



# TUKWILA CITY PAGES

**SPRING BREAK CAMP AT TUKWILA COMMUNITY CENTER – APRIL 2-6**

**A week full of games, arts, crafts, and field trips for K-6th graders. Drop off as early as 6:30AM, pick up by 6:00PM. Breakfast & snacks provided, space is limited. Fee for week: resident/\$120, non-resident/\$150. Call 206-768-2822 to register.**

**The City of Opportunity**  
*The Community of Choice*

## Mayor's Message



### Take a look at what's happening in Tukwila's Urban Center

In 2014 the Tukwila City Council adopted the Southcenter Sub-Area Plan, along with a new Southcenter Design Manual and Zoning District. These documents guide implementation of the community's vision for a high density, pedestrian-oriented development served by high capacity transit. This sub-area is bounded by I-405 to the north, I-5 to the west, Tukwila city limits to the east, and approximately South 180th Street on the south.

We are now beginning to see many strategies associated with this vision come to fruition. The Hotel Interurban and Airmark Apartments open this year to the public, providing new hotel space and pioneering high-density residential accommodations in the Southcenter area. Another housing developer is planning an active adult community across the street from Hotel Interurban. The City uses an incentive to draw high-density residential developers to the area, helping to stimulate the desired growth and development.

The pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the Green River connecting the Southcenter shopping area and transit center with the Tukwila commuter rail and Amtrak stations is now open. We are just making finishing touches to the landscaping and installing the railings. Residents and guests of Airmark Apartments and Hotel Interurban will be able to walk to the commuter and Amtrak rail lines using the new bridge.

Official grand openings for both of those projects will take place this spring in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Southcenter mall.

Plans are also coming together for a new east-west pedestrian-oriented corridor along Baker Boulevard that will connect new residential developments with the commuter and Amtrak rail lines. To encourage more residential and pedestrian-friendly uses, Baker Boulevard will get bike lanes and on-street parking. The ultimate vision for Baker Boulevard is to allow pedestrian and bicycle access from Westfield Southcenter all the way to the commuter/Amtrak rail station.

I am proud of the work we're doing with our partners in the Tukwila Urban Center, and look forward to seeing more growth and development in the years to come.

*Allan Ekberg*  
Allan Ekberg, Mayor



## 42ND AVENUE S Project Status Update

This major project on 42nd Avenue includes new street improvements, drainage, curbs, gutters and driveway adjustments, new sidewalks and bike facilities, undergrounding of the various utility wires along 42nd, and a new culvert at Gilliam Creek.

Work has continued to progress on installing underground electrical and communications facilities for the overhead-to-underground utility conversion from SR-518 to South 160th Street. Utility crews are also installing the secondary power and communications components which will service several residences within the work zone on 42nd. The removal of conflicts with other utilities will enable additional storm drainage access to the mainline storm line. The stream bypass has been completed to allow the continued construction of the north footing. Another phase of new manholes and sewer lines for Valley View Sewer District has been installed.



In the near future you can expect:

- Continued 42nd Avenue road closure from Southcenter Boulevard to South 160th Street.
- New fire hydrant installations in the vicinity of SR-518.
- As underground utility installation is completed, work will begin toward new sidewalks and roadway, filling in trench line on both sides of road in preparation for new curb, gutter, and sidewalk.
- Regarding Gilliam Creek, excavation is nearly complete! The next step is to build the north side culvert footing, and then install the arch plate culvert and start working to backfill the hole –work that will take several more weeks.

For specific questions, contact Peter Lau, Project Construction Manager at (206) 431-2454 or via email at [Peter.Lau@TukwilaWA.gov](mailto:Peter.Lau@TukwilaWA.gov)

### Volunteers needed to fill vacant positions

The City is assisted in its operations in several areas by nine boards and commissions. Members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. Residents of the City serve an important function by volunteering their time and expertise as members.

There are currently several openings. The Tukwila Arts Commission will be seeking to fill their vacancy immediately as they are in the midst of planning the 22nd Annual Fine Arts Show in conjunction with the Backyard Wildlife Festival. All board and commission vacancies are listed to the right.

- Arts Commission:** Position #2 – Resident
  - Civil Service Commission:** Position #2 – Resident
  - Community-Oriented Policing Citizens Advisory Board:** Position #5 – Resident, and Student Representative
  - Human Services Advisory Board:** Position #4 – Resident, and Position #6 – Business Representative
  - Library Advisory Board:** Position #7 – Resident, and Student Representative
  - Park Commission:** Positions #2 and #4 – Residents, and Student Representative.
- For more information, please call Cheryl at 206-433-1850.

### Tukwila: A river runs through us

Flooding is the nation's most common and most expensive natural disaster. According to national statistics, homes within high-risk flood areas have a 26% chance of being damaged by flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage.

Flood maps identify areas at risk from flooding and are used to determine community-wide development and land use. The flood maps also determine flood insurance requirements, and help people understand the risks and importance of developing plans for themselves and their families to be prepared in the event of a flood.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is updating flood maps throughout King County based on new data about flood hazards, with input from local jurisdictions. This is the first update in many years, and presents an important opportunity for our region to get a better and more accurate assessment of the flood hazards we face.

You are invited to attend an open house to learn more about flood mapping, flood risks, and FEMA's mapping process. The forum is being hosted by the City of Kent, with participation by Tukwila, Auburn, Bellevue, and King County. FEMA representatives will also attend.

**Wednesday March 21, 2018 – 6:00 to 8:00PM**  
*(presentation at approximately 6:15PM)*

**Kent City Hall, in Council Chambers**  
**220 - 4th Avenue South, in Kent**

Please join us to learn more about the current and new preliminary flood maps in your area. You can also learn more about flooding in King County by visiting [KingCounty.gov/FloodServices](http://KingCounty.gov/FloodServices). If you have specific questions about your property, please contact the City of Tukwila's Floodplain Manager Ryan Larson at 206-431-2456.

### Come work with us!

The City of Tukwila provides an engaging, productive and safe work environment, in addition to providing excellent benefits and competitive salaries. Current openings include Building Inspectors, Lateral Police Officer, and a number of seasonal/temporary positions for summertime Parks & Recreation staffing

You can search our listing of employment opportunities with descriptions, requirements, salary and other information at [GovernmentJobs.com/careers/TukwilaWA](http://GovernmentJobs.com/careers/TukwilaWA)

*The City of Tukwila is an equal opportunity employer.*

## City of Tukwila PUBLIC SAFETY PLAN Update on the progress

The City of Tukwila continues to implement the Public Safety Plan, which consists of the construction of three new fire stations, the Justice Center and a new public works facility. To date, the City has identified the locations for each facility, hired architects for the fire stations and Justice Center and brought on board General Contractor/Construction Management (GC/CM) firms for both the fire station and the Justice Center.

Fire Station 51 is the furthest along, and is scheduled to break ground later this year. The new site is at the intersection of Southcenter Parkway and South 180th street. The new station will be a two-bay, modern station with room on the back apron for firefighters to do their regular drills and training. Inside, special care was taken during design to ensure firefighter health and safety, which is critical given the amount of toxins and biohazards they are regularly exposed to. The new fire station is scheduled to be completed in early 2020.

The City continues to try and work with property owners and businesses to come to voluntary agreements around property acquisition for the Justice Center and Public Works facility. Two of the Justice Center properties are already under voluntary contract with the City, and staff continues to have very productive conversations with other business and property owners. The City will host an open house to provide additional updates on the Public Safety Plan in June, and community members are encouraged to attend and learn more about the projects. For more information, visit [TukwilaWA.gov/PublicSafetyPlan](http://TukwilaWA.gov/PublicSafetyPlan).

## COUNCIL CORNER

by Verna Seal, 2018 Council President



### Understanding local government

Happy Spring! March 20 brings the end of winter, and I for one am very happy to have the days grow longer and the flowers bloom. This month, I would like to explain a little bit more about how government works in the City of Tukwila.

We are a Mayor-Council form of government, which means that the Mayor is elected independently and represents the Executive Branch while the City Council forms the Legislative Branch. The City Council is responsible for setting budget and policy, and the Mayor as the head of Administration is responsible for carrying out the direction given by the Council. While the branches of government have completely separate roles, we must work together to ensure that the community's goals are represented in our actions.

City Council legislative acts are most commonly made via ordinances and resolutions. Generally, an ordinance has the force of law and is the mechanism used to amend the Tukwila Municipal Code, while a resolution is a less formal statement of policy. Passage is a multi-step process, starting with assigning the legislation to the appropriate committee based on the subject. The Council's standing committees are *Transportation & Infrastructure, Community Development & Neighborhoods, Finance, and Public Safety*, each a sub-group comprised of three Councilmembers. The proposed legislation is placed on an agenda and discussed/deliberated by the committee, which sometimes requests additional information and/or makes amendments. The Committee then makes a formal recommendation to the full Council to approve or deny the legislative request, forwarding the item along with their recommendation to a Committee of the Whole agenda. At this meeting, the entire seven-member Council will have the opportunity to discuss and deliberate the proposal. Once a majority of the Council has arrived at a conclusion, the item is forwarded to a Regular Meeting, which is where the Council formalizes its intent by making and voting on motions. It is not uncommon for complex issues to make several appearances in a standing committee or a Committee of the Whole prior to the Council taking final action.

There can be exceptions to this general process. For example, items that are noncontroversial or routine in nature are sometimes forwarded directly to a Regular Meeting by a standing committee.

Most importantly, your City Council welcomes your opinions and feedback on anything that comes before us. All Committee and Council agendas are available on the City's website, and you can even sign up to receive them in your email inbox each Friday. We want to hear from you!



Scenes from *Coffee with Tukwila PD* on March 10, sponsored by Starbucks and Tukwila Police Department