

CITY OF RUSTON REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 4th, 2025

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – At 7:010 PM Mayor Hopkins called the regular City Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were Councilmember Huson, Councilmember Jensen, and Councilmember Holland, Councilmember Hedrick, and Councilmember Syler. Following the flag salute, Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the agenda with a second from Councilmember Syler passed 5-0.

MINUTES – Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the minutes for the regular City Council Meeting of September 16th, 2025, with a second from Councilmember Syler, passed 5-0.

PRESENTATIONS – Faaluaina Pritchard with the Asia Pacific Cultural Center (APCC), provided a presentation to the City Council. *The presentation is attached for reference.*

STAFF REPORT – Nothing at this time.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Naomi Wilson - expressed opposition to Ordinance No. 1593. She argued that there was inconclusive evidence to support keeping the effects of Ordinance No. 1585 active claiming that it had not achieved the intended effect. She noted it was a wise decision to include a sunset clause in Ordinance No. 1585 but expressed dissatisfaction with the request to waive the first reading of Ordinance 1593 and move directly to voting. She urged the City Council to find a solution that balanced neighborhood concerns while also supporting local businesses. She urged the City Council to not pass Ordinance No. 1593 but instead take this as an opportunity to build connections between the businesses and residents. She further urged the City Council to base its decision on evidence rather than perception or bias, noting that doing so would strengthen both credibility and community confidence. She concluded by asking the City Council to explore an alternate solution that would support both residents' quality of life and local businesses.

Talia Thepvongsa – thanked Faaluaina Pritchard for the presentation and expressed awe at the accomplishments of the APCC. She reminded attendees that the City of Ruston Tree Lighting would be taking place in a month and encouraged attendees to volunteer and donate. She urged them to be on the lookout for notice of a meeting to plan and staff the event in the future.

Thomas Baker – expressed opposition to Ordinance No. 1593, consistent with his prior comments. He stated that significant bias influenced the vote, asserting that individuals

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residing near the affected area had swayed the City Council's decision. He reiterated his belief that the vote was driven by bias and noted that Ordinance No. 1593 repeatedly referenced "public safety," while existing public safety signage in the City remains in need of repair and maintenance. He suggested that the City should prioritize repairing public safety signage rather than focusing on public intoxication occurring outside bars after 12:00 AM.

He further stated that many of the incidents that led to Ordinance No. 1585 occurred before 12:00 AM, some as early as 10:00 PM. He acknowledged that businesses may continue to operate even with earlier closing times compared to those in Tacoma but emphasized that Ordinance No. 1593 would directly impact the earnings of employees working for these small businesses. He concluded by urging the City Council to find a more effective solution to public inebriation and to consider alternative approaches, such as an amendment or a special permit allowing businesses to remain open later on holidays.

Jessica Menser – expressed opposition to Ordinance No. 1593. She stated that given current economic challenges, the City should not make it more difficult for Ruston's small businesses to compete with those in the surrounding Tacoma area that are not subject to the same restrictions. She requested to see data supporting the need for this Ordinance and noted that she has sent multiple emails requesting Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board patrols, expressing concern that the City has not fully considered alternative solutions.

She further noted that when Ordinance No. 1585 was previously on the agenda, a large number of residents attended. She suggested that the low turnout at the current meeting may be due to insufficient advertising of the scheduled meeting, and stated that voting on this matter without adequate public input is a disservice to the community. She urged the City Council to engage with their constituents regarding this issue.

Laura Leizear – expressed opposition to Ordinance No. 1593. She stated that the State of Washington already has systems and legislation in place to address issues such as public inebriation outside of bars. She noted her understanding that the City's primary concern is the behavior associated with one bar in particular and the need for its owners to take responsibility for overserving patrons. She asserted that the City's current efforts have not been effective and that the only action likely to produce meaningful change would be to file complaints with the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board to initiate an investigation, as that agency is the only entity with the authority to suspend a liquor license.

Fred Byzinker – expressed that he was pleased to see a full quorum and, in recognition of the upcoming Veterans Day, thanked the two Councilmembers who are

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veterans for their service. He then read a poem in gratitude to veterans for their role in protecting American freedoms.

Mark Shingledecker – expressed support for Ordinance No. 1593. He stated that there are people he would like to hear from about Ordinance No. 1593, but that he didn't see any business owners at the meeting. Living near some of the locations where public inebriation frequently occurs, he stated that he still has issues with noise and is often watching the clock, waiting for the bar(s) to close. He stated that he would like Ordinance No. 1593 to be even more restrictive and claimed that after many years of trying to get the problem solved, many business owners simply don't want to solve it. He further added that other businesses in the surrounding City has similar operating hours. He expressed that Ordinance No. 1585 was a solution to the ongoing issues and asked the City Council to pass Ordinance 1593.

Patti Turner - expressed support for Ordinance No. 1593. She thanked the City Council for passing Ordinance No. 1585 last year and stated that, since its adoption, her neighborhood has experienced fewer disruptions to their peaceful environment. While disturbances still occur, she noted that residents are grateful for the additional hour of quiet most nights.

She referenced several Parks Tacoma events held over the summer—including evening concerts and a circus—that generated understandable frustration among residents due to noise and activity. She noted that while those events ended by 10:00 PM and occurred only a few times, her neighborhood experiences disruptions seven nights a week, often beginning after 10:00 PM.

She stated that of the three establishments affected by the ordinance, two have shown a decrease in receipts, which she suggested may be offset by reduced overhead costs. The third establishment, which had been struggling prior to Ordinance No. 1585, has shown a significant increase in receipts and has made noticeable changes to its operations. She further expressed that, in her observation, the establishment located in her area has not made efforts to improve its business practices or its relationship with nearby residents. She noted that the establishment originally opened in the 1920s as a tavern serving ASARCO smelter workers, at a time when far fewer residents lived in the surrounding neighborhood.

She emphasized the community's shared desire for a peaceful environment and urged the Council to support the interests of residents who live in and invest in Ruston, rather than those of non-residents who she feels show little regard for the neighborhood. She stated that while this issue may not affect every Councilmember directly, future issues might, and it is important for citizens to know they will receive support.

She concluded by noting that while the City cannot control activities organized by Parks Tacoma, it can control what occurs within Ruston that impacts its residents. *A copy of her public comment is attached for reference.*

BUSINESS –

RES 815 – Re-appointing Mark Shingledecker to the Planning Commission

INFORMATION / BACKGROUND – Mark Shingledecker was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the Planning Commission for Position #4 which was vacant due to Councilmember Jennifer Jensen’s election to the City Council. That term expired on June 30, 2025. The Mayor recommends re-appointing Mark Shingledecker to this seat for a new 6-year term which will expire on June 30, 2031.

In accordance with RMC 1.07.020, the process for appointing Planning Commissioners is an appointment by the Mayor and a confirmation by the Council. The attached Resolution #815 appoints Mark Shingledecker to Position #4 for a full 6-year term ending June 30, 2031. If Council agrees with the Mayor’s appointment, then adoption of the Resolution is recommended.

FISCAL CONSIDERATION – N/A

PROPOSED COUNCIL ACTION – Adopt Resolution No. 815.

Councilmember Jensen thanked Mark Shingledecker for putting himself forward for six more years of service and acknowledged the work the Planning Commission does for the City.

Councilmember Hedrick moved to adopt Resolution No. 815 for the re-appointment of Mark Shingledecker to Ruston Planning Commission Position 4 for a full term, which will end June 30th, 2031, with a second from Councilmember Syler, passed 5-0.

ORD 1593 – Amending ORD 1585 to Repeal Sunset Clause (1st Reading)

INFORMATION / BACKGROUND – Due to increased incidents and community reports related to public intoxication, leading to disruptions of the peace, offenses including public urination and fighting, damage to personal property, littering, and driving under the influence, the City Council passed Ordinance No. 1585 to reduce the hours of liquor sales in Ruston. This was an effort to curb the occurrences of public intoxication and create a safer and more peaceful community.

Since passage, one business has continued to generate a significant number of nightlife noise complaints from residents. The City looked at receipts of the three businesses

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that serve liquor in Ruston from January to July 2025 and compared that to the same period in 2024. The raw numbers and business identities are not being shared due to taxpayer privacy. Of those three businesses, one has increased receipts since the ordinance took effect and two have decreased receipts. When all businesses are looked at together, the business reduction is a single digit percentage reduction when compared from 2024. While the cause is not known, this could be caused by the economy or other factors apart from the liquor service hours ordinance. In addition, the businesses would likely have reduced hourly overhead costs if they are closing earlier, but the City does not have that data.

While there still are nightlife complaints, the City administration believes that the ordinance has made life in Ruston a bit more peaceful with the nightlife complaints occurring during earlier hours than before the Ordinance. Therefore, the administration recommends keeping the ordinance in place.

Ordinance No. 1585 included a Sunset Clause at Section 3 which provided, "Unless the City Council passes an ordinance extending or amending this Ordinance No. 1585, this Ordinance shall expire and no longer be in effect as of November 16, 2025, at 6:00 AM." Section 4 of the Ordinance directed the City Clerk to place this matter onto a Council Agenda no later than the first Regular City Council Meeting in October of 2025 for Council review and direction. However, the first and second meetings in October were cancelled, therefore, this is being brought forward at the November 4th meeting. The Council is requested to waive first reading and adopt this Ordinance on November 4th in order to avoid the sunseting of Ordinance No. 1585. Waiver of first reading requires a vote of a majority plus one of the members of Council (4 votes). (Resolution No. 501, Rule 22 of City Council Rules of Procedure.)

The proposed Ordinance No. 1593 repeals the Sunset Clause and makes the new liquor sale hours permanent.

FISCAL IMPACT – There is no direct fiscal impact of adopting this ordinance.

PROPOSED COUNCIL ACTION – This matter is on for First Reading with a request to waive first reading and adopt this Ordinance on November 4th in order to avoid the sunseting of Ordinance No. 1585.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hedrick and seconded by Councilmember Syler to waive first reading and adopt this Ordinance on November 4th in order to avoid the sunseting of Ordinance No. 1585. Mayor Hopkins clarified the request to waive first reading and adoption of the Ordinance are two separate voting items. He open the discussion for waiving the 1st reading of Ordinance No. 1593.

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Councilmember Jensen inquired on the drawbacks of not voting on Ordinance No. 1593 and stated she did not understand the decision to waive the first reading and move directly to voting.

Mayor Hopkins clarified the sunset clause of Ordinance No. 1585 expires November 16th and therefore waiting to vote on Ordinance No. 1593 until the 18th, which is the date of the next council meeting, would invalidate it. To uphold the changes to the municipal code made by Ordinance No. 1585, Council would have to pass a whole new ordinance rather than an update to Ordinance No. 1585.

Councilmember Jensen stated that her concern with waiving the first reading is that she believes the Council needs more communication with residents regarding Ordinance No. 1593. She noted that Council meetings are one of the few opportunities for residents to address the Council on such matters, and the last two regular Council meetings were cancelled due to lack of quorum. She expressed that the Council must do better to prevent future quorum issues and stated she does not want to move forward with this Ordinance without providing residents with a fuller opportunity to engage with the Council. She reiterated that although she would vote in favor of repealing the sunset clause, she felt conflicted that residents had not had adequate opportunity to voice their concerns.

Councilmember Holland expressed disagreement. He stated that the contact information for all Councilmembers, including emails and phone numbers, is publicly available, and that many of the residents in attendance know his home address and may speak with him at any time. He stated that he had challenged everyone, including business owners, to bring forward solutions, and that Ordinance No. 1585 represented what he believed was best for Ruston. He added that he continues to believe it is the best solution and referenced conversations with residents who reported improvements in their quality of life following its passage. He further noted that no business owner has approached him with an alternative proposal and, therefore, while he understands Councilmember Jensen's concerns, he disagrees with the assertion that the public has not had sufficient time to express their views on Ordinance No. 1593.

Councilmember Huson expressed his agreement with Councilmember Holland's position and stated that, if he were rewriting Ordinance No. 1593, he would make it even more restrictive, as suggested by Mark Shingledecker. He also disagreed with Councilmember Jensen's comments regarding Council attendance, noting that he had provided the Mayor and the City Clerk with advance notice of the dates he would be absent from City Council meetings.

Councilmember Hedrick moved to waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 1593 to Repeal the Sunset Clause of Ordinance No. 1585 regarding the sale of liquor, and thus,

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make a permanent change to Ruston's municipal code section 902020, seconded by Councilmember Syler, passed 4-1.

Aye: Hedrick, Syler, Huson, Holland
Nay: Jensen

Councilmember Jensen states that while it is important to consider polling and other data, the Councilmembers have also been elected to vote based on their best judgement. She stated that the Council are responsible to their neighbors and that Ruston is primarily a residential neighborhood. Commercial districts account for a very small part of Ruston, and, while the City wants small businesses to succeed, she does not believe the earlier shutdown is going to make-or-break the bars and restaurants in Ruston. Additionally, she asserted that small businesses need to be responsible to their neighbors and that the business at the center of all this has not been responsive to the needs of its neighbors and has not been willing to come to the table. She stated again that while data and statistics are important, it's hard to quantify residents' discomfort. She explained that since Ruston is a residential neighborhood, it needs to be responsive to its residents' concerns, which is why she is changing her stance from last year and voting in favor of Ordinance No. 1593. She concluded by clarifying that her comment regarding Council attendance was not meant to assign blame, but rather to emphasize the importance of ensuring the public has an adequate forum for discussion.

Councilmember Hedrick moved to pass Ordinance No. 1593 to Repeal the Sunset Clause of ORD 1585 Regarding the Sale of Liquor, and thus, make a permanent change to Ruston's municipal code section 902020, seconded by Councilmember Syler, passed 4-1.

Aye: Hedrick, Jensen, Huson, Holland
Nay: Syler

ORD 1594 – Tax Levy FY2026 (1st Reading)

INFORMATION / BACKGROUND – As part of the budget process, Ruston will consider the budget and the revenue sources for City operations and capital expenses. As part of that process, the City is required to hold a public hearing on this topic. The public hearing on revenue sources is currently scheduled to coincide with Second Reading. Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 1594 is scheduled for November 18, 2025.

Ruston is required to adopt its property tax levy in November of each year by ordinance and transmit a certified copy of the ordinance to Pierce County Assessor-Treasurer and to the Pierce County Council no later than November 30th. A Levy Certification must also be transmitted with the Ordinance.

Adoption of this Ordinance should be scheduled on the agenda during the meeting on November 18, 2025, and still meet the November 30th deadline.

FISCAL CONSIDERATION – This levy ordinance increases the property taxes levied by Ruston by the maximum amount allowed by law (one percent plus new construction, etc.). In 2025, Ruston levied \$736,484.41. The dollar amount of the increase over the actual levy amount from the previous year is \$10,676.82, exclusive of additional revenue from new construction, improvements to property, newly constructed wind turbines, increases in the value of state assessed property, annexations, and refunds made by the City. This should result in a 2026 levy in the amount of \$751,243.84.

PROPOSED COUNCIL ACTION – This is on for First Reading. This matter will return for Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption on November 18th.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hedrick and seconded by Councilmember Syler. The Council voted on the motion. Following the vote, the Mayor clarified that the item was scheduled for first reading only and no action was required at this meeting. The vote was therefore set aside, and the item proceeded as a first reading.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL – Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the Claims dated October 7th, October 21st, and November 4th of 2025, as well as Payroll dated September 19th, October 6th, and October 20th of 2025, with a second from Councilmember Syler, passed 5-0.

MAYOR'S TIME – the Mayor informed the Council that the reversal of the parking tax down at Point Ruston has created a shortfall in the City's budget. He had budgeted \$350,000 in income from that tax and now that is money that is gone from next year's budget. He noted that the ruling reversing the tax has been upheld and warned the Council that the 2026 budget will be the worst they will have ever seen. He said for now he is at loss for how to replace that kind of revenue. However, if TerraCotta is successful and they receive their building permit that Ruston will see huge increases in sales tax revenue. Another item the City is working on is installing automated traffic cameras. While the primary goal of the installation is public safety, the City's traffic studies show that these cameras will generate a significant number of citations. Though both these revenue sources are on the 2026 horizon, the Mayor stated that he cannot in good conscience include them in the budget.

Switching topics, the Mayor announced that the City has brought on a new member of staff, Sam Swain, along with their service dog, Quilly. He stated that they are a talented writer and is in the process of writing a Department of Commerce grant for the undergrounding of powerlines in Ruston, which seeks to modernize the City's electrical

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grid. With the addition of Sam, the new Utility Clerk, Sooji Hartzell, and new Clerk Treasurer, Mario Ortega, the City of Ruston has a tremendous team.

The Mayor further announced that TerraCotta is attempting to purchase all of the Point Ruston properties with the exception of the OCF. The OCF has the highest level of contamination, and the EPA is saying that the Department of Ecology is going to take it. The plan is that the OCF is going to be given to the Department of Ecology in perpetuity, and the City of Ruston will seek a long-term lease for the surface of the lot so that a park can be developed on it. None of this has been formally brought to Council yet, but the City is looking into a public-private arrangement with TerraCotta whereby TerraCotta develops a park, maintains it, and provides security. The Mayor noted that it is difficult for the City to be responsible for a park of that size and says that the park the City already owns, Rust Park, is in disrepair. He talked about working with the Department of Ecology and the EPA on grants to have Rust Park completely remediated and renovated. Under this plan, Rust Park would be the only park the City of Ruston was responsible for maintaining. The Mayor said the City would know more in the next week or two and said that when the EPA releases its liens on the remaining Point Ruston properties and the OCF, the City of Ruston would also receive Lot 10C which has been referred to as Lot Ruston and is a potential site for a public safety building in the future. The City is working to do remediation on Lot 10C as well as some of the lots in Rust Park that neighbor the railroad.

Councilmember Hedrick – welcomed Sam to the staff and thanked Mark for his work on the Planning Commission. He then shared a story of Chief Bautista identifying an individual who had several legal issues in other jurisdictions in the City of Ruston. He stated that he was astonished after looking at Ruston police reports how many people with outstanding warrants are arrested by the RPD. He thanked the RPD and then reminded attendees that it is election night and encouraged them to get to the polls before they close.

Councilmember Syler – thanked the Mayor for not spending money the City doesn't have and expressed confidence in Ruston's ability to buckle down as a community.

Councilmember Huson – nothing at this time.

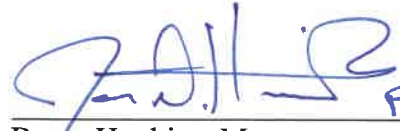
Councilmember Jensen – mentioned that in the time of tight budgets she wanted to remind the Council of the conversation they have been having regarding the four-way stop. She expressed hope that it could be added to an amended budget if the City could afford it in the future, since residents have expressed experiencing many close calls at the intersection in question. She shared that it was her honor to represent Ruston and the military at the Pierce County Council meeting earlier in the day. At this meeting it was declared that November 11th is Veteran's Day in Pierce County. She then explained

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Operation Green Light, saying that she would be placing a green light outside her house in support of Veterans.

Councilmember Holland – Nothing at this time.

MEETING AJOURNED – At 8:00 PM Councilmember Hedrick moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Syler, passed 5-0.


Bruce Hopkins, Mayor *FOR Mayor Problem*

ATTEST:


Mario A. Ortega, Jr., City Clerk



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Asia Pacific Cultural Center Organizational Overview 2025

About APCC

VISION STATEMENT

Asia Pacific Cultural Center will transform our community to become a dynamic, inclusive hub for diverse communities, cultures, and generations.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to bridge communities and generations through art, culture, education, and business.

SERVING 47 COUNTRIES AND CULTURES

APCC's strong connection and history with the Asia Pacific community is a key element of our organization's mission and purpose.

Washington is a wonderful kaleidoscope of races and ethnicities, with more than 1.3 million people (13% of the population) who are of Asian or Pacific Islander descent.

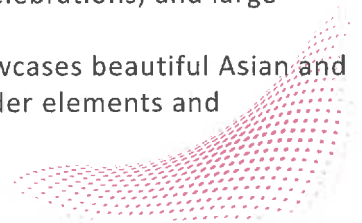
APCC not only serves the Asia Pacific people, but Asia Pacific people are an integral part of APCC. Together we are building a stronger, healthier, and more vibrant community for all.





New APCC Building NOW OPEN!

- Grand Opening Ceremony August 29, 2025
- For 29 years, APCC has experienced continuous steady growth
- 18,500 square feet, multi-use facility
 - Classrooms, offices, commercial kitchen, library, dance studio, Hall of Nations, art gallery, large-capacity auditorium for performances, cultural celebrations, and large events.
- proudly showcases beautiful Asian and Pacific Islander elements and influences



Patsy Surh Place

Affordable Housing for Seniors

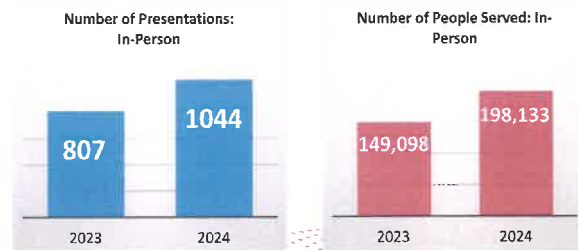
- A partnership between Asia Pacific Cultural Center (APCC) and Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI).
- Includes 78-units of affordable housing for seniors making 30% and 50% of the Area Median Income who are at risk of displacement from the Lincoln District.
- Serves individuals and couples ages 55 and over, with 39 units set aside for individuals homeless at entry
- Six (6) stories in height with a footprint of 56,344 square feet.
- Grand Opening was May 2025



Asia Pacific Cultural Program 2025 YTD (Jan-Sep)



	2025 YTD Jan-Sep
Number of Presentations	847
Number of People Served	157,091



Cultural Program 2025 Highlights

- ELO After-School Classes
- Language Classes
- 27th New Year Celebration – India
- 3rd Khmer New Year
- 6th Sawasdee Thailand Day
- Performances at APCC Grand Opening
- 15th Samoa Cultural Days
- First Time Offering:
 - Indonesia Day, Taiwanese Day, Mongolia New Year, Chamorro Festival, Filipino Day, Fiji Day
- APCC Day at the Washington State Fair
- Monthly Taste of Asia Pacific
- Artist Galleries

Business, Community & Engagement Services (BCES)

15,742 Total People Served
2025 YTD (Jan-Sep)

6948

Community Assistance/Reach

1562

Health Equity/Assistance

182

Small Business
Assistance/Reach

5823

Senior Gathering Attendance

1227

Food Distribution (People)



BCES 2025 Highlights:

- ◆ Increased senior participation/activities
- ◆ Distribution of funds from SBRN CBPP
- ◆ Continued collaboration with trusted partners and community leaders



Mental Health Program 2025 YTD (Jan -Sep)



Number of Clients/ Participants Served

3,578

285

Number of People at MH Education Workshops

Number of People Served at School Outreach

2,350

2,379

Number of People Served for Peer Support Services

Number of School Mental Health Engagement Drop -ins

649

Mental Health Program 2025 Highlights

- Expanding School Collaboration
 - Mt. Tahoma, Franklin Pierce, Bethel, Clover Park High Schools
 - Ford, First Creek Middle Schools
- New Programs
 - Community Care for District 4 Youths
 - Sources of Strength (Suicide Prevention)
- Inner Wellness Advisory Council
- Cultural Club Resiliency Programs
- Culturally Responsive Programming
 - Tailored outreach and workshops





Community Environmental Justice Program 2025 Highlights

Community Education/Focus Group Participants	802
Number of people engaged through outreach and tabling	355
Social Media Reach	5,137
# of Round 2 HEAL Capacity-Building Grants awarded	15
Amount Awarded, HEAL Grant Round 1	\$125,700
Total Air Quality Monitor Installed	18

3,189 Total People Served
2025 YTD (Jan-Sep)



Community Environmental Justice Program 2025 Highlights

- APCC Recycling Awareness
- APCC HEAL Sub-Grantee Engagement
- Technical Assistance and Report Reviews for Community Based Organizations (CBO's)
- APCC Resilience Hub Focus Group and Outreach
- Planning and Coordinating Environmental Justice Education and Engagement
- Pilot Program: Air Quality Monitoring Project
- Engage with and conduct outreach to other EJ organizations and state agencies





Promised Leaders of Tomorrow (PLOT) Youth Program 2025 (YTD Jan-Sep)

	2024-25 Most Recently Completed School Year	2023-24 Previous School Year
# of Seniors	89	77
# of Graduates	89	77
Graduation Rate	100%	100%

	2024-25 School Year	2023-2024 School Year
% Asian or Pacific Islander	83%	86%
Total Students Registered (unduplicated)	244	242

PLOT Youth Program 2025 Highlights



- Provided Multilingual Service to 55 Ukrainian and 22 Afghan refugee students
- Youth Coordinators work with Tautua students from 4 School Districts to compete in the Lau Samoa Statewide Competition, and received 2nd Place
- Financial Aid Workshops and Seniors Preparation meetings, College Applications Assistance
- Provided After School Tutoring and Wrap-Around Services for Tacoma Schools, Clover Park Schools, Franklin Pierce School District students, 289 students
- 4 Field Trips: Aspire Summit Pierce College, Strong Youths & Community Summit, API Leg. Day, Rising SEA Conference UW
- 29 students in the Summer Youth Program

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Thank You!

I would like to urge you to pass ord1593 which repeals the Sunset Clause of ORD 1585 and make it permanent. I want to thank you all for passing Ordinance 1585 last year. Since then, the neighborhood that we live in has experienced fewer disruptions to our peaceful existence. However, they are still happening, but we are grateful for the extra hour of sleep, on most nights, that the rest of the town experiences.

This summer Parks Tacoma sponsored 5 or 6 evening concerts and a circus that took place over 3 weekends. You heard from residents that were very understandably upset about these abruptions to their daily existence. Fortunately, all of these events ended by 10p.m. and were contained to a few occasions. It's a little different where we live where we are subject to disruptions 7 nights a week and those for the most part don't happen until after 10 p.m.

Of The 3 main establishments that are affected by this ordinance two of them show a decrease in receipts, it could be that they are making up the difference by paying less overhead. The other establishment, which was floundering before 1585 was passed shows a significant increase in receipts. Since the passage I know that that particular establishment has made significant changes to its operations.

By my observations, since the passage of 1585 it has not been made apparent that the establishment on our side of town has made any changes to increase its business or relations with the neighbors. BTW this establishment opened in 1924 or 1926 as a TAVERN that catered to the Smelter (ASARCO) workers when there were fewer residents surrounding it. ASARCO closed almost 40 years ago.

We all desire a peaceful existence in our unique community where we work together to solve problems. I hope the council feels the same and wants the best for the whole town by supporting those that live here, are invested in it and pay taxes and don't side with the few non-residents that show no regard for the neighborhood and its inhabitants.

This situation may not affect you directly but down the line there may be something that will and it would be great to know that your council and fellow citizens will support you.

You may not be able to control what happens at Parks Tacoma that affects Ruston citizens but you can control what happens in our Ruston that affects your fellow citizens.

Thank you