

A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



With the summer months in full swing, the potential for inclement weather increases throughout the Central Texas region and Taylor is always susceptible to the impacts of these weather events.

City Staff has worked diligently to improve processes for emergency communication, updated emergency management plans and procedures and received training to better provide assistance during emergencies.

An important part of preparing for emergencies such as natural disasters and severe weather includes having plans to communicate situational information to our residents. One means of communicating in an emergency is through Blackboard Connect. The City offers emergency communication notification for all residents free of charge through Blackboard Connect. This service offers notification of emergency messages through text, phone call or email. Residents can sign up online at <http://bit.ly/1SVCpcd>

Another great resource for emergency notification is through the Capital Area Council of Governments Regional Notification System. This notification tool alerts residents to events happening in the Central Texas area, including Williamson & Travis Counties. Sign up online by visiting <http://bit.ly/1VeB6Lo>.

In addition to these resources mentioned, the City posts relevant emergency messages on our social media channels including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and on our website, www.taylor.tx.gov as well as using traditional news media.

City Staff and our Emergency Management Coordinator, Fire Chief Pat Ekiss, continually look for ways to improve our emergency communication with our citizens through advanced technology and new methods of reaching people.

-Isaac Turner

TRANSPORTATION USER FEE TAKES EFFECT JUNE 1ST

The Transportation User Fee that was voted upon in February will take effect this month beginning on June 1. City of Taylor utility customers will see the fee added to their utility bills going forward.

The TUF establishes a dedicated revenue source in which the money raised can only be used for street repair, reconstruction and maintenance as well as sidewalk maintenance. The projected revenue that will be generated from the TUF is estimated to be more than \$700,000 annually.

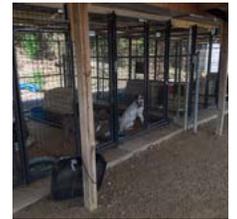
Residential customers will see a flat fee of \$8 added to their utility bills while commercial customers will see a fee ranging from \$25 - \$133 depending on whether they are in Tier 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6. The six tier structure is broken down as follows:

Tier 1 - \$25 | Tier 2 - \$33 | Tier 3 - \$50 | Tier 4 - \$67 | Tier 5 - \$84 | Tier 6 - \$133
A mock billing example was included in May's utility bills to help customers understand what the fee will look like once it takes effect. An example of that mock billing was also included in the May edition of the Community Connection newsletter as well as posted on the City's website, www.taylor.tx.gov.

Due to the amount of roads in need of maintenance, repair and reconstruction in Taylor - more than 59 miles - road/project prioritization will take time to establish and is not currently available. City staff will be working diligently to produce a street reconstruction and maintenance project list that will be included in the Capital Improvements Program and reviewed annually as a part of the budget development process.

ANIMAL SHELTER UPDATE

The Taylor Animal Shelter has seen many improvements over the last year and a half as focus has been highlighted on this important municipal facility. In 2015 alone, the shelter received numerous upgrades that included a new office building, new outdoor kennels and dividers, additional storage shelving, an enclosed exercise yard as well as repairs of concrete damage and interior fencing. Additionally, a video surveillance system and additional exterior lighting was added for increased security. The shelter also had two part-time kennel technician



position added to the staff roster and is under the supervision of a new Support Services Commander, Joseph Branson.

The Taylor Animal Shelter still has needs to be addressed this year and continuous improvements are being made to the facility as funding is available. A new sign has been purchased indicating hours of operation and contact information which was installed in March. The City is also looking into grants and funding to address needs such as replacing interior kennels, enclosing outdoor kennels and sealing concrete. Directional signage to the shelter facility is also being addressed by Taylor Police Department to help locate the facility from the road.

Lastly, the Cattainer project is still in progress with more than \$8,300 raised from Good Life Taylor and the Main Street Car Show. Progress on this project is ongoing and the outcome is to provide a modular housing facility for cats at the shelter.



SPOTLIGHT ON CODE ENFORCEMENT

DEBRIS REMOVAL - Our waste management service provider, Progressive Waste, has specific guidelines for debris/bulk items removal which includes:

- *Shrub, tree, brush trimmings, and newspapers/magazines must be securely tied together forming easily handled packages not exceeding 4 feet in length, 2 feet in diameter and 35 pounds in weight.*

- *Debris/trash must be placed curbside next to the waste containers on pickup day.*

- *Bulky waste pickup is provided once a week at one item per residential unit. Buildup of debris/trash is a violation of City ordinance and may be subject to ticketing from a Code Enforcement Official. Questions? Contact 512-352-3863.*

7 GRADUATE FROM 2ND CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY



The Taylor Fire Department recently graduated its second cohort of Citizens Fire Academy members in April. This newly formed support group was started in April 2015 as a means to meet the needs of our fire department during responses to emergencies, day or night. The CFA members attend a rigorous, 3-month course to be enabled to fill this critical role.

One of the spin-off purposes of the training is to seek assistance from interested and qualified citizens to fill this void in the Fire Department's response matrix.

Having gone through weeks of training learning all aspects of the fire department, this group is now ready to answer the call to care for our firefighters. The Response Support Team currently consists of 13 Taylor citizens.

TAYLOR LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAMS ANNOUNCED

The Taylor Public Library Summer Reading Program will begin on June 8. There will be multiple fun and exciting programs offered throughout the summer for children, teens and adults alike!

Wednesdays in June and July will feature various kid-friendly shows including magicians, chemistry road shows and mad science. All shows begin at 10:30 a.m.

Every Monday through June and July, the Library will host a movie starting at 2:30 p.m. and features include:

June 6 - Inside Out (PG)

June 13 - Minions (PG)

June 20 - Tomorrowland (PG)

June 27 - The Good Dinosaur (PG)

July 11 - Goosebumps (PG)

July 13 - Ant-Man (PG-13)

July 20 - Age of Ultron (PG-13)

Thursdays will feature teen/tween and family programs at 2:30 p.m. and adult programming will be spread throughout the summer months that includes adult coloring, crafts and blind date with a book.

Funding for the Library's Summer Reading Program is possibly through the efforts of the Friends of the Library.

MAIN STREET PROGRAM EARNS NATIONAL ACCREDITATION



This year, the Taylor Main Street Program was once again one of 58 Texas cities to earn national accreditation as a designated Main Street community.

Accredited programs are recognized for showing above average performance in 10 categories including planning, partnerships, volunteer effort, preservation ethics and more.

The Taylor Main Street program is managed by Deby Lannen.

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

June

8 LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Join the Taylor Public Library for the Summer Reading Program which begins on June 8 and runs through the end of July. Movies, shows and loads of fun await participants. For more info & full schedule, visit taylortx.gov/library.

17-19 JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION & BILL PICKETT DAY

The Blackshear/O.L. Price Ex-Student Association will host the Juneteenth celebration in Fannie Robinson Park. A meet & greet will be held on Friday with a gospel brunch and pageant on Saturday. Sunday evening will be host to a music under the stars event.

July

4 INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The City's annual Fourth of July celebration will take place in Murphy Park with a fireworks show starting at dusk. The event is free.



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursdays - June 9 & 23

All meetings begin at 6 p.m. and are held at City Hall.

FEATURED EVENT

MOVIES IN THE PARK



Summer movies in the park will relocate to historic Heritage Square and take place during each Third Thursday over the summer. Movies begin at dusk.

June 16 - Lego Movie

July 21 - Aladdin

August 18 - Zootopia