

CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER - AGENDA ITEM DATA SHEET

Agenda Item: Director of Public Works Monthly Report

Requested & Presented by: Jasen Glasbrenner

Meeting Date: Public Works Committee on 08-21-2025

August & September 2025 Operations Summary – Airport, Buildings & Grounds, Cemetery, Forestry & Streets

Airport: The runway resurfacing project is delayed to late summer/fall 2026 due to state planning timelines. The Airport Master Plan grant is in final federal/state review, with planning expected to begin in Nov. 2025.

Buildings & Grounds: Our seasonal staffing is winding down; three seasonal staff will be retained through October. The Crew and Crew Lead positions were filled as of 8/18.

Cemetery: Handled 3 full burials, 4 cremations; 2 more cremations scheduled. Tess trained on mini excavator. Multiple plot sales and monument markings were completed. Policy discussions are underway on buyback of unused plots.

Forestry: The Tree Board met with no major actions. A dead ash tree was removed at the Masonic Temple. The final Tree Cutter licenses have been approved, and the list is now complete.

Streets: The landfill leachate system was successfully jetted on 7/21 with no issues found. Curb line/median weed spraying was completed, with spot spraying still needed in areas like downtown. Road patching for the chip seal project is complete (36 blocks as of 8/19). The chip sealing is expected to occur during the week of 8/25/2025 and will take 1 to 2 days to complete. We are also expecting the parking lot adjacent to the fire station to be completed this week. Street painting will begin shortly.

DPW Comments: Staff continues to review the current mowing fleet and proposes a streamlined 2026 plan to reduce redundancy, lower costs, and improve efficiency. Underused or aging equipment will be sold or reassigned. The revised lineup consolidates assets and adds versatile new units, including 48", 54", and 96" mowers, plus a 36" stand-up model for tight areas.

We are wrapping up employee reviews for both the Buildings & Grounds and Streets crews. Budgeting for 2026 is currently a major focus.