## **Indivisible Tri-Cities Local Election Voter Guide**

Thank you for your interest in our Local Election Voter Guide.

The Indivisible Tri-Cities Education Team is proud to present this resource, created to help you better understand the positions up for election, what each role entails, and who is running. Our goal is to provide clear, accessible information that empowers you to ask informed questions and make confident decisions when it's time to vote.

We hope you find this guide helpful and engaging. If you're interested in contributing to this or future projects, we'd love to hear from you! Please reach out to us at education.indivisibletricities@gmail.com.

Enjoy the guide—and thank you for being an informed voter!

# **Helpful Terms:**

**Budget, Capital:** A budget allocating money for the acquisition and maintenance of fixed assets, like land, buildings, and equipment and for long-term upgrades and replacements. Source: <a href="https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/career-development/operational-budget-vs-capital-budget">https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/career-development/operational-budget-vs-capital-budget</a>

**Budget, Operating and Non-Operating:** An operating budget is the budget required for the core operations and day-to-day functions of an organization. A non-operating budget deals with expenses and revenues outside those essential costs. Sources:

https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/career-development/operational-budget-vs-capital-budget https://thecfoclub.com/fpa/operating-budget/

**Charity Care:** "Providing free and discounted health care to those that cannot afford to pay, regardless of whether patients have insurance. It is based on family size and income, and each hospital is responsible for maintaining its own charity care program. Source: <a href="https://www.wsha.org/resources/financial-assistance-resources/">https://www.wsha.org/resources/financial-assistance-resources/</a>

**Mayor Pro-tem:** A mayor pro tempore may be chosen by the council for a specified period of time, not to exceed six months, to act as the mayor in the absence of the mayor. Source: <a href="https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=35.27.160">https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=35.27.160</a>

**Nonpartisan:** This means the position is not affiliated with any political party. However, city council members can, and usually are persons actively interested in state and national political affairs and affiliate with a national/state political party. Source: <a href="https://www.douglascountywa.net/208/Non-Partisan-Elections">https://www.douglascountywa.net/208/Non-Partisan-Elections</a>

**Short and Full Term:** A "short and full" term of office means the person who held this position before the election left early, but this position was already scheduled to be on the ballot. The next person elected to Pos. 1, therefore, will take office immediately after the November election (short term) and will then also serve the regular term (full). Source: <a href="https://co.wahkiakum.wa.us/596/Different-Terms-of-Office-and-What-They-">https://co.wahkiakum.wa.us/596/Different-Terms-of-Office-and-What-They-</a>

**Unexpired Term:** An "unexpired" term of office means the person who held this position left before they served a full term. The next person elected will therefore take office immediately after the November election and serve only the remainder of the original term. Source:

https://co.wahkiakum.wa.us/596/Different-Terms-of-Office-and-What-They-

## Here is a link to the statewide election schedule for 2025:

## https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/elections-calendar/dates-and-deadlines

The Aug. 5 primary will narrow the field to two candidates for the Nov. 4 general election. Winners of the general election take office in January 2026. Primary ballots are sent out for mail-in and drop-off voting July 18.

## 1. Port District Commissioner Positions

## Which areas are holding elections?

The Port of Benton (encompassing two-thirds of Benton County, including North Richland, Benton City and Prosser); Port of Kennewick, and Port of Pasco.

#### What is a Port District?

A Port District is a municipal corporation: an area (as small as a town or as large as a county) that has been legally incorporated and granted authority by the state to exercise political powers and administer local government affairs. It is made up of a port commission, executive director, port staff, customers, and the citizens/voters under its local administration.

## Who governs a Port District?

Port Districts are governed by a locally elected board of commissioners. Each board has three members; each member serves a six-year term.

The port commission identifies a port's mission, guidelines for long-term economic development, and immediate goals; develops strategies to achieve that mission and achieve those long- and short-term goals; adopts or adjusts port district policies, including establishing positions and employment positions; and governs operations, including adopting budgets and disposing and distributing supplies, property, and equipment.

### What does a Port District do?

While initially formed to provide facilities for marine transportation and commerce, Port Districts now take on such varied responsibilities as providing air and water pollution control works; operating trade centers and exporting trading companies; buying, leasing, and selling property and developing lands for industrial and commercial needs; providing economic development programs; promoting tourism; and maintaining and operating airports, marinas, subsidized space for start-up businesses, cold-storage plants, log-export yards, boat launch ramps, and short-haul railroad.

## Does anything about a Port Position / Commissioner change from city to city?

The responsibilities of the commissioners appear to be consistent between cities. Each Port District's board of commissioners, however, develops and adopts distinct policies, governs distinct operations, and develops distinct guidelines for the long-term economic development of their district.

The Port of Benton, for example, works on rail crossings, track maintenance, and Richland/Prosser airport improvements; the Port of Kennewick is working on development projects, including Clover Island and Vista Field; and the Port of Pasco provides facilities at the Tri-cities Airport.

### Which seats are up for election?

Port of Benton: Pos. 1, Roy Keck (Incumbent) and Bill O'Neill. Full Term.

Port of Kennewick: Pos. 2, Raul Contreras Gonzalez and Tammy Kenfield.

Port of Pasco: Pos. 2, Matt Watkins, Unopposed. Pos. 3 (Two-Year Unexpired Term), Hans-Joachim Engelke, Unopposed.

#### Who are the other members of each board of commissioners?

Port of Benton: Scott Keller, Lori Stevens.

Port of Kennewick: Ken Hohenberg, Skip Novakich.

Port of Pasco: Vicki Gordon.

### What were recent annual budgets for each Port?

Municipal corporations like Ports primarily receive their budgets through local tax revenues, grants, state and federal support, and revenue sources like fees.

Benton: For the 2024 calendar year, the port had an operating budget of \$8.5 million, non-operating budget of \$14 million, capital budget of \$15.4 million and collected \$3 million from property tax revenue.

Kennewick: For the 2024 calendar year, the port had an operating budget of \$4.5 million, non-operating budget of \$2.1 million, capital budget of \$4.7 million and collected \$5.06 million from property tax revenue.

Pasco: For the 2024 calendar year, the port had an operating budget of \$17.9 million, non-operating budget of \$45 million, capital budget of \$54 million and collected \$2.8 million from property tax revenue.

Sources: see below

# 2. City Council Positions

## Which cities are holding elections?

Kennewick, Richland, Pasco and West Richland are all holding elections for multiple four-year positions on their seven-person City Councils.

## What is a City Council?

A city council represents a city as its local legislative body. Its members set policies, adopt ordinances and annual budgets, approve contracts, and appoint individuals to boards and commissions.

## Who governs a City Council?

In each of the Tri-Cities, voters elect seven at-large city council members for four-year terms.

In Richland and West Richland, each city council member is responsible for, represents, and is elected by the entire community. In Kennewick and Pasco, some council members are responsible for, represent, and elected by a specific district or "Ward," while others hold "At Large" positions, responsible for and elected by residents from all areas.

## What does a City Council do?

A City Council sets policies, adopts ordinances and annual budgets, approves contracts, appoints individuals to boards and commissions, and (for every city but West Richland) appoints the mayor and hires the city manager, the latter of whom oversees daily operations and the enforcement of laws.

In addition to broad policymaking, Council members oversee and participate in several committees and boards related to city operation. These include city arts commissions, urban development boards, parks commissions, pension boards, and advisory committees, which provide periodic updates and expert advice on local issues like utilities.

#### What are the differences between each City Council System?

Kennewick, Richland and Pasco have a Council-Manager form of government, where a city manager is the council's chief executive. This manager is hired by the council, and oversees city administration, budget, and staff. While these cities also have mayors, they are chosen from the council for two-year terms and act as a ceremonial head of each city rather than its chief executive. The roles of policymaking and administration are largely separated between the council and the manager, respectively. The city manager hires personnel, supervises daily operations and oversees the enforcement of laws and preparation of the annual budget.

West Richland has a Council-Mayor system, also known as a "Strong Mayor" system. In this form of government, a mayor is locally elected. The mayor is the chief executive for the area,

with more direct authority at the policymaking, budgeting, and administrative levels, as well as hiring personnel. The council still maintains legislative powers, however, and can approve or reject mayoral initiatives.

## Which seats are up for election?

#### Kennewick:

Pos. 1 (Ward 1, Mayor): Austin Miller, Tina Gregory, Jason McShane

Pos. 2 (Ward 2): Incumbent Loren Anderson, unopposed.

Pos. 3 (Ward 3): Incumbent John Trumbo; opponents Douglas Perez, Warren Hughs, John Trumbo.

Pos. 4 (At Large): Gloria Tyler Baker, Danielle Schuster, Brad Klippert.

### Richland:

Pos. 3 (Mayor Pro Tem): Incumbent Sandra Kent; opponents Robert Walko, Pat Holten.

Pos. 4: Jordan Lee, John Maier, Donald Landsman

Pos. 7: Incumbent Ryan Whitten; opponents Joshua Short, Tony Sanchez, Colin Michael

\*The Richland City Council member elected with the fewest votes receives a two-year term. The rest receive four-year terms.

#### Pasco:

Pos. 1: Mark Anthony Figueroa.

Pos. 3: Incumbent Leo Perales, Bryan Verhei.

Pos. 4 (Mayor): Incumbent Pete Serrano, unopposed.

Pos. 6: Incumbent Melissa Basdel; opponent Calixto Hernandez.

#### West Richland:

Pos. 1: Incumbent John Smart; opponent Nancy Aldrich

Pos. 2: Incumbent Ken Stoker, unopposed.

Pos. 3: David Cole, Robert Harvey Perkes

Pos. 4: Incumbent Richard Bloom, opponent Braden Sloughter

#### Who are the other members of each city council?

Kennewick: Charles Torelli (At Large); Brad Beauchamp (At Large); Jim Milbauer (At Large). Richland: Johanna Jones; Theresa Richardson (Mayor); Shayne VanDyke; Kurt Maier. Pasco\*\*: Charles Grimm (Ward 2); David Milne (4, Mayor Pro-tem); Peter Harpster (At Large). West Richland: David Fetto; Fred Brink (Mayor Pro-tem); Kate Moran.

\*\* The Pasco city council districts and the election system for Council have changed in recent years. Pasco underwent an extensive redistricting process involving legal challenges and a

lengthy timeframe to bring it to conclusion. This was resolved in 2022: <a href="https://www.pasco-wa.gov/923/City-Council-Redistricting">https://www.pasco-wa.gov/923/City-Council-Redistricting</a>

## What were recent annual budgets for each City Council?

City councils primarily obtain their budgets through local taxes, fees, and state or federal aid. These span operating budgets, non-operating budgets, and capital budgets.

Kennewick Annual Comprehensive Financial Report: https://www.go2kennewick.com/268/Financial-Reports

Richland 2025 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan:

https://www.ci.richland.wa.us/departments/finance/budget-capital-improvement-plan-cip

Pasco Full 2023-2024 Adopted Budget:

https://docs.pasco-wa.gov/WebLink/DocView.aspx?id=1116676&dbid=0&repo=CityofPasco

West Richland Proposed 2025-2026 Budget:

https://www.westrichland.org/290/2025-2026-Biennial-Budget

Overview of how city budgets and services work:

https://www.ci.richland.wa.us/departments/finance/city-budgets-services-101

Sources: see below

# 3. Mayoral Positions

### What cities are holding elections?

West Richland is the only city that elects a mayor.

### What is a Mayor?

A city's chief executive and administrative officer, elected in West Richland for four-year terms.

### What does West Richland's Mayor do?

The Mayor is in charge of all city departments and employees. The Mayor oversees the enforcement of all laws, and is responsible for appointing citizens to the Planning Commission, Park Board, Board of Adjustment, Civil Service Commission, and ad hoc committees.

The Mayor presides over City Council meetings, and has a vote on the Council in the case of a tie. The Mayor reports to the Council concerning West Richland's affairs and needs, making

recommendations to the Council to consider as they weigh laws, resolutions and other actions, and prepares and submits the proposed biennial City budget.

Finally, the Mayor also serves as the official and ceremonial head of West Richland. They represent the city and act as its spokesperson in interactions with local, state, federal, and foreign governments.

## Who is running for Mayor?

Fred Brink and May Hays. Note: Brent Jerry is the longest-serving mayor in the Tri-cities. He is retiring after 16 years.

## What does the Mayor do to set the City budget?

The West Richland Mayor is responsible for preparing and submitting the City's biennial budget to the Council, a process including workshops, public hearings, and ultimately, adoption.

Sources: see below

# 4. School District Positions

## Which cities are holding elections?

Kennewick, Richland, and Pasco are holding elections for multiple positions on each of their five-position School District boards for four-year terms.

#### What is a School District?

In Washington state, a school district is a legally established entity responsible for providing public K-12 education within a specific geographic area. School districts in Washington are considered independent municipal corporations and are the primary delivery system for public education in the state.

#### Who governs a School District?

Members of a School District (called, variously, school directors or a school board) set goals and policies for the district and provide structure, accountability, and advocacy for their district's schools. They can also serve a legal role, giving final, district-level decisions on appeals brought to them under state law, federal law, contracts, or established district procedures.

Each School Board has a Mission, all relatively similar to this Richland example: "To provide effective governance of the School District through leadership, accountability, and transparency, while valuing the importance of student, family, and staff advocacy and engagement."

There is also a state-level organization that can support and educate school board members: <a href="https://wssda.org/">https://wssda.org/</a>

#### What does a School District do?

Each district's board and/or directors set a vision for their schools. Each vision is then matched by strategic goals and objectives. For example, the Richland School Board Vision is "to become a regional center of academic excellence, where the unique characteristics and needs of all students are met and exceeded, to ensure their success."

Among their responsibilities are the hiring, supervision and evaluation of the school superintendent; the establishing and overseeing of the budget; the review, revision, and adoption of school policies; monitoring the district's progress toward its strategic goals; and serving as community representatives.

## Who is running for each School District?

### Kennewick:

Position 1, Vice President: Incumbent Micah Valentine, Mike Luzzo, Robert Franklin.

Position 2, President: Incumbent Gabe Galbraith, Nicolar (Nic) Uhnak.

## Richland:

Position 1: Incumbent Bonnie Mitchell, Jacques Bakhazi.

Position 2: Incumbent Rick Jansons Running Unopposed.

### Pasco:

Position 3: Amanda Brown (Current Board President), Steve Christensen.

Position 4: Heather Kubalek Running Unopposed.

Position 5: Scott Lehrman, Valerie Torres.

### Who else is serving on these School District Boards?

Kennewick: Brittany Gledhill, Michael Connors, Josh Miller.

Richland: Chelsea Beck, Board President Katrina Waters, Board VP Jill Oldson.

Pasco: Steve Norberg; John Kennedy.

#### What are recent budgets for each School District?

School districts primarily receive their budgets from state and federal funding, in addition to local taxes. State funding, the main source, is formula-driven, based on factors like student enrollment and faculty ratios. That funding may be allocated for specific uses, or for general use.

Kennewick: Operates on an annual budget of about \$455 million (Nonstop Local) Richland: Operates on an annual budget of about \$235 million (Tri-City Herald) Pasco: Operates on an annual budget of about \$330 million (Past Budget Reports)

Sources: see below

# 5. Public Hospital District Positions

## Which cities are holding elections?

Kennewick, with four of the seven electable positions on the ballot.

## What is a Public Hospital District?

A Public Hospital District provides comprehensive and accessible healthcare, with individuals elected to set policy and govern the district.

On a technical, geographic level, the Kennewick Public Hospital District covers South Benton County, including all of Kennewick, through portions of Richland, and into Prosser. Their services more practically span contracts and projects across Benton and Franklin County.

### Who governs the Public Hospital District?

Seven elected members serve for six-year terms on a board of commissioners. In addition to these elected officials, independent contractors fill the non-elected roles of Superintendent, Accountant, Counsel and Public Records Officer, and Board Coordinator.

The Board of Commissioners is continuing to transition the District from its original purpose of operating the Kennewick Hospital from 1948-2017. As part of that work, they coordinate with RCCH/LifePoint, the original hospital's buyer, to update and streamline operations.

### What does a Public Hospital District do?

KPHD provides a wide variety of services to the Tri-Cities, including up-to-date technologies, licensed providers, and health services. For example, Adult Day Services provides services for adults over 21 years old with aged-related, health-related or developmental disability needs. These services include health monitoring; physical, occupational, and speech therapy; Alzheimer's and dementia care; nursing support services; life skills and socialization for adults with developmental disabilities; counseling; and transportation to and from facilities.

KPHD was also instrumental in the upcoming opening of the Columbia Valley Center for Recovery, the first facility in the Tri-Cities dedicated to substance abuse and behavioral health

recovery. The Board's study demonstrated the facility's feasibility, determined benefits and costs, and identified potential sites. It will continue to be involved in an advisory capacity, and provide future services for the Center in coordination with Benton and Franklin County.

Finally, the Kennewick Public Hospital District established a Community Care Agreement with LifePoint for the latter to operate and own the Trios brand and lease the Kennewick Hospital for use. As part of that agreement, LifePoint must adopt a charity care policy (providing free and discounted care to those who cannot pay, regardless of whether patients have insurance) and maintain participation in Medicare and Medicaid.

The District board meets on <u>the last Thursday of each month</u> at 5:00 p.m. These meetings are a public and hybrid event at Trios Care Center (former Vista Field Area) and through Zoom.

#### Does anything about a Public Hospital District change from city to city?

The Public Hospital District was established in 1948 when Kennewick General Hospital opened. From their website: "For the next 70 years we provided healthcare to the Kennewick community, kept the hospitals running, and built Southridge hospital in 2014 to address the needs of our district's growing population." However, their contractor Trips Healthcare went bankrupt in 2017, and "the [original] hospital's ownership was sold to RCCH Trios Health, LLC now under LifePoint" in order to keep the Southridge facility open, as well as selling the services and the trade name Trios to LifePoint.

This is not unique to Kennewick; at least according to the District's website, there are "fourteen other Public Hospital Districts in the state that do not run hospitals," instead "focus[ing] its resources on unmet needs and contracts for the hospital services." For those who want to dissolve the District anyhow: "the District is contractually obligated to pay for LifePoint/Trios' performance - including maintaining Charity Care, Medicare, and an acute care hospital. This represents an ongoing obligation that the District is required to pay for twenty-six years.

#### Who is running for election?

Kennewick Public Hospital District Pos. 1: Incumbent Shannon Phipps (Unopposed). Kennewick Public Hospital District Pos. 4: Incumbent Spencer Harris (Unopposed). Kennewick Public Hospital District Pos. 5: Incumbent Wanda Briggs (Unopposed). Kennewick Public Hospital District Pos. 6: Incumbent Rick Reil (Unopposed).

\*\* Pos. 4 is a Two-Year Unexpired Term.

Spencer Harris was appointed at the March 2024 commission meeting to fill the unexpired term of Steve Blodgett, who passed away Jan 2024. Shannon Phipps is filling the unexpired term of Dr. Sheila Dunlop, who resigned for health reasons Dec 2024.

#### Who else serves on the KPHD Board of Commissioners?

Pos. 2, Pos. 3, and Pos. 7 are not up for re-election. Those positions are filled by the Board Treasurer Gary G. Long (Post. 2); President Mark Brault (Pos. 7), and Marv Kinney (Pos. 3).

## What is the Community Care Agreement?

KPHD coordinates with RCCH/LifePoint to ensure the hospital's buyer sticks to its <u>Community</u> <u>Care Agreement</u>. In order for LifePoint to receive Community Service Payments, "the Current Year Property Tax Amount less the Permitted Expenses" to operate and own the Trios brand and to lease the Kennewick Hospital for use, they must:

- (a) adopt a charity care policy;
- (b) provide a working space for the KPHD to conduct administrative duties and board meetings;
- (c) coordinate at least quarterly with the Board Superintendent "to discuss the general status and operations of the Facilities and Services;"
- (d) "not reduce or restrict" medical staff clinical privileges and "accept the Facilities existing staff" for one year after agreement;
- (e) "maintain capacity for health science research and health care provider education;"
- (f) "adopt and maintain a compliance program that promotes operations in compliance with laws regulating patient referrals and avoids conflicts of interest in patient referral;"
- (g) maintain participation in Medicare;
- (h) participate in Medicaid through an agreement with the Washington State Health Care Authority;
- (i) "adopt the District's admissions and nondiscrimination policies as of closing and maintain the same or amended policies in compliance with applicable federal and state law and accreditation requirements."

In a 2022 document on the site, the board quotes a ruling by a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Washington that KPHD "provides essential medical and other health care services, including critical care services for which there is not adequate capacity at other nearby facilities, to residents and others in the Tri-Cities region." The document continues: "A critical element of that Plan was to provide the financial means to ensure that its public hospital role, as defined by State Law, provides healthcare regardless of ability to pay. As stated in RCW 70.44.003, the purpose of the District is to "provide hospital services and other health care services for the residents of such districts and other persons." (RCW 70.44.003) [... and] "may further receive in said hospitals and other health care facilities and furnish proper and adequate services to all persons not residents of said district at such reasonable and fair compensation as may be considered proper."

## What is the average annual budget for the Public Hospital District?

Superintendent Kerr informs me that a property tax levy brings in an average of 1.4 to 1.6 million dollars each year. In a 2022 op-ed for the Tri-City Herald, Board member Gary Long confirmed: "Eighty percent of the tax revenue goes to LifePoint under the Community Care Agreement. The other 20 percent goes to KPHD for unmet health programs that help, among others, the aging, disabled and low-income in the community. To provide such care, the KPHD operates under the name Two Rivers Health." Twenty percent of \$1.5 million is \$300k.

Additional funding also comes from a trust set up in the 1940s during the hospital's founding; the result of contracts with additional partners for joint services; and charitable donations.

Sources: see below

# 6. Cemetery District/Commissioner Positions

## Which areas are holding elections?

Franklin County Cemetery District 1, with one of three positions on the ballot.

#### What is a Cemetery District?

The formation of these districts are approved by voters, after which the districts are governed by a board of three elected commissioners who serve staggered six-year terms.

### What does a Cemetery District Do?

Cemetery districts establish and manage public cemeteries. They handle tasks such as grounds maintenance, burial arrangements, record-keeping, and potentially the sale of burial plots.

## Who is running for election?

Cemetery District 1, Commissioner At Large: Connie Smith

#### Who else serves as a Cemetery District Commissioner?

Cemetery District 2: Pamela Welch

Cemetery District 3:

### How are cemetery districts funded?

Funding is mainly through property taxes and fees for burial plots and services. Cemetery districts may levy a nonvoted property tax up to 11.25 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, and may not contract indebtedness in any year exceeding the aggregate amount of the currently

levied taxes. Cemetery districts may also levy one-year excess levies for operations and maintenance, subject to 60% voter approval and minimum validation (voter turnout) requirements.

Sources: See below.

## 7. Fire District Positions

#### Which areas are holding elections?

Franklin County Fire District 3, which serves Pasco and has a board of three commissioners.

#### What is a Fire District?

Fire Districts provide fire, emergency, medical, disaster response and fire prevention services to their areas, around 200 square miles. They train volunteer firefighters, educate the public on fire safety, and hold events and workshops on fire, emergency, medical, and disaster response.

#### What does a Fire District Commissioner Do?

A fire commissioner monitors the business practices of the fire district. They oversee the district's resources and budget, ensure personnel have adequate equipment and technology, and enforce compliance measures on local businesses and buildings to ensure they operate according to fire codes. Fire commissioners assess the effectiveness of fire service in their jurisdiction and strategize with fellow commissioners and local officials to improve emergency services.

A fire commissioner is distinct from a fire chief. A chief oversees firefighters and emergency services personnel, directs missions when responding to emergency calls, and manages day-to-day operations.

#### Who is running for election?

Fire District #3: Gary W. Larsen

#### Who else serves on Fire District 3?

Glenn Clifford and Todd Blackman.

#### How are fire districts funded?

Fire Districts are funded through property tax levies, EMS levies, bonds, excess levies, service charges, and non-tax revenues like transport fees and contracts. Any funding mechanism must be approved by the voters by the same majority that the fire district measures required.

Sources: See below.

We hope this document is helpful. Please email with questions and also would love for you to join us. See our <u>website</u> for more information about Indivisible Tri-Cities. Follow this link to get on the Indivisible Tri-Cities email list, <a href="https://www.indivisibletricitieswa.org/join-us">https://www.indivisibletricitieswa.org/join-us</a>

# United we stand, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### 1. Port District Sources:

https://www.tri-cityherald.com/news/politics-government/election/article305403906.html

https://www.portofpasco.org

https://portofkennewick.org/

https://portofbenton.com/

https://www.tricitiesbusinessnews.com/articles/5478-increased-demand-propels-infrastructure-improvements

https://www.tricitiesbusinessnews.com/articles/5479-vista-field-is-full-steam-ahead-with-residential-comm ercial-development

 $\frac{\text{https://www.tricitiesbusinessnews.com/articles/5480-a-year-of-progress-and-preparation\#:}\sim: \text{text=The\%20p ort\%20has\%20an\%20operating\%20budget\%20of,} collects\%20\$2.8\%20million\%20from\%20property\%20ta x\%20revenue.}$ 

#### 2. City Council Sources:

https://www.tri-cityherald.com/news/politics-government/election/article305403906.html

https://www.go2kennewick.com/531/City-Council

https://www.pasco-wa.gov/122/City-Council

https://www.ci.richland.wa.us/government/city-council

https://pasco.municipal.codes/PMC/2

https://www.pasco-wa.gov/832/City-Council-2024-2025-Goals

https://www.pasco-wa.gov/923/City-Council-Redistricting

https://www.go2kennewick.com/DocumentCenter/View/16696/City-of-Kennewick-Governance-Coordination-Manual

https://voter.votewa.gov/CandidateList.aspx?e=893

#### 3. Mayor Position Sources:

https://www.tri-cityherald.com/news/politics-government/election/article305844226.html

https://citizenportal.ai/articles/4763490/West-Richland/Benton-County/Washington/West-Richland-City-Co

uncil-approves-436M-budget-amendment-for-multiple-projects

https://www.westrichland.org/217/Mayor

https://www.westrichland.org/206/City-Council

https://www.westrichland.org/217/Mayor

#### 4. School District Sources:

https://www.tri-cityherald.com/news/politics-government/election/article305403906.html

https://www.rsd.edu/departments/financial-services/budget-information

https://www.ksd.org/departments/business

https://www.psd1.org/departments/finance/budget-reports

https://www.psd1.org/about/school-board/board-members

https://www.ksd.org/school-board-landing/meet-the-board

https://voter.votewa.gov/CandidateList.aspx?e=893&c=03

https://www.rsd.edu/district/school-board/board-members

https://www.ksd.org/school-board-landing/school-board

https://www.psd1.org/about/school-board

https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=28A.315.025

https://www.tri-cityherald.com/news/local/education/article296214939.html

https://www.nbcrightnow.com/news/kennewick-adopts-455-million-budget-for-2025-2026/article\_8c3e042

8-a932-11ef-ae8b-a335ade4f9b2.html

#### 5. Public Hospital District Sources:

https://www.tri-cityherald.com/news/politics-government/election/article305403906.html

https://kenkphd.com/commissioners

https://kenkphd.com/about

https://kenkphd.com/downloads

https://www.tri-cityherald.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/article259860760.html

https://www.nbcrightnow.com/news/dr-shannon-phipps-ioins-kennewick-hospital-board-eves-unity/article\_

2b15946c-fa91-11ef-8754-ab81f379ef6c.html

#### 6. Cemetery District Sources:

https://mrsc.org/explore-topics/parks/administration/cemeteries#intro https://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch/Home/ViewReportFile?arn=1029886&isFinding=false&sp=false

#### 7. Fire District Sources:

https://mrsc.org/explore-topics/public-safetv/fire-ems/fire-protection-service-providers

https://www.fcfd3.org/about

https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/fire-commissioner-vs-fire-chief

https://www.washingtonfirechiefs.com/rfaimplementationguide