

Our Purpose

- Coordinate local government involvement in Department of Energy decision making on issues affecting the Hanford Communities.
- Increase public awareness and involvement in Hanford cleanup issues.
- Provide technical and analytical resources to review, evaluate and monitor conditions and policies at Hanford.
- Evaluate reports and findings, issue position papers, prepare letters and testimony, and sponsor activities to inform local citizens about Hanford related environmental health, safety and socio-economic issues.
- Interact with the Department of Energy, the Washington State Department of Ecology, the EPA and others regarding Hanford environmental contamination, remediation, waste management, emergency response, and work force and site transition issues.

Our Members

City of Richland
City of Kennewick
City of Pasco
Port of Benton
Benton County
Franklin County

Governing Board

Ed Revell, Chairman, Richland City Council
Mike Garrison, Vice-Chair, Pasco City Council
Bob Parks, Kennewick City Council
Bob Larson, Commissioner, Port of Benton
Brad Peck, Commissioner, Franklin County
James Beaver, Commissioner, Benton County

Administrative Board

Cindy Johnson, Chair, Richland City Manager
Gary Crutchfield, Pasco City Manager
Robert Hammond, Kennewick City Manager
Adam Fyall, Benton County
Brad Peck, Commissioner, Franklin County
Scott Keller, Executive Director,
Port of Benton

Executive Director –

Pamela Brown Larsen

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Hanford Communities

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Hanford Communities



City of Richland

City of Kennewick

City of Pasco

Port of Benton

Benton County

Franklin County

Independent Communities

With Common Interests

www.ci.richland.wa.us/richland/hanford

Hanford Communities

To move from a position of economic dependence to independence and partnership with federal agencies, the Hanford Communities focuses its energy in these areas:

The U.S. Department of Energy's Hanford Reservation dominates this region in terms of its size, employment and expenditures. As Hanford's mission evolves from defense to waste management and environmental restoration, massive restructuring of programs and the work force is taking place.

Cleanup progress over the next 20-30 years will shrink Hanford's physical area and level of employment. The rigors of this transition underscore the need for an organization to coordinate the efforts of local governments impacted by Hanford. The Hanford Communities serves this need by bringing local governments together to take the future of their communities into their own hands.

Formed in early 1994, the Hanford Communities is an intergovernmental cooperative organization of Benton County and four cities that are home to nearly 100 percent of Hanford's work force. By joining forces, independent Hanford communities members can concentrate their efforts and provide unified advice and support to the Department of Energy on important transition issues.

Hanford Policy Guidance

Every year, dozens of policy issues are studied by the Department of Energy. The Hanford communities monitor the status of major policy issues and supplied in-depth analysis and information to local governments. The Hanford Communities Newsletter keeps local government representatives informed and involved in Hanford policy formulation. Common policy positions are formally communicated to federal officials and other stakeholders.

Public Education and Involvement Programs

The Hanford Communities helps elected representatives increase the awareness of Hanford-related issues among their constituents. The Hanford Communities sponsors activities to coordinate public review of policy issues critical to the Hanford area.

Environmental Monitoring

Safeguarding the environment and protecting worker and public safety are matters of utmost concern to Hanford area governments. Hanford Communities members are kept informed of the latest Hanford health and safety issues. Shared concerns are discussed and common positions are communicated to the Department of Energy.

Speakers' Bureau

The 2009-2010 Hanford Communities Speakers' Bureau presenters are knowledgeable in their field and directly involved in the Hanford cleanup. Topics available for presentation to local organizations range from characterization and remediation of soils and groundwater to budget issues including plans for spending ARRA (Stimulus) funds. Other topics include the Tri-Party Agreement, waste retrieval & disposition, tank waste retrieval and progress on the Waste Treatment Plant to vitrify of tank waste.

Community Outreach

The Hanford Communities community outreach efforts range from education and industry partnerships to community event participation. Outreach efforts include opportunities for local students to "shadow" with Department of Ecology personnel and Hanford Communities representatives.

Issue Briefings

The Hanford Communities produce "Issue Briefings" that are broadcast locally on Charter cablevision and on public access cable in the Seattle and Portland markets. The Issue Briefings provide a vehicle for local stakeholders to discuss important Hanford issues with those directly involved in the Hanford cleanup.

■ *Richland* ■ *Kennewick* ■ *Pasco* ■ *West Richland* ■ *Port of Benton* ■ *Benton County*