from all types of fire and explosion hazards. The regulations include general precautions against fire, emergency planning and preparedness, fire department access, hydrants, sprinkler and alarm systems, hazardous materials storage and use, etc. The fire code applies to

all new construction and land development and some modifications to existing buildings.

- By ordinance 2024-01 the City of Walla Walla adopted by reference the 2021 edition of the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code published by the International Code Council, Inc., and as amended by Chapter 51-55 of the Washinton Administrative Code.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: WW-7			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Wildfire	Medium		Partially funded, Current and on-going
Continue with implementation of the Mill Creek and Walla Walla County Community Wildfire Protection Plan recommendations from the 2024 update to reduce county and city wildfire vulnerability and risk to the Mill Creek Municipal Watershed. This mitigation measure only included Mill Creek during the 2010 HMP and has been expanded to include all of Walla Walla County and an updated assessment of the Mill Creek Municipal Watershed for the 2025-2029 planning period.			
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: WW-8			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Wildfire	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
A helicopter hydrant located near the city watershed intake facility is essential for protecting the drinking water supply from wildfires and controlled burns. This strategic placement allows helicopters to quickly refill and make repeated water drops, which is crucial for controlling fire spread and preventing it from reaching critical zones within the watershed. The rapid response helps safeguard the area from potential contamination caused by wildfire-induced erosion and ash deposition. Additionally, during controlled burns, the proximity of the hydrant to the intake facility ensures that any fire remains within intended boundaries, reducing the risk of it spreading and damaging the watershed. By protecting both the area and its infrastructure, such as the intake facility and nearby water storage tanks, the hydrant plays a key role in maintaining the integrity of the City's water supply.			

Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: WW-9			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Wildfire	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
An emergency coagulation station at the City's drinking water raw water reservoirs is crucial for protecting the water treatment plant from potential contamination caused by a watershed wildfire induced erosion and ash deposition. Wildfire can significantly alter the landscape, leading to increased erosion and the release of large amounts of ash and debris into the water supply. These contaminants can overwhelm the natural filtration processes, posing a serious risk to water quality. The emergency coagulation station would allow for the rapid addition of coagulants to the raw water. Coagulants are chemicals that cause suspended particles, including ash and sediment, to clump together and settle out of the water more quickly. By removing these contaminants before the water reaches the treatment plant, the coagulation process helps prevent clogging, reduces the burden on filtration systems, and ensures that the plant can continue to produce safe drinking water even in the aftermath of a wildfire. This proactive measure is essential for maintaining water quality and protecting public health.			
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: WW-10			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Wildfire	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
Installing membrane filtration at the city water plant is essential for protecting the water treatment process from potential contamination caused by wildfire-induced erosion and ash deposition. When a wildfire occurs, it can lead to significant erosion and the introduction of large amounts of ash, sediment, and other debris into the water supply. These contaminants can overwhelm traditional water treatment methods, compromising water quality. Membrane filtration offers a highly effective barrier against these contaminants. It uses semi-permeable membranes to physically separate fine particles, including ash and sediment, from			

the water. This process ensures that only clean water passes through, while harmful particles are removed before they can reach the main treatment plant. By installing membrane filtration, the City can enhance its ability to produce safe drinking water even under challenging conditions, such as those following a wildfire. This added layer of protection is crucial for ensuring the reliability and safety of the water supply.	
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS

There are indicators which suggest that City of Walla Walla could experience a large earthquake: proximity to large faults, evidence of large earthquakes in the recent geologic past, and historical seismicity. Although it is very difficult to predict when an earthquake will occur, we do have valuable information regarding vulnerability which helps focus hazard mitigation efforts. Although the area has significant geologic hazard, damage and loss from an earthquake has not occurred recently.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Other plans, policies, and development standards relevant to mitigation of earthquake and other geologic hazards include the following:

- As part of the 2008 Critical Areas Ordinance update completed in 2008 the city adopted new standards and background information related to various geologic hazards including landslide, erosion, and seismic hazard areas. In areas with steep or unstable slopes or with soil characteristics prone to liquefaction, geotechnical reports are required as part of development permits. When design and construction methods cannot reduce the risk to acceptable levels development may be prohibited.
- The City of Walla Walla has adopted the International Building Code which classifies the city as seismic zone D. The IBC also provides design/construction requirements for geologic hazard areas including areas with steep slope which are landslide and erosion hazards which could be exacerbated by an earthquake.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: WW-11			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	Medium		Project in progress

Conduct structural assessment and necessary improvements to City Hall to reduce potential earthquake damage. **Update:** Structural assessment was completed in 2024. Areas with necessary improvements needed will be noted in that assessment when finalized. This project will be retained for the 2024 update until the assessment is finalized.	
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: WW-12			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
Conduct structural assessment and necessary improvements to city public parking infrastructure nearby and overlaying the Mill Creek diversion canal under the city to reduce potential earthquake damage has been identified as a new mitigation need. Although general goals to reduce structural vulnerability were included in 2010, this specific mitigation measure was new in the 2018 HMP. **Update:** Since its inclusion, some actions have been taken to protect the public from accessing the most significant areas of concern, however, the fate of some of the more vulnerable areas/buildings may depend on the GI study performed by the USACE. This project has been retained for the 2024 update.			
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

Project ID: WW-13			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
To ensure above-ground water storage tanks remain operational after an earthquake, a comprehensive seismic retrofit is necessary. This includes installing flexible earthquake joints to connect the two (2) Mill Creek water tanks and the one (1) Clinton Street tank to the pipelines, preventing disconnection due to ground movement. An earthquake anchor system with base isolators, tie-down anchors, and shear keys will secure the tanks to their foundations,			

avoiding sliding or tipping. Larger tank vents will prevent vacuum collapse by allowing air to enter as water exits rapidly. Additionally, automatic shutoff valves with seismic sensors will immediately close to prevent water loss and contamination. These upgrades collectively enhance the resilience of the water storage system, ensuring it can continue providing drinking water and fire protection post-earthquake. *This project was updated by the City Engineer and retained for the 2024 plan update.*	
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal

Project ID: WW-14			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	High		Unfunded, Short term from funding
Replace 22,000 linear feet of 24" water main. The city water system is fed with dual transmission mains from the water treatment plant. One main was constructed in 1928 the other in 1953. The former is a 1928 riveted steel water main that is highly susceptible to earthquake damage. The latter is a steel line at the end of its service life requiring frequent repairs. The project would replace both these pipelines with new earthquake resistant transmission mains. (Version 2 revision)			
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

SEVERE WEATHER HAZARDS

The City of Walla Walla last experienced significant damage and loss from a severe weather event on January 4, 2008, when Central Oregon and the foothills of the Blue Mountains experienced a wind storm. The strongest gust speed at the Walla Walla airport was 78 mph and strongest sustained wind speed was 55 mph. Estimates were that 4.9 million dollars in damage was experienced within Walla Walla County (not just unincorporated). In the Walla Walla Valley approximately 4 in 10 homes received damage from the storm. Much of the damage was due to falling trees.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The City of Walla Walla implements the following mitigation measures through other planning and enforcement mechanisms:

- Through adoption of the International Building Code (IBC) the city requires structures to be built to resist wind speeds up to 110 mph and allows installation of wind-resistant roofing. The building code also provides snow load, winter design, and severe weathering design requirements.
- The City of Walla Walla ensures that trees and vegetation are pruned and trimmed as necessary to protect roads, bridges and other infrastructure from damage.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

The City of Walla Walla does not have any jurisdiction specific mitigation projects that address severe weather alone but does have four Multi-Hazard action items that address severe weather hazards as part of their mitigation objective. Walla Walla also commits to supporting all severe weather multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures at the county level, where appropriate.

WALLA WALLA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

This plan is an update of the 2018 Walla Walla County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Although it is only an update, the plan has been redesigned and reorganized so it is easier to use. This section has been updated through Planning Team efforts to include new and reconfirmed mitigation measures by each identified natural hazard category.

CURRENT POLICIES, CODES AND ORDINANCES

The Walla Walla Public School District has adopted the 2017 editions of the International Building Code (IBC) and International Fire Code 2018 (IFC) (Walla Walla Municipal Code Title 15 2018) in alignment with the City of Walla Walla. The purpose of these codes is to provide minimum standards to protect public health and safety. The IBC provides general standards for seismic design, high wind design and high snow load design based on local characteristics. Both the building and fire codes are enforced and regulated through the City's Development Services Department.

Listed below are other applicable codes, plans, ordinances, and programs:

- The Walla Walla Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 2018-03, passed January 10, 2018
- City of Walla Walla Comprehensive plan, passed June 2018
- Title 15, Buildings and Construction
- Chapter 21.04, Critical Areas
- Walla Walla County Comprehensive plan, adopted August 2019

On February 13, 2024, voters passed a learning levy and a capital levy. The short-term, six-year capital levy is being implemented to update outdoor space for athletics and various other activities and programs.

JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC MITIGATION STRATEGIES AND ACTION ITEMS

It should be noted that although the various mitigation strategies and/or projects listed on the following pages are contained in the Walla Walla Public School District portion of this plan, many of these strategies and/or projects would most likely benefit multiple jurisdictions, special purpose districts or agencies and may ultimately be paid for from a variety of sources.

While these mitigation strategies and/or projects have been recommended by various city officials and staff through the planning process, these strategies and/or projects have not been officially approved by the Walla Walla Public School District and funding for these strategies and/or projects has not been allocated. In many cases, funding for these mitigation strategies

and/or projects is dependent upon the district receiving future federal and/or state hazard mitigation grant funding.

Walla Walla Public School District also supports and recommends the multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures presented at the county level.

FLOOD HAZARDS

The Walla Walla Public School District does not have any infrastructure located in frequently flooded areas at this time, although the City of Walla Walla has potential to experience losses due to flood events and this would impact the operations of the Walla Walla Public School District. The infrastructure associated with Mill Creek is of mutual concern and the multiple jurisdictions controlling parts of the hydrologic control system associated with it have come together to begin a plan to address these concerns.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- The Walla Walla County County-wide planning Policies (CPPs), adopted in 1993, form a basis for planning and multi-jurisdictional coordination within Walla Walla County and have been adopted by the City of Walla Walla and the Walla Walla Public School District. The following CPP directly addresses flood hazard mitigation:

CPP 11.5 The Walla Walla Public School District will continue to work with the County in their efforts to continue utilization of the Federal Emergency Management Agency program for floodplain management.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

The school district does not have any jurisdiction specific mitigation projects that address flood, but they do commit to supporting all flood related multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures at the county level, where appropriate.

WILDFIRE HAZARDS

Direct damage to properties within the Walla Walla Public School District is not likely to result from a wildfire event. Vulnerability to wildfire for the School District is primarily based on the location of the municipal watershed within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and the impacts a wildfire may have on municipal water supplies. Walla Walla County has conducted hazard mitigation measures to reduce vulnerability within the watershed in the past and plans to continue these efforts into the future in order to protect water quality.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- The Walla Walla Public School District has adopted the International Code Council family of codes through local Municipal Codes for Walla Walla County. This includes the **International Fire Code (IFC)**. The IFC provides regulations to protect life and property from all types of fire and explosion hazards. The regulations include general precautions against fire, emergency planning and preparedness, fire department access, hydrants, sprinkler and alarm systems, hazardous materials storage and use, etc. The fire code applies to all new construction and land development and some modifications to existing buildings.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: PS-1			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Wildfire	Low		Unfunded, Long term from funding
The Walla Walla Public School District will work with other County jurisdictions and continue to support efforts that implement the Mill Creek and Walla Walla County Community Wildfire Protection Plan recommendations from the 2024 update to reduce wildfire vulnerability. This mitigation measure is new for the 2024-2028 planning period.			
Lead Agency	City of Walla Walla and Walla Walla County EMD		
Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal		

EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS

The primary hazard facing the school district is a threat from earthquakes. Walla Walla Public School District has been part of a pilot project to assess the seismic risk of all schools in the district. This project is a cooperative effort between many agencies, including: Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD), the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and the Washington State Seismic Safety Team. Seismic assessments were completed in August 2018 and at the close of the project the district will receive a study report that details the findings for each school facility (estimated to be delivered in 2019). The report will include an ordered list of structures that should be targeted for retrofitting.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: PS-2			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	High		2018-2019
Conduct assessment of seismic integrity for all school facilities. This mitigation project has been modified from the 2010 plan and is anticipated to be completed within 2018 and reported on in early 2019.			
Lead Agency	Washington State Department of Natural Resources Walla Walla Public School District		
Potential Resources	State		

Project ID: PS-3			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	High		Current and ongoing
Conduct non-structural mitigation in all Walla Walla Public Schools buildings. This mitigation project has been modified from the 2010 plan and following the report anticipated for 2019 the District will update their mitigation targets and goals for the 2018-2022 planning period.			
Lead Agency	Washington State Department of Natural Resources Walla Walla Public School District		
Potential Resources	Local		

Project ID: PS-4			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Earthquake	High		Unfunded, Long term from funding
Retrofit school buildings to meet current seismic design standards based on 2018 seismic assessments using prioritization outlined in final report. The results of the seismic assessment being conducted by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and other state, local and federal agencies will inform this project. This mitigation goal is new for the 2018 plan and has been modified from the 2010 plan.			
Lead Agency	Washington State Department of Natural Resources Walla Walla Public School District		

Potential Resources	Local, State, and Federal (Defined by entity in Section 3.5 on Page 25)

SEVERE WEATHER HAZARDS

Walla Walla Public School District was last threatened by severe weather events on January 4, 2008, when Central Oregon and the foothills of the Blue Mountains experienced a windstorm. The strongest gust speed at the Walla Walla airport was 78 mph and the strongest sustained wind speed was 55 mph. In the Walla Walla Valley approximately 4 in 10 homes received damage from the storm. Much of the damage was due to falling trees.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The Walla Walla Public School District implements the following mitigation measures through City and County planning and enforcement mechanisms:

- Through adoption of the **International Building Code (IBC)** the School District complies with the requirements of structures to be built to resist wind speeds up to 110 mph and the installation of wind-resistant roofing. Local building codes also provide snow load, winter design, and severe weathering design requirements.
- Walla Walla Public School District works with other entities such as the City of Walla Walla to ensure trees and vegetation are pruned and trimmed as necessary to protect roads, bridges and other infrastructure associated with School District facilities.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

The Walla Walla Public School District does not have any jurisdiction specific mitigation projects but does commit to all severe weather multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures.

WALLA WALLA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

This plan is an update of the 2018 Walla Walla County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Although as a new adoption jurisdiction with this plan update, the conservation district developed its own new mitigation strategy and has included new and mitigation measures by each identified natural hazard category.

CURRENT POLICIES, CODES AND ORDINANCES

The conservation district is a countywide organization. Listed below are some applicable codes, plans, ordinances, and programs:

- Walla Walla County Comprehensive plan, 2019
- Countywide planning Policies (CPPs)
- Chapter 18.08, Critical Areas
- Chapter 18.12, Flood Damage Prevention

JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC MITIGATION STRATEGIES AND ACTION ITEMS

Many of these strategies and/or projects would most likely benefit multiple jurisdictions, agencies, and unincorporated communities in Walla Walla County. While these mitigation strategies and/or projects have been developed by district staff during the planning process, they have not been officially approved by the Walla Walla County Conservation District and funding has not been allocated. In many cases, funding for these is dependent upon the district receiving future federal and/or state hazard mitigation grant funding.

Walla Walla County Conservation District also supports and recommends the multi-jurisdictional mitigation measures contained in this plan at the county level.

FLOOD HAZARDS

A significant portion of the county Is located within the 100-year floodplain and there are also parts of the county located within the floodway and the 500-year floodplain. The most significant losses due to flooding occurred in 1996, 2012, and 2020.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CD-1			
Hazard	**Priority**	**Cost**	**Timeline**
Flood	Medium		On-going

Work with landowners on instream projects and Best Management Practices (BMPs) that increase resiliency to floods. Continue to pursue funds that allow WWCCD to complete instream restoration projects that increase floodplain availability.	
Lead Agency	WWCCD
Potential Resources	State and Federal funds

WILDFIRE HAZARDS

In Walla Walla County the highest wildfire hazard area is in the wildland urban interface (WUI) in the eastern part of the county. This area has been the primary focus of wildfire hazard mitigation in the past. There are, however, dry-land portions of the county which also have an elevated wildfire risk. Recognizing this fact, the Planning Team added a mitigation measure during the 2010 update to prepare a wildfire protection plan addressing risk throughout the rest of the county. This mitigation measure was completed in 2017 and then updated in 2024.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The conservation district has participated in wildfire hazard mitigation through a variety of different mechanisms:

- The City of Walla Walla receives 90% of its municipal water supply from the Mill Creek Municipal Watershed which is located adjacent to the wildland urban interface (WUI). The watershed is characterized by forest conditions with heavy fuel loads and is vulnerable to wildfire. A destructive wildfire could have serious negative effects on water quality. The city completed a **County-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan in 2017** that included a reassessment of the Mill Creek watershed and associated fire risk ratings. During the 2024 update to the HMP, the 2017 CWPP was also updated and serves as an appendix to this plan. This plan contains many mitigation measures to be implemented within the WUI which will reduce wildfire vulnerability within the unincorporated areas of Walla Walla County.
- Walla Walla County Conservation District works closely with the Washington State Department of Ecology, local fire districts, and the county to implement the local **burn program**. The Community Development Department issues residential burn permits and works with other agencies to conduct enforcement and provide valuable information to property owners regarding alternatives to burning and recommendations on safe practices that can reduce risk. A daily burn decision is issued by the Department of Ecology Eastern Regional Office.

- The 2019 Comprehensive Plan contains the following goals and policies that pertain to wildfire:
    - Goal RL-6
        - Protect the environmentally sensitive features that are present in Rural Remote lands and reduce the threat of hazards such as flooding, slope failure, and wildfire.
    - Policy RL 6.1
        - Implement the Community Wildfire Protection Plan to reduce the risk of wildfire and mitigate the impacts if a fire occurs.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CD-2			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Wildfire	High		On-going
Work with landowners to address forest health. This includes home assessments for wildfire prone areas as well as offer cost-share programs to assist in forest thinning/forest health.			
Lead Agency	WWCCD		
Potential Resources	State and Federal funds		

EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS

There are several indicators which suggest that Walla Walla County could experience a large earthquake: proximity to large faults, evidence of large earthquakes in the recent geologic past and historical seismicity. Although it is very difficult to predict when an earthquake will occur, we do have valuable information regarding vulnerability which helps focus hazard mitigation efforts. Although Walla Walla County has significant geologic hazards, damage and losses from an earthquake has not occurred recently.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Other plans, policies, and development standards relevant to mitigation of earthquake and other geologic hazards include the following:

- As part of the 2008 **Critical Areas Ordinance** update completed by the county in 2009 the county adopted new standards and background information related to various geologic hazards including landslide, erosion, and seismic hazard areas. In areas with steep or unstable slopes or with soil characteristics prone to liquefaction, geotechnical reports are

required as part of development permits. When design and construction methods cannot reduce the risk to acceptable levels development may be prohibited.

MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CD-3			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Earthquake	Low		On-going
Continue education and outreach surrounding liquefaction of soils associated with earthquake activity as mentioned in the VSP guide.			
Lead Agency	WWCCD		
Potential Resources	State funds		

SEVERE WEATHER HAZARDS

Walla Walla County experienced notable damage and loss from severe weather events that have caused millions of dollars in damage because of high winds, flooding, ice, cold waves, and other severe weather events. *Expected Annual Loss* values calculated by FEMA have the potential to reach the hundreds of thousands or millions.

OTHER PLANS, POLICIES, MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Walla Walla County implements the following mitigation measures through other planning and enforcement mechanisms:

- Through adoption of the International Building Code (IBC) Walla Walla County requires structures to be built to resist wind speeds up to 110 mph and allows installation of wind-resistant roofing. The building code also provides snow load, winter design, and severe weathering design requirements.

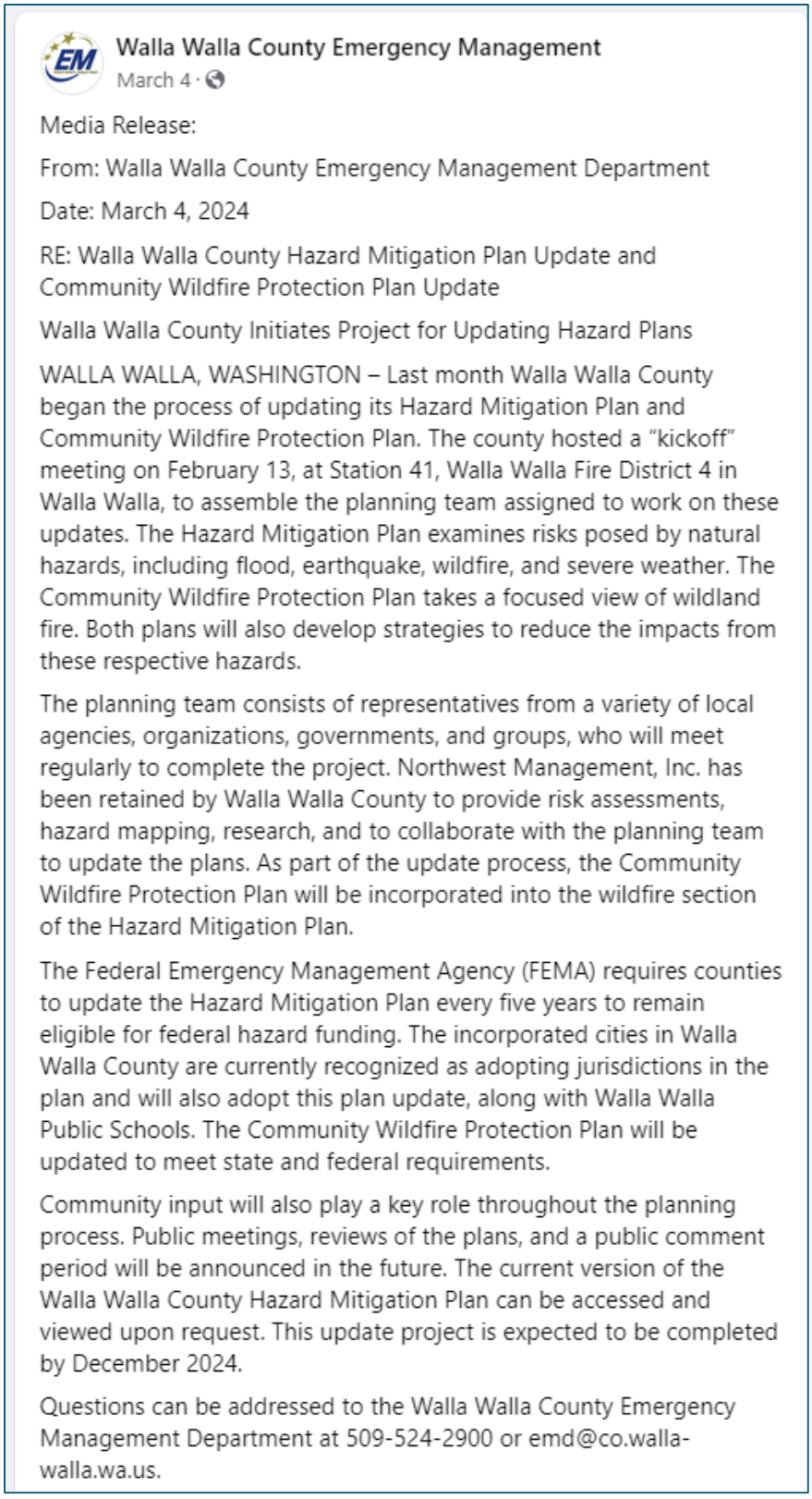
MITIGATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

Project ID: CD-4			
Hazard	Priority	Cost	Timeline
Severe Weather	Medium		On-going
Educate private landowners on soil and water erosion prevention Best Management Practices (BMPs).			
Lead Agency	WWCCD		

Potential Resources	State and Federal funds

7 APPENDIX A: NEWS RELEASES AND MEDIA POSTS

Figure 13: Facebook post from February 14, 2024



Walla Walla County Emergency Management
March 4 ·

Media Release:

From: Walla Walla County Emergency Management Department

Date: March 4, 2024

RE: Walla Walla County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update

Walla Walla County Initiates Project for Updating Hazard Plans

WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON – Last month Walla Walla County began the process of updating its Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan. The county hosted a "kickoff" meeting on February 13, at Station 41, Walla Walla Fire District 4 in Walla Walla, to assemble the planning team assigned to work on these updates. The Hazard Mitigation Plan examines risks posed by natural hazards, including flood, earthquake, wildfire, and severe weather. The Community Wildfire Protection Plan takes a focused view of wildland fire. Both plans will also develop strategies to reduce the impacts from these respective hazards.

The planning team consists of representatives from a variety of local agencies, organizations, governments, and groups, who will meet regularly to complete the project. Northwest Management, Inc. has been retained by Walla Walla County to provide risk assessments, hazard mapping, research, and to collaborate with the planning team to update the plans. As part of the update process, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan will be incorporated into the wildfire section of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires counties to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan every five years to remain eligible for federal hazard funding. The incorporated cities in Walla Walla County are currently recognized as adopting jurisdictions in the plan and will also adopt this plan update, along with Walla Walla Public Schools. The Community Wildfire Protection Plan will be updated to meet state and federal requirements.

Community input will also play a key role throughout the planning process. Public meetings, reviews of the plans, and a public comment period will be announced in the future. The current version of the Walla Walla County Hazard Mitigation Plan can be accessed and viewed upon request. This update project is expected to be completed by December 2024.

Questions can be addressed to the Walla Walla County Emergency Management Department at 509-524-2900 or emd@co.walla-walla.wa.us.

Figure 14: Facebook post from March 4, 2024

Figure 15: Facebook post from March 6, 2024

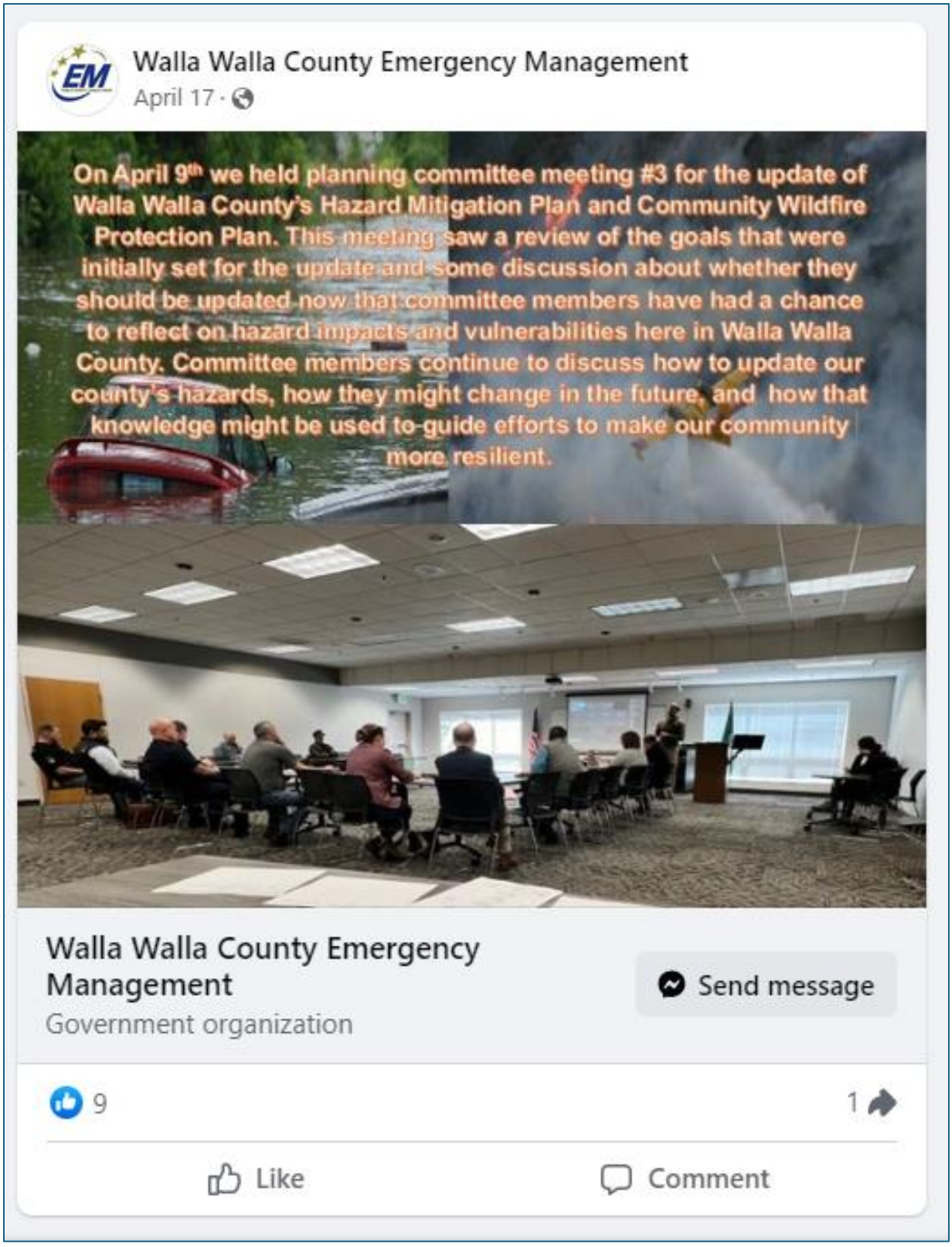


Figure 16: Facebook post from April 17, 2024

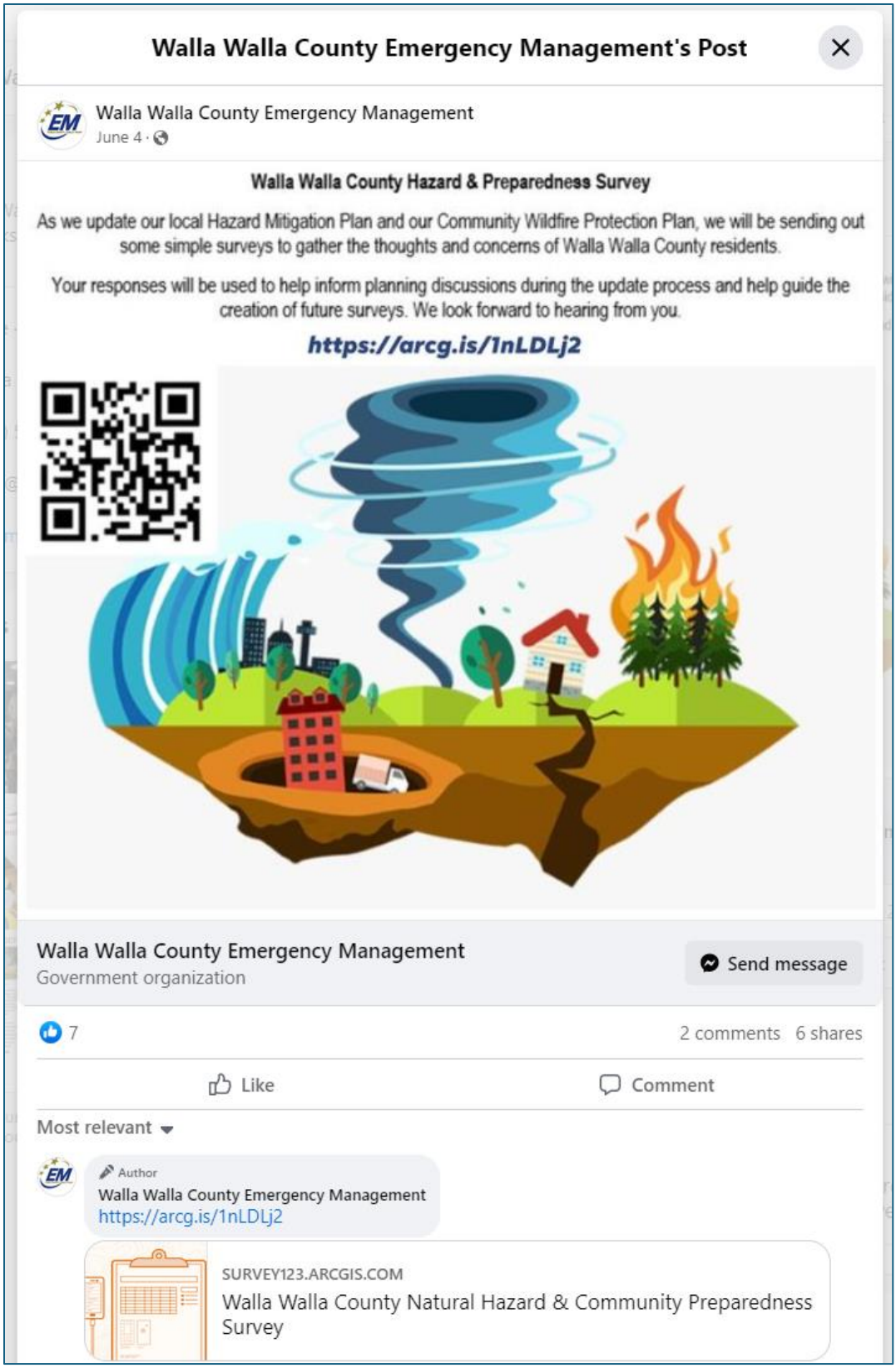


Figure 17: June 4, 2024, Facebook post advertising the survey

Figure 18: Facebook post from August 16, 2024 advertising the survey

Media Release
From: Walla Walla County Emergency Management Department
Date: March 1, 2024
RE: Walla Walla County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update

Walla Walla County Initiates Project for Updating Hazard Plans

WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON – Last month Walla Walla County began the process of updating its Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan. The county hosted a "kickoff" meeting on February 13, at Station 41, Walla Walla Fire District 4 in Walla Walla, to assemble the planning team assigned to work on these updates. The Hazard Mitigation Plan examines risks posed by natural hazards, including flood, earthquake, wildfire, and severe weather. The Community Wildfire Protection Plan takes a focused view of wildland fire. Both plans will also develop strategies to reduce the impacts from these respective hazards.

The planning team consists of representatives from a variety of local agencies, organizations, governments, and groups, who will meet regularly to complete the project. Northwest Management, Inc. has been retained by Walla Walla County to provide risk assessments, hazard mapping, research, and to collaborate with the planning team to update the plans. As part of the update process, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan will be incorporated into the wildfire section of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires counties to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan every five years to remain eligible for federal hazard funding. The incorporated cities in Walla Walla County are currently recognized as adopting jurisdictions in the plan and will also adopt this plan update, along with Walla Walla Public Schools. The Community Wildfire Protection Plan will be updated to meet state and federal requirements.

Community input will also play a key role throughout the planning process. Public meetings, reviews of the plans, and a public comment period will be announced in the future. The current version of the Walla Walla County Hazard Mitigation Plan can be accessed and viewed upon request. This update project is expected to be completed by December 2024.

Questions can be addressed to the Walla Walla County Emergency Management Department at 509-524-2900 or emd@co.walla-walla.wa.us.

Figure 19: News release announcing the kicking off of the update project

8 APPENDIX B: RECORD OF PLANNING TEAM MEETINGS

KICK-OFF MEETING

AGENDA	**Walla Walla County Update for the Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan** **Kickoff Meeting** **Tuesday, February 13, 2024** **1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.** **Station 41 2251 S. Howard St.** **Walla Walla, WA 99362 (Training Room)** ***virtual option included**	
1:00 p.m.	**OPEN – Introductions and welcome** ▪ County Efforts To-Date	Chris Lee, Patrick Purcell
1:10 p.m. **1:45 p.m.** **2:45 p.m.**	**GROUP MEETING** **I. Overview** ▪ Overview of the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update ▪ Overview of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan **II. Building the Planning Team** ▪ Planning Team ➢ Planning team responsibilities ➢ Meeting Schedule and Format ▪ Stakeholders and Partners ➢ Who is missing? ➢ Who needs to be at the table? **III. Developing the Outreach Strategy** ▪ Public Involvement **IV. Exercises** ▪ Review Planning and Mitigation Goals ▪ Local Knowledge Questionnaire ▪ Updated Hazard Summary Rating ▪ Capabilities Assessment **V. Homework** ▪ Local Knowledge Questionnaire ▪ Data and Information Request ▪ Hazard Summary Worksheet/Capabilities Assessment ➢ Must be completed by all adopting jurisdictions	Adam Herrenbruck, with Northwest Management, Inc.
3:00 p.m.	**ADJOURNMENT**	

Contact Info:

Manager and Project Lead:	**Project Support:**	**Other Support:**
Adam Herrenbruck herrenbruck@northwestmanagement.com	Erica Wimme ewimme@northwestmanagement.com	Tucker Flaten flaten@northwestmanagement.com
Northwest Management Office: 208-883-4488	Natalie Atkins mcconnell@northwestmanagement.com	Eric Nelson nelson@northwestmanagement.com

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PARTICIPATION

Representatives from the county, Walla Walla, College Place, Waitsburg, and the Conservation District were present at the kickoff meeting along with a wide variety of stakeholders and planning partners.

MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Project: Walla Walla Kick off Meeting | **Date: 02 / 13 / 24**

Facilitator: **Northwest Management, Inc.** | **Place: Station 41 Walla Walla**

Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email
Adam Herrenbruck	LPS Manager	Northwest Management Inc		herrenbruck@northwestmanagement.com
Erica Wimme	Environmental Planner	Northwest Management Inc		ewimme@northwestmanagement.com
John Knowles	Chief	WWFD	5095274632	fknowles@wallawallawa.gov
Greg Lybeck	GM	WWFG	509-527-3247	glybeck@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Rocky EASTMAN	CHIEF	WWCFD4	(509)529-1282	REASTMAN@WWFire4.com
John Golden	Dep. Chief	WWCFD4	"	Jgolden@wwfire4.com
TROY TOMARAS	CHIEF	CPPD		TTOMARAS@CPWA.US
Lonna Lano	Administrator	WW Veterans Home	509-540-0812	LONNAL@DVA.WA.GOV
Jodi Ferguson	DCH mgr	DCH	524-2657	jferguson@co.wallawalla
Justin Lawn Dalina		ODF		
Jennifer Ballard		City Planning		
Angie Peters	General Manager	Valley Transit	509-525-9140	angie@valleytransit.com
Mike Rizz	City Admin	City CP	301-8[illegible]	mrizzadello@[illegible]

Page 1 of 2

Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email
Melissa Shumake	Deputy Director	WW County Community Dev		mshumake@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Bob Carson	emeritus prof	Whitman College	509-520-7647	carsonrj@whitman.edu
Tina Babbitt	Director	Columbia County	509 382 2518	tina.babbitt@co.columbia.wa.us
Alan Harlan	Facility	WDVA	502-202-328	Alan.Harlan@dva.wa.gov
DARRAN MASSORETTI	facility	WDVA	509 386 3110	
TONY GARCIA	PW Director	Walla Walla Co	5095242760	
MARK CRIDER	SHERIFF	WWSO	509-524-5409	mcrider@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Rick Dawson	WWC DCIT		524-2669	rdawson@co.walla-walla.wa.us

MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Project: Walla Walla Kick off Meeting | **Date: 02 / 13 / 24**

Facilitator: **Northwest Management, Inc.** | **Place: Station 41 Walla Walla**

Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email
Adam Herrenbruck	LPS Manager	Northwest Management Inc		herrenbruck@northwestmanagement.com
Erica Wimme	Environmental Planner	Northwest Management Inc		ewimme@northwestmanagement.com
Heather Lee	EMS Director	WWCO EMS	(509) 524-2701	hlee@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Chris Lee	WW EM Director	WWEM	509-524-2580	clee@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Patrick Purcell	WWEM Coordinator	WWEM	509-524-2901	ppurcell@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Mike Moore	Fire Mgmt Officer ~~USFS Forest Service~~	USFS Forest Service	503-312-8097	michael.moore2@usda.gov
Alyssa Wells	EMS/Coroner Admin.	WWCo EMS/Coroner	509-524-2845	awells@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Susan Leathers	Safety Security/ EOP Manager	PSNMC	509-730-1746	Susan.Leathers@providence.org
MIKE SMITH	" "	" "	509-897-2206	MICHAEL.SMITH@PROVIDENCE.ORG.
Esther Click	WESCOM Mngr-	WESCOM	509-886-1431	eclick@wallawalla.wa.gov
Chris Guthrie	Chief WWPD	WWPD	509-527-4434	cguthrie@wallawalla.gov
Annie Beverley	Conservation scientist WW County	WWCCD	509.956-3164	annie.beverley@wwccd.net
Kendall Corn	GIS Coordinator	Wallawalla County	509-540-6347	KCorn@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Jacob LeBaron	AFMO	DNR	509-859-6703	Jacob.LeBaron@dnr.wa.gov

MEETING #2

AGENDA	Walla Walla County Update for the Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan Meeting #2 Tuesday, March 5, 2024 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Station 41 2251 S. Howard St. Walla Walla, WA 99362 (Training Room) *virtual option included	
1:00 p.m.	**OPEN – Introductions and Housekeeping** ▪ General announcements	Chris Lee, Patrick Purcell
1:10 p.m. 1:45 p.m. 2:45 p.m.	**GROUP MEETING** **I. Overview of the Kickoff Meeting** ▪ Review of the meeting with Q and A **II. The Planning Team** ▪ Follow up on the Planning Team ➢ Adopting jurisdictions ➢ Stakeholders and Partners **III. The Outreach Strategy** ▪ Press Releases ▪ Firewise meetings ▪ Public meetings toward the end of the process **IV. HW Review and Discussion** ▪ Planning and Mitigation Goals ▪ Local Knowledge Questionnaire ▪ Hazard Summary Rating **V. Exercise: High-Hazard Areas** ▪ Wildfire ▪ Flood **VI. Homework** ▪ Previous Assignments/Requests ▪ Local Hazard Impacts ▪ Capabilities Assessment ➢ Must be completed by all adopting jurisdictions	Adam Herrenbruck, with Northwest Management, Inc.
3:00 p.m.	**ADJOURNMENT**	

Contact Info:

Manager and Project Lead: Adam Herrenbruck herrenbruck@northwestmanagement.com	**Project Support:** Erica Wimme ewimme@northwestmanagement.com	**Other Support:** Tucker Flaten flaten@northwestmanagement.com
Northwest Management Office: 208-883-4488	Natalie Atkins mcconnell@northwestmanagement.com	Eric Nelson nelson@northwestmanagement.com

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PARTICIPATION

Representatives from the county, the conservation district, the school district, Walla Walla, Waitsburg, and College Place were present for this meeting and participated in the discussion along with a wide variety of stakeholders and planning partners.

WALLA WALLA CO.
HMP & CWPP MEETING SIGN IN

MARCH 5TH, 2024

STATION 41 2251 S. HOWARD ST. WALLA WALLA, WA 99362

NAME	AFFILIATION	EMAIL
Adam Herrenbruck	Northwest Mngmt Inc.	herrenbruck@nmi2.com
Erica Wimme	NMI	ewimme@nmi2.com
Natalie Atkins	NMI	mcmconnell@nmi2.com
Patrick Purcell	Walla Walla EM	ppurcell@walla-walla.wa.us
Chris Lee	Walla Walla EM	clee@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Heather Lee	Walla Walla Co. EMS	hlee@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Annie Byerley	WW Co. Conservation Dist.	annie.byerley@wwcd.net
John Knowles	Same	Same
John Golden	WWCFD4	
Bob Carson	Whitman College	carsonrj@whitman.edu
Kendall Corn	WWCo /GIS	Kcorn@co.walla-walla.wa.us
DAVID WINTER	CPFD	dwinter@cpwa.us
Dan Mack	Walla Walla County PW	dmack@co.walla-walla-wa.US
SUSAN Heathers	PSMMC	susan.leathers@providence.org
Tony Garcia	Walla Walla County Public Works	

WALLA WALLA CO.
HMP & CWPP MEETING SIGN IN

MARCH 5TH, 2024
STATION 41 2251 S. HOWARD ST. WALLA WALLA, WA 99362

NAME	AFFILIATION	EMAIL
SUMMER FULMER	WW COUNTY	COUNTY EMAIL
Melissa Shumake	WW County Planning	mshumake@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Robert Mendoza	CP	rmendoza@cpwa.us
MIKE HIGGINS	WWPS	mhiggins@wwps.org
TRENT TOMARAS	CPPD	TTomaras@cpwa.us
MIKE RIZZI	City of CP	mrizzi@cpwa.us

Virtual Attendance

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN/COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN UPDATE-MEETING 2

MARCH 5, 2024

FIRE DISTRICT 4, STATION 41

2251 S. HOWARD ST. WALLA WALLA, WA 99362

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL ADDRESS
Jacob LeBaron	DNR	Jacob.LeBaron@dnr.wa.gov
Tracy Klem	Walla Walla Community College	tracy.klem@wwcc.edu
Randy Hinchliffe	City of Waitsburg	administrator@cityofwaitsburg.com
Angie Peters	Valley Transit	Angie@valleytransit.com
Sean Davis	Franklin County Emergency Management	Sdavis@co.franklin.wa.us
Randal Son	Home owner on Mill Creek	randalson249@gmail.com
Don Schwerin	District 8 Fire Commissioner	don.schwerin@gmail.com
Lonna Leno	WA State Veterans Home	lonnal@dva.wa.gov
Jon Rickard	College Place	JRickard@cpwa.us
Charlie Landsman	DNR	Charles.Landsman@dnr.wa.gov
Scott Tucker	VA - Emergency Management	Scott.Tucker@va.gov
Regency at the Park	Regency at the park Long Term Care	A. Morales@regency-pacific.com (no period)

MEETING #3

AGENDA	Walla Walla County Update for the Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan Meeting #3 Tuesday, April 9, 2024 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Station 41 2251 S. Howard St. Walla Walla, WA 99362 (Training Room) *virtual option included	
1:00 p.m.	**OPEN – Introductions and Housekeeping** ▪ General announcements	Chris Lee, Patrick Purcell
1:10 p.m. 1:40 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 2:45 p.m.	**GROUP MEETING** **I. Review of the Previous Meeting** ▪ Review of the meeting with Q and A **II. Review of Assignments to Date** ▪ Follow up on requested information ➢ Local Knowledge Questionnaire ➢ Hazard Summary Rating ➢ Review of Goals **III. Outline Overview** ▪ Discuss the outline of the HMP **IV. Chapter Review** ▪ Chapter 4. Community Profile i. Info still needed ▪ Chapter 5. Risk Assessment i. Earthquake ii. Severe Storm iii. Flood **V. Map Review** **VI. The Next Steps** ▪ Previous Assignments/Info Requests ▪ Review Provided Chapters/Sections ▪ Next Meeting: Wildfire and CWPP	Adam Herrenbruck, with Northwest Management, Inc.
3:00 p.m.	**ADJOURNMENT**	

Contact Info:

Manager and Project Lead:	**Project Support:**	**Other Support:**
Adam Herrenbruck herrenbruck@northwestmanagement.com	Erica Wimme ewimme@northwestmanagement.com	Tucker Flaten flaten@northwestmanagement.com
Northwest Management Office: 208-883-4488	Natalie Atkins mcconnell@northwestmanagement.com	Eric Nelson nelson@northwestmanagement.com

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PARTICIPATION

Representatives from the county, the school district, the conservation district, Waitsburg, Walla Walla, were present for this meeting and participated in the discussion along with a wide variety of stakeholders and planning partners.

MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Project: Walla Walla County HMP/CWPP	**Date:** April 9, 2024
Facilitator: Northwest Management, Inc.	**Place:** Training Room, Station 41 2251 S. Howard St. Walla Walla, WA 99362

Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email
John Golden	D. Chief	WWCFD#4	529-1282	
John Knowles	Chief	UWFD	524 4632	
Kendall Corn	GIS Coordinator	WW County	524 2693	
DAVID WINTER		CPFD	529-6506	dwinter@cpwa.us
Tony Garcia	Public Works Director	WW Co.	524 2740	
MARK HIGGINS	NEWS Communication	WWPS	526-6716	mhiggins@wwps.org

MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Project:	**Date:** April 9, 2024
Facilitator: Northwest Management, Inc.	**Place:**

Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email
Don Schwerin	DEM Commissioner			
Randy Hinchliffe	City Administrator	City of Waitsburg		

MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Project:	**Date:** April 9, 2024
Facilitator: Northwest Management, Inc.	**Place:**

Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email
Annie Byerley	conservation scientist	Walla Walla Co. Conservation District	956-3764	annie.byerley@wwccd.net
Gunner Filmer	Commissioner	WW County	301-0432	gfilmer@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Melissa Shumake	Deputy Director	WW County Community Dev.	524-2617	mshumake@co.walla-walla.wa.us

April 9, 2024

Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email
Mike Smith	Security Supervisor	PSHMC	509-897-2206	MICHAEL.SMITH6@PROVIDENCE.ORG
Susan Leathers	Emergency Management	PSHMC	509-497-8915	susan.leathers3@providence.com

MEETING 4

AGENDA	Walla Walla County Update for the Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan Meeting #4 **Rescheduled from 4/30/2024** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Station 41 2251 S. Howard St. Walla Walla, WA 99362 (Training Room) *virtual option included	
1:00 p.m.	**OPENING – Introductions and Housekeeping** ▪ General announcements	Chris Lee, Patrick Purcell
1:05 p.m. 1:20 p.m. 1:40 p.m. 2:40 p.m. 2:50 p.m.	**GROUP MEETING** **I. Review of Timelines** ▪ Project Status Update **II. MHMP Excerpt Review** ▪ Community Profile i. How will edits and suggested changes be implemented? ii. Info still needed **III. CWPP Excerpt Review** ▪ Overall CWPP Outline ▪ Mission, Goals, and Objectives ▪ Wildland-Urban Interface Planning ▪ Wildfire Preparedness Resources ▪ Community At Risk Analysis and WUI-Zone Ratings ▪ 2017 Walla Walla County CWPP Projects **IV. Public Engagement Event** ▪ Debrief/feedback **V. The Next Steps** ▪ Review Wildfire and CWPP sections ▪ Look for/review forthcoming hazard profiles	Adam Herrenbruck, with Northwest Management, Inc.
3:00 p.m.	**ADJOURNMENT**	

Contact Info:

Manager and Project Lead: Adam Herrenbruck herrenbruck@northwestmanagement.com	**Project Support:** Erica Wimme ewimme@northwestmanagement.com	**Other Support:** Tucker Flaten flaten@northwestmanagement.com
Northwest Management Office: 208-883-4488	Natalie Atkins mcconnell@northwestmanagement.com	Eric Nelson nelson@northwestmanagement.com

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PARTICIPATION

Representatives from the county plus the cities of Walla Wall, Waitsburg, and College Place were present at this meeting and participated in the discussion along with a wide variety of stakeholders and planning partners.

MEETING 5

AGENDA	Walla Walla County Update for the Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan Meeting #5 Tuesday, June 25, 2024 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Station 41 2251 S. Howard St. Walla Walla, WA 99362 (Training Room) *virtual option included	
1:00 p.m.	**OPEN – Introductions and Housekeeping** ▪ General announcements	Chris Lee, Patrick Purcell
1:05 p.m. **1:15 p.m.** **1:45 p.m.** **2:45 p.m.**	**GROUP MEETING** **I. Overview of Timeline** ▪ Timeline ▪ Remaining Tasks **II. Excerpt Review** ▪ Community Profile i. How are edits and suggested changes implemented? ii. Info still needed **III. MHMP Excerpts** ▪ Flood Hazard Overview ▪ Earthquake Hazard Overview ▪ Severe Storm Hazard Overview ▪ Jurisdiction Specific Hazard Mitigation **IV. The Next Steps** ▪ Jurisdiction-specific tasks i. Capability Assessments ii. Hazard Summary Worksheets ▪ Review remaining HMP and CWPP sections ▪ Review Mitigation Action Items	Adam Herrenbruck, with Northwest Management, Inc.
3:00 p.m.	**ADJOURNMENT**	

Contact Info:

Manager and Project Lead:	**Project Support:**	**Other Support:**
Adam Herrenbruck	Erica Wimme	Tucker Flaten
herrenbruck@northwestmanagement.com	ewimme@northwestmanagement.com	flaten@northwestmanagement.com
Northwest Management Office:	Natalie Atkins	Eric Nelson
208-883-4488	natkins@northwestmanagement.com	nelson@northwestmanagement.com

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PARTICIPATION

Representatives from the county were present for this meeting and participated in the discussion along with a wide variety of stakeholders and planning partners.

MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Project:	**Date:**
Facilitator: Northwest Management, Inc.	**Place:**

Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email
Nancy Berentsen	Programs Manager	CCEM		nancy-berentsen@co.columbia.wa.us
Heather Lee	EMS Director	WWCO EMS		hlee@co.walla-walla.wa.us
Adam Herrenbruck	Manager	Northwest Management, Inc.		herrenbruck@nmi2.com
Shane Crain	Maintenance director	Regency at the Park		sclark@regency-pacific.com
Chris Lee	EMD Director	WWCO		
Patrick Purcell	EMD Coordinator	WWCO		
Melissa Shumake	Deputy Director	WW Comm. Dev		
ESTHER Click	MANAGER	Wescom-911		
Natalie Atkins	Field Forester	NMI		natkins@northwestmanagement.com
Tanner Paulson	Natural Resource Planner	NMI		tpaulson@northwestmanagement.com

9 APPENDIX C: PUBLIC INPUT DOCUMENTATION

ONLINE SURVEY DATA

PUBLIC COMMENT RECORD

10 APPENDIX D: CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENTS

11 APPENDIX E: COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
FEMA Region 10
130 – 228th Street, SW
Bothell, Washington 98021

FEMA

January 29, 2025

Mr. Tim Cook
State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Washington State Emergency Management Division
Building 20, MS TA-20
Camp Murray, Washington 98430-5122

Dear Mr. Cook:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 10 completed a pre-adoption review of the draft Walla Walla County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The attached Mitigation Plan Review Tool documents the Region's review and compliance with all required elements of 44 CFR Part 201.6, as well as identifies the jurisdictions participating in the planning process. This letter serves as Region 10's commitment to approve the plan upon receiving documentation of its adoption by participating jurisdictions.

Formal adoption documentation must be submitted to FEMA Region 10 by at least one jurisdiction within one calendar year of the date of this letter, or the entire plan must be updated and resubmitted for review. Once FEMA approves the plan, the jurisdictions are eligible to apply for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants.

Please contact our Regional Mitigation Planning Program Manager, Amber Brokenshire, at (425) 420-5749 or amber.brokenshire@fema.dhs.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

Wendy Shaw
Risk Analysis Branch Chief
Mitigation Division

JG:AB:vl

Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool

Cover Page

The Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool (PRT) demonstrates how the local mitigation plan meets the regulation in 44 CFR § 201.6 and offers states and FEMA Mitigation Planners an opportunity to provide feedback to the local governments, including special districts.

1. The Multi-Jurisdictional Summary Sheet is a worksheet that is used to document how each jurisdiction met the requirements of the plan elements (Planning Process; Risk Assessment; Mitigation Strategy; Plan Maintenance; Plan Update; and Plan Adoption).
2. The Plan Review Checklist summarizes FEMA's evaluation of whether the plan has addressed all requirements.

For greater clarification of the elements in the Plan Review Checklist, please see Section 4 of this guide. Definitions of the terms and phrases used in the PRT can be found in Appendix E of this guide.

Plan Information	
Jurisdiction(s)	Walla Walla County, WA City of College Place, WA City of Prescott, WA City of Waitsburg, WA City of Walla Walla, WA Walla Walla Public School District, WA Walla Walla Conservation District, WA
Title of Plan	Walla Walla County, Washington Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2024 Update
New Plan or Update	Update
Single- or Multi-Jurisdiction	Multi-jurisdiction
Date of Plan	10/1/2024
Local Point of Contact	
Title	T. Chris Lee, Director
Agency	Walla Walla County Emergency Management
Address	27 N. 2nd Avenue
Phone Number	(509) 524-2900
Email	emd@co.walla-walla.wa.us

Additional Point of Contact	
Title	Click or tap here to enter text.
Agency	Click or tap here to enter text.
Address	Click or tap here to enter text.
Phone Number	Click or tap here to enter text.
Email	Click or tap here to enter text.

Review Information	
State Review	
State Reviewer(s) and Title	Click or tap here to enter text.
State Review Date	Click or tap to enter a date.
FEMA Review	
FEMA Reviewer(s) and Title	Joseph Green, FEMA Community Planner
Date Received in FEMA Region	1/13/2025 – 2nd 1/24/2025 – 3rd
Plan Not Approved	1/23/2025
Plan Approvable Pending Adoption	1/27/2025
Plan Approved	Click or tap to enter a date.

Multi-Jurisdictional Summary Sheet

In the boxes for each element, mark if the element is met (Y) or not met (N).

#	Jurisdiction Name	A. Planning Process	B. Risk Assessment	C. Mitigation Strategy	D. Plan Maintenance	E. Plan Update	F. Plan Adoption	G. HHPD Requirements	H. State Requirements
1	Walla Walla County	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N/A	N/A
2	City of College Place	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N/A	N/A
3	City of Prescott	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N/A	N/A
4	City of Waitsburg	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N/A	N/A
5	City of Walla Walla	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N/A	N/A
6	Walla Walla Public School District	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N/A	N/A
7	Walla Walla County Conservation District	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N/A	N/A
8									
9									
10									

Plan Review Checklist

The Plan Review Checklist is completed by FEMA. States and local governments are encouraged, but not required, to use the PRT as a checklist to ensure all requirements have been met prior to submitting the plan for review and approval. The purpose of the checklist is to identify the location of relevant or applicable content in the plan by element/sub-element and to determine if each requirement has been "met" or "not met." FEMA completes the "required revisions" summary at the bottom of each element to clearly explain the revisions that are required for plan approval. Required revisions must be explained for each plan sub-element that is "not met." Sub-elements in each summary should be referenced using the appropriate numbers (A1, B3, etc.), where applicable. Requirements for each element and sub-element are described in detail in Section 4: Local Plan Requirements of this guide.

Plan updates must include information from the current planning process.

If some elements of the plan do not require an update, due to minimal or no changes between updates, the plan must document the reasons for that.

Multi-jurisdictional elements must cover information unique to all participating jurisdictions.

Element A: Planning Process

Element A Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
A1. Does the plan document the planning process, including how it was prepared and who was involved in the process for each jurisdiction? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(1))		
A1-a. Does the plan document how the plan was prepared, including the schedule or time frame and activities that made up the plan's development, as well as who was involved?	pp. 1 pp. 8-12	Met
A1-b. Does the plan list the jurisdiction(s) participating in the plan that seek approval, and describe how they participated in the planning process? Mark Higgins (Walla Walla Public Schools) was added to the table on page 7.	pp. 8-10 pp. 168-180	Met

Element A Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
A2. Does the plan document an opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development as well as businesses, academia, and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(b)(2))		
A2-a. Does the plan identify all stakeholders involved or given an opportunity to be involved in the planning process, and how each stakeholder was presented with this opportunity?	pp. 1 pp. 8-9 pp. 10-11 groups added to page 1	Met
A3. Does the plan document how the public was involved in the planning process during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(b)(1))		
A3-a. Does the plan document how the public was given the opportunity to be involved in the planning process and how their feedback was included in the plan? Clarifying language was added to pages 9-10	pp. 10-12 pp. 161-167 pp. 181-182 pp. 11	Met
A4. Does the plan describe the review and incorporation of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(b)(3))		
A4-a. Does the plan document what existing plans, studies, reports and technical information were reviewed for the development of the plan, as well as how they were incorporated into the document? Supporting information from the FIS was incorporated on pages 83 and 85.	pp. 5-7 pp. 83, 85	Met

ELEMENT A REQUIRED REVISIONS
Required Revision:

Element B: Risk Assessment

Element B Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
B1. Does the plan include a description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction? Does the plan also include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(2)(i))		
B1-a. Does the plan describe all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction(s) in the planning area, and does it provide the rationale if omitting any natural hazards that are commonly recognized to affect the jurisdiction(s) in the planning area?	pp. 31	Met

Element B Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
B1-b. Does the plan include information on the location of each identified hazard? • Specifically, in the "Impacts" and "Resources at Risk" sections in each hazard annex. The planning area where earthquake and severe weather hazards may be experienced is defined on pages 43 and 57. The liquefaction map on page 44 also shows areas of susceptibility to that secondary hazard.	pp. 39-97	Met
B1-c. Does the plan describe the extent for each identified hazard? • Specifically, in the "Impacts" and "Resources at Risk" sections in each hazard annex. Extent and magnitude scales and reference points were added to pages 52-54.	pp. 39-97	Met
B1-d. Does the plan include the history of previous hazard events for each identified hazard? • "Recent Event History" section in each hazard annex	pp. 39-97	Met
B1-e. Does the plan include the probability of future events for each identified hazard? Does the plan describe the effects of future conditions, including climate change (e.g., long-term weather patterns, average temperature and sea levels), on the type, location and range of anticipated intensities of identified hazards? • "Probability of Future Occurrence" and "Climate Change" sections in each hazard annex.	pp. 39-97	Met
B1-f. For participating jurisdictions in a multi-jurisdictional plan, does the plan describe any hazards that are unique to and/or vary from those affecting the overall planning area?	N/A	Met
B2. Does the plan include a summary of the jurisdiction's vulnerability and the impacts on the community from the identified hazards? Does this summary also address NFIP-insured structures that have been repetitively damaged by floods? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(2)(ii))		
B2-a. Does the plan provide an overall summary of each jurisdiction's vulnerability to the identified hazards? • "Vulnerability" section in each hazard annex.	pp. 39-97	Met

Element B Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
B2-b. For each participating jurisdiction, does the plan describe the potential impacts of each of the identified hazards on each participating jurisdiction? • "Impacts" section in each hazard annex.	pp. 39-97	Met
B2-c. Does the plan address NFIP-insured structures within each jurisdiction that have been repetitively damaged by floods? • "Flooding Vulnerability" section.	pp. 89-90	Met
ELEMENT B REQUIRED REVISIONS		
Required Revision: Click or tap here to enter text.		

Element C: Mitigation Strategy

Element C Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
C1. Does the plan document each participant's existing authorities, policies, programs and resources and its ability to expand on and improve these existing policies and programs? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(3))		
C1-a. Does the plan describe how the existing capabilities of each participant are available to support the mitigation strategy? Does this include a discussion of the existing building codes and land use and development ordinances or regulations? • Chapter is organized by jurisdiction. Capabilities are listed at the beginning of each jurisdiction-specific section.	pp. 98-160 pp. 183	Met

Element C Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
C1-b. Does the plan describe each participant's ability to expand and improve the identified capabilities to achieve mitigation? Added descriptions for expanding and improving capabilities on pages shown at right. Specifically for projects: CO-1/2/3; CP-2/7/9; PR-1/2; WG-1/2/3; WW-1/3; PS-2/3; CD-1/2	pp. 102-106 pp. 118, 121-122 pp. 127 pp. 134-135 pp. 140-142 pp. 154-155 pp. 156-158 pp. 183	Met
C2. Does the plan address each jurisdiction's participation in the NFIP and continued compliance with NFIP requirements, as appropriate? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(3)(ii))		
C2-a. Does the plan contain a narrative description or a table/list of their participation activities? Added Appendix F with additional NFIP information	pp. 89-90 pp. 204-211	Met
C3. Does the plan include goals to reduce/avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(3)(i))		
C3-a. Does the plan include goals to reduce the risk from the hazards identified in the plan?	pp. 2-4	Met
C4. Does the plan identify and analyze a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects for each jurisdiction being considered to reduce the effects of hazards, with emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(3)(ii))		
C4-a. Does the plan include an analysis of a comprehensive range of actions/projects that each jurisdiction considered to reduce the impacts of hazards identified in the risk assessment?	pp. 98-160	Met
C4-b. Does the plan include one or more action(s) per jurisdiction for each of the hazards as identified within the plan's risk assessment? Multi-hazard projects cover severe weather, but not all nine sub-hazards. This was not revised based on our email thread with FEMA.	pp 98-160	Met

Element C Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
C5. Does the plan contain an action plan that describes how the actions identified will be prioritized (including a cost-benefit review), implemented, and administered by each jurisdiction? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(3)(iv)); (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iii))		
C5-a. Does the plan describe the criteria used for prioritizing actions?	pp. 98	Met
C5-b. Does the plan provide the position, office, department or agency responsible for implementing/administrating the identified mitigation actions, as well as potential funding sources and expected time frame? • "Lead Agency" and "Potential Resources" boxes in each mitigation action item table. Projects were updated to describe timeframe more specifically and to include more details on lead agencies/departments.	pp. 98-160	Met
ELEMENT C REQUIRED REVISIONS		
Required Revision: Click or tap here to enter text.		

Element D: Plan Maintenance

Element D Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
D1. Is there discussion of how each community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(4)(iii))		
D1-a. Does the plan describe how communities will continue to seek future public participation after the plan has been approved?	pp. 13	Met

Element D Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
D2. Is there a description of the method and schedule for keeping the plan current (monitoring, evaluating and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle)? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(4)(i))		
D2-a. Does the plan describe the process that will be followed to track the progress/status of the mitigation actions identified within the Mitigation Strategy, along with when this process will occur and who will be responsible for the process?	pp. 12-13	Met
D2-b. Does the plan describe the process that will be followed to evaluate the plan for effectiveness? This process must identify the criteria that will be used to evaluate the information in the plan, along with when this process will occur and who will be responsible.	pp. 12-13	Met
D2-c. Does the plan describe the process that will be followed to update the plan, along with when this process will occur and who will be responsible for the process?	pp. 12-13	Met
D3. Does the plan describe a process by which each community will integrate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(4)(ii))		
D3-a. Does the plan describe the process the community will follow to integrate the ideas, information and strategy of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms? • *Other Plans, Policies, Mitigation, and Development Standards* *Added language on pages 5-7 to explain how the HMP can be integrated into other planning mechanisms.*	pp. 5-7 pp. 11-12 pp. 98-160	Met
D3-b. Does the plan identify the planning mechanisms for each plan participant into which the ideas, information and strategy from the mitigation plan may be integrated? • Mitigation chapter is organized by jurisdiction. Other planning mechanisms are listed at the beginning of each jurisdiction-specific section. • *Other Plans, Policies, Mitigation, and Development Standards*	pp. 5-7 pp. 11-12 pp. 98-160	Met

Element D Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
D3-c. For multi-jurisdictional plans, does the plan describe each participant's individual process for integrating information from the mitigation strategy into their identified planning mechanisms? • Mitigation chapter is organized by jurisdiction. Other planning mechanisms are listed at the beginning of each jurisdiction-specific section. • *Other Plans, Policies, Mitigation, and Development Standards* Language was added on page 7 to be more specific.	pp. 5-7 pp. 12-13 pp. 98-160	Met
ELEMENT D REQUIRED REVISIONS		
Required Revision: Click or tap here to enter text.		

Element E: Plan Update

Element E Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
E1. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in development? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(d)(3))		
E1-a. Does the plan describe the changes in development that have occurred in hazard-prone areas that have increased or decreased each community's vulnerability since the previous plan was approved? • "Changes in Land Use and Development" section in each hazard annex. Recent Changes and Development subsections added to page 15-18 so that each jurisdiction has one. Language added to Development Trends sections on pages 19-20 to clarify that these trends increase vulnerability.	pp. 15-18 pp. 19-20 pp. 39-97	Met

Element E Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
E2. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in priorities and progress in local mitigation efforts? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(d)(3))		
E2-a. Does the plan describe how it was revised due to changes in community priorities?	pp. 31 pp. 98-160	Met
E2-b. Does the plan include a status update for all mitigation actions identified in the previous mitigation plan? • Status updates, if necessary, are included in each mitigation action item table. More details were added where needed to explain the changes to previous action items.	pp. 102, 117, 126, 132, 139, 151	Met
E2-c. Does the plan describe how jurisdictions integrated the mitigation plan, when appropriate, into other planning mechanisms? This is now clearly stated on page 7.	pp. 7	Met
ELEMENT E REQUIRED REVISIONS		
Required Revision: Click or tap here to enter text.		

Element F: Plan Adoption

Element F Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
F1. For single-jurisdictional plans, has the governing body of the jurisdiction formally adopted the plan to be eligible for certain FEMA assistance? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(5))		
F1-a. Does the participant include documentation of adoption?	Click or tap here to enter text.	N/A

Element F Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
F2. For multi-jurisdictional plans, has the governing body of each jurisdiction officially adopted the plan to be eligible for certain FEMA assistance? (Requirement 44 CFR § 201.6(c)(5))		
F2-a. Did each participant adopt the plan and provide documentation of that adoption?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Not Met
ELEMENT F REQUIRED REVISIONS		
Required Revision: Plan will remain in Approved Pending Adoption (APA) status until the first adoption letter is received by FEMA.		

Element G: High Hazard Potential Dams (Optional)

HHPD Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
HHPD1. Did the plan describe the incorporation of existing plans, studies, reports and technical information for HHPDs?		
HHPD1-a. Does the plan describe how the local government worked with local dam owners and/or the state dam safety agency?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.
HHPD1-b. Does the plan incorporate information shared by the state and/or local dam owners?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.
HHPD2. Did the plan address HHPDs in the risk assessment?		
HHPD2-a. Does the plan describe the risks and vulnerabilities to and from HHPDs?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.
HHPD2-b. Does the plan document the limitations and describe how to address deficiencies?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.
HHPD3. Did the plan include mitigation goals to reduce long-term vulnerabilities from HHPDs?		
HHPD3-a. Does the plan address how to reduce vulnerabilities to and from HHPDs as part of its own goals or with other long-term strategies?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.

HHPD Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
HHPD3-b. Does the plan link proposed actions to reducing long-term vulnerabilities that are consistent with its goals?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.
HHPD4-a. Did the plan include actions that address HHPDs and prioritize mitigation actions to reduce vulnerabilities from HHPDs?		
HHPD4-a. Does the plan describe specific actions to address HHPDs?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.
HHPD4-b. Does the plan describe the criteria used to prioritize actions related to HHPDs?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.
HHPD4-c. Does the plan identify the position, office, department or agency responsible for implementing and administering the action to mitigate hazards to or from HHPDs?	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.
HHPD Required Revisions		
Required Revision: Click or tap here to enter text.		

Element H: Additional State Requirements (Optional)

Element H Requirements	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met / Not Met
This space is for the State to include additional requirements.		
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.

Plan Assessment

These comments can be used to help guide your annual/regularly scheduled updates and the next plan update.

Element A. Planning Process

Strengths

- [insert comments]

Opportunities for Improvement

- [insert comments]

Element B. Risk Assessment

Strengths

- [insert comments]

Opportunities for Improvement

- [insert comments]

Element C. Mitigation Strategy

Strengths

- [insert comments]

Opportunities for Improvement

- [insert comments]

Element D. Plan Maintenance

Strengths

- [insert comments]

Opportunities for Improvement

- [insert comments]

Element E. Plan Update

Strengths

- [insert comments]

Opportunities for Improvement

- [insert comments]

Element G. HHPD Requirements (Optional)

Strengths

- [insert comments]

Opportunities for Improvement

- [insert comments]

Element H. Additional State Requirements (Optional)

Strengths

- [insert comments]

Opportunities for Improvement

- [insert comments]

Contact Person
Name: David Lopez
Organization Representing: Walla Walla University – Center for Humanitarian Engagement - Hey Neighbor Neighbor (HeyNN)
Contact Address: 204 S College Avenue
City/State/Zip: College Place, WA 99324
Phone: (509) 527-2100
E-mail: David.Lopez@wallawalla.edu

Project Description
Project Purpose
Hey Neighbor Neighbor (HeyNN) is dedicated to connecting neighbors and strengthening communities. Building on the success of our weekly texting challenge, we seek funds to produce a *Hey Neighbor* card game that brings people face-to-face in a fun, engaging, and meaningful way. This game features five categories—Engage, Service, Connection, Surprise, and Open (vulnerability)—that inspire players to perform small acts of kindness, form new friendships, and cultivate trust within the community.
Our ultimate goal is to foster thriving, resilient neighborhoods by encouraging repeated interactions—whether in residential blocks, workplaces, schools, or faith-based settings. By prompting direct collaboration and playful challenges, we hope this card game will serve as a catalyst for deeper relationships and a stronger sense of belonging.
Approach

1. **Game Development & Production**
    - Finalize the deck of cards and instructions, reflecting each of the five categories (Engage, Service, Connection, Surprise, Open).
    - Partner with a local printer for quality production.
2. **Pilot Workshops & Distribution**
    - Conduct interactive demos at community events, workplaces, schools, and faith-based organizations to demonstrate how the game can facilitate team-building and neighborly interactions.
    - Distribute card decks at minimal or no cost to leaders who show a commitment to building community in their sphere of influence.
3. **Feedback & Continuous Improvement**
    - Collect user experiences through post-game surveys, focus groups, and online forums.
    - Refine card prompts and instructions over time to align with the evolving needs of each neighborhood or group.

Location
The project will initially launch across College Place neighborhoods identified through existing CHE networks, community events (block party, service projects, Farmers Market), and community partners. We are working to print local to supporting local businesses and minimizing transportation costs.

Goals
Our card game advances the City's Comprehensive Plan goals in the following ways:

1. **Strengthening Social Networks & Community Identity**
    - **Relevant Plan Policy:** Community Building

- By providing a playful but structured framework for neighbors to meet, serve, and celebrate one another, our game directly supports the City's focus on fostering inclusive, connected communities.

2. **Encouraging Civic Participation & Collaboration**
   - **Relevant Plan Policy:** Civic Engagement
   - Each card deck includes prompts that encourage players to explore local resources (e.g., libraries, parks) and participate in events—empowering individuals to shape their neighborhoods through collective action.
3. **Supporting Local Businesses & Economy**
   - **Relevant Plan Program:** Local Economic Enhancement
   - By manufacturing locally, we stimulate local commerce and highlight the value of "shop local" practices, consistent with the City's economic growth goals.
4. **Promoting Safe & Inclusive Neighborhoods**
   - **Relevant Plan Goal:** Neighborhood Preservation & Enhancement
   - Activities in the "Service" and "Connection" categories encourage neighbors to identify and resolve small-scale challenges collaboratively, fostering an environment of mutual support and safety.

Project Budget (Must provide budget in this format)

Project Revenue	Amount
Grant Request	$5,000
Cash Match from Applicant	$2,000
In-kind match from Applicant	$1,000
Cash from other Sources	$1,000
• Source Cash:	WSF Foundation
• Source In-Kind:	Volunteers holding demo presentations and volunteer time at booths at community events
Total Project Revenue	$9,000

Project Expenses				
Item	**Total Cost**	**Applicant "In-Kind"**	**Applicant Cash**	**Requested Grant**
Personnel – Design	$2,000		$2,000	

Materials/Supplies				
Printing Manufacturing	$6,000		$1,000	$5,000
Professional Services				
Marketing and Launch Events	$500	$500		
Other				
Distribution and Shipping	$0			
Workshops and Trainings	$500	$500		
Total Expenses	$9,000			

Project Milestones Provide quarterly milestones, which indicate concrete progress toward the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Milestone	Responsible Party	Projected Date	Outcome
Finalize Card Content & Design	HeyNN Project Team (Lead Designer)	End of March 2025	Complete, ready-to-print card deck with five categories (Engage, Service, Connection, Surprise, Open).
Manufacturing Preparation	Production Manager & Local Manufacturer	End of March 2025	Finalized prototypes approved; manufacturing contract signed; production timeline secured.
Production & Distribution Launch	Production Manager, HeyNN Staff	April 2025	First run of card decks printed; initial batches distributed to pilot sites (workplaces, schools, etc.).
Introductory Workshops	Volunteer Facilitators, Outreach Coordinator	May 2025	At least three interactive sessions completed; participants trained to use the game effectively.
Engagement & Outreach	Outreach Coordinator, Community Partners	Ongoing in Q3	Increased usage of the card game in target settings; measurable uptick in social media posts and shared stories.
Mid-Project Assessment	Project Evaluation Team	Summer 2025	Feedback reviewed (surveys/interviews); necessary adjustments made to the card prompts or distribution strategy.
Program Evaluation & Expansion	Project Manager, Stakeholders	October 2025	Final impact report completed; second print run or specialized expansion planned based on data and feedback.

Thank You

We appreciate your consideration of Hey Neighbor Neighbor's card game project. By uniting neighbors through fun, intentional activities, we can build the enduring relationships that keep our city vibrant and resilient. If you have any questions or need further details, please reach out to the contact person listed above.

City of College Place Council
Funded Programs
Community Grants Program

Introduction

The College Place City Council through the Community Grants Program desires to support community efforts to address community needs and build the capacity of the City of College Place. A Committee made up of Economic Development, Tourism, and Events Commission and Park, Arbor, and Recreation Board members will review and rank proposals. City Council will make the ultimate project awards. **Total allotment for FY 2025 is $15,000**

Grant Program Goals

- Foster civic engagement and involvement
- Develop responses and solutions which steward the community's
    - Health
    - Environment
    - Social network and resiliency
    - Park & Recreation Network
- Develop programs which support community asset building and provide outreach through education and information programs which support program goals.
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Public Art

Program Guidelines

Eligible Applicants: Non-profit organizations, civic groups, neighborhood groups. Partnerships among individuals and/or groups will also be considered.

Eligible Locations: Within the City of College Place

Eligible Expenses: Personnel, professional services, supplies and materials, construction costs, public information and outreach.

Match: Matching funds are encouraged but not required for this program. The following items count as matching funds: cash, volunteer hours, and donated materials, equipment use, or professional services.

Project Timeline

Application Due Dates: Applications must be submitted by January 17th, 2025 at 4 PM PST. Submit completed applications to:

City Administrator's Office
City of College Place
625 S. College Avenue
College Place, WA 99324
Email: mrizzitiello@cpwa.us

Award Decisions: Award decisions will be made within 60 calendar days of the January 17th, 2025 deadline.

Project Time Limit: All projects must be completed within one years of award.

Application Process

Project Applications: Applications must be made either on paper or electronically on forms provided by the City. Applications can be obtained at City Hall, 625 S. College Avenue, College Place, Washington or on the City's webpage at www.cpwa.us

Project Description: The description of the project should include project purpose, approach, and location.

Goals: Explain how your project addresses the Grant Program Goals as outlined in the application packet and the City's Comprehensive Plan goals, policies and programs. The Comprehensive Plan itself is available on the City's website at: http://www.cpwa.us/departments/planning/comprehensive_plan.php

Project Milestones: Provide quarterly milestones which indicate concrete progress toward the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Budget Plan: List each resource needed to complete your project. Please show in-kind, applicant cash, and how much of the City's funds to be spent on this resource.

- The value of volunteer labor as established by the Independent Sector's Value of Volunteer hours https://www.independentsector.org/volunteer time

- Equipment donated is valued at the hourly rental rate for the equipment used for the project.
- Donated professional services are valued at the “reasonable and customary” rate for the services.

Review Process

A committee comprised of Economic Development, Tourism, and Events Commission as well as Park, Arbor, and Recreation Board members will review written applications. All eligible projects will be forwarded to the Committee and scored using the rating form included in the application packet. Higher ranking projects may be requested to present to the Committee.

The presentation, if requested, is limited to 15 minutes. Please give an overview of the project and how it furthers the City’s goals.

The Committee will make a funding recommendation to the City Council. City Council will make the final determination of funding. Applicants may be asked to present their projects to the City Council.

Reporting Requirements and Accountability

A contract will be executed to outline the specific conditions of the project if awarded.

City of College Place Community Grants Program Application

Please limit responses to 3 pages in not less than 10-point type font (not including budget).

Project Description

Contact Person

Name: Vicki Zanes & Chloe Congleton

Organization Representing: Andy's Market / Enable Art / Downtown College Place

Contact Address: 1117 S. College Ave

City/State/Zip: College Place, Washington, 99324

Phone: 509-240-6998

E-mail: vicki@andysmarket.com

Project Information Description of the project (include project purpose, approach and location).

Andy's Market is an agricultural mecca and sole grocery store in College Place. We are proud to source and sell as much locally-grown produce and products as possible, and are in the process of a sweeping renovation that will bring Andy's Market to modern times. While this process is underway, we are considering forms of public art that we may install on our property as well as other businesses that we can support with our business. Additionally, after the renovation, we will have a little cafe that sells fresh smoothies.

In partnership with Chloe Congleton of Enable Art and the Downtown College Place group, we would like to install a large mural on the south-facing side of the building overlooking 12th Street. The vision for the mural is fluid at this point but we want to convey that Andy's Market and its employees are deeply rooted in our natural environment. We imagine references to our blue mountains, fruits and veggies, and native plants and peoples. This will be a very large mural when it is completed- one of the largest in the Walla Walla Valley- and we would love it to be flush with colors, shapes, and meaning. It is projected to take 80-100 hours to complete.

After the mural is completed, in partnership with the Downtown College Place group that I am a part of, I will host a ribbon cutting event and tour of the renovations at Andy's Market, unveiling the mural to the community and functioning as a pseudo networking event.

Please describe how your project relates to the Community Grant Program Goals and the City's Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies. The College Place Community Grant aims to Develop programs which support community asset building, Foster civic engagement and involvement, and support Public Art as well. This project fulfills all of those elements.

Project Budget (Must provide budget in this format)

Project Revenue	Amount
Grant Request	$7000
Cash Match from Applicant	$1000
In-kind match from Applicant	$1500
Cash from other Sources	$0
• Source:	N/a
• Source:	N/a
Total Project Revenue	$2ϕрл

Project Expenses				
Item	**Total Cost**	**Applicant "In-Kind"**	**Applicant Cash**	**Requested Grant**
Personnel	$3p00	$1000		$2500
Materials/Supplies				
t l·ʎyű	$1500			$1500
Brushes/Supplies	$300		$300	
Professional Services				
Design & Painting	$ 4500	$500	$1000	$ 3000
Other				
Total Expenses	$ 9800			$ 7000

Project Milestones Provide quarterly milestones, which indicate concrete progress toward the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Milestone	Responsible Party	Projected Date for Completion	Outcome
Design Mural	Myself & Chloe	April 2025	Concept is finished
Present Mural to Council	Myself	March 2025	Concept is approved by Council
Acquiring Supplies	Myself	April 2025	All supplies are in-hand
Prep building for painting - power washing, base coat	Myself & Staff	April 2025	Building is ready to be painted
Begin Painting	Myself	May 2025	Mural is in progress
Complete Mural	Myself	August 2025	Mural is Complete
Ribbon Cutting/ Community Event	Myself & Staff	October 2025	Mural is part of the community

Return completed Application to:

City of College Place
City Administrator's Office
625 S. College Avenue
College Place, WA 99324
Email: mrizzitiello@cpwa.us
Due Date: January 17th, 2025

City of College Place Council
Funded Programs
Community Grants Program

Introduction

The College Place City Council through the Community Grants Program desires to support community efforts to address community needs and build the capacity of the City of College Place. A Committee made up of Economic Development, Tourism, and Events Commission and Park, Arbor, and Recreation Board members will review and rank proposals. City Council will make the ultimate project awards. **Total allotment for FY 2025 is $15,000**

Grant Program Goals

- Foster civic engagement and involvement
- Develop responses and solutions which steward the community's
    - Health
    - Environment
    - Social network and resiliency
    - Park & Recreation Network
- Develop programs which support community asset building and provide outreach through education and information programs which support program goals.
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Public Art

Program Guidelines

Eligible Applicants: Non-profit organizations, civic groups, neighborhood groups. Partnerships among individuals and/or groups will also be considered.

Eligible Locations: Within the City of College Place

Eligible Expenses: Personnel, professional services, supplies and materials, construction costs, public information and outreach.

Match: Matching funds are encouraged but not required for this program. The following items count as matching funds: cash, volunteer hours, and donated materials, equipment use, or professional services.

Project Timeline

Application Due Dates: Applications must be submitted by January 17th, 2025 at 4 PM PST. Submit completed applications to:

City Administrator's Office
City of College Place
625 S. College Avenue
College Place, WA 99324
Email: mrizzitiello@cpwa.us

Award Decisions: Award decisions will be made within 60 calendar days of the January 17th, 2025 deadline.

Project Time Limit: All projects must be completed within one years of award.

Application Process

Project Applications: Applications must be made either on paper or electronically on forms provided by the City. Applications can be obtained at City Hall, 625 S. College Avenue, College Place, Washington or on the City's webpage at www.cpwa.us

Project Description: The description of the project should include project purpose, approach, and location.

Goals: Explain how your project addresses the Grant Program Goals as outlined in the application packet and the City's Comprehensive Plan goals, policies and programs. The Comprehensive Plan itself is available on the City's website at: http://www.cpwa.us/departments/planning/comprehensive_plan.php

Project Milestones: Provide quarterly milestones which indicate concrete progress toward the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Budget Plan: List each resource needed to complete your project. Please show in-kind, applicant cash, and how much of the City's funds to be spent on this resource.

- The value of volunteer labor as established by the Independent Sector's Value of Volunteer hours https://www.independentsector.org/volunteer time

- Equipment donated is valued at the hourly rental rate for the equipment used for the project.
- Donated professional services are valued at the “reasonable and customary” rate for the services.

Review Process

A committee comprised of Economic Development, Tourism, and Events Commission as well as Park, Arbor, and Recreation Board members will review written applications. All eligible projects will be forwarded to the Committee and scored using the rating form included in the application packet. Higher ranking projects may be requested to present to the Committee.

The presentation, if requested, is limited to 15 minutes. Please give an overview of the project and how it furthers the City’s goals.

The Committee will make a funding recommendation to the City Council. City Council will make the final determination of funding. Applicants may be asked to present their projects to the City Council.

Reporting Requirements and Accountability

A contract will be executed to outline the specific conditions of the project if awarded.

City of College Place Community Grants Program Application

Please limit responses to 3 pages in not less than 10-point type font (not including budget).

Project Description

Contact Person

Name: Chloe Congleton

Organization Representing: Enable Art / Downtown College Place

Contact Address: 508 S. College Ave

City/State/Zip: College Place, Washington, 99324

Phone: 509-593-0555

E-mail: chloe@enable-art.com

Project Information Description of the project (include project purpose, approach and location).

My business, Enable Art, is an art studio that teaches all ages to be creative; Enable Art is about creating community through creativity. The building is located at 508 S. College Avenue, 99324.

I would like to begin introducing new forms of public art to downtown College Place in 2025 by installing a large mural on the north side of my building. The building is right next to our Post Office and measures about 60ft long and 10ft high. My building is already black, so there is no need for a base coat. The mural will include wildflowers native to our region which will line the bottom of the building, possibly sunflowers as part of College Place branding efforts, and a banner that reads, "Community Grows Here."

After the mural is completed, in partnership with the Downtown College Place group that I am a part of, I will host a ribbon cutting/business after hours event, unveiling the mural to the community. I hope that this is the second of many murals that eventually line College Avenue and will be a catalyst for more public art installations of all kinds in the future.

Please describe how your project relates to the Community Grant Program Goals and the City's Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies.

The College Place Community Grant aims to Develop programs which support community asset building, Foster civic engagement and involvement, and support Public Art as well.

This project fulfills all of those elements.

Project Budget (Must provide budget in this format)

Project Revenue	Amount
Grant Request	$2450
Cash Match from Applicant	$0
In-kind match from Applicant	$500
Cash from other Sources	$0
• Source:	N/a
• Source:	N/a
Total Project Revenue	$2ϕрл

Project Expenses				
Item	**Total Cost**	**Applicant "In-Kind"**	**Applicant Cash**	**Requested Grant**
Personnel	$мр0			$мр0
Materials/Supplies				
t l·ʎyΰΣ ōℕdzǎKŜǎΣ ΰl·ℕLJǎ	$o00			$o00
Professional Services				
Design & Painting	$ 2500	$500		$ 2000
Other				
Total Expenses	$ 2950			$ 2450

Project Milestones Provide quarterly milestones, which indicate concrete progress toward the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Milestone	Responsible Party	Projected Date for Completion	Outcome
Design Mural	Myself	March 2025	Concept is finished
Present Mural to Council	Myself	March 2025	Concept is approved by Council
Acquiring Supplies	Myself	April 2025	All supplies are in-hand
Begin Painting	Myself	May 2025	Mural is in progress
Complete Mural	Myself	August 2025	Mural is Complete
Ribbon Cutting/ Business After Hours event	Myself & Staff	September 2025	Mural is part of the community

Return completed Application to:
City of College Place
City Administrator's Office
625 S. College Avenue
College Place, WA 99324
Email: mrizzitiello@cpwa.us
Due Date: January 17th, 2025

City of College Place Council
Funded Programs
Community Grants Program

Introduction

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    - Health
    - Environment
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- Develop programs which support community asset building and provide outreach through education and information programs which support program goals.
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Public Art

Program Guidelines

Eligible Applicants: Non-profit organizations, civic groups, neighborhood groups. Partnerships among individuals and/or groups will also be considered.

Eligible Locations: Within the City of College Place

Eligible Expenses: Personnel, professional services, supplies and materials, construction costs, public information and outreach.

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City Administrator's Office
City of College Place
625 S. College Avenue
College Place, WA 99324
Email: mrizzitiello@cpwa.us

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Project Milestones: Provide quarterly milestones which indicate concrete progress toward the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Budget Plan: List each resource needed to complete your project. Please show in-kind, applicant cash, and how much of the City's funds to be spent on this resource.

- The value of volunteer labor as established by the Independent Sector's Value of Volunteer hours https://www.independentsector.org/volunteer time

- Equipment donated is valued at the hourly rental rate for the equipment used for the project.
- Donated professional services are valued at the “reasonable and customary” rate for the services.

Review Process

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Reporting Requirements and Accountability

A contract will be executed to outline the specific conditions of the project if awarded.

City of College Place Community Grants Program Application

Please limit responses to 3 pages in not less than 10-point type font (not including budget).

Project Description

Contact Person

Name: Maryelizabeth E. Garcia

Organization Representing: Beautiful Downtown College Place

Contact Address: 625 S. College Ave

City/State/Zip: College Place, Washington, 99324

Phone: 509-394-8569

E-mail: mgarcia@cpwa.us

Project Information Description of the project (include project purpose, approach and location).

A group of dedicated volunteers wishes to start and launch a Downtown College Place nonprofit organization. The purpose of this group will be to fulfill the four-point approach in accordance Washington Main Street and Main Street America which aims to build a diverse economic base, catalyze new investments, preserve and celebrate historic character, and build identity and tourism in College Place.

The funds requested in this grant will go to pay for upfront costs and fees associated with forming a nonprofit organization. At this time, the anticipated costs include the Incorporation Fee, name registration, charitable organization registration, business license (when needed), Board Insurance and eventually Business Insurance, IRS Filing Fee, CRM software, opening a bank account, as well as unexpected expenses and supplies as needed.

Please describe how your project relates to the Community Grant Program Goals and the City's Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies.

The group seeks to achieve a "Designated" status through Washington Main Street by December 2025, thereby allowing local B&O taxes to be used to fund the organization and keep the money locally. The group would like to kick start branding efforts for College Place as a health and wellness destination, and monetize the culture of College Place through tourism. Additionally, the group would like to attract like-minded businesses and residents to the area, and celebrate the trend of growth in College Place.

Project Budget (Must provide budget in this format)

Project Revenue	Amount
Grant Request	$2000
Cash Match from Applicant	$0
In-kind match from Applicant	$0
Cash from other Sources	$0
• Source:	N/a
• Source:	N/a
Total Project Revenue	$2000

Project Expenses				
Item	**Total Cost**	**Applicant "In-Kind"**	**Applicant Cash**	**Requested Grant**
Personnel	$0			
Materials/Supplies				
Printing & Advertisement	$500			$500
CRM Software	$900			$400
Professional Services				
Business Insurance	~ $ 1400			
Board Insurance	~ $ 720			~ $ 720
Other				
Business License	$ 60			$ 60
Incorporation Fee	$200			$200
Name Reservation	$ 20			$20
Contingency 5%	$ 200			$ 200
Total Expenses	$ 4000			$ 2000

Project Milestones Provide quarterly milestones, which indicate concrete progress toward the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Milestone	Responsible Party	Projected Date for Completion	Outcome
Elect Executive Board	Current Volunteers	January 2025	Exec Board is legal
Adopt Bylaws & Articles of Incorporation	Board President	January 2025	Bylaws Established
Filing paperwork with Feds	Capable volunteer	February 2025	EIN Obtained
Filing paperwork with State	Capable volunteer	February 2025	Officially tax exempt
Elect Full Board	Board of Directors	March 2025	Board is fully legal
Nominate Committee Chairs	Board of Directors	March 2025	Organization is WA Main Street legal
Complete any remaining paperwork	Capable volunteer	March 2025	Organization is fully legal
Develop Annual Work Plan	Board of Directors	March 2025	Processes & Procedures Established
Develop Annual Fundraising Plan	Board of Directors	March 2025	Organization is financially viable
Populate Committees & Select 2025 Projects	Committee Chairs & Committees	April 2025	Organization is publicly doing things - PR mode
Fundraise for 2025 Projects	Committees w/ Organization Committee	April 2025 - ongoing	Projects are funded; Save money for Ex. Dir.
Execute Projects & Work Plan	Board of Directors & Committees	April 2025 - ongoing	Organization is fully functioning
File for Designation w/ WA Main Street	Board President	October 2025	Organization is Designated; eligible B&O Taxes kept here
Select Office Space & Hire Executive Director	Board of Directors	November - December 2025	Organization is staffed & legal

Return completed Application to:

City of College Place
City Administrator's Office
625 S. College Avenue
College Place, WA 99324
Email: mrizzitiello@cpwa.us
Due Date: January 17th, 2025

College Place Community Grants Program Application

Please limit responses to 3 pages in not less than 10-point type font (not including budget).

Project

Cap & SOW (Save Our Water)

Contact Person:

John J Jaso

Organization Representing: **The Villages of Garrison Creek**
Contact Address: **725 SE Heron Drive**
City/State/Zip: **College Place, WA 99324**
Phone: **(509)529-3708**
E-mail: **yjtravel1@gmail.com**

Project Information: Description of the project (include project purpose, approach and location).

The goal of this project is to conserve water by capping redundant irrigation spray heads in the front yards of homes located in The Villages of Garrison Creek (VGC). VGC is bordered by Myra Road to the east, Larch Avenue to the west, Garrison Creek to the south, and Garrison Village Way to the north. These homes were built in phases, and as lots were sold and homes constructed, irrigation systems were installed without a comprehensive plan. This resulted in duplicate sprinkler heads at lot lines, with some sprinklers positioned just inches apart. This redundancy leads to excessive water consumption, which we aim to eliminate. By capping redundant spray heads, we will save water, improve water pressure, and enhance the efficiency of the remaining sprinklers. Additionally, a backflow prevention device required by the city of College Place has reduced water pressure for the 151 homes sharing a common water meter. Villages 6 and 7 experience significant pressure loss due to their distance from this meter and their higher elevation. Consequently, this project will specifically target the sprinkler layout of the 81 homes in Villages 6 and 7.

Please describe how your project relates to the Community Grant Program Goals and the City's Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies.

The City of College Place has several state, county, and local programs that reflect its commitment to responsible water management and ensuring safe and sustainable water resources for its residents. The most direct consumer contact is the City Public Works Department which provides educational information and resources to homeowners.

This proposal aligns with the city's water conservation efforts by reducing water usage and improving sprinkler head efficiency. Resident volunteers John Jaso, who owned and operated a landscape nursery for 35 years, and Rebecca DeMoss, who managed the maintenance of several golf courses, have been instrumental in updating irrigation controllers that respond to local temperature and rain data. These enhancements have led to more efficient water use within the Villages. They, along with other resident volunteers, will implement the changes outlined in this proposal. All of these are designed to reflect good stewardship of our valuable resource.

Project Budget (Must provide budget in this format)

Project Revenue	Amount
Grant Request	$ 700.00
Cash Match from Applicant	
In-kind match from Applicant	Volunteer Labor - Priceless
Cash from other Sources	
• Source:	
• Source:	
Total Project Revenue	**$ 700.00**

Project Expenses				
Item	**Total Cost**	**Applicant "In-Kind"**	**Applicant Cash**	**Requested Grant**
Personnel	N/A	Volunteer Labor		
Materials/Supplies				
Rain Bird 1800 Series or similar cap & adjustable sprinkler head nozzles. 250 items @ approximately $ 2.50 each plus tax.	$ 700.00			$ 700.00
Professional Services				
Other				
Total Expenses	**$ 700.00**			

Project Milestones Provide quarterly milestones, which indicate concrete progress toward the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Milestone	Responsible Party	Projected Date for Completion	Outcome
Replace redundant spray heads & install appropriate spray nozzles for coverage in 42 yards of Village 7	John Jaso / Rebecca DeMoss and volunteers	30 April, 2025	
Replace redundant spray heads & install appropriate spray nozzles for coverage in 39 yards of Village 6	John Jaso / Rebecca DeMoss and volunteers	15 May 2025	

Note: The irrigation system modifications will be implemented in two phases, beginning with the 42 homes in Village 7. Caps and suitable irrigation nozzles will be purchased to ensure efficient coverage. After completing Village 7, additional materials will be acquired for Village 6. Any remaining funds will be used to begin modifications in Village 5.

Return completed Application to:

City of College Place
City Administrator's Office
625 S. College Avenue
College Place, WA 99324
Email: mrizzitiello@cpwa.us
Due Date: January 17th, 2025

Contact Person:
Name: Troy Williams
Organization Representing: Walla Walla Valley Ice Rink
Contact Address: PO Box 131
City/State/Zip: College Place, WA 99324
Phone: (509) 676- 7188
E-mail: info@wwvice.com
Website: www.wwvice.com

Project Description:

Walla Walla Valley Ice Rink is a newly formed 501 c 3 nonprofit based in College Place, WA, that seeks funding for a feasibility study to explore the potential for building an indoor ice rink in the Walla Walla Valley. The rink will serve as a hub for youth sports, providing opportunities for young people to engage in ice hockey, figure skating, and other recreational activities year-round.

The purpose of this study is to assess the need for a full-sized indoor rink, evaluate potential locations, estimate construction and operational costs, and identify funding opportunities. The ice rink will support local sports leagues, schools, and community groups, and serve as an economic driver for the region by attracting tournaments and other events.

The feasibility study will involve data collection from community members, local youth sports teams, and other stakeholders, as well as consultations with architects and engineers. The resulting report will inform the development process, ensuring that the facility meets the needs of the community while being financially sustainable.

Goals:
This project aligns with the objectives outlined in the City's Comprehensive Plan by enhancing recreational opportunities for youth, promoting health and wellness, and fostering community engagement.
Specifically, the project addresses the following goals:

- **Goal 1: Strengthen community connections**: The ice rink will provide a new space for youth and families to gather, engage in healthy activities, and build relationships.
- **Goal 2: Promote youth development**: By offering year-round access to ice sports, the rink will contribute to the physical and social development of youth in the Walla Walla Valley.
- **Goal 3: Support economic development**: The study will help identify ways the ice rink can attract visitors to the area, boosting the local economy through tourism and events.
- **Goal 4: Ensure sustainability**: The feasibility study will focus on creating a financially viable project that can support long-term maintenance and growth.

Project Milestones:

Milestone	Responsible Party	Projected Date for Completion	Outcome
Community outreach and feedback gathering	Walla Walla Valley Ice Rink Team, Consultants	Quarter 1, 2025	Gather input from youth sports teams, schools, and community members to assess demand.
Site evaluations and initial design concepts	Consultants, Architects	Quarter 2, 2025	Identify potential locations for the ice rink and create initial design concepts.
Financial modeling and cost analysis	Consultants, Walla Walla Valley Ice Rink Board	Quarter 2, 2025	Create a financial model outlining estimated costs and revenue potential for the ice rink.
Drafting the feasibility study report	Consultants, Walla Walla Valley Ice Rink Team	Quarter 3, 2025	Complete a detailed feasibility report with recommendations on location, design, and funding.
Presentation of findings and securing partnerships	Walla Walla Valley Ice Rink Team	Quarter 4, 2025	Present findings to local stakeholders, secure partnerships, and identify next steps for development.

Project Budget (Must provide budget in this format)

Project Revenue	Amount
Grant Request	$5,000
Cash Match from Applicant	$3,000
In-kind match from Applicant	$2,000
Cash from other Sources	$10,000

• Source Cash:	Donations from individuals excited about future of ice sports in our valley. Applied for Wild Horse Grant $5,000 and WW City for $5,000
• Source In-Kind:	Using volunteer labor as part of the strategy for gather feasibility study data
Total Project Revenue	$20,000

Project Expenses				
Item	**Total Cost**	**Applicant "In-Kind"**	**Applicant Cash**	**Requested Grant**
Personnel				
Materials/Supplies				
Professional Services				
Feasibility Study Consultant Fees	$20,000	$2,000	$13,000	$5,000
Other				
Total Expenses	$20,000			

City of College Place Community Grants Program Application

Please limit responses to 3 pages in not less than 10-point type font (not including budget).

Project Description

Contact Person

Name:	Karen Hedine, CEO
Organization Representing:	YMCA of Walla Walla
Contact Address:	340 S. Park Street
City/State/Zip:	Walla Walla, WA 99362
Phone:	509-525-8868
E-mail:	khedine@wwymca.org

Project Information Description of the project (include project purpose, approach and location).

Purpose: For school year 2024-2025, the YMCA ("Y") requests funding support in order to provide College Place high school students at CPHS and WWVA with American Red Cross first aid training. First aid training, which includes training in CPR and AED use, is an essential life skill that enables non-medical individuals to aid in times of crisis and in response to injuries and illness.

In emergencies, every second counts and when youth are trained in first aid they know how to stabilize a situation before professional help arrives. By applying first aid, CPR and AED techniques, students are able to timely respond to reduce the overall severity risk which results in improved outcomes. With 70% of all out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occurring in the home, immediate administration of CPR can triple the chance of a parent's or other relative's or friend's survival.

Additionally, when students undertake first aid training it increases their self-confidence in handling emergencies. Using real-world scenarios and demonstrations, training helps augment community safety, creating a safer environment at schools, churches, recreational events and at home.

In the US, the National Institutes of Health report that only 11% of adults know first aid/CPR. Current census data reflects that 21.7% of the overall population is made up of students ages 14-17. As such, offering a program for high schoolers bridges the need for student training among this large demographic today and will continue to serve them into adulthood. And while training has been taught to children as young as five, the data shows that high school students are the best age group for a number of reasons:

- There are more injury-related deaths every year in the 15-19 age bracket than in any other demographic. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that in 2015–2017, the rate of sports, recreation, and leisure injuries among children and adolescents aged 1–17 years was 82.9 per 1,000 population. Yet the rate of sports, recreation, and leisure injuries increased with age from 48.4 for those aged 1–4 years, to 72.7 for those aged 5–11 years, and to 117.1 for those aged 12–17 years.
- In high school, teens start driving and often engage in riskier, injury-inducing activities.
- While students are spending more time alone post-COVID, 25% of active high school students spend more time with their peers than they do with adults.
- School is a good location to teach first aid since it can reach many people and educate them efficiently.

Teaching first aid to older students also helps foster social responsibility and provides skills including :

1. **Preparedness:** High schoolers are better equipped to handle unexpected situations and provide immediate assistance until professional help arrives. Students become more aware of and better prepared to address conditions that their peers and family may experience including asthma emergencies, anaphylaxis, burns, choking, diabetic emergencies, environmental emergencies, sprains and breaks, and seizures.
2. **Promotes Safety Awareness:** Students become more conscious of potential hazards and learn how to prevent injuries and respond effectively if they occur.
3. **Empowers Individuals:** Knowledge of how to respond to a situation instills a sense of confidence and empowerment. High schoolers with these skills can provide emergency assistance, reduce panic, and reassure those around them.
4. **Promotes Teamwork and Leadership:** Students learn to work together and communicate effectively during emergencies; this fosters teamwork, collaboration, and leadership qualities among high schoolers.
5. **Life Skills:** First aid training teaches valuable life skills such as problem-solving, decision-making, and adaptability.
6. **Career Opportunities:** Proficiency in first aid can open doors to career opportunities in healthcare, emergency services, or community services. It serves as a foundation for educational pursuits in medical or rescue-related fields.

Approach:
The YMCA is a leading licensed provider of American Red Cross 1st Aid /CPR and AED training in the Walla Walla Valley. Certified instructors will coordinate with school officials to provide training as part of the school's scheduled PE, health or other regularly-scheduled classroom-based programs. WWVA has already indicated a desire for such training and the Y will initiate discussions with CHPS in Winter 2025. Training requires both online, self-directed study by the students (in English or Spanish) as well as hands-on training in the classroom taught but Y staff over the course of 1-2 weeks. The number of classes to be offered is expected to be 4-5 during the 2024-2025 school year. CPHS has 461 students of which an estimated 205 are in the target grades of 11-12. Of these an estimated 30%, or 61, will be enrolled in classes where 1st aid will be taught. WWVA reports approximately 169 students in grades 9-12, of which an estimated 40 will be enrolled in first aid. Multiple classes will be offered to keep individual class size to no more than 15-20.

Location: Training will be offered at the high schools during regularly-scheduled class time. Training will be coordinated with the school administration and educators.

Please describe how your project relates to the Community Grant Program Goals and the City's Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies.

The Community Grant Program's Goals emphasize developing programs that support community asset building and provide outreach through education. Additionally, the goals emphasize developing responses and solutions which steward the community's health. Investing in young people is one area in which the City of College Place and its partners can meet the grant's goals of stewarding the community's health, educational outreach and Parks and Recreation network. First aid training provides young people with life skills and builds awareness of post-secondary educational opportunities. It emphasizes the importance of helping others and contributing to community well-being; fostering a sense of civic duty.

Students learn the value of empathy and support for those in distress, that can translate into broader social and interpersonal skills.

As an asset-building opportunity, first aid training is an essential component of community safety. It equips students in the community with the knowledge and skills to respond to emergencies, promote injury prevention, enhance home, school and workplace safety, and contribute to a culture of safety within the community.

The proposed project also aligns with the City's Comprehensive Plan Goal # 1 in that it preserves the small-town character of the community by achieving family-friendly and safe training. It supports Goal #6 in that it fosters a shared vision with the College Place School District as well as Walla Walla Valley Academy for serving the College Place community. And it supports Goals #19 and #27 by providing training that supports a healthy community in which students become a community resource as they also gain increased awareness of career opportunities where life-saving skills are a foundation.

The Y's mission is to help strengthen communities and we focus on youth development as central to each community's interests and our ability to provide relevant, sustainable and integrated solutions. The Y works closely with the school districts and community partners. We are the only nonprofit in the Walla Walla Valley that aligns an emphasis on youth development through American Red Cross training for childcare providers, educators, first responders, and other vital community service organizations.

Project Milestones

Milestone	Responsible Party	Projected Completion	Outcome
Schedule 1st Aid classes with WWVA and CPHS	B Elsom, YMCA Community Safety Coord	February 2025	Class times / dates confirmed at both schools before June 2025.
Order supplies	B Elsom, YMCA Community Safety Coord	March 2025	Materials for the planned classes are available for program start
Coordinate with schools/teachers to register students with American Red Cross (ARC)	B Elsom, YMCA Community Safety Coord	March 2025	Online registration required to complete the blended learning course and ensure students are issued 1st Aid certificate by the ARC upon course completion.
Schedule Y instructors	B Elsom, YMCA Community Safety Coordinator	March 2025	Other ARC certified instructors from the Y instructors are scheduled to meet class size needs.
Program commences at the schools	B Elsom, YMCA Community Safety Coordinator	April - June 2025	Students are trained in 1st Aid/CPR in class cohorts with all training completed by end of term.
Final Report	Karen Hedine, CEO, B Elsom, YMCA Community Safety Coordinator	July 2025	Summary of completed trained, number of students trained, recommendations

Project Budget (Must provide budget in this format)

Project Revenue	Amount
Grant Request	**$5,000**
Cash Match from Applicant	**$3,100**
In-kind match from Applicant	**$7,076**
Cash from other Sources	**$8,000**
• School ARC fee support (discounted)	$3,000
• Source: Donations – Youth Development Programs	$5,000
Total Project Revenue	**$23,176**

Project Expenses				
Item	**Total Cost**	**Applicant "In-Kind"**	**Applicant Cash**	**Requested Grant**
Personnel	$8,100		$3,100	
2 staff - wages and OH				
Materials/Supplies	$6,676	$6,676		
ARC fees	$8,400	$400	$3,000	$5,000
Other			$5,000	
Total Expenses	**$23,176**	**$7,076**	**$11,100**	**$5,000**

City of College Place Community Grants Program Application

Please limit responses to 3 pages in not less than 10-point type font (not including budget).

Project Description

Contact Person

Name: Trista Rogers and Robert Aguilar

Organization Representing: College Place High School

Contact Address: 1755 S. College Ave

City/State/Zip: College Place, WA 99324

Phone: 509-522-3312

E-mail: trogers@cpps.org

Project Information Description of the project (include project purpose, approach and location).

The College Place High School Student Showcase of Learning is a biannual event that celebrates student excellence and fosters community engagement. In the weeks leading up to the event, teachers collaborate closely with students to design projects that effectively demonstrate the application of their learning across various disciplines. Hosted on the College Place High School campus, the showcase invites families and community members to experience firsthand the innovative projects and accomplishments of our students. This event not only highlights academic achievement but also strengthens community connections and inspires a shared commitment to educational excellence.

Please describe how your project relates to the Community Grant Program Goals and the City's Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies.

The College Place High School Student Showcase of Learning fosters civic engagement and involvement by actively connecting students, families, and community members through a shared celebration of academic and creative accomplishments. By inviting the community onto the school campus, the event creates a space for dialogue and collaboration, encouraging stakeholders to invest in the success of local education. Students develop a sense of pride and responsibility as they present their work, while attendees gain a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the educational process. This mutual exchange strengthens community bonds, inspires ongoing support for education, and highlights the importance of active participation in shaping the future of local schools and the broader community.

Project Budget (Must provide budget in this format)

Project Revenue	Amount
Grant Request	$1,000
Cash Match from Applicant	N/A
In-kind match from Applicant	N/A
Cash from other Sources	N/A
• Source:	N/A
• Source:	N/A
Total Project Revenue	

Project Expenses				
Item	**Total Cost**	**Applicant "In-Kind"**	**Applicant Cash**	**Requested Grant**
Personnel				
Techers additional	$500			$500
time				
Materials/Supplies				
Misc. supplies for				
students to create	$500			$500
hand built materials				
Professional Services				
Other				
Total Expenses				$1,000

Project Milestones Provide quarterly milestones, which indicate concrete progress toward the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Milestone	Responsible Party	Projected Date for Completion	Outcome
Materials for	CPHS Staff		
Engagement		October and April	
Securing teachers from each department bas incentive pay from grant			
	CPHS Staff	January and June	

This grant funding will be used to provide materials for students working on applied learning projects, particularly those who may lack the necessary resources to enhance their work. Additionally, the funds will help incentivize more teachers to participate in this after-school activity, fostering greater collaboration and support for student success.

Return completed Application to:
City of College Place
City Administrator's Office
625 S. College Avenue
College Place, WA 99324
Email: mrizzitiello@cpwa.us
Due Date: January 17th, 2025

Community Grant Scores - FY 2025									
Metrics	**Full Points**	**WWU-CHE**	**Andy's Market**	**Enable Art**	**Downtown College Place**	**Villages of Garrison Creek**	**Walla Walla Valley Ice Rink**	**YMCA**	**College Place High School**
Project Description - Is description clear and concise? Benefit to College Place community members	320	250	200	200	240	240	190	250	220
Goals - Clear Goals. Project is tied to grant program goals (stated in application)	320	250	210	200	250	230	230	250	190
Project Milestones - Are milestones stated in application? Are they clear?	320	240	260	260	260	240	240	230	180
Budget - Is budget fully provided? Is proposal judicious use of community grant resources given recommended budget?	320	240	210	220	250	230	200	220	210
College Place Impact - Does the project actually benefit the College Place community?	320	215	150	150	230	225	130	240	200
Total Points	**1600**	**1195**	**1030**	**1030**	**1230**	**1165**	**990**	**1190**	**1000**

Entity	**Scores**	**Ask**	**Funded**
Downtown CP	1,230.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
WWU-CHE	1,195.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
YMCA	1,190.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Villages GC	1,165.00	700.00	700.00
Andys Market	1,030.00	7,000.00	1,150.00
Enable Art	1,030.00	2,450.00	1,150.00
CP High School	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
WW Valley Ice Rink	990.00	5,000.00	-
Total		**28,150.00**	**15,000.00**

Proposal

City of College Place, Washington

Municipal Court Services Project

DATE

January 17, 2025

PREPARED FOR

Michael Rizzitiello,
City Administrator

City of College Place,
Washington

PREPARED BY

National Center for State Courts

Court Consulting Services

National Center for State Courts

Court Consulting Services

Laurie Givens, Vice President

707 Seventeenth Street, Suite 2900

Denver, Colorado 80202-3429

Phone: (303) 293-3063

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ncsc.org

NCSC

National Center for State Courts

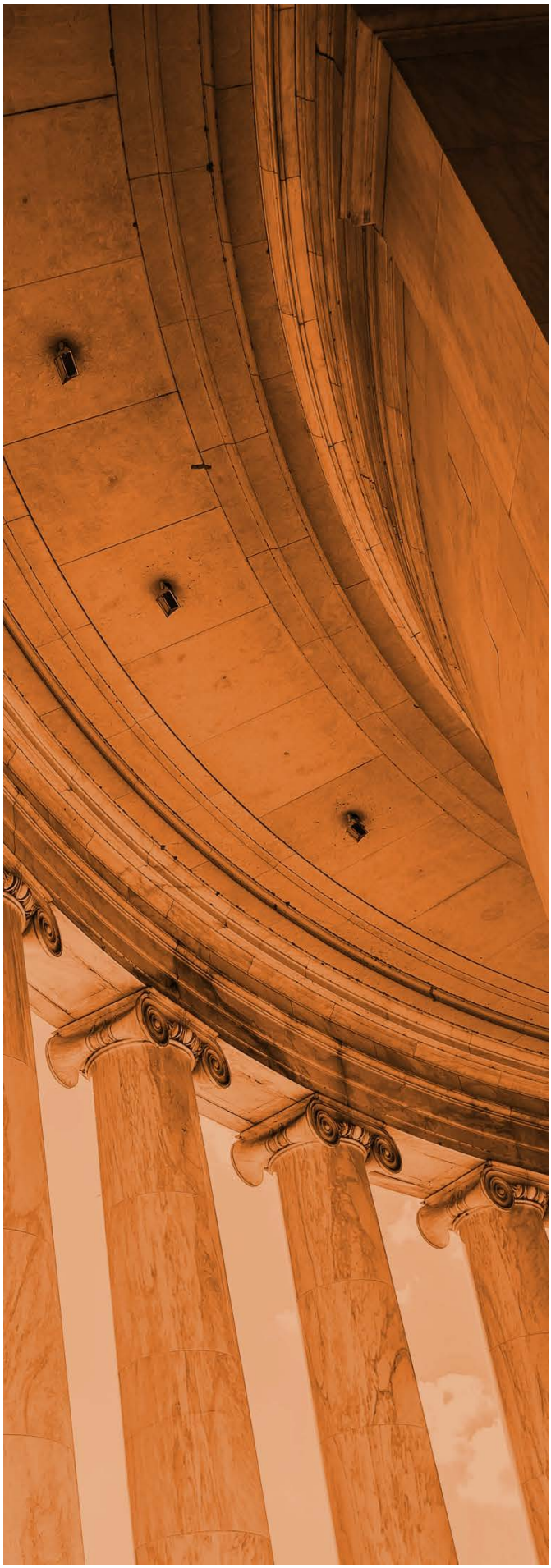

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) is pleased to present this proposal to the City of College Place, Washington (City) to review and evaluate municipal court service options. Presently, the Walla Walla County District Court provides these services to the City through an interlocal agreement. The options to be evaluated include:

1) Maintaining the current interlocal agreement with Walla Walla County; and
2) The creation of a College Place Municipal Court administered by the City.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The general approach of the NCSC Consultants will be to use its knowledge and experience of working with courts across the country and with Washington's municipal courts to answer key questions outlined below:

- The projected net cost of court operations and associated services, including charges from the jail and offsetting revenues;
- Recommended service levels (access, hours, online service, case processing time, convenience, etc.);
- Anticipated effects related to justice outcomes and local control;
- Expected impacts on associated services (law enforcement, probation services, detention, City Prosecutor, indigent defense, jail, victim support, community restitution, etc.);
- Transitional and ongoing operational issues of maintaining a College Place Municipal Court; and
- Projected effects on City residents and the community at large.

The NCSC consultants may also consider and make recommendations for optimizing Walla Walla County services under the current or future interlocal agreement or assess alternative methods of delivery for services.

The approach will include gathering information through interviews and surveys with City managers, Walla Walla County judges, court staff, prosecutors, defense attorneys, law enforcement, and others involved with the criminal justice community on:

- How well the Walla Walla County District Court currently meets the City's expectations and desired goals pertaining to municipal court outcomes and performance.
- The feasibility of establishing a municipal court in the City that would embody those characteristics and achieve those results in a cost-effective manner.
- Based on data availability, this would include projected cost estimates of establishing and operating a municipal court.
- Identifying practical changes that could be made in relevant Walla Walla County operations and/or the interlocal agreement to establish those characteristics and outcomes.

PROJECT PLAN

Task 1: Project Preparation (Kick-Off Meeting)

The NCSC Consultants will complete initial project preparation activities and schedule a remote project kick-off meeting with representatives of the City. During the project kick-off meeting, the NCSC Consultants and the City will:

- Identify an individual who will serve as the City's project liaison to establish working relationships and reporting responsibilities of the NCSC consulting team.
- Discuss the methodology, timeframe, and deliverables of the project to ensure mutual understanding.
- Perceived alternatives for securing municipal court services.
- Plan and/or review project logistics, approximate dates of site visits, and strategies for the on-site visit.
- Identify individuals with the City, Walla Walla County District Court, and other stakeholders who would be able to provide detailed information and perspectives within the scope of this project.
- Arrange for obtaining any additional background information and related data relevant to the project. This may include the most recent caseload activity, time to disposition, applicable state statutes, and any other relevant statistical and financial reports.
- Identify three to five municipal courts in Washington that could provide comparative operational and financial data.
- Identify other logistical or planning issues, as necessary.

Task 2: First Stage Review and Analysis

The NCSC project team will review and assess the data and documentation obtained through the discussions during the kick-off meeting. This will inform the design of interview protocols and any site visit sub-tasks.

The NCSC project team will contact the project liaison to discuss its observations as necessary and to plan/confirm scheduling for the site visit.

Prior to the site visit, the NCSC project team will:

- Review the current City/Walla Walla County interlocal agreement.
- Review any materials provided that will enable the NCSC to preliminarily assess, and document Walla Walla County District Court services currently provided under the interlocal agreement.
- Review any materials provided that will enable the NCSC to preliminarily evaluate the current cost of Walla Walla County services and allocations to the City of court costs and revenues.
- Research state statutes concerning fees that may be charged to municipalities for court related services.

Task 3: Site Visit

The NCSC project team will travel to College Place to conduct a site visit. This visit will include meetings with Walla Walla County District Court judges and staff, City officials, and any other key stakeholders identified during the kick-off meeting or the first stage review and analysis. The project liaison will be asked to provide assistance by contacting the appropriate local officials to ensure their availability for meeting with the NCSC consulting team members and in scheduling an agenda.

These meetings will enable the consulting team to directly gather information on the Walla Walla County District Court operations relating to City cases and the perspectives of participants in the criminal justice community regarding the desired characteristics, goals, outcomes, and performance of a successful municipal court. This will enable the NCSC consulting team to assess whether the desired characteristics now exist and the extent to which the desired results are being achieved; identify practical changes that could help to achieve the desired results; and the feasibility of establishing a municipal court in the City that would embody those characteristics and achieve those results.

Upon conclusion of the site visit, the consulting team with meet with the City's project liaison to debrief and discuss their observations. A remote meeting will be set up within ten days of the site visit.

Task 4: Comparative Practices in Selected Washington Municipal Courts

The NCSC Consultants will review any additional information obtained during the site visit and plan to obtain relevant information regarding corresponding practices in three to five comparable municipal courts in Washington. This may include comparisons of court operational and performance issues such as caseflow management practices, financial collections and submissions, equity and diversity measures, determination of eligibility for indigent defense services, and other areas as appropriate. If possible, including a recently established municipal court would be helpful for insights regarding that process. The NCSC consulting team will make every effort to collect such information, recognizing that there may be courts or jurisdictions that choose not to share or cannot provide the requested data. The NCSC project team will assess whether additional information is necessary from the other municipal courts and contact the court(s), as appropriate.

Task 5: Assess Alternatives of Securing Court Services

The NCSC Consultants will assess the various alternatives for securing municipal court services other than contracting with Walla Walla County District Court. The alternatives considered would address the provision of court services and would include identification and analysis of pros and cons, a cost-benefit comparison (assuming necessary financial and other data is available), and other appropriate considerations. This may result in the conclusion that one or more of the alternatives is not feasible.

Task 6: Draft Preliminary Report

The NCSC Consultants will draft a preliminary report based on its conclusions as well as observations and comments received during the site visit and its analysis of statistical and other operational and financial data. The draft report will include:

- A description of Walla Walla County District Court services currently provided, the current cost of these services and the allocations to the City of court costs and revenues.

- An evaluation of practices in processing municipal cases employed by Walla Walla County District Court compared with selected other Washington municipal courts.
- A comparison of maintaining the current agreement with Walla Walla County District Court with establishment of a College Place Municipal Court. Points of comparison may include: Access to the courts and convenience to the public; community impacts and equity; cost-effectiveness to the City; local accountability and control; justice outcomes and timeliness; convenience to law enforcement, attorneys and other stakeholders.
- This will include estimated and projected costs to the extent that sufficient data is made available.
- Recommendations for optimizing the current interlocal agreement should establishment of a municipal court not be undertaken.

The preliminary report will be prepared in draft form and delivered to the project liaison for distribution to City representatives as appropriate. The NCSC project director will contact the City's project liaison to schedule an on-site report presentation.

Task 7: On-Site Report Presentation

The NCSC Project Director will travel to College Place to conduct a presentation detailing its observations and recommendations. This will provide for in-depth discussion of the recommendations and include a broader audience of stakeholders. Comments and suggestions for revision provided by the stakeholders may be incorporated into a final report that will be prepared following the presentation.

Task 8: Final Report

Following the on-site presentation of the draft preliminary report, the NCSC Consultants will evaluate all comments and suggestions received and make appropriate revisions. A final report will subsequently be delivered to the project liaison in electronic form for distribution as appropriate.

NCSC QUALIFICATIONS

At NCSC, we are adept in consulting and collaborating with court clients and their partners to understand current operations, identify areas for improvement, and support innovation. NCSC is an independent non-profit corporation with the mission to improve the administration of justice through leadership and service to state courts and justice systems around the world. We draw on more than 50 years of experience supporting U.S.-based and global courts with strategy development, organizational assessments, and improving the administration of justice. Importantly, NCSC serves as the secretariat to the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators ("CCJ/COSCA"). NCSC works in close partnership with CCJ/COSCA to develop national policy and best practices, supporting state and local courts with judicial modernization and innovation, and identifying and sharing promising practices to address challenges to successful court systems.

We bring a broad range of resources to support our clients, including: an expert staff, a long standing and trusted relationship with court partners, a wealth of knowledge about and experience working with state and local courts, and institutional links to other national court-related organizations. NCSC's familiarity with the unique nature of courts and justice systems enhances our ability to work effectively and efficiently with judicial officers, administrators, court personnel, and representatives of court-related agencies.

Our Court Consulting Services (CCS) group is dedicated to rethinking and retooling existing processes and practices, modernizing court operations, and improving justice at the state and local levels. We provide direct court consulting services to courts to improve court management performance across a broad spectrum of topical areas, including, but not limited to, strategic planning, court leadership, caseload, financial, and technological management, facilities, court security, jury management, behavioral health, juvenile justice, language access, disability accommodations, and access to justice. Our work includes providing knowledge, technical assistance, executive coaching, and consulting services to courts and other interested parties, as well as conducting research and evaluations in all areas of court operations.

Our consultants can be especially helpful to provide a trusted outside perspective to solicit feedback from diverse stakeholders and to share insight from experiences and successes of other state courts.

CONSULTANT QUALIFICATIONS

Abby Kuschel works as a Principal Court Consultant for the NCSC's Court Consulting Services Division. Her work is focused primarily in the following areas: court governance, leadership, strategic planning, case flow management, and problem-solving courts.

Ms. Kuschel previously worked as a Supervisor of the Programs Unit at the State Court Administrator's Office in Minnesota. In this role she oversaw statewide program staff in the areas of Court Interpreter Programs, Psychological Services, Treatment Courts, Jury Management, and the Children's Justice Initiative. Ms. Kuschel's career with the Minnesota Judicial Branch began in 2008 working with treatment courts at the state and local level, including work with tribal nations for 10 years. She was promoted to the State Treatment Court Coordinator in 2018 and to a Supervisor of the Programs Unit in 2020. Prior to spending nearly 15 years with the Minnesota Judicial Branch, Ms. Kuschel worked in the public health field. Ms. Kuschel received her Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education and Psychology from the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Mandy S. Allen is a Senior Court Management Consultant with the National Center for State Courts. Prior to joining NCSC, Mandy worked for the Colorado Judicial Branch for 23 years; first as Jury Commissioner for a six-county judicial district, and then as Clerk of Court for 19 years. While working for the courts, she served on committees including the Colorado Supreme Court Civil Rules Committee, Information Technology Standing Committee, Clerks' Legislative Committee and the Clerks' Advisory Committee. Ms. Allen also served as mentor clerk to several Clerks of Court throughout Colorado. Before working with the Colorado Judicial Branch, Ms. Allen served as IV-D Administrator for Montrose County, Colorado and as Court Clerk/Probation Officer for the Montrose Municipal Court. Mandy has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice.

John Doerner, Project Consultant, was employed as a Principal Court Management Consultant with NCSC from 2007 – 2023 before retiring. Prior to joining NCSC John spent 21 years with the Colorado Judicial Branch where he served as Manager of Audit and Operations Support, and Clerk and Court Administrator for the Colorado Court of Appeals. He is licensed as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) by the State of Colorado and is knowledgeable about governmental financial and accounting procedures. While at NCSC, he has conducted operational and financial business process assessments in many courts, including a *Staff*

Workload Assessment and Personnel/Procurement Policies and Procedures Refinement for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. As Manager of Audit and Operations Support for the Colorado Judicial Branch, Mr. Doerner personally conducted a performance evaluation of various Judicial Branch operations and examined court business processes throughout the state. Highly knowledgeable in every area of court operation, Mr. Doerner managed a number of projects while with the Colorado courts.

Mr. Doerner chaired several statewide bodies including the Colorado Case Processing Model Procedures Committee, the Records Management Advisory Committee, and the Colorado Judicial Facilities Task Force. He also served as a member on the Colorado Supreme Court Jury Reform Committee, the Colorado Supreme Court Attorney Regulation Committee, and the Colorado Judicial Branch Budget Advisory Committee.

PROJECT TIMELINE

	Months from Project Start								
Tasks	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**
Task 1: Project Preparation (Kick-Off Meeting)	X								
Task 2: First Stage Review and Analysis	X	X							
Task 3: Site Visit			X						
Task 4: Review of Practices in Selected Washington Municipal Courts				X	X				
Task 5: Assess Alternatives of Securing Court Services						X	X		
Task 6: Draft Preliminary Report							X	X	
Task 7: On-Site Report Presentation								X	
Task 8: Final Report									X

BUDGET

The total cost of the project will be **a firm fixed price of $77,873.**

The NCSC uses labor categories and labor rates, and this cost includes professional and administrative time and indirect costs. An example of some of the costs included in the NCSC's indirect cost rates is equipment, supplies, telephone, printing/photocopying, postage, audits, and other items. The indirect costs are based on the approved labor category rate chart used for all contracts.

Tasks	Cost
Task 1: Project Preparation (Kick-Off Meeting)	$ 1,915
Task 2: First State Review and Analysis	$ 3,919
Task 3: Site Visit *Travel: 3 consultants for 3 days / 4 nights*	$26,409
Task 4: Comparative Practices in Selected Washington Municipal Courts	$10,998
Task 5: Assess Alternatives of Securing Court Services	$ 5,945
Task 6: Draft Preliminary Report	$13,581
Task 7: On-site Report Presentation *Travel: 1 consultant for 2 days / 1 night*	$11,380
Task 8: Final Report	$ 3,729
Total	**$77,873**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this proposal and participate in this project. We look forward to working with you.

WALLA WALLA DISTRICT
COURT SERVICES AGREEMENT

1. Parties

1.1 The County of Walla Walla (County) is a Washington County organized under the laws of the State of Washington.

1.2 The City of Walla Walla (Walla Walla) is a non-chartered code city organized under the laws of the State of Washington.

1.3 The City of College Place (College Place) is a non-chartered code city organized under the laws of the State of Washington.

1.4 The Walla Walla County District Court is a court of limited jurisdiction organized pursuant to Title 3 of the Revised Code of Washington.

2. Purpose

2.1 The Municipal Court of Walla Walla was a municipal department of the Walla Walla County District Court established pursuant to Chapter 3.46 of the Revised Code of Washington.

2.2 The County and Walla Walla entered into a court consolidation agreement in 1996, and the Municipal Court was terminated and consolidated with the Walla Walla County District Court. The agreement was renewed in 2013 for a term expiring on the second Monday in January of 2015 or the end of the 2011-2014 judicial term, whichever occurs first.

2.3 The College Place Municipal Court is a Municipal Court established

pursuant to Chapter 3.50 of the Revised Code of Washington.

2.4 In 2013, College Place terminated its Municipal Court and entered into an agreement with the County and Walla Walla under which the two cities would pay the County reasonable amounts for the costs associated with the handling and disposition of cases filed by them in Walla Walla District Court.

2.5 The parties wish to continue with a consolidated Walla Walla District Court.

2.6 The parties do not intend that this agreement be construed as a repeal of those portions of the Walla Walla Municipal Code or the College Place Municipal Code which define crimes, and the cities shall retain the prosecution of offenses defined as crimes by their respective municipal codes. The parties do not intend that the cities pay the County for costs associated with the prosecution or defense of cases filed by either city in Walla Walla County District Court as a result of this court services agreement.

3. Duration

3.1 This agreement shall be in effect commencing on January 9, 2023. This agreement will renew automatically on the second Monday of January 2027, and every second Monday of January four years thereafter, for subsequent four-year terms unless by agreement of the parties, by notice of intent to terminate given by a party pursuant to RCW 3.50.810, or as provided by law.

4. Organization and Administration

4.1 Organization

The Walla Walla County District Court shall be organized in accordance with Title 3 of the Revised Code of Washington and any other applicable laws.

4.2 Administration

The Walla Walla County District Court shall be administered by the judge or judges thereof.

4.2.1 Neither city shall have the right to direct or control the personnel, employees, and agents of the Walla Walla County District Court. Such personnel, employees, and agents shall be employed or retained by County in its sole discretion and subject only to its supervision and control. The cities shall have no responsibility or liability to or for such personnel, employees, and agents of the Walla Walla County District Court.

5. Property

5.1 This agreement does not provide for the acquisition, holding, or disposal of real or personal property.

5.2 All real and personal property used in the operation of the Walla Walla County District Court shall be acquired, held, and disposed of in the name of the County.

5.3 The cost of all real and personal property shall be the sole responsibility of the County.

5.4 The County shall own any said property or interests therein.

6. Financing and Budget

6.1 There shall be no financing of any joint or cooperative undertaking pursuant to this agreement.

6.2 The budget for the Walla Walla County District Court shall be established by the Walla Walla County Commissioners in the manner provided by law.

6.2.1 The costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court shall not include the cost of any capital improvements.

6.2.2 The costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court shall not include the cost of prosecution of cases filed in the Walla Walla County District Court.

6.2.3 The costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court shall not include the cost of defense of cases filed in the Walla Walla County District Court.

6.3 Preliminary Budget

No later than September 1 of each year, the Walla Walla County District Court shall prepare and provide to the parties a proposed budget for the succeeding calendar year.

6.3.1 The parties shall review the proposed budget between September 1 and September 30.

6.3.2 Upon such review, the parties shall agree upon the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court for the succeeding calendar year.

6.3.3 If the parties are unable to reach agreement by September 30 upon the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court for the succeeding calendar year, they shall be deemed to have entered into an agreement to submit such issues to arbitration under Chapter 7.04 of the Revised Code of Washington.

6.4 Budget

No later than December 31 of each year, the County shall provide to the cities an approved budget for the Walla Walla County District Court for the succeeding calendar year.

6.5. Procedures for 2023.

For the remainder of 2023, the following provisions will govern:

A. Walla Walla District Court shall submit a proposed revised budget to the parties as soon as practicable for the remainder of 2023.

B. The parties shall review the proposed budget revision and submit comments, if any, by no later than 14 days after receipt of the proposed revised budget.

C. Upon such review and comments, the parties shall agree upon the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court for

the remainder of the calendar year.

D. If the parties are unable to reach agreement within 30 days after receipt of the proposed revised budget upon the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court for the remainder of the calendar year, they shall be deemed to have entered into an agreement to submit such issues to arbitration under Chapter 7.04 of the Revised Code of Washington.

E. Budget

Walla Walla County has already adopted a budget for District Court for 2023. If necessary, the County agrees to adopt any 2023 budget amendments agreed upon by the parties for the operation of the Walla Walla District Court.

6.6 Payments

Each city shall pay its pro-rata share of the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court, as determined by either mutual agreement or arbitration, to the County in installments as follows:

6.6.1 The County shall bill each city quarterly in January, April, July, and October of each year for that city's pro-rata share of the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court for the current year.

6.6.2 Each city shall pay the County quarterly within thirty (30) days of receipt of an invoice for the City's pro-rata share of the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court for the prior quarter.

7. Allocation of costs and expenses

7.1 Walla Walla District Court costs and expenses shall be separated into three categories: (1) utilities, (2) probation costs and expenses, and (3) general costs and expenses.

7.2 Utilities

Utility costs and expenses shall consist solely of reasonable and necessary charges incurred by the Walla Walla District Court for (a) electricity, (b) natural gas, (c) water, (d) sewer, (e) sanitation (a/k/a garbage disposal service). The pro-rata share of the County for utility costs and expenses shall be one-third (1/3) of the reasonable and necessary charges. The pro-rata share of Walla Walla for utility costs and expenses shall be one-third (1/3) of the reasonable and necessary charges. The pro-rata share of College Place for utility costs and expenses shall be one-third (1/3) of the reasonable and necessary charges.

7.3 Caseload allocation method

Between June 1 and June 30 of each year, the Walla Walla County District Court shall prepare information regarding the categories, types, and number of cases filed in the Walla Walla County District Court and the College Place Municipal Court for the preceding 5-year period (commencing on January 1 of the earliest calendar year of that period through December 31 of the most recent calendar year) using the Judicial Information System (JIS) or such other method which may be agreed upon by the parties.

7.3.1 Categories

Cases shall be separated into categories: (a) cases in which Walla Walla is a party, (b) cases in which College Place is a party, and (c) cases in which either the State of Washington or the County is a party. Any case in which both Walla Walla and either the State of Washington or the County are parties, shall be considered a case in both category (a) and category (c). Any case in which both the College Place and either the State of Washington or the County are parties, shall be considered a case in both category (b) and category (c). Any case in which both Walla Walla and College Place are parties shall be considered a case in both category (a) and category (b). Any case in which Walla Walla, College Place and either the State of Washington or the County are all parties shall be considered a case in categories (a), (b), and (c). Any case in which neither city, the State of Washington, nor the County is a party shall be considered a case in category (c).

7.3.2 Case types

Cases shall be classified by the following types: (a) traffic, (b) criminal traffic, (c) non-traffic criminal, (d) parking, and (e) civil.

7.3.3 The information prepared by the Walla Walla County District Court shall identity the number of each type of case filed for each category.

7.3.4 The Walla Walla County District Court shall provide the information required by paragraph 7.3 herein to the parties no later than July 1 of that year.

7.4 Probation costs and expenses

Probation costs and expenses shall consist solely of the reasonable and necessary salary and benefits paid to the probation officer and the assistant probation officer. The pro-rata shares of probation costs and expenses shall be calculated by comparing the number of criminal traffic and non-traffic criminal cases in which Walla Walla, College Place, and the State of Washington or County was a party for the preceding 5 year period as provided in paragraph 7.3 and sub-paragraphs 7.3.1, 7.3.2(b) & (c), and 7.3.3 against the total number of cases criminal traffic and non-traffic criminal cases for that period. The pro-rata shares calculated pursuant to this paragraph shall be the pro-rata shares of the Walla Walla, College Place and the County for the succeeding calendar year for probation costs and expenses.

7.5 General costs and expenses

With the exception of utilities, probation costs and expenses, and other costs and expenses excluded by this agreement, the remainder of the actual reasonable and necessary costs and expenses ordinarily budgeted for operation of the Walla Walla District Court shall be considered general costs and expenses, and the pro-rata shares of the parties for general costs and expenses shall be calculated as provided herein.

7.5.1 Each category of case described in subparagraph 7.3.2 shall be weighted. The number of cases filed during the preceding 5 year period shall be multiplied by the following factor for each type: (a) traffic: 10.5, (b) criminal traffic:

22.5, (c) non-traffic criminal: 25.5, (d) parking: 4.5, and (e) civil: 22.

7.5.2 The pro-rata shares shall be calculated by comparing the number of cases in which Walla Walla, College Place, and the State of Washington or County was a party for the preceding 5-year period as provided in paragraph 7.3 and sub-paragraphs 7.3.1 and 7.3.3, weighted as provided in paragraphs 7.3.2 and 7.5.1, against the total weighted cases for that period. The pro-rata shares calculated pursuant to this paragraph shall be the pro-rata shares of the Walla Walla, College Place, and the County for the succeeding calendar year for general costs and expenses.

8. Review and Renewal

8.1 The parties shall review the amount of the payments to be made under this agreement every two years, commencing two years after this agreement becomes effective. The parties shall conduct this review between February 1 and March 1.

8.1.1 At each bi-annual review, the parties shall review the costs and expenses of the Walla Walla County District Court.

8.1.2 At each bi-annual review, the parties shall review the information regarding the type and number of cases filed in the Walla Walla County District Court.

8.1.3 At each bi-annual review, the parties shall review the costs and amount of Court resources required for disposition of each type of case filed in the Walla Walla County District Court.

8.2 Upon each such review, the parties shall agree upon such modifications to

paragraph 7 of this agreement as may be necessary to adjust the payments made by the cities to the County to ensure that said amount is reasonable for costs and expenses associated with the disposition of cases filed in Walla Walla County District Court.

8.3 If the parties are unable to reach agreement by March 1 on the terms of such modifications to paragraph 7 of this agreement, they shall be deemed to have entered into an agreement to submit such issues to arbitration under Chapter 7.04 of the Revised Code of Washington.

8.4 Pending conclusion of any such arbitration proceeding, the terms of this agreement, as last modified, shall remain in effect.

8.5 With the exception of paragraphs 6 and 7, all other provisions of this agreement shall automatically renew upon each bi-annual review, and modification of such provisions shall not be subject to arbitration.

9. The cities shall have no obligation to pay any cost or expense arising out of the operation of the Walla Walla County District Court except as provided in paragraphs 6 and 7 herein.

9.1 Neither city shall be charged any additional filing fees.

10. Court Revenues

10.1 Revenues of the Walla Walla County District Court shall be handled in accordance with Chapter 3.62 of the Revised Code of Washington and any other applicable laws.

11. Modification and Termination

11.1 The parties may modify or terminate this agreement by mutual consent at any time. Any party may unilaterally terminate its participation in this agreement as provided in section 3.50.810 of the Revised Code of Washington. The parties may terminate this agreement if otherwise provided by law.

11.2 Upon termination of this agreement, all property of the Walla Walla County District Court shall remain the property of the County, and the County may dispose of said property in its sole discretion.

12. Applicable Law

12.1 This agreement, and any rights and obligations hereunder, shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Washington.

13. Jurisdiction and Venue

13.1 Any dispute or proceeding arising out of this agreement which is not subject to arbitration hereunder shall be submitted to the Superior Court of the State of Washington for Walla Walla County.

13.2 Any dispute or proceeding arising out of arbitration hereunder which may be submitted to a court of competent jurisdiction for determination shall be submitted to the Superior Court of the State of Washington for Walla Walla County.

Dated this 27th day of February 2023.

2023.

COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA

CHAIR OF BOARD OF WALLA
WALLA COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

WALLA WALLA COUNTY
COMMISSIONER

WALLA WALLA COUNTY
COMMISSIONER

Date: 2.9.23

CITY OF WALLA WALLA

ELIZABETH CHAMBERLAIN
CITY MANAGER

Date: Feb 28, 2023

CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE

Norma L. Hernandez
NORMA HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

Date: Feb. 16, '23

WALLA WALLA COUNTY
DISTRICT COURT

Kristian E. Hedine
HON. KRISTIAN E. HEDINE
JUDGE

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT TO COORDINATE CITY PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS AND VALLEY TRANSIT TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

This Interlocal Agreement ("AGREEMENT") is entered into by and between VALLEY TRANSIT, a municipal corporation and public transportation benefit area of the State of Washington, hereinafter referred to as "VT"; and the CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE, a political subdivision of the State of Washington, hereinafter referred to as "CITY", collectively "PARTIES", effective on the date fully executed below.

WHEREAS, Chapter 39.34 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) (Interlocal Cooperation Act) permits local governmental agencies to make the most efficient use of their powers by enabling them to cooperate on the basis of mutual advantage; and

WHEREAS, the CITY is empowered to operate, maintain, construct, and reconstruct public street infrastructure within its CITY limits in accordance with the powers granted pursuant to RCW 35.22.280; and

WHEREAS, the CITY, through its Public Works department, governed by Title 39 RCW, develops and maintains the CITY's infrastructure; and

WHEREAS pursuant to Ordinance No. 17-015, codified in College Place Municipal Code 3.46, the City created the Transportation Benefit District (TBD) to provide adequate funding for transportation improvements that preserve, maintain, improve and, as appropriate, construct or reconstruct the existing transportation infrastructure of the City of College Place consistent with Chapter 36.73 RCW; and

WHEREAS, VT operates within the jurisdiction of the CITY's TBD area, and possesses pre-existing transportation infrastructure that may need enhancements to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements for achieving comprehensive accessibility; and

WHEREAS, VT also desires to establish new bus stops, retire existing bus stops, and/or move bus stops based upon current and future demand; and

WHEREAS, VT and the CITY desire to better coordinate their efforts in order to efficiently and effectively develop and maintain and preserve and develop streets and related transportation infrastructure within the CITY; NOW THEREFORE,

The Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Authorization, Purpose and Interpretation: This AGREEMENT is authorized by and entered into pursuant to Chapter 39.34 RCW. This AGREEMENT is to facilitate coordination of development and redevelopment of CITY public infrastructure and VT transportation infrastructure to promote effective and efficient use of public monies when appropriate. If any provision of this AGREEMENT is held to be in conflict with existing state, federal law or regulation, such provision shall be severable, and the remaining provisions of this AGREEMENT shall remain in full force and effect. This Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of Washington state.

2. Effective Date and Duration. This AGREEMENT shall become effective as of the date of execution by each Party's respective governing body. This AGREEMENT shall terminate or expire as follows:

    a. This AGREEMENT may be terminated by either Party upon the provision of one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days' notice, to the other Party.

    b. Unless sooner terminated by either Party, this AGREEMENT shall expire concurrently with the dissolution pursuant to RCW 36.73.170 of the TBDs identified in this AGREEMENT or cessation or significant decrease of VT services within the CITY limits.

3. Administrators: The following or their designee shall serve as the respective Administrators for this Agreement:

Valley Transit Administrator	City of College Place Administrator
General Manager	City Administrator
Currently Angie Peters	Currently Mike Rizzitiello
1401 West Rost Street	625 South College Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362	College Place, WA 99324

    Either Party may change its Administrator at any time by delivering written notice of such to the other Party.

4. VT Reporting:
    a. Initial Report: VT shall provide to the CITY a current map of all VT facilities within the CITY TBD, to include notation as to transit bus stops (bus stops) which are not in full compliance with current Americans with Disability Act (ADA) accessibility standards.

    b. 30-day Report: Within 30 days of execution of this AGREEMENT, VT shall provide to the CITY a map and/or list identifying within the CITY TBD:
        i. VT facilities designated by VT for redevelopment, including facilities designated to be improved to come into compliance with ADA accessibility requirements;
        ii. VT facilities designated by VT for removal;
        iii. Location of desired new VT facilities; and
        iv. All other areas of interest/concern to VT along with a description of VT's desired outcome, including facilities desired to be moved from one location to another location.

    Such designations shall include information known to VT as to the timeline of when such facilities changes are planned to be implemented.

    The Initial Report provided by VT may serve as the 30-day Report if it contains all of the requirements indicated in subsection b.

c. Updated Report: Within 60 days of any change to the information provided pursuant to subsection a and/or b here, VT shall provide the CITY a revised current map/list with the updated information. The Updated Report shall clearly denote the items that have changed and shall clearly indicate the date of the report.

d. Annual Report: Notwithstanding the obligations contained in this subsection, VT shall cause, on or before November 1, of every year, a comprehensive map/list of all VT facilities to include the information required in subsection b.

e. All reports shall be in the form acceptable to the CITY.

5. CITY Public Works Services (Services): CITY shall provide CITY Services to VT for VT to concurrently develop, redevelop, or repair VT capital facilities in conjunction with a planned CITY road project. CITY shall serve as the lead agency. Public Works services shall include procurement, bidding, contracting, engineering and architecture services, labor, materials, tools and equipment, all other necessary, as determined by the CITY, services to perform the Services in conjunction with CITY road projects, and administrative services. Services shall not include grant/appropriation/directed spending etc. reporting and/or seeking reimbursements. Services shall not include additional reporting, notifying, or presenting above and beyond what CITY staff provides to CITY council.

6. CFP Review: All CITY road projects which will qualify for Services under this AGREEMENT are contained in the CITY's Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) adopted by City Council for implementation in January of the year after adoption. VT is obligated to review each adopted CFP.

7. Notification: Within 60 days of CITY adoption of the CITY CFP, VT shall notify the CITY in writing of all projects for which VT desires the CITY to provide Services pursuant to this AGREEMENT. Notice shall be in the form and include information required by the CITY.

8. Review and response notice: Upon receipt of notification pursuant to paragraph 7, CITY shall review VT's request and evaluate CITY's capacity to perform some or all of the requested services and evaluate the VT estimated cost and funding. Within reasonable time, as determined by the CITY, the CITY shall notify VT of the CITY's ability to perform requested services. The notification will at least include the CITY's fees schedule indicating rates the CITY charges for Public Works (staff, materials, tools, and equipment), administrative and third-party costs If CITY cannot perform any or all of the services requested, CITY shall provide VT with reasons therefor..

   As of the date of execution of this Agreement, the CITY is aware of the following current or upcoming projects which may qualify for CITY services pursuant to this AGREEMENT:

   [insert project name]

   VT is aware of the following:

[insert project identification]

WITH NOTICE OF ABILITY TO PERFORM SERVICES CITY DOES NOT AGREE TO ANY VT ESTIMATED COST AND IS NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR THE ESTIMATED COST.

9. Acceptance: Within 30 days of CITY's notification to VT of the CITY's decision pursuant to paragraph 8, VT shall notify the CITY of its acceptance of the CITY's offer to perform Services and agrees to pay for any and all Services CITY provides.

10. .

11. Independent Contractor: CITY will perform all Services under this AGREEMENT as an independent contractor and not as an agent, employee, or servant of VT. The CITY shall be solely responsible for the control, supervision, direction, and discipline of its personnel, who shall be employees and agents of the CITY and not VT. The CITY has the express right to direct and control the CITY's activities in providing the Services in accordance with the specifications set out in this AGREEMENT. VT shall only have the right to ensure performance.

12. Cooperation by VT.
    a. Covenant to Cooperate. VT covenants to the CITY that it shall cooperate with the CITY in completing the Services. VT shall make its personnel available to the CITY at reasonable times and upon reasonable advance notice, for the purposes of facilitating the CITY's performance of the Services, including but not limited to any safety planning meeting the CITY schedules for purposes of discussing traffic control issues. Upon request by the CITY Administrator or their agent and before any work is commenced, VT shall order closing to traffic of all facilities, or portions thereof, as deemed necessary by the CITY, in its sole discretion, to perform the Services.
    b. Grant of Access. VT grants the CITY, for the purpose of performing Services pursuant to this AGREEMENT, permission and right-of-way-entry on, over, under, above, and through real property owned by VT, and that VT is responsible for maintaining that area necessary or convenient for the CITY to access or use in performing the Services. The CITY shall provide timely notice prior to commencing work on VT property and should seek not to interfere with daily operations whenever possible.
    c. Coordination with WSDOT and Utilities. Should, in providing the Services, it become necessary or convenient for the CITY to enter in, on, over, under, above, or through real property owned by VT or any utility or impact any equipment owned by WSDOT or any Utility, the CITY shall notify VT, and VT shall cooperate in the CITY's efforts to coordinate with WSDOT and/or the Utility to obtain any required approvals and/or permits authorizing such activity.
    d. Permitting. Prior to the delivery of any requested Services, the CITY shall obtain and provide VT copies of any permits necessary for the Services. Only those permits

and/or portion of permits attributable to VT project will; be assessed by the CITY and paid by VT.

e. Supervision, Management, and Control of VT Facilities and Property. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as in any way divesting VT of any of its powers with respect to the supervision, management, and control of its facilities and properties. VT shall not hinder or delay Services in any way.
f. Funding support. Each Party shall cooperate with the other Party in soliciting and securing funding to perform the Services pursuant to this Agreement. An example of such cooperation is providing a letter of support.

13. Payment by VT.
    a. Expense of Determining Project/Services Costs. It may be that the CITY must expend funds to determine the estimated cost of the Services to be provided to VT, such as third-party engineering services. VT shall be responsible for payment of pre-Services costs attributable to the VT project regardless of whether the CITY provides Services for the project. Any developed plans or other thing of value received by the CITY using VT funds shall be the property of both VT and the CITY.
    b. Actual Cost. The CITY shall be reimbursed in full by VT for the actual cost of the Services provided by the CITY on a time and materials basis plus an administrative overhead charge pursuant to the CITY Council adopted fees schedule.
    c. Administrative costs. For the purpose of fixing the compensation to be paid by VT to the CITY for services, VT shall pay those fees as established by CITY Council adopted fees schedule.
    d. Third-Party Costs. VT shall reimburse in full, the City for actual third-party (non-CITY) professional services, labor, equipment, materials and all other expenses plus 20% in accordance with the CITY's fees schedule.
    e. Invoicing and Payment. The CITY shall invoice VT for all Services performed by the CITY. VT shall remain liable for complete and timely payment of all amounts invoiced. Invoices may be sent monthly, quarterly, or on any other schedule that is mutually convenient to both Parties but must be delivered to VT no later than the 5th of any month. The CITY shall include in each invoice, documentation of all costs for labor, materials, and equipment included in the invoice. Unless VT delivers written notice to the CITY disputing the amount of a particular invoice, VT shall make payment on all invoices submitted by the CITY within forty-five (45) days of the invoice date. Failure to timely pay will result in an initial late fee and additional late fees for every subsequent 30 days of non-payment and subject to interest of as permitted by law
    f. Records. The CITY shall maintain accurate time and accounting records related to the Services provided for a period of six (6) years following final payment. There may be requirements beyond six years if capital assets move between the two parties.

14. Indemnification/Hold Harmless: Each party agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the other party, its officers, agents, and employees from any claim, loss, or liability arising from or out of the other party's negligent, tortuous, or illegal actions under this agreement.

Should a court of competent jurisdiction determine, or the Parties agree, that this Agreement is subject to RCW 4.24.115, then in the event of liability for damages arising out of bodily injury to persons or damages to property caused by or resulting from the concurrent negligence of the CITY and VT, its officers, directors, agents, servants, employees, or representatives, the CITY's liability hereunder shall be only to the extent of the CITY's negligence. This obligation is independent of, and shall not in any way be limited by, the minimum insurance obligations contained in this Agreement. This defense and indemnity obligation shall survive the termination or completion of this Agreement.

The foregoing indemnity is specifically and expressly intended to constitute a waiver of each Party's immunity under Washington's Industrial Insurance Act, RCW Title 51, as respects the other Party only, and only to the extent necessary to provide the indemnified Party with a full and complete indemnity of claims made by the indemnitor's employees. The Parties acknowledge that these provisions were specifically negotiated and agreed upon by them.

The provisions of this Section 13 shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

15. Liability Related to VT Policies, Rules, and Regulations: In executing this Agreement, the CITY does not assume liability or responsibility for or in any way release VT from any liability or responsibility that arises in whole or in part from the existence or effect of VT policies, rules, or regulations. If any case, claim, suit, action, or administrative proceeding is commenced in which the enforceability and/or validity of any such VT policy, rule, or regulation is at issue, VT shall defend the same at its sole expense, and if judgment is entered or damages are awarded against VT, the CITY, or both, VT shall satisfy the same, including all chargeable costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

16. Insurance: Each Party represents that it has procured and maintains the type and amount of insurance as authorized by its respective governing body to insure against the risks associated with the performance of this Agreement. Each Party shall maintain such insurance throughout the duration of this Agreement. Each Party shall provide the other Party with proof of said insurance upon request. VT shall name the CITY as an additional insured for each Project for which Services are provided by the CITY. Proof of insurance shall be provided upon demand by the CITY.

    Each Party shall provide or purchase workers' compensation insurance coverage to meet the Washington State Industrial Insurance regulations and cause any subcontractors working on behalf of said Party to also carry such insurance prior to performing work under the Agreement.

17. Compliance with Laws: In the performance of its obligations under this Agreement, each Party shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations.

18. Default and Remedies:

a. Default. If either the CITY or VT fails to perform any act or obligation required to be performed hereunder, the other Party shall deliver written notice of such failure to the non-performing Party. The non-performing Party shall have thirty (30) days after its receipt of such notice in which to correct its failure to perform the act or obligation at issue, after which time it shall be in default ("Default") under this Agreement. Provided, however, if the non-performance is of a type that could not reasonably be cured within said thirty (30) day period, then the non-performing Party shall not be in Default if it commences cure within said thirty (30) day period and thereafter diligent pursues cure to completion with a reasonable timeline.
b. Remedies. In the event of a Party's Default under this Agreement, then after giving notice and an opportunity to cure pursuant to Section 14.a above, the non-Defaulting Party shall have the right to exercise any or all rights and remedies available to it in law or equity.

19. Early Termination:
    a. 180 Days' Notice. Except as provided in 19.b below, either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time, with or without cause, upon not less than one hundred eighty (180) days advance written notice to the other Party. The termination notice shall specify the date on which the Agreement shall terminate.
    b. Lack of Funding. This Agreement is contingent upon governmental funding and legislative appropriations. In the event that funding from any source is withdrawn, reduced, limited, or not appropriated after the effective date of this Agreement, this Agreement may be terminated by either Party immediately by delivering written notice to the other Party. The termination notice shall specify the date on which the Agreement shall terminate. It is assumed that in most cases the open Work Orders would be terminated, leaving the Agreement in effect.
    c. Staffing, tools and equipment/ This Agreement is contingent upon the CITY having sufficient staffing, tools and equipment to administer and perform the Services. Should the CITY be unable to maintain staffing levels sufficient to perform services pursuant to this Agreement, after the effective date of this Agreement, this Agreement may be terminated by either Party immediately by delivering written notice to the other Party. The termination notice shall specify the date on which the Agreement shall terminate. It is assumed that in most cases any current project will be completed prior to termination.
    d. Calculation of Costs Due Upon Early Termination. Upon early termination of this Agreement, VT shall pay the CITY for all Services performed up to the date of termination, as well as the costs of any and all non-cancelable obligations. The CITY shall notify VT within thirty (30) days of the date of termination of all remaining costs including non-cancellable costs. No payment shall be made by VT for any expense incurred or Services performed following the effective date of termination unless authorized by VT in writing.

20. Dispute Resolution: In the event that differences between the Parties should arise over the terms and conditions or the performance of this Agreement, the Parties shall use their best efforts to resolve those differences on an informal basis. If those differences cannot be resolved informally, the matter shall be referred for mediation to a mediator mutually

selected by the parties. If mediation is not successful, either Party may institute legal action for specific performance of this Agreement or for damages. The prevailing Party in any legal action shall be entitled to a reasonable attorneys' fee and court costs.

21. Notices: All notices required to be given by any party to the other party under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered either in person, by United States mail, or by electronic mail (email) to the applicable Administrator or the Administrator's designee. Notice delivered in person shall be deemed given when accepted by the recipient. Notice by United States mail shall be deemed given as of the date the same is deposited in the mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the Administrator, or their designee , at the addresses set forth in Section 3 of this Agreement. Notice delivered by email shall be deemed given as of the date and time received by the recipient.

22. Miscellaneous:
    a. Entire Agreement; Amendment. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties regarding the subject hereof and supersedes any and all prior oral or written agreements between the Parties regarding the subject matter contained herein. This Agreement may not be modified or amended in any manner except by a written document executed with the same formalities as required for this Agreement and signed by the party against whom such modification is sought to be enforced.
    b. Conflicts between Attachments and Text. Should any conflicts exist between any attached exhibit or schedule and the text or main body of this Agreement, the text or main body of this Agreement shall prevail.
    c. Governing Law and Venue. This Agreement shall be governed by and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Washington. The venue of any action arising out of this Agreement shall be in the Superior Court of the State of Washington in and for Walla Walla County.
    d. Interpretation. This Agreement and each of the terms and provisions of it are deemed to have been explicitly negotiated by the Parties, and the language in all parts of this Agreement shall, in all cases, be construed according to its fair meaning and not strictly for or against either of the parties hereto. The captions and headings in this Agreement are used only for convenience and are not intended to affect the interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement. This Agreement shall be construed so that wherever applicable the use of the singular number shall include the plural number, and vice versa.
    e. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall, for any reason and to any extent, be found invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement and the application of that provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby, but shall instead continue in full force and effect, to the extent permitted by law.
    f. No Waiver. A Party's forbearance or delay in exercising any right or remedy with respect to a Default by the other Party under this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of the Default at issue. Nor shall a waiver by either Party of any particular Default constitute a waiver of any other Default or any similar future Default.
    g. No Assignment. This Agreement shall not be assigned, either in whole or in part , by either Party without the express written consent of the other Party, which may be

granted or withheld in such Party's sole discretion. Any attempt to assign this Agreement in violation of the preceding sentence shall be null and void and shall constitute a Default under this Agreement.

h. Warranty of Authority. Each of the signatories hereto warrants and represents that he or she is competent and authorized to enter into this Agreement on behalf of the party for whom they purport to sign this Agreement.

i. No Joint Venture. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed as creating any type of manner of partnership, joint venture, or other joint enterprise between the parties.

j. No Separate Entity Necessary. The Parties agree that no separate legal entity or administrative entities are necessary to carry out this Agreement.

k. Ownership of Property. Except as expressly provided to the contrary in this Agreement, any real or personal property used or acquired by either Party in connection with its performance under this Agreement will remain the sole property of such Party, and the other Party shall have no interest therein.

l. Funding. This Agreement and each and every provision hereof shall not create the requirement of either Party to appropriate future funding other than the requirement that VT compensates the CITY for actual Services provided.

m. No Third-Party Benefit or Duty. This Agreement and each and every provision hereof is for the sole benefit of VT and the CITY. No other persons or parties (third-parties) shall be deemed to have any rights in, under, or to this Agreement. This Agreement creates no duty by the CITY, VT, or both to any third-party.

n. Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original and all of which shall constitute one and the same Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first written above.

VT:

Valley Transit, a municipal corporation and public transportation benefit area of the State of Washington

By:

_____

Name:
Title:

CITY:

City of College Place, a political subdivision of the State of Washington

By:

_____

Name:
Title:

Approved as to Form:

_____

CITY Attorney

Approved as to Form:

_____

Nikki Thompson, VT Attorney

Rea Culwell

From: Angie Peters <Angie@valleytransit.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 9:01 AM
To: Rea Culwell
Cc: Michael Rizzitiello
Subject: RE: City & VT agreement to codevelop

Good morning,

I will forward this on to our legal to review.

I will be transparent though, that if in addition to this agreement, we would still need to negotiate an agreement for every project, it very much negates the value of this one existing at all. I'll chat with Nikki, but if that's the desired path forward, I think it's in the best interest of all of our time/effort just to drop this and discuss potential future agreements on a project-by-project basis if they arise in a way that would permit us enough time to go through the lengthy process of negotiating an agreement.

Angie Peters

General Manager

Valley Transit

P: 509-525-9140 ext. 105 F: 509-525-9142
E: angie@valleytransit.com

A: 1401 West Rose Street, Walla Walla, WA 99362

www.valleytransit.com
www.iTransitNW.com

From: Rea Culwell <RCulwell@cpwa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 7:02 PM
To: Angie Peters <Angie@valleytransit.com>
Cc: Michael Rizzitiello <MRizzitiello@cpwa.us>
Subject: RE: City & VT agreement to codevelop

Angie,

WCIA, our insurance risk pool recommended the following indemnity and liability language. Will you please forward to your attorney to see if she is okay with this language?

"Each party agrees to defend and indemnify the other party and its elected and appointed officials, officers, employees and agents against all claims, losses, damages, suits and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, to the extent the claims arise out of, or result from, the performance of this agreement by the indemnitor or its elected and appointed officials, officers, employees or agents. Each indemnitor's duty to defend and indemnify extends to claims by the elected or appointed officials, officers, employees, volunteers or agents of the indemnitor or of any contractor or subcontractor of indemnitor.
However, should a court of competent jurisdiction determine that this Agreement is subject to RCW 4.24.115, then, in the event of liability for damages arising out of bodily injury to persons or damages to property caused by or resulting from the concurrent negligence of the Contractor and the Public Entity, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers, the Contractor's liability hereunder shall be only to the extent of the Contractor's negligence. It is further specifically and expressly understood that the indemnification provided herein constitutes the Contractor's waiver of immunity under Industrial Insurance, Title 51 RCW, solely for the purposes of this indemnification. This waiver has been mutually negotiated by the parties. The provisions of this section shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement."

I believe all of the remaining items are agreeable., however our insurer recommended requiring a separate agreement for specific projects due to the unknown of what tasks the City will take on from project start to finish – for example, if the City were to rely on engineering services provided by VT contractor, the City would either want VT to indemnify the City, or at the least have the City as part of the agreement VT has with that engineer – hopefully this makes sense. We don't anticipate anything going sideways, but it is a crazy (for lack of a better word) and anything can happen.

Let me know if you have any questions,
Rea

Rea L Culwell
City Attorney/Prosecutor
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509-540-6968 – mobile

From: Angie Peters <Angie@valleytransit.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 1:39 AM
To: Rea Culwell <RCulwell@cpwa.us>; Robert McAndrews <RMcAndrews@cpwa.us>; Mike Holden <MHolden@cpwa.us>
Cc: Michael Rizzitiello <MRizzitiello@cpwa.us>
Subject: Re: City & VT agreement to codevelop

Hi Rea,
Notes for some changes from our lawyer are attached.

Angie Peters

General Manager
Valley Transit
P: 509-525-9140 ext. 105 F: 509-525-9142
E:angie@valleytransit.com
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From: Rea Culwell <RCulwell@cpwa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 10:18:00 AM
To: Angie Peters <Angie@valleytransit.com>; Robert McAndrews <RMcAndrews@cpwa.us>; Mike Holden <MHolden@cpwa.us>
Cc: Michael Rizzitiello <MRizzitiello@cpwa.us>
Subject: City & VT agreement to codevelop

Please see attached for review.

I will be presenting to Council on December 10th, if you can have your comments back by 5pm Dec 10th, that would be great. If you cannot make this happen, please let me know and we'll bump it out.

Thanks,
Rea

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