

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



City Council members and staff review a report presented at Taylor Public Library at the end of 2017 about the Strategic Combined Facilities Master Plan, presented by Sledge Engineering.

A new year is filled with fresh opportunities and time to complete what was started the previous year. For the Taylor City Council, review of the Strategic Combined Facilities Master Plan at the end of 2017 showed them the needs and potential costs of city projects across all departments: water, wastewater, the treatment plant, drainage system, streets, sidewalks, the municipal airport, parks and city facilities.

Council members will use this information to develop a Community Capital Investment Plan in Spring 2018.

I look forward to what the new year brings, and remain happy to serve Taylor citizens as its City Manager for my third year. I wish you and your loved ones a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Isaac Turner
Taylor City Manager

2018

JEFFERY JENKINS HIRED AS ASST. CITY MANAGER

The search for a new Assistant City Manager is complete; Jeffery Jenkins began work with the City of Taylor on Wednesday, November 29, 2017.

Jenkins has worked previously as either a City Manager or Assistant City Manager at various cities in Texas and Oklahoma: Cactus, Henrietta and Lucas, and most recently with the City of Broken Arrow, OK. He most recently worked as a private business consultant. Jenkins holds a Master's of Public Administration from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, TX. He will reside in Taylor with his wife, Brandy.



"We are very pleased that Mr. Jenkins has accepted the position with Taylor," said City Manager Isaac Turner. "Staff and I look forward to working with him. His level of experience and understanding of the workings of city government will be a real asset to our organization."

Among his list of accomplishments, Jenkins' experience includes management of city growth issues, development of strategic plans, successes in developing bond programs, oversight of building a new conference center and negotiation of labor contracts. He is actively involved in the International City/County Management Association, has been a member of Kiwanis, served on boards of directors for government organizations, and won various awards during his career.

"I'm excited to join the City of Taylor," said Jenkins. "The city has a nice downtown and a wonderful quality of life. I look forward to working on the projects and getting to know the residents of the community."

He is responsible for assisting Turner in planning and managing city programs, departments and services. Jenkins will have responsibilities for implementing policies established by the City Council and City Manager, and directing the departments as assigned by the City Manager.

NEW SKATEPARK IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Earthmovers have been busy as the first phase of a new skatepark in Downtown Taylor will soon be a reality.

Evergreen Skateparks of Portland, Ore., started work on the project in early December. The site is located on Porter Street, between Third and Fourth Streets. Watch the city's website and social media for photos as it takes shape!



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PARK PROJECTS ARE MOVING ALONG IN 2018

A number of Parks and Recreation Department projects were completed or started in 2017, and others are on the table for the new year. The City of Taylor is committed to expanding quality of life opportunities for its citizens, and knows that recreational projects are at the top of everyone's list. Here's how things look going into 2018:

Robinson Park: All ball field fencing was replaced in summer 2017. Regrading on the infield is planned as are improvements to the site drainage. Other improvements will be adding shade structures and concrete pads for the bleacher areas and dugouts. All should be complete by March 2018. The splash pad is due to be finished by January 31, and will open in March. Part of the area may be repurposed into a soccer or multi-use field, to be decided. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held in March.

Heritage Square Park: Project estimates were considered at the December City Council meeting. The renovation is set to be completed sometime in Spring 2018.

Pickleball Courts: Three new courts in Murphy Park were opened in November and a ceremony held.

Taylor Regional Park & Sports Complex: The City will learn in March if a grant application from Texas Parks and Wildlife for expansion to add two soccer fields, trails, batting cages and shade areas for the playground and concession stands is successful.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR EMERGENCY NOTICES?

The City of Taylor sends residents information about emergencies via the Capital Area Council of Governments Regional Notification System, called CodeRED. Citizens may sign up to receive alerts by email, phone or text. Register your individual or family contact information online at: warncentraltexas.org. If already registered, please double-check your information for accuracy or to make changes.



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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

January

1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! (CITY OFFICES CLOSED)

City offices and facilities will reopen for business on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

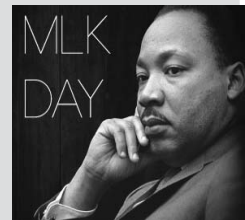
10 COFFEE WITH A COP

Join Taylor Police Department officers for an informal social gathering at Curb Side Coffee House, 114 W. 2nd St.



15 MLK MARCH

Join Taylor community members for a parade honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. starting at Robinson Park at 9 a.m. A program follows at City Hall Auditorium.



18 THIRD THURSDAY SHOPPING NIGHT

Head to Main Street where the downtown merchants are open late, offering special sales. Everyone is invited!

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

City offices will be closed on the following days:

Monday, January 1 | New Year's Day
(Trash service delayed one day all week.)

Monday, January 15 | MLK Jr. Day

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursday - January 11 and 25
All meetings begin at 6 p.m. and are held at City Hall. Watch meetings live online or taped recordings at www.taylor tx.gov.