



# City of Tukwila **PUBLIC SAFETY PLAN**



## ***Implementing Tukwila's Public Safety Plan***

In November of 2016, voters in Tukwila approved a public safety bond to pay for:

- Replacement of three seismically-deficient, aging fire stations (Stations 51, 52 and 54)
- Fire equipment and apparatus – such as fire trucks and other life/safety tools – for the life of the 20-year bond; and
- Construction of a Justice Center to house the Police Department and Municipal Court.



In addition, the City is building a consolidated public works facility to replace Tukwila's seismically deficient and under-sized existing public works shops. This building will be funded by equal contributions from the City's General and Enterprise Funds.

## **Immediately after passage of the bond, the City began implementing the public safety plan, including:**

- Hiring an experienced program manager to assist City staff in building five new buildings by 2021;
- Engaging in an independent study to determine the best location for fire stations around the City to ensure equitable response times in an emergency;
- Seating a five-member Public Safety Bond Financial Oversight Committee, comprised of Tukwila residents;
- Seating a seven-member Public Safety Plan Siting Advisory Committee, comprised of four Tukwila residents; two councilmembers, and the public works director;
- Selecting an architect for the fire stations;
- Hiring a Program Management Quality Assurance consultant to report directly to the Council on the progress of the Public Safety Plan implementation;
- Development of site selection criteria and investigation into potential sites;
- Hosting two in-person open house events, two online open houses, presenting at community meetings, maintaining a Public Safety Plan website ([TukwilaWa.gov/PublicSafetyPlan](http://TukwilaWa.gov/PublicSafetyPlan)) and other outreach activities;
- Selecting an architect for the Justice Center; and
- Much more!



<b><i>Public Safety Plan Schedule</i></b>		
<b>Facility</b>	<b>Construction Scheduled to Begin:</b>	<b>Scheduled Completion:</b>
Station 51	Spring 2018	Fall 2019
Station 52	Early 2019	Summer 2020
Station 54	Early 2019	Summer 2020
Justice Center	Late 2018	Summer 2020
PW Shops	Late 2019	Spring 2021

### ***Why does the City need this public safety plan?***

The City developed the public safety plan to ensure full funding for fire service in the City of Tukwila, as well as replacing and modernizing facilities for Fire, Police, Municipal Court, and Public Works. In the event of a major earthquake, flood or other disaster, it is critical that these first responders are able to deploy throughout the city. Additionally, these aging facilities were constructed at a time when the City had less than one-fifth of its current population and required significantly less services and employees to meet the community's needs. Finally, modern standards and mandates have made the existing fire stations, Public Works facilities, Municipal Court, and Police Department obsolete.

### ***Why is Fire Station 51 moving?***

In 2010, the City of Tukwila annexed approximately 259 acres of land bordered by S. 180<sup>th</sup> Street, the Green River, S. 204<sup>th</sup> Street, and Orillia Road/I-5 for an area of future development to be known as Tukwila South. To prepare for this annexation, the City entered into a 2009 Development Agreement with Segale Properties, LLC to detail mutually agreed upon rules for land use and to plan for City services and infrastructure for the new area of the city. To plan for future fire service, the Agreement provided that Segale would donate up to three acres of land to the City for placement of a fire station, which was deemed a good site for fire station 51 through an independent analysis by fire station location experts.

### ***Why is Fire Station 52 moving? What about station 54?***

An independent study by FACETS, LLC determined that the current location of Fire Station 52 at the top of the hill does not provide sufficient coverage throughout the City. The analysis showed that a better location is in the vicinity of Southcenter Boulevard and South 65<sup>th</sup> Street, which would allow emergency vehicles better access to points throughout the City. The best location for Fire Station 54 was determined to be within one-quarter mile of its existing location, including its current placement.

### ***Where will the Justice Center go?***

The siting of the Justice Center is an ongoing process and no location has been selected. However, given the siting criteria established by the City, which included input from the public, there are few corridors within the City that would work due to the need for access to high capacity transit, need to keep it in a commercial area, out of the floodplain, etc. Primarily locations along

Tukwila International Boulevard and Southcenter Boulevard are being studied, though other locations were initially looked at and rejected for not fitting the established siting criteria.

### ***Will there be a jail in the Justice Center?***

No. There will not be a jail at the Justice Center. There will be secure holding facilities for suspects who are being processed by the Tukwila Police Department, but after processing suspects will be transported to the SCORE jail.

### ***What is the biggest challenge associated with the Public Safety Plan?***

As Tukwila is located in one of the fastest growing regions in the United States, land and construction prices have escalated astronomically. Assumptions about growth and inflation have been quickly surpassed in this market and the cost of building in the area has skyrocketed. The City is committed to implementing the full Public Safety Plan without going back to the taxpayers to ask for additional financing authority.

### ***What guarantees are in place to ensure the City will use the bond funding for what it says it will?***

State law RCW 84.52.056 restricts how voter-approved bonds can be spent. They can only be spent on what is included in the ballot. Should the City for some reason not need the full amount listed in the ballot title, the City Council has the ability to either not bond the full amount, or use any excess bond funds to payoff (redeem) the bonds early (before the maturity date). In addition, the City Council created a bond oversight committee that will assist the City Council in its oversight role.

### ***What role does the community have in the siting and design of these buildings?***

The community has an important role in the siting and design of these buildings, which is why the City is hosting three open houses in 2017 and plans to continue with an aggressive outreach effort until the last building is complete in 2021. Community members are encouraged to get involved and provide feedback at all milestones. In addition, the City has developed a Siting Advisory Committee, which includes four resident members who are providing specific advice and input on the effort.

**Participate in the Online Open House Today!**  
**[TukwilaPublicSafetyPlan.Participate.Online](http://TukwilaPublicSafetyPlan.Participate.Online)**

**For more information, email [PublicSafetyPlan@TukwilaWA.gov](mailto:PublicSafetyPlan@TukwilaWA.gov)**