



TUKWILA CITY PAGES

The City of Opportunity
The Community of Choice

Mayor's Message



Looking ahead in 2017

I'm excited about the new year and the great things to come. 2017 will prove to be another busy, productive year in Tukwila. Here are some of the things you can look forward to seeing over the next twelve months.

Infrastructure Improvements – Public Works is working hard to provide top quality infrastructure for our community. Some things you'll see this year:

- Pedestrian Bridge over the Green River, enabling people to walk from Southcenter to the commuter rail station, opening in late 2017
- Speed humps installed on South 160th, to see how effective they are in slowing vehicle speed
- Replacing four-way stop with a full traffic light and crosswalk indicators at 144th and 42nd
- Significant residential street improvements on 53rd Ave S. (S. 144th to S. 137th), and 42nd Ave S. (Southcenter Boulevard/S. 154th to S. 160th)

Public Safety Plan – Thanks to Tukwila voters, we've begun implementing the City's Public Safety Plan. Look for more information on this page, but I personally want to encourage everyone to get involved as we work collaboratively to make decisions on siting these important community facilities.

Tukwila International Boulevard Ongoing Improvement – Great things are in store for this important neighborhood in our community! Tukwila received a grant from the Congress for New Urbanism (CNU) to help our community plan for development on Tukwila International Boulevard. CNU will be here February 23-25 facilitating a community planning workshop. See the adjoining article for more information. I encourage your involvement!

Parks and Recreation – In February the City will celebrate the 20th anniversary of Tukwila's Community Center, along with 20 years of programs, events and people who have contributed to our award-winning Parks and Recreation Department. I look forward to participating in the celebration! In addition, many of our long-standing events will continue in 2017 such as Backyard Wildlife Fair, Healthy Earth, Healthy You, See you in the Park, and July 4th. These are just some examples – be sure to check out the Activities Guide online or stop by the Community Center to pick up a hard copy.

Economic Development – Exciting projects are happening in 2017. At Tukwila Village, the new King County Library will open this spring and the Community Meeting Room and Plaza opens later this year. The projected completion of Washington Place, the 19-story building on Andover Park East that will be the tallest building between Seattle and Tacoma.

Tukwila Works – Remember that you can report things like pot holes, graffiti, speeding, garbage, broken sidewalks, etc., by downloading the Tukwila Works app on your Android or iPhone. If you don't have a smart phone, you can report issues on the City's website at TukwilaWA.gov/residents/engage/tukwila-works/.

I look forward to working together with you over the coming year on behalf of our community.

Allan Ekberg, Mayor

The TIB Community Workshop

You're invited! February 23-25, 2017

How should we make the community's goals for Tukwila International Boulevard a reality? The dream for the area is to have a complete neighborhood and community that is thriving, multi-cultural, residential and business, and is a vibrant place to live, work, shop and play. The neighborhood is safe, walkable and a destination with an authentic main street. There is also an emphasis on attracting self-sustaining, living wage employment opportunities.

Bring your ideas to the TIB Community Workshop. We'll be making choices on where to put stores, housing, and offices; how high to allow buildings; how much parking should be provided and where it should be located. We'll also look at the need for new private or public parks, streets or walkways, or other public facilities.

Location: Church by the Side of the Road – Community Room 1
3455 South 148th Street (corner of TIB/S 148th Street)

Public Sessions: Thursday, February 23 – 6:00–7:30PM
Saturday, February 25 – 6:30–8:00PM

Attend both public sessions. The first session is the opportunity to talk about your ideas. At the second session, you'll be able to respond to the working group's draft proposal based upon your comments, the comments from the rest of the community, and the information from stakeholder groups. You are also welcome to drop by and observe throughout the day on Friday, February 24, between 10:30AM–7:00PM.

A team of consultants will advise and discuss with you the choices and the trade-offs, and how to transition from existing conditions to a new neighborhood. Visit the City's web page at TukwilaWA.gov/TIBPlanning and read about the team that will be assisting the community in making YOUR neighborhood goals a reality.

Keep up-to-date on the Tukwila Public Safety Plan

Continuing the City's efforts to implement the Public Safety Plan, earlier this month the Council held a workshop where staff provided foundational information on the schedule, budget, key milestones, public outreach and overall process. Many additional workshops, Council meetings and community meetings remain ahead throughout this multi-year process.



Public outreach efforts were of particular interest to the Council. Ensuring broad community input in this program will be key to our shared goal of building quality, community-friendly facilities that will have a positive and long-lasting impact on the Tukwila community. Multiple open houses, online open houses, community presentations and meetings, as well as various publications and electronic media will be utilized during this process.

The City has revamped the Public Safety Plan website to serve as the depository for information as this effort moves forward (TukwilaWA.gov/PublicSafetyPlan). Currently you'll find the packet of information presented at the January workshop, but all future presentations, memos, reports and associated documents will be posted to this site. Interested community members are encouraged to visit the website often!

Next steps are the appointments to the Financial Oversight Committee, development and appointments to the Siting Advisory Committee, and a kick-off community open house in March. Continue to follow the various City publications, website and social media accounts for more information. Your voice and engagement in this effort will be key to our collaborative success in implementing the Tukwila Public Safety Plan.

MAYOR: Allan Ekberg
COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Dennis Robertson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: • Joe Duffie • Verna Seal • Kathy Hougardy
• De'Sean Quinn • Kate Kruller • Thomas McLeod

Tukwila Community Center's 20th anniversary OPEN HOUSE – Wednesday, February 1 – 5:00 to 7:00PM
Free drop-in programs, raffles, give-aways, membership specials, and spaghetti dinner!



Tukwila receives Boeing's thanks

At the Tukwila City Council's Monday, January 9 meeting, representatives from the Boeing Company presented the City of Tukwila with a framed gift to thank the City for its assistance in the planning and implementation of Boeing's successful centennial celebration last year. Many City departments were involved, from Community Development that provided the necessary permitting, to Public Works' assistance with road closures, to the public safety efforts of Tukwila Police and Fire.

Committee members sought

As part of the recently-approved public safety proposition, Tukwila is required to establish a **Public Safety Bond Financial Oversight Committee**. Its purpose is to independently represent taxpayers concerning the City's expenditures relating to the bond, and report its findings to the City Council and the public at least semi-annually.

The City Council is currently seeking five members to serve on the Committee, including two residents, two members from the business community, and one at-large member who could be a resident or a representative from a business or a nonprofit organization serving members of the Tukwila community. One resident and one business representative will initially be appointed for a term of three years, and the three remaining positions will be terms of two years. The Committee will meet at least twice yearly.

Interested? Please download the application for appointment (available at TukwilaWA.gov/CommitteeApp) and submit it by 5:00PM on Friday, January 27, 2017 to

BoardsComms@TukwilaWA.gov

The City Council expects to appoint the membership of the Committee in March 2017. For more information about these vacant positions, please call Laurel Humphrey at 206-433-8993.

Free tax preparation and filing help available

Tax help is available in your neighborhood and in your language from IRS-certified volunteers. Now through April 20, 2017, United Way of King County is providing free tax preparation and access to the Earned Income Tax Credit and other tax credits. The best news: No appointment needed and no fees to pay.

Free tax experts will help qualifying households that make less than \$64,000 maximize refunds to keep more of their hard-earned money and avoid paying unnecessary fees for commercial tax preparation and "rapid refund" loans.

Tukwila Community Center
12424 - 42nd Avenue S, Tukwila

Tues & Thurs: 5:00–8:00PM
Saturday: 10:00AM–2:00PM

What to bring – required:

- Social Security card/ITIN letters for everyone on the return
- Photo ID
- All tax statements (W-2 form, 1099 form, SSA-1099 form, etc.)
- Health insurance forms 1095-A, 1095-B, or 1095-C

Recommended:

- Bank account number and routing number
- A copy of last year's tax return

If you don't need in-person tax help, visit MyFreeTaxes.com where you can quickly and easily file your taxes online for free.

Council Chat

Let's get together to talk at
Billy Baroo's at Foster Golf Links
13500 Interurban Avenue South
10:00AM to 12:00NOON

Next Chat:
Saturday, Feb. 11

Council Chat is a monthly chance to stop by and informally speak with one of your Tukwila City Councilmembers about anything on your mind regarding your community.

COUNCIL CORNER

by Dennis Robertson,
2017 Council President



Happy New Year! And what a new year 2017 is going to be. First off, it's my turn to serve as your City Council President, and I'm feeling both excited and very challenged. Excited, because our Public Safety bond passed last November and we get to start solving some of our City's facility needs. Challenged, because we have to start designing, siting and constructing the very same facilities. It will be a year full of very positive challenges. Solving the City's facility needs for the next fifty years would be challenging enough for this year, but our Council subcommittees will also be dealing with other issues.

Community Development and Neighborhoods Committee (Chair Kathy Hougardy, Verna Seal, Kate Kruller) will be working on implementing the updated Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and creating a process for involving neighborhoods in their own density choices, as well as deciding on what the Tukwila International Boulevard streetscape should look like. They will also have to face tough questions relating to housing type options and affordability.

Public Safety Committee (Chair Thomas McLeod, Joe Duffie, De'Sean Quinn) will be working on the Council-level decisions involved in designing, siting and beginning the construction of the new Justice Center and the three fire stations authorized in the Public Safety bond. This committee will also deal with the never-ending issues of how to create laws and best allocate public safety resources in a constantly changing world.

Finance Committee (Chair Verna Seal, Kathy Hougardy, Thomas McLeod) will review our City employee compensation system and processes, financing the new Public Works facility that was part of our long-range Public Safety Plan, and create a new medium- to long-range City financial planning model. They will, of course, still have to deal with the constant stream of financial issues that occur in a city with an annual budget of \$60,000,000.

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (Chair Kate Kruller, Joe Duffie, and De'Sean Quinn) will begin work on the siting of a new Public Works facility, as well as a variety of large projects such as BNSF access in the Allentown neighborhood and the pedestrian/bicycle bridge in the Urban Center. This committee will also provide leadership on beginning or completing many other projects: 13 transportation, two big residential street, and a large number of water, sewer and surface water projects.

This daunting list of Council tasks is also a list for every citizen. I encourage you to get involved with one, some or all of the projects above. Come and participate at the committee and Council-level meetings. We all share what happens in Tukwila, so help your City Council make the best policy-level decisions for our wonderfully diverse and constantly growing city.