Earlier this year, the City formally opened its new Fire Station 52, which now serves as the Tukwila Fire Department’s headquarters station. The new station is located on the City Hall campus just off of 65th Avenue South.

The state-of-the-art facility includes three apparatus bays for fire engines and other vehicles, and houses a back-up Emergency Operations Center and the Fire Department’s administrative staff. Because Tukwila firefighters are on shift 48 hours at a time, the station also includes a kitchen, living area and individual bunk rooms. The grounds at Fire Station 52 feature a memorial garden and other hardscaping and softscaping that can host Fire Department events.

Besides supporting firefighter health with an exercise room, the new station was developed with their safety in mind. Air locks between the apparatus bays and the rest of the station help ensure that possible contaminants from fires and other calls are contained to the “dirty” areas of the station, keeping them out of the living areas.

Designed by Weinstein A+U and constructed by Lydig Construction, the City had the assistance of SOJ, a firm providing project management services for the entire Public Safety Plan. This new Fire Station 52 joins new Fire Station 51 and Tukwila’s new Justice Center as completed Plan elements.

These new state-of-the-art facilities were made possible by the voters of Tukwila. The City of Tukwila offers its gratitude to the community for its support for public safety personnel and services.
In 2017 the City Council identified and adopted Resolution #1921’s Equity Policy. The City of Tukwila is committed to being an inclusive community that provides equal access to all City services. The purpose of the Equity Policy is to provide elected officials, City staff, boards and commissions, businesses, community members, residents and guests guidance on how the Tukwila will lead with equity throughout the decision-making process and engagement efforts.

The Equity Policy consists of these six goals:

1. Our City workforce reflects our community.
2. Community outreach and engagement is relevant, intentional, inclusive, consistent and ongoing.
3. All residents and visitors receive equitable delivery of City services.
4. The City will identify strategies to facilitate equitable access to decision-making, where the decisions themselves – and the process and context in which they are made – are transparent.
5. Equity serves as a core value for all long-term plans moving forward.
6. The City will build capacity around equity within City government and the broader community.

To compliment this Policy, the Equity Policy Implementation Committee (EPIC) was created in 2019. EPIC is a City-wide committee run by City employees who are committed to advancing equity throughout the City of Tukwila. EPIC identified four equity priorities for implementation in 2020: providing consistent equity training; incorporating equity into City hiring processes; developing an equity toolkit; and creating a guide to equitable outreach.

Let me highlight a few examples of EPIC success stories:

Their collaboration with the Equity and Social Justice Commission has led EPIC to co-create and develop short- and long-term toolkits that will allow City staff to normalize and operationalize equity throughout all City departments.

In 2020, EPIC’s collaboration process led the Human Resources Department to implement changes to its hiring process, such as anti-bias training for interviewers.

Most recently EPIC was selected for a 2021 Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Municipal Excellence Award. AWC recognizes innovative solutions by cities that significantly improve the quality of life for their communities. Municipal Excellence Awards showcase creative ideas and successes that can be replicated in other cities.

I am also happy to tell you about Tukwila’s first Juneteenth event. City Council Resolution #1992 officially recognizes Juneteenth of each year as an annual celebration of the African American Emancipation. The Juneteenth Commemoration is the history of the last enslaved African Americans being informed they were free. Two months after the Civil War ended, federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas and – on June 19, 1865 – announced to all that slavery had been abolished throughout the former Confederate states and the entire nation.

This year the City of Tukwila will host its first Juneteenth Commemoration “Continued Learning – The History of Juneteenth: Past, Present and Future of African American history.” To ensure the safety of Tukwila residents, community members, businesses and guests during the coronavirus pandemic, the City will present this inaugural year Juneteenth event on the Experience Tukwila website. Although this event debuts modestly, the City’s goal is to grow the Juneteenth commemoration over time into a significant annual Tukwila community event. Additionally, Washington State has officially declared Juneteenth a holiday for state employees.

The City of Tukwila has much to celebrate with Equity Policy and the Juneteenth Commemoration. I look forward to working with the community, leading the City in equity and making Tukwila an inclusive city for all.
Residents may qualify for rebate of some 2020 fees in Utility Tax Relief program

In 2003 the City of Tukwila imposed a Utility Tax and added a surcharge to Seattle City Light customers as a contract fee. With Resolution No. 1547, the City established policy to rebate the additional taxes and contract surcharge fees to eligiblelow-income seniors (age 62 or older) or disabled residents for electric and natural gas utility rebates.

Criteria for eligibility
◆ Must be at least 62 years of age or disabled.
◆ Disposable income from all sources must not exceed $46,500 per household.
◆ Must be Puget Sound Energy or Seattle City Light customer.

Required information due by September 30, 2021
◆ Must complete application and notarized supplemental affidavit at the Finance Department in Tukwila City Hall.
◆ Must provide copy of 2020 Income Tax Return.
◆ Provide copy of your Puget Sound Energy or Seattle City Light December 2020 billing statement as verification of customer account status.

Payment process
Those applicants determined to be eligible will receive a rebate check from the City based on the actual taxes and surcharges paid for 2020. For more information, please contact Tukwila’s Finance Department at 206-433-1835.

Thank your local Park Steward!
As the weather warms up, the litter is starting to build up. Adopt-A-Spot Park Stewards are out weekly, cleaning up litter in Tukwila's parks, trails and green spaces. If you see someone with a grabber or blue trash bag, take a second to say hi and thank them for their volunteer service.

If you’d like to learn more about the program, please go to TukwilaWA.gov/adopt-a-spot.

Helping households connect during the pandemic

To assist low-income families and households with their internet service bills during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Federal Communications Commission has launched the Emergency Broadband Benefit program. This temporary program will help qualifying households access important online sites for jobs, critical healthcare services, virtual classrooms, and more.

What the benefit provides:
• Up to $50/month discount for broadband service, or up to $75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands.
• A one-time discount of up to $100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider.

Are you eligible?
A household is eligible if a member of the household meets one of these criteria:
• Has an income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, qualifies for Lifeline or participates in certain government assistance programs.
• Receives benefits under the free or reduced-price school breakfast or lunch programs.
• Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year.
• Experienced a substantial loss of income due to job loss or furlough since February 29, 2020.
• Meets the eligibility criteria for a provider’s existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

Get more details about the benefit, including eligibility and enrollment information:
• Call 833-511-0311
• Go online to GetEmergencyBroadband.org

Learn more at fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit
Local municipal government – like Tukwila – is often referred to as “the government closest to the people.” What happens there has more direct influence on your daily life, and your representatives are neighbors in your community. It’s vital to periodically re-evaluate our practices to improve accessibility, efficiency and ensure good governance as we do our duty in service to the Tukwila community. Last year, complying with State mandates, we rushed into holding our meetings online but then improved transparency by recording our committee meetings so you can see them on-demand through TukTv on our website. This year we also changed our virtual public comment so you can speak directly to us during meetings.

It’s been some time since the Tukwila Municipal Code was updated regarding City Council operations. In May, the City Council updated its procedures for conducting our business and facilitating our legislative process. Going forward, we will review and update them every two years. As always, we welcome your feedback. Although most of the rules are largely defined by State law, we listen to you and try new ideas. The majority of this update adds detail to provide greater transparency, and rephrases existing practices into language that is easier to understand. I’d like to highlight changes we’ve made to the Public Comment period at Council meetings:

- Agendas have been re-organized to make Public Comment easier. Your opportunity to speak to the City Council now occurs at the start of the meeting. We feel people shouldn’t have to wait until mid-meeting to say what they think. Also, if you wish to comment on a specific agenda item, you can choose either to address the item during the Public Comment period OR to speak to your City Council when the item comes up on the agenda, whichever you prefer.
- We’ve also removed the requirement to state your address for the record when making a comment, as we feel that can be intimidating or a barrier to public participation.

To read the City Council’s complete Rules of Procedure, visit TukwilaWA.gov/city-council. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to call me or any member of the Council. Contact information can be found on the back page or on our website.

On a personal note, I’d like to share my optimism for where our public health is heading as a city, region and country, as more people get vaccinated. I was honored to be at several Mobile Vaccination Team clinics held in our city by the Tukwila Fire Department. I cannot give enough praise for our TFD Firefighters, who worked tirelessly on their own time. They obtained vaccination vials from King County Zone 3 coordinators, set up operations to meet the needs of those who couldn’t get vaccines any other way, and tracked everyone vaccinated to ensure they’d receive their second booster in the prescribed optimal time period. They provided folks what they needed to protect their lives from this deadly pandemic in a people-friendly experience. If you have not yet received your vaccine, I encourage you to go to Vaccines.gov and make a reservation to get yours today!

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**City Council Actions**

- Awarded bid to Lincoln Construction, Inc. for Public Works Fleet & Facilities Tenant Improvement Project
- Confirmed Eric Drever as Chief of Police
- Confirmed Nora Gierloff as Community Development Director
- Authorized a contract with McGranahan Architects for Teen and Senior Center Programming & Feasibility Study
- Adopted interim regulations for Small Wireless Communication Facilities (Ord.2652)
- Approved lodging tax funding to City of Tukwila for Experience Tukwila, a 2021 Juneteenth celebration, and a partnership with the Seawolves
- Reenacted Tukwila Municipal Code Chapter 2.04, “City Council” (Ord.2653)
- Adopted updated Rules of Procedure of the City Council (Res. 2022)
- Authorized the award of four “Tukwila, City of Opportunity Scholarship” awards

*The complete text of all legislative items is available online in the Digital Records Center at TukwilaWA.gov. For additional information about any of these actions, call 206-433-8993.*
Skyhawks Sports Camps return
Tukwila Parks and Rec staff are proud to partner with Skyhawks Sports Academy again this year to offer a variety of sports camps. Camps focus on skill building, teamwork, friendship and fun. You can learn more and register by visiting TinyURL.com/TukwilaSKY. For scholarship information, email Sports@TukwilaWA.gov.

Ultimate Disc Sport Camp
Join Seattle Cascades/Tempest Ultimate Disc Camp to learn the basic rules, skills and strategies of Ultimate Disc (Frisbee). Camp is centered around Ultimate, with a priority of getting kids moving and having FUN! Various activities will include throwing accuracy games, partner catching drills, footwork games, pulling contests, small scrimmages, and much more.

For ages 8-13 July 26–30, from 1:00 to 4:00pm Fee: $120
Sign up: TukwilaWA.gov/signup
For scholarship information, email Sports@TukwilaWA.gov.

Restoration work parties at Riverton
Join local park stewards, parks staff and neighbors to help remove English ivy, clean up flower beds, and plant native plants. Let’s work together to care for our beautiful parks and green spaces throughout Tukwila.

Work parties are held monthly on the first Tuesday, from 11:30am–1:30pm. Sign up at TukwilaWA.gov/GreenTukwila.

Tukwila’s Park ‘n’ Play Program
Tukwila Parks and Recreation staff will be rolling throughout Tukwila this summer to distribute meals, snacks and recreation activity kits. Visit staff on Tuesdays and Thursdays from July 6 through August 19 at the following parks:

—Crestview Park
—Cascade View Park
—Tukwila Community Center

Questions? Contact ParksRec@TukwilaWA.gov. Sign up for Tukwila Parks & Recreation monthly e-news for updates: TinyURL.com/TPRNews

Create your own class at Tukwila Parks & Rec
Tukwila Parks & Recreation staff are looking for talented independent instructors interested in sharing their talents. Why you should teach your class at Tukwila Parks & Rec:

► You can set the fees, dates and times of your activity.
► Activities can be offered on a weekly basis or as 1–2 day workshop.
► We’ll provide one of our fantastic recreation spaces for your use, as well as assist with marketing for your class or workshop.
► We’re interested in a variety of different classes for all ages – from infants and school-aged children to adults and seniors.
► Share your special talent with our community.

Classes we’re looking for:

◉ Fine art classes: drawing, painting, sewing, photography
◉ Dance classes: ballet, hip hop, African dance or ?
◉ Photography
◉ Music classes: piano, guitar, etc.
◉ STEAM classes
◉ Personal growth and self-improvement
◉ Sports and fitness
◉ Martial arts
◉ Outdoor classes
◉ Virtual and online classes
◉ Fun and unique sessions you might propose.

Classes & activities must follow all current COVID-19 precautions.

If you have questions, please call 206-768-2822, or email ParksRec@TukwilaWA.gov.

Preschool proceeds in the pandemic
TCC Preschool did not let the Covid crisis stop the learning. In March 2020, the pandemic moved the 3-year-old and Pre-K classes to an exclusively Zoom format, with 30 students finishing the school year virtually. Students received supplemental learning materials each month.

In-person Pre-K classes started in September for families who were comfortable returning. Smaller class sizes and daily disinfecting made it possible to social distance and adhere to Covid protocols.
West Valley Highway/Longacres Way
Since fall 2019, Tukwila’s Public Works Department has been working on design improvements to West Valley Highway and Longacres Way. Construction is currently expected to begin this summer. Improvements will include

- A new third northbound lane from Strander Boulevard north to S 156th Street/I-405 northbound ramps.
- New sidewalks on the east side of West Valley Highway between S 156th Street and Longacres Way, and between the Chevron station car wash and the Courtyard by Marriot hotel. The existing sidewalk gap is due to Seattle Public Utilities’ large 60-inch water main that runs under the highway at that point, which required special measures be taken to protect the pipe.
- A new signalized pedestrian crossing using a HAWK (High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk) signal across West Valley Highway next to the Pedestrian Bridge.
- A new two-way cycle track for bicycles on the south side of Longacres Way between West Valley Highway and Tukwila Station.
- A new Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) signal on Longacres Way at the Interurban Trail.
- New illumination along Longacres Way.

The project is primarily funded through federal, State and local grants (83% of the cost), and traffic impact fees collected from new development in the Southcenter area (11%). General City dollars contribute the final 6% of the $5.6 million project cost. If you have questions concerning this project, please contact Cyndy Knighton, Senior Program Manager, at 206-431-2450 or email Cyndy.Knighton@TukwilaWA.gov.

New joint Public Works facility
As part of the Public Safety Plan, the City has started work on a consolidated Public Works Shops Facility. The goal is to relocate Public Works (PW) employees from multiple locations into a single facility that is seismically safe, energy efficient, and meets the operational needs of current and future PW staff.

The first phase included the purchase of a property large enough for this function, tailoring it for City needs, and transitioning employees to the site. The space chosen is on Tukwila International Boulevard immediately north of the Green River.

Construction for the new site is now underway. Excavation has begun and permits have been issued for the plumbing, fire and electrical. Perimeter fencing has been completed, and yard entrance gates and controls are operational. Public works crews are anticipated to move into the new facility during the first quarter of 2022. If you have any questions, contact Cody Gray, Public Works Operations Manager, at 206-696-8182, or send an email to Cody.Gray@TukwilaWA.gov.

Andover Park East and Strander sewer repair
To prevent an emergency sewer repair in the future and to continue protecting the environment, this project repaired two portions of a sewer main at two different sites. The vast majority of the construction took place during the night hours to avoid inconveniencing routine City traffic. Construction began in October 2020 and concluded in February 2021.

East Marginal Way South stormwater outfalls
This surface water project is reconstructing drainage infrastructure along the northern portion of East Marginal Way South near the north City limits. It provides the City with a new drainage connection to the Duwamish River, and prevents stormwater from being discharged into neighboring properties’ drainage systems. The project also provides water quality improvements to treat stormwater prior to it being released to the Duwamish River. Construction began on March 8 and should be completed by July 2021.

The City received 75% of the funding for the design and construction contract amount ($1.35 million) from the Washington State Department of Ecology. If you have any questions concerning this project, contact Project Manager Ryan Larson at 206-431-2456 or Ryan.Larson@TukwilaWA.gov.
State of bridges in Tukwila

At the May 24 meeting of the Transportation and Infrastructure Services Committee, the Public Works Director presented Council with updates on the State of Tukwila’s Bridges. The information was based on inspection reports, the 42nd Avenue South Bridge Replacement Project, and the draft BNSF Alternative Access Study Project.

Tukwila owns 23 bridges (16 traffic bearing and 7 pedestrian).

Routine inspections are conducted every 24 months to identify and determine funds needed for bridge replacement and rehabilitation. Tukwila maintains all of these bridges using City staff and dedicated funds for small repairs, while applying for grants to fund the larger repair/maintenance projects.

Based on inspections, the 42nd Avenue S Bridge Replacement is a top priority for the City. With a sufficiency rating of 7.5 out of 100, it is reaching the end of its service life. The 42nd Avenue S Bridge Replacement Project is in the initial design phase. Community outreach regarding this project will take place over the summer.

To learn more about the program or a specific bridge project and sign up for e-mail updates, visit TukwilaWA.gov/42nd. If you have any questions, please contact Adam Cox, Project Manager, at 206-431-2446 or Adam.Cox@TukwilaWA.gov.

Boeing Access Road bridge over Airport Way

The Boeing Access Road (BAR) bridge over Airport Way is the last remaining structure on the BAR corridor to be seismically upgraded. Razz Construction, Inc., began construction in mid-October 2020. The crew has completed the major construction on Boeing Access Road and has opened all lanes to traffic. However, there still may be times of temporary lane closures during working hours to finish up the project. Completion of the seismic upgrade is scheduled for late June 2021.

The City received 100% federal funding for the construction from WSDOT Local Bridge Program. If you have any questions, please contact Adam Cox, Project Manager, at 206-431-2446 or Adam.Cox@TukwilaWA.gov.

Green the Green

The City’s Green the Green Shoreline Restoration project, a public-private partnership, accomplished the removal of 1.82 acres of invasive plant species and the installation of 5,700 native plants along 1,941 lineal feet of Green River shoreline. The City has entered into a contract with At Work! Enterprises, LLC, to provide two years of maintenance services. Funding for the maintenance work is being provided by Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 9 and the King County Flood Control District. Questions? Contact Mike Perfetti, Habitat Project Manager, at 206-550-4930, or Mike.Perfetti@TukwilaWA.gov.

Reporting a street light outage

To assist those who notice there’s a streetlight out and want to report it, it’s helpful to know who owns that streetlight pole.

Seattle City Light (SCL) – Wood streetlight poles
Outage report: Seattle.gov/light/streetlight

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) – Concrete streetlight poles
Outage report: PSE.com/outage/report-street-light-outage

City of Tukwila – Aluminum streetlight poles
Outage report: Email Maintenance@TukwilaWA.gov
(email here also if you are unsure of pole ownership)

Please take note of any identifying numbers on the pole and/or the address location for reporting.
Get help with your utility bill
Eligible households can enroll in the City of Seattle’s Utility Discount Program (UDP), which offers a 60% discount on Seattle City Light bills and a 50% discount on Seattle Public Utilities bills.

Email: UDP@seattle.gov
Phone: 206-684-3000

Puget Sound Energy has a COVID Bill Assistance Program that offers additional payment assistance, extended payment plans, and option to change due date of a customer’s energy bill.

Online: PSE.com/assistance
Phone: 888-225-5773

Obtenga ayuda para pagar su factura de utilidad
Los hogares que cumplan con los requisitos pueden inscribirse al Programa de descuentos en servicios públicos de la Ciudad de Seattle (UDP), que ofrece un descuento del 60% en las facturas de City Light y un descuento del 50% en las facturas de los Seattle Public Utilities.

Correo electrónico: UDP@seattle.gov
Teléfono: 206-684-3000

Khoshaa xeeja onaan ugu caawin karaa:
Các hộ gia đình đủ điều kiện có thể ghi danh vào Chương Trình Giảm Giá Tiền Ưu đãi của Thành Phố Seattle (City of Seattle’s Utility Discount Program (UDP)), chương trình này giúp giảm 60% cho các hóa đơn của City Light và giảm 50% cho các hóa đơn của Seattle Public Utilities.

E-mail: UDP@seattle.gov
206-684-3000

Nhận trợ giúp với hóa đơn tiền ử dụng
Qoysaska u-qalma ayaa qori kara Barnaamijka Siciidhismita Adeegyada ee Mgaalaalada Seattle (UDP), oo bixisa qiiimo-dhismitis 60% ah oo ku saabsan biilasha Seattle City Light iyo qiiimo-dhismitiis 50% ee biilasha Adeegyada Dadayewana ee Seattle.

Xubin: UDP@seattle.gov
206-684-3000

Hel caawimaad bixinta
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Tamarta Puget Engine waxay leedahay barnaamij caawimaadda biil ee PUID ee bixiya kaalmada lacag bixinta oo dheere ah, qorshayaasha lacag bixinta oo la dheereyey, iyo ikhtiyaarka lagu beddelo taariikhda biilka tamar ee macaamiisha

Internet sitesi: PSE.com/assistance
206-225-5773

TUKWILA CITY HALL
6200 Southcenter Boulevard
City of Tukwila
608188

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To email the entire Council at once:
CityCouncil@TukwilwaWA.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