

COMMUNITY CONNECTION NEWSLETTER



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City Manager Message

The department directors at the City of Taylor met at a staff retreat several months ago to work on cultivating the core values that we thought were important for the management of the City and the delivery of City services. Those core values are: innovation, customer focus, integrity, excellence and respect. We believe these are the key pillars for success at the City of Taylor. Following are some of the definitions we came up with for what those core values mean, and how they can inform our decisions moving forward:

INNOVATION

We want to seek out new processes to improve city services, create measurable long-term improvements, and embrace best practices.

CUSTOMER FOCUS

We believe that focusing on the customer is imperative to providing City services, and we want to ensure that we are helpful, consistent, responsive to requests, and knowledgeable of City policies and procedures.

INTEGRITY

We define integrity as being honest, doing what's right when no one is looking, being accountable and treating everyone fairly.

EXCELLENCE

We strive for excellence by always doing no less than our best, going above and beyond and striving for continual improvement.

RESPECT

We look to be respectful by treating others with dignity, embracing diversity and

exhibit consistent and fair treatment of others.

At the City of Taylor, we are constantly working together to help the City operate more effectively and create a positive environment for not only the residents of Taylor, but for our City employees and members of Council as well. I will continue to work with our management team and staff to create a vision that supports our core values.

Sincerely,

Brian LaBorde
City Manager

Election Day May 7

The Taylor City Council passed resolution R22-03 calling an election to be held in the City of Taylor, Texas on:

Saturday, May 7, 2022

The City of Taylor will hold an election on Saturday, May 7, 2022, for the purpose of electing one person from District 1 as a member of the City Council. The candidates on the ballot are Gerald Anderson (incumbent) and Stan Werner.



Election Day Voting

May 7, 2022

7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

District 1 - Taylor City Hall, 400 Porter St., Taylor, TX

For further information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 512-352-3676, email our City Clerk, [Dianna McLean](#), or visit the city's [website](#).

Code Rodeo Scheduled for July 13

The City of Taylor is working with Simplecity Design to bring the Envision Taylor Comprehensive Plan to life. A series of public meetings are being held to get input from residents. The first meeting, a DNA Round-Up was held on Tuesday, April 19, at the Taylor Public Library and a second meeting for a Design Rodeo was held on Tuesday, May 3.



During the DNA Round-Up, we analyzed and celebrated Taylor's original settlement patterns and how they apply to Taylor's future. What we found is that Taylor's historic downtown and many of the older, diverse neighborhoods are illegal under the current codes. To code for Taylor's future, we must first claim what we love about Taylor's built environment and direct what kind of new development fits best where. Then we begin to build the code.

- [Watch the meeting by clicking here.](#)

The Design Rodeo held on May 3 consisted of a roundtable talk and design session where discussions were arranged by topics including housing diversity, retail and restaurant growth, neighborhood design, small town charm, and other topics. A live artist was at the event to conduct illustrations based on the discussions.

A design dialogue and open house was then held to dive deeper into the code using the artist illustrations and conversations held earlier in the afternoon which served as a launch-point for more detailed insights.

- [Watch the meeting by clicking here.](#)

A Code Rodeo will be held on Wednesday, July 13, at the Taylor Public Library. There will be a come anytime workshop from 1-4 p.m. to evaluate draft neighborhood sketches and review draft zoning maps and districts. Following, there will be an open house from 6-8 p.m. for an introductory presentation of code and feedback, input, and conversation.

- [Click here to view the event flyer.](#)

This is an opportunity to determine what's right, what's wrong, and what's missing in the designs. More events and opportunities to review drafts and submit input are available on the website at www.taylor.konveio.com [<http://www.taylor.konveio.com>].

The Taylor Made Toolbox is the next phase of the Envision Taylor plan. The Development Codes guide the built environment. The Toolbox will update Taylor's codes based on local preferences to ensure the future of the Envision Taylor plan.

Why are we updating the Development Codes?

The current rules on the books are not representing Taylor's current development patterns. Take a look at how new development differs from historic areas of Taylor. These codes will shape Taylor for the next generation.

A Message From Your Taylor Fire Department



A pinning ceremony was held on April 25 at Station 1 for four Taylor firefighters. Pictured: City Manager Brian LaBorde, Firefighter Ajay Payton, Firefighter Aaron Harralson, Firefighter Stephen Barnes, Firefighter Caleb Anchors, Fire Chief Daniel Baum, and Assistant Fire Chief Bobby Copeland.

Reappointment Swear-In Ceremonies held for two TPD officers



A reappointment ceremony was recently held by Taylor Police Department for Officer Look and Officer Newell. We welcome both of them back to Taylor PD!



Blackland Prairie Days May 7

It's back! Taylor's annual Blackland Prairie Days will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 7, in historic Downtown Taylor.

This free event honors the rich cultural heritage of Taylor, where local goods and friendly people are



in abundance. We'll have live music, food vendors, booths, kids' activities and more! We also have over two dozen locally owned small businesses in downtown Taylor, so come grab your friends and family and enjoy this annual festival and shop local.

Please be advised, if you are coming to attend the Blackland Prairie Days festival, Election Day voting will be taking place at City Hall. Please leave designated Election Day parking spaces available for those who are coming to vote.

Upcoming Events Calendar

To stay up to date on city events, be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter, and check the Community Calendar on the [City's website](#) [<http://www.taylortx.gov/Calendar>].

May

- **Saturday, May 7 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | *Blackland Prairie Days*** - Blackland Prairie Days is back! We are more excited than ever to welcome everyone back to beautiful downtown Taylor!
- **Thursday, May 19 | 7 p.m. | *Music on Main featuring All Hat No Cadillac*** - Join us in Heritage Square for this FREE and family friendly concert series.
- **Saturday, May 28 | 11 a.m. | *Dedication Ceremony for the Doris Roznovak Aquatic Center*** - Join us as we hold a dedication ceremony for the Doris Roznovak Aquatic Center before the pool officially opens for the season.
- **Saturday, May 28** - Doris Roznovak Aquatic Center opens for summer!
- **Monday, May 30 | 10 a.m. | *Memorial Day Program*** | Murphy Park Liberty Gardens - Annual ceremony honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the country.

June

- **Thursday, June 16 | 7 p.m. | *Music on Main featuring Mel Davis & the Blues Specialists*** - Join us in Heritage Square for this FREE and family friendly concert series.

Library Calendar

The [Taylor Public Library](#) is located at 801 Vance St. in Taylor.



CURRENT OPERATING HOURS:

Monday/Wednesday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tuesday/Thursday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday 12 noon - 6 p.m.
Saturday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Library Closures:

- Saturday, May 28 - Closed for Memorial Day
- Monday, May 30 - Closed for Memorial Day

Story Time:

- **Wednesday, May 4 at 10:30 a.m. | Author Lauren Thompson**
- **Wednesday, May 11 at 10:30 a.m. | Author Rosemary Wells**
- **Wednesday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m. | Author Mo Willems **last story time until Tuesday, June 14****

City Council Meetings

Council meetings are held at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at City Hall, 400 Porter Street.(unless otherwise noted)

Council will meet:

- May 12, 26
- June 9, 23

Live streaming of Council meetings and taped recordings are available [on our website](#).

Holiday Closures

City offices will be closed on the following dates:

- Monday, May 30 (Memorial Day)
- Monday, June 20 (Juneteenth)
- Monday, July 4 (Fourth of July)

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