



# TUKWILA CITY PAGES

The City of Opportunity  
*The Community of Choice*

Aug 2017

## Mayor's Message



### The qualities of leadership

In recognition of the passing of former Mayor Steve Mullet, I'd like to tell you about a professional development program the City has implemented for City employees. The Leadership Challenge (LeadershipChallenge.com) program asserts that "Leadership is not about personality; it's about behavior – an observable set of skills and abilities." Leadership isn't even about the position a person holds within an organization; anyone at any level of an organization can be a leader. Steve believed in that philosophy.

The Leadership Challenge identifies five key practices:

- Model the way
- Inspire a shared vision
- Challenge the process
- Enable others to act
- Encourage the heart

Being a good and effective leader is about modeling the behavior you want to see, building strong relationships, and inspiring and empowering people to work toward shared goals. We all have opportunities to show leadership qualities, whether at home or in the workplace, volunteering, or even offering up our seat on the bus. Tukwila has had many great leaders, both on and off the dais.

I want to take this opportunity to talk about one in particular that we recently lost, former Mayor Steve Mullet. Steve owned and operated a small family construction business, building and working on many homes in Tukwila. He became a City Councilmember in 1992 and served two terms. He was elected and served as Tukwila's first full-time Mayor for two terms before retiring in 2008. As Mayor, he left a significant mark on this community, including taking over Tukwila International Boulevard from the State which led to improvements throughout the corridor, acquiring Fort Dent and the Tukwila Pool from the County, and the South 180th Grade Separation Project that made the railroad crossing significantly safer, saving lives.

After retiring as Mayor, Steve served on the Tukwila School Board, most recently as the School Board President. He and his wife Bonnie raised their family of three boys in this community that they love, and recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Steve was a great leader and advocate for his community, while participating in many volunteer activities, including the Southcenter Rotary Club. Just a week before his passing, he helped to build the new KaBOOM playground at Cascade View Community Park on July 8.

Steve was a good friend to my wife and me. We annually hiked together for several years, he did construction work for us, and we always enjoyed his company and discussions. He will be truly missed.

*Allan Ekberg*  
Allan Ekberg, Mayor

### Memorial service for Mayor Steve Mullet

A Life Celebration is scheduled for Sunday, August 27 at 2:00PM, at Foster High School's Performing Arts Center.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested contributions to the Southcenter Rotary Scholarship Fund in Mayor Mullet's name.

Donate:  
SouthcenterRotary.org,  
or  
Rotary Club of Southcenter  
PO Box 88744  
Tukwila, WA 98188

### Advance notice of traffic challenges

Drivers who travel across the Green River on South 180th Street will need to plan a temporary alternate route to use. The South 180th Street Bridge will be closed for construction beginning September 15 and reopen to traffic on September 25. The closure runs from SR 181 (West Valley Highway) to Sperry Drive. Detour signs will be posted to guide motorists and pedestrians around the work site. The 10-day closure is for grinding and overlay work on the bridge deck.



### Get a digital peek into your physical mailbox

Have you ever wondered if something important is arriving in today's mail – did my bank statement/new credit card/IRS refund check finally get here? The United States Postal Service is offering a new FREE service that gives you a preview of what should be in your mailbox when you get home. The service, called Informed Delivery, emails subscribers black and white pictures of card- and letter-size mail pieces that are due to arrive that day. Each morning that mail is being processed and delivered, users will receive an email notification before 11 am, providing up to 10 images and a link to view the rest if they received more than 10 first-class mail pieces. (Images cannot be provided for mail not handled via automation.)

This service is especially helpful for people with roommates (know what to expect, no matter who goes to the mailbox), or folks who travel (unpaid bill? jury duty?). Mail theft continues to be a serious problem, enabling identity thieves to get personally identifying information to commit their crimes. Informed Delivery can help highlight a problem, if an important piece of mail that was supposed to be delivered isn't in the mailbox.

The Postal Service does not open any mail; this is simply a digital scan of the address side of the envelope. The Postal Service has been using the scanning technology since the 1990s, because it's how their automated equipment sorts mail for delivery by ZIP Code and street address. Now they're making those scans available to its consumers.

Interested parties can sign up at [InformedDelivery.USPS.com](http://InformedDelivery.USPS.com). Once signed up, USPS will send a physical letter with a verification code needed to start the service. Users can also view the images which are available for seven days on their account dashboard. (For an extra level of security against hackers, remember to give your account a strong password so only you will know when something of value to criminals is coming to your mailbox.)

**HOUSING REPAIR PROGRAMS**

**HOME REPAIR LOANS**

0% INTEREST - NO MONTHLY PAYMENTS

For low- and moderate-income homeowners

**King County**

**REPAIR OR REPLACE:**

- Roofs
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Furnaces
- Septic systems
- Insulation
- Weatherization
- Mobile Home Repair

KingCounty.gov/HousingRepair

Department of Community and Human Services  
Housing Repair Programs

Eligibility requirements apply  
For more information, go to  
[KingCounty.gov/HousingRepair](http://KingCounty.gov/HousingRepair)

**EQUAL HOUSING LENDER**

Tukwila residents  
Call 206-263-9095  
TTY 711 Service

## Got weekend plans? Spend some time shopping for treasures at Tukwila's Annual Community Garage Sale! ONE DAY ONLY – Saturday, August 19 – list and map of locations at [TukwilaWA.gov/yardsale](http://TukwilaWA.gov/yardsale)

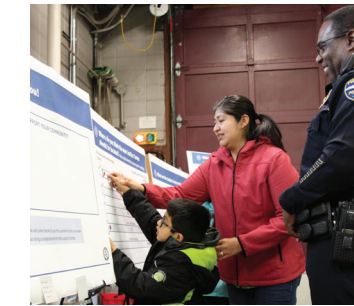
### Community gets another look at progress on Public Safety Plan

On August 10 the City held an Open House at Fire Station #54, providing an opportunity to catch up on what's been happening with Tukwila's voter-approved Public Safety Plan.

Couldn't join us on August 10 for the Open House? No problem! Please visit our interactive, virtual open house at

[TukwilaPublicSafetyPlan.participate.online/](http://TukwilaPublicSafetyPlan.participate.online/)

- Where you can:
- Get an update on public safety plan activities
  - Learn how we site fire stations
  - See maps of where new facilities could be located
  - See examples of buildings by the architects for the Fire Stations and Justice Center
  - Ask questions and give feedback



City of Tukwila  
**PUBLIC SAFETY PLAN**

### Trespass on City property

In an effort to deter criminal activities at City parks and other properties, the City of Tukwila recently passed a criminal trespass ordinance related to City facilities. Complaints from neighbors, patrons and City staff have increased and, before passage of this ordinance, law enforcement was limited to issuing civil infractions that were often ignored. With this change, police officers now have the ability, after at least one official warning, to trespass individuals on City-owned property. If individuals choose to ignore the trespass warning, they can be arrested and could be subject to misdemeanor criminal charges.

Because City facilities are publicly owned and serve the community, the ordinance was crafted with a series of graduated steps to provide one-time violators with the opportunity to regain access to City facilities. Also included is an administrative appeals process where an individual given a trespass warning can appeal the warning to Tukwila's City Administrator. In crafting the ordinance, City staff focused on balancing the need for stronger enforcement tools with a fair and detailed appeals process.

It is expected that this ordinance will apply to only a small number of people causing problems in some of our parks and other facilities. However, the goal is to affect the broader community by making patrons at City-owned facilities feel safer.

**Tukwila City offices will be closed on Monday, September 4, in observance of Labor Day.**



Scenes from recent "See You in the Park" events, hosted by Tukwila's Parks and Recreation Department



Visitors enjoy vehicles at Touch-A-Truck event in parking lot at Westfield Southcenter Mall

**Council Chat**

Council Chat is a monthly chance to stop by and informally speak with one of your Tukwila City Councilmembers about anything on your mind regarding your community.

Next Chat: Sat., Sept. 9

Let's get together to talk!  
10:00AM to 12:00PM  
in Tukwila Library's Meeting Room  
14380 Tukwila International Blvd.

COUNCIL CORNER

*by Kate Kruller, Councilmember*

Why do your City Councilmembers participate in boards and committees regionally and nationally? This activity goes well beyond the normally expected course of Council duties in our role to participate or even chair one of these organizations.

A key motivation is what we have to offer – in many cases, we bring previous professional experiences or a specific interest that we are passionate about, allowing us to contribute and advocate more for Tukwila by working through one of these organizations. Going this extra mile returns benefits to the community by:

- **Amplifying our ability to represent the people** that live and work in Tukwila and what they want at every level of government. By serving on both the Puget Sound Regional Council/Transportation Policy Board and the National League of Cities/Transportation, Infrastructure and Services Committee, I help extend the voice of Tukwila regionally by advocating for Transportation funding packages from Washington State and Washington D.C. That had not occurred for many years, and all of those efforts help garner grants and funding for Tukwila projects you see underway today.
- **Opening new opportunities to learn** and absorb as much information as possible to benefit Tukwila. After chairing the King County Regional Law, Safety and Justice Committee, where I set the agenda topics for these meetings, I continue to learn how other cities, the City of Seattle, King County and the State of Washington view and respond to important issues and plan for future needs regarding the criminal justice community in the region. Along with these policy makers, members of law enforcement, prosecution, all court levels, jails and corrections facilities and diversion programs are all at the table exchanging information. Topics discussed include Community-Oriented Policing programs, opioid epidemic treatment programs, drone use best practices and judicial reform, along with minority and social justice programs.
- **Creating avenues to work and collaborate with other cities** to protect, preserve and be heard on important issues by advocating together for policy and legislation. I currently serve as a member of the Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee (SCA/PIC). A representative from each of the 38 SCA member cities has a seat at the table and an equal vote. Together at regional meetings with policy makers from the City of Seattle, King County and State legislature, we get equal standing for the three million people we represent. I have seen regional planning, budget allocations and program focus change in favor of local interests and our community as a direct result of the work we do at PIC.

When you get a chance, be sure to talk with each of your City Councilmembers to find out how they serve you by making sure Tukwila is heard through regional and national committees, boards and associations – and what it means to our community.