



Tigard news you can use

# Cityscape

JANUARY 2016

Newsletter from the City of Tigard, Oregon

## Walk into 2016

Recently the U.S. Surgeon General issued a challenge for Americans to be more physically active through walking and for communities to help by increasing their support for walkability.

In 2014, Tigard showed its commitment to walkability through the strategic vision of becoming the most walkable city in the Pacific Northwest.

Here are four options for increasing walkability in your 2016 schedule.

- ▶ **Tigard Walks:** The city hosts a monthly community walk. If you miss one of the walks, make it up by [finding the route](#) and trying it on your own time.
- ▶ **My Favorite Walk Is:** We asked Tigard residents to tell us their favorite walking or biking route. Challenge yourself by trying out a different route each week.
- ▶ **Rate Your Walk:** Evaluate, rate and take a photo of walkway conditions in Tigard [with this easy to use](#)

Geoform survey. It is mobile friendly.

- ▶ **What Is Missing:** Through [Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper \(LQC\) projects](#), we have added sidewalks and trails. We still have work to do and we need your help. Email your suggestion to [kentw@tigard-or.gov](mailto:kentw@tigard-or.gov) for the next LQC project.



Need some new music to get you motivated? The Surgeon General [has created a playlist for you](#) to use during your next physical activity. Also visit the [Call to Action web page](#).

## Mayor's Corner



Mayor John L. Cook

Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were filled with joy and glad tidings; sharing time, food and memories with family and friends.

It is hard to believe I have been in office for three years now. Time goes by so quickly nowadays. Being able to get out in the community and meet as many of Tigard's more than 50,000 city residents as I can is my overwhelming joy, although I must confess the youth activities are my favorites by far.

I want to thank each and every one of you who volunteer for our city. Whether you serve as a police cadet, library worker, on a commission or committee, or just picking up trash on the trails, you all help make Tigard a place to call home.

Thanks to a generous donation from Comcast, I hope you will be able to join me for the "State of the City" on Feb. 4, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Indio Spirits (7272 SW Durham Road #100, Tigard, OR 97224). I will show a video we created that shares city highlights from 2015 and the goals for 2016.

### Quote of the month by Brad Paisley:

*"Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one."*

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# Police Tips for Safe Winter Driving



Be prepared for winter driving. The Tigard Police Department advises drivers to carry chains and be prepared for winter weather driving emergencies, such as unexpected snowfall or ice.

If your vehicle gets stuck, try to move it completely off the roadway, use the emergency flashers and call for a tow. Vehicles left on the shoulder may

create a hazard for other drivers.

Do not abandon your car in the traffic right-of-way. Police have an obligation to keep roads clear, including traffic shoulders, so other traffic can keep moving. Vehicles left in the right-of-way could create hazards.

If your vehicle is blocking traffic, it could be towed. A citation and a tow

fee usually accompany police tows. Be smart and plan ahead.

## A Few Tips Before Leaving Home

- ▶ Before driving off, clear your windows of snow and ice.
- ▶ Ensure your wipers are in good condition.
- ▶ Carry tools like an ice scraper and snow brush. A shovel may also be helpful when traveling to areas where snowfall is likely.
- ▶ Keep enough fuel in your tank in the event of long traffic delays. Slow traffic and considerable idling can draw-down your fuel quickly.
- ▶ Please also allow plenty of time to get to your destination during bad weather. Slower speeds allow for safer stops and reduce the chances for skidding.

Thanks for your cooperation keeping safe while driving during the winter season.

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## Citizens Police Academy Now Recruiting

Learn about your police department from Tigard's finest. The Tigard Citizens Police Academy returns this spring. The nine-week program will run from April 6 to June 1. The sessions meet every Wednesday, from 7 to 9:30 p.m., at Tigard City Hall located at 13125 SW Hall Blvd.

While not a law enforcement training program, the academy fosters better understanding and communication between citizens and police through education, building residents' knowledge of their police department. When the community understands the limitations and abilities of law enforcement, the police can then better serve the community.

The academy covers a wide range

of law enforcement topics such as investigations, patrol functions, traffic-related matters, community policing, gangs, narcotics investigations, use of force and firearms. All sessions are conducted by members of the Tigard Police Department. A graduation concludes the academy.

More than 525 community members have participated since it began in 1995. Graduates gain increased knowledge and enthusiasm to share with their family, friends and neighbors. In addition, some graduates pursue volunteer efforts with the department that closely match their interests. Other graduates of the academy have expanded on their newly discovered interests in law enforcement and the community.

If you are interested and able to commit to attending most, if not all of the sessions, you are encouraged to apply. A criminal history background check is required.

**Enrollment is limited to 25 participants. The application deadline is March 21.**

**Applications are available** in the Police Department lobby or online at [www.tigard-or.gov/CitizensAcademy](http://www.tigard-or.gov/CitizensAcademy). Completed applications can be returned via email to [tigardpolice@tigard-or.gov](mailto:tigardpolice@tigard-or.gov) or either in person, faxed to 503-718-2645 or mailed to: Tigard Police Department, Attn: Jim Wolf, 13125 SW Hall Blvd., Tigard, OR 97223. For questions, call 503-718-2561 during business hours.

# Traffic Safety and Aging

## Rules of the Road

Judge Michael O'Brien



There are 76 million “baby boomers”—those born between 1946 and 1965—in the United States, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Some 36 million boomers over the age of 65 still drive, and millions more will continue driving into old age. Census data show that more than 11 percent of Tigard residents are 65 and older.

Many seniors view driving as vital to their independence. In areas without public transportation, they may have no realistic alternative but to continue driving as long as their health allows. Seniors need to recognize when their safety, and the safety of others, requires them to surrender their licenses.

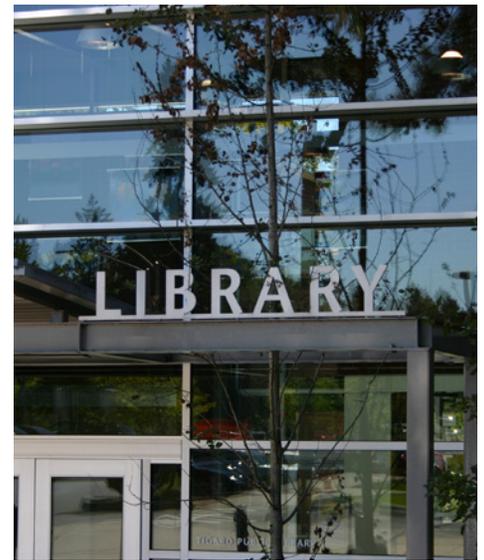
For seniors who continue to drive, improvements in technology may allow them to do so more safely. These safety devices are now, or will soon be, available

options on newer cars. These include:

- ▶ Backup cameras that detect cross traffic
- ▶ Detectors that set off an alarm when a vehicle drifts out of a lane
- ▶ Warnings when vehicles are in blind spots
- ▶ Alarms that activate when entering a curve too fast
- ▶ Collision warning systems that detect and even brake for objects ahead of a car
- ▶ Automated parking
- ▶ Automatic notifications to 911 in the event of a collision
- ▶ Warnings for drowsiness or fatigue

Seniors can reduce risks by not driving during times when traffic is heavy or during periods of bad weather and darkness. Distractions such as talking on a cellphone, texting, eating or fiddling with an entertainment console are dangerous for all drivers.

Voluntary participation in a traffic safety program also can increase awareness and possibly lower insurance rates.



### TIGARD LIBRARY

## Library Re-opens on Thursdays in January with a New Café

Beginning on Thursday, Jan. 7, the Library will re-open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thirsty for something good to read? Hungry for a new movie? Now you can feed your information needs seven days a week.

With the passage of the countywide library levy in November, the City Council authorized the library to open again on Thursdays. It has been closed on Thursdays since 2012.

If you would like to feed your body as well as your mind, check out the new Literary Feast Café in January. Owner Joslyn Webster said the café will offer organic gourmet sandwiches, soups, salads, smoothies and pastries. The café will also feature coffee and teas from Portland-area companies.

Webster and her family live in Tigard and are avid readers and library users. She has worked in the food industry for 20 years.

## Tigard Residents Make 2015 Leaf Disposal and Food Drive a Success

The City of Tigard held four Leaf Disposal and Food Drive events in November and December.

The events give residents a no-cost way to recycle their leaves. This also keeps leaves out of city streets and storm drains. In conjunction with the leaf disposal, the city collected food items for Tigard's St. Vincent de Paul food distribution facility.

The 2015 events gathered 620 yards of leaves. All told, nearly 500 residents donated 3,200 pounds of food and made \$503 in cash donations.

The City of Tigard wants to thank

everyone who dropped off leaves and donated food. You helped to make the 2015 Leaf Disposal and Food Drive a success.



# Shelf Life



## Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration



### White Out? The Future of Racial Diversity in Oregon

Mon., Jan. 18 • 7–8:30 p.m.

Willamette University professor Emily Drew will lead participants in a conversation about the challenges of creating racially diverse communities.

*This Oregon Humanities Conversation Project is sponsored by Oregon Humanities, National Endowment for the Humanities and the Oregon Cultural Trust.*



Other ways to celebrate and learn more about Dr. King's impact on race relations and the civil rights movement:

- ▶ Check out a book from the second floor display.
- ▶ Pick up a bookmark and test your knowledge of Dr. King's life.

### School's Out Drop-in Monday

Mon., Jan. 18 • 2–4 p.m.

Puett Room • Kids

Stop by for games and projects.

### The Reptile Man

Tue., Jan. 12 • 6:30–7:30 p.m. • All ages

See lots of live, slithery specimens, learn cool facts and get a chance to touch a reptile for yourself.

### Twin Kennedy Concert

Sat., Jan. 23 • 2–3 p.m. • All ages

Enjoy the country/roots music of identical twins Carli and Julie Kennedy. *Generously sponsored by Friends of the Tigard Library*

### Conversations on Aging Series

- ▶ Talking with Your Doctor  
Tue., Jan. 12
- ▶ Engaging with Adult Children  
Tue., Jan. 19
- ▶ Learning from Grief and Loss  
Tue., Jan. 26

*All sessions are from noon–1:30 p.m.*

Trained peer counselors from Volunteers Involved for the Emotional Well-being of Seniors (VIEWS) will facilitate group discussions.

**Limit 10 attendees per session. REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Please call 503-718-2417.**

*Sponsored by Cascadia Healthcare*

### Game On

Sat., Jan. 2 • 2–4 p.m.

Teens in grades 6 and up  
Young Adult Room

We're game, are you? Join us for Wii U™ and Tabletop gaming.

*All programs will be held in the George and Yvonne Burgess Community Room unless otherwise noted.*

### CelloBop

Wed., Jan. 13 • 7–8 p.m.

Composer and electric cellist Gideon Freudmann will perform a musical fusion of blues, jazz, folk, classical, rock and more.

### Feed the Birds

Sun., Jan. 10 • 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Puett Room • Kids

Create bird feeders from pinecones and recycled materials to feed your neighborhood birds and learn about the different types of birds in your backyard.

### The Kalapuya: Stewards of the Western Oregon Prairies

Sat., Jan. 16 • 2–3:30 p.m.

In the past 200 years the Kalapuya people have both owned all of the Willamette Valley and lost everything. Ethno-historian Dr. David Lewis tells their story.

*Generously sponsored by Friends of the Tigard Library*

### Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Sat., Jan. 16 • 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Puett Room • Kids

Bring your beloved stuffed animal for a story time and crafts. Teens will then take care of your stuffed friends, who will greet you the next day with pictures of their silly nighttime adventures.

## TIGARD PUBLIC LIBRARY

13500 SW Hall Blvd.  
Tigard, OR 97223  
[www.tigard-or.gov/library](http://www.tigard-or.gov/library)

Voice: 503-684-6537  
Renewal Phone: 503-846-3245



Monday	10 a.m.– 9 p.m.
Tuesday	10 a.m.– 9 p.m.
Wednesday	10 a.m.– 9 p.m.
Thursday	10 a.m.– 9 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m.– 9 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m.– 6 p.m.
Sunday	Noon – 6 p.m.

# Parks Funding Hearing, Jan. 12

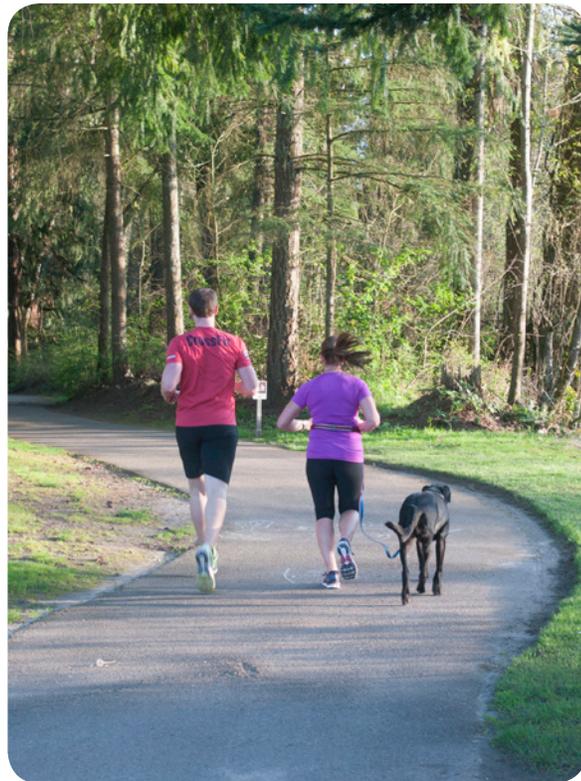
Today, the City of Tigard offers residents and visitors nearly 550 acres of parks, greenways and natural spaces. Park spaces provide habitat protection, recreation and places where people connect with each other.

However, the city does not have the resources to develop our existing and future parks the way our residents expect. Funding for maintenance staff has not kept up with the expansion of our parks and green spaces over the decades, including new lands acquired through the 2010 parks bond.

With the city's 2015-2016 budget, we started a process to take parks funding out of our general fund. This change would provide more support for the city's city services: police, library and community development. The city's new direction could treat our parks like a utility, including a monthly charge on your utility bill. Or, the city could ask residents to vote on a property tax levy.

The City Council discussed these park funding options at its workshop on Nov. 17, and will hold a public hearing on these choices.

Residents are invited to attend a **public hearing at City Hall on Jan. 12**. Or they can share their comments in writing in advance. Go to the city's website to learn more about our parks and to share your thoughts. [www.tigard-or.gov/community/parks\\_funding.php](http://www.tigard-or.gov/community/parks_funding.php).



## Park Reservations for 2016, Mark Your Calendars



It is not too early to begin planning your park events for the spring and summer.

The city has six park shelters and nine sports fields available for rent. Shelters in Cook Park and Summerlake Park can be reserved from April 2 to Sept. 25. Most shelters are equipped with picnic tables, barbecue grills, electricity and water. Restrooms are usually

located nearby. The largest shelter can accommodate up to 250 people.

For the 2016 park season, shelters can be reserved beginning at 8 a.m., Jan. 4. Sports fields can be reserved beginning at 8 a.m., March 7.

Reservations can be made:

**1. Online** at [www.tigard-or.gov/parks](http://www.tigard-or.gov/parks) (shelters only).

**2. By fax or email**, send application with credit card payment information to 503-684-8840 (fax) or [parkres@tigard-or.gov](mailto:parkres@tigard-or.gov).

**3. By mail**, send application with payment to Tigard Public Works Department, Parks Division, 13125 SW Hall Blvd., Tigard, OR 97223.

**4. In person**, at the Tigard Public Works Building, 8777 SW Burnham St., Tigard, OR 97223. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Thursday.

### Park and sports field access

Due to the possibility of winter flooding, the lower section of Cook Park, just beyond the restroom/concession stand, is closed to vehicle traffic. This area will re-open March 2. Baseball and soccer fields, also closed for winter, will re-open on March 2 and April 18 respectively.

*For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 503-718-2641.*

# Get Connected to #TigardVision

An interactive, timely social media presence is part of the City of Tigard's strategic vision to create a more connected community.

We maintain active [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts. Follow us on these social media networks for the latest community news, job openings, new businesses and citizen involvement opportunities.

The Tigard Police Department has noticed a growing number of citizens are obtaining police-related news on social media.

"Whether police are asking the public's help to identify a suspect, help reunite a lost pet with their owner or sharing traffic alerts, citizens are turning to our social media sites more and more," says Jim Wolf, the department's public information officer.

Our social media accounts provide the most updated information about the city. In case of inclement weather this winter, the city will use social media to communicate street sanding priorities maps, community closures and road hazards.

Most importantly, we encourage you to interact with us on social media. On Facebook and Twitter, we have been able to quickly respond to citizen questions on street closures, walking trails and electric vehicle charging stations.

Now, it is time for you to try out your social media skills. The city is using #TigardVision on Instagram and Twitter to raise awareness about our walkability efforts and to encourage citizens to submit pictures of their vision of Tigard. Submit your #TigardVision in January and we will reward you with a prize.



## Tigard Residents Give City a High Grade in Community Survey

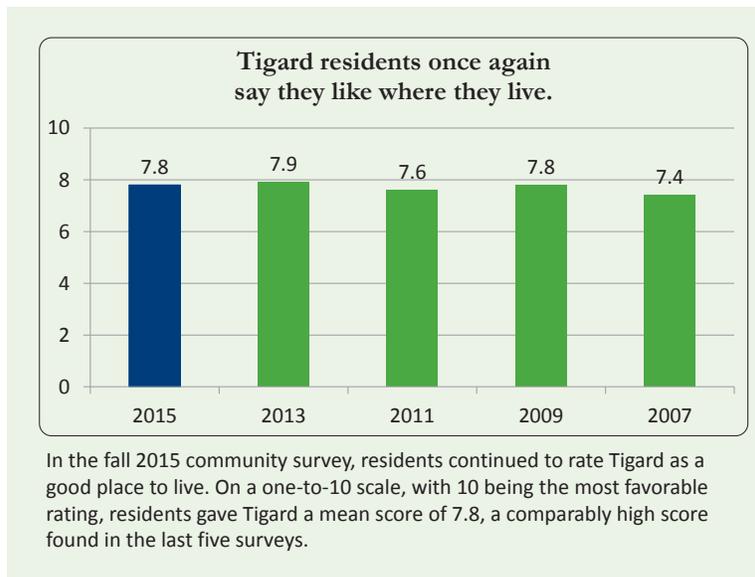
Tigard residents have once again given the city high marks as a good place to live.

That was one of the main findings of the city's biennial community attitudes survey, conducted in November and early December. Results were shared with the City Council at a workshop on Dec. 15.

The survey gives the council and city officials an in-depth overview of residents' opinions on many topics of importance to the community.

Traffic and congestion concerns remain the highest priority, as found in past surveys. The survey also found that residents are supportive of high-capacity transit opportunities and that they value the city's aim to promote walking, pedestrian safety and healthy and interconnected lives.

The most important issue residents identified as a priority for the council to address was traffic and congestion,



at 34 percent. All other priorities, from street improvements to economic development, scored less than 5 percent.

Questions addressed parks funding choices, high capacity transit, the recent election on the proposed community and recreation center, walkability preferences, residents' priorities on issues and ways they learn about Tigard.

The city conducts community attitude surveys every two years. The surveys provide valuable feedback from residents on local issues for the council and city leaders, to help them prioritize projects and respond to community concerns.

To see copies of the survey report and presentation to the City Council on Dec. 15, go to [www.tigard-or.gov/SurveyResults](http://www.tigard-or.gov/SurveyResults).

## Tigard City Council MEETING SCHEDULE

### City Council Study Session and Business Meeting:

- ▶ **Tue., Jan. 12**  
Study Session | 6:30 p.m.  
Business | 7:30 p.m.

### City Council Workshop Meeting

- ▶ **Tue., Jan. 19 | 6:30 p.m.**

### City Council Study Session and Business Meeting:

- ▶ **Tue., Jan. 26**  
Study Session | 6:30 p.m.  
Business | 7:30 p.m.

### Council Outreach

**Location: Summerfield Clubhouse  
(10650 SW Summerfield Drive):**

- ▶ **Thu., Jan. 28 | 7 p.m.**

Meetings are held at Tigard City Hall (13125 SW Hall Blvd.) and are open to the public. Council agendas are available at [www.tigard-or.gov/council](http://www.tigard-or.gov/council) or contact Carol Krager at 503-718-2419 or [carolk@tigard-or.gov](mailto:carolk@tigard-or.gov).

## Fireside Chat with the Mayor

**Thu., Jan. 7 | 6:30–8:30 p.m.**  
Symposium Coffee, 12345 SW Main St.



## Bike Safety Education, Ride-Safe in Tigard

If you did not grow up riding your bike everywhere, you might be apprehensive as an adult. Now, you may want to ride for practical purposes, like commuting, for recreation or health reasons. This often means riding on streets and in traffic.

Where can you go for a biker's education course?

A good bike safety education program is driver's education for bicyclists. It teaches students about basic traffic law, the rights and responsibilities of cyclists when on the road and the five layers of safety.

A good program will also have on-bike practice and training. The skills and knowledge gained will give cyclists the confidence to ride in traffic, and to do it as safely as possible.

Youth training is offered by the Washington County Bicycle Transportation Coalition (BTC), or by your school's Safe Routes to School program. For Tigard's program, go here: [www.tigard-or.gov/community/safe\\_routes.php](http://www.tigard-or.gov/community/safe_routes.php).

The BTC also offers adult level education, the Confidence in Traffic clinic. Learn more at [www.washcobtc.org](http://www.washcobtc.org).

## January Blood Drive



- WHEN:** Wed., Jan. 13  
9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- WHERE:** Tigard Public Library  
Burgess Community  
Room  
13500 SW Hall Blvd.
- HOW:** Check to see if you meet eligibility requirements and learn about the donation process at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

If you are eligible to donate, make an appointment online at [www.tigard-or.gov/BloodDrive](http://www.tigard-or.gov/BloodDrive). Bring your current medication list, donor card and driver's license or other form of identification to the appointment.

Learn more about donating at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), call the Red Cross at 503-284-1234, or contact City of Tigard organizer Sara Doughty at 503-718-2675 or [sarad@tigard-or.gov](mailto:sarad@tigard-or.gov).

