



Mayor's Minute

Greetings Medical Lake! As another summer draws to a close, life has mostly settled back into its familiar rhythms. Looking back, summer 2026 was beautiful and vibrant—filled with sunny days, local festivals, live music, ball games, and time on the water. Yet, that joy was suddenly eclipsed by the tragic Spokane Complex Fires, a heartbreaking echo of the Gray Road Fire from just a few years ago. Our hearts break for the Spokane community, and we keep them in our constant thoughts and prayers for recovery. Just as before, the subsequent outpouring of generosity has been profoundly moving. What could have broken our spirit has only brought us closer together, leaving us deeply grateful for our community and for one another.

Autumn marks a critical period of strategic planning for our city, as staff align annual budgets, establish legislative priorities, and secure funding for essential capital improvement plans. Teams are currently advancing \$4.7 million in grant-funded projects, with an additional \$1.6 million in applications pending. Concurrently, after a year of rigorous due diligence, the city is finalizing its Comprehensive Plan Update. This vital document shapes local zoning laws and daily governance, ensuring balanced growth that protects our environment and community character. Guided by Senior Planner Elisa Rodriguez's exceptional leadership, this state-mandated update sets a clear, compliant path for our city's future.

City Council Corner

Over the past month, City Council has focused on long-range planning, infrastructure investment, public safety, economic development, and community engagement, including:

- Discussion of capital improvement projects and infrastructure investments intended to maintain and improve streets, utilities, parks, public facilities, and community resilience.
- Continued work on the Periodic Update of City development regulations and municipal code provisions to ensure compliance with state requirements and consistency with the Comprehensive Plan.
- Consideration of impact fee policies, including updates related to parks, schools, transportation, and future growth-related infrastructure needs.
- Construction progress on the Coney Island Park shoreline stabilization, dock, and waterfront improvements.

In The News

Utility Rate Study Underway. The City is evaluating the long-term financial needs of its water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities. A utility rate study provides the data needed to understand operating costs, infrastructure replacement needs, regulatory requirements, reserves, and the financial effects of different rate alternatives. City Council will use this information to consider options that balance affordability, service reliability, responsible asset management, and the long-term health of the community's utility systems.

West Medical Lake Health Information. The Spokane Regional Health District has advised that recreational activities at West Medical Lake cease until further notice while additional monitoring and testing are conducted. Although no illnesses have been reported, exposure to harmful algal toxins can pose health risks to people and animals. The City will continue coordinating with SRHD and other partners, share updated information as it becomes available, and encourage community members to follow posted advisories and take appropriate precautions to protect themselves, their families, and their pets.

Community Events You Won't Want To Miss. Construction season is bringing visible improvements across Medical Lake:

- **Linger at the Lake Featuring Bay Seven.** Join us Saturday, September 12, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for the final Linger at the Lake concert of 2026, featuring Bay Seven. This free community celebration will include live music, food trucks, a farmers' market, beer garden, kid zone, and car show.
- **Craft Beer for a Cause.** This 21+ community event brings together local breweries including Inland Ale Works, West Plains Brewing, Bellwether Brewing, and Salt King Brewing for an evening of great beverages, community fellowship, and charitable giving. Proceeds from the event will benefit Medical Lake Dollars for Scholars, helping support educational opportunities for local students. Attendees can also enjoy a free live performance by Bay7 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., making this a perfect opportunity to support a great cause while celebrating another memorable evening on the lake.
- **Re*Imagine Medical Lake Fall Festival.** Save the date for the Re*Imagine Medical Lake Fall Festival on October 31 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the High School Bus Loop. This free family event will feature a walk-through trunk-or-treat, farmers market, pumpkins, games, activities, and plenty of candy. Businesses, organizations, families, and volunteers can also help by registering a trunk or supporting the King of Candy collection.
- **Market Bucks Are Back At The Re*Imagine Medical Lake Farmers Market**
All 99022 residents are eligible to receive \$20 to spend at approved market food vendors through October 3, 2026. Available (while supplies last): Saturday, September 5, Saturday, September 19, Saturday, October 3. Additional details apply, see a Re*Imagine Medical Lake Volunteer at the Market. Sponsored by BlueScope and Re*Imagine Medical Lake.

Community Calendar

September

9/1 – City Council Meeting at 6:30pm in City Hall
9/2 – Wonder Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30pm at the Medical Lake Library
9/5 – Re*Imagine Medical Lake Farmers Market
9/7 – Labor Day Holiday (City Hall closed)
9/12 – Linger at the Lake Concert and Craft Beer for a Cause
9/15 – City Council Meeting at 6:30pm in City Hall
9/19 – Re*Imagine Medical Lake Farmers Market, 9am-1pm
9/24 – Planning Commission Meeting at 5:30pm in City Hall

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram!



October

10/3 – Re*Imagine Medical Lake Farmers Market
10/6 – City Council Meeting at 6:30pm in City Hall
10/13 – Columbus Day Holiday
10/20 – City Council Meeting at 6:30pm in City Hall (Revenue and Property Tax Hearing)
10/22 – Planning Commission Meeting at 5:30pm in City Hall
10/27 – Medical Lake School Board Meeting at 6pm in the Administration Office
10/31 – Re*Imagine Medical Lake Fall Festival
11/3 – City Council Meeting at 6:30pm in City Hall (Preliminary Budget Hearing)

Helpful links:

[Linger at the Lake - City of Medical Lake](#) (Summer Concert Series)
[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 – SCLD - Spokane County Library District](#)

MEDICAL LAKE PARKS AND RECREATION

YOUTH PROGRAMS

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Join us every day after school at Hallett Elementary for some fun free play!

Grades: K-5th **Time:** 2:45-5:30pm

Dates: Monday-Friday every full school day

Cost: \$9/Per day (full week discount)

PINT SIZED PLAYTIME

Join us for some sensory play with your little one! Playtime activities will vary from class to class.

Ages: 1-4 yrs **Time:** 10:00-11:00am

Dates: 9/22, 10/20

Location: City Hall Auditorium **Cost:** FREE

SCHOOL'S OUT DAY CAMPS

Need something for your kiddo to do on their day off from school? We got you! Breakfast and snack will be provided, but make sure to send your kiddo with a sack lunch! Check out our day camp activities we have coming up this year!

Fall Fun at Rusty Truck Ranch

Date: 10/9 **Register By:** 10/7

Time: 7:30am-5:30pm **Cost:** \$50

Fall Break Camp

Dates: 11/23-11/24 **Register By:** 11/19

Time: 7:30am-5:30pm **Cost:** \$100

HAUNTED TRICK OR TREATING TRAIL AT WATERFRONT PARK

Medical Lake Parks & Recreation is proud to present our first Haunted Trick or Treating Trail at Waterfront Park! Dress up in your best costume and come down to Waterfront Park to walk the trail and meet characters of all kinds. But beware—after the sun sets, ghouls and ghosts abound, so grab a friend and come out for a good scare. After you walk the trail, play some carnival games for the chance to win some candy. We can't wait to see you there! Plan to spend 20-30 minutes walking the trail.

Date: Friday, 10/30 **Ages:** All ages are welcome!

Trick or Treating Trail: 4:30-6:00pm

Haunted Trail: 6:30-8:00pm

Location: Trail starts at the north end of the trail. Parking available at Waterfront Park with shuttle to start of the trail. Carnival activities will be located at Waterfront Park by the Main Shelter

Cost: FREE!

We need volunteers for the Trick or Treating and Haunted Trail activities! Trick or Treating Trail volunteers will dress up in non-scary costumes for ages 10 and under, while Haunted Trail volunteers should dress ready to give a scare! Please email us at recreation@medical-lake.org for more information. All volunteers must pass a background check.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

TAEKWONDO LESSONS

Join Master Hughes to enhance your fitness level, learn self-defense techniques, and build mental toughness! Classes help kids build focus, character, and self-disciplinary skills.

Dates: Every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday!

Location: MLMS Wrestling Room

Tiny Tigers Classes **Cost:** \$80/month

Tiny Tigers is designed for children aged 3-6, focusing on developing fundamental physical and mental skills through fun and engaging activities.

Wednesday & Friday Classes: 5:30-6:00pm

Saturday Class: 2:00-2:30pm

Family Classes **Cost:** \$135/month

Challenge yourself to reach new heights in both mental and physical strength! Ages 7 and up.

Wednesday & Friday Classes: 6:00-7:00pm

Saturday Classes: 2:30-3:30pm

SQUARE DANCING LESSONS

Grab a partner and stretch your body and mind in this fun and social dance! No previous dancing skills required, so long as you can walk and listen at the same time. Not sure if square dancing is for you? **Come to our FREE open house on 9/17 for a free lesson!** Returning students will be invited to stay for an additional half hour workshop at the end of class. For ages 9 and up (must be 14 years or older to attend without a parent).

Dates: Thursdays, 9/17-12/17 (13 weeks)

Time: 6:30-8:00pm (all students)

6:30-8:30pm (returning students)

Location: City Hall Auditorium

Cost: \$60 (new students)

Returning students are \$24 each or \$50 for families of three or more!



SEPTEMBER 12TH 4:00-7:30PM

Hang out at the lake with us and enjoy some fun, FREE kids activities during the concert!

Facepainting Bounce Castle Lawn Games
Scavenger Hunt Activities Water Balloon Range
and MORE!

Interested in signing up for one of our programs? Scan the QR code here to get started!



LINGER AT THE LAKE & DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

Support your local Dollars for Scholars organization while enjoying some locally brewed craft beer and live music! Bay7 will be playing the best blues and rock hits from 70s to present, while vendors such as Inland Ale Works, West Plains Brewing, and more will have their favorite local brews for you to enjoy! Concert is free to attend, but beer garden will require a ticket for entry. Don't leave the kid's behind! Our Kids Zone will have facepainting, bounce castles, yard games, and more – all for free!

Ages: 21 and up for Craft Beer Festival, Kid's Zone activities open to all ages!

Date: Saturday, 9/12

Time: 4:00-8:00pm Music starts at 6pm!

Location: Waterfront Park

Cost: Craft Beer Festival tickets are \$25, includes 5 tokens to purchase drinks from vendors. Additional tokens available for purchase.

PUMPKIN PAINTING CONTEST

Show off your creativity and compete for the title of best pumpkin! Pumpkins will be judged in categories of 5-10 years and 11-17 years.

Time: 5:30pm-7:30pm **Cost:** FREE

Date: DROP OFF OR PAINT 10/22

Ages: 5-17 years old

Location: City Hall Auditorium for painting, drop off pumpkins at the front office!

TEEN PROGRAMS **Ages 11-17**

SAFE SITTER BABYSITTING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

This program is designed to teach students basic safety, childcare, and first aid skills, as well as life & business skills to begin building their babysitting business! Classes will be taught by our Safe Sitter instructor, Jessica Chadwick, and students will graduate with a certification they can share with families to help get babysitting jobs. Transportation from MLMS will be provided.

Grades: 6th and up **Cost:** \$50

Dates: 10/6, 10/8, 10/13, and 10/15

Time: 3:15-5:00pm

Location: Hallett Elementary School

Pinochle (55+) Cost: FREE!

Socialize and meet new people in our weekly Pinochle group. Bring a snack to share.

12:00pm - 4:00pm Tuesdays & Saturdays

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

TEEN GAME NIGHT

Bring a friend to play a mix of game types, including console games, VR, board games, TTRPG's, and miniatures games.

Date: 9/25 **Register By:** 9/18

Time: 5:30pm-8:30pm **Cost:** \$20/player

Ages: 11-17 years

Location: City Hall Auditorium

ADULT PROGRAMS

PICKLEBALL

Looking for your new favorite obsession? Grab a paddle and hit the court – it's time to play pickleball! **No pickleball for the month of August, we will resume September 6th!**

Sundays: 2:00-4:00pm

Cost: FREE

Location: MLMS

ADULT SPORTS

Gear up for adult sports! These fast-paced leagues and tournaments are open to ages 16 and older. All skill levels are welcome and spaces are limited, so sign up today!

All team members must register to play.

Adult Flag Football

Dates: 10/2-11/6

Register By: 9/18

Cost: \$200/team

LAKESIDE WALKING CLUB

Get out, meet new people, and enjoy some exercise with us as we walk around Medical Lake each week! All ages welcome.

Date: Mondays

Time: 9:00-11:00am **Cost:** FREE

Meeting Location: Waterfront Park

SENIOR WELLNESS AT CITY HALL

Senior Yoga

Join us for a gentle and relaxing time of stretching and strengthening!

Date: Wednesdays, 11:30am-12:30pm

Tuesday and Sundays 6:30-7:30pm
starting 9/1

Cost: \$8/class

Senior Fitness Program

Learn new ways to stay agile and confident in your balance, movement, and strength!

Dates: Thursdays, 9/3-10/8 **Time:** 10:00-11:00am

Cost: \$5 per class

Jazzercise classes are in the City Hall Auditorium. See website for price and schedule.

www.jazzercise.com/location/jazzercise-west-plans