

A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



Mr. Isaac Turner, City Manager, speaks to the crowd during the Memorial Day Salute Program held at Murphy Park Pavilion May 30, 2016.

In June, the City Council and I met for a strategic planning and visioning update session to discuss the goals that were previously set in November of 2015 and align priorities in the three pillars of Economic Vitality, Quality of Life and Transportation/Infrastructure.

Through these types of planning sessions, the Council and I are able to have in-depth discussion about positioning Taylor for future growth while establishing common goals that best serve the community.

Among the discussion topics were the achievements that the City has celebrated since our last session in November. These include:

- Relocation of Noren Products & Summit Cabinets
- Williamson County Expo Center Expansion
- McCrory-Timmerman/Tidsworth Building renovation
- Award-winning Downtown Master Plan
- Multiple new business openings in the historic Downtown area & other parts of Taylor
- Significant increase in Single Family home permits
- New, state of the art fire apparatus
- Numerous awards and grants benefiting the community
- Transportation/Infrastructure needs addressed

City staff and I will continue to work towards accomplishing the 5-year strategic goals of the council. If you would like to view these goals, visit www.taylor.tx.gov/councilgoals

-Isaac Turner

LEAD TAYLOR TAKES CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TO NEW LEVEL

On Sept. 15, the new LEAD Taylor program will hold its first class for the new cohort. This civic education course will focus on collaborative, community minded classes taught by City and Chamber staff and guest speakers. Graduates can expect to be exposed to multiple facets of government operations and gain valuable experience in leadership, teamwork, community planning and more.

We have two exciting additions to this years program which includes a community service project and leadership course. Participants will work with the United Way of Williamson County for the community service project that meets the needs of a group or issue facing our community.

LEAD
LEAD
LEADING > EXPLORING > ADVANCING > DEVELOPING
TAYLOR

Our leadership course will offer 5+ hours of leadership development, ethics, and integrity coursework that class goers can use for self improvement, personal and professional development. This coursework will be offered through the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool.

"I believe this course is important because it informs us and helps us understand how our city functions and how we can most effectively engage in our community. For anyone that calls Taylor home, this is time well invested!"

-Jeff Ripple, LEAD Taylor Graduate 2014

Another great addition to this years curriculum is a tour of the State Capitol in Austin. Participants will get an in-depth view of our state government at work and see the pristine architecture and design of the capitol building.

LEAD Taylor is a joint effort between the City and Chamber of Commerce and will be held over a 9-month period with classes on the third Thursday of each month from noon to 5 p.m. The cost of the course will be \$50 and interested applicants can contact Rocio Lopez by phone (512-352-3774) or email (rocio.lopez@taylor.tx.gov) for more information or visit www.taylor.tx.gov/LEAD.

CITY AWARDED \$50,000 FOR AMY YOUNG BARRIER REMOVAL PROGRAM

The City of Taylor has been notified of their award for \$50,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to leverage the existing Amy Young Barrier Removal Program.

The USDA funding will be used to supplement the money designated by the Amy Young Program to fix homes with health and safety needs in the community.

The Amy Young Barrier Removal Program provides one-time grants of up to \$20,000 for persons with disabilities who need modifications to increase accessibility and eliminate hazardous conditions in their home. Program beneficiaries must include a person with disability, must have a household income that does not exceed 80% of the area median family income, and may be tenants or homeowners.

Since March of 2012, 29 homes have been completed with accessibility modifications and health and safety rehabilitations in Taylor.

HAVE YOU HEARD? TAYLOR IS BOOMING WITH NEW BUSINESS

There have been numerous new businesses and companies that have selected Taylor as their permanent home. Most recently, the Taylor Economic Development Corporation announced that Noren Products, a technology company, would be relocating their headquarters from California to Taylor. This move will create 40 new jobs with wages averaging \$45,000 per year and is slated to open in May 2017.

In Downtown Taylor, there has been more hustle and bustle as business have opened their doors in our historic district. Residents are now enjoying two new coffee shops - 4th Street Grind and Curbside Coffee House - as well as the Texas Beer Company, Lucky Loo's Sweet Treats, 2nd Street Vintage and Gifts and Amy's Attic to name a few.

We are also looking forward to these other business who will be opening soon - Taylor Station on 2nd St. and a farm to table deli next to Curbside Coffee House.



TPD TO CONDUCT IMPAIRED DRIVING MOBILIZATION

The Taylor Police Department will be conducting driving while intoxicated (DWI) enforcement from Aug. 19 - Sept. 5. Drivers are reminded that drinking and driving is illegal and drivers convicted of DWI in Texas could face costs up to \$17,000 plus possible jail time, limited career prospects and loss of driver's license.

Drivers are strongly urged to have a plan for a sober ride before going out. Visit www.soberrides.org to locate alternatives to drinking and driving including:

- Calling a taxi or using a transportation app on your phone
- Using mass transit
- Asking a sober friend or family member for a ride home
- Spending the night

LIBRARY RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

The LearningExpress Library has many modules for learning: study for the GED test in English and in Spanish, study for the ASVAB with sample tests & tutorials; get help on college entrance tests such as the SAT, ACT and more. There's a module for learning computer skills with simple video tutorials and self-paced study, and brush up on your math & grammar skills, in English as well as Spanish.

This is a free database for patrons of the Taylor Public Library. Ask library staff for the log-in and password or log in to your library account via the TPL catalog to get access to Learning Express and more. Call 512-352-3434 for assistance.

REMINDER FROM WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The City of Taylor WWTP would like to provide a friendly reminder to residents about flushable materials. Although some products and wipes are advertised as "flushable," not all products decompose and they can get caught in the wastewater treatment plant screens and filters causing the need for costly repairs.

As a reminder the following items should not be flushed in the toilet: diapers, paper towels, facial tissue, baby and adult wipes, cotton swabs, cotton balls, hair, gum and candy wrappers, facial pads, dental floss, cigarettes, scoops of kitty litter, women's hygiene products, all purpose cleaning wipes, dead goldfish, and band-aids.

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

August

21-22 INTERNATIONAL BBQ COOK-OFF

This event brings together the best master cooks from across the state to Circleville Store - 5 miles north of Taylor. Two days packed with entertainment, heated competition and superb BBQ! Call 512-352-6848 or visit www.circlevillestore.com for more information.

21 THIRD THURSDAY SHOPPING & MOVIES IN THE PARK

Peruse Downtown Taylor for local Taylor Made treasures in the shopping district where stores are open late until 8 p.m.

Summer movies in the park will be showing Zootopia beginning at dusk in Heritage Square. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating.

27 KID FISH

The Annual Kid Fish will be held at Bull Branch Park from 9 a.m. - noon for children under the age of 16. Prizes will be awarded in multiple categories. Registration starts at 8:30.



HOLIDAY CLOSURES

City offices will be closed on the following day(s):

September 5, 2016 - Labor Day

Normal garbage schedule

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursdays - August 11 & 25

All meetings begin at 6 p.m. and are held at City Hall. View online at www.taylor.tx.gov or through City of Taylor mobile app.