

Resolution #615

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF YACOLT,
WASHINGTON, REQUESTING THAT THE WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS CONTINUE OPERATIONS AT THE
LARCH CORRECTIONS CENTER**

Whereas, the Larch Corrections Center (LCC) is slated to be shut down by the Department of Corrections in October, 2023; and

Whereas, LCC is the only correctional facility in Clark County, which is the 5th largest county in the state; and

Whereas, the closure of LCC would cause inmates' family members to travel further for visitation, causing undue stress and increased costs for them; and

Whereas, many of LCC's employees live in and around the Town of Yacolt, contributing to the Town's economic viability; and

Whereas, LCC provides valuable education, retraining opportunities and community partnerships for inmates, reducing recidivism rates of inmates and providing valuable service to our community; and

Whereas, LCC's inmate work crews play a vital role in the maintenance of vegetation, creation of park features, and other various projects around the Town at an affordable rate; and

Whereas, replacement of LCC's inmate work crews would create a significant financial burden on the Town of Yacolt, whose budget is very modest; and

Whereas, LCC trains inmates on critical wildfire prevention and wildfire fighting skills, and those inmates have been instrumental in fighting local wildfires in recent years; and

Whereas, the terrain in the northeast portion of Clark County consists primarily of vast woodlands susceptible to wildfires which are very challenging to fight,

Whereas, the growing population of Clark County has pushed housing developments further into said woodlands; and

Whereas, LCC inmates provide fast-acting and critical firefighting triage for this area; and

Whereas, the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt is in regular session this 11th day of September, 2023, and all members of the Town Council have had notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting:

NOW THEREFORE, be it Resolved by the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt, Washington, as follows:

Section 1 – Recognition and Appeal. The Town Council of the Town of Yacolt recognizes the vital role that LCC plays in reducing recidivism, developing and maintaining our Town, providing economic

stability on several levels, and keeping it safe from wildfires. The Town Council strongly urges the Washington Department of Corrections to reverse its decision to close the Larch Correctional Facility.

Section 2 - Instructions to the Clerk. The Town Clerk shall:

- a). Promptly transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Washington State Department of Corrections, Governor Inslee, and such other offices as applicable.
- b). Promptly publish a copy of this Resolution on the Town's website.

Section 3 - Repealer. All ordinances, resolutions, and/or parts of ordinances and resolutions of the Town of Yacolt in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.

Section 4 - Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution.

Section 5 - Adoption of Recitals. The foregoing Recitals are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

Section 6 - Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective upon passage, approval and signatures hereon in accordance with law. The Town Clerk may publish the following summary of this Resolution:

Town of Yacolt - Summary of Resolution #615

The Town Council of the Town of Yacolt adopted Resolution #615 at its regularly scheduled Town Council meeting held on September 11, 2023. The content of the Resolution is summarized in its title as follows:

**“A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF YACOLT,
WASHINGTON, REQUESTING THAT THE WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS CONTINUE OPERATIONS AT THE
LARCH CORRECTIONS CENTER”**

The effective date of the Resolution is September 11, 2023. A copy of the full text of the Resolution will be mailed upon request to the undersigned at the Town of Yacolt Town Hall, P.O. Box 160, Yacolt, WA 98675: (360) 686-3922.

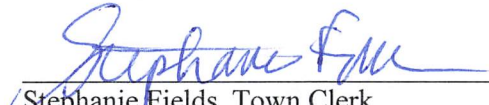
Published this 20th day of September, 2023.
Yacolt Town Clerk.

Resolved by the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof this 11th day of September, 2023.


TOWN OF YACOLT


Katelyn J. Listek, Mayor

Attest:


Stephanie Fields, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form:


David W. Ridenour, Town Attorney

Ayes:	<u>Shealy, Peto, Carroll, Homola, Viray</u>
Nays:	<u>Ø</u>
Absent:	<u>Ø</u>
Abstain:	<u>Ø</u>

TOWN CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution #615 of the Town of Yacolt, Washington, entitled "A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt, Washington, requesting that the Washington State Department of Corrections continue operations at the Larch Corrections Center" as approved according to law by the Yacolt Town Council on the date therein mentioned.

Attest:


Stephanie Fields, Town Clerk

Published: N/A
Effective Date: September 11, 2023
Resolution Number: 615