Opportunities to get involved with your community

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

The following advisory bodies have terms ending March 31, 2024:



ADVISORY BODY	REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED			
Civil Service Commission	Resident position			
Community-Oriented Policing Citizens Advisory Board	Resident and Business positions			
Equity and Social Justice Commission	Community and Education positions			
Human Services Advisory Board	Resident and Business positions			
Library Advisory Board	Resident positions			
Park Commission	Community positions			
Planning Commission	Resident and Business positions			

Are you interested in serving on one of these advisory bodies? Please submit a completed Boards, Commissions and Committees Application for Appointment to the Mayor's Office by 5:00pm on February 15, 2024. You can find the application – as well as additional information about all of the City's the boards, commissions and committees - on the City's website at TukwilaWA.gov/boards. For more information, please call 206-433-1850.

There's something here for everyone... Start your next adventure with Tukwila Parks & Recreation!

Make a News Year's Resolution-**Get your Fitness Membership today!**

FITNESS CENTER

The Tukwila Community Center's Fitness Center includes circuit equipment, free weights, treadmills, stair stepper, recumbent and upright bikes, and ellipticals.

Monday - Thursday, 6:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

> **DROP-IN FEES** Fitness Room - \$5 Group Fitness Class - \$7

FREE Insurance Memberships:

We accept SilverSneakers, Prime, Silver&Fit, Active&Fit, FitOn and RenewActive. Fill out an application today! For any questions, email HealthyTukwila@TukwilaWA.gov.

ADULT MEMBERSHIPS (Ages: 18-54 years)

- \$40 Monthly Membership: Group Classes and Fitness Center
- \$35 Monthly Membership: Fitness Center only
- \$40 10 Visit Punch Card: Fitness Center and Group Classes
- \$420 Annual Membership: Group Classes and Fitness Center (\$60 Savings)
- FREE Fitness Center memberships are available for Veterans.
- Military Discounts are available for any Active Service Members

SENIOR MEMBERSHIPS (Ages: 55+)

- \$30 Monthly Membership: Group Classes and Fitness Center
- \$25 Monthly Membership: Fitness Center only
- \$30 10 Visit Punch Card: Fitness Center and Group Classes
- \$300 Annual Membership: Group Classes and Fitness Center (\$60 Savings)
- FREE Fitness Center memberships are available for Veterans.
- Military Discounts are available for any Active Service Members

TEEN MEMBERSHIPS (Ages: 13-17 years)

- \$25 Monthly Membership: Fitness Center only
- \$30 10 Visit Punch Card: Fitness Center and Group Classes • \$240 Annual Membership: Fitness Center only (\$60 Savings)

Activate and manage memberships by contacting the Tukwila Community Center at 206-768-2822 or by email at HealthyTukwila@TukwilaWA.gov.

BING Cnight!

Valentine's Family Bingo

Sunday, February 11

5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Ages 5+ • Fee: \$5 per person Tukwila Community Center Bring your friends and family for a fun evening of B-I-N-G-O! Prizes and snacks will be provided! Please RSVP.

St. Patrick's Day Family **Treasure Hunt (FREE)**

Sunday, March 17 All day • All ages • Tukwila Parks Sign up to receive a treasure map and hunt for leprechauns and hidden gold in our parks. This selfguided activity only requires a sense of adventure. Maps and hints will be available closer to the event. Green

prizes will be awarded to those who

find the treasures. Good luck!

Mayor's Message



Reflecting on eight gratifying years as Tukwila Mayor

Commencing as your 20th Mayor in 2016, I find it's been a fulfilling eight years. Looking back, in 1990 I started off as the City of Tukwila's youngest ever Councilmember at the age of 29. In 1995 the Council president left the City, and fellow Councilmembers asked me to facilitate the Council's completion of the 1995 Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code. That year, I brought monitors and laptops into the chambers – a first – so the audience could see in real-time the changes to the Comp Plan being made. Fast forward to 2020, when I was re-elected as Mayor for my second term and COVID struck, access to online virtual meetings was a reality.

As the City's 20th Mayor, I put purpose above politics and worked hard to be in the community and implement change. Why? That's just been my way of life – being with people, and as a change agent in corporate America and then government.

Most change has been encouraged by our constituents, such as street calming with its cushions, speed radar signs, and cameras. Or for those who sought better communication with our residents, launching the phone app Tukwila Talk, or expanding the issues of the Hazelnut newsletter. Why? So our residents could feel that their City was engaging with them.

Early on, I recognized our youth needed support. Thus, I implemented our City's internship program, while commencing sponsorship of the Construction Apprenticeship Guidebook.

Two hours into my start as Mayor, I embarked on the challenge to get wifi access to our students. Why? They need wifi access for school studies in this 21st century. Beginning with deploying access to our City's wifi network, we are now the lone government Internet Service Provider entity in Washington State providing free wifi access to all our disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Also, I brought the City into the 21st century with technological innovation. Why? We were living in modern times with ancient technology. Fortunately, this enabled the City to respond rapidly to the 2020 pandemic.

I also supported the international community through the Young Southeast Asian Leadership Institute. Why? To help support the existence of democracy on behalf of the City and our federal government with the U.S. State Department.

I also have pride in being the Mayor that supported the first Tukwila PRIDE fair and celebration in Tukwila. Why? To actively recognize and appreciate our LGBTQ+ folks.

As for City directors, I am the only Mayor in the City's history to have replaced every department head during a mayor's tenure – be it Information Technology, Human Resource, Police, Fire, Finance, Community Development, Parks & Recreation, Administrative Services, or Public Works. Why? To ensure the City's forward progress continues.

And (drumroll, please) I am the only Tukwila Mayor to deal with and initiate four emergency proclamations/declarations while in office. Why? It's due to: 1) the COVID Pandemic, 2) dealing with incidences from the George Floyd debacle, 3) the 42nd Avenue Bridge strike, and 4) our current asylee situation.

It's been a pleasure to contribute to so many other changes, like the Public Safety Plan, Public Works site redevelopment, City budget balancing, Fire Annexation, mental health support, tiny home villages, affordable and senior housing, Burning Man, fish incubator, etc.

I must say that I was not alone in any of these efforts. There were continuous circles of support around me as the City engaged in change. With utmost appreciation I want to recognize our administration, our departments, our personnel, our court and our Council. Why? Because change is difficult but necessary to move our City forward.

Personally, I have been blessed to have experienced a variety of different opportunities in life – being adopted; growing up poor with my divorced mother; living in a remote trailer park while commuting by METRO to Foster High School; serving my country in the United States Air Force; putting myself through college afterwards; 38 years of marriage to my wife Trish; two wonderful children Karlin and Erik; and being employed by Fortune 500 companies and startups along the way. These varied life and business experiences gave me the ability to challenge those around me, make critical decisions to affect change, and appreciate what we've done for ourselves and others.

Wrapping up my reflections, I share my personal mission statement that I've earnestly applied throughout my career: "To add value wherever I go." Why? To help bring change forward.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as Mayor these last eight years, and may positive change continue for our community.

City of Tukwila Mayor, 2016–2023

alla Ekberg

2 THE HAZELNUT

Collecting Surface Water Quality artwork... from you!

Protecting the quality of surface water is crucial for the health of the humans and animals on land as well as the salmon and orcas in the sea. Our proximity to Puget Sound and the Green/Duwamish watershed is a call to action for Tukwila residents to learn what they can do to make our surface water cleaner and healthier.

The City of Tukwila is planning public outreach regarding the quality of our surface water. Outreach means a message with graphic impact, and here's where we need your help!

We would like to use artwork submitted to us by Tukwila residents for mailings, online, and on our water quality vans for public display. Surface water topics include Puget Sound, pollution from stormwater runoff, whales, best automotive practices, natural yard care, actions we can all take – many directions for your creativity!

Need inspiration? Good information about surface water quality is available online. Some suggested sites:

PugetSoundStartsHere.com

OurGreenDuwamish.com/what-is-our-green-duwamish/

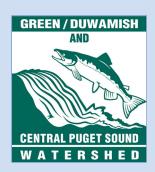
Shadow Habitat. org/getting-know-green duwam is h-water shed/

Art can be paper or pixels. Use markers or computers or anything to create your art. Make it one big picture or break it down. A physical picture should be at least $11" \times 17"$. Please include your name and age with your submission.

TO SUBMIT YOUR CREATION:				
Digital art, or photo	Email			
of your drawing	Russell.Betteridge@TukwilaWA.gov			
Physical drawings	Mail to: Russell Betteridge			
	6200 Southcenter Boulevard			
	Tukwila, WA 98188			

We look forward to seeing what surface water quality topics you choose to illustrate for our collection. Thank you!





<u>Foster High School's Robotics Team</u>

Robot: A machine that senses its environment, can move and follow computer-programmed instructions based on what its sensors are measuring. The **TINK REX Robotics Team** at Foster High School builds robots with these capabilities to participate in international competitions run by FIRST Robotics. The 2023 challenge included picking up both cubes and cones and placing them in specific locations on the opposite side of the playing field. In October the team attended PNW Block Party,



The Foster Drive Team: Teacher/coach Mr. Kevin Pratap, Prihensha Sharma, Jeremy Tran, Kyle Deloeste and Paytin Kupferer

an off-season event in Mill Creek, which provided additional practice for the returning team members while giving new members the experience of the competition.

Led by teachers Matiah Shaman and Kevin Pratap, the students design and build a robot based on the First Robotics Competition (FRC) requirements that are announced in January and are ready to compete in local events in just eight weeks. In these events, as many as 60 teams from Washington, Oregon and British Columbia vie for spots at the PNW District Championship that takes place in April. Later in the school year, the World Competition held in Houston, Texas brings together the top teams from all regional events. Competition weekends are long, loud, chaotic and amazing.

Last year after the competition season, TINK REX partnered with Key Club and organized a STEAM Fair at the high school which attracted students from the high school, middle school and community members. At the beginning of the school year, the team members brought the robot to the Rotary Club Car Show at SouthCenter Mall. Open to any Foster High School student, the First Robotics Team is all about robots plus so much more. The team members are excited for the new challenge of the 2024 season!

DECEMBER 2023

Council Corner

Appreciating the work of all who help make our community great

As 2023 comes to a close, I want to take the opportunity to reflect upon the work this Council has accomplished. Along with the regular work of approving contracts, updating codes, approving interlocal agreements and accepting grants, your 2023 Council:

- ▲ Held a productive Council retreat, focused on improving relationships and collaboration with each other and City Administration. It is imperative that the Council has good working relationships to accomplish our work for the City.
- Revised City Council Rules of Procedure to include more details around meeting conduct, expectations and civility. These new rules will provide guidance to future City Councils, helping them work better together, with City staff, and with the public.
- ▲ Participated in over 25 regional and national committees. This is important because it improves Tukwila's visibility at the county, state and national levels, which can help put us in a better position to receive competitive funding, grants and assistance when needed.
- ▲ Issued a joint statement in partnership with the Tukwila Police Department and City Administration on the tragic death of Tyre Nichols. This was notable because it acknowledged the history and continuing impacts of systemic racism while also affirming our commitment to ongoing community-driven public safety reform.
- ▲ Engaged with local youth from Foster High School by: visiting classrooms to hear about the issues they care about the most; awarding \$10,000 through the City of Opportunity Scholarship program; and supporting and meeting with the students who participated in the paid Summer Internship program.
- Signed on as a partner with the Black Home Initiative, a regional effort to address historical and systemic inequities in housing for our Black community.
- ▲ Submitted to the voters the question of annexation into the Puget Sound Fire Authority.
- ▲ Authorized expanded mental health co-responder services for the Tukwila Police Department.
- ▲ Approved funding for design and pre-construction of the

by Cynthia Delostrinos Johnson, 2023 Council President



Public Works Campus, Phase 2. The City's Public Works Department is responsible for much of the important infrastructure that keeps our City going, including water and sewer service, road cleaning/clearing/construction, waste management oversight, environmental safety, sidewalks, and much more.

With 2023 as my last year on Council, I wanted to share some insight about the work of the City that I have gained from the last four years serving as a first-time elected official. The professionals that work for the City of Tukwila are amazing at what they do and are dedicated to serving the people of Tukwila. From the staff in City Administration to the Department of Community Development, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Economic Development, the Tukwila Police Department, Tukwila Municipal Court, Human Services, Finance, Information Technology, the Equity Policy Implementation Committee, and our new partners at Puget Sound Regional Fire. I have no doubt that our City is in good hands because of the people that work for our city every day.

I want to welcome to the City Council our newest members who were elected to serve starting in January 2024:

ARMEN PAPYAN
JOVITA MCCONNELL
DENNIS MARTINEZ

I believe in each one of them, and thank them for their willingness to serve the people of Tukwila and help move our city forward!

4 THE HAZELNUT



License your pet with RASKC

- Reunites lost pets quickly 24/7
- Helps fund the care and adoption of shelter animals
- Supports the protection of people and pets in your community
- Required by law in King County

License online at: kingcounty.gov/LicenseMyPet Or, call 206-296-2712

INTERPRETER SERVICE AVAILABLE









King County

City Council Actions Highlights

City Council meeting minutes and the complete text of all legislative items are available online in the Digital Records Center at **TukwilaWA.gov**. For additional information about any of these actions, please call 206-433-8993.

- Authorized lodging tax funding for Starfire Sports
- Authorized expansion of the automated traffic safety camera program to include cameras near Codiga Park
- Provided an honorary designation of Southcenter Parkway between Tukwila Parkway and Strander Boulevard as "Jim Haggerton Way" (Res. 2076)
- Designated the Southcenter area as a residential targeted area for the multi-family property tax exemption program (Ord. 2707)
- Authorized purchase and sale agreement for the Longacres Property
- Updated Park and Fire Impact Fees (Ords. 2708 & 2709)
- Adopted by reference new state statutes relating to drug possession, enabling prosecution of those violations in Municipal Court (Ord. 2710)
- Accepted grant funding for Police officer wellness
- Accepted grant funding for Police Department mental health co-responder program

- Updated environmental policy code, to increase flexible thresholds for minor new construction and remove outdated references (Ord. 27101)
- Accepted grant funding to support food service businesses in organics services and compliance
- Affirmed Mayor's October 6 Proclamation of Emergency regarding growing humanitarian crisis and need for additional resources at Riverton Park United Methodist Church
- Accepted FEMA grant funding for landslide risk assessment
- Updated term end dates for boards and commissions (Ord. 2712)
- Updated ADU regulations in alignment with state law (Ord. 2716)
- Clarified process for updating the Annual Comprehensive Plan Docket (Ord. 2717)

CONFIRMATIONS

Congratulations to following community members who were confirmed to City Boards and Commissions. Tukwila thanks you for your volunteer service to our community!

Arts Commission: Naomi Watkins

Library Advisory Board: Angelica Gonzalez Martinez

Financial Sustainability Committee:

Arta Baharmast Karin Masters David Puki
Randy Boyd Annie McGrath Verna Seal
Phillip Combs Amber Meza Greg Sherlock
Jacob Halverson Abdiwali Mohamed Kathy Hougardy
Krysteena Mann Diane Myers Peggy McCarthy,

Alternate

DECEMBER 2023



Tukwila has a new solid waste contractor



As of November 1, *Recology is the new waste hauler in Tukwila*. Following a competitive Request for Proposals process followed by an extensive review of the proposals received from multiple companies, City staff selected Recology and the Council approved the contract in 2022.

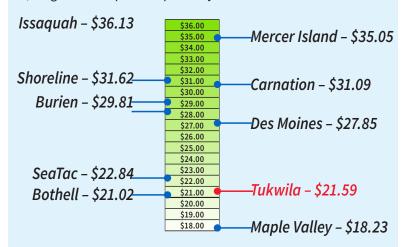
New rates

As announced before, *solid waste collection rates increased* with the new Recology contract. Tukwila benefitted from rates being held low because of its 10+ year contract with the previous hauler. However, increased rates would have happened whether the City renewed with the previous company or contracted with a new hauler. This is due to the rising costs of trucks, fuel, labor, parts, disposal and other factors.

The rates were reviewed by an independent consultant to the City, and are in line with other new contracts in the King County region.

How do Tukwila's rates compare to other surrounding cities?

As of November 1, 2023, Recology's monthly rates for a residential 32/35-gallon cart picked up weekly in these cities are:



For residential customers, Tukwila's garbage rates are still among the lowest in the region.

Not included in the contract between the City of Tukwila and Recology are new collection carts for residential customers or new collection containers for businesses or apartments. However, if your cart or container is damaged or in need of cleaning, please contact Recology at 206-944-3900, or email them at **Tukwila@Recology.com**

You can *change the size of your cart and/or service level*. Call or email Recology to adjust cart size or service level.

Recycling and composting services

You can recycle and/or compost the same items with Recology as you could with the previous contractor. In addition, Recology also accepts clean aluminum foil (balled up) and clean aluminum containers such as pie plates. Also, caps and lids can be left on plastic containers when being recycled.

Other solid waste services

Recology's *call center* will be open seven days per week. Monday–Friday hours are 7:00_{AM}–7:00_{PM}; Saturday and Sunday hours are 8:00_{AM}–7:00_{PM} at 206-944-3900.

Once each year, residential customers can order *no-cost* collection of up to four non-appliance bulky items, plus extra trash and small items (up to two cubic yards). Pickup will be during their normal collection days, but Recology must be notified in advance. Call 206-944-3900 or use the online form at Recology.com/Tukwila.

Customer service

Recology has a *full-time Waste Zero Specialist* dedicated to working with Tukwila residents and businesses, as well as a full-time Tukwila-focused Customer Service Representative. Recology's customer service center is located less than 5 miles from Tukwila City Hall. The Customer Service Representatives are familiar with the area and our communities.

The *City's Solid Waste Analyst* – Colleen Minion – manages the Recology contract plus Tukwila's State and County grants focused on waste reduction, recycling, household hazardous waste disposal, and litter pickup. Other projects include annual recycling collection events and the annual citywide yard sale. Contact Colleen at 206-431-2445 or recycle@TukwilaWA.gov.

6 THE HAZELNUT

Discounted rates for low-income seniors or disabled residents

Senior and/or disabled low-income residents are eligible for discounted rates. To qualify for a 50% discount on your solid waste collection bill, you must meet all the following criteria:

1. You must be an owner or renter and reside in the City of Tukwila.

2. At least one of the owners/renters in the house must be age 62 or older and/or disabled.

3. Your total annual household income, from all sources, must be less than 50% of the Area Median Income:

\$47,950 in a one-person household, or \$54,800 in a two-person household.

An application for a solid waste collection discount is available online at TukwilaWA.gov/SolidWasteDiscount.

There you will also find links to printable application forms, including forms in Spanish, Somali, Vietnamese and Amharic.

Once the application is approved, the discount will be applied to the next billing period (not retroactive). Need assistance? Contact Colleen Minion at 206-431-2445 or recycle@TukwilaWA.gov.

DROP-OFF RECYCLING GUIDE

Recology residential customers may drop off limited quantities of the hard-to-recycle items listed here at any Recology Store location. Non-customers may also drop off at Recology's stores for a small fee. Commercial drop-offs are not accepted. Please contact customer service for alternative options.

The Recology Store - Burien 15858 - 1st Avenue S, Suite A100 Burien, WA 98148

Tuesday-Sunday, 10:00AM-5:00PM

FOR TUKWILA – 206-944-3900

WHERE DOES IT GO?

Paperboard and non-foiled cardboard chocolate boxes are recyclable.

Plastic inserts are garbage.

Chocolates are tasty.



PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS **ITEM** Fluorescent Tubes & Bulbs Unbroken bulbs only Tubes must not exceed 4ft Limit 10 bulbs and/or tubes per drop off Untaped batteries not accepted. Cover each positive Household and negative end with CLEAR PACKING TAPE only **Batteries** Limit 1/4 gallon per drop off • 2 x 2 x 2ft or smaller and less than 60lbs **Electronics & Accessories** Flat screen TVs accepted up to 40in wide Functional AND non-functional items accepted Limit 3 items per drop off 2 x 2 x 2ft or smaller and less than 60lbs **Small Appliances** Functional AND non-funtional items accepted · Limit 3 items per drop off Must be bagged and clean (stains & rips ok, but must be free of mold, mildew and hazardous material) **Textiles** Bed pillows NOT accepted Limit 32 gallons per drop off Accepted types are rigid Styrofoam[™] blocks and Styrofoam ™ clean Styrofoam™ take out containers Items must be clean and dry, free of tape, labels, and excessive pen or crayon marks Limit 32 gallons per drop off Cooking oil is NOT accepted at The Recology Store in Shoreline Seal oil in clean, clear, screw-top plastic containers. **Used Cooking Oil** Oil must be free of debris Container must be labeled with name and address Limit 3 gallons per drop off Bicycle inner tubes NOT accepted **Used Bicycles** All other clean bikes and bike parts accepted and Bike Parts Limit 3 per drop off Cylinders must be empty No tanks. 1lb size max and pure propane only **Small Propane Cylinders** Limit 3 per drop off **Hardcover Books** Limit 15 per drop off. Climbing Ropes \$2 each For A Fee • Holiday Strand Lights \$1.50 each

DECEMBER 2023

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.

The City of Tukwila is hosting a >

WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 21, 2024 1:00 to 4:00pm

	FEBRUARY 2024								
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY			
				1	2	3			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
18	19 President' Day	20	21	22	23	24			
25	26	27	28	29					

Location: Tukwila Community Center 12424 - 42nd Avenue South

SEASONAL JOB FAIR

INTERVIEWS HELD AND CONTINGENT
JOB OFFERS MADE AT THE EVENT



35+ TUKWILA SEASONAL POSITIONS, INCLUDING:

- ► Youth and Teen Summer Camp Counselors
- ► Golf Course Pro Shop and Cart Staff

ONSITE WITH ADDITIONAL SEASONAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES!

- ► Mobile Recreation Leaders
- ► Rental Facility Attendants

PLUS. REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER AGENCIES WILL BE

Please register to let us know you're coming. Scan this code, or go to



TukwilaWA.gov/jobfair

Please bring a current resume.
Ouestions? Call 206-768-2822

TUKWILA CITY HALL

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

MAYOR Allan Ekberg (2016–23) ... 206-433-1850 Mayor's Office

Administrative Services

 City Clerk's Office
 206-433-1800

 Human Resources – Personnel
 206-433-1831

 Human Services
 206-433-7181

 Community Engagement
 206-454-7564

 Technology Services
 206-454-7575

Community Development Dept.

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

Finance Department

Recreation Division......206-768-2822 Senior Center/Services.....206-767-2323

FOSTER GOLF LINKS

13500 Interurban Avenue South Pro Shop206-242-4221

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY

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

PugetSoundFire.org

2023 TUKWILA CITY COUNCIL

Cynthia Delostrinos Johnson, 2023 Council President...... 206-595-5469 C.DelostrinosJohnson@TukwilaWA.gov Kathy Hougardy 206-571-0007 Kathy.Hougardy@TukwilaWA.gov De'Sean Quinn.....206-331-5939 Desean.Quinn@TukwilaWA.gov Kate Kruller...... 206-678-7885 Kate.Kruller@TukwilaWA.gov Thomas.Mcleod@TukwilaWA.gov Mohamed.Abdi@TukwilaWA.gov Tosh Sharp......206 507-6440 Tosh.Sharp@TukwilaWA.gov To email the entire Council at once: CityCouncil@TukwilaWA.gov Laurel Humphrey, Analyst 206-433-8993

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

7:00_{PM} in Council Chambers Regular Meetings1st/3rd Mondays Committee of the Whole......2nd/4th Mondays