

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION NEWSLETTER



**April 2024**

## **City of Taylor Donation Program**

Residents can now make donations to the City of Taylor online. This convenient online payments page includes options to donate to:

- The Taylor Animal Shelter
- City of Taylor Public Library
- Parks and Recreation
- Police Department
- Public Arts
- Directly to the Fred Kerley Mural



**Scan here**

Donations are used by the City only for the category selected.

[Click Here to Make a Donation](#)

[<https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/taylortx/easypay>]

## **City Manager Message**

Happy spring, everyone! With the arrival of this new season, I find it fitting to update you on the latest initiatives undertaken by the City of Taylor's Public Works Department, particularly regarding our ongoing efforts to enhance our community's infrastructure through the Level Up program.



The City began the Level Up Program in 2020. The Level Up Program takes a segment of selected streets with an inch to an inch and a half of overlying material on the street segment to help improve the riding surface for residents where the level up is completed. It also decreases the Public Works' pothole inventory. It allows for additional time and resources to be devoted to other streets. It also allows for more streets to be addressed. Additionally, in Fiscal Year 2022-23, the City restructured its Transportation User Fee (TUF) funds to add additional staff to aid in ongoing street maintenance.

The Public Works Staff has budgeted \$400,00 for this year's Phase I Level Up Program. At this time, we have completed roads with a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 0 – 20. This year's Phase I program is concentrating on roads with a PCI of 21 through parts of 23. We will also use new PCI study scores when they are available, until then we will continue to use the 2020 study scores. We anticipate new scores will be ready for Phase 2.

For more information, a list of streets selected, and a map as well as PCI information, visit [www.taylortx.gov/964/Level-Up-Program](http://www.taylortx.gov/964/Level-Up-Program). The Level Up Program stands as a testament to our city's proactive approach to infrastructure maintenance and enhancement.

Sincerely,

**Brian LaBorde**

*City Manager*

## City Wide Spring Clean Up Set for April 6

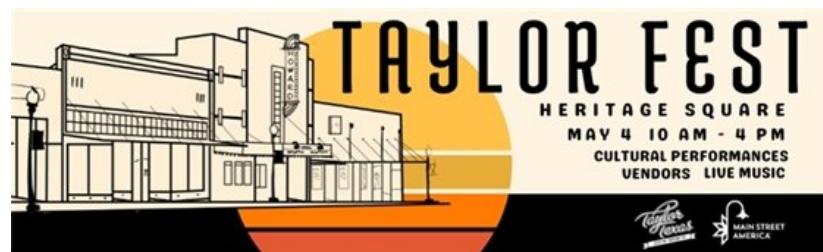
The City of Taylor will hold a Citywide Spring Clean Up on Saturday, April 6, to give Taylor residents the opportunity to drop off unwanted items that are otherwise too bulky to dispose of. Collections will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at two locations, 1200 Welch St. and 1424 N. Main St. (vehicles will enter the Public Works yard at Old Thorndale Road and exit on Main Street).

The City offers the Citywide Clean Up event free of charge once a year in the spring as a service to Taylor residents. Proof of residency, such as a City of Taylor water bill or valid ID showing a City address, will be required.

While most bulky items are accepted, there are exceptions. The following items will **NOT** be accepted:

- Appliances with refrigerant
- Batteries
- Hazardous Materials
- Paint
- Solvents
- Tires
- Waste Oil
- Roofing Shingles
- Concrete
- Uncut brush (all brush must be cut in five-foot sections)

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Public Works Department at 512-352-5818 or visit [www.taylortx.gov](http://www.taylortx.gov).



## Taylor Fest Set For First Saturday in May

The City of Taylor's Main Street Program invites residents to come to

Heritage Square the first Saturday in May for Taylor Fest (formerly known as Blackland Prairie Day). The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Heritage Square on Saturday, May 4, and will feature a vibrant celebration of culture that recognizes the diversity of Taylor.

The festival, whose name was changed earlier this year on the recommendation of the Main Street Advisory Board, is traditionally held on the first Saturday in May and brings together people from all walks of life to honor and appreciate the rich tapestry of cultures that make Taylor unique. The event will feature live music, an array of cultural live dance performances, food vendors, and arts and crafts booths. Some performances include the McCallum High School Ballet Folklorico team, the Texas Dragon Dance Team, the Hot Pickin 57s, the Bramaya Dance and Drum Ensemble, and more.

“Taylor Fest will be more than just a celebration; it is a testament to the vibrant mosaic of cultures that enrich our town. Join us in embracing diversity, supporting our local businesses, and celebrating what makes Taylor unique,” said Ruby Fisher, Main Street Program Special Events Coordinator.

The Main Street Program is also looking for sponsors, vendors, and volunteers to help work the event. If anyone is interested in sponsoring Taylor Fest or participating, please contact Fisher at [ruby.fisher@taylortx.gov](mailto:ruby.fisher@taylortx.gov) [mailto:ruby.fisher@taylortx.gov] or by telephone at 512-309-6185. For more information, visit the City’s website at [www.taylortx.gov](http://www.taylortx.gov).



## Free Tax Preparation at Library

Free tax preparation assistance will be available at the Taylor Public Library by the Foundation Communities Prosper Centers from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Saturday beginning February 3 through April 13.

They will be taking walk-ins only and no new clients will be allowed one hour before closing.

What to bring:

- Photo ID for you and your spouse
- Social Security Card or ITIN letter for everyone on the tax return
- Tax documents (e.c. W-2, 1099, etc.)
- Direct Deposit information (optional)
- Copy of prior year tax return (recommended)

Services are available for individuals who make under \$60,000 a year and families of 2-4 who make under \$85,000 a year. Income limits are higher for larger families. For more information, visit [www.prospertaxhelp.org](http://www.prospertaxhelp.org) [<http://www.prospertaxhelp.org/>].

## New Agenda Software Launched for Public Meetings

The City of Taylor has recently streamlined our agenda process by

employing the use of CivicClerk/AMMS software. This software is a product of CivicPlus, which is the current platform the City uses for its website.

This new software helps streamline agendas and makes creating agenda packets for public meetings less of a manual process and more automated. The new software easily integrates into already existing software the City uses like our website host and Municode, which indexes our City ordinances.

This new agenda software is now being used for all of our City Council meetings as well as boards and commission meetings. The public can easily access agendas for current and past meetings on the new platform. The public can also sign up to receive email notifications when new agendas are posted. To view the new agenda system, visit [www.taylortx.gov/18/Agendas-and-Minutes](http://www.taylortx.gov/18/Agendas-and-Minutes) [<http://www.taylortx.gov/18/Agendas-and-Minutes>] or click the "Agendas & Minutes" button located on the homepage.



## 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.*

### April

- **Sunday, April 7 | 1-2:30 PM | Bull Branch Park Clean Up** - It's time for a spring cleanup! Join the Taylor Parks and Recreation Department at the Pavilion and help pick up trash in the park and along the greenbelt. Volunteers are key to maintaining a great park system and we appreciate your support!
- **Monday, April 8 | Noon | Solar Eclipse Watch Party** - Join the Taylor Public Library for the event of the year! The program will start at noon. Bring chairs, water and snacks. Solar eclipse glasses will be provided free of charge at the event.
- **Sunday, April 21 | 1-3 PM | Taylor Kite Day** - Our annual Taylor Kite Day is scheduled for Sunday, April 21st at 1 PM at Taylor Regional Park. We'll meet on the TRP soccer fields next to the playground and bathrooms.

### May

- **Saturday, May 4 | 10 AM | Taylor Fest** - Join us for Taylor Fest, a vibrant celebration of culture in our community! Through music, dance, food, and art, we showcase the beauty of the rich tapestry of cultures while raising funds to enhance our Main Street district and uplift local small businesses.
- **Friday, May 10 & Monday, May 20 | 11 AM - 1 PM | Building Safety Month** - The Development Services Department will be holding two public events for Building Safety Month at Taylor City Hall. Residents and business owners will have the opportunity to walk in, meet with our team and ask questions. We hope to answer any building questions covering a variety of topics such as permitting, plan review, and inspections.
- **Saturday, May 11 | 10 AM - 2 PM | Taylor Shred Fest** - Everyone is cordially invited to the first-ever Shred Fest at the Pierce Park Skate Park. It will be an exciting day filled with skate competitions for all ages, vendors, food, and music! Visit [linktr.ee/taylorshredfest](http://linktr.ee/taylorshredfest) for more information.

## Taylor Public Library

The [Taylor Public Library](#)

[<http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us/25/Library>] is located at 801 Vance St. in Taylor.



### CURRENT OPERATING HOURS:

Monday/Wednesday: 9 AM - 6 PM

Tuesday/Thursday: 9 AM - 8 PM

Friday: noon - 6 PM

Saturday: 11 AM - 4 PM

Sunday: closed

### April Library Schedule:

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Grief Support 6:30 pm	2 Hooks & Needles 9-12 pm	3 Storytime 10:30 am	4 Workforce Parenting Group 4:30	5	6 Tax Help 11:30-3:30 * Puzzle Swap 2:30
8 Solar Eclipse Watch Party 12:45 pm * Grief Support 6:30pm	9 Hooks & Needles 9-12 pm	10 Storytime 10:30 am * Poetry Slam 4:00	11 Chair Yoga 9:30 Workforce Parenting Group 4:30 pm	12 Homeschool Social 1:00 pm	13 Tax Help 11:30-3:30
15 Grief Support 6:30 pm	16 Hooks & Needles 9-12 pm	17 Storytime 10:30 am	18 Workforce Parenting Group 4:30	19 Taylor Swift Dance Party 6-8pm	20 Book Sale 11 am - 4 pm
22 Grief Support 6:30 pm	23 Hooks & Needles 9-12 pm * Teen Writing Club 5 pm	24 Storytime 10:30 am	25 Chair Yoga 9:30 Workforce Parenting Group 4:30 pm	26	27
29 Grief Support 6:30 pm	30 Hooks & Needles 9-12 pm				

## City Council Meetings

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

Council will meet:

- April 11, 25
- May 9, 23;
- May 13 (Special Called to Canvass Votes from May Election)

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 27 (Memorial Day)

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