

CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER - AGENDA ITEM DATA SHEET

Agenda Item: Director of Public Works Monthly Report

Presented by: DPW Jasen Glasbrenner

Meeting Date: Public Works Committee on 10-15-2026

October Operations Summary

Airport

- Continued Airport Master Planning through 2028.
- Fuel farm troubleshooting and repairs ongoing.
- Second round of survey distribution re: Airport Master Planning completed.

Buildings & Grounds

- Seasonal Continued mowing and Arboretum clearing.
- Assisted with Aquatic Center winterization and closure.
- GTE Historical marker refurbishment completed; mounting repairs pending.
- City Hall A/C compressor replacement anticipated in spring.
- Cross-training underway for grave digging.

Cemetery

- Two traditional burials, two cremation burials, and five plots sold.
- Marked several monument installation locations.

Floodplain (Dike)

- Dike inspection completed 10/2; report pending.
- Dike storm channel spillway maintenance planning underway; preliminary estimate \$75,000–\$100,000.

Forestry

- Continued Arboretum pruning.
- Identifying boulevard trees in poor condition.

Streets

- Continued patching, sweeping, leaf and brush collection, and winter equipment preparation.
- Landfill gates fabricated; installation pending.
- Gage St. pothole repair completed; new patch material performing well.
- Increased barricade support for events and water main breaks.
- Dike inspection completed 10/2; report pending.

DPW Notes

- 2026 Public Works employee evaluations have been completed.
- Continued coordination with Parks & Recreation on Sanctioned Group process improvements.
- Met with Foremost regarding Gage St. and storm sewer concerns; follow-up planned.
- Stori Field Court resurfaced.
- Valley View Dr. anticipated for substantial completion in mid-November; Stori Dr. and Chestnut St. completion anticipated spring 2027.
- Mill St. work scheduled to begin 10/19; temporary gravel surface until November paving.
- Continued UW Campus redevelopment coordination; wetland delineation fieldwork completed.
- **Contractor Disposal at the Landfill:** Staff are evaluating allowing licensed tree contractors to dispose of brush and vegetative debris at the former landfill, including operational requirements, site management, and associated costs. Findings and recommendations will be presented as the review progresses.

- **Potential Amendments to Chapter 301:** Staff are reviewing boulevard tree regulations to clarify City and property owner responsibilities. The review includes current practices and comparable municipal policies to identify potential improvements, with proposed amendments to be presented to the Committee for consideration.
- **Right to Life Memorial Donation Request:** In alignment with the City's adopted Donation Policy, the Public Works Department in cooperation with the City Administrator has decided to decline Richland County Right to Life's proposed bench and plaque donation at the City Cemetery. It was determined that this donation would be inconsistent with current operational priorities and available resources.
- **Contracted Mowing Budget Update:**
 - Costs projected to exceed the 2026 line-item budget due to full-season contracting and 48% higher precipitation. Combined seasonal labor and mowing costs increased approximately \$6,894 over 2025. Overall budget section is expected to remain within budget.

	2025	2026	Difference
Seasonal labor	\$25,340.81	\$8,154.49	-\$17,186.32
Contracted mowing	\$19,900.00	\$43,980.00	+\$24,080.00
Total	\$45,240.81	\$52,134.49	+\$6,893.68
Seasonal hours	1,681.5	723.5	-57%
Apr.–Sept. precipitation	25.01"	37.05"	+48%