

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION NEWSLETTER



## September 2024

### City Manager Message

It's budget season and it is an exciting time as we look forward to what the future holds for Taylor and we reflect on the accomplishments of the past.

Over the current fiscal year, we have completed over \$1 Million in parks improvements including a brand new playground at Bull Branch Park. We paved 44 street segments throughout town as a part of our Level Up program. We resurfaced Second Street and completely rebuilt Mallard Lane. We also started reconstruction on a section of Fourth Street and will be looking to complete that project in the coming month. We improved the Heritage Square splashpad and added an all-new slip resistant surface. We added three new pickleball courts to Murphy Park for a total of six. We opened a brand new animal shelter with a state of the art cat room and a turf yard with misters for the dogs to run and play.

Looking forward, we are excited to bring back the \$1 Million in parks and other cash funded improvements in the coming budget. This year, we will begin construction on a brand-new pool in Murphy Park. The next two phases of Level Up have already begun with 54 streets on the list to tackle. This is one of our most cost effective programs with a total budget of only \$860,000. We are bringing back the HOME program again this year and funding another four homes in Taylor. These projects have a lasting impact on families in our community. Included in the budget is funding to partner with local organizations to provide warming centers in major winter emergencies like we have seen in years past. Lastly, this budget has an emphasis on employee compensation. We completed a compensation study where consultants compared our pay structures to that of other cities in the region. Following that study, we are funding increases for staff to keep wages competitive and ensure we don't lose good people due to pay.

Other projects already under way and funded for the coming year include our recreation center study where we are looking at what the community

needs, what the community wants, and how we could fund a facility that will serve Taylor for generations. That study will be complete in the spring of 2025. We have also started our Downtown Master Plan update where we are working with downtown businesses and residents to plan for the future of Taylor's downtown and cast a vision for where it is going.

We are looking forward to these amazing projects and appreciate the support and funding from the City Council to make them happen. We are also thankful for each and every resident of Taylor. No one likes the word taxes, but without you and your contribution, none of these projects would be possible. The City of Taylor is On The Move!

Sincerely,

**Brian LaBorde**

*City Manager*



## Retirements

We are sad to announce the retirement of Tom Yantis, Assistant City Manager, and Colin Harrison, Development Services Director. They have both contributed a tremendous amount of their time and energy to the City of Taylor and will have a lasting impact as we continue their legacy of intentional development that reflects the historic legacy of Taylor. They will be greatly missed. Colin has completed his on-site employment but is remaining on staff remotely to assist in onboarding a new Director soon. Tom will be with us through the end of the year. The Assistant City Manager position has been posted and is available below.

**VIEW POSTING**

## Project Updates

### Wellness and Recreation Center Study

On August 15, staff held a kickoff meeting to discuss plans and expectations with our contractors. We also met with the survey subcontractor on August 23 specifically to work on the language and questions for the community survey. Community input will be



critical for this project. The first community meeting will be on September 25 at 6:30PM. To follow along and get regular updates about the project, click the button below.

[LEARN MORE](#)

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### **Second Street**

Second Street construction is substantially complete. The new surface treatment will extend the life of the road by up to 10 years. While it will have a rougher ride for a little while, it will smooth out over time. The ride has the added benefit of additional friction and shorter stopping distances.

Crews are expected to complete final striping soon to correct some mistakes that were made before the City accepts their work. This is one of many projects that are part of Taylor On The Move. Click the button below to learn more!

[LEARN MORE](#)

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### **Doris Roznovak Aquatic Center**

The pool at Murphy Park will be replaced following the 2024 swimming season. The project is set to bid this fall with construction expected to

begin before the end of the year. This project was required to continue to operate a pool in Murphy Park. The existing facilities have a failing foundation and are unfortunately beyond repair.

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### Drainage Projects

The City has three major drainage projects that are close to bidding and construction.

#### Mustang Creek

The Mustang Creek project will come first and will correct erosion issues at the end of the airport runway and add a detention pond to reduce flooding downstream in major storms. A detention pond does not hold water all the time. It will hold back heavy flows from a major storm and release them over 24 hours until the pond is empty. This project is set to bid in September.

#### Donna Channel

The Donna Channel project will add a detention pond at TH Johnson Elementary that will act as a soccer field when there are no active major storms. It will also include improvements to the existing channel that runs from the school down to Bull Creek, beneath Drake Lane. This project will have a significant impact on the neighborhood, reducing the possibility of flooding for dozens of homes. This project will go out for bid later this fall alongside the Travis and Franklin Project.

#### Travis and Franklin

This project will improve drainage infrastructure on Travis and Franklin Streets on the southwest side of town. This is a small project but will have a significant impact on the homes in the neighborhood.

All three of these projects are grant funded and were chosen due to their eligibility for grant funding. The City recently completed a drainage master plan. These projects are part of that plan. We have a multitude of other drainage projects in the pipeline as we work to implement the master plan. Check the button below to view the master plan.

[LEARN MORE](#)

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### 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.*

### Parks and Recreation

# ADULT FITNESS SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					
6 PM Zumba	10:30 AM Senior Fit	6:30 PM Yoga	6 PM Drum Fit	11 AM Senior Fit	9 AM Boot Camp 10 AM Drum Fit

**Taylor Parks & Recreation**  
512-961-0032  
parks@taylortx.gov

Memorial Fieldhouse  
Class - \$5  
Punch Pass (10 classes) - \$40





## Police Department

The 2024 Taylor Police Department National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, October 1, from 6-9 p.m. For anyone or group interested in hosting a block party this year, registration is now open!

Visit <https://forms.office.com/r/6CciG0jxJC> [[https://forms.office.com/r/6CciG0jxJC?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR0hPDLXkBLhWy2lrneilFmnxKac\\_LSvv9o-tY6SD4FmR\\_71OgpwE8Hkhf0\\_aem\\_LEI3YfADuvdy30NY375Lrw](https://forms.office.com/r/6CciG0jxJC?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR0hPDLXkBLhWy2lrneilFmnxKac_LSvv9o-tY6SD4FmR_71OgpwE8Hkhf0_aem_LEI3YfADuvdy30NY375Lrw)] to register or visit [www.taylortx.gov/police](http://www.taylortx.gov/police) [<a href="https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.taylortx.gov%2Fpolice%3Ffbclid%3DlwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR3mCHPWpb\_TYuCSUT-c2D0idL5z06GI4hcVSrqsjl1f16PSaOaQyfFmAkA\_aem\_D6hN4tMor0zuF8VYvSMHUA&amp;h=AT2UkIf\_hRQOxdUn623S50RP0ZN5L9dSMQ9mUcEmw9YV4XkF\_iApRQKpm\_JqquwrxmsCBoAe4fh9N9n2c6PY8UYDerDE8helcG1g3NuTZWOkIxb-xUzO59A586xXAwtSFY&amp;\_tn\_=-UK-R&amp;c[0]=AT26-4zg6VJA3e4aVswAn0DP1rXAyD7ni6o4eUi893mMNys51McAHWzpUOrm8ffFnIPNFNcj1vkWPjnOTntCecvuD14stYMR7LmnIKYsFk4XgxJrd\_-Q3hMGwY8lwzquZYaPnagXP2-MRQ2jE9fEE94rnTXDLdK9nx6A5585-teuJ6nSLNWIBISUKp2FZbSKp7DpX7Rm5SuLVcJLX-LhiYvEHutaX76ETt0c1e\_tjFi5S3IbIQQRl8u1kARF7b2v4NZVI2u6VvvVC</a>] for more information.



## TAYLOR POLICE DEPARTMENT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

**TUESDAY 10.01.24**

TAYLOR, TEXAS

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



**TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING  
COMMUNITIES SAFER, MORE  
CARING PLACES TO LIVE AND WORK**

**BLOCK PARTY REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**



**TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:  
WWW.TAYLORTX.GOV/POLICE**

### Taylor Public Library

The [Taylor Public Library](http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us/25/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

#### Library Schedule:

September 2024						
Taylor Public Library 801 Vance St 512.352.3434						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Library Closed for Labor Day	2 Women's Support Group 6:30	3 Storytime 10:30 "Teddy Bear Clinic"	4 Storytime 10:30 "Squirrels"	5 Chair Yoga 9:30am Chair Massage 10:30	6	7 Puzzle Swap 2:30 pm
9 Grief Support 6:30	10	11 Storytime 10:30 "Cats"	12 Chair Yoga 9:30am Chair Massage 10:30 Nailed it or Failed it 5-7pm (Teens)	13	14	
16 Dr. Daniel 5:00 Women's Support Group 6:30	17	18 Storytime 10:30 "Dogs"	19 Chair Yoga 9:30am Chair Massage 10:30 Bad Art 6pm (adults)	20 Homeschool Social 1pm	21 Sewing Saturday Trinket Trays 11-4pm	
23 Grief Support 6:30	24	25 Storytime 10:30 "Cats"	26 Chair Yoga 9:30am Chair Massage 10:30 Teens: D&D 5-7pm	27	28	
30						

*Illustrations of a dragonfly, a tree, a flower, and a group of cartoon animals (fox, bear, rabbit, hedgehog) are scattered around the calendar.*

[Click to view.](#)

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## City Council Meetings

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

### Future Meetings:

- September 12, 26
- October 10, 24

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

### Past Meeting Recap Videos:

Click on the images below to watch the videos.



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## Holiday Closures

City offices will be closed on Labor Day. Trash will run on normal schedule.



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**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



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

[Click Here to Make a Donation](#)

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

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