

**CITY OF GOLD BAR, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION NO. 10-14**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY GOLD BAR, WASHINGTON
FOR AN ALLOCATION OF BUDGET RESOURCES WITH
RESPECT TO PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS**

WHEREAS, the City of Gold Bar has an obligation to respond in a timely manner to Public Records Requests; and

WHEREAS, the City in 2009 assigned two (2) additional people in order to help it respond to the numerous and extremely broad Public Records Requests that the City was receiving;

WHEREAS, the City has to eliminate those two (2) additional positions due to budget constraints; and

WHEREAS, the City will also need to eliminate some essential services in 2011 for public safety and security, streets, stormwater, and parks due in significant part to the impact on the City's budget from multiple large Public Records Requests, a listing of said eliminated services is attached hereto as Attachment 1; and

WHEREAS, the City will have expended approximately \$70,000 in 2010 responding to Public Records Requests out of an income of \$ 573,898, or 12% of its income; and

WHEREAS, just as an example, Snohomish County expends 0.2% of income and Spokane expends 0.1% of income on Public Records Requests.

WHEREAS, under RCW 42.56.100, Gold Bar can adopt and enforce reasonable rules and regulations to avoid excessive interference with the essential services of the City, a listing of said essential services is attached hereto as Attachment 2; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that it is necessary to adopt certain rules to determine the amount of resources that the City can currently devote to processing Public Records Requests, and the processing of the same, without interfering excessively with the City's essential services;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Gold Bar, Washington as follows:

1. Based on a review of the City's available income and staff, the City hereby adopts a rule to allocate twelve (12) hours per month of staff time for the handling and processing of Public Records Requests, in order to not create excessive interference with essential functions, pursuant to RCW 42.56.100. The City will use this allocation to estimate reasonable response times to public records requests pursuant to RCW 42.56.520.

2. Requests will be processed with priority given to small requests of easily located documents, small requests over large requests or broad requests, with large or broad requests provided in installments.

RESOLVED this 16th day of November 2010.

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:



Laura Kelly, City Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVED:



Joe Beavers, Mayor

ESSENTIAL SERVICES IMPACTS FOR 2011

The number of police deputies has been reduced from 5 to 4 while retaining the Sergeant. This will eliminate the second deputy who adds support during the most active times. This also eliminates the uncertainty of when an additional deputy will be on shift and the subsequent loss of deterrence from this. Response times will increase for the lower priority items.

Two staff employees have had their hours reduced from 40 hours per week with benefits to 24 hours per week without benefits. Most of their time will be spent supporting the backlog of work needed for the water system.

The temporary paralegal position processing the large and complex Public Records Requests has been eliminated.

The office staff has thus been reduced from 4 people to 2 people.

Parks support is mostly eliminated. Gateway Park, City Hall, and Mooring Park will not have any grounds maintenance. Any grounds maintenance for these parks will have to be done by volunteers. The use of Reformatory Residents will be maintained, hopefully at the rate of two times per month. Mowing of US-2 Park will be maintained on an availability basis.

Street support is mostly eliminated. Snow plowing will be limited to the arterials. Some street sweeping will be done. Annual vacuuming of stormwater basins will be maintained.

Recreational events will be provided with sanitary equipment. Staff labor will generally not be used. The Memorial Day Picnic, 4th of July Musical Extravaganza, and Gold Dust Days will have to be operated totally by volunteers, including grounds preparation and electrical power drops. Night Out Against Crime will have limited staff support and will need volunteers to plan and help implement this activity. It is not known if the Sheriff Department will sponsor this event for 2011. The Annual Tree Lighting will have to be done by volunteers and will include obtaining the needed materials (funds available from the City) and decorating the trees and then cleaning up. Limited staff support will be available.

City Hall will be open for 30 hours per week. Staff will be working for the full 40 hours, but will not be available for citizen support when the office is closed. Hours are expected to be 9 am to 12 pm and 1 pm to 4 pm.

Animal control will be reduced to those animals which are a significant nuisance. Citizens may bring captured dogs to City Hall during office hours for impoundment.

ESSENTIAL CITY SERVICES

(Taken from Association of Washington Cities Statement of Policy)

“This Statement of Policy of the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) serves as the foundation for our general principles. These principles guide the actions of the AWC Board, Officers, committees and staff in building stronger municipal governments in order to enhance the quality of life of all citizens. For purposes of this document, “cities” means both cities and towns.

Whether small rural towns or large urban cities, Washington’s 281 cities are home to 62 percent of the state’s population. From coastline communities that boast international ports to inland communities that are home to cutting-edge industries, and from quaint-residential towns to tourist villas, cities are the bedrock of entrepreneurial activity that provide a high quality of life.

City government offers specific services that are defined by state and federal laws and are a reflection of their citizens’ demands. These essential services include:

- Public safety and security – protecting residents and businesses through employment of 69 percent of the state’s local law enforcement and 66 percent of fire personnel.
- Streets – constructing and maintaining streets over which one-quarter of all the state’s traffic is carried.
- Water, sewer and stormwater – providing dependable utility services for millions of residents and businesses.
- Parks, libraries and recreation activities – enhancing cities with quality of life opportunities that keep communities healthy and engaged.
- Permitting and licensing – ensuring public safety and shaping livable and vibrant communities.
- Affordable housing and human services – supporting affordable and diverse housing options and integration of housing and human service resources.”

In Gold Bar, we met these requirements in 2010 by:

- Public safety and security by paying for 2 of the 5 deputies in the Gold Bar Region and providing office space and clerical aid
- Fire protection is through Fire District 26 with its own tax base and through Fire Inspections contracted through Snohomish County
- Maintaining streets using dedicated funds and State grants
- Providing a water utility enterprise for most of Gold Bar with PUD supplying the eastern areas
- Providing for stormwater control through control of developments and maintenance of existing facilities ... future plans should involve Low Impact Development
- Parks are funded in part by Impact Fees and maintained out of the General Fund
- Libraries are provided by the Sno-Isle Library System through its own tax base
- Permitting and licensing is enforced through City Ordinances and Fee Schedule
- Housing is not supported by the City except through code enforcement
- Human services are not supported by the City, but rather by the County and Non-Profits.