

Spring blossoms embellish the Interurban Trail by the Sounder station



The Hazelnut

A City of Tukwila publication for our residential and business communities

MAY 2025

VOLUME 45, NUMBER 5



National Public Works Week
May 18-24

**WHAT TUKWILA PUBLIC WORKS
DOES FOR YOU – SEE PAGE 6**

TukwilaWA.gov



**Mayor McLeod brings community members together
for Tukwila's first State of the City event**



Tukwila: The City of Opportunity, the Community of Choice



Mayor's Message

State of the City

During the first week of April, I hosted the City's first-ever State of the City event at Foster High School's Performing Arts Center. Over 250 people attended the function, which also included a reception featuring nearly 20 community partners.

I wanted to bring my message about the state of the City directly to Tukwila community members. The best thing about the night was hearing and seeing all the Tukwila community members who came to the event. It's important for me to hear directly from our residents and businesses.

My address highlighted my three main goals for my administration when I took office on January 1, 2024. Here is a quick update on these priorities.

PUBLIC SAFETY

For the first time in a number of years, the City's Police Department is fully staffed. Our investments in public safety are showing, with crime being down throughout the City. Additional investments in public

safety include two police officers to focus on safety and retail theft in the City's Southcenter District. A park ranger position has also been added to improve the safety and user experience at City parks and trails.

HOUSING

Our region is facing a significant housing shortage, and I am committed to expanding housing opportunities in Tukwila. This spring 285 residential units will open at the new Prose building in the Southcenter District. This will be the District's fourth residential building in the last ten years. The City's vision of making the Southcenter District a true urban district – with housing, jobs, transit and retail – is reflected in these developments.

BUILDING A BETTER BUDGET

Last year the City used an inclusive process to ensure the community was involved in the creation of the City's biannual budget. I believe it's important that residents can easily access the City's budget and understand its key information, but the City's adopted budget is over 500 pages! This year the City created a "Budget in Brief," a ten page document that provides a quick budget reference. Find the Budget in Brief at TukwilaWA.gov/StateofCity. My address, along with some great community performances, will be posted later this month on the same web page.

If you have any questions about the state of our city, please email me directly at Mayor@TukwilaWA.gov.

Mayor, City of Tukwila



Ways you can get involved with your city

Review the 10-page "**Budget in Brief**," a summary of the City's 2025-26 budget in an easy-to-understand format.

TukwilaWA.gov/wp-content/uploads/FIN-Budget-in-Brief.pdf

Download the **SeeClickFix** app to report non-emergency issues around the City. Anyone can use their smartphone to get help with a service request in their neighborhood.

SeeClickFix.com/tukwila

Stay informed about the projects that are shaping Tukwila's future. The City's Capital Improvement Program **Project Dashboard** is now available. Explore active capital projects throughout the city on an interactive map. All projects displayed on the dashboard have received some funding and are in various phases of planning, design or construction.

TukwilaWA.gov/projectmap

Used battery disposal



Collection tubes for the safe disposal of your used batteries have been set up in the main lobby of City Hall and at the Tukwila Community Center. You can drop off old batteries during regular business hours.

All types of common batteries are accepted – AA, AAA, 9V, button, and rechargeable batteries. The collected batteries are sent to a certified recycling facility for proper processing.

Disposing of batteries with the trash can be harmful to the environment, as they contain chemicals that can pollute the soil and water. Also, some batteries have the potential to catch fire if not disposed of properly.

Tukwila City Hall
6200 Southcenter Blvd.
Monday–Friday:
8:30AM – 5:00PM

Tukwila Community Center
12424 - 42nd Avenue South
Mon–Thur: 8:00AM – 9:00PM
Friday: 8:00AM – 6:00PM
Sat & Sunday: 7:30AM – 3:00PM

Grant enables improvements at Community Center

The City was recently awarded \$44,800 to seal windows at the Tukwila Community Center. There is known air leakage throughout the building where outside air is entering the building, potentially allowing contaminants such as dust and pollen to infiltrate the space. By properly sealing all windows, the Community Center can maintain cleaner indoor air, reduce potential exposure to harmful pollutants, and enhance overall public health.

This project is supported with funding from Washington’s Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington’s climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at Climate.WA.gov.



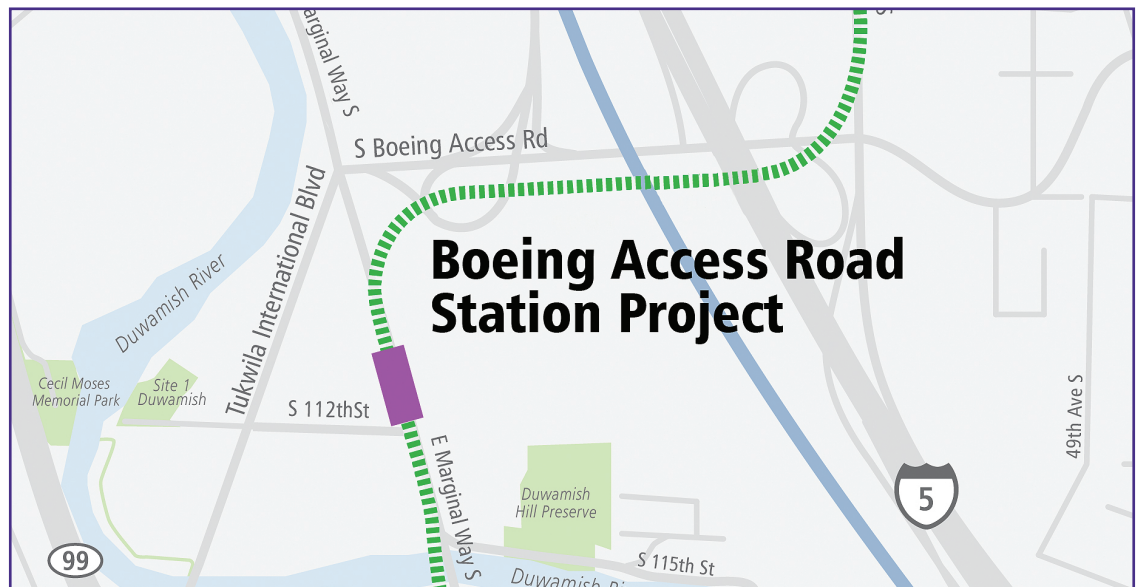
Boeing Access Road Light Rail Station

In March, the Sound Transit Board selected a location near the intersection of South 112th Street and East Marginal Way as the preferred location for what has commonly been referred to as the “Boeing Access Road” light rail station. This will be an infill station, meaning it will be built along the existing elevated track.

The station was in the original Sound Move vote – which created Sound Transit – in 1996. Due to budget constraints, the station was deferred. It was added back when voters approved the Sound Transit 3 project packages in 2016.

Sound Transit will now begin the environmental impact statement process.

The station is scheduled to open in 2031.



For more information, please visit SoundTransit.org/system-expansion/boeing-access-road-station

FREE PAINT RECYCLING EVENT

with GreenSheen Paint and the City of Tukwila

Saturday, May 31st | 9am-3pm

Tukwila Community Center

12424 42nd Avenue South, Tukwila, WA 98168

Accepted Items:

- Latex paint
- Oil-based paint
- Stains and shellacs
- Lacquers, sealers, and varnishes
- Urethanes and textured coatings
- 5-gallon or smaller containers

NOT Accepted:

- Aerosol (spray paint)
- Paint thinner
- Solvents
- Cleaning agents
- Drywall mud, roof patch, adhesives
- Hazardous waste materials

Scan to
register!



GreenSheen
Eco-Friendly Paint



www.circular.eco/event/Tukwila53125

Helpful



upcoming events
in Tukwila

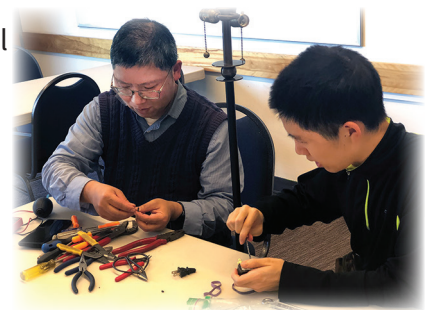
Got something that needs fixing? Mark your calendar!



KING COUNTY REPAIR EVENT – FREE
Saturday, July 12 – 1:30 to 4:30PM Tukwila Community Center

King County free community repair events feature skilled volunteers who work on your electronics, small kitchen appliances, small furniture, toys, clothing and more! Last May's repair event at Tukwila Community Center saw more than 60 items successfully fixed or mended.

Visit KingCounty.gov/repair-events for more information, or contact the repair events coordinator at Tom.Watson@KingCounty.gov or 206-477-4481.



Council Corner

The City Council is back to business after completing a rigorous interview and appointment process. Again I thank those community members who put themselves out there and applied. It is not an easy thing to do, and I hope you will continue to stay engaged with the City.

I'd like to thank Councilmembers Dennis Martinez and Armen Papyan for traveling to Washington D.C. recently, to attend the National League of Cities Congressional Cities Conference. This presented a valuable opportunity to learn more about how changes in the Federal administration may impact local government, especially with regard to federal funding streams.

While there, they also had the opportunity to visit the offices of our Federal delegation to advocate on behalf of key transportation projects. These include the Allentown Truck Reroute and Strander Boulevard Extension. Their advocacy effort is an example of some of the important behind-the-scenes work that Councilmembers do on behalf of their community.

One of the jobs I am doing as Council President this year is to chair the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC). LTAC also includes hoteliers and other business representatives who meet to make recommendations to the Council on the application of the hotel/motel tax collected in our City. State law requires that this revenue only be spent on tourism-related activities, and so it has been interesting to participate in this aspect of the City's operation.

At our last meeting we received a presentation from Seattle Southside on how our region can prepare for the FIFA World Cup coming in summer 2026. The role of local government will be to provide typical services, like transit, traffic control, and law enforcement. Beyond that, Tukwila will want to be welcoming to the estimated 1.1 million visitors to our region. If you have ideas on how best to do that, please let us know. You can learn more at SeattleFWC26.org.

You are encouraged to learn more about your City Council at TukwilaWA.gov/council. There you can find agendas, meeting videos, contact information, and biographies. Consider attending meetings either in person, online or by watching on Channel 21 TukTV.

Your Councilmembers want to hear from you as we deliberate issues that impact us all and the future of our city.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Nadine Wheeler and her husband Steve.

**Council position filled;
advocating in D.C.;
preparing for FIFA**



*by Tosh Sharp,
2025 Council President*

RECENT COUNCIL ACTIONS

- Accepted King County Youth Amateur Sports Grant and Improving Indoor Air through Forestry grant funding
- Adopted amendments to the City Council Rules of Procedure (*Res. 2110*)
- Conducted work session to finalize application and interview process for Council vacancy
- Interviewed five applicants for City Council Position 7
- Appointed Verna Seal to City Council Position 7
- Authorized funding for South King Housing and Homelessness Partners affordable housing projects (*Res. 2111*)
- Approved lodging tax funding for City of Tukwila's Juneteenth Commemoration (*Ord. 2749*)
- Adopted a 2025 Federal Legislative Agenda (*Res. 2112*)
- Approved an updated Interlocal Agreement for the South County Area Transportation Board
- Accepted Washington State grant funding for HVAC replacement at Tukwila Community Center

National Public Works Week

May 18–24

Public Works professionals seldom meet those whose lives have been impacted. Why? Because when things are going right, no one knows that Public Works is there. Yet, with or without fanfare, Public Works is ever present, working in the background to advance quality of life for all.

This is what Tukwila's Public Works does for you.



Tukwila Public Works

Overview 2025

Tukwila Public Works is responsible for preserving and improving the City's physical and green infrastructure and assets to ensure a high quality of life for community members, business owners and visitors.



ENGINEERING

The Engineering Division provides professional engineering services for planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of the water, sewer, surface water and transportation infrastructure. Other services include assisting development permit review and monitoring of franchise utility operations in the City.

STREET MAINTENANCE

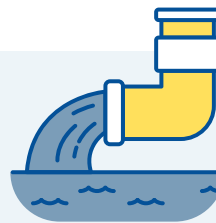
The City's street's division provides safe and efficient movement of people and goods to, from, and through Tukwila. Street Maintenance crews operate and maintain the city's infrastructure including streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, cross-walks and bridges. Activities include pothole repairs and crack sealing, litter removal, weed/trash abatement, ensuring removal of snow, ice and other debris from roadways, operations and maintenance of the city's traffic control and safety devices and maintenance of the street light network.



127 lane miles of commercial/industrial streets and
90 lane miles of residential streets, including bridges, sidewalks, street lighting, and traffic cameras

WATER UTILITY

The City's water utility provides for the efficient, environmentally sound, and safe management of the existing and future water system within the City's service area.



6 pressure zones

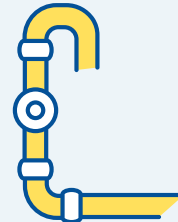
1 reservoir

1 pump station

9 pressure reducing valves

13 check valves

44 miles of transmission and distribution pipelines



The system distributes approximately
740,000,000 gallons of water

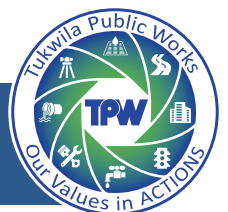
Tukwila is 1 of 8 municipal water utilities that formed the Cascade Water Alliance to more effectively and efficiently supply water to meet the region's needs.

SOLID WASTE



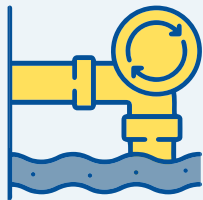
Solid waste collection – including food and yard waste, transportation, and disposal – in Tukwila is provided by Recology and taken to King County's Cedar Hills Landfill for disposal.

The mission of the Tukwila Public Works Department is to preserve, enhance and promote Tukwila's quality of life and public safety, through the construction and operation of reliable and sustainable infrastructure and services necessary to meet the demands of our growing and diverse community.



SEWER UTILITY

The City's sanitary sewer utility provides an efficient, environmentally sound, and safe management of the existing and future sewer system within the City's service area. The City collects wastewater from residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial dischargers within the service area and has an agreement with King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) for conveyance and treatment of its collected wastewater.



38.5 miles of pipelines
ranging in diameter from 4-24"

20 drainage basins

196,355 feet of gravity pipe

10 lift stations with **22** total pumps and

5,064 feet of force main

25 connections with King County WTD trunk line

SURFACE WATER PROGRAM

The surface water program manages public stormwater infrastructure and serves to protect and restore surface waters. Stormwater management serves to protect infrastructure and property from flood-related damage and prevent pollution from entering surface waters. Operations and maintenance staff inspect and maintain stormwater infrastructure including pipes, ditches, catch basins, detention facilities, water quality facilities and outfalls citywide.



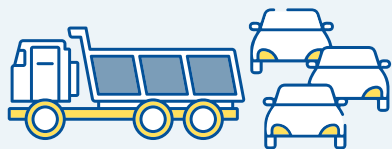
FLEET

The Equipment Rental unit of Public Works is to provide a fleet of vehicles and equipment through an operation maintenance and replacement program and to supply the city with adequate, safe, and on-demand operational cars, trucks and specialty equipment. Services are provided through in-house labor and contracted services

The current fleet consists
of approximately

193 vehicles and

134 other pieces of equipment.



The City has also recently adopted an Interlocal Agreement with the City of SeaTac for fleet maintenance of roughly 300 pieces of equipment.



Tukwila Public Works Administration

6300 Southcenter Blvd. Suite 200, Tukwila, WA 98188

TukwilaWA.gov/departments/public-works

FACILITIES

Tukwila's Facilities Division is responsible for preserving all City buildings and properties through a preventive maintenance, repair, and operating program to provide a safe, pleasant, and productive work environment for City staff and clients.



33 facilities including
office buildings, maintenance
shops, community and event spaces, restrooms
and other properties, consisting of approximately
327,815 square feet, of which 213,319
square feet is provided with custodial care

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Public Works oversees a 6-Year \$295 million Capital Improvement Program (CIP), a major public infrastructure plan guiding investments in the major repair and replacement of streets, utilities, parks, facilities, technology and other assets. The Program is funded by grants, loans, utility rates and fees, property taxes and other revenues and is updated every two years through the City's budget process.

\$81 million (2025-26 CIP)

DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP

The Department leadership team develops and implements a biennial budget and an annual work plan, secures grants, prepares for and responds to emergencies, negotiates contracts and agreements, assures effective program and service delivery, manages capital projects, monitors and adjusts performance, supports staff development and coordinates projects and initiatives across work groups and other city departments.

In 2024, the Department responded to **651** requests via See-Click-Fix, including 158 requests for illegal dumping.



WORKS

The Department consists of approximately 75 employees serving in operations, engineering, administrative and management functions.

To report non-emergency issues, use the See-Click-Fix app, email PublicWorks@TukwilaWA.gov or call 206.433.0179.

Get assistance from a community navigator

The Tukwila Municipal Court is pleased to have formed a new partnership with Mr. Cornell Harris and Better Life Community Development Corporation. Each Wednesday, a community navigator is available to offer valuable support to individuals seeking assistance with:

- Re-entry after incarceration
- Employment and vocational training
- Housing referrals, and
- Mentoring.

While the City's Human Services Department is limited to serving only Tukwila residents, Mr. Harris can help anyone who reaches out for assistance.

Since the partnership began, Mr. Harris has made a significant impact. He provides clients with essential items, helps them with resumes and job applications

(leading to successful employment), refers individuals to housing and treatment services, and offers ongoing mentorship and support.

Better Life Community Development is currently funded through a Department of Commerce grant. The court is actively seeking additional funding sources to ensure the continued success of this partnership. The City is grateful for the positive difference this collaboration is making in the community.



TUKWILA CITY HALL

6200 Southcenter Boulevard
City Hall campus in-person hours:
Monday—Thursday, 8:30AM–4:00PM
Phone: 206-433-1800 Fax: 206-433-1833
Email: Tukwila@TukwilaWA.gov
Website: TukwilaWA.gov

MAYOR Thomas McLeod 206-433-1850

Mayor's Office

Administration Offices 206-433-1850
Marty Wine, *City Administrator* 206-433-1851
Brandon Miles, *Dir, Strat Init/Gov Rel* 206-431-3684
City Clerk's Office 206-433-1800
Community Engagement ... 206-454-7564
Economic Development 206-433-1832
Human Resources – Personnel 206-433-1831
Human Services 206-433-7181
Emergency Management 206-971-8750
Technology Services 206-454-7575

Community Development Dept.

Nora Gierloff, *Director* 206-431-3670
Code Enforcement 206-431-3682

Finance Department

Aaron BeMiller, *Director* 206-433-1835

Parks/Recreation Department

Kris Kelly, *Interim Director* ... 206-767-2342

Police Department

Eric Drever, *Chief* 206-433-7175

Public Works Department

Pete Mayer, *Int Dir/Dep City Adm* 206-433-0179

Emergency – Fire, Police 911

MUNICIPAL COURT

15005 Tukwila International Blvd 206-433-1840

TUKWILA COMMUNITY CENTER

12424 - 42nd Avenue South
Recreation Division 206-768-2822
Senior Center/Services 206-767-2321
Facility Rentals 206-767-2323

FOSTER GOLF LINKS

13500 Interurban Avenue South
Pro Shop 206-242-4221

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY

All fire-related services 253-856-4300
PugetSoundFire.org

2025 TUKWILA CITY COUNCIL

Tosh Sharp, *Council President* .. 206 507-6440
Tosh.Sharp@TukwilaWA.gov

Mohamed Abdi 206-798-4872

Mohamed.Abdi@TukwilaWA.gov

Armen Papyan 206-888-3380

Armen.Papyan@TukwilaWA.gov

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Jovita.McConnell@TukwilaWA.gov

Dennis Martinez 206-960-1607

Dennis.Martinez@TukwilaWA.gov

Hannah Hedrick 206-580-8123

Hannah.Hedrick@TukwilaWA.gov

Verna Seal 206-724-4548

Verna.Seal@TukwilaWA.gov

To email the entire Council at once:

CityCouncil@TukwilaWA.gov

Laurel Humphrey, *Analyst* .. 206-433-8993

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

7:00PM in Council Chambers

Regular Meetings 1st/3rd Mondays

Committee of the Whole 2nd/4th Mondays