



City Manager's Report

May 19, 2025

Administration

- After much anticipation, we're thrilled to finally unveil our newly redesigned website! Our last update, completed four years ago with CivicPlus, served us well—but this fresh new look better reflects the City's evolving brand. A big thank you to our staff for their hard work and dedication in bringing this project to life.

Development Services

- Exciting progress is happening on Main Street! They have received their final approvals from SCDES as of today. They will be submitting grading permits soon and we are anticipating an official ground breaking ceremony in early June. As soon as we have a date we will let Council, and the public know. The tech team has approved the preliminary plat contingent upon the developer getting street names and development name approval from the County. We're told it should happen later this week so that it can go for official approval with the Planning Commission at their June meeting.
- Behind the scenes, our staff is actively working with Evolve to roll out our new Code Enforcement module—another step forward in streamlining our processes.
- A quick reminder: anyone can now search public permit records using the Evolve software available on our website. It's a great tool if you're curious about your own property or others in the area.
- We also had a productive Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee meeting on Monday, April 28th. We reviewed valuable community feedback from our recent online survey and open house, and had a great discussion on vacant properties and upcoming construction activity across the City.

Fire Department

- We're excited to welcome our newest team member, Brian Erhard, who joins us from the Lake Wylie area with fire certifications. With Brian on board, we're now fully staffed—great news for our department!
- A big thank you to everyone who came out for Firehouse Stories on the 17th! It's always a pleasure connecting with our community and sharing helpful safety tips for families.



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Fire Department

- Please join us along side of the Tega Cay Veterans Association on Memorial Day as we proudly display the flag along Tega Cay Drive in honor of the brave Veterans who served and sacrificed for our freedom.
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Parks and Recreation Department

- The Beach & Swim Center Pool is officially open for the summer! Weekday hours kick off on Thursday, May 22, and we'll move to 7-days-a-week operation starting May 27. Don't forget to sign up for your Beach & Swim Center membership to make the most of the season.
 - Our pickleball court renovation is well underway. The newly renovated courts are now open and ready for play, while the resurfaced courts remain temporarily closed during construction. Thank you for your patience!
 - As we wrap up our recreation sports season, we'd like to extend a big congratulations to those selected to represent Tega Cay in Baseball & Softball All-Stars! Tournament schedules will be posted soon on our website and social media, so be sure to follow along and cheer on our teams.
 - Registration is now open for both the Land and Boat Parades happening this July 4th. We're also accepting nominations for the 2025 Grand Marshal. Visit the Events page on the City website for details and registration information.
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Best Dam Food Fest Recap

- The City of Tega Cay is proud to report the overwhelming success of the Second Annual Best Dam Food Festival, which has now become the largest event in our city's history. Held over the weekend of May 11-12, the festival drew an estimated 7,000 attendees during peak hours (5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.), according to Visit York County. Website traffic reflected this high interest, with over 22,000 visitors accessing the festival website and 6,000 users visiting the City's website from mobile devices over the weekend.



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Best Dam Food Fest Recap

- Festival-goers enjoyed an immersive experience with 35 food vendors along the "Munchie Mile" and 50 arts, crafts, and business vendors comprising the "Beavers Bazaar." The event offered a strong return on investment for vendors, with many reporting sell-outs, and the SC Shore Club noting a 25–30% increase in beer and wine sales, totaling approximately \$10,000. Visitors remained engaged for extended periods, with an average stay of two or more hours, while trolley and shuttle services from Gold Hill Middle School operated at full capacity from 4:00 p.m. to 10:15 p.m.
- The event was made possible by over 50 volunteers and staff, the Best Dam Crew, who managed logistics, vendor support, traffic, and cleanup. Special thanks to all who gave their time and energy to ensure a smooth and welcoming experience.
- The highly anticipated "Best Dam" competition recognized outstanding vendors. Sal's Roadside Eatery of Charlotte, NC, took home Best Dam Entrée for the second year in a row, with Jamrock Jerk of York County earning runner-up honors. In the dessert category, LKN's Cheesecakery of Davidson, NC, was awarded Best Dam Dessert, followed by runner-up Little Annie & Co. from Kings Mountain, NC.
- The City extends sincere appreciation to our generous sponsors who made this event possible. Tega Cay Tavern sponsored the headline band, '84, a Van Halen tribute group, while Visit York County provided hotel accommodations and additional event support. Macaluso Golf Carts supplied on-site transportation. Our Hall of Fame sponsors included PuckerButt Pepper Company, Rock Hill Coca-Cola Company, Piedmont Medical Center, and Dick's Sporting Goods, all of whom contributed significantly to the event's success.

Public Works Department

- The Backhoe Rodeo, which is an internal event for our guys, is being held on May 30th at Pitcairn Park. This year's Rodeo includes the new backhoe which has been a great addition to the teams equipment!.
 - The team has completed a stormwater project on Cilantro Court. This project included the construction of a storm drainage swell through the greenway to prevent rain water overflow against a home.
 - As we enter into the summer months, we'd like to remind everyone that the City still has free mulch available at Runde Park on a first come first serve basis.
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Update from York County Council

For nearly 20 years, York County has partnered with municipalities to help fund local recreation programs, using revenue from a special recreation tax district that applied only to unincorporated areas of the county. In exchange for this funding, municipalities agreed not to charge non-resident rates for recreation programs. On May 5, County Council held the first reading of its budget and proposed eliminating this special tax district. In its place, the County plans to implement a countywide 1.5 mill property tax increase to support the newly established County Parks Department. While the recreation tax is being removed, the overall recreation funding to municipalities will be significantly reduced. As part of this transition, the County is offering a \$75 stipend for each unincorporated resident who registers for youth sports programs only. However, this stipend does not apply to adult, therapeutic, or senior programs. The guidelines for this stipend have yet to be established. This shift results in all municipal residents—including those in Tega Cay—paying the new 1.5 mill tax, which will average approximately \$33 per household, to fund parks that are located outside their areas. Notably, there are no County park facilities north of the Catawba River, meaning Tega Cay and surrounding municipalities will pay into a system with limited or no direct benefit. Adding to concerns, the County has indicated plans to increase funding for small municipalities that do not provide their own programming to \$25,000 each—nearly double the amount previously allocated. Meanwhile, municipalities, like Tega Cay, which operate full recreation programs, are projected to see their funding cut by roughly 50%. Based on preliminary financial analysis, the loss of County funding will likely require municipalities to double registration fees for non-residents. In Tega Cay, that would mean increasing average fees from around \$90 to \$180 per person per season. Municipalities are planning to meet later this week to discuss coordinated responses. In the meantime, residents have been notified of the likely changes, and a special Council meeting in June will be requested to set new non-resident fees ahead of fall sports registration in July. Finally, County Council is expected to hold the second reading of the budget and the ordinance eliminating the special recreation tax district during their May 19 meeting, where it is anticipated to pass by a 5–2 vote, with Councilmembers Audette and Huckabee again voting in opposition.
