



COMMUNITY CONNECTION



JANUARY 2025

VOL. 21 | ISSUE 1

YOUR CITY COUNCIL





MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday and was able to spend time with family and loved ones. I am looking forward to a productive and exciting 2025 for the City of Taylor.

I am eagerly looking ahead to a number of exciting and positive projects that are taking shape for 2025. One major initiative that is set to begin this month is the much-anticipated reconstruction of the Doris Roznovak Aquatic Center. This project is a significant milestone for our community, and I am thrilled to share that our Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting a special groundbreaking ceremony to mark the official start of the project. The ceremony will take place on Wednesday, January 15, at 5:30 p.m., and it promises to be a momentous occasion for all involved.

We invite everyone to join us in this celebration as we usher in a new chapter for the Doris Roznovak Aquatic Center. Your presence and support would mean a lot as we gather to commemorate this exciting new development. Completion on the project is anticipated for fall 2025.

As we look forward to all the exciting developments in 2025, I encourage everyone to stay engaged and involved in our community's growth. Let's keep the momentum going in 2025!

Brian Laborde

CITY NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

City of Taylor Taps New Assistant City Manager



The City of Taylor is pleased to announce the selections of Carly Kehoe Pearson to be the City's new Assistant City

Manager. She comes to us from the City of Bee Cave where she served as the Director of Planning and Development.

Pearson is a proud Aggie and native Texan born and raised in Burnet. She has a broad background in municipal administration and law, legislative affairs, and city and economic development in both the public and private sectors.

She has worked in municipalities and as a consultant for local and state government, major corporations, and cities of all sizes. She currently serves

The American Planning Association of Texas as Chairwoman of Legislative Affairs, Economic Development and Redevelopment Committee, and as Immediate Past Director of the Board for its Central Texas Chapter. Carly brings a deep love for and commitment to the Central Texas area where she serves her community on several volunteer boards and enjoys living, working, and spending time on the ranch with her family and their horses.

"We're thrilled to have Carly join our team," said City Manager LaBorde, "Her experience will be crucial as we enter a season of rapid growth and development in the City. We look forward to her contributions in pushing Taylor forward into the future."

"We're thrilled to have Carly Join our team. Her experience will be crucial as we enter a season of rapid growth and development in the City."

City Manager Brian LaBorde

Pearson will be responsible for overseeing the City's Development Services, Main Street, and Internal Services departments. She will begin her duties with the City of Taylor on December 30, 2024.

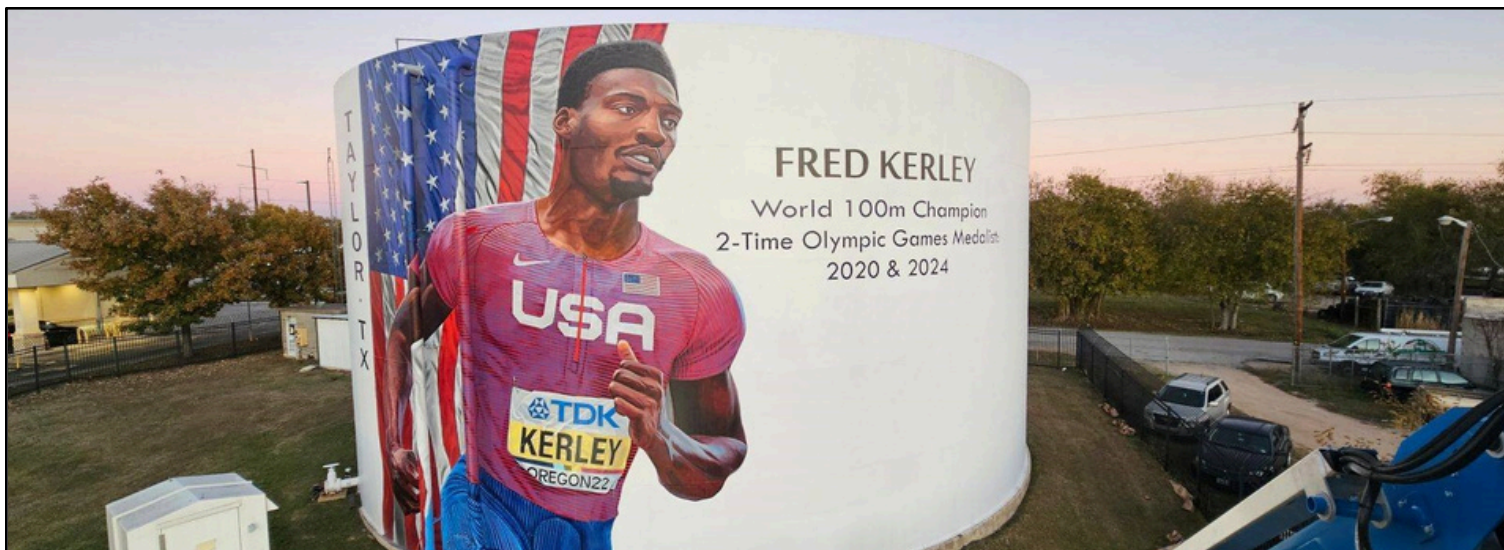
The City of Taylor is thankful to the community members who participated in the rigorous screening and interview process including Jeff Snyder, Jim Buzan, Ben White, and Dr. Jennifer Garcia-Edwardsen. The position was extremely competitive with over 120 applicants, virtual interviews, three-panel interviews, individual interviews, and a meet and greet.

PROJECT UPDATES

As part of our ongoing commitment to improving the quality of life in Taylor, we're excited to provide an update on key projects around the city.

Whether it's infrastructure improvements, park enhancements, public safety initiatives, or new city programs, you'll find everything you need to stay connected and engaged.

Touching Up the Fred Kerley Mural



Visitors may have noticed some fresh paint added to the Fred Kerley mural painted on the Ford Storage Tank along Main Street. On December 10 and 11, local artist Adam Davenport worked to update the mural to add Kerley's most recent bronze medal win in the Men's 100m at the Paris Olympics this past summer to his 2020 Olympic Games silver medal from the Tokyo Olympics. The mural also lists his 100-meter win during the 2022 World Athletic Championship in Eugene, Oregon.

Davenport originally worked on the mural in October 2022 and it was completed in January 2023. Davenport is a Taylor native and is known for his versatility in realism and portraiture.

FILING PERIOD FOR MAY 3, 2025 BALLOT

The City of Taylor will hold a general election on May 3, 2025, to elect council members from District 1 and District 4. The filing period for submitting an application for a place on the ballot for either of these seats is January 15 through February 14.

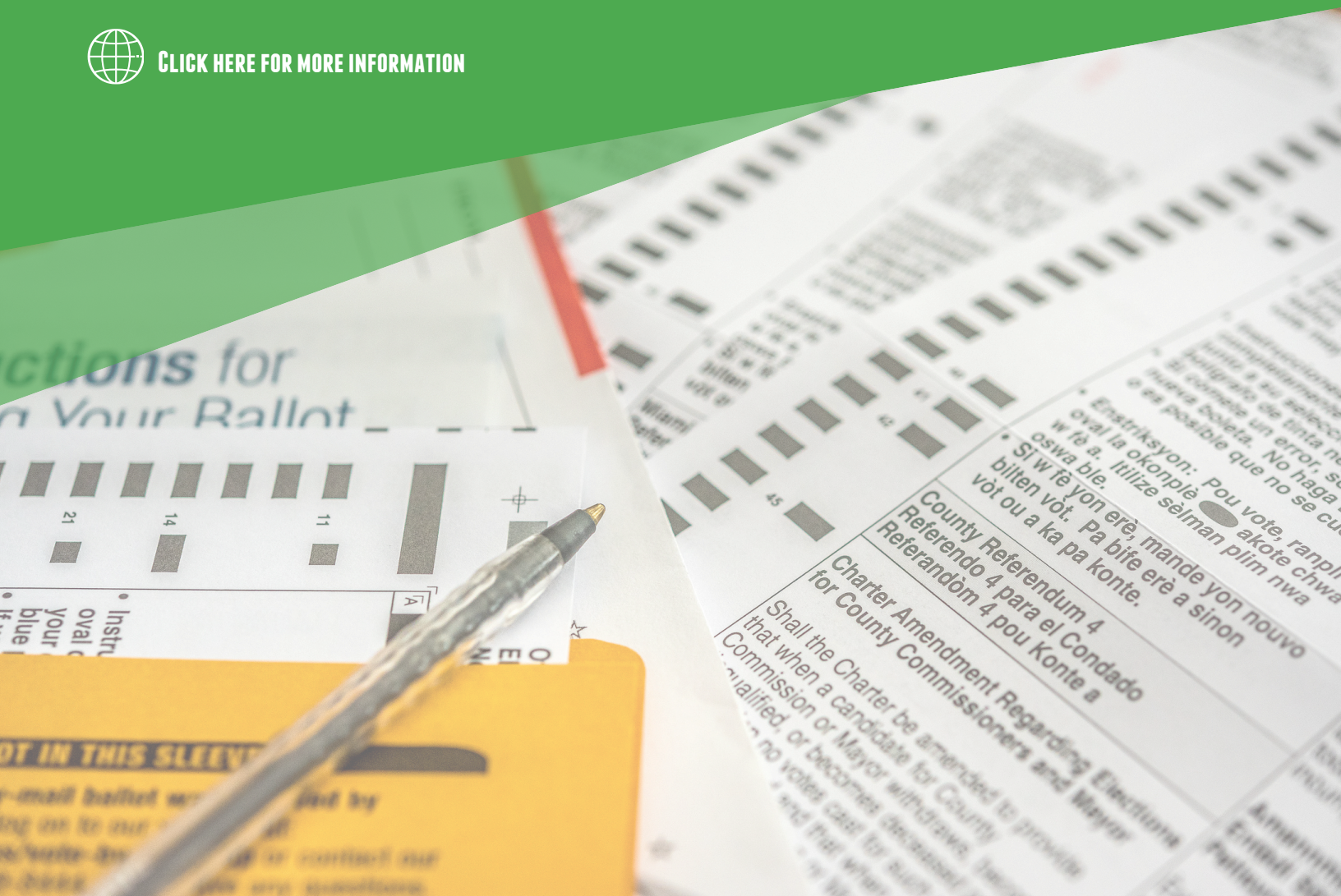
Qualifications for Office

Candidates for mayor and council member shall meet the qualifications for elective office as established in the Texas Elections Code. In addition, per the City of Taylor Charter, candidates must reside within the district during the Council member's term of office. Each council member shall be a resident and a qualified voter of the City; shall not be indebted to the City; nor hold any other elective or appointed public office that comes with payment or benefits. Council members shall not have a conflict of interest with the City as determined under the laws of the State of Texas. A conflict of interest between a council member and the City Council is defined by Chapter 171 of the Texas Local Government Code as written or subsequently amended and upon compliance with Chapter 171 the conflict of interest shall be deemed properly disclosed. Any council member who shall cease to possess any qualifications herein required shall immediately forfeit and vacate such office.

Interested parties can contact the City Clerk's office for a candidate packet at 512-352-3676 or visit the City's website.



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



MEMORIAL FIELD TRACK RESURFACING

Project Overview

The running track at Memorial Field in Murphy Park had significant issues with the surface and asphalt and was in dire need of replacement. The track is used by many residents as part of their wellness routine. In December 2022, the City received a capital grant from the St. David's Foundation to help with the replacement of the track. Samsung Quality of Life funds are also being used to fund the project as well as funds from the City's general fund.

January Update

Construction began on the track in October 2024 and the base and asphalt were both completed in December. The project is expected to be completed toward the end of January. Once completed, the running track will feature six lanes with a synthetic rubber surface and new striping. There will also be the addition of curbing inside and outside the perimeter of the track.

Stay tuned to the City's website and social media channels for an announcement on a date for the official ribbon cutting ceremony and be sure to come out and help us celebrate!



**CLICK HERE TO STAY UP TO DATE
ON PROJECT UPDATES**

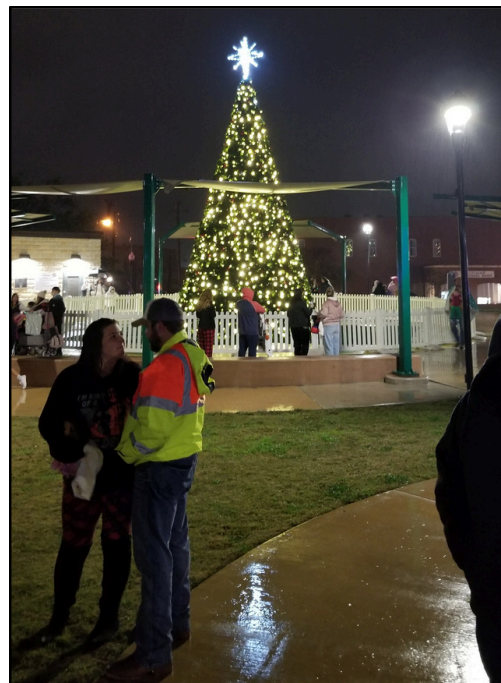


IN CASE YOU MISSED IT ...

Christmas Parade | December 7



Tree Lighting Ceremony | December 7



SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS

When a disaster strikes, don't be in the dark!

Sign up for local alerts from the City of Taylor through Warn Central Texas. Be the first to receive critical alerts from the City regarding natural disasters, weather warnings, evacuation notices, boil water notices, and missing child reports.

Alerts can be sent via a phone call, text alert, and/or email notification.

What is Warn Central Texas?

Warn Central Texas uses a regional notification system (RNS) called Everbridge as a critical public safety tool. The web-based tool is available to the City to alert our residents to emergency and non-emergency situations. We encourage all residents to sign up for local alerts, and there is an option to receive automated warnings - tornado, severe thunderstorm, or flash flood - from the National Weather Service. It is a free service offered to local partners through the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG).

How to sign up

Scan the QR code below or go to www.warncentraltexas.org to sign up and start receiving emergency alerts.

Sign up here!



APPLY TO BE ON A BOARD OR COMMISSION

The City of Taylor is inviting residents to help make a meaningful impact on their community by volunteering to serve on one of the City's Boards and Commissions. Currently, the City has over 90 volunteers already contributing to the progress and development of Taylor. The City is continually looking for those interested in serving to submit applications for consideration when Council fills vacancies.

City Boards and Commissions offer residents a chance to lend their perspectives on various issues, ranging from historic preservation to economic development.

These groups play a vital role in advising City Council on making important decisions that affect the Taylor community.

Appointments to the City's Boards and Commissions are made each February and August by City Council. Applications are accepted year-round and any resident interested in volunteering is encouraged to submit their application.

A list of the City's current 13 Boards and Commissions along with descriptions of each can be

found on the City's website at www.taylortx.gov. Residents can also find a board application on the website which can be completed online or dropped off at City Hall. For any questions, please contact the City Clerk's office at 512-352-3676.



CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION



CITY MEETINGS



7

Special Called Joint Meeting with TEDC

11:30 AM | TAYLOR PUBLIC LIBRARY | 801 VANCE ST.

9

City Council Meeting

6:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST

14

Tree Advisory Board Meeting

5:45 PM | DICKEY GIVENS COMMUNITY CENTER | 1015 BLVD. MLK JR.

14

Planning & Zoning Commission

6:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST

15

Main Street Advisory Board

5:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST

15

Tax Increment Finance #1 Board

5:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST

15

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting

6:00 PM | DICKEY GIVENS COMMUNITY CENTER | 1015 BLVD. MLK JR.

15

Public Arts Advisory Board

5:30 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST

23

City Council Meeting

6:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST

30

Special Called Joint Meeting with Planning & Zoning Commission

6:00 PM | TAYLOR PUBLIC LIBRARY | 801 VANCE ST.

JANUARY

COMMUNITY EVENTS



15

Doris Roznovak Aquatic Center Groundbreaking

5:30 PM | MURPHY PARK

20

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration March

9:00 AM | HERITAGE SQUARE

CLOSURES

1

All City of Taylor Offices will be closed January 1 for New Year's Day.

20

All City of Taylor Offices will be closed January 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

TRASH PICKUP

Waste Services will be closed on January 1. Trash pick-up for the rest of the week will be delayed by one day.



PARKS EVENTS

M

Zumba

MONDAYS | 6:00 PM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE | MURPHY PARK

T

Senior Fit

TUESDAYS | 10:30 AM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE | MURPHY PARK

T

Pilates

TUESDAYS | 6:00 PM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE | MURPHY PARK

T

Track Time

TUESDAYS | 6:30 PM | MEMORIAL FIELD TRACK

W

Yoga

WEDNESDAYS | 6:30 PM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE | MURPHY PARK

TH

Drum Fit

THURSDAYS | 6:00 PM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE | MURPHY PARK

TH

Track Time

THURSDAYS | 6:30 PM | MEMORIAL FIELD TRACK

F

Senior Fit

FRIDAYS | 11:00 AM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE | MURPHY PARK

S

Boot Camp

SATURDAYS | 9:00 AM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE | REGISTER AT TAYLORTX.GOV

S

Drum Fit

SATURDAYS | 10:00 AM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE | MURPHY PARK

Basketball Clinic

JANUARY 6, 7, AND 8

- AGES 6-9 @ 10:00 AM
 - AGES 11-12 @ 11:00 AM
- \$25 PER PLAYER

TAYLOR MIDDLE SCHOOL
HOSTED BY COACH JONES

Click here to join!

JANUARY

New Year, New You! Free classes January 1 - January 11

LIBRARY EVENTS

TAYLOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

4

Puzzle Swap

2:30 PM

6

Baby Time

10:30 AM

8

Senior Social

2:00 PM

13

Baby Time

NOON | FAMILY EVENT

13

Grief Support

6:30 PM

17

Home School Social

1:00 PM

22

Senior Social

2:00 PM

23

Nailed It or Failed It

5:00 PM | TEENS

27

Grief Support

6:30 PM

WEEKLY

T

Hooks and Needles

TUESDAYS | 9:00 AM

W

Story Time

WEDNESDAYS | 10:30 AM

TH

Chair Yoga

THURSDAYS | 9:30 AM

TH

Chair Massage

THURSDAYS | 10:30 AM

CLOSURES

1

The Library will be closed January 1.

18

The Library will be closed January 18 and January 20.

27

The Library will be closed January 27-31 for inventory.

COUNCIL CONNECTION

COUNCIL MEETING RECAP VIDEOS

The Council Connection video series provides a recap of what happened at each Council meeting. They are released within a week following each meeting.



December 12 Meeting

CITY HALL/JUSTICE CENTER
PROJECT, MOBILE SHOWER
PROPOSAL, FULL-TIME KENNEL
TECHNICIAN POSITION,
COMMUNICATIONS ...



View all past meetings at TaylorTX.gov/Videos

STAY CONNECTED!

Would you like to stay in the know about all things City of Taylor? Sign up today!



Emergency Notifications

SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS



City Newsletter

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THIS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



City Web News

RECEIVE THE LATEST AS IT HAPPENS



Meeting/Event Reminders

RECEIVE REMINDERS OF UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

SOCIAL MEDIA



The City of Taylor can be found on these social platforms.



VISIT HISTORIC DOWNTOWN

CITY OF TAYLOR COUNCIL



Left to Right: Gerald Anderson (District 1), Shelli Cobb (District 2),
Mayor Dwayne Ariola (At-Large), Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Cmerek
(District 3), Robert Garcia (District 4)