

City of Kennewick

Sustainability Program

Recognizing that increased population growth, high levels of consumption and the desire to support growing economies have created escalating demands on our resources – natural, human and social – sustainability measures on a local, regional, and global scale are vital. These demands negatively impact the natural environment, our communities and the quality of our lives. In the face of these challenges, people worldwide have developed a growing concern for the environment and a desire to live sustainably.

Program Overview

Mission

Proactively make sustainability decisions as good stewards of the public and consider the long term effects of our business practices and how those decisions affect our citizens and the environment.

Sustainable Defined

Sustainable can have slightly different meanings depending on the context in which it is used. For the purpose of this document, the following definition is used:

Sustainable community/city: A community or city that meets its present needs without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. More specifically, a sustainable community is one that improves and enhances its natural, social and economic resources in ways that allow current and future members of the community to lead healthy, productive and satisfying lives.

Background

In 2010, the Kennewick City Council took steps to address these pressures locally by authorizing the establishment of a community sustainability policy (Resolution No. 10-21) which included:

- A goal to create a sustainable community with a purpose to provide for the future via long term planning decisions.
- Kennewick Comprehensive Plan policies including:
 - Promotion of green building design, energy efficient construction, xeriscaping.
 - Maintenance of a roadway system that promotes function, safety and aesthetics with minimum adverse environmental impact.
 - Encouragement of roadways which promote alternative modes of transportation such as bikes, transit, walking, etc.
- Encouraged continued participation as a Tree City USA, which has continued for 15 years.



- Promotion of an audit of municipal facilities for energy efficiency.

In 2015, Council extended its charge to develop a sustainability plan for the city with a focus on best practices for site selection attraction and consideration for energy conservation of city facilities during implementation of the facilities master plan.

A team comprised of staff representing various city departments was assembled to conduct an assessment of sustainability practices, review feasibility of new projects, and determine best practices to ensure Kennewick continues to meet its current needs – environmental, economic and social – without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same.

This sustainability program is designed to help us as a community think, plan and act more sustainably – to help us address the root causes of problems rather than the symptoms of those problems, and to provide criteria for evaluating the long-term rather than the short-term impacts of our decisions – in short, to help us think about the future when we are making decisions about the present.

Goals, Strategies and Measurements

The program includes goals and strategies for the city government and sectors of the community to conserve and enhance our local resources, safeguard human health and the environment, maintain a healthy and diverse economy, and improve the livability and quality of life for citizens.

It is the city's intent to demonstrate community-wide commitment to sustainability, identify sustainable alternatives allowable in development, and support efforts that encourage residents and businesses to employ sustainable practices.

The program is organized into 8 areas:

1. [Community Design and Planning](#)
2. [Transportation and Mobility](#)
3. [Housing](#)
4. [Public Safety and Services](#)
5. [Health and Wellness](#)
6. [Economic Vitality](#)
7. [Arts, Culture and Lifelong Learning](#)
8. [Civic Engagement](#)

Local trends based on current data are tracked through the [Trends of Benton and Franklin Counties](#), presented by a coalition of interested parties. The Trends steering committee included the following organizations: Benton Franklin Health District, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Port of Benton, the Three Rivers Community Foundation, and the Tri-City Herald. The information contained among these many indicators offers residents and visitors alike a comprehensive view of our community. The website development team is a cooperative effort of two groups from Eastern Washington University



(EWU): The Institute for Public Policy and Economic Analysis and the Center for Digital Media Design and Development.

Many of the *Trends of Benton and Franklin Counties* indicators measured have benchmarks to Washington State and the U.S., and are structured into 10 categories:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Demographic | 6. Transportation |
| 2. Environmental | 7. Housing |
| 3. Economic | 8. Education |
| 4. Health | 9. Quality of Life |
| 5. Public Safety | 10. Agriculture |

The City of Kennewick Sustainability Program is ongoing and a work of exploration and innovation. It extends emerging trends around systems thinking and ecological planning, design, and development to Kennewick planning opportunities, thereby fostering connection, community, and sustainability citywide, regionally and beyond.

Guiding Principles

The City of Kennewick Sustainability Program is founded on the following Guiding Principles that provide the basis from which effective and sustainable decisions can be made.

1. The Concept of Sustainability Guides City Policy

Kennewick is committed to meeting its existing needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The long-term impacts of policy choices will be considered to ensure a sustainable legacy.

2. Kennewick's Critical Area Ordinance Serves to Protect, Preserve and Restore the Natural environment

Under the guidelines of the Critical Area Ordinance, city decision-making is guided by a mandate to maximize environmental benefits and reduce or eliminate negative environmental impacts. The city will lead by example and encourage other community stakeholders to make a similar commitment to the environment.

3. Environmental Quality, Economic Health and Social Equity are Mutually Dependent

Sustainability requires that our collective decisions as a city allow our economy and community members to continue to thrive without destroying the natural environment upon which we all depend. A healthy environment is integral to the city's long-term economic and societal interests. In achieving a healthy environment, we must ensure the benefits of a sustainable community are accessible to all members of the community.

4. All Decisions Have Implications to the Long-term Sustainability of Kennewick

The policy and decision-making processes of the city will reflect our sustainability objectives. The city will lead by example and encourage other community stakeholders to use sustainability principles to guide their decisions and actions.

5. Community Awareness, Responsibility, Participation and Education are Key Elements of a Sustainable Community



All community members, including individual citizens, community-based groups, businesses, schools and other institutions should be aware of their impacts on the environmental, economic and social health of Kennewick, should take responsibility for reducing or eliminating those impacts, and are encouraged to take an active part in community efforts to address sustainability concerns. The city will therefore embrace education opportunities to support community awareness, responsibility and participation in cooperation with schools and other organizations in the community.

6. Kennewick Recognizes its Linkage with the Regional, National, and Global Community

Local environmental, economic and social issues cannot be separated from their broader context. This relationship between local issues and regional, national and global issues will be recognized and acted upon in the city's programs and policies. The city's programs and policies should therefore be developed as models that can be emulated by other communities. The City will also act as a strong advocate for the development and implementation of model programs and innovative approaches by regional, state and federal government that embody the goals of sustainability.

7. Those Sustainability Issues Most Important to the Community Will be Addressed First, the Best Options Evaluated for Effectiveness and Cost, and the Programs and Policies that Meet the Overall Objectives Will be Selected

The financial and human resources which are available to the city are limited. The City and the community will reevaluate its priorities and its programs and policies annually to ensure that the best possible investments in the future are being made. The evaluation of a program's cost-effectiveness will be based on a complete analysis of the associated costs and benefits, including environmental and social costs and benefits.

8. The City Considers Procurement Decisions which Minimize Negative Environmental and Social Impacts

The city will consider environmentally and socially responsible procurement that emphasizes long-term values.

9. Cross-sector Partnerships are Necessary to Achieve Sustainable Goals

Threats to the long-term sustainability of Kennewick are multi-sector in their causes and require multi-sector solutions. Partnerships among the City government, businesses, residents and all community stakeholders are necessary to achieve a sustainable community.

Leadership, Guidance, Implementation and Reporting

The city's Sustainability Team, comprised of staff members, assumes the initial leadership role in establishing the Sustainability Program as per City Council's priority goal.

To demonstrate community-wide commitment to sustainability and expansion into more diverse goal areas, staff recommends inclusion of broad representation from community stakeholders with expertise in priority areas. Other agencies (such as Waste Management, Benton PUD, Benton Clean Air Agency, Ben Franklin Transit, Tri-City Development Council, the Home Builders Association of Tri-Cities, etc.) will



be asked to support efforts that encourage residents and businesses to employ sustainable practices; and identify sustainable alternatives allowable in community development.

At the city staff level, the interdepartmental Sustainability Team will coordinate existing city activities so they are consistent with sustainability goals and facilitate the future implementation of innovative programs and policies to achieve the goals.

In an effort to educate and empower community members to help achieve our sustainability goals and provide useful information to City Council, city staff, and engaged stakeholders, the Sustainability Program will be published and updated along with the Comprehensive Plan (and posted at Go2Kennewick.com). Timely demographic, environmental sustainability, economic vitality, health, public safety, transportation, housing, education, quality of life and agriculture trends based on current data are available at the [Benton-Franklin Trends website](#).



Community Design and Planning

Land Use and Design

Kennewick guides the design of the city through the use of design standards, development regulations, zoning and urban growth areas. Efficient use of land and infrastructure hinges on a variety of factors, the primary one being density. The more dense an area, the fewer miles of infrastructure required to support the residents. This means less money spent on installation and maintenance of infrastructure. While increased density equates to lower costs, not everyone will want to live in high density areas.

Kennewick has established residential zones with varying ranges in density to provide variety in the housing market and in levels of density. The comprehensive plan guides placement of land use types in order to distribute higher density to areas that are served with utilities, transit and services. There are also lower density zones that are located near where many of our ecologically sensitive areas are which aid in minimizing impact to them.

Design standards and development regulations also assist in developing a more pedestrian friendly and multi-modal environment. Mid-block pedestrian connections bisect any residential block that exceeds 600 feet in length. These connections provide efficient walking and biking routes into and out of neighborhoods making walking trips to nearby shops, services and transit more appealing.

In addition to pedestrian friendly policies and regulations, the design of commercial buildings and residential neighborhoods create a visually stimulating environment that aims to assist in creating an active community.

Natural Environment

Kennewick has committed to the protection and preservation of our undeveloped, natural areas through the administration of critical areas ordinance and shoreline master program. These natural features include steep slopes, wetlands, critical habitat areas, shoreline areas and the Columbia River. These areas are vital to the ecological functioning of the region as well as assets that make the area attractive to residents and visitors alike.

The Columbia River highlights the region's natural setting to the north and the Horse Heaven Hills frame in the region to the south. Zintel Canyon bisects the city near US-395 and provides habitat for wildlife as well as recreational trails and a beautiful natural setting for hikers. In addition to Zintel Canyon, there are several trails used for mountain biking and hiking throughout southern Kennewick.

Parks and Green Space

Kennewick Parks, Facilities and Recreation is committed to developing and implementing sustainable methods and best practices across the system. The below highlights those methods and practices currently in place:

- Tree Boards Membership - protect urban forests, including protection for specific individual trees or tree species important to the community.



- Adopted a Tree Management Program to assess and maintain agency trees and remove brush on agency land, as feasible and appropriate, to reduce the threat of fire and release of carbon emissions from forest and range fires. Also includes hazardous tree removal for public safety.
- City of Kennewick designation as a Tree City USA community by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Annual Arbor Day events throughout the city.
- Membership in the Mid-Columbia Forestry Council which educates the community in choosing and planting the appropriate trees for the area, tree management and sustainability.
- Increase the number, type and accessibility of parks and other recreational opportunities in the community, including recreational programs and classes.
- Increase opportunities for recreational open space, as outlined in the Kennewick Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan 2013-18.
- Build environmentally sustainable parks by incorporating reused and recycled materials, such as demonstrated at the Playground of Dreams in Columbia Park.
- Employ water-efficient landscaping and water-efficient technology systems in traffic islands, greenways, and landscape beds.
- Manage parks, open space, recreational facilities and other natural areas owned and operated by the city to ensure the long-term health and viability of trees and other vegetation. Employ Tree Management Plan, Vegetation Management Plan, Urban Forestry Council, and USACE pesticide/herbicide management program.
- Planted native trees and drought tolerant vegetation throughout the community, including Hansen Park, Fire State #5, Highlands Grange Park demonstration program, and Columbia Park.

Infrastructure

The Transportation Systems Plan, Capital Improvement Plan and Six Year Transportation Improvement Plans are identified in the city's Comprehensive Plan and support a sustainable infrastructure. These plans are reviewed and approved by the Benton Franklin Council of Governments, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO). Kennewick contracts with the Franklin Conservation District to provide public education programs on water conservation and storm water in the local schools. Kennewick also permits through the Health Department to test and screen street waste materials, making it available for adaptive reuse.

The Public Works Department is a member of several national organizations to promote sustainable practices. The American Public Works Association (and Washington APWA), the American Water Works Association (and PNWS-AWWA), the Institute of Traffic Engineers, and the American Civil Engineers promote sustainability practices.

Water

Kennewick has recently built a new zone 4 three million gallon storage facility in the Southridge area, as well as zone 5 and zone 6 booster stations. Kennewick also has an innovative Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) project that is currently in the testing phase. At this facility water is pumped into a basalt aquifer in the winter when river flows are high, stored during spring months, and retrieved in the summer to offset increased system demands and decreased river flows. In summer 2016, 70 million



gallons were pumped to the aquifer and we were able to recover it during the drought and reduce the impact on pumping from the river. In 2016, 150 million gallons were pumped into the ASR and we are testing the amount of recovery in addition to the water chemistry as a part of our cycle testing. This is a cooperative project with the Department of Ecology. Ultimately, this facility has the potential to offset summertime demands by 150 million gallons or more and greatly help in drought events, essentially leaving more water in the river during low water events. Our water comp plan update is indicating the ASR may be needed for future development earlier than previously thought. This is an inexpensive alternative to building more storage and acts as an additional water source within our system in the area expected to support most of Kennewick's future growth.

The State Water Use Efficiency rule adopted a 3 year average for distribution system leakage at a 10% or less for a rolling three year period. Kennewick's Water Use Efficiency (WUE) efforts keep reducing water loss; our three year rolling average was 1.9% in 2014. Efforts include annual programs such as distribution system leak detection, reservoir leak testing, large meter testing, residential meter repair/replacement, and source meter calibration. Kennewick also provides to residents and businesses free low flow showerheads and toilet bags to reduce daily water usage in addition to supporting local conservation education programs such as [Franklin Conservation District's Water on Wheels program](#).

Kennewick has separate potable and irrigation water supply systems. As a part of the Kennewick Irrigation District (KID), the City of Kennewick relies on KID for irrigation purposes. The KID and CID also have efficiency programs like hard piping and canal membrane lining to reduce water loss.

Kennewick Parks, Facilities and Recreation is committed to developing and implementing sustainable methods and best practices across the system. The below highlights those methods and practices currently in place:

- Assess, maintain and repair existing irrigation systems to minimize water use, including parking lot landscaping, public rest rooms and parks, golf courses and other recreational facilities across the system.
- Reduce turf and grass in agency landscaped areas. Use native turf and grass, when applicable in traffic islands and greenways.
- Implement drought tolerant plants based upon water needs for agency parks and landscaping, such in greenways and at Fire State #5.
- Use compost, mulch in landscaping as a water conservation measure.
- Water Conservation/Management: Employ Water Conservation Best Practices Program throughout Parks & Recreation.
- Developed a demonstration garden that includes native and drought tolerant plants, irrigation and other water saving features (WSU Master Gardens Demonstration Garden at Highlands Grange Park and Fire Station #5).



Sewer

The Wastewater Treatment Plant for the city operates at about 60%. Low flow toilets and other efficient water fixtures can help to extend the life of our current facilities. Biosolids are stored from the activated sludge process to one of two large storage lagoons where they are allowed to settle and breakdown for a period of time to meet EPA's class B biosolids requirements. The stored biosolids periodically go through a dredging, filtered belt press, and dewatering process where the final Class B biosolids product are hauled to a Natural Select Farm for beneficial re-use.

Some improvements to efficiency are not yet cost efficient. In 2014 Kennewick completed its General Sewer Plan Update and Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan and are currently under design for Phase 1 of a multiple phase upgrade to the WWTP. Phase 1 priority is to replace the UV Disinfection System and add power redundancy. Future design work will be to modernize the Wastewater Treatment Plants aeration system in an effort to provide a significant reduction in energy demand. Kennewick is seeking funds through the Department of Ecology to complete these projects. Also, Kennewick will be seeking funds for the design and construction of a biosolids handling facility that will be entirely solar powered. The pending project at our Waste Water Treatment Plant will reduce energy consumption by an estimated 1 million kilowatt hours (approximately 700 metric tons greenhouse gas reduction). Kennewick will also be looking for grants or low interest loans to improve lagoon aeration system. Changing to a diffused air bubble system will provide more efficient aerobic mixing action which will expedite the breakdown of organic matter and aid in better management of ongoing odor issues as we experience spring and fall turnovers when temperatures change: A diffused air system circulates much better and holds down the smell. The system uses less energy but payback currently takes many years. A second clarifier and new rake system have been added to collect the garbage at the front end for better efficiency.

Storm

The city has been a proponent of ground water recharge for more than 30 years through the use of infiltration ponds and drywells. While we have long recommend the use of these types of facilities, we are currently developing low impact development storm water management guidelines tailored for our semi-arid climate. The Steptoe Hildebrand corridor has been designed with these concepts in mind. Kennewick is partnering with Eastern Washington communities regarding low impact development (LID) storm water management guidance and will incorporate it into our City standards.

The quality of our treatment program is due, to a large degree, to the intensity of our street sweeping program. Our dedicated sweeper operators are able to collect a great deal of the street debris before it can ever get into our storm system. With our solid working relationship with the Department Health, we have found opportunities for the adaptive reuse of the majority of this material, allowing us the opportunity to keep it out of the landfill.

Energy

Washington's first initiative, passed by voters in 1930, gave citizens of each county the right to form a public utility district (PUD). Benton PUD was organized by a local vote of the people in 1934 and in 1946



became an operating utility serving 3,754 customers. Thanks to abundant public power, Hanford had catapulted the county from a small rural area to an industrial and commercial community. Benton PUD now serves over 50,000 customers in Kennewick, Finley, Benton City, Prosser, and outlying areas. In its [2016-2017 Strategic Plan](#), the Benton PUD identifies the importance of technology in changing the electric utility business model. Within its “Customer Value” strategic goal, the PUD strives to “maintain a sustainable low carbon power supply portfolio.” Benton PUD supports the use of all renewable resources including hydropower. They advocate for the federal hydropower system on the Columbia and Snake rivers, and recognize the importance of conservation as the least expensive and most environmentally friendly resource.

One of Benton PUD’s community solar projects is located at its Kennewick facility, and to date, 130 customers are participating in the Renewable Energy System Cost Recovery program. This state-funded program allows utilities to voluntarily administer Renewable Energy Incentive Payments (REIPs) to its customers who are installing renewable energy systems including solar. Additional information on Community Solar can be found on the [Benton PUD website](#).

Energy Northwest develops, owns and operates a diverse mix of electricity generating resources, including hydro, solar and wind projects – and the Northwest’s only nuclear energy facility. These projects provide enough reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible energy to power more than a million homes each year, and that carbon-free electricity is provided at the cost of generation. As a Washington state, not-for-profit joint operating agency, Energy Northwest comprises 27 public power member utilities from across the state serving more than 1.5 million ratepayers. The agency continually explores new generation projects to meet its members’ needs. When built just south of Kennewick, the [Nine Canyon Wind Project](#) was one of the largest public-owned wind projects in the nation. Constructed in three phases between 2002 and 2007, the project includes 63 wind turbines with a maximum generating potential of 95.9 megawatts of electricity.

The City of Kennewick has been using energy efficient Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) in traffic lights since the late 1990’s and has replaced all of their street lights (6,125 street lights) in the last few years with induction lamps cutting our energy use in half.

Kennewick city buildings use timers on thermostats, motion sensor lights, and energy efficient lighting. The city also replaces old HVAC systems whenever possible. Kennewick recently retrofitted the lighting fixtures in 18 city buildings, as well as HVAC systems at city hall. The completed street lighting and building retrofit projects were funded by a combination of ARRA – Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant, City of Kennewick Capital Improvement Fund, and energy rebates. These projects reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 2,148 metric tons.

A pending project at Kennewick’s waste water treatment plant will reduce energy consumption by an estimated 1 million kilowatt hours (~700 metric tons greenhouse gas reduction).



Kennewick Parks, Facilities and Recreation is committed to developing and implementing sustainable methods and best practices across the system. The below highlights those methods and practices currently in place:

- Implemented the City of Kennewick Facilities Lighting Program to address no cost/low cost energy retrofit project (completed in 2012).
- Installation of 7-day programmable thermostats accessed by Wi-Fi, a Benton PUD program funded by BPA. Installation at City Hall in 2015 in partnership with Apollo.
- Motion sensors, photocells, and multi-level switches to control room lighting systems at the police department, Southridge Sports Complex, Fire Station #5, some offices in City Hall, and Fire Station #2.
- Energy efficient appliances and equipment such as vending machines, refrigerators, and washing machines.
- Upgraded 13 HVAC units at City Hall and one at the senior center with energy efficient units.
- Solar powered trash cans at Southridge capitalize on renewable energy.
- Installation of bike lanes at Columbia Park to encourage reduction of carbon emissions.
- Bike racks installed at city parks and facilities to encourage reduction of carbon emissions.

Solid Waste

Kennewick has had voluntary curbside recycling for several years, including used motor oil, with no extra cost to residents.

As a part of the Fats, Oils, and Greases (FOG) program to reduce the impacts on the sewer system, a household oil recycling station was set up at the Kennewick Waste Management Transfer Station.

Kennewick, Richland, West Richland and Prosser all are participants with Benton County in the County's Household Hazardous Waste Management program. They normally hold two countywide collection events on a Saturday (spring and fall) for residents to drop off their hazardous waste. In addition, some hazardous waste can be dropped off at the Waste Management collection facility on 27th Ave & Ely St. Finally, Waste Management does collect used motor oil at the curb during normal pick-up days so long as the used oil is placed in the proper containers (typically the container that the oil came in).

Kennewick Parks, Facilities and Recreation is committed to developing and implementing sustainable methods and best practices across the system. The below highlights those methods and practices currently in place:

- Paper recycling at facilities citywide.
- Reduction of printed materials for marketing, replaced by increased use of electronic materials, website, and social media promotion.
- Online registration for programs, classes, events, facility reservations.
- Reuse unwanted printed material for other purposes, such as for scratch paper or shred for use at the local animal shelter.



- Uploading bid documents using online resources instead of printing hard copies for contractors w/Purchasing Department.
- All electronics that no longer have a useful purpose are recycled through local electronic recyclers.
- Recycle or refill ink/toner cartridges citywide.
- Provide bins for collection of used batteries for proper disposal or recycling at Senior Center.
- Require demolition projects to incorporate de-construction/ construction and demolition waste recycling or recovery practices at Fire Station #5 site, old Kennewick School District building on Auburn St, and Columbia Park golf course building.
- Encourage recycling at special events, included in permit process.
- Host one or more events to highlight and promote sustainability programs, such as an e-waste drop off, plant a tree, bike to work day or buy local campaigns.
- Offer composting and sustainable landscaping classes to the community through WSU Master Gardener Program at Highlands Grange Park.
- Where possible salvage and reuse materials in remodeling projects.

Green Building

The Home Builders Association of Tri-Cities administers a “Built Green” program, and represents the combined effort of a Technical Committee composed of Home Builders Association members, community representatives, environmental organizations, and industry experts from the cities of Kennewick, Pasco, Richland, West Richland and Walla Walla, and Benton, Franklin, and Walla Walla Counties. The Tri-Cities HBA developed the program in 2007 and 2008 and outlines its benefits on their [website](#).

Kennewick Parks, Facilities and Recreation is committed to developing and implementing sustainable methods and best practices across the system, including these highlights currently in place:

- Use of alternate materials such as packed gravel or permeable concrete instead of conventional concrete or asphalt to enhance replenishment of ground water, including Duffy’s Pond path, at Hansen Park, and the Zintel Canyon pathway (bark chips).
- Use compost and mulch in agency landscaping as a water conservation measure across the system.
- Use water efficient plants and landscaping, such as at Fire Station #5 and Hansen Park (new construction Heritage Garden).
- Employ smart irrigation technologies, such as at the Southridge Sports and Events Complex (includes fertigation).

Community Design and Planning Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies

Urban Area

Goal 2: Encourage growth within the Urban Growth Area.

Goal 4: Add parkland, open space, recreational trails, and green belts as the City develops.



Policy 7: Analyze a variety of methods for using infill properties within the UGA, such as residential or commercial use, community parks or gardens.

Critical Areas and Shoreline

- Goal 2: Protect the unique environmental elements of the critical areas and shoreline.
- Goal 3: Regulate or mitigate activities in or adjacent to critical areas or the shoreline to avoid adverse environmental impacts.
- Policy 1: Protect critical areas and the shoreline using the Critical Areas Ordinance and the Shoreline Master Plan
- Policy 2: Use Best Available Science (BAS) to protect critical areas and shorelines and their environmental functions
- Policy 3: Preserve and protect anadromous fish, and threatened, endangered and candidate species as identified by federal and state agencies.
- Policy 5: Support no net loss of ecological function of the shoreline and require restoration over time.

Capital Facilities Plan

- Policy 6: Add parkland, open space, green belt, trails and recreational facilities as growth occurs.
- Policy 8: Practice potable water and wastewater conservation.

Utilities

- Goal 2: Support conservation measures for new construction & renovation.
- Policy 10: Encourage green building principles in construction and renovation using alternative energy, energy efficient utility fixtures and recycling.

Essential Public Facilities

- Policy 5: Support the solid waste program that promotes and maintains a high level of public health and safety, protects the natural and human environment, and encourages public involvement in the planning process.
- Policy 8: Social, environmental and economic impacts shall be identified and mitigated. Measures shall be taken to limit the adverse impacts of noise, odor, pollution, traffic, aesthetics, and health and safety concerns. An application shall be denied if it fails to mitigate the impacts.

Urban Design

- Goal 2: Improve connectivity with an efficient and multimodal circulation pattern.
- Goal 4: Protect the city’s natural assets - canyons, ridgelines, hilltops, waterfront and view corridors that give Kennewick its unique identity.
- Policy 3: Improve streetscape and corridor design for safe and pedestrian friendly environments.
- Policy 4: Develop a multimodal network of bike, pedestrian and vehicular system.
- Policy 6: Improve pedestrian and vehicular accessibility to Kennewick’s waterfront and recreational areas.
- Policy 9: Encourage green building design, energy efficient construction, xeriscape landscaping, utility conservation and other sustainable development measures.



Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan 2013-2018 Goals

As detailed in section 5 of the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan, many of the goals focus on sustainability, inclusiveness, preservation and acquisition of parkland and access to recreation programs and services, that support the City of Kennewick's Sustainability Program.

Goal 1: To provide additional city park and open space as development occurs in order to provide ample recreation facilities for all residents.

Objectives:

1. Developers should set aside land for neighborhood parks or open space in residential, office or commercial areas. When circumstances prevent dedication of park land in small developments, park fees in lieu of dedicated land should reflect the real cost of providing park service for that area.
2. Long range planning and development should concentrate efforts to provide neighborhood/community park land at a rate of 3 acres per 1,000 population.

Goal 2: To encourage greenbelts throughout the city.

Objectives:

1. Retain open space natural areas for the preservation of flora and fauna, as much as practical, in existing and future parks.
2. The city shall develop a system of scenic bicycle ways, walkways and trails in the community, tying urban centers, residential areas and recreation areas together to provide a safe alternate means of travel for Kennewick residents.
3. The city will encourage development of Columbia Park, the Columbia River Levee, adjacent lagoons, wetlands and other riverfront property for water and natural resource recreation.

Goal 3: To provide a diverse range of public recreation for all citizens of the City of Kennewick.

Objectives:

1. Continue to work closely with the school district and special interest user groups to encourage joint use recreation facilities and programs.
2. Provide programs that will include physically handicapped and mentally disabled citizens.
3. Obtain public input into the types of recreation programs desired or demanded.
4. Provide programs that will be of reasonable cost to all involved.
5. Provide programs for all age groups - youths, teenage, senior, both men and women.
6. Provide media coverage that will inform the public of recreation programs.
7. Provide programs that will create a sense of community togetherness and positive attitudes toward the community spirit.
8. Encourage programs that include the cultural arts. (Drama, art programs, concerts, etc.)
9. Promote recreational programs at specific west-side school sites.
10. Create programs that will bring recreational activities to hard-to-reach children and children at risk (because of isolated neighborhood location, family income, or vacancy of parks in close proximity).



11. Provide programs of the highest demand while keeping up with the latest recreational trends.
12. Create programs that encourage and enhance education, environment quality and energy conservation.
13. Promote the need for the establishment of a year round recreation/civic area for a variety of uses.
14. All planning and design projects (including remodels and refurbishment), shall as much as possible, be designed to accommodate the needs of all people including handicapped, the elderly and the economically disadvantaged.

Goal 4: To ensure adequate funding, maintenance, construction, open space are available to meet current and future demands for parks, and recreation facilities and programs.

Objectives:

1. The Parks and Recreation Commission shall, every two years, re-evaluate its philosophy on park development, renovation and land acquisition and make a determination on current need, incorporating citizen's input and demand.
2. The Parks and Recreation Commission and staff shall encourage citizen input into all stages of future park development and park planning.
3. The city will maximize the use of State, Federal and all outside funding for the development and acquisition of facilities.
4. To use alternative funding mechanisms such as sponsorships, advertising and other means to support parks and recreation programs and facilities.
5. The Parks and Recreation Commission shall promote public input to the six-year capital improvement plan every two years.
6. Design fee programs to at least break even whenever possible, with new programs having all costs and revenues identified and approved before implementation.

Other Plans and National Directives

Additional plans and directives link to the Kennewick Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan as outlined in section 7 of the plan.

National trends in the perception of the environment, socioeconomics, technology and in urban development will affect the need for and use of parks and recreation facilities. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has developed a list of the trends and advocacy efforts which will cause the greatest impact on planning for parks and recreation. These trends in various areas of American society will be reflected in the future needs and desires of citizens for parks and recreation opportunities. The NRPA identified the following: Parks and recreation resources protect our environment, preserve wildlife habitat, strengthen local economies, attract new businesses, contribute to the local tax base, increase property values, and improve the physical and mental health of citizens of all ages. Recognizing the many significant roles of parks and recreation within communities, NRPA has developed a set of guiding policy principles which direct our advocacy efforts:



- **Public Parks** – Parks and recreation agencies deliver essential public services and provide recreation opportunities for every community in America. NRPA advocates for federal investments that provide funding for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of parks and public lands as well as recreational infrastructure and resources. NRPA recognizes the unique challenges faced by urban areas and the value these parks and recreation facilities provide to our nation’s cities and urban communities.
- **Health and Wellness for ALL People of ALL Abilities** – NRPA believes that opportunities for active recreation are critical to an individual’s and a community’s health and wellness. We advocate for legislation that supports the growing role of public parks and recreation in improving individual and community health through increased physical activity, the prevention of chronic disease, the rehabilitation of wounded service members, and the opportunities for the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in all activities.
- **Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability** – Parks and outdoor recreation lands are the essential green infrastructure of our communities and nation. Parks and public recreation lands are carbon-reducing landscapes that help clean our air and water, recharge aquifers, and reduce storm water runoff. Through energy, climate change, and other legislative measures, we advocate for dedicated resources that will sustain, protect, restore, and expand these environmental assets.
- **Children and Nature** – NRPA regards improving children’s access to nature as a national policy priority. NRPA believes that public parks and recreation are vital to the national effort to provide safe, healthy ways to explore nature and enhance environmental education. City of Kennewick Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan
- **Transportation and Livable Communities** – As the nation’s Surface Transportation Program comes up for reauthorization, NRPA places a high priority on national policies that encourage walking, biking, and the development of alternative transportation networks that will create more livable and healthy communities.



Transportation and Mobility

Transportation Infrastructure

Kennewick is very proud of its transportation infrastructure and leads the state in roundabouts with 22 installed, one under construction, 4 in design, and another 3 in the planning stage. Roundabouts have been shown to improve mobility and fuel efficiency, while increasing safety. Our current standards have water efficient landscaping, hardscape and art pieces in the center of the roundabouts further reducing maintenance and operation costs from a conventional traffic signal.

Kennewick's street design standards encourage alternative transportation usages. All new arterial streets and street reconstruction projects typically include plans for bicycle lanes and sidewalks.

The city invested in low energy LED traffic lights in 1999 and 2000 to reduce energy costs and save on overtime related to red light bulb failures. Kennewick through a Federal energy grant and private development has installed 6,125 streetlights with energy efficient induction lighting that reduced electricity costs by 50%. These lights have an expected life of over 100,000 hours compared to high pressure sodium (HPS) bulbs that are generally replaced every 25,000 hours or 6 years, the new bulbs last approximately 24 years. Kennewick's installation of Flashing Yellow Arrows as an FHWA model project at many of its traffic lights has helped the region improve mobility and decrease fuel consumption.

Kennewick is actively pursuing funding for corridor studies to identify and implement access management improvements and congestion reduction. Completion of the Steptoe/ Hildebrand corridor will redistribute traffic patterns thereby reducing travel times and miles traveled.

The [City of Kennewick Transportation Systems Plan](#) identifies existing infrastructure and future improvements that address streets, pedestrian, bicycle, transit coordination, freight mobility, and potential air and water transport. The Council of Governments was a part of the advisory group created for the plan development and was actively involved with reviews.

Street design standards encourage alternative transportation usages (pedestrian, bicycle, etc.), provide appropriate space for landscaping and promote low impact development (LID) practices. Kennewick is actively involved in the development of and Eastern Washington LID guidance document.

Kennewick coordinates with Ben Franklin Transit on connections and stops. Kennewick requires sidewalks on all new development and has an ongoing program to correct deficiencies with their annual ADA ramp program to enhance access. Kennewick works in cooperation with Ben Franklin Transit on items such as transit pre-emption and location of transit stops, and facilities for transit transfer stations.

Kennewick works with our Metropolitan Planning Organization in the development and maintenance of the regional pedestrian/bicycle plan. Where possible on resurfacing projects, modifications to the striping are made to improve pedestrian/bicyclist safety and encourage bicycling and walking as alternative modes of transportation.



Additional transportation and mobility sustainability practices and features include:

- Public Works projects consistently incorporate provisions for multi-modal transportation uses.
- The city grinds roadways prior to overlay that result in recycled asphalt product (RAP) for future use. The city placed 4,600 tons of asphalt product that utilized RAP on the recently completed Steptoe Phase 3A project.
- Kennewick is investigating the use of warm mix asphalt that reduces the energy input to produce for future projects.
- The city has four hybrid vehicles.
- Many city employees bike or walk to work, which has reduced the city's health insurance costs.
- Tesla supercharging stations are located just off Hwy 395 on 10th Ave.

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Transportation Alliance (EVITA)

The objective of the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Transportation Alliance (EVITA) is to advocate for sustainable electric transportation infrastructure and take action to promote public/private partnerships for the development of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations within the Tri Cities and surrounding area.

This effort is endorsed by the City of Kennewick and sponsored by the Mid-Columbia Energy Initiative (MCEI), an industry collaboration effort coordinated through the Tri-City Development Council (TRIDEC). Local utilities: Benton PUD, Franklin PUD, Benton REA, and Richland Energy Services, in concert with Energy Northwest are core members of EVITA.

Promoting the buildout of EV transportation infrastructure within our area is supported by the following drivers:

- **Sustainability and Carbon Reduction:** Sustainability initiatives are a priority, with federal and state policy makers focusing on carbon reduction throughout all sectors of our nation's economy. Within Washington State, the transportation sector emits more carbon than any other sector by a wide-margin, however the State's electric utility sector is one of the cleanest in the country, largely due to our vast "zero-carbon" hydroelectric resources. Powering our vehicles with locally-produced clean, renewable energy will help drive down Washington's transportation carbon footprint.
- **Tourism:** The Tri-Cities area has been identified as an underserved electric vehicle corridor by the Washington State Department of Transportation due to the lack of high speed DC Fast Charging stations in our area. Promoting and installing EV charging infrastructure enables EV owners to visit our local wineries and businesses which contribute to community economic development.
- **Branding:** Through TRIDEC and MCEI, the Tri-Cities area has identified itself as a leader in energy production, research and development, as well as other energy-related matters. This effort will further brand our communities as energy leaders.



- **Lower Utility Rates:** Electric vehicle charging infrastructure will increase electrical load and help offset the impacts of conservation. Increased customer loads enable the utility to spread its fixed costs over a larger base resulting in lower electric rates that benefit all utility customers.

Additional information on EVITA can be found at www.BentonPUD.org/EVITA

Parks, Facilities and Recreation Transportation and Mobility Initiatives

Kennewick Parks, Facilities and Recreation sustainable transportation and mobility methods and best practices currently in place:

- Online registration, building rental, and special event permitting services reduce the need to travel to city offices.
- Dial-A-Ride ride sharing enables seniors to congregate at the Senior Center for meals and other programs.
- Healthy living community outreach programs include walking, exercising, trails, paths, programs, classes, and lifelong learning.
- Land Use and Community Design components of the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan 2013-2018.
- Community-wide pedestrian and bicycle plan and capital investment program that maximizes the potential for residents to walk or bicycle within and between neighborhoods (Benton Franklin Council of Governments).
- Distribute maps showing the community bicycle and walking trail systems to encourage reduction of vehicle miles traveled.

City Purchasing and Fleet Division

- Hazardous waste generated by the city's Purchasing and Fleet Division is near zero.
- All oil is reused through waste oil heater to heat shop (no additional fuel oil purchased, includes some oil from water/wastewater plants).
- Anti-freeze is recycled in vehicle with portable recycler.
- Refrigerant is recycled in vehicle with portable recycler or captured for reuse.
- Patrol fleet and most late model small trucks are flex fuel (ethanol) capable.
- All cardboard and packing materials from incoming freight in warehouse is recycled or reused.

Transportation and Mobility Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies

The Transportation Systems Plan, Capital Improvement Plan and Six Year Transportation Improvement Plans are identified in the city's Comprehensive Plan and support a sustainable infrastructure. These plans are reviewed and approved by the Benton Franklin Council of Governments, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO).

- Goal 1: Develop a transportation system to serve the planned land use of the urban growth area and is coordinated with other jurisdictions and providers.
- Goal 2: Develop air, water, rail, pedestrian and bicycle systems to coordinate with the roadway system.



- Policy 4: Design multi-modal transportation systems based on regional priorities.
- Policy 7: Link pedestrian and bicycle paths to open space corridors, park and recreation facilities and to systems of adjacent jurisdictions.
- Policy 10: Encourage traffic reduction plans such as “park and ride” facilities, use of public transit, ride-sharing and staggered work hours for employees.



Housing

Shelter is a basic necessity of all people. Helping to provide safe and affordable housing is one of the primary responsibilities of government. A variety of housing types are needed to address the diverse lifestyles and living arrangements of our community. Some of the different housing types that are available within the city are traditional single-family homes, manufactured homes, multi-family housing, townhomes, condominiums and housing for the disabled and other special needs populations and attached and detached accessory dwelling units. The City of Kennewick helps meet these needs by providing flexible development regulations and allowances for a wide variety of housing types and densities.

One way that the city provides for affordable housing is through accessory dwelling units. Attached and detached accessory dwelling units help fill a void in the affordable housing market. They also make more efficient use of existing utilities and services which protects and preserves natural resources and tax payer money.

The city also partners with other jurisdictions, and agencies within the community, to provide affordable and environmentally friendly housing options. The city partners with the [Kennewick Housing Authority](#) through the guidance of the [Tri-Cities Consolidated Plan](#). The Consolidated Plan contains “*a common set of goals and directions to meet affordable housing...*” (2015-2019 Tri-Cities Consortium Consolidated Plan, p1)

The Home Builders Association of Tri-Cities administers the [Built Green](#)[®] program whose goal is to “*create safer, healthier and more efficient homes, reduce negative impacts of construction and development, and improve and protect the valuable community and natural resources*” within Kennewick and the other local jurisdictions.

Housing Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies

Housing

- Goal 1: Support and develop a variety of housing types and densities to meet the diverse needs of the population.
- Policy 1: Promote affordable infill residential construction through flexibility in development techniques.
- Policy 2: Recognize manufactured homes as an important component of the single-family housing market and regulate them in the same way as site-built homes.
- Policy 3: Support special needs housing within a variety of residential environments.
- Policy 4: Allow residential developments such as condominiums, zero lot lines, accessory apartments and other innovative housing techniques.
- Policy 7: Promote affordable housing for all economic segments of the community.



Public Safety and Services

A paramount role of government is the provision of public safety. To lead healthy, productive and happy lives, residents need to live and work in safe surroundings. This category measures a host of outcome measures, such as arrest and crime rates, issues specific to youth and fire prevention activities.

In true support and demonstration of the city's core value of stewardship, the Kennewick Police and Fire Department have a collaborative partnership in which administrative facilities are shared. This has enabled consolidation of resources and costs, while at the same time, fostering an environment of inclusiveness and communication between both agencies.

Police Services

Additionally, the Kennewick Police Department maintains strong partnerships with other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies as well as having a close partnership with the Kennewick School District. Our neighborhoods, business districts, and citizens throughout the area have all contributed to creating a safe community.

While the City of Kennewick grew in population by 2% to 77,700 residents in 2014, its overall crime was down by 4%. More importantly, violent crime fell by 23% during the year. Property crime was also down by 2% in 2014. Crime statistics and program status updates are reported in the Kennewick Police Annual Report, release every spring and available at Go2Kennewick.com.

In 2014, a Criminal Justice Sales Tax measure was passed by county voters, supporting the hiring of 12 additional police officers to increase the KPD Commission staff to 105. In a strategic approach to maintaining community safety, the ballot measure also funds crime prevention programs specifically targeted to criminal gang prevention and intervention (including funding for the Metro Drug Task Force and Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts), and creating a Multi-Departmental Mental Health Court and Diversion program. This is an opportunity to help individuals that are acting out and have mental health issues by getting them assistance rather than being prosecuted through the traditional criminal justice system.

In addition to its responsibility to maintain order and protect residents and visitors, the Kennewick Police Department strives to build community partnerships to improve the quality of life in our residential and business neighborhoods. One such program is the Kennewick Police Community Care Fund, which officers can use to pay for items to help people in immediate need. Launched in 2015, the fund made up of donations from individuals and businesses, has been used to provide coats to cold children or a traveller stranded by a breakdown.

The Administrative Services Division of the KPD is comprised of several units which include Support Services (Records), Evidence, Youth Services (DARE), Crime Prevention, Crime Stoppers, Crime Resistant Community Living (CRCL), Animal Control Authority (ACA), Citizens Helping in Police Services (CHIPS), Training/Quartermaster and Professional Standards/Internal Affairs.



Patrol is the largest division within the Kennewick Police Department, responsible for providing the majority of services to the citizens of Kennewick. Patrol provides services twenty four hours a day, seven days a week three hundred sixty five days a year. The division has four, twelve officer squads including two supervisors. In addition, each squad has officers who receive special training related to Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) operations, media relations and gang intelligence. There is also a Traffic Unit that provides education and enforcement services related to traffic safety, K-9 unit specializing in fugitive apprehension and narcotic detection, and reserve unit that supplements our patrol force with special events and calls for service.

Nine specialized investigative teams comprise the Kennewick Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division. The individual teams are: Criminal Apprehension Team (CAT), Property Crimes, Persons Crimes, Metro Drug Task Force, FBI Violent Gang Task Force, US Marshals' Pacific Northwest Violent Offender Task Force, Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), Special Investigations Unit and Crime Analysis.

Fire Safety

The Kennewick Fire Department is a full-service department that provides fire suppression, advanced life support ambulance service, technical rescue, hazardous materials response, fire prevention inspections/permits, public fire education programs, emergency preparedness planning, fire cause and origin investigation, incident management, and other services based on community needs.

The fire department currently maintains and responds from four fire stations which house three engine companies (two companies are cross staffed with ambulances), one truck company, two dedicated advanced life support ambulances, and one Battalion Chief on a daily basis. Additionally, they cross-staff three wildland engines. A fifth fire station opened in 2016, determined necessary not only to meet the demands of a specific area (e.g. population, incidents, traffic), but also on the needs and assets of the surrounding community. The proximity of the Department's existing fire stations (Station 2 at N. Morain Street, Station 3 near the Benton County Justice Center, and Station 4 at 27th Avenue and Ely Street) provide excellent emergency services to their respective response areas, but require the new station at 10th Avenue and Kellogg Street to meet response time goals.

The new Fire Station #5 is built to require minimal maintenance and integrate with the surrounding neighborhood. To reduce both water consumption and maintenance of the grounds, xeriscaping around the building and native vegetation and rock are being incorporated. A heritage garden and fire wise garden are being installed for demonstration purposes.

The Kennewick Fire Department is part of the Tri-County Mutual Aid Agreement, providing automatic and mutual aid to surrounding cities and fire districts. The automatic and mutual aid agreements, as well as the county dispatch system, are accomplishments that provide a seamless response to even the most challenging emergencies.

All businesses are inspected annually by the Kennewick Fire Department to ensure properties are safely



maintained in accordance with state and local codes. The goal of proactive fire inspections is to reduce the fire and hazardous material emergencies that occur in our community, and to:

1. Protect our business community from financial loss;
2. Ensure the safety of employees and the citizens who enter businesses; and
3. Protect firefighters when they are called upon to mitigate emergencies at local businesses.

Additionally, the fire department administers a senior smoke detector program, whereby smoke detector batteries are changed for seniors and disabled citizens every fall.

Public Works

Sustainable water, sewer, storm, energy and solid waste practices, goals and policies are outlined in the [Community Design and Planning Infrastructure](#) section.



Health and Wellness

An important aspect of social sustainability is access to health and wellness services.

Benton-Franklin Health District

Benton-Franklin Health District (BFHD) provides a wide variety of public health services that protect and promote the health of all residents of Benton-Franklin Counties, as well as the thousands of workers and visitors who enter the Counties each day. In addition to providing many services directly, Benton-Franklin Health District works collaboratively with many other entities to address health needs of people living, working and visiting in Benton-Franklin Counties. Details can be found on the agency's [website](#).

The Health District's mission is "to provide all people in our community the opportunity to live full productive lives by

1. promoting healthy lifestyles;
2. preventing disease and injury; and
3. protecting individuals and their environment through cooperative participation among community and government."

Washington State law establishes each local board of health shall have supervision over all matters pertaining to the preservation of the life and health of the people within its jurisdiction. The Board of Health meets monthly and encourages public attendance. Information is posted at <http://www.bfhd.wa.gov>.

BFHD coordinates special health education/public health improvement projects, targeting high-risk groups and priority public health problems, including:

- Access to Baby and Child Dentistry (ABCD) Program
- Maternity Support Services
- ENLACE (Engaging Latino Communities for Education), which implemented the Girls Circle and the Boys Council programs at various location in Franklin County, and the Nurse Family Partnership Program which is being delivered to 50 families in Benton County.
- Safe Babies, Safe Moms is a case management program that serves women who are pregnant and/or parenting children under 3 years old.
- Diabetes Self-Management Program in English and Spanish.

A healthy lifestyle relies on nutritious, safe food every day of your life. The Benton-Franklin Health District nutrition and food safety programs work to ensure the foods served at homes, schools, care centers, and restaurants in our community promote your best health. Program details can be found on the agency's [website](#).



The Health District is actively working toward full protection for all adults and children in Benton and Franklin Counties by offering education and immunization services. Low cost immunizations for those unable to afford immunizations at private physicians are available. No one is denied mandatory childhood vaccinations due to the inability to pay. The Health District uses the Washington Immunization Information System to access immunization records on children and adults immunized at their sites.

From clean water and clean air to environmental factors that impact personal health, the Benton-Franklin Health District offers information and services intended to prevent illness, injuries and promote a healthy lifestyle. Safe Kids Benton-Franklin, a coalition led by BFHD, is intended to reduce unintentional injuries in children. They promote safe physical activity through education (such as bike rodeos), and policy development (such as Safe Routes to Schools). Through education, site evaluation, permitting and inspection of the use, construction and maintenance of on-site sewage disposal systems, they insure protection of human health, and the environment. BFHD is responsible for the review, permitting, and inspection of all solid waste disposal sites in Benton and Franklin Counties. The health department also investigates illegal dump sites and problem waste situations. They also review and comment on proposed subdivisions, commercial projects, and rule development; and provide review and inspection of water systems, approval of small systems and most importantly provide information to the public on the importance of water quality and proper monitoring.

Public Health Assessment

Public Health Assessment is a core function of the [ten essential services of public health](#) and a foundational public health service as reflected in the [National Public Health Accreditation Standards and Measures](#).

With the goal to improve the quality of public health services provided, Benton-Franklin Health District participates in an ongoing process to assess community wide health priorities and makes plans to implement actions to address them in collaboration with a multitude of community partners. Partners conducting this work have chosen the [Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships \(MAPP\) Model from the National Association of City and County Health Officials \(NACCHO\)](#) because it is a best practice and recognized by the [National Public Health Accreditation Board \(PHAB\)](#).

The most recent cycle occurred in 2016. Illustrations of this work can be found on the BFHD [website](#).

Benton-Franklin Community Health Alliance

The [Benton Franklin Community Health Alliance](#) (BFCHA) began in 1993 as a task force of community leaders from Benton and Franklin Counties who determined that the community needed a cancer



treatment facility, but that funding needs were too large for any one hospital to absorb alone. The project brought the three hospitals—Kadlec Regional Medical Center, Lourdes Health Network, and Kennewick General Hospital (now Trios Health)—together with a coalition of community leaders to meet a serious community need. The hospitals banded together to finance and operate the Tri-Cities Cancer Center, and furthered their collaboration by supporting other healthcare initiatives.

The first Health Needs Assessment, conducted in 1995, identified the need for six working groups: child immunization, children’s dental needs, teen pregnancy, domestic violence, access for the uninsured, and tobacco use. The immunization program was so successful that the child immunization rate went from 43% to over 80% for 2 year olds. By 1997, it was clear that the task force needed an administrator to coordinate and facilitate all activities of the committees, monitor timelines and project milestones, and report to the Executive Committee.

In 2002, BFCHA incorporated the non-profit Tri-Cities Healthcare Task Force and was recognized by the IRS as a 501(3)(c) and a non-profit by the State of Washington. Around this same time, Stanford organizational scientists recognized the task force’s governance structure and business model as “Collective Impact”, to represent the work of the task force in tackling health issues, such as childhood immunizations and dental disease, while also addressing socially complex issues like access to health care, domestic violence, and reducing inappropriate emergency department use.

The BFCHA champions a vision of vibrant communities in which all individuals, regardless of their circumstances experience good health. Its mission is:

To bring the community together to work collaboratively and cooperatively to address community-wide health issues, and provide affordable and accessible healthcare for all residents of the Mid-Columbia region.

The 2013 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) identified two strategic issues that are impacting population health: obesity and access to healthcare. The CHIP was developed to address these issues and relies on many partners to make progress in these areas. The 2016 CHNA added mental/behavioral health as a third strategic issue for the community. The recommendations to move upstream to address the social determinants as causal factors for these strategic issues will be written into the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) update. The BFCHA posts its annual report, the Community Health Needs Assessment ([2016 CHNA](#)) and Community Health Improvement Plan on its [website](#).

Mental Health

The Benton Franklin Crisis Response Unit provides acute and emergent mental health intervention services. Services include crisis intervention, information and referral, grief counseling, education, emergency assistance with psychiatric medications, and consultation.



The [Benton County Mental Health Court](#) is a program designed to address the unique needs of individuals with mental illness which impacts their criminal behavior. The court uses a strengths-based perspective to monitor, hold accountable, and provide support to participants as they engage in community-based mental health services essential to living lives free of the criminal justice system.

Emergency Preparedness

Being prepared for a public health emergency means understanding what could happen in the community and having staff trained, equipped, and ready to respond. Disease outbreaks, natural disasters, and bioterrorism are all considered in planning and training.

The Benton Franklin Health District Emergency Preparedness Committee meets monthly. Trainings, exercises, and drills are conducted on a regular basis. BFHD Emergency Plans are developed, reviewed, and updated by the committee. The committee serves as the core of the agency's emergency response team.

Region 8 Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response works with public health partners in Benton, Franklin, Klickitat, Walla Walla, and Yakima Counties to prepare them to respond to public health emergencies.

Good Health is Good Business

The Good Health is Business Program began in 2012 as a comprehensive health and wellness program coordinated by the [Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce](#) with other community partners to help educate the community and create individual and business awareness and participation. In 2016, the Good Health is Good Business program consisted of two eight week challenge periods, one in the spring and one in the fall.

The challenges encourage a workplace opportunity to improve health while engaging in a fun, friendly competition. The challenges provide the spirit of team work, friendly competition, prizes and incentives to keep participants motivated. The Good Health is Good Business program is an inspirational way for employees to get healthy and make positive choices to change their lives and improve the company's bottom line.

Parks and Green Space

Kennewick Parks, Facilities and Recreation continually seeks to increase the number, type and accessibility of parks and other recreational opportunities in the community, including promoting associated public health benefits through programs and classes.

Economic Vitality

The Economic Development Strategic Plan for the City of Kennewick identifies a vision, goals, strategies and actions for six focus areas critical to economic development including Business Climate; Education &



Workforce Development; Quality of Life; Sites & Infrastructure; Business Recruitment, Expansion & Retention; and Tourism. The plan stemmed from the partnerships and actions identified in the Angelou Study of 2006, was enhanced in 2014 to reflect outcomes of the New Economy Target Industry Analysis conducted by Tadzo, and will be updated in the 2017-18 Biennial Marketing Plan.

City Council and staff continually seek innovative ways to diversify, grow and strengthen the regional economy, and work in conjunction with partners such as the Tri-City Development Council, Visit Tri-Cities, Regional Chamber of Commerce and others to proactively address economic strengths and weaknesses, and develop new strategies. The Planning and Economic Development Committee, comprised of Council members and staff, meets quarterly to link the city's economic development vision and goals to specific activities and outcomes, and assess progress as it relates to its vision statement:

Kennewick is an economic leader in Washington and the Pacific Northwest, building on its excellent quality of life, creating a supportive climate for entrepreneurs and small businesses, attracting high technology target industries, and attracting a young professional workforce to support these new industries.

Kennewick's Economic Development Marketing Plan Goals:

- Goal 1: Advance the business climate by addressing Tri-Cities Competitiveness Report Card weaknesses (Tadzo 2014) and competitor intelligence; strengthening support systems for entrepreneurs and small businesses; improving incentives that encourage business location and citywide growth; and engaging in statewide public policy efforts.
- Goal 2: Encourage and support education and workforce development that prepares workers for jobs in target industries and fosters entrepreneurship. Seek opportunities to assist in efforts that result in the creation of a "sense of place." Support activities that attract young professionals and other workers to fill jobs in target industries.
- Goal 3: Expand the area's infrastructure and connectivity so that it meets the needs of target industries Kennewick wants to attract.
- Goal 5: Enhance competitiveness by focusing efforts on deliberate recruitment of target businesses and industries that will provide livable wages and diversification from Hanford area jobs; identify businesses looking to expand and encourage expansion; and increase outreach to local business in efforts to retain their presence in the region.
- Goal 5: Promote regional tourism and the Southridge Sports and Event Complex through increased regional and national marketing efforts, and in collaboration with other tourism entities.

Economic Development Comprehensive Plan Goals

Commercial Land Use

- Goal 1: Revitalize declining commercial areas.
- Goal 2: Sustain and enhance viable commercial areas.
- Goal 3: Create a balanced system of commercial facilities reflecting neighborhood, community, and regional needs.



- Policy 1: Provide technical and financial support to commercial areas using CDBG funds.
- Policy 2: Provide commercial areas sized and scaled appropriately for the neighborhood or community.
- Policy 3: Enhance compatibility with adjacent residential neighborhoods with landscaping, screening, and superior building design.
- Policy 6: Encourage joint-use internal and external access.

Industrial Land Use

- Goal 1: Encourage the development of a diverse industrial base.
- Goal 2: Limit adverse effects associated with industrial uses.
- Goal 3: Maintain an adequate amount of industrial land within the city limits and the urban growth boundary.
- Policy 1: The Capital Improvement Program will designate areas for improvement of utilities and transportation systems within industrial areas.
- Policy 2: Encourage industrial locations near appropriate transportation, utilities, and other public facilities.
- Policy 3: Regulate environmental consequences of industrial uses with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and the Kennewick Municipal Code.
- Policy 4: Minimize adverse effects of industrial uses adjacent to less intensive zones with buffers of natural or man-made features.
- Policy 6: Designate at least 15% of Kennewick’s entire land base (city limits and Urban Growth Area) as industrial land by 2029.

Economic Development

- Goal 2: Insure that the educational institutions and workforce development systems in Kennewick prepare workers for jobs in target industries.
- Goal 3: Improve the community’s ability to attract young professionals and workers who can fill jobs in target industries.
- Goal 4: Maintain the areas infrastructure so that it meets the needs of existing employers and targeted industries.
- Policy 3: Support Downtown Kennewick redevelopment efforts.
- Policy 4: Encourage redevelopment in appropriate areas on the Columbia River.
- Policy 8: Market the Vista Field area as an innovative mixed-use development center.
- Policy 11: Focus recruitment efforts on target industries that raise the overall wage levels in Kennewick.



Arts, Culture and Lifelong Learning

City Recreation Programs

For the enjoyment of all ages, the Kennewick Parks and Recreation Department offers various arts and crafts classes; mind-stimulating games for fellowship and fun; dance, fitness and wellness classes for all levels and abilities; and trips and tours to northwest destinations. A full slate of offerings change seasonally, and information is available online. Recreation Financial Assistance is provided by a grant through the Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Block Grant program, and allows eligible youth to participate in recreational programs and activities offered through Kennewick Recreation and Community Services (RCS).

The Arts

Within the last 5 years, the City of Kennewick Arts Commission, Public Works Department and Parks and Recreation Department embarked on an initiative to decrease landscaping that requires costly maintenance and watering. Instead of trees, plants and flowers, the newly constructed roundabouts in the City of Kennewick are planted with art. Art has been procured through a selection process with the Kennewick Arts commission and contractual agreement with the Public Works Department and the successful artist. The funds that would have been spent on unsustainable materials is now spent on art, requiring no water and little to no maintenance.

The Arts Commission has also developed a program to encourage developers and builders to consider the sustainability of art in their projects, rather than costly landscaping and other amenities that are not prudent sustainability practices. Fountains are very popular at the entrance to commercial and residential developments but in an arid desert climate, the efficiency and practicality of fountains are questionable. Art is presented as an effective alternative.

Community Education

The Kennewick Community Education program, offered by the Kennewick School District, is committed to offering lifelong learning opportunities for all Mid-Columbia area residents. Kennewick Community Education's low cost, evening and weekend classes provide a way to upgrade skills for today's competitive employment climate, meet new people, learn a new hobby, or improve health and wellness. Kennewick Community Education classes are held at Kennewick School District buildings, with the exception of a few off-campus special class offerings. Community Education is the perfect opportunity to try something new or rekindle a desire for learning. Class offerings include language, crafts, arts, health, gardening, travel, music, business, finance, technology, and more. More than 100 local classes and more than 300 online classes are offered to make learning more accessible than ever before. Current information can be found on the [Kennewick Community Education website](#).

Leadership Tri-Cities

[Leadership Tri-Cities](#) assembles, develops and educates a diverse cadre of skilled leaders who will be catalysts for positive change in our community. This non-profit educational program founded in 1994 provides a forum to examine and dialog about issues facing our region, and has graduated 478 alumni as



of 2016. Each year's class does a community project, and to date, at least 9,500 service hours and \$115,000 has been raised for the 21 annual projects that have benefited 21 local non-profit charities. The program provides an immersive learning experience, including 45 hours of leadership development and 175 hours of facilitated learning each year, to develop knowledgeable leaders to serve our community. The course includes ten sessions focusing on various sectors and industries shaping of our region. Leadership Tri-Cities is designed to:

- Expose participants to processes, programs, opportunities, and challenges that exist within our community;
- Stimulate participants' interest in community activities and encourage participation in local affairs;
- Introduce emerging leaders to one another and to the current leadership in the community;
- And to create a spirit of cooperation that will foster the resolution of community challenges.

Kennewick Senior Center

The Kennewick Senior Center is a multi-purpose facility operated by the City of Kennewick Parks and Recreation Department located near City Hall. The center offers a variety of classes, activities and services for those who are 50 and better. Seniors are invited to get in shape and take a fitness class, learn from community guest speakers, sharpen skills by playing a variety of fun games, take trips and explore new destinations, share their enthusiasm during a craft class, and volunteering.

Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan 2013-2018 Goals

As detailed in section 5 of the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan, many of the goals focus on sustainability, inclusiveness, preservation and acquisition of parkland and access to recreation programs and services, that support the City of Kennewick's Sustainability Program.

Goal 3: To provide a diverse range of public recreation for all citizens of the City of Kennewick.

Objectives:

1. Continue to work closely with the school district and special interest user groups to encourage joint use recreation facilities and programs.
2. Provide programs that will include physically handicapped and mentally disabled citizens.
3. Obtain public input into the types of recreation programs desired or demanded.
4. Provide programs that will be of reasonable cost to all involved.
5. Provide programs for all age groups - youths, teenage, senior, both men and women.
6. Provide media coverage that will inform the public of recreation programs.
7. Provide programs that will create a sense of community togetherness and positive attitudes toward the community spirit.
8. Encourage programs that include the cultural arts. (Drama, art programs, concerts, etc.)
9. Promote recreational programs at specific west-side school sites.



10. Create programs that will bring recreational activities to hard-to-reach children and children at risk (because of isolated neighborhood location, family income, or vacancy of parks in close proximity).
11. Provide programs of the highest demand while keeping up with the latest recreational trends.
12. Create programs that encourage and enhance education, environment quality and energy conservation.
13. Promote the need for the establishment of a year round recreation/civic area for a variety of uses.
14. All planning and design projects (including remodels and refurbishment), shall as much as possible, be designed to accommodate the needs of all people including handicapped, the elderly and the economically disadvantaged.

Civic Engagement

Volunteerism

The City of Kennewick has been very fortunate to have been the recipient of many different volunteer efforts. Each year there is a list of projects completed within our parks and facilities which are entirely volunteer based, which promotes community sustainability. Recent projects include, but are not limited to:

- Columbia Park Playground of Dreams sealing of the wood
- City Hall landscape rehabilitation
- Playground fall material resurfacing
- Columbia Park river shore cleanup
- Columbia Park Ropes Course restroom painting
- Columbia Park Golf Course restroom painting
- Columbia Park boat launch restroom painting
- Columbia Park 20 acres restroom door/partition painting
- Grange Hall basement painting
- Union Library landscape clean up
- Zintel Canyon path clean up
- Grange Park Demonstration Garden rehabilitation
- Columbia Park Audubon cleanup
- Umatilla Street cleanup
- Pool concession restroom painting

Volunteerism is also a major component of sustaining Kennewick's high level of police service. There were 38 members of the Citizens Helping In Police Service (CHIPS) program in 2015, contributing more than 9,000 hours. Some of the services offered include but are not limited to:

- Abandoned vehicle tagging



- Handicap parking enforcement
- Radar reader board deployment
- Bicycle recovery
- Vehicle maintenance
- Holiday patrol
- Administrative tasks

The Kennewick Parks and Recreation Department has an extensive volunteer program including Senior Center, recreation programming volunteers and the facilities and parks projects such as those noted above.

The City of Kennewick presently has several boards and commissions made up of community volunteers. These individuals devote their energy, time and expertise to help make Kennewick a better place to live, work and play. Kennewick has eight boards and commissions which promote volunteerism. Boards and commissions are an integral part of Kennewick's municipal government. They offer citizens the opportunity to get involved and participate in their city government and help shape the future of Kennewick. Their influence and value is significant because the City Council relies on these volunteer citizen groups for thoughtful advice as they create policy. These board and commissions make a vast array of recommendations to Council, including sustainability measures for future growth and development:

- Arts Commission
- Planning Commission
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Block Grant Advisory Committee
- Diversity Commission
- Traffic Safety Commission
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Kennewick Housing Authority

Alliance for a Livable and Sustainable Community

The non-profit [Alliance for a Livable and Sustainable Community](#) was incorporated in 2011, with roots dating back to 2004 when a diverse group of Tri-Cities residents held a forum that raised awareness and informed our region about livable and sustainable communities. The forum addressed three different topical areas: Land Use and Economic Development, Human Health, and Transportation. It featured Merilee Utter, a nationally recognized expert and leader in how transportation and land use development work together to improve livability and sustainability in urban environments.

The same group organized another forum in October 2010 that brought several regional and national leaders and experts in the livable sustainable cities movement to present and discuss principles, practices, and nationwide examples of these concepts. The keynote speaker was Professor Avi



Friedman, an internationally recognized urban architect and development expert from McGill University in Montreal. This forum added Technology Development to the topic areas as a fourth cornerstone of Livable and Sustainable Community development for the Tri-Cities.

The ALSC welcomes all interested people and organizations to actively participate in their mission:

To promote and advocate livable and sustainable principles and practices in the Tri-City region by bringing stakeholders together to create and maintain a community-wide collaborative effort for improved quality of life for all in our community.

The ALSC defines a “livable and sustainable” Tri-City community as one where local governments including municipalities, counties, ports and special districts partner with educational, community health, business and citizen stakeholders to create a vibrant local community through a long-term policy, planning, and investment strategy that:

- Promotes community health and wellness
- Protects and preserves the unique attributes of our natural environment
- Encourages local enterprise innovation and economic diversity
- Serves the short term and long term needs of local residents
- Promotes stable employment and revenues by building competitive advantage in the global marketplace

Community Outreach

The [Benton PUD](#) has energy tips on its website, a newsletter and a retired science teacher that works with elementary classes in Kennewick about energy safety and efficiency. They also participate in outreach at community events such as the Benton-Franklin County Fair.

[Cascade Natural Gas](#) offers cash rebates to customers to purchase energy-efficient natural gas equipment and measures. More information on how these conservation rebates and community partnerships are making a difference is posted on the Cascade Natural Gas [website](#).

[Kennewick Parks, Facilities and Recreation](#) participates in regional tree planting efforts to mobilize and encourage the community to plant trees, including annual Arbor Day events, volunteer activities with local businesses, individuals and local groups.

[Go Green Tri-Cities](#) highlights green businesses, organizations, resources, and events in the Tri-Cities. It was created using funds raised for environmentally related activities and events in the Mid-Columbia under the direction of the Sustainable Energy and Environmental Network. The purpose is to promote eco-friendly living by presenting options available in the area, including information on a variety of businesses that offer green products and services.

The [Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society](#) has been serving Benton and Franklin Counties since 1965. Its mission is to conserve and restore ecosystems, focusing on birds and wildlife, for the benefit of humanity and Earth's biological diversity. Audubon educates adults and children about the environment,



advocates responsible public policy and legislation for natural resources, and conducts science-based projects using birds as indicators of health of the natural world.

The [Tri-Cities Citizens' Climate Lobby](#) (CCL) is one of just 200 chapters of an international, non-partisan, grassroots organization committed to creating the political will for a livable world.

[Bike Tri-Cities](#), formerly 3 Rivers Bicycle Coalition, is the bicycling advocate for our community; leading our community in promoting bicycling as a safe, healthy and fun form of transportation and recreation.

The [Ridges to Rivers Open Space Network](#) (RROSN) is a non-profit partnership of organizations and governmental agencies representing a broad spectrum of entities who advocate coordination of regional open space planning. The [Ridges to Rivers Open Space Network Vision Plan](#) was created by a working group of citizens, non-profit organizations, and city and county staff members. The intent is to present a vision of how preserved open space could retain special features in the Mid-Columbia, and also how creation of a network of trails would allow residents and visitors an opportunity to experience these features first hand. RROSN believe this vision can be realized in concert with, and as an integral part of, development that occurs across the region. The Vision Plan, then, is meant to be the foundation and spark for commencing regional planning and community involvement. The Vision Plan discusses the value of open space to our economy, recreation, environment, and health. It presents priority open spaces and trail connections for preservation and documents the public input that was obtained to determine these priorities. The Vision Plan lays out a series of open space, trail, and policy recommendations and is a resource of tools and mechanisms that can be used to preserve lands and fund preservation, maintenance, and enhancement. The policy recommendations are meant to unify how open space is defined and is a starting point for integrating open space policy with development. A Jurisdictional Council of elected leaders is recommended as a forum to facilitate regional planning and advise the activities of the RROSN.



Resources and References

Publications

[Benton PUD 2016-2017 Strategic Plan](#)
[City of Kennewick Transportation Systems Plan](#)
[2016 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) (Benton Franklin Community Health Alliance)
[Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Transportation Alliance \(EVITA\)](#)
[2016 Regional Active Transportation Plan for Benton and Franklin Counties and Tri-Cities Urban Area](#)
 (Benton-Franklin Council of Governments)
[Ridges to Rivers Open Space Network Vision Plan](#)
[Sustainable Communities](#) (The League of Women Voters of Benton and Franklin Counties)
[Trends of Benton and Franklin Counties](#)
[2015-2019 Tri-Cities Consolidated Plan](#)

Organizations

[Alliance for a Livable and Sustainable Community](#)
[Ben Franklin Transit](#)
[Benton Clean Air Agency](#)
[Benton Conservation District](#)
[Benton Franklin Community Action Connections \(BFCAC\)](#)
[Benton Franklin Community Health Alliance](#)
[Benton Franklin Council of Governments](#)
[Benton Franklin Health District](#)
[Benton PUD](#)
[Bike Tri-Cities](#)
[Cascade Natural Gas](#)
[Energy Northwest](#)
[GoGreenTriCities.org](#)
[Home Builders Association of Tri-Cities](#)
[Kennewick Community Education](#)
[Kennewick Housing Authority](#)
[Kennewick Irrigation District](#)
[Leadership Tri-Cities](#)
[Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society](#)
[Port of Kennewick](#)
[Ridges to Rivers Open Space Network \(RROSN\)](#)
[Tri-Cities Citizens' Climate Lobby \(CCL\)](#)
[Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce](#)
[Tri-City Development Council \(TRIDEC\)](#)
[Waste Management Kennewick](#)

