



TUKWILA CITY PAGES

The City of Opportunity
The Community of Choice

New improvements
bring temporary
traffic impacts



Rehabilitation of three important bridges

Thanks to a federal grant that only required a 10% local match, the City of Tukwila will be rehabilitating three bridges over the next few months, at little cost to the City's general fund.

Construction on all three projects will begin on Monday, July 24, and all are anticipated to be completed in January of 2018. Construction will generally occur between 7:00AM and 6:00PM, except when listed below. Some of these efforts will require closures and other disruptions. Drivers will be notified in advance of any closures via mobile electronic signs posted near the bridges in both directions.

The three bridges and improvements are:

Frank Zepp (South 180th Street) Bridge over the Green River – this project includes the removal and replacement of the bridge deck, seismic upgrades and painting. Construction will require a complete closure of the bridge in mid-August for approximately 10 days. During the closure it is anticipated that work will be ongoing 24 hours per day.

SW Grady Way Bridge over the railroad tracks – rehabilitation of this bridge is focused on installing seismic upgrades on the substructure. There are no anticipated disruptions to SW Grady Way during the project, but there may be intermittent lane closures of Longacres Drive SW.

S. Beacon Ave. Bridge over S. Ryan Way on Ryan Hill – the removal and replacement of the bridge deck, as well as the protective coating of internal structural steel will require this bridge close from mid-August through December of 2017. Detour signs will be clearly marked.

For more information, visit TukwilaWA.gov/ConstructionProjects, email Steve.Carstens@TukwilaWA.gov or call 206-431-2446.

Construction on 42nd Avenue South

Street improvements will soon be interrupting a busy Tukwila thoroughfare. 42nd Avenue South, from Southcenter Boulevard to South 160th Street, will be closed due to construction. It is expected the road will close toward the end of July and re-open in mid-October. Detour routes will be clearly posted.

Construction on this route will include new street improvements, drainage, curbs, gutters and driveway adjustments. It will also bring new sidewalks and bike facilities to this important residential corridor, as well as undergrounding of the various utility wires along 42nd. The project includes building a new culvert at Gilliam Creek that will make the stream crossing fish passable and improve roadway safety. According to State and federal law, there is a specific time period where creeks can be disturbed, so it's important that the City completes the in-stream work within the "fish window."

The project is being paid for by a variety of funds. The City issued bonds to cover the General Fund portion of the project, the bulk of the financing. Surface Water fees collected by the City will pay for the culvert replacement portion of the project, and Seattle City Light and other communication utilities will cover a portion of the costs associated with undergrounding the utilities.

For more information, please call 206-433-7194, or visit TukwilaWA.gov/ConstructionProjects.

FREE! SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAM – Our supervised drop-in program for ages 5–12. Games, group activities, arts & crafts!

Locations: Tukwila Elementary • 5939 South 149th Street • Monday–Thursday, 1:00–3:00PM • Runs thru August 3

Cascade View Community Park • 14211 - 37th Avenue S • Monday–Friday, 11:00AM–2:00PM • Runs thru August 25



City of Tukwila PUBLIC SAFETY PLAN

JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE!
Learn where new public safety facilities
could be located and meet the architects

Thursday, August 10 • 5:30–7:30PM

**Location: Tukwila Fire Station #53,
4237 South 144th Street**

Parking available across the street at Foster HS

*Can't make it to the in-person open house?
Give us your feedback online beginning July 27*
TukwilaPublicSafetyPlan.participate.online
Questions? Contact us! Call 206-454-7566
PublicSafetyPlan@TukwilaWA.gov

Join us to:

- Learn about the progress of the Public Safety Plan
- Meet the architects
- Enjoy a FREE ice cream social and FREE bouncy house for kids



Council to consider housing change

An Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) is a small, self-contained residential unit built on the same lot as an existing single family home. Often referred to as a *mother-in-law apartment*, examples of ADUs include an apartment over a garage, a basement apartment, and an addition to an existing home.

An ADU adds an additional dwelling unit – a separate living quarters with its own kitchen and bathroom – to an existing property. This differs from a home addition which only adds to the home, such as an additional bedroom or living room, rather than creating a new, separate unit.

ADUs are allowed in the residential zones if they comply with specific criteria adopted to ensure that the new units fit with the

neighborhood and do not take away from the character of Tukwila's residential areas. One requirement is that the ADU is incorporated into the primary single-family residence, not a separate unit.

In the fall the City Council will consider if backyard cottages should be allowed and other changes to the ADU regulations. The City wants to know your opinion and has posted an online survey: www.SurveyMonkey.com/r/V6R5JJF Please take a moment and share what you think.

For more Information, contact the Department of Community Development at 206-431-3670 or visit their offices at 6300 Southcenter Boulevard, Suite 100, open Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

See You in the Park

We want to meet you, our park neighbors.

Join us this summer at one of our parks for our annual See You in the Park series. We will provide free food, lawn games, entertainment and recreational opportunities for everyone. Visit Tukwila's famous lemonade stand as City staff greet you and maybe even kick the soccer ball around!

July 26 • 5:30-7:00pm
Crestview Park
Aug 9 • 5:30-7:00pm
Foster Memorial Park

Free Food • Lawn Games
Entertainment

Meeting agendas, City programs, recreation activities, publications and more... get the most current information at TukwilaWA.gov!

COUNCIL CORNER

by Dennis Robertson,
2017 Council President



TO VOTE OR NOT TO VOTE

Voting is one of our most important rights and responsibilities. That said, Tukwila has a lot of residents who don't vote. I'd like to understand their reasons.

In last year's presidential election, many people said they weren't happy with either candidate so they didn't bother to vote. I'd question that kind of logic. We make decisions all the time choosing the best, or least bad, alternative.

Even if we can't get excited about supporting or voting for a particular candidate, it doesn't change the fact that ultimately someone will be elected in every race.

Another reason that seems a little flimsy is, "My vote doesn't change anything." The Tukwila Public Safety Bond issue passed by 31 votes. If just 32 more – or fewer – citizens had voted, do we know how things might have turned out?

And frequently, the reason given for not voting is, "I haven't studied the issues. If I voted, it would just be from the gut. Other voters know more, so I'll let them decide." That's a cop-out. Who really believes all other voters have studied the issues?

Have the candidates really explained their positions? Think about it, how often does a candidate get to speak in complete sentences, let alone express pages worth of well-thought-out reasoning? Does a 15-second TV commercial explain anything?

Our gut feeling tells us that complex positions on real world issues can't be explained in two or three sentences. For example, economic, public safety or local zoning matters cannot be conveyed in a 15-second sound bite.

The reality is that, once elected, good public officials study and listen, ask lots of questions, and rely on their experience before deciding important issues. But that rarely happens during the election process. Voting is not based on a thoughtful, academic kind of analysis of a candidate's position on complex, critical issues. It comes down to each voter using their own life experiences, education, and their gut-level feelings. We all live unique, different lives, and nobody knows better than us what's best for us. Those gut feelings are an expression of our lives and what we've learned.

Electing leaders is important. We should elect leaders who have the life experiences, the honesty and the work ethic to study and listen before they decide something important. Our feeling about whether they'll do that should be based upon the lessons our lives have taught us. Lessons about people and how they behave... you know, what you feel in your gut after you've thought about it.

So, go vote!

Council Chat
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.

Next Chat: Sat., August 12

Let's get together to talk!
10:00AM to 12:00PM
in Tukwila Library's Meeting Room
14380 Tukwila International Blvd.

Mayor's Message

Area youth spend their summer at City Hall

I am happy to announce the launch of our summer high school internship program this month. Six departments are hosting seven high school interns this summer. The Community Services and Engagement Division (formerly Communications), the Department of Community Development, the Fire Marshal's office, Parks Maintenance, and Public Works each hired one, and Technology and Innovation Services hired two. In addition, we currently have an open recruitment for a high school intern in the Police Department. It is listed on our website with other open City positions.



City leadership has a goal of exposing Tukwila's young people to employment opportunities available at the City, as well as having the City's workforce better represent the broader community. As a way to achieve these goals, the City of Tukwila is implementing a job shadow and internship program for high school students in Tukwila. Through this program we have the opportunity to expose local high school students to diverse, living wage careers in city government, and to develop a pipeline of diverse, local candidates for City jobs.

The demand has turned out to be extraordinary. For the spring recruitment we had twelve students apply. For the summer recruitment, we had over 70 applications.

In addition to specific projects in their assigned departments, our interns will meet the Mayor, City Council and City Administrator, learn about what each department does and how departments work together to serve our residents and community.

Watch for more features and articles about our interns on the City's social media pages and other publications.

The Tukwila high school job shadow and internship program is very important to me, and to the City. In addition to the City of Opportunity Scholarship, it is another tool in our toolbox that we can use to support our youth on the road to success.

Allan Ekberg
Allan Ekberg, Mayor

Climb on, kick tires, and check out Tukwila's biggest rigs!

TOUCH-A-TRUCK SAFETY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FAIR

Saturday, July 29
9:00am–1:00pm

9:00 to 10:00am is "Horn- and Siren-Free"
Westfield Southcenter's South Parking Lot

TUKWILA KIDS FESTIVAL
Free Summer Party
August 18 • 11AM–2PM
Cascade View Park

SUMMER SACK LUNCH PROGRAM

In cooperation with the City of Seattle, we are pleased to offer you the FREE Summer Sack Lunch Program. Sack lunches will be available to the first 100 participants each day. Lunches will be served during inclement weather.

Ages 1 to 18 years

Tukwila Community Center
JUNE 26–AUG 25 11:15am–12:15pm, M-F
12424 42nd Ave S Snacks offered 3:15-4:15

Cascade View Community Park
JULY 10–AUG 25 12:00–1:00pm, M-F
14211 37th Ave S

Tukwila Elementary
JULY 5–AUG 3 12:00–1:00pm, M-F
5939 S 149th St

For additional sites:
[resources.parenthelp123.org/
services/summer-meals](http://resources.parenthelp123.org/services/summer-meals)

