



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Finance & Governance Committee
FROM: Laurel Humphrey, Legislative Analyst
DATE: December 7, 2021
SUBJECT: City Council Compensation Ordinance

ISSUE

The draft ordinance would retain City Council compensation at \$1250 per month for the years 2022-2023. Staff recommends re-evaluating this next year to consider the increase in the cost of living since this rate was established.

BACKGROUND

City Council compensation is adopted by ordinance and codified at Tukwila Municipal Code 2.05, which currently expires at the end of 2021.

TMC 2.05 provides that if “at any time the Tukwila City Council compensation rate of increase falls significantly below the cost of living increase,” it will be re-evaluated and possibly adjusted. The current compensation of \$1250 per month for all positions has been in place since 2014.

Because the Washington State Constitution prohibits any salary increase or decrease after an election and during the term of office for officials who set their own salary, the earliest City Council compensation could be adjusted is 2024 for positions 2, 4 and 6. Staff will return next year with a cost of living analysis and a review of neighboring jurisdictions’ City Council compensation.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff is seeking Council approval of an ordinance to establish City Council compensation for 2022-2023 and will prepare a proposal for 2024 and beyond for the Finance & Governance Committee next year.

ATTACHMENTS

Draft ordinance



City of Tukwila

Washington

Ordinance No. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUKWILA, WASHINGTON, AMENDING TUKWILA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.05.010 TO FIX THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION FOR COUNCILMEMBERS FOR YEARS 2022 AND 2023; REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2564; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2564 set City Council compensation levels for the years 2018 through 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to retain a conservative compensation that does not rise beyond the current scale; and

WHEREAS, due to the increase in the cost of living as measured by the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue Consumer Price Index (CPI-U), the City Council will reevaluate its compensation for 2024 and beyond as part of the budget development process;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUKWILA, WASHINGTON, HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. TMC Chapter 2.05 Amended. Chapter 2.05 of the Tukwila Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

2.05.010 Council Compensation

A. Monthly compensation levels. Pursuant to the provisions of RCW 35A.12.070, members of the Tukwila City Council shall receive the following monthly compensation during the years listed here according to their position and the date their term of office commences:

	POSITIONS 1, 3, 5, 7	POSITIONS 2, 4, 6
YEAR	<i>Term of Office:</i> 1/1/22 – 12/31/25	<i>Term of Office:</i> 1/1/20 – 12/31/23
2022	\$1,250/month	\$1,250/month
2023	\$1,250/month	\$1,250/month

B. Compensation review. At any time the Tukwila City Council compensation rate of increase falls significantly below the cost of living increase as measured by the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue Consumer Price Index (CPI-U), Tukwila will review the stipends and may increase the City Council stipend accordingly.

Section 2. Repealer. Ordinance No. 2564 is hereby repealed.

Section 3. Corrections by City Clerk or Code Reviser Authorized. Upon approval of the City Attorney, the City Clerk and the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including the correction of clerical errors; references to other local, state or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations; or ordinance numbering and section/subsection numbering.

Section 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance or its application to any person or situation should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance or its application to any other person or situation.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance or a summary thereof shall be published in the official newspaper of the City, and shall take effect and be in full force five days after passage and publication as provided by law.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUKWILA, WASHINGTON, at a Special Meeting thereof this _____ day of _____, 2021.

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

Christy O’Flaherty, MMC, City Clerk

Allan Ekberg, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM BY:

Filed with the City Clerk: _____
Passed by the City Council: _____
Published: _____
Effective Date: _____
Ordinance Number: _____

Office of the City Attorney