**BYLAWS**

 **OF THE**

**GANG REDUCTION AND INTERVENTION TASK FORCE**

1. PURPOSE AND GOALS

The purpose of the Gang Reduction and Intervention Task Force (GRIT) is to provide ongoing direction to a partnership of agencies working together towards achieving better outcomes for youth, with a special emphasis on youth empowerment and engagement, and avoiding gang influence and membership.

Goals and objectives of the GRIT program are to develop and support a network of partner agencies and programs; repair, strengthen and restore our youth, families, community and service providers; and coordinate additional resources for agencies through cross-sector collaboration.

1. PRINCIPAL OFFICE

GRIT shall be housed within the City of Yakima, and its principal office shall be at 129 North 2nd Street, Yakima, Washington, 98901. The City Council of the City of Yakima may establish other offices within Yakima County, as the program requires.

1. STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS
2. STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND PURPOSE

Steering Committee membership, its goals and purposes, are determined by the GRIT Charter.

1. ADDITION OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

The Steering Committee may add, replace or remove members from the Steering Committee for any reason, including, but not limited to, failure to attend meetings, by a super-majority vote. Vacancies occurring other than through the expiration of a term of a member shall be filled for the unexpired term. Seats shall be filled as outlined in the Charter, or by the Steering Committee if the Charter does not specify how the seat shall be filled. However, the Yakima Police Department representative shall be chosen by the Yakima Police Chief.

1. TERM OF MEMBERS

The initial term for Steering Committee members is the date of appointment through June 30, 2019. Each Steering Committee member may choose to stay on for an additional two (2) year term effective July 1, 2019. Terms are for two (2) years thereafter and appointments will be made pursuant to the Charter and these Bylaws. The maximum number of consecutive two-year terms that a Steering Committee member may serve is two (2).

1. PLACE AND TIME OF MEETINGS

The Steering Committee shall determine the time and the place of its meetings. Meetings shall occur approximately every two months, or more often if determined necessary by the Steering Committee.

1. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Meetings shall generally be called by the City of Yakima, or upon request of any Steering Committee member. Notice should go out more than seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, or more if possible, by email to the committee members.

1. QUORUM

Quorum is established when a majority or more of the appointed Steering Committee members are present.

1. MEETING PROCEDURE AND VOTING

Meeting agendas should be distributed, along with any supporting documentation, at least twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting. Although Steering Committee meetings are intended to be collaborative, with the free exchange of information, matters involving voting will be conducted using Robert’s Rules of Order. Each committee member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote at any meeting. Votes must be made in person. No proxy, mail or email votes will be allowed unless specifically stated in notice materials.

1. STAFF ASSISTANCE

The Steering Committee staff assistance shall be provided by the City Manager’s Office or his/her designee. Staff assistance includes scheduling meetings, creating an agenda, and generally facilitating the Steering Committee meetings and necessary follow-up activities.

 I. REPORTING

The Steering Committee will report to the City Council. Such reporting will be done through the City Council members of the Committee, or, when requested, a report from the entire Steering Committee to the City Council.

1. REPRESENTATION OF THE GRIT PROGRAM

No member of the Steering Committee shall represent the Committee in its official actions except as specifically authorized by majority vote. The City of Yakima shall be the official representative for GRIT.

1. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Steering Committee members shall not vote on the determination of any application or determination in which they, their organization, or their immediate family members have a financial interest.

1. AMENDMENTS

The Steering Committee shall have the authority to amend these bylaws at any meeting upon thirty (30) days’ notice to the Yakima City Council. The Yakima City Council then can object or make recommendations regarding the Bylaws. The Steering Committee, however, has the ultimate authority to amend. Upon adoption of a new bylaw or an amendment to the current bylaws, the original document providing for the change shall be attached to a copy of the original bylaws and forwarded to the Yakima City Clerk for record keeping. A copy of shall also be forwarded to the City Manager to provide to the City Council.

1. TERMINATION

Termination of the Steering Committee and/or the GRIT program is determined by the Charter.