

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



JANUARY 2026

VOL. 22 | ISSUE 1

YOUR CITY COUNCIL





MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

As we begin the new year, Taylor continues to build momentum through strategic investments, thoughtful planning, and a strong commitment to serving our community. From infrastructure improvements to community partnerships, the City remains focused on enhancing quality of life while preparing for future growth.

One of the most anticipated projects getting underway is the Donna Channel Drainage Improvements Project. This long-awaited effort represents a major step forward in addressing longstanding drainage challenges and reducing flood risk for nearby neighborhoods. We are excited to officially begin work on a project that will provide lasting benefits to residents who have been affected by flooding in this area.

2026 also marks a truly special milestone as Taylor celebrates its Sesquicentennial—150 years of history, growth, and community pride. A full slate of events is planned to commemorate this historic occasion. On our social media platforms, you'll find a video that provides an overview of the exciting activities planned throughout the year-long celebration.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support as we move forward into the exciting year ahead. On behalf of our City staff, I wish you all a happy, healthy, and successful 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Laborde". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "B" at the beginning.

CITY NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Free Christmas Tree Recycling

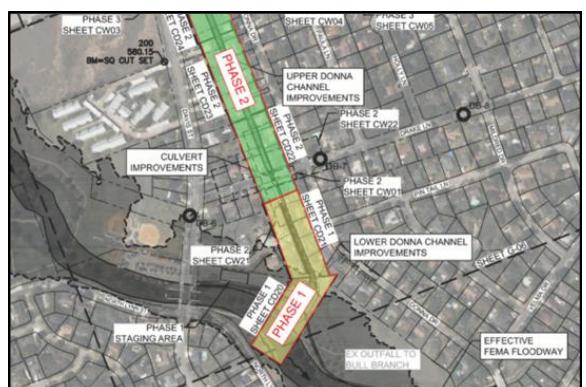
The City of Taylor is offering live Christmas tree recycling from January 1 through January 31. Trees must have all decorations, lights, ornaments, tinsel, and stands completely removed before drop-off. Trees may be dropped off at any time at the vacant lot located next to the Taylor Municipal Airport at 303 Airport Road.

[More Details Available Here](#)

Free Chlorine Burn

The City of Taylor public water system has temporarily converted the disinfectant use in the distribution system from chloramine to free chlorine. The conversion began on December 3 and will continue through January 6. During this period, residents in Taylor may experience taste or odor changes associated with this type of temporary disinfectant conversion. For questions, please contact the Utilities Department at 512-352-3251.

[Watch A Video About The Process](#)



Donna Channel Improvements Project Groundbreaking

This month, the City will host a groundbreaking ceremony for the Donna Channel Drainage Improvements Project. This project was identified as the top priority in the 2020 Drainage Master Plan. Planned improvements include repairing channel slopes, banks, and retaining walls; replacing the cross-culvert at Drake Lane; and replacing the pedestrian bridge in Bull Branch Park.

[More Information About The Donna Channel Project](#)

Justice Center & City Hall Update

Preparations for construction of the Justice Center are set to begin this month. The first phase of construction is expected to begin with the relocation of a sewer line and the permanent closure of Second Street between Washburn and Elliott. A groundbreaking ceremony for the Justice Center will be held in early 2026.

[Find Updates On The Justice Center Here](#)



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting | December 6



CITY MEETINGS



Historical Preservation Commission

6:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST.



City Council Meeting

6:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST.



Planning & Zoning Commission

6:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST



Public Arts Advisory Board

5:30 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST



Main Street Advisory Board

5:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST



Parks and Recreation Board

6:00 PM | DICKEY GIVENS COMMUNITY CENTER | 1015 BLVD. MLK JR.



City Council Meeting

6:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST.

JANUARY



COMMUNITY EVENTS

13

Taylor Second Saturdays

ALL DAY | DOWNTOWN

19

MLK Day March & Celebration

9:00 AM | MARCH BEGINS AT DICKEY-GIVENS COMMUNITY CENTER TO HERITAGE PARK FOR CELEBRATION

24

Taylor on Foot

10:00 AM | DISTRICT 2

TRASH PICKUP

Waste Services will be closed on January 1. Trash pick-up for the rest of the week will be delayed by one day

CLOSURES

1

All City of Taylor Offices will be closed Thursday, January 1, for New Year's Day

19

All City of Taylor Offices will be closed Monday, January 19, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day



PARKS EVENTS



Senior Fit

TUESDAYS | 10:30 AM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE



Pilates

TUESDAYS | 6:00 PM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE



Track Time/Walk 2 Run

TUESDAYS | 6:30 PM | MEMORIAL FIELD TRACK



Yoga

WEDNESDAYS | 6:30 PM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE



Butts 'N' Guts

THURSDAYS | 6:00 PM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE



Track Time/Walk 2 Run

THURSDAYS | 6:30 PM | MEMORIAL FIELD TRACK



Senior Fit

FRIDAYS | 10:30 AM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE

NOTICE

All Fitness Classes are
being offered for free
from Jan. 5 through Jan. 9

JANUARY

LIBRARY EVENTS

- 3** **LEGO Play**
10:00 AM
- 3** **Puzzle Swap**
12:30 PM
- 5** **Sensory Storytime**
11:00 AM
- 6** **Caregiver Support Group**
10:00 AM
- 6** **Taylor Talks**
6:00 PM
- 10** **Movie Day: "Ratatouille"**
10:00 AM
- 12** **Grief Support**
6:30 PM
- 13** **Homeschool Hangout**
1:00 PM
- 13** **Taylor History**
6:00 PM
- 16** **STEAM Challenge**
4:30 PM
- 20** **Senior Tech Class**
10:00 AM
- 20** **Date Night: '80s**
6:00 PM
- 24** **Sensory Hour**
10:00 AM
- 26** **Grief Support**
6:30 PM
- 27** **Teen Writers Circle**
4:30 PM
- 27** **Silent Book Club**
6:30 PM
- 31** **VITA Tax Help**
9:00 AM

WEEKLY

- M** **Chair Yoga**
MONDAYS | 9:30 AM
- W** **Storytime**
WEDNESDAYS | 10:30 AM
- W** **Senior Social**
WEDNESDAYS | 2:00 PM
- TH** **Chair Yoga**
THURSDAYS | 9:30 AM
- TH** **Chair Massage**
THURSDAYS | 10:30 AM
- F** **Senior Social**
FRIDAYS | 2:00 PM | DEC. 19 ONLY

CLOSURES

- 1** The Library will be closed Thursday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day

CLOSURES

- 17** The Library will be closed on Friday, Jan. 17, & Monday, Jan. 19, for MLK Jr. Day

COUNCIL CONNECTION

COUNCIL MEETING RECAP VIDEOS

The Council Connection video series provides a recap of what happened at each Council meeting. They are released within a week following each meeting.



December 11 Meeting

THE COUNCIL APPROVED AGREEMENTS FOR THE KIMBRO-SHAW DRAINAGE PROJECT, AUTHORIZED THE PURCHASE OF A RESCUE TRUCK FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, ESTABLISHED A CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE, AND APPROVED A TAX ABATEMENT AND INCENTIVE AGREEMENT WITH COMPAL USA TECHNOLOGIES.



View all past meetings at TaylorTX.gov/Videos

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SOCIAL MEDIA



The City of Taylor can be found on these social platforms.



CITY OF TAYLOR COUNCIL



Left to Right: Greg Redden (District 1), Shelli Cobb (District 2),
Mayor Dwayne Ariola (At-Large), Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Cmerek
(District 3), Heather Long (District 4)