

## **YAKIMA HOUSING AUTHORITY PUBLIC RECORDS POLICY**

### **AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE**

It is the policy of the Yakima Housing Authority ("YHA") to release YHA records in compliance with the Washington Public Records Act ("Act"), Chapter 42.56 RCW, and any other applicable provisions of federal or state law.

This policy establishes the procedural guidelines YHA will follow in order to provide full access to public records. This policy also provides information to persons wishing to request access to public records of YHA and establishes processes for both Requesters and YHA staff.

Except where mandated by statute, the guidelines in this policy are discretionary and advisory only and shall not impose any affirmative duty on YHA. YHA reserves the right to apply and interpret this policy as it sees fit, and to revise or change the policy at any time.

This policy shall be available at YHA's Main Office and through YHA's Website.

### **AUTHORITY REFERENCE**

- Chapter 42.56 RCW, Public Records Act
- Chapter 44-14 WAC, Public Records Act—Model Rules

### **AGENCY DESCRIPTION**

YHA is a public housing authority and local government agency that serves citizens by administering federal and state programs to provide affordable housing and services in Yakima County, Washington.

YHA's central office is located at 810 North 6th Ave, Yakima, WA 98902.

### **PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICER**

YHA's Executive Director shall designate a Public Records Officer.

Requests for public records of YHA, or those seeking assistance in making such a request, should contact:

Yakima Housing Authority  
Attn: Public Records Officer  
810 North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Yakima, WA 98902  
Telephone: (509) 453-3106  
Fax: (509) 494-7080  
E-mail: [publicrecordsofficer@yakimahousing.org](mailto:publicrecordsofficer@yakimahousing.org)

The Public Records Officer will oversee compliance with the Public Records Act, but another YHA staff member may process the request. Accordingly, any reference in this Policy to the "Public Records Officer" means the Public Records Officer or designee.

The Public Records Officer will provide fullest assistance to Requesters, ensure that public records are protected from damage or disorganization, and prevent fulfilling public records requests from causing excessive interference with essential functions of the YHA.

## **GENERAL AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**

Public records will be available for inspection and copying from 9:00 a.m to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. YHA's normal business hours are, Monday through Thursday, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. excluding federal holidays. Thus, if a requestor seeks to inspect and/or copy records outside of YHA's normal business hours, the requestor should coordinate with the Public Records Officer to arrange for mutually agreeable times for inspection and/or copying.

Records must be inspected at YHA's office located at 810 North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Yakima, WA, unless the requester pays for copies as provided in this policy and in Chapter 42.56 RCW. YHA will not allow original records out of YHA's office except that YHA may send original records to a reputable commercial copying center to fulfill a records request.

**Inspection will be denied and the records withdrawn by the Public Records Officer if the Requester, when reviewing records, acts in a manner which will damage or substantially disorganize the records or interfere with other essential functions of YHA.**

Some of the commonly requested YHA documents are available on our website at [www.yahimahousing.org](http://www.yahimahousing.org). Requesters are encouraged to view the documents available on the web site prior to submitting a records request. YHA may also fulfill its obligation to provide "access" to a public record by providing a requestor with a link to a website containing an electronic copy of a requested record.

YHA is a local agency and has opted out of the requirement to keep an index of records. RCW 42.56.070(4)(a). YHA determined by Resolution #14-\_\_\_\_\_, that maintaining an index would be unduly burdensome and would interfere with the YHA's operations due to the number and complexity of records generated as a result of the wide range of YHA activities, limited staff to complete the necessary work to create and maintain such index, and the general cost to YHA that would result from lost staff time to perform other critical functions necessary to YHA's operations and mission to provide affordable, safe, housing.

## **MAKING A PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST**

Any person wishing to inspect or copy public records of YHA should make the request in writing on the YHA request form, or by letter, fax, or e-mail addressed to the YHA's Public Records Officer (see above for contact information). The request form is available for use by Requesters at the office of the Public Records Officer and on-line at YHA's website: [www.yakimahousing.org](http://www.yakimahousing.org). Requests should include the following information:

1. Name of requestor;
2. Address of requestor;
3. Other contact information, including telephone number and any e-mail address;
4. The date and time of day of the request;
5. Identification of the public records adequate for the public records officer or designee to locate the records;
6. Location or department of the requested records, if known;
7. Whether the Requestor intends to inspect the records or obtain photocopies, or electronic copies, at the costs set forth below in this policy; and
8. The method by which YHA should contact the Requestor.

If a Requestor wishes to have copies or electronic reproductions of the records made instead of simply inspecting them, he or she should so indicate and make arrangements to pay for copies of the records or a deposit. The costs for copies are set forth below.

The Public Records Officer or designee may accept requests for public records that contain the above information by telephone or in person. If the Public Records Officer or designee accepts such a request, he or she will confirm receipt of the information and the substance of the request in writing.

YHA may ask a Requestor to prioritize the records he or she is requesting so that the agency is able to provide the most important records first.

YHA will not require a Requestor to disclose the purpose of the request with two exceptions:

1. If the request is for a list of individuals, YHA will ask the requestor if he or she intends to use the records for a commercial purpose. YHA is not authorized to provide public records consisting of a list of individuals for a commercial use, and will require any person requesting public records that includes a list individuals to provide a declaration under penalty of perjury that certifies sufficient facts from which the Public Records Officer can reasonably determine that the records will not be used for commercial purposes.
2. YHA may seek information sufficient to allow it to determine if another statute prohibits disclosure due to statutory criteria or conditions that would either permit or prohibit the disclosure.

## **PROCESSING OF PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS**

### **A: Providing Fullest Assistance**

YHA will provide the fullest assistance to requestors and provide the most timely possible action on public records requests. The Public Records Officer will process requests in the order allowing the most requests to be processed in the most efficient manner.

### **B: Acknowledging Receipt of Request**

Within five business days of receipt of the request, the public records officer will do one or more of the following:

1. Make the records available for inspection or copying;
2. If copies are requested and payment of a deposit for the copies, if any, is made or terms of payment are agreed upon, send the copies to the requestor;
3. Provide a reasonable estimate of when records will be available; or
4. If the request is unclear or does not sufficiently identify the requested records, request clarification from the Requestor. Such clarification may be requested and provided by telephone. If the Requestor fails to clarify an unclear request, YHA will not respond to it further. If the Requestor does not respond to the agency's request for a clarification within thirty days of the agency's request, YHA may consider the request abandoned send a closing letter to the Requestor; or
5. Deny the request.

### **C: Consequences of Failure to Respond**

If YHA does not respond in writing within five business days of receipt of the request for disclosure, the Requestor should consider contacting the public records officer to determine the reason for the failure to respond.

### **D: Protecting Rights of Others**

In the event that the requested records contain information that may affect rights of others and may be exempt from disclosure, the public records officer may, prior to providing the records, give notice to such

others whose rights may be affected by the disclosure. Such notice should be given so as to make it possible for those other persons to contact the requestor and ask him or her to revise the request, or, if necessary, seek an order from a court to prevent or limit the disclosure. The notice to the affected persons will typically include a copy of the request.

#### **E: Disclosure Determination Procedure**

YHA will utilize a disclosure determination procedure to guide the determination as to whether a particular record, or portion thereof, must be disclosed. The procedure is attached to this policy and incorporated herein as Appendix A.

#### **F: Records Exempt from Disclosure**

Some records are exempt from disclosure, in whole or in part. If YHA believes that a record is exempt from disclosure and should be withheld, the Public Records Officer will state the specific exemption and provide a brief explanation of why the record or a portion of the record is being withheld. If only a portion of a record is exempt from disclosure, but the remainder is not exempt, the Public Records Officer will redact the exempt portions, provide the nonexempt portions, and indicate to the requestor why portions of the record are being redacted.

YHA reserves the right to seek to enjoin the examination or production of any specific record, the examination or production of which YHA determines would clearly not be in the public interest and would substantially and irreparably damage any person or would substantially and irreparably damage vital governmental functions.

#### **G: Inspection of Records**

YHA shall promptly provide space to inspect public records. No Requestor may remove a document from the viewing area or disassemble, alter, mark on or destroy an original record during inspection. YHA may have an agency employee observe the inspection or copying of records by the Requestor to ensure that they are not disorganized, altered or destroyed. A Requestor shall indicate which documents he or she wishes the agency to copy. To select a paper record for copying during an inspection, a Requestor must use a nonpermanent method such as a paperclip or adhesive note.

A Requestor must claim or review the assembled records within thirty days of YHA's notification to him or her that the records are available for inspection or copying. The agency will notify the Requestor in writing of this requirement and inform the requestor that he or she should contact YHA to make arrangements to claim or review the records.

The inspection of records cannot create excessive interference with the other essential functions of the agency. Similarly, copying records at agency facilities cannot unreasonably disrupt the operations of the agency.

Inspection times can be broken down into reasonable segments such as half days. However, inspection times cannot be broken down into unreasonable segments to either harass YHA or its staff or delay access to the timely inspection of records.

If a Requestor or a representative fails to claim or review the records, or an installment thereof, within the thirty-day period or make other arrangements, YHA may close the request and refile the assembled records. Other public records requests can be processed ahead of a subsequent request by the same person for the same or almost identical records, which can be processed as a new request.

#### **H: Providing Copies of Records**

After inspection is complete, the Public Records Officer shall make the requested copies or arrange for copying. The Requestor shall pay any applicable deposit as provided herein prior to copies being made. Full payment for copies must be received prior to delivery of the requested copies.

#### **I: Providing Records in Installments**

When the request is for a large number of records, the Public Records Officer will provide access for inspection and copying in installments, if he or she reasonably determines that it would be practical to provide the records in that way. If, within thirty days, a Requestor fails to inspect the entire set of records or one or more of the installments, the Public Records Officer will stop searching for the remaining records and close the request.

#### **J: Completion of Inspection**

When the inspection of the requested records is complete and all requested copies are provided, the Public Records Officer will indicate that YHA has completed a diligent search for the requested records and made any located nonexempt records available for inspection.

#### **K: Closing Withdrawn or Abandoned Request**

When a Requestor either withdraws the request or fails to fulfill his or her obligations to inspect the records or pay the deposit or final payment for the requested copies, the public records officer will close the request and indicate to the Requestor that YHA has closed the request.

#### **L: Later Discovered Documents**

If, after the YHA has informed the requestor that it has provided all available records, YHA then becomes aware of additional responsive documents existing at the time of the request, YHA will promptly inform the requestor of the additional documents and provide them on an expedited basis.

YHA otherwise has no affirmative duty to search for responsive records once a request has been duly closed, and a Requestor must submit a new request for additional records created or obtained by YHA after the date of the original request has been closed.

#### **M: No Duty to Create Records**

YHA is not obligated to create a new record to satisfy a records request. However, sometimes it is easier for YHA to create a record responsive to the request rather than collecting and making available voluminous records that contain small pieces of the information sought by the requestor.

The decision to create a new record is left to the discretion of YHA. If YHA considers creating a new record instead of disclosing the underlying records, YHA will seek the consent of the requestor to ensure that the requestor is not actually seeking the underlying records.

Making an electronic copy of an electronic record is not creating a new record; instead, it is similar to copying a paper copy. Similarly, eliminating a field of an electronic record can be a method of redaction; it is similar to redacting portions of a paper record using a black pen or white-out tape to make it available for inspection or copying.

#### **N: Electronic Records**

The process for requesting electronic public records is the same as for requesting paper public records.

When a requestor requests records in an electronic format, the public records officer will provide the nonexempt records or portions of such records that are reasonably locatable in an electronic format that is used by the agency and is generally commercially available, or in a format that is reasonably

## RECORD PRESERVATION

If a requested record is scheduled shortly for destruction, and YHA receives a public records request for it, YHA will not destroy the record until the request is resolved. Once a request has been closed, YHA can destroy the requested records in accordance with its retention schedule.

YHA will comply with state and federal laws affecting the maintenance and retention of public records, including but not limited to the guidelines promulgated by the Washington Secretary of State for Housing Authorities, as currently promulgated or as they may be amended from time-to-time, which are accessible through the Secretary of State website at:

<http://www.sos.wa.gov/archives/RecordsRetentionSchedules.aspx>

## COSTS OF PROVIDING COPIES OF PUBLIC RECORDS

There is no fee for inspecting public records in person at YHA's main office. For records requests requiring copies of documents, a Requestor will pay the appropriate reproduction and mailing costs. The Public Records Officer may elect to waive these fees, and fees may be increased from time-to-time based upon YHA's actual costs and as provided for by the PRA and regulations.

Black & White Copies (per side)	\$0.15 per page
Color Copies (8.5 x 11)	\$0.15 per page
Color Copies (larger than 8.5 x 11)	\$(actual cost to reproduce)
Scanning & PDFs (to supply electronic copies)	\$0.10 per page
Other Electronic Documents	\$(actual cost to reproduce)
CD-ROM or DVD	\$1.00 per disc, plus scanning, PDF, or electronic document transfer fees
Mailing	Actual cost of postage and mailing materials
E-mailing	No charge except for charges associated with reproducing records into an electronic format for sending.

Before beginning to make the copies, the Public Records Officer may require a deposit of up to ten percent of the estimated costs of copying all the records selected by the requestor. The Public Records Officer may also require the payment of the remainder of the copying costs before providing all the records, or the payment of the costs of copying an installment before providing that installment. YHA will not charge sales tax when it makes copies of public records.

Payment may be made by cash, check, or money order to Yakima Housing Authority.

## REVIEW OF DENIALS OF PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS

Any person who objects to the initial denial or partial denial of a records request may petition in writing (including e-mail) to the Public Records Officer for a review of that decision. The petition must include a copy of or reasonably identify the written statement by the public records officer or designee denying the request.

The Public Records Officer will promptly provide the petition and any other relevant information to (public records officer's supervisor or other agency official designated by the agency to conduct the review). That person will immediately consider the petition and either affirm or reverse the denial within two business days following YHA's receipt of the petition, or within such other time as YHA and the Requestor mutually agree.

translatable from the format in which the agency keeps the record. Costs for providing electronic records are governed by WAC 44-14-07003, as currently enacted or hereafter amended from time-to-time. WAC 44-14-07003 provides, in relevant part:

"As with charges for paper copies, "actual cost" is the primary factor for charging for electronic records. In many cases, the "actual cost" of providing an existing electronic record is de minimis. [...] However, if the agency has a paper-only copy of a record and the requestor requests an [electronic] copy, the agency incurs an actual cost in scanning the record (if the agency has a scanner at its offices). Therefore, an agency can establish a scanning fee for records it scans."

With the consent of the requestor, the agency may provide customized access under RCW 43.41A.130 if the record is not reasonably locatable or not reasonably translatable into the format requested. The YHA may charge a fee consistent with RCW 43.41A.130 for such customized access.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF REQUESTORS**

A Requestor must give an agency reasonable notice that the request is being made pursuant Public Records Act. Requestors are encouraged to cite or name the act but are not required to do so. A request using the terms "public records," "public disclosure," "FOIA," or "Freedom of Information Act" should provide YHA with reasonable notice in most cases. Requestors must not submit "stealth" requests, which are requests buried in another document in an attempt to trick YHA into not responding. Requestors are thus encouraged to use YHA's form for records requests.

A requestor must request an "identifiable record" or "class of records" before YHA will respond to it. An "identifiable record" is one that YHA's Public Records Officer and staff can reasonably locate; however, a requestor is not required to identify the exact record sought. The act does not allow a Requestor to search through YHA's files for records which cannot be reasonably identified or described. Requests for information in general are not requests for identifiable records, and YHA is not required to conduct legal research guised in the form a request where the request does not indicate an identifiable record.

When a request uses an inexact phrase such as all records "relating to" a topic (such as "all records relating to the property tax increase"), YHA may interpret the request to be for records which directly and fairly address the topic, and YHA may seek clarification of the request.

## **EXEMPTIONS**

The Public Records Act provides that a number of types of documents are exempt from public inspection and copying. In addition, documents are exempt from disclosure if any other statute exempts or prohibits disclosure. Requestors should be aware of exemptions, outside the Public Records Act, that restrict the availability of some documents held by YHA for inspection and copying.

YHA has adopted, and incorporates by reference herein, those exemptions set forth for municipalities in the most recent list of "other statutes" which is made part of a publication by Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC), "Public Records Act for Washington Cities, Counties, and Special Purpose Districts", Appendix C thereto, which is presently accessible at <http://www.mrsc.org/publications/pr12.pdf>. Attached hereto as Appendix B is a reproduction of said list, which may be updated from time-to-time published by MRSC or through YHA's own efforts.

Appendix B and reference to the list created and maintained by MRSC is for informational purposes only and YHA's failure to list an exemption shall not affect the efficacy of any exemption.

YHA is prohibited by statute from disclosing lists of individuals for commercial purposes.

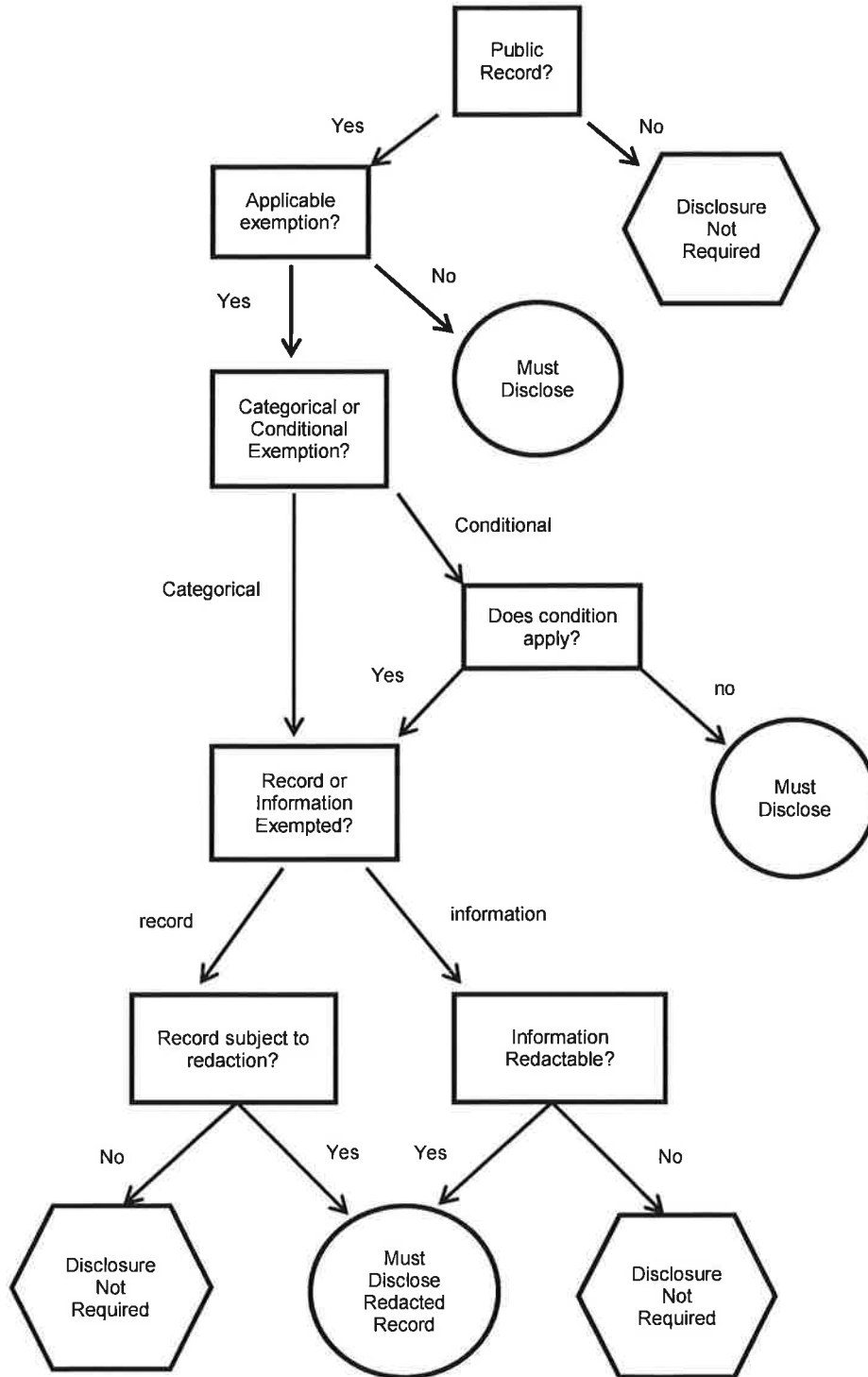
Any person may obtain court review of denials of public records requests pursuant to RCW 42.56.550 at the conclusion of two business days after the initial denial regardless of any internal administrative appeal.

#### **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Neither YHA nor any of its directors, officers, officials, employees, custodians, agents, or subcontractors shall be liable, nor shall cause of action exist, for any loss or damage based upon release of public records if the person releasing the records acted in good faith in attempting to comply with this policy and the laws and regulations from which it stems. This policy is not intended to either expand or restrict the rights of disclosure or privacy as they exist under state and federal law. Despite the use of any mandatory terms such as "shall" or "will", nothing in this policy is intended to impose mandatory duties on YHA, its directors, officers, officials, employees, custodians, agents, or subcontractors beyond those imposed by state and/or federal law.



YAKIMA HOUSING AUTHORITY  
PUBLIC RECORDS POLICY  
APPENDIX A: DISCLOSURE DETERMINATION CHART



**Yakima Housing Authority  
Public Records Policy**

**Appendix B: Exemption and Prohibition Statutes Not Listed in Chapter 42.56 RCW**

**Washington State Statutes**

RCW 2.64.111	Documents regarding discipline/retirement of judges
RCW 2.64.113	Confidentiality - violations
RCW 4.24.550	Information on sex offenders
RCW 5.60.060	Privileged communications
RCW 5.60.070	Court-ordered mediation records
RCW 7.68.140	Victims' compensation claims
RCW 7.69A.030(4)	Child victims and witnesses – protection of identity
RCW 7.69A.050	Rights of child victims and witnesses – addresses
RCW 7.75.050	Records of Dispute Resolution Centers
RCW 9.02.100	Reproductive privacy
RCW 9A.82.170	Financial institution records – wrongful disclosure
RCW 9.51.050	Disclosing transaction of grand jury
RCW 9.51.060	Disclosure of grand jury deposition
RCW 9.73.090(1)(c)	Prohibition regarding specified emergency response personnel recordings
RCW 10.27.090	Grand jury testimony/evidence
RCW 10.27.160	Grand jury reports – release to public only by judicial order
RCW 10.29.030	Organized crime special inquiry judge
RCW 10.29.090	Records of special inquiry judge proceedings
RCW 10.52.100	Records identifying child victim of sexual assault
RCW 10.77.210	Records of persons committed for criminal insanity
RCW 10.97.040	Criminal history information released must include disposition
RCW 10.97.050	Conviction and criminal history information
RCW 10.97.060	Deletion of certain criminal history record information, conditions
RCW 10.97.070	Disclosure of identity of suspect to victim
RCW 10.97.080	Inspection of criminal record by subject
RCW 13.32A.090	Crisis residential centers notice to parent about child
RCW 13.34.115	Court dependency proceedings
RCW 13.40.217	Juveniles adjudicated of sex offenses – release of information
RCW 13.50.010	Maintenance of and access to juvenile records
RCW 13.50.050	Juvenile offenders
RCW 13.50.100	Juvenile/children records not relating to offenses
RCW 13.60.020	Missing children information
RCW 13.70.090	Citizen juvenile review board – confidentiality
RCW 18.04.405	Confidentiality of information gained by CPA
RCW 18.19.060	Notification to clients by counselors
RCW 18.19.180	Confidential communications with counselors
RCW 19.215.020	Destruction of personal health and financial information
RCW 19.34.240(3)	Private digital signature keys
RCW 19.215.030	Compliance with federal rules
RCW 26.04.175	Name and address of domestic violence victim in marriage records
RCW 26.12.170	Reports of child abuse/neglect with courts

RCW 26.23.050	Child support orders
RCW 26.23.120	Child support records
RCW 26.26.041	Uniform Parentage Act – protection of participants
RCW 26.26.450	Confidentiality of genetic testing
RCW 26.33.330	Sealed court adoption records
RCW 26.33.340	Agency adoption records
RCW 26.33.343	Access to adoption records by confidential intermediary
RCW 26.33.345	Release of name of court for adoption or relinquishment
RCW 26.33.380	Adoption – identity of birth parents confidential
RCW 26.44.010	Privacy of reports on child abuse and neglect
RCW 26.44.020(19)	Unfounded allegations of child abuse or neglect
RCW 26.44.030	Reports of child abuse/neglect
RCW 26.44.125	Right to review and amend abuse finding – confidentiality
RCW 27.53.070	Records identifying the location of archaeological sites
RCW 29A.08.720	Voter registration records – place of registration confidential
RCW 29A.08.710	Voter registration records – certain information exempt
Chapter 40.14 RCW	Preservation and destruction of public records
RCW 42.23.070(4)	Municipal officer disclosure of confidential information prohibited
RCW 42.41.030(7)	Identity of local government whistleblower
RCW 42.41.045	Non-disclosure of protected information (whistleblower)
RCW 46.52.080	Traffic accident reports – confidentiality
RCW 46.52.083	Traffic accident reports – available to interested parties
RCW 46.52.120	Traffic crimes and infractions – confidential use by police and courts
RCW 46.52.130(2)	Abstract of driving record
RCW 48.62.101	Local government insurance transactions – access to information
RCW 50.13.060	Access to employment security records by local government agencies
RCW 50.13.100	Disclosure of non-identifiable information or with consent
RCW 51.28.070	Worker's compensation records
RCW 51.36.060	Physician information on injured workers
RCW 60.70.040	No duty to disclose record of common law lien
RCW 68.50.105	Autopsy reports
RCW 68.50.320	Dental identification records – available to law enforcement agencies
Chapter 70.02 RCW	Medical records – access and disclosure – entire chapter (HC providers)
RCW 70.05.170	Child mortality reviews by local health departments
RCW 70.24.022	Public health agency information regarding sexually transmitted disease investigations - confidential
RCW 70.24.024	Transcripts and records of hearings regarding sexually transmitted diseases
RCW 70.24.105	HIV/STD records
RCW 70.28.020	Local health department TB records – confidential
RCW 70.48.100	Jail records and booking photos
RCW 70.58.055	Birth certificates – certain information confidential
RCW 70.58.104	Vital records, research confidentiality safeguards
RCW 70.94.205	Washington Clean Air Act – confidentiality of data.
RCW 70.96A.150	Alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs
RCW 70.123.075	Client records of domestic violence programs
RCW 70.125.065	Records of rape crisis centers in discovery

RCW 71.05.390	Information about mental health consumers
RCW 71.05.395	Ch. 70.02 RCW applies to mental health records
RCW 71.05.400	Information to next of kin or representative
RCW 71.05.425	Notice of release or transfer of committed person after offense dismissal
RCW 71.05.427	Information that can be released
RCW 71.05.430	Statistical data
RCW 71.05.440	Penalties for unauthorized release of information
RCW 71.05.445	Release of mental health information to Dept. of Corrections
RCW 71.05.620	Authorization requirements and access to court records
RCW 71.05.630	Release of mental health treatment records
RCW 71.05.640	Access to treatment records
RCW 71.05.650	Accounting of disclosures
RCW 71.24.035(5)(g)	Mental health information system – state, county and regional support networks – confidentiality of client records
RCW 71.34.200	Mental health treatment of minors – records confidential
RCW 71.34.210	Court records for minors related to mental health treatment
RCW 71.34.225	Release of mental health services information
RCW 71A.14.070	Records regarding developmental disability – confidentiality
RCW 72.09.345	Notice to public about sex offenders
RCW 72.09.585(3)	Disclosure of inmate records to local agencies – confidentiality
RCW 73.04.030	Veterans discharge papers exemption (see related RCW 42.56.440)
RCW 74.04.060	Applicants and recipients of public assistance
RCW 74.04.520	Food stamp program confidentiality
RCW 74.09.900	Medical assistance
RCW 74.13.121	Financial information of adoptive parents
RCW 74.13.280	Children in out-of-home placements - confidentiality
RCW 74.20.280	Child support enforcement – local agency cooperation, information
RCW 74.34.095	Abuse of vulnerable adults - confidentiality of investigations and reports
RCW 82.32.330	Disclosure of tax information
RCW 84.36.389	Confidential income data in property tax records held by assessor
RCW 84.40.020	Confidential income data supplied to assessor regarding real property

### **Selected Federal Confidentiality Statutes and Rules**

18 USC § 2721 - 2725	Driver and License Plate Information
20 USC § 1232g	Family Education Rights and Privacy Act
23 USC § 409	Evidence of certain accident reports
42 USC 290dd-2	Confidentiality of Substance Abuse Records
42 USC § 405(c)(2)(C)(viii)(I)	Limits on Use and Disclosure of Social Security Numbers.
42 USC 654(26)	State Plans for Child Support
42 USC 671(a)(8)	State Plans for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance
42 USC 1396a(7)	State Plans for Medical Assistance
7 CFR 272.1(c)	Food Stamp Applicants and Recipients
34 CFR 361.38	State Vocational Rehabilitation Services Programs
42 CFR Part 2 (2.1 - 2.67)	Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records

42 CFR 431.300 – 307

Safeguarding Information on Applicants and Recipients of Medical Assistance

42 CFR 483.420

Client Protections for Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded

42 CFR 5106a(b)(2)(A)

Grants to States for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Treatment Programs

45 CFR 160-164

HIPAA Privacy Rule

46 CFR 40.321

USCG regulations regarding confidentiality of drug and alcohol test results done by marine employers

**RESOLUTION 18-870  
ATTACHMENT**

The following shall amend and replace YHA's current Public Records Policy section titled "COSTS OF PROVIDING COPIES OF PUBLIC RECORDS":

**COSTS OF PROVIDING COPIES OF PUBLIC RECORDS**

There is no fee for inspecting public records in person at YHA's main office. For records requests requiring physical or electronic reproduction of documents, a Requestor will pay the appropriate reproduction and transmission costs as established under this section. The Public Records Officer may elect to waive these costs, and costs may be increased from time-to-time as allowed by the PRA and applicable regulations established by the Washington State Attorney General's Office. YHA does not calculate the actual costs for providing public records because YHA doing so would be unduly burdensome for the following reasons:

- A. YHA employees fewer than 40 employees. YHA only has one designated Public Records Officer who has other primary duties as the assistant to YHA's Executive Director, which is a full-time position.
- B. All employees may be called upon to contribute to production of public records requests, and all employees earn different salaries or have different rates of pay, which would require that the Public Records Officer be privy to their salaries as part of calculating actual costs of record production.
- C. Employees supplying records to the Public Records Officer would have to track time spent, thereby creating an additional burden for those employees and work that is not otherwise assigned in most employees' primary job descriptions.
- D. The Public Records Officer would also be required to maintain a record of all employees contributing to each part of a public record request and potentially charge different amounts for multiple pages;
- E. Calculating the portion of the machines and supplies used toward scanning or copying public records would require knowledge of the cost of supplies and an in-depth analysis of timing and application multiplied by each contributing employee's hourly rate of pay;
- F. The response time to a public records request may be delayed in order to calculate scanning or copying costs and create an invoice with different rates of reproduction.

Unless waived by the Public Records Officer, the following standard charges apply for reproduction and delivery of public records:

- A. \$0.15 per page for photocopies of public records, printed copies of electronic records if requested by the person requesting records, and/or for the use of agency equipment to photocopy public records if such use is permitted by the Public Records Officer;
- B. \$0.10 per page for public records scanned into an electronic format or for the use of agency equipment to scan records if such use is permitted by the Public Records Officer;
- C. \$0.05 per each four electronic files or attachments uploaded to email, cloud-based data storage service, or other means of electronic delivery;
- D. \$0.10 per gigabyte for the transmission of public records in an electronic format or for the use of agency equipment to send the records electronically if such use is permitted by the Public Records Officer; and
- E. The actual cost of any digital storage media or device provided by the agency, the actual cost of any container or envelope used to mail records to the requestor, and actual postage or delivery charges

YHA will take reasonable steps to provide records in the most efficient manner available to YHA in its normal operations. Standard charges may be combined to the extent that more than one type of charge applies to copies produced in response to a particular request. If requested, YHA will provide a summary of the applicable charges before any copies are made and the requestor may revise the request to reduce the number of copies to be made and reduce the applicable charges.

Depending upon the type of request, YHA may require a customized service charge if YHA estimates that the request would require the use of information technology expertise to prepare data compilations, or provide customized electronic access services when such compilations and customized access services are not used by YHA for other purposes. The customized service charge will reimburse YHA up to the actual costs of providing the services. Prior assessing a customized service charge, YHA will notify the requestor of the customized service charge to be applied, will explain why the customized service charge applies, will provide a description of the specific expertise, and will give a reasonable estimate of the cost of the charge. The notice will allow the requestor an opportunity to amend the request in order to avoid or reduce the cost of a customized service charge.

Before beginning to make the copies, the Public Records Officer may require a deposit of up to ten percent of the estimated costs of copying all the records selected by the requestor. The Public Records Officer may also require the payment of the remainder of the copying costs before providing all the records, or the payment of the costs of copying an installment before providing that installment. YHA will not charge sales tax when it makes copies of public records.

Payment may be made by cash, check, or money order to Yakima Housing Authority.