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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: City of Yelm 2018 Operating Budget Approved

October 25, 2017 - The City of Yelm is pleased to announce that Mayor JW Foster's 2018 proposed budget has been adopted by the Yelm City Council in a 6-1 vote at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, October 24. The adopted budget, presented to the council by City Administrator Michael Grayum and Finance Director Joseph Wolfe, includes investment in additional city personnel, public safety, economic development, sustainable infrastructure, and more.

"We live in one of the fastest growing cities in Thurston County and Washington State. This presents significant challenges and opportunities, and I am proud to present a balanced budget that invests in our future by starting with saving money in our reserve funds while adding needed services and equipment for the future," writes Mayor JW Foster.

In developing the 2018 proposed budget, the Mayor and executive leadership team ensured the budget is structurally balanced, while aligning with three primary strategic objectives: to create a best run government, grow the local economy, and strengthen public safety.

Highlights from the proposed \$6.5 million budget include:

- Hiring 6 additional city personnel, including 2 new police officers (including vehicles and equipment), a Deputy City Clerk/Human Resource Specialist, a Custodian, a planning engineer and two seasonal Parks workers.
- Increasing investment in the City's Strategic Reserve Fund
- Investment in public safety and infrastructure at the Yelm Police Department, Yelm Municipal Court and City Hall
- Several projects at local parks, including: reconstruction of Veteran Memorial, expansion planning for Longmire Park, Yelm Prairie Line Trail expansion, and splash park and playground equipment at Yelm City Park

In addition to passing the budget, the City Council also voted on an amendment to provide funding for a facilitated Council retreat.

[More information about the budget](#) can be found at the [City of Yelm's website](#).

About the City of Yelm:

Incorporated in 1924, Yelm is one of the fastest-growing cities in South Puget Sound. With proximity to spectacular recreational opportunities, military installations and all major metropolitan areas of western Washington, Yelm is the center of commerce for south Thurston and southeast Pierce Counties. For more information about the City of Yelm, visit: <http://www.yelmwa.gov>. Follow us keep up with the latest news on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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