



COMMUNITY CONNECTION



APRIL 2026

VOL. 22 | ISSUE 4

YOUR CITY COUNCIL





MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Here we are in April, and spring is definitely in the air. It's a time for new beginnings, and we're kicking off the season with a big one.

On Friday, April 10, at 10:30 a.m., we will officially break ground on the City Hall and Justice Center. This project has been in development since 2023 and represents a major investment in Taylor's future.

The City Hall and Justice Center will replace three City facilities that have long exceeded their intended lifespan—City Hall, the Police Department, and Municipal Court. Just as importantly, it will become the crown jewel of our downtown: a timeless building designed to serve our residents and support City services for generations to come. I invite everyone in the community to join us for this historic occasion.

Spring is also a time to refresh and clear out the things we no longer need. This month, residents will have two opportunities to safely dispose of unwanted items.

On April 4, Williamson County will host its annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection at the Williamson County Expo Center. Later in the month, on April 25, the City of Taylor and Waste Connections will partner once again for our annual Spring Citywide Cleanup.

These events provide a convenient way to dispose of hazardous materials and bulky items responsibly, helping keep our community clean and safe.

Brian Laborde

CITY NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



City Hall & Justice Center Groundbreaking

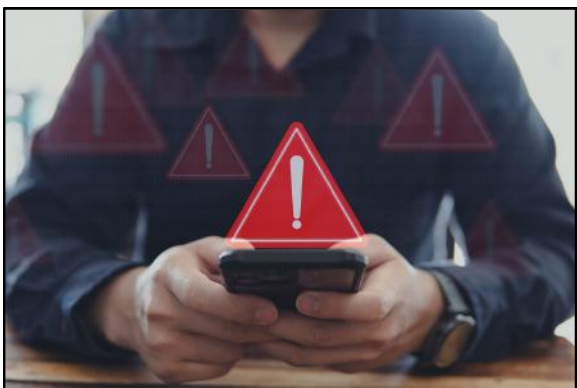
The City of Taylor will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for the City Hall and Justice Center on Friday, April 10, at 10:30 a.m. at 300 E. 2nd Street. The public is invited and encouraged to attend this historic event. Construction on the City Hall and Justice Center will begin in April 2026 and is expected to be completed in November 2027.

[Learn More About the Project Here](#)

Joseph Chacon Confirmed As Police Chief

Joseph Chacon was confirmed by City Council as the next Chief of Police. Mr. Chacon is a 31-year veteran of law enforcement, he served as Chief of Police for the Austin Police Department from 2021 through his retirement from the department in 2023. Mr. Chacon will officially be sworn in on April 8.

[More About Chief Chacon Here](#)



Emergency Alert Testing

The City of Taylor will take part in the Texas Division of Emergency Management statewide test of local alerting systems. The planned drill will take place on April 2, 2026, between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. This test will help evaluate the effectiveness and functionality of the City's public warning tools. No action is required from residents.

[More Information on the Test Alert](#)

Citywide Spring Cleanup

The City of Taylor is partnering with Waste Connections for the annual Spring Citywide Cleanup. Help keep Taylor clean and properly dispose of unwanted bulky items on Saturday, April 25, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Items will be collected at two locations: 1424 N. Main and 1403 Welch St. This service is free for residents of Taylor, but proof of residency, such as a City of Taylor water bill or valid ID, is required.

[Details on What Can Be Dropped Off](#)



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Touch-A-Truck | March 20



Youth Safety Bike Rodeo | March 28



DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

WHAT'S COMING TO TAYLOR

Every month, we're providing an advanced look at projects in development around Taylor.



Project Name: Washington Heights
Project Type: Place Type Amendment
Location: 600 Potomac St.
Description: Convenience Store/Gas Station
Permit Status: Approved
Project Status: The City Council approved Ordinance 2026-10 at the March 12 Council meeting



Project Name: Gateway
Project Type: Special Use Permit
Location: 505 Carlos G Parker Blvd SW
Description: 326 Multifamily Residential Dwellings
Permit Status: Approved
Project Status: The City Council approved Ordinance 2026-11 at the March 12 Council meeting



Project Name: N/A
Project Type: Place Type Amendment
Location: 1025 Scott St.
Description: Manufactured Housing
Permit Status: Approved
Project Status: The City Council approved Ordinance 2026-12 at the March 12 Council meeting



Project Name: Sonora Bank

Project Type: Neighborhood Plan

Location: 602 SW Carlos G Parker Blvd

Description: Neighborhood Plan

Permit Status: Approved

Project Status: The City Council approved Ordinance 2026-07 at the February 12 Council meeting



Project Name: Taylor Commons

Project Type: Neighborhood Plan

Location: 709 NW Carlos G Parker Blvd

Description: Commercial Master Planned Development with a hotel pad site, 3 to 4 restaurant pad sites, and a general retail pad site.

Permit Status: Approved

Project Status: The City Council approved Ordinance 2026-08 at the February 12 Council meeting



Project Name: Project Comal

Project Type: Employment Center

Location: 1051 CR 401

Description: Data Center

Permit Status: Approved

Project Status: The City Council approved Ordinance 2026-04 at the March 26 Council meeting



Project Name: Oncor Muscovy Switch

Project Type: Employment Center

Location: Hwy 79 west of Taylor

Description: Electric switch station

Permit Status: Approved

Project Status: The City Council approved Ordinance 2026-13 at the March 26 Council Meeting

[Click here or scan the QR code for more updates](#)





CELEBRATING TAYLOR'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

The City of Taylor's Sesquicentennial is in full swing! We're celebrating 150 years with a year-long party.

We kicked off the year in January with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial March and Celebration.

That same month, the Taylor Public Library launched the first Taylor Talks program, where Tim Crow shared the legacy of Ms. Carolyn Johnson, Taylor's broadcasting pioneer.

For Taylor Talks in February, Don and Leslie Hill presented a program on Black history in Taylor and its lasting impact on our community.

Last month, we hosted our Youth Safety Bike Rodeo and our Easter Egg Hunt is coming up fast—and we're just getting started! Check out the video below or turn to the next page for the full list of Sesquicentennial events and fun historical facts about the City!





CELEBRATING TAYLOR'S SESQUICENTENNIAL



SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH THE VIDEO





SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENTS

May 2 – Taylor Fest

Downtown Taylor | 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Multicultural heritage festival featuring live music and performances.

May 9 – Shred Fest

Pierce Park | 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Adult and youth BMX and skate competition.

Mid-June – Dan Moody Statue Unveiling

Moody Museum
Unveiling of the Dan Moody statue and opening of the Taylor Texas History Room featuring the Taylor Historic Time Capsule.

July 4 – Independence Day Parade & Celebration

Murphy Park, 1600 Veterans Dr.

August 15 – September 27 – Smithsonian Museum on Main Street Exhibit

Main Street
Smithsonian traveling exhibit comes to Taylor.

September 11 – 9/11 Memorial March and Patriot Day Program

Main Street
Sponsored by the Taylor Fire Department.

September 26 – KidFish

Bull Branch Park
Registration begins at 8 a.m.; fishing from 9 a.m. to noon.

October 31 – Main Street Car Show

Downtown Main Street | 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

October 31 – Halloween Spooktacular

Heritage Square Park | 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Second Weekend in November – The Big 1-5-0

Downtown
Celebration of Taylor's Sesquicentennial.

December 5 – Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting

Downtown Taylor & Heritage Square | 6 p.m.

150 FACTS ABOUT TAYLOR (SO FAR...)

- Taylor was founded in 1876.
- The City was originally named Taylorsville.
- The City is named after Edward Moses Taylor, an official with the International & Great Northern Railroad.
- Taylor's elevation is approximately 560 feet above sea level.
- Cotton was a major economic driver in Taylor's early history.
- Taylor's growth followed the rail lines rather than a river.
- Taylor's first cotton gin was built in 1877.
- Dan Moody became the youngest Governor of Texas at age 33.
- In 1879, a devastating fire destroyed most of the downtown buildings.
- Scenes from "Varsity Blues" were shot in Taylor.
- Portions of "Transformers: Age of Extinction" were filmed in Taylor.
- A commercial for Invest America shot in Taylor will air during tomorrow's Super Bowl LX.
- The Taylor Public Library traces its roots back to literary club called the "Sesame Circle."
- The current library opened in 2007.
- The library was housed in City Hall and then the old high school building while the current library was under construction.
- Downtown was designed so travelers could easily walk from the train depot to hotels and shops.
- Downtown buildings were constructed with brick to reduce fire risk after early wooden structures burned.
- At its peak, Taylor had more than 20 cotton gins operating in and around the community.
- The City's primary water supply comes from Lake Granger.
- Taylor's first public school opened in 1884.
- The current City Hall is housed in a former Safeway grocery store.
- Taylor's first cotton gin was built in 1877.
- The Taylor Public School System was organized in 1884. There were two people in the first graduation class in 1887.
- There were 117 members of the Taylor Schools in World War I, six of whom died in service of their country.
- Taylor High's football team mascot has been "the Ducks" since 1924.
- The City's newspaper, the Taylor Press, was founded in 1913.
- The First National Bank downtown was built in 1883.
- The Threadgill Building was built in 1893, and once housed the telephone exchange and post office.
- The current post office was built in 1929, and is a recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

CITY MEETINGS



1

Historic Preservation Commission

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

6

Charter Review Commission

6:00 PM | TAYLOR PUBLIC LIBRARY | 801 VANCE ST.

9

City Council Meeting

6:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST

14

Planning & Zoning Commission

6:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST

15

Main Street Advisory Board

5:00 PM | CITY HALL | 400 PORTER ST

23

City Council Meeting

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

CLOSURES

3

All City of Taylor
Offices will be closed
on Friday, April 3, for
Good Friday

APRIL

COMMUNITY EVENTS

4

Household Hazardous Waste Cleanup Event

8:00 AM | WILLIAMSON COUNTY EXPO CENTER | 5330 BILL PICKETT TRAIL

Heritage Square Farmers Market

10:00 AM | HERITAGE SQUARE PARK | 400 N MAIN ST.

Easter Egg Hunt

10:00 AM | MEMORIAL FIELD | 1213 DAVIS ST.

10

City Hall & Justice Center Groundbreaking

10:30 AM | INTERSECTION OF 2ND ST. & WASHBURN ST.

11

Heritage Square Farmers Market

10:00 AM | HERITAGE SQUARE PARK | 400 N MAIN ST.

Historic Downtown Walking Tour

10:00 AM | HACIENDO COFFEE ROASTERS | 116 W 6TH ST.

16

Music on Main: The Point.

7:00 PM | HERITAGE SQUARE PARK | 400 N MAIN ST.

18

Heritage Square Farmers Market

10:00 AM | HERITAGE SQUARE PARK | 400 N MAIN ST.

25

Citywide Spring Cleanup Event

8:00 AM | 1424 N. MAIN & 1403 WELCH ST.

28

Heritage Square Farmers Market

10:00 AM | HERITAGE SQUARE PARK | 400 N MAIN ST.

Kite Day

2:00 PM | TAYLOR REGIONAL PARK FOOTBALL FIELD | 210 CARLOS G PARKER BLVD NW

PARKS EVENTS

T

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

W

Yoga

WEDNESDAYS | 6:30 PM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE

TH

Butts 'N' Guts

THURSDAYS | 6:00 PM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE

Track Time/Walk 2 Run

THURSDAYS | 6:30 PM | MEMORIAL FIELD TRACK

F

Senior Fit

FRIDAYS | 10:30 AM | MEMORIAL FIELDHOUSE

Special Events & Programming

4

Easter Egg Hunt

10:00 AM | MEMORIAL FIELD

11

Lil Kickers Soccer Clinic

9:00 AM | AGES 3 - 4

10:00 AM | AGES 5 - 6

11:00 AM | AGES 7 - 8

\$35/PLAYER | RUNS THROUGH MAY 2

26

Kite Day

2:00 PM | TAYLOR REGIONAL PARK FOOTBALL FIELD

APRIL

LIBRARY EVENTS

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING & COMMUNITY EVENTS

6	Sensory Storytime	11:00 AM
7	Caregiver Support Group	10:00 AM
	Taylor Talks	5:00 PM
	Celebrating 150 years with stories about Taylor; this month featuring Mayor Dwayne Ariola	
11	Puzzle Swap	12:30 PM
13	Grief Support	6:30 PM
14	Taylor History: FamilySearch	6:00 PM
18	Plant Swap	10:00 AM
	Make & Take Craft	10:00 AM
21	Senior Tech Class	10:00 AM
	Homeschool Hangout	1:00 PM
	Date Night: Tea Tasting	6:00 PM
24	STEAM Challenge	4:30 PM
27	Grief Support	6:30 PM
28	Teen Writers Circle	4:30 PM
	Silent Book Club	6:00 PM
	Introvert-friendly, chat with other readers, exchange book recommendations, or just read quietly	

WEEKLY PROGRAMMING

Chair Yoga
Mon & Thu | 9:30 AM

Storytime
Wed | 10:30 AM

Senior Social
Wed & Fri | 2:00 PM

Chair Massage
Thu | 10:30 AM

Hooks & Needles
Thu | 5:30 PM
Sat | 11:30 AM

VITA Tax Help
Sat | 9 AM

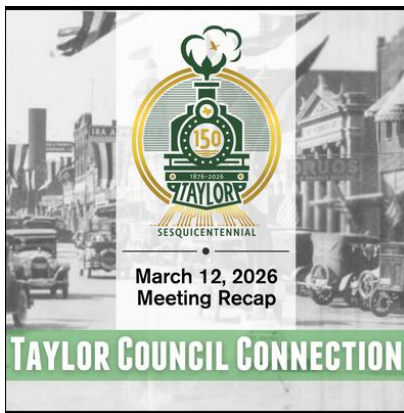
CLOSURES

The Library will be closed Friday, April 3, and Saturday, April 4, for Good Friday

COUNCIL CONNECTION

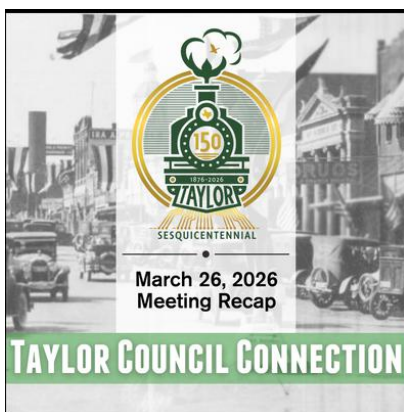
COUNCIL MEETING RECAP VIDEOS

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



March 12 Meeting

COUNCIL APPOINTED ANGELINA SHELTON TO THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE TO FILL A VACANCY, APPROVED A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO ANY ONCOR TRANSMISSION LINES BEING ROUTED THROUGH THE CITY, AND AWARDED A CONTRACT FOR REPLACEMENT OF HALF A MILE OF CURB ALONG FOWZER, HACKBERRY, BRANCH, AND KIRK STREETS



March 26 Meeting

COUNCIL APPROVED A VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION AND EMPLOYMENT CENTER PLAN FOR PROJECT COMAL, A PLANNED DATA CENTER BETWEEN CASTLEWOOD SOUTH AND SAMSUNG, APPROVED A CONTRACT FOR POOL MANAGEMENT WITH THE YMCA, AND CONFIRMED JOSEPH CHACON AS THE TAYLOR POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CHIEF OF POLICE.



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)