



# TUKWILA CITY PAGES

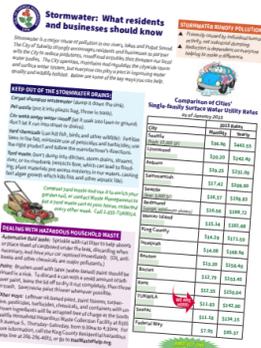
The city of opportunity  
*The community of choice*

## Increasing awareness of stormwater contamination

The City of Tukwila is required under the Federal Clean Water Act to provide stormwater education information to residents and businesses in an effort to reduce the amount of pollutants that are discharged to the City's stormwater systems.

To assess Tukwila residents' understanding of stormwater-related issues, the City recently completed a phone survey of 100 residents. The survey revealed that the majority of respondents continue to be unaware that stormwater systems discharge directly to streams, wetlands, and the Green/Duwamish River. The survey also found that residents are not informed that discharges of soaps, paints, oil, debris, and other contaminants are prohibited by law and severely impact the natural environment.

Learn more about stormwater – stopping runoff pollution, dealing with hazardous household waste, even comparing Tukwila's utility rates to other cities – with the information sheet at [TukwilaWA.gov/stormwater.pdf](http://TukwilaWA.gov/stormwater.pdf). Do your part to reduce contaminants entering our natural waterways.



## Tukwila recognized for street project

Each year the Washington State Asphalt Pavement Association (WAPA), Washington State Department of Transportation, American Public Works Association and the Washington Association of County Engineers issue awards to the most outstanding paving projects in Washington. This year, the City of Tukwila bested 13 other paving projects as the recipient of the 2015 Best City Paving Award - Western Washington for the overlay and repair done on East Marginal Way South. The award will be presented at the WAPA annual meeting in November.



## A Council vacancy is coming in January 2016

Because the current mayoral race in Tukwila involves two sitting Councilmembers, there will be a vacancy on the Tukwila City Council beginning in January 2016. City and State law provides that the remaining Councilmembers will appoint an individual to serve in the vacant position through the term's end in December 2017.

The City Council will publish formal notice of vacancy along with application materials later this year. If you would like to be notified of forthcoming information regarding the vacancy, send a message to [CityCouncil@TukwilaWA.gov](mailto:CityCouncil@TukwilaWA.gov), or call 206-433-8993.

## Improvements continue on Tukwila International Boulevard

The City of Tukwila purchased the former Sam's Smoke Shop property on Tukwila International Boulevard last month. This property is adjacent to the motel sites the City purchased after the law enforcement raid in 2013 and is slated to be a part of the demolition project that will occur later this year. The City paid \$388,875 for the property, after negotiating with a willing seller.

The purchase of the smoke shop property continues the years of work on Tukwila International Boulevard to improve the area, reduce crime and transform TIB to a welcoming neighborhood. Later this year, the smoke shop and three former motels –Great Bear, Boulevard and Spruce – will be demolished. The City is currently in the bidding process to identify a contractor which will remove all building debris in the first phase. In the spring, the contractor will return to remove the asphalt, grade and plant vegetation on the sites.

In 2016, the City will start the process to select a developer interested in building on the site. The City Council, with input from the broader Tukwila community, will determine the final specifications for the type of development to be constructed on this location, and will ultimately select a development. Meanwhile, construction continues to move forward at Tukwila Village just to the north of the sites of the former motels.

**Council Chat**

Speak with a Councilmember about what's on your mind!  
Training Room at Fire Station #51  
444 Andover Park East

10:00AM to 12:00 NOON

Next Chat: Nov. 21

## Fall clean-up collection event

Yard waste (4)

Bulky items/scrap metal (2)

Electronic waste (2)

Furniture/mattresses (7)

Over 200 Tukwila residents took advantage of the City's September 19 collection event. Containers dropped off at Saar's Super Saver Foods and the Tukwila Community Center enabled participants to drop off their hard-to-dispose-of items – some even making multiple trips! Residents expressed their appreciation for this service provided by Tukwila in partnership with Waste Management.

Workers at the event collected the equivalent of fifteen 40-yard containers!

## Help families build better lives

In support of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the City is hosting a supply drive to benefit the emergency shelter program at DAWN (Domestic Abuse Women's Network). Please bring donations to Tukwila City Hall for drop-off in the collection bin near the front counter. These items are most needed:

- ▲ Hats, scarves, gloves, socks, umbrellas and winter coats
- ▲ New pillows, twin comforters, towels and pajamas
- ▲ Children's educational books
- ▲ Young adult/teen literature
- ▲ Shampoo/conditioner, soap, razors, feminine hygiene products, combs/brushes, toothbrushes/toothpaste
- ▲ Gift cards to grocery stores
- ▲ Art supplies
- ▲ Canned food

## Spot the Duwamish spawners this fall



Warm waters and low flows have made 2015 a tough year for salmon as they work to return to streams and rivers around Puget Sound this fall. Over the years, volunteer efforts in local watersheds have increased the chances for the salmon's success. Come outdoors and see what's going on at the river. August and September saw returning Chinook and coho, and chum salmon can be spotted through the end of November. Eagles, blue herons and osprey can sometimes be seen as well.

Visit these two viewing sites on the Duwamish River to see these natural beauties migrating to their upstream spawning beds – and cheer them on if you see them!

### North Wind's Weir – 2914 South 112th Street

The natural weir here allows for good viewing, especially at low tide. It's a popular spot with sport and tribal fishers. Located near the Green River Trail, the site features interpretive signage

### Codiga Park – 12585 - 50th Place South

The best viewing is at low tide, but jumping fish can be seen throughout the day in season. The park – the site of a former dairy farm – features picnic tables, a covered area, and interpretive signs.

### For more information about...

- these sites and the ongoing restoration work by volunteers, go to [www.DuwamishAlive.org](http://www.DuwamishAlive.org) or [Facebook.com/DuwamishAlive](https://www.facebook.com/DuwamishAlive)
- other Salmon SEEson-viewing sites, including along the Cedar River near Renton, plus information on protecting salmon and their habitat, visit [www.GovLink.org/watersheds/9/](http://www.GovLink.org/watersheds/9/)



## Every veteran deserves a safe, stable place to call home

No veteran should experience homelessness. As part of both national and Countywide campaigns, Operation: WelcomeOneHome was launched this summer. It's a collaboration of landlords, veterans, elected officials and neighbors working to effectively end veteran homelessness by December 31, 2015. Achieving this goal requires a communitywide response to provide access to rental units for veterans who are exiting homelessness, especially in high-cost and tight rental markets.

Thanks to actions at federal, state and local levels, veteran homelessness was reduced by 33% nationally between 2010 and 2013. In January 2014, 49,933 veterans were experiencing homelessness, accounting for more than 10% of all homeless adults.

From January through July this year, 538 homeless veterans in King County have been housed, but there are still hundreds more across the County who need assistance. Many have the resources to move into permanent housing, but struggle to secure a place to call home in the highly competitive rental market.

Landlords can play a key role honoring those who have served our country by making their rental units available to veterans who have experienced homelessness. Working with the VA and nonprofit organizations, participating vets are served by HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing and Supportive Services for Veteran Families. These programs provide long- or short-term rental subsidies and services that can end homelessness for our nation's heroes and their families. Participants in these programs access case management and/or support services that provide a safety net for tenants, additional assurances that lease terms are met, and a reduced default risk.

Landlords willing to rent to veteran households that have rental barriers can partner with the Landlord Liaison project; please call 206-336-4616.

**2015 Tukwila Holiday Lights Contest**

It's the time of year when folks enjoy sharing their holiday spirit thru festive decorating and amazing light displays. The City of Tukwila invites you to enter your home or business in our second annual Holiday Lights Contest. Winning entrants will receive an official yard sign proclaiming their award for lighting excellence!

Judging will take place the week of December 7, 2015 between the hours of 4:00-9:00pm. Winners will be selected in the following categories:

- \* Classic Holiday
- \* Visible from Space
- \* Less is More
- \* Northwest Flair
- \* Judges' Choice
- \* Holidays Around the World
- \* Apartment/Condo: Best Door
- \* Apartment/Condo: Best Balcony
- \* Best in Commercial District: indoor & outdoor
- \* City Staff or Elected Official

Pick up an entry form at these locations or get one from our website at [TukwilaWA.gov/HolidayLights.pdf](http://TukwilaWA.gov/HolidayLights.pdf) – then return completed form by 12 noon Friday, December 4 – in person or by mail:

Tukwila City Hall  
6200 Southcenter Blvd  
Tukwila, WA 98188

Tukwila Community Center  
12424 - 42nd Avenue S.  
Tukwila, WA 98168

OR by email to [TukParks@TukwilaWA.gov](mailto:TukParks@TukwilaWA.gov)

## COUNCIL CORNER

by Kate Kruller, 2015 Council President

Sometimes it is difficult to see all the ways in which your local government is working for you. Your City Council works hard to determine prioritization and funding for impactful projects around the city. All you have to do is look around to see the great things that are happening as a result!

Up on Tukwila International Boulevard at South 144th, equipment and crews are creating foundations for our new King County Library and preparing for the construction of Tukwila Village – a new living complex for senior citizens. The location will also feature a plaza, community meeting space, a community police center, and other attractions where people can gather.

Nearby, the City of Tukwila is continuing its cleanup of Tukwila International Boulevard and is nearly set to demolish a number of buildings just south of South 144th Street. This formerly blighted area will be ready for new development that is in line with our community ideals.

In an effort to protect our children on the way to school, Tukwila has completed its Safe Routes to School projects at both Cascade View Elementary and Thorndyke Elementary. New safe sidewalks and paths now make it easy to walk or roll to school!

You also might have noticed that Tukwila has been replacing streetlight bulbs with LED lights in locations around the city. This work pays for itself in a very short period of time and will save taxpayers a lot of money!

Down on Interurban Avenue the roadwork is really taking shape. Important underground utility infrastructure has replaced what was badly in need of repair. You can see how the upgrades to safe sidewalks and greenery are now in place where at one time pedestrians were at risk walking alongside the road.

In our Tukwila Urban Center, a great deal of City cross-departmental collaboration has been implemented in preparation for a new 19-story building featuring apartments and hotel rooms. Soon the foundation will be poured and our city's first high rise will be going up!

Tukwila's road overlay project is noticeable in Allentown, by the Gateway complex on Tukwila International Boulevard, on Tukwila Parkway and along Southcenter Boulevard. This is a smart investment. Putting in new complete roadway blacktop surfaces preserves the use of a road for a much longer lifespan than repairing cracks and filling potholes.

Along West Marginal Way down by the Metro bus barn, a project to replace underground utilities and control water runoff, install new curbing and complete that roadway is now finished. icing on the cake is that Tukwila won an award for the high-quality overlay work on that project!

It takes a lot of long-range planning, design work and management to bring projects like this to life in this community. It's clear the fruit of all that effort is truly a benefit to all of us who live, work and visit here.