



# College Place in Review

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 7

NOVEMBER 2014

## Mayor's Message

### Quick Fact:

#### City Water Usage

##### September 2014

59,731,000

##### September 2013

76,968,000

##### YTD 2014

353,427,000

##### Total 2013

411,766,000

#### Your City Representatives

##### Mayor

Julie L. Scott

##### Council Members

Melissa Williams

Adam Keatts

Marge Nyhagen

Loren Peterson

William Jenkins

Larry Dickerson

Bernie Yanke

##### City Administrator

Patrick H. Reay

Welcome to next year's budget!

The budget season is here and since it involves important decisions about the priorities for the city, I wanted to give you a few basic facts. As with most not for profits, the city uses fund-based accounting that creates funding buckets for different departments and services and then allots the city's resources to these areas. Aside from our very large capital expenditure on the CARS (College Avenue/Rose Street) project, the city's regular budget covers the services and systems that city residents rely on.

The cost of personnel is the primary expense across the regular budget. The fund areas that end up being the largest expenditure in College Place are public safety—the police and fire departments—followed by water utilities and wastewater utilities. Road and street maintenance and equipment upkeep and maintenance are two other key funds that keep the city of College Place in shape. The remaining funds cover all the other functions and services of running a small city.

The revenue side of the income statement is made up of several areas: property taxes, sales taxes, and several other state level pieces of funding passed along to the city based on per capita calculations like motor vehicle fuel tax and alcohol tax revenues. College Place also receives funds from utility taxes charged to electric, gas, cable, phone, and garbage service providers (which are usually itemized in the bills we, as citizens, pay these companies for these services). The fees from building permits for new construction are also one of the larger general fund revenues.

As elected representatives, the council takes very seriously a review of the budget process, changes in expenditures from year to year, and using the resources to make our city a beautiful and safe place to live. On top of this legislative oversight, College Place goes through regular audits from the State Auditor's Office to make sure that the financial side of city management is being done well.

**City Hall**  
**625 S. College Ave**  
**College Place, WA 99324**  
**Phone Numbers:**  
City Hall—529-1200  
Utilities—Ext. 11  
Building/Planning/Public  
Works/Engineering  
525-0510  
Fire Dept.  
529-6506  
Police —525-7778 or 7773  
Dispatch—527-1960

**Municipal Building Hours:**  
Monday through Thursday  
8:00 a.m. To  
5:00 p.m.  
Friday  
8:00 a.m. to  
4:00 p.m.



The 2014 budget and audit reports are available to citizens under the finance tab at the City of College Place website ([www.ci.college-place.wa.us](http://www.ci.college-place.wa.us)). The 2015 preliminary budget information will be available October 27th, and feel free to join our meetings this fall for budget updates and reviews—we can be found in the council chambers at 625 S. College Avenue almost all of the second and fourth Mondays of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Both your elected officials and the city staff take very seriously how money is used, since we all know the limited resources from which it is derived. Thank you for your trust.

## Christmas Tree Lighting

The annual College Place Christmas Tree Lighting is just around the corner, and we hope that you will join us once again to kick off the Christmas season.

This year the tree lighting will be held on the City Hall lawn, on Wednesday, December 3rd, at 5:30 p.m. Come enjoy some cocoa and carols with family and friends!



## Community Calendar

### November

- 5- Lions Club, 5:30 pm, Lions Park
- 10 - City Council, 7 pm, Council Chambers
- 11 - Veterans Day, City Hall Closed
- 18 - Planning Commission, 7 pm, Council Chambers
- 24 - City Council, 7 pm, Council Chambers
- 27 & 28 - Thanksgiving Holiday, City Hall Closed