

Mayor's Message

The future of Fire and EMS services in Tukwila

Over the past several months a committee comprised of residents and business representatives studied ways for Tukwila

to sustainably provide long-term emergency medical services (EMS) and fire services. The *Future of Fire/EMS Community Advisory Committee* was charged with examining a wide array of information, as well as providing options for moving forward. This action was necessary due to the high cost of EMS/Fire services and the City's ongoing revenue constraints. This reality has led to most of our neighboring fire department jurisdictions merging into regional organizations and/or looking to voters for additional resources to fund fire and EMS services.

Information reviewed by the Committee included the Fire Department's operations, revenues and expenses, along with the City's overall fiscal health, levels of current EMS and fire services, and more. The Committee also examined a seven-year financial model for the Fire Department and potential service enhancements. Using this information, the Committee members reviewed nine potential future EMS/Fire service options. These choices range from no change in the City's Fire service to immediately becoming part of (referred to as annexation into) a regional fire authority.

Ultimately, the Committee's preferred option was to annex to the Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority (PSRFA). Annexation (or contracting) means our Fire personnel and equipment becomes part of the regional fire authority. Prior to annexation, however, current PSRFA board policy position requires a city to enter into a service contract with them. Although there are downsides to a service contract, it is the first and necessary step to full annexation into the PSRFA. Based on the Committee's analysis, the consensus view is that the City should immediately engage in negotiations with PSRFA to secure an initial service contract as a bridge to near-term annexation. This will allow Tukwila to benefit from regionalized fire services as experienced by nearly every other jurisdiction in the area, while setting the stage for formal annexation within a couple of years.

The Committee presented this information to the City Council in May. The Council is expected to deliberate in June and provide staff direction as to whether to enter into contract negotiations with the PSRFA. Should the Council provide this direction, it is expected – assuming successful contract negotiations – that the contract would begin early 2023.

The members of the Future of Fire/EMS Community Advisory Committee demonstrated their hard work and tenacity in wrestling with a difficult and critical topic. As is true with Tukwila volunteers, these participants generously gave their time and significant energy to the City on behalf of our community.

MEMBER	AFFILIATION
Sally Blake	Resident
Jim Davis	General Manager, DoubleTree Suites by Hilton, Seattle-Airport-Southcenter
Katrina Dohn	Resident
Ramona Grove	Resident
Hien Kieu, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Executive Director, Partners in Employment (PIE)
Peggy McCarthy	Resident
Jovita McConnell	Resident
Ben Oliver	President and CEO, Starfire Sports, Tukwila
Andy Reiswig	Director, Facilities, Physical Security & Real Estate, BECU
Dennis Robertson	Resident
Verna Seal, <i>Chair</i>	Resident
Abdullahi Shakul	Resident

I am proud to thank and recognize the great work provided by each of these Committee members.

alla Ekberg
Mayor, City of Tukwila

Offering your knowledge and expertise to the community

The City of Tukwila is assisted in several areas of operation by the volunteers who serve on our Boards, Commissions and Committees. These advisory bodies provide guidance to decision-makers, representing the diverse viewpoints of the community and bringing public participation to government. Volunteers serve a vital function by offering their time and expertise as members.

These positions are currently vacant:

- Arts Commission (resident positions)
- Community-Oriented Policing Citizen's Advisory Board (resident positions)
- Human Services Advisory Board (school district and business positions)
- Library Advisory Board (resident and student positions)
- Park Commission (community and student positions)
- SeaTac Airport Stakeholder Advisory Round Table (community position)

You can find additional information about what each of our boards, commissions and committees do on the City's website at **TukwilaWA.gov/boards**. Interested in contributing your voice to one of these groups? Click the link for the *Boards*, *Commissions and Committees Application for Appointment*, and submit the completed form to the Mayor's Office. Applications are reviewed and appointments are made by the Mayor, and confirmed by the City Council. If you have any questions, please call 206-433-1850.

The City of Tukwila COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE PROGRAM

- Are you a community leader committed to improving your Tukwila Community?
- Would you like to learn more about how local government works and decisions are made?
- Interested in being part of a board/commission and the role it plays in the Tukwila Community?

A civic academy process will help transform the program's members into leaders and advocates, through community-building and understanding how local government impacts all Tukwila communities.

Interested? Have questions? Need assistance? To find out specifics about the program or how to apply, please contact Niesha. Fort-Brooks@TukwilaWA.gov or call 206-406-6693.

City Council Actions Highlights: March-May, 2022

- Updated fees for Wireless Communication Facility Permits and Zoning Verification Letters (Res. 2046)
- Approved location of the 42nd Avenue South Bridge replacement
- Approved lodging tax funding for Juneteenth Celebration and Fiesta 5K Ole
- Added Juneteenth as an official City holiday (Ord. 2670)
- Updated fireworks regulations to allow non-explosive and non-aerial types (Ord. 2672)
- Authorized a Memorandum of Understanding between Washington cities to mitigate harm associated with prescription opioids
- Accepted Complete Streets grant funding for ADA and pedestrian safety improvements
- Awarded Tukwila, City of Opportunity Scholarship funding to Kidus Kasa, Devika Ghimirey, Czarin Dela Cruz, and Sahara Safi

CONFIRMATION

In May, the Council confirmed Charlee Sebring to the Student Representative position on the Community-Oriented Policing Citizens Advisory Board. Tukwila appreciates the service of volunteers to our community.

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, please call 206-433-8993.

City of Tukwila
offices will be closed
in observance of these
upcoming federal holidays:

Monday,June 20 – Juneteenth

Monday, July 4– Independence Day

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Council Corner

On June 29, 1908, the newly incorporated Town of Tukwila held its first meeting of the City Council. The meeting was called to order, thus beginning our long-standing form of government; the mayor-council format.

Mayor-council is the oldest and most common form of government in Washington, including small towns and large cities alike. The mayor-council form consists of a mayor elected at-large, who serves as the city's chief administrative officer, and a separately elected council which serves as the municipality's legislative body. The Council has the authority to formulate and adopt city policies and the mayor is responsible for carrying them out. (Source: Municipal Research Services Center)

So how has this form of government worked in the City of Tukwila? Surprisingly, not much has changed in over 100 years. If you were to look back at the minutes of the first council meetings, you will find the following council discussions. Reminds me of the proverb; "there is nothing new under the sun."

Aug. 18, 1908 – The subject of a tax levy came before the Council for action, but after discussing the matter, it was decided to call a special mass meeting of the residents, to be held at the schoolhouse on Saturday evening.

July 13, 1909 - The matter of a franchise for telephone lines, and the matter of an Ordinance prohibiting stock (cattle) from running at large in the streets of Tukwila.

Jan. 10, 1911 – The matter of the rate of speed at which Puget Sound Electric Company trains are run through the Town of Tukwila.

Aug. 13, 1912 – The matter of Electric Light for the town was again brought up, and after a general discussion

Our government, from the beginning

by Thomas McLeod, 2022 Council President



of wide scope, a mass meeting was decided upon as to the best means of getting a full expression from all interested.

Aug. 19, 1920 – Consideration of the gravelling of portions of Main Street and Tukwila Avenue.

Oct. 13, 1921 – It was reported that there were several additional cases of property damage around the town, such as breaking of windows, etc., by boys. After some discussion the mayor recommended that Judge Durbin investigate this matter and take the necessary steps to prevent a recurrence.

Nov. 9, 1922 – Several citizens appeared before council and protested against the amount of the bills for constructing the sidewalk along the Pacific Highway (TIB).

Whether its road repairs, streetlights, vandalism, tax levies, franchise fees, sidewalks or speeding, our form of government still separates the roles of responsibility and oversight. The council oversees the policy and spending (budget) of the project, but how the project is carried out falls to the mayor and the Administration.

So, the next time you are walking the sidewalks of Tukwila, thinking about the next tax levy, increase in crime, or speeding through town, and see some unwelcomed cows wandering down a poorly lit street, you'll know who to call.



2022 Fireworks Update

The City Council voted to allow the sale and use of ground-based consumer fireworks in Tukwila this 4th of July. Explosives and aerials are still illegal, but ground-based fireworks – sparklers, fountains, snakes and pinwheels –are allowed.

Safety is key! Do not allow children to ignite them, always keep a hose or a full bucket of water nearby, and never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not fully ignited. Find more safety tips at CPSC.gov/fireworks

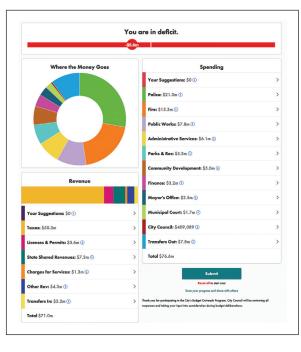


MAY / JUNE 2022

Your feedback on the upcoming 2023/24 Biennial Budget is requested

Mayor Ekberg and the City Council want community feedback on the City's upcoming 2023/2024 biennial budget. We are providing an opportunity for you – Tukwila's residents, businesses and other stakeholders – to express your priorities for distributing the next City budget.

The 2023-2024 budget cycle will be challenging for the City. Revenues are slow to return to pre-pandemic levels. Inflation is at its highest level in 40 years, resulting in higher costs for supplies, materials and wages. As a service organization, the majority of our costs are for the salaries that pay the people who provide the services – public safety, permitting, and human services, to name just a few. Total revenues are not increasing as fast as expenditures, and our current estimate, based on what we knew in May, is that to provide the same level of service we are expecting a \$5.6 million shortfall in 2023. We do expect this estimate to change with updated revenue information we get as the year progresses. Yet we do expect a difficult biennium over the next two years as we continue to climb out of the pandemic and are faced with such high inflation.



The budget is a reflection of the City's values as it prioritizes and funds services This is why your ideas about how to balance the budget by sharing with us your priorities are so critical. A new budget tool is now available at TukwilaWA.gov/ BYB. Here you can increase existing revenue sources or add a new revenue

idea, reduce departments' budgets or increase departments' budgets, depending on *your* priorities. Your challenge, like ours, is to develop a balanced budget.

We've also created a narrated budget presentation which provides information about the policies that guide our actions, an overview of the City's budget and governmental functions, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and graphics to help you visualize our finances. Links for versions presented in Spanish, Vietnamese and Somali can be found, along with the link to the Balancing Act Budgeting Tool by clicking on the budget headline at **TukwilaWA.gov**.



Police bicycle ridealong

The Cruise with Cops was a lot of fun! This was the first of a residential/neighborhood safety-based series that will focus on the different neighborhoods in the city.

Chief Drever and Tukwila officers met with numerous residents throughout Allentown, heard their concerns, answered their questions, and got to know each other.

Tukwila City Councilmember De'Sean Quinn and family joined the group for the ride. Chief Drever happened upon a gender reveal party in a driveway... and accurately guessed the gender! Congrats to that family on their new addition.

Future similar events are coming to other neighborhoods. Watch for notices posted to police social media. Also, subscribers to the Tukwila Tracker page – TukwilaPolice.com – will receive email notifications.

THE HAZELNUT



This year's Juneteenth Commemoration will include two keynote speakers, music, double-dutch jump roping, storytelling and dance performers.

In 2020, the Tukwila City Council adopted Resolution 1992, declaring that Juneteenth will be recognized annually in our community. This special event is a celebration of emancipation, and an opportunity to honor African Americans through continued learning and understanding of the impacts of slavery and resiliency.

Bright future: Tukwila Health and Wellness Center

HealthPoint recently announced the purchase of property at 3920 South 146th Street. That – combined with vacant land it is purchasing from the City of Tukwila – will be the future 2.24-acre site of the Tukwila Health and Wellness Center. The planned 20,000-square foot clinic space will offer a complete range of primary health care services including medical health and wellness, dental care, behavioral health, medication management, and pharmacy services.

Because building a healthy community is about more than providing health care, HealthPoint plans to work with a wide range of multi-sector partners that can contribute to making Tukwila a healthy and vibrant place to live. Possible other uses on the site could include space for affordable housing, local businesses highlighting community diversity, non-profits that address community health, employment and education providers, early childhood development, and childcare.

HealthPoint estimates the entire project will cost \$100 million, funded through grants, a capital campaign and other financing. They hope to submit their first building permit application before the end of 2023 and, depending on funding, to open the first building as early as 2026. For more information about this development, contact Tukwila's Economic Development Administrator at Derek.Speck@TukwilaWA.gov.

Solid waste services contract update

A new contract for providing the City's solid waste services will begin on November 1, 2023. Tukwila received final proposals from vendors on May 20. City staff will spend several weeks undergoing an extensive evaluation process of each of the proposals, including facility tours, interviews and more. In scoring the proposals, staff will consider customer service standards, rate information, and the resident priorities outlined in a recent survey. Although rates are expected to increase substantially in the next contract, the City is confident that customers will continue to receive reliable service at regionally competitive prices.

City staff hope to have a recommendation to the City Council for approval in late summer 2022. Watch for further updates as this process continues.

Residents may qualify for rebate of some 2021 fees in Utility Tax Relief program

In 2003 the City of Tukwila imposed a Utility Tax and added 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 eligible low-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, 2022

- Must complete application and notarized supplemental affidavit at the Finance Department in Tukwila City Hall.
- Must provide copy of 2021 Income Tax Return.
- Provide copy of your Puget Sound Energy or Seattle City Light December 2021 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 2021. For more information, please contact Tukwila's Finance Department at 206-433-1835.

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Tukwila Public Works Department



CONE ZONE UPDATES

Allentown truck reroute project: quality of life for neighborhood

The City is working with the Allentown community on a Truck Reroute Project, with the common goal of rerouting truck traffic out of the neighborhood. A 2021 traffic count by Tukwila's Public Works staff found that, on an average day, freight trucks make over a thousand trips through Allentown – about one truck every 80 seconds. The noise, vibration and air pollution from this truck traffic have all been concerns, as have the safety of Allentown's pedestrians and bicyclists.

Over the years, Tukwila has partnered with Allentown residents and BNSF to find a new route for truck traffic, one that improves safety and quality of life for the neighborhood while continuing to support BNSF's freight operations. Over 20 routes have been studied, and of those, four were selected as being the most promising. The City is now studying those four alternatives in more detail as part of an environmental impact study (EIS), which will analyze the feasibility of each alternative, and look at how potential effects from them (both beneficial and adverse) could affect Allentown's parks, natural areas, air, soil and – especially – its people.

The City is in the process of hiring a consultant team for the EIS, and work on the Allentown truck reroute study is expected to begin around midyear 2022. Anyone with questions, comments, or suggestions about this project is encouraged to contact Mark Hafs at Mark.Hafs@TukwilaWA.gov.

To see more information about the project, including a map and description of the alternative routes, please go to **TukwilaWA**. **gov/Allentown**. You can also sign up here on the project mailing list to receive updates.

2022 SUMMER CONSTRUCTION

Annual Overlay Program

The Overlay and Repair Program preserves and maintains the City's street structure in a safe and useable condition. This year's construction includes pavement repairs and asphalt overlays at five locations citywide. Specific improvements at each site will vary, but may include new signage, gravel shoulders, and/or ADA improvements to the curve ramps and sidewalks.

- Site 1: South 140th Street, between 35th Avenue South and Tukwila International Boulevard
- **Site 2:** South 141st Street, between 37th Avenue South and Tukwila International Boulevard
- Site 3: South 142nd Street, between 37th Avenue South and Tukwila International Boulevard
- Site 4: 37th Avenue South, between South 144th and South 140th Streets
- Site 5: Intersection of Orillia Road South and South 200th Street

If budget allows, a sixth site will be added. Construction is anticipated to begin in June 2022 and to be completed by October 2022. If you have questions regarding this program, contact Transportation Project Manager Deontae Elder at 206-849-2208 or **Deontae.Elder@TukwilaWA.gov**.

Annual Small Drainage Program Construction

This program fixes small public drainage issues that often start as customer service requests or issues found in the field. Solutions typically entail installing catch basins, pipes, berms, and other small improvements within the public right-of-way. These projects proactively ensure public safety, reduce flooding, decrease maintenance demands, and protect critical infrastructure. Construction will begin this summer to address small drainage at the following four locations:

Site 1: 48th Avenue South, from South 122nd to South 124th StreetsSite 2: 49th Avenue South, from South 122nd to South 124th Streets

Site 3: Intersection of 37th Avenue South and South 126th Street

Site 4: Intersection of 37th Avenue South and South 142nd Street



If you have any questions regarding this project, contact the Project Manager Sherry Edquid at 206-765-7826 or Sherry.Edquid@TukwilaWA.gov.

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Annual Clean-up Day in Tukwila Saturday August 6

This event, supported by Waste
Management, is designed to help Tukwila
residents dispose of bulky household
items. See more information about
materials accepted for this event.

Tukwila Community Garage Sale *Saturday, August 20*

Interested in decluttering your house, earning money, and shopping for bargains... all while reducing the amount of waste going to our landfills? Get information on how you can participate – register to sell, get free advertising, shop – in this city-wide garage/yard sale!

Ready for more info? Go HERE! Tukwila's recycling web page:

TukwilaWA.gov/recycling









Get rolling this summer!

South King County Trips can help you find safe, healthy and sustainable ways of getting where you need to go. Sign up for a free \$20 ORCA transit card, and ride transit, walk, bike, roll, carpool or telework to earn more rewards.

Sign up at SKCtrips.com/ or call Hopelink's Transportation Resource Line at 425-943-6760, ext. 2.





The registration survey is available in English, Spanish, Somali and Vietnamese.

Want to weigh in on Tukwila's future? Your input is critical!

Tukwila is starting the State-required update process of its Comprehensive Plan. That plan is the long-term foundational "blueprint" document that will guide growth and development in Tukwila for the next 20 years. It will define the City's policy priorities in a wide range of areas – land use, housing, transportation, parks and open space, economic development and more. Many City departments are currently working on their specialized plans (Transportation, Economic Development, Water, etc.) that will all fold together into the City's overarching plan.

A primary focus of this update will be to address the affordability of housing and the housing options available to all members of the Tukwila community. In addition, the update will provide policies addressing the causes and impacts of climate change. By embedding equity into the Plan's content and process, it will also seek to address historic racial and social injustices.

Learn more about the Comprehensive Plan update and how you can get involved. This plan refresh is a

journey toward the future that we're all on together. What do you think we should call our Plan Update process? To get involved in our future planning – or to share your clever idea naming our journey – please visit us online at TukwilaWA.gov/2024CompPlan.





You're invited to a CERT meet-and-greet

It's been a long two years. We are ready to come back together, connect, collaborate and talk about our plans for CERT! Please join the cities of Burien, Des Moines, Kent, Renton, Sea-Tac and Tukwila –

Date: Thursday, June 23, 2022

Time: 6:00 to 7:30_{PM}

Where: Tukwila Emergency Operations Center

15005 Tukwila International Blvd, in Tukwila

We're reaching out to previous graduates of CERT courses, because it's time to rebuild our teams! You're invited to come and connect with your new Program Managers, collaborate, and talk about CERT activities for 2022 and beyond.

Not a CERT grad? We welcome anyone that is thinking about taking a CERT training to come meet us and our CERT grads. Hear first-hand accounts about what the course is like, and get your questions answered by those who have taken the course!

Register here: bit.ly/3kvCzhV

MAY / JUNE 2022

THE HAZELNUT

City of Tukwila 6200 Southcenter Blvd. Tukwila, WA 98188

PRESORT STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID SEATTLE, WA **PERMIT NO. 12698**

Postmaster: If named addressee has moved, deliver to current resident. To help us correct addresses or eliminate duplicates, please call 206-454-7573.

Quý vi có bi châm trễ trong việc thanh toán các hóa đơn cho Sở Điện Lưc Seattle (Seattle City Light) hoặc Sở Tiện Ích Công Công Seattle (Seattle Public Utilities) không?

Chúng tôi có thể trơ giúp! Chúng tôi biết rằng đai dịch COVID-19 đã gây khó khăn cho một số khách hàng trong việc chi trả các dich vu tiên ích thiết yếu. Chúng tôi cung cấp các lưa chon hoàn trả hóa đơn và các chương trình trơ giúp để giúp quý vi thanh toán các khoản còn thiếu và tiếp tục nhận được các dịch vụ tiện ích thiết yếu. Liên hệ với chúng tôi – bản dịch có sẵn.

Are you behind on or struggling to pay your Seattle City Light or Seattle Public Utilities bill?

We are here to help! We know that the COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult for some of our customers to afford essential utility services. We offer repayment options and bill assistance programs to help you pay down your outstanding balances and continue receiving essential utility services. Connect with us - translations are available.



206-684-3000

¿Se atrasó en el pago de la factura de Seattle City Light o de Seattle Public Utilities (servicios públicos de Seattle)?

¡Estamos aquí para ayudarle! Sabemos que la pandemia del COVID-19 ha causado dificultades en pagar los servicios públicos indispensables para algunos de nuestros clientes. Ofrecemos opciones de pago y programas de asistencia de facturas para ayudarle a pagar sus saldos pendientes, para que pueda continuar recibiendo los servicios públicos indispensables. Comuníquese con nosotros – las traducciones están disponibles.

Ma ka dib dhacday biilkaaga Waaxda Korontada ee Seattle ama Adeegyada dadwaynaha ee guryaha Seattle?

Waxaan halkaan u joognaa inaan ku caawinno! Waxaan ognahay in masiibada COVID-19 ay ku adkaysay qaar ka mid ah macaamiisheena inay awoodaan adeegyada tamarta guriga aasaasiga ah sida korontada. Waxaan bixinaa fursado dib-ubixinta iyo barnaamijyada kaalmada biilka si ay kaaga caawiyaan inaad iska bixiso baaqiga kaa maqan oo aad sii wadato helitaanka adeegyada tamarta guryaha ah. Nala soo xiriir - adeegyada turjubaanka ayaa diyaar ah.

TUKWILA CITY HALL

6200 Southcenter Boulevard Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-5:00PM Phone: 206-433-1800 Fax: 206-433-1833 E-mail: Tukwila@TukwilaWA.gov Website: TukwilaWA.gov **MAYOR** Allan Ekberg......206-433-1850 Administration Offices...... 206-433-1850 David Cline, City Administrator....206-433-1851 Economic Development 206-433-1832 **Administrative Services** Rachel Bianchi, Dep. City Adm.... 206-396-0341

City Clerk's Office...... 206-433-1800 Human Resources - Personnel ... 206-433-1831 Human Services206-433-7181 Community Engagement 206-454-7564 Technology Services...... 206-454-7575

Community Development Dept. Nora Gierloff, *Director*......206-431-3670 Code Enforcement206-431-3682 Finance Department Vicky Carlsen, Director...... 206-433-1835 Fire Department Jay Wittwer, Chief......206-575-4404 Parks/Recreation Department Tracy Gallaway, *Director*206-767-2342 Police Department Eric Drever, *Chief*206-433-7175 Mindi Mattson, Emergency Mgr...206-971-8750 Public Works Department Hari Ponnekanti, *Director*...... 206-433-0179 Emergency - Fire, Police911 **MUNICIPAL COURT** 15005 Tukwila International Blvd 206-433-1840 **TUKWILA COMMUNITY CENTER** 12424 - 42nd Avenue South Recreation Division......206-768-2822 Senior Center/Services......206-767-2323 FOSTER GOLF LINKS 13500 Interurban Avenue South

Pro Shop206-242-4221

TUKWILA CITY COUNCIL

Thomas McLeod, President Thomas.Mcleod@TukwilaW	
Kathy Hougardy	206-571-0007
Kathy.Hougardy@TukwilaV	VA.gov
De'Sean Quinn	206-331-5939
Desean.Quinn@TukwilaWA	.gov
Kate Kruller	206-678-7885
Kate.Kruller@TukwilwaWA	.gov
Cynthia Delostrinos Johnson	206-595-5469
C.DelostrinosJohnson@Tul	kwilaWA.gov
Mohamed Abdi	206-798-4872
Mohamed.Abdi@TukwilaW	'A.gov
Tosh Sharp	206 507-6440
Tosh.Sharp@TukwilaWA.go	DV .
To email the entire Council at	once:
CityCouncil@TukwilaWA.go	DV .
Laurel Humphrey, Analyst	206-433-8993

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

7:00 _{PM} in Council Chambers	
Regular Meetings	1st/3rd Monday
Committee of the Whole	2nd/4th Monday