



Mayor's Minute

Greetings to you and to the new year. It doesn't seem possible another year has passed, yet here we are. Winter Festival is always the perfect way to end the year, and this year's event did not disappoint. Thank you, Re*Imagine Medical Lake, you did it again!

2025 was a whirlwind of activity and so much was accomplished; expect to see a full recap of accomplishments in the next newsletter. While the calendar may signal a new year, the work of city council and staff follows a continuum of activity. In 2026, you can expect the city to continue to focus on infrastructure improvements, economic development, park and recreation programs, and city beautification.



Mayor Terri Cooper

We will continue to improve strategic partnerships in our community to better serve you. One such example is the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, a committee comprised of community leaders formed to provide insight and guidance into our Comprehensive Plan update. The Comprehensive Plan update is not only a legal requirement but is an important document that sets forth guidance related to land use, capital facilities planning, transportation, housing, and other matters that address the needs of Medical Lake for the next 20 years and to ensure compliance with the Growth Management Act (GMA).

In January, I plan to take a team of council members and staff to Olympia to promote our legislative agenda which includes statutory funding for police services provided to Eastern State Hospital and hazard mitigation funding for improved disaster preparedness equipment and infrastructure needs.

Wishing each of you a very blessed, prosperous, healthy, and happy New Year!

City Council Corner

City Budget Matters. The Finance Director proposed a 3rd Quarter Budget Amendment, asking Council to authorize expenses relating to increased insurance and audit costs, FEMA repaving project costs, and maintenance repairs that were unknown when the 2025 Budget was approved ([December 16th CC Agenda Packet](#)). The FY 2026 Final Budget Hearing was held on 12/2. The Q3 Budget Amendment and FY26 Final Budget were adopted on 12/16.

Oaths of Office for Elected Leaders. During the 12/18 meeting, Mayor Terri Cooper and Council members Heath Wilbur, Ted Olson, Don Kennedy, and Tony Harbolt were sworn in at the beginning of the 12/18 meeting for their term starting 1/1/2026.

CTR Agreement Update. City Council unanimously approved an interlocal agreement with Spokane County regarding Commute Trip Reduction implementation.

In The News

Winter Festival Fun. The weather was wonderful and crowds gathered for a Winter Festival to remember. Cookies, crafts, and cocoa entertained families, local businesses were open and engaged, vendors and food trucks were ample, and it was all wrapped up with a parade and fireworks! Many thanks to Re*Imagine Medical Lake and the countless volunteers and collaborators!

Citizen Advisory Boards. Judy Mayulianos was recognized for her service to the community as a member of the Planning Commission since 2014. As a result of Judy's end of term, Mayor Cooper appointed Jim Rowe to the Planning Commission. Patrick Flaherty has been appointed to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Live Stream Event. Mayor Cooper joined with valued partners from Medical Lake School District, Lakeland Village, and Re*Imagine Medical Lake to share community building stories. To learn more, visit our YouTube channel ([Pass the Mic Livestream Recording](#)).

Community Calendar

January

- 1/1 – Happy New Year – City Hall Closed
- 1/6 - City Council Meeting at 6:30pm in City Hall
- 1/19 – MLK Day Holiday
- 1/20 - City Council Meeting at 6:30pm in City Hall
- 1/22 – Planning Commission Meeting at 5:30pm in City Hall
- 1/27 – Medical Lake School Board Meeting at 6pm in the Administrative Office and Zoom

Helpful links:

- [Re*Imagine Medical Lake](#) (Farmers Market and Festival information)
- [City Council - City of Medical Lake](#) (agendas and minutes)
- [Planning Commission - City of Medical Lake](#) (agendas and minutes)
- [Medical Lake School District](#)
- [Medical Lake Dollars for Scholars](#)

February

- 2/3 – City Council Meeting at 6:30pm in City Hall
- 2/13 – Daddy Daughter Dance, 5-7pm, Medical Lake Middle School
- 2/16 – Presidents Day Holiday
- 2/17 – City Council Meeting at 6:30pm in City Hall
- 2/26 – Planning Commission Meeting at 5:30pm in City Hall

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

