



Our Town

Kalama honors its legacy of community pride, rich heritage and natural beauty while embracing growth and economic prosperity.

City of Kalama

July 2022

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AWARD RECIPIENTS- CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Pictured (above): Charlie Newton was awarded the School Employee of the Year Award.

Each year the Chamber of Commerce hosts an awards event where the Citizen of the Year, Totem Award, and School Employee of the Year awards are presented. This year's recipients include School Employee of the Year Award—Charlie Newton, Citizen of the Year Award—Kim Sibley, and the Totem Award—the Kalama Public Library. Congratulations to each of these wonderful, deserving recipients! These awards are given based on nominations by the community, and yes, it's a big deal!



Pictured (above): Library staff member Jeanne K. (left) and Library Director Elaine Bystrom (right) show off the Library's Totem award.



Pictured (above): Kim Sibley (left) receives the Citizen of the Year Award, presented by Chamber of Commerce President Rosemary Siipola (right). Kim is a hard-working City employee that keeps our streets and parks beautiful!

FRESH PAINT

We hope you've noticed the public works crew has been quite busy during these last few months! The sunshine is here, so they will be striping this July to keep our streets looking fresh (and to keep them safe, of course)! Drivers, please be attentive to signs and our crew!



Contact Us
EMERGENCY/AFTER
HOURS

Police – 911

Public Works
360-703-0168 or
911

CITY HALL HOURS-
Monday-Friday:
9AM-5PM

Utility Billing-
Payments
360- 673-4554

Permitting,
Building, & Planning
360-673-5211

Finance – Accounts
Payable
360-673- 4555

Clerk/Treasurer
360-673-4561

City Administrator
360-673-3265

Kalama Police Office
360-673-2165
Hours M-F 9am-
4:30pm

Kalama Public Works
360-673-3706

Kalama Library
360-673-4568
Current Hours of Op:
Mon- Fri 12pm-5pm,
Saturdays 9am-2pm

Kalama Community
Building (call City
Hall)
360-673-4908


LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
www.cityofkalama.com

Police Website
www.kalamapolice.com

Library Website
www.kalamalibrary.com

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2022

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022 @ 6PM IN DOWNTOWN KALAMA

Join Kalama and thousands of communities nationwide for the annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. The goal is to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Police, Fire, City Staff, community groups, and local businesses will be on hand to provide crime prevention and problem-solving information. There will be safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much more.

Free food, beverages, and prizes will be provided. Invite your family and friends. We look forward to seeing you there.

Follow the City of Kalama and Kalama Police Department’s Facebook pages for updates and additional information.



BIG SMOKE in LITTLE KALAMA

This year, PNW Trading Post worked with the Pacific Northwest BBQ Association (PNWBA) to host “Big Smoke in Little Kalama”. The fully sanctioned event took place



(Above) Grand Champion Jason Hertz of RJ’s Smokehouse: Chicken 1st Pl, Brisket 3rd Pl, Pork butt 4th Pl, Brisket 3rd Pl.

June 25th & 26th at Haydu Park. A heat wave came through that weekend and so did the delicious smells of barbeque. Of the 20 teams, Kalama’s Willie Dick’s First Street Tap House took 2nd Place in pork! The Grand Champion was “RJ’s Smokehouse and BBQ Joint” (located in Vancouver, WA)! This event had a great turnout, and we hope to see it come back to town next year!



(Above) The Willie Dick’s First Street Tap House crew!

SUMMER READING

Beyond the Beaten Path – Into the Great Outdoors! Summer Reading has Started! Join us this July for great experiences hiking, mapping, tenting, and exploring the great outdoors right in our own backyard!

July 7 & 8: Kalama Fair

July 9: Kalama Parade

July 13: Tents at Toteff!

July 20: Take a Hike!

July 27: Kiwanis with a Compass!

Register for Summer Reading at the Library or at each event. Get started on a fabulous adventure! All kids/parents are welcome! Check out the Library website for more information: www.kalamalibrary.com.



iREAD
BY UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

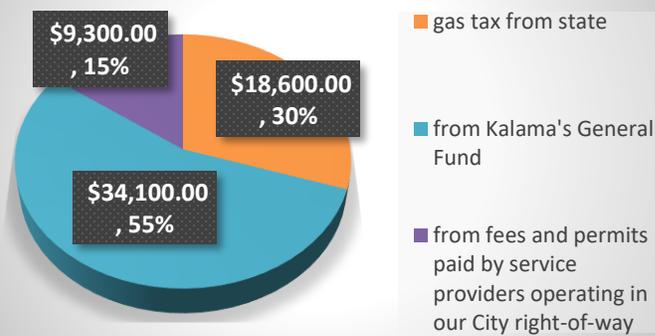
How does the City of Kalama pay to maintain the streets inside the city limits?

In Washington State there are a few different revenues that cities may obtain for street maintenance and paving. Some are automatic and some require action by the City Council or a vote of the people.

Gas Tax (state shared revenue distributed based on population) is automatic. The money from the state, unfortunately, doesn't amount to much by the time it is shared with the city. Kalama gets about \$62,000 per year which pays for approximately 30% of street operations.



Street Operations Revenues



Operations include street maintenance/repair, striping/painting, vegetation, streetlight repair and power, litter control, bridge inspection, and snow removal/deicing. Roughly 55% of revenues come from Kalama's General Fund, which is money that could be spent for any

general government service or purpose such as library, police, community building, parks etc. The final 15% of street operation revenue comes from fees and permits paid by service providers operating in our city right of way.

Paving (street improvement capital projects) is paid for from a different pot call the **Street Improvement Reserve** which functions more like a savings account. Once enough money is saved, the Public Works Director will build a project from the City's 6-year Street Plan. Funding for the Street Improvement Reserve is extremely limited at just under \$28,000/year. This money is from a portion of the garbage utility tax. City staff will often leverage any reserves by using them as the locally required "match funds" for state and federal grants that are competitive, have limited funding, and (in most cases) only apply to higher traffic streets.

What is the Transportation Benefit District?

In an effort to provide new revenues for cities to maintain and improve their own streets, the State Legislature gave cities the ability to form a Transportation Benefit District (TBD). They also provided the local jurisdictions the ability to fund the TBD through a couple of mechanisms. Kalama has a TBD and for about 6 years it was funded through "car tabs", initially at a rate of \$20/year (per vehicle), then \$40/year (per vehicle). At \$40 the City of Kalama was generating about \$100,000 per year in the TBD and was using the money for new asphalt on neighborhood streets that don't necessarily qualify for grant funding. The City Council chose to remove the "car tab" fee because the voters were not consulted (councilmanic action, not a vote of the people). In the November 2020 election the Council put a 0.2% sales tax on the ballot as a replacement to fund the TBD. It failed by only 14 votes. The Council decided the city should make a second attempt at the upcoming Primary Election on August 2, 2022.

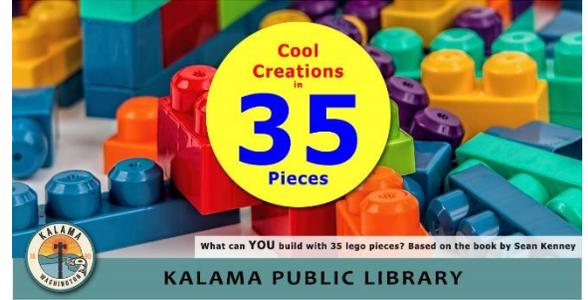
Most of the Council feels a sales tax, which both visitors and residents pay, is the fairest approach for Kalama to fund street improvements. Based on total eligible sales within Kalama, the 0.2% sales tax should generate \$130,000-\$150,000/year for street paving. Currently asphalt costs about \$7 per sq ft., which means at the current pricing the sales tax will pay to pave approximately 833 feet (or two and a half blocks) of neighborhood street each year. The TBD is our most efficient mechanism to fund street projects and get pavement on the ground. Historically no funding from the TBD has been utilized to pay for administrative costs or city overhead. Staff is committed to continue this practice, because it has proven to be our most effective way to improve streets.

~ City Administrator Adam Smee

35 LEGO PIECES? CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

Based on the book "Cool Creations in 35 Pieces" by Sean Kenney, this program will challenge kids to see what they can build with 35 Lego pieces! Participants can build their creation based on a provided model or harness their creativity to design something new!

Lego kits will be provided by Washington State Library. Join us on **Saturday, August 13th, @ 12PM** for this **FREE** event!!! Call the library to **sign up: 360 - 673 - 4568**.



Monday, July 4 th	Independence Day
July 7 th – September 8 th (1 st , 3 rd , and 4 th Thursdays 11am-3pm, 2 nd Thursday 4pm-7pm)	Downtown Farmer's Market
Saturday, July 9 th	Kalama Parade (Chamber of Commerce 11am on 1 st St downtown)
July 7 th - 9 th	Kalama Fair @ Haydu Park (Put on by the Kalama Fair Board)
July 15 th & 16 th	FOLK book sale (10am-4pm @ City Council Chamber)
Tuesday, August 2 nd	National Night Out (downtown Kalama, 6pm)

For detailed event information, please see the City's Facebook Page, the Kalama Chamber of Commerce website at www.kalamachamber.com/events-1, the City website at www.cityofkalama.com, the Kalama Fair website at www.kalamafair.com, or the Port of Kalama's website at www.portofkalama.com.

<p>WHEN DO WE MEET?</p> <p><u>Kalama City Council</u> 1st and 3rd Thursdays - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>Kalama Planning Commission</u> 2nd Thursday - 6:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">±</p> <p><u>Civil Service Commission</u> 4th Thursday - 5:30 p.m. – As needed</p> <p><u>Kalama Library Board</u> Bi-monthly beginning in January on the 19th Wednesday - 5:15 p.m.</p> <p><u>MEETING LOCATION</u> *Hybrid meetings; physical location: 320 N 1st St, Kalama</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICE OR FIRE EMERGENCIES – CALL 911</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PUBLIC WORKS - AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY NUMBER (360) 703-0168 – OR CALL 911</p> <p>Kalama Police Office Non-Emergency... (360)-673-2165 Kalama City Offices..... (360)-673-4562 City of Kalama Fax..... (360) 673-4560 Comcast..... (888) 226-2278 Cowlitz County Assessor..... (360) 577-3010 Cowlitz County Bldg. & Planning..... (360) 577-3052 Cowlitz Public Utilities District..... (360) 423-2210 Fire District #5 Office Non-Emergency... (360) 673-2222 Kalama Post Office..... (360) 673-3567 Kalama Telephone Company..... (360) 673-2755 Labor & Industries..... (360) 575-6923 Utilities Locate (Call Before You Dig!) 811 or (800) 424-5555 Waste Control..... (360) 425-4302</p>
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