



THE HAZELNUT

A City of Tukwila publication for our residential and business community

VOLUME 24, NUMBER 3

MAY 2003

Mayor appreciates opportunity to discuss City's future and finances at Vision Tukwila meetings

Thanks to everyone who took the time to join us at the recent Vision meetings. The staff showed off the many neighborhood and business projects, and we were pleased at the response to our presentation on City revenues past, present and future.

For those who were unable to attend, let me give you a brief recap. Since the early 90's – when the annexations were completed and the City began to expand services to meet the needs of 10,000 additional citizens and five additional square miles of territory – we have actually lost about \$1.8 million per year in both property and sales tax revenue. Fortunately, the new growth we've experienced has offset these losses and allowed us to maintain the services expected, as well as meet the increased costs due to inflation. Unfortunately, the additional \$1.5 million per year tax shortfall during this current recession is another story altogether. It doesn't require a math major to realize that a \$3.3 million reduction of revenue translates to a lot of services left unfilled.

To offset these losses, the City has reduced staff wherever possible in relation to the lessening of service needs. As a result we are approximately at the same level today as we were in the mid-90's. We also implemented a small utility tax to replace enough revenue to stabilize the six-year planning model as we spend down some of the 2000-2001 surpluses generated by a very healthy building climate.

Whether you believe the glass is half empty or half full, the reality is that the majority of our service demands – dealing with public safety (46% of our General Fund Budget) – have not decreased. Our roads and bridges have not begun to miraculously repair themselves, and the needs for recreation, human services and utility assistance have increased as we deal with more of the population being unemployed.

(Continued on back cover)

**Annual Clean-up Coupon in this issue!
Look on the back cover**

Road to open soon at South 180th Street grade separation project



Pre-construction photo – taken in January 2002



Photo taken 4/27/03. The project nears completion; the ends are paved, and the middle section is being finished now. Final paving is slated for early June, to be followed by striping, signing and the long-awaited road opening. For the most up-to-date information, call 206-433-0179.



Artist's computer rendering of finished overpass

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

7:00PM in Council Chambers
Regular Mtgs 1st/3rd Mondays
Work Mtgs 2nd/4th Mondays
Agenda Info Line 206-431-3656

CITY OFFICES

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Municipal Court 206-433-1840
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Alan Doerschel, Dir 206-433-1835
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Fire Department
Nick Olivas, Chief 206-575-4404
Dept. of Community Development
Steven Lancaster, Dir. 206-431-3681
Code Enforcement 206-431-3682
Parks/Recreation Department
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Police Department
Keith Haines, Chief .. 206-433-1808
Public Works Department
Jim Morrow, Dir 206-433-0179
Dept. of Administrative Services
Viki Jessop, Dir 206-433-1831
City Clerk's Office 206-433-1800
Personnel 206-433-1831
City Job Line 206-433-1828
Emergency
Fire, Police, Aid Car 911

TUKWILA COMMUNITY CENTER

12424 - 42nd Avenue South
Recreation Division 206-768-2822
Senior Center/Services 206-768-2822

FOSTER GOLF LINKS

13500 Interurban Avenue South
Pro Shop 206-242-4221
Restaurant 206-241-5784

THE HAZELNUT

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(Continued from front page)

Nevertheless, the City's future is not that bleak. We are keeping up. Many Public Works projects funded by grants and developer contributions continue. Several private developments are in the works, including a new Federal Homeland Security Building, a major mall expansion, and several potential new projects. Our City government works every day to explore more efficient ways to get the job done.

Your Council remains committed to protecting the neighborhoods while looking for even more innovative ways to deal with density in the commercial areas. Even though no one likes to deal with this type of economy, we remain convinced that there are many opportunities still available to make this City a better place to live and work, every day.

Steve Mullet, Mayor

Those three little words everyone loves to hear: Free Dump Passes!

It's that popular time of year again, for demonstrating your neighborhood pride. Make your home – and our community – more livable by taking advantage of this opportunity to get rid of useless clutter in the garage, junk on the patio, trash around the yard... whatever your mess, the City of Tukwila is proud to help its citizens make their neighborhoods cleaner by providing a FREE COUPON for ONE TRIP to the dump!

Free disposal passes for Tukwila residents will be available June 16–27, at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall. City residents may claim one pass per household, with proof of residence (driver's license or recent utility bill with Tukwila address) AND the coupon on the back of this *Hazelnut* newsletter. Between June 20–29, items may be taken to the Bow Lake Transfer Station (18800 Orillia Road S., at S. 188th and I-5). Dump pass for transfer station is applicable to privately-licensed vehicles only (no contractor waste accepted). Regular restrictions apply regarding what the transfer station will and will not accept. Disposal passes will be good for 1 load of 2 tons or less; residents will be billed charges for disposals in excess of that amount.

COUPON

Bring this coupon – with mailing label intact – to City Hall for your FREE transfer station pass. This offer is for our RESIDENTIAL community only.
Coupon pick-up dates: June 16–27 only. Coupon in effect: June 20–29.

Print your name here:

THE HAZELNUT

City of Tukwila
6200 Southcenter Blvd.
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MAY 27 2003

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