



# Buckley Transportation Benefit District Newsletter

## Transportation Benefit District News Spring 2016

### ***TBD Established***

*In November of 2012, through adoption of Ordinance No. 13-12, the City created the new Buckley Transportation Benefit District. On July 30, 2013 the Buckley TBD held its first meeting during which the Board members adopted Resolution TBD No. 001 establishing Bylaws governing membership, officers and committees, meetings, amendments and administration.*

*At the July 30th 2013 meeting the Board conducted a public hearing on the possible establishment of a \$20 vehicle license fee, and after lengthy discussion and deliberation adopted Resolution TBD No. 002 enacting a \$20 vehicle registration fee (for each eligible vehicle registered in Buckley). The \$20 vehicle registration fee went into effect on February 1st, 2014 and in the 1st year generated \$61,882 in revenue. 2015 was the 1st full year of collections and the TBD received \$84,783 in revenue from the vehicle fees, all of which is spent locally to maintain Buckley roads and sidewalks. In 2016 the TBD budget anticipates receiving \$90,000 in revenue from vehicle fees.*

### **Background:**

Over the last several years the City experienced a significant reduction in revenue that comes in for maintenance and construction of the City's transportation system.

- ~ Since peaking in 2003 the City experienced a drop of \$34,218 in revenue from a high of \$121,291 in 2003 to \$87,073 in 2013 due to initiatives and lower tax distributions;*
- ~ Since 2008 the City's general operating fund has experienced declining revenue which left very little available to support street maintenance services;*
- ~ During the same 10 year period maintenance and capital transfers from the general fund were reduced by (-99.63%) to match revenue;*
- ~ This same period saw an almost doubling in annual costs for street and parking lot lights from \$36,000/yr in 2003 to \$56,000 in 2013. This accounts for more than one-half the amount of revenue that was coming into the street budget;*
- ~ As a result of the funding constraints City Public Works crew had to delay, reduce and/or eliminate altogether the maintenance of alleys, pot hole patching, street striping, marking crosswalks, curb painting (no parking), right-of-way maintenance (planter strips), etc.*

With the establishment of a Transportation Benefit District (TBD), the City is beginning to recover and replace the funding lost over the years due to declining state and federal revenue sources, which helps us be able to better preserve, maintain, and expand the City's transportation infrastructure into the future. Because of the additional revenue from the TBD, the City has once again initiated the annual City sidewalk repair/replacement that we had to stop ten years ago due to funding constraints. In addition we've been able to perform maintenance on City streets which had long been neglected due to the loss of revenue. The City plans to increase the level of maintenance and implement smaller capital projects as additional revenue becomes available.

### **What is a Transportation Benefit District?**

A Transportation Benefit District (TBD) is a quasi-municipal corporation and independent taxing district created for the sole purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, and funding transportation improvements within the District. The boundaries of the TBD are identical to the City limits. The members of the Buckley City Council make up the TBD Board and are acting independently from the City.



**SR410 & Park Avenue Safety  
Improvement Project**

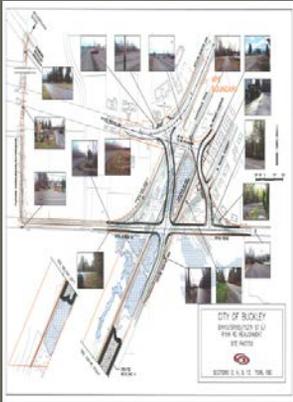


**Street Overlay Program**



**River Avenue Pedestrian  
Improvements**

# Buckley Transportation Benefit District Newsletter Page 2



**SR410/SR165 Realign**

**Projects for 2016:**

The projects to be funded in 2016 (in whole or in part) include;

- City of Buckley Street Fund 101 (operation and maintenance)
- Pavement Preservation and Overlay Program
- Annual Sidewalk Repair & Replacement Project
- Transportation Projects, described in detail within the (2016 - 2021) Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program. Projects proposed for 2016 are listed in the Table below:

Fund	Name	Expenditures	Projected EFB
SA - 102	Street Capital Improvements	\$2,572,119	\$470,767
~	2016 Sidewalk Project		
~	TIB Pavement Preservation Project (dependent on grant funding)		
~	Phase II SR410/SR165 Realignment Project Construction		
~	Elk Heights Roadway Paving		

The TBD plans to seek grants to supplement the approved funding.

**New for 2016:**

The 2015 State Legislature included within its large transportation funding bill, 2ESSB 5987, a number of changes to the laws governing transportation benefit districts (TBDs), one of which is a provision that basically allows a city or county that has a TBD with the same boundaries as the city or county to absorb the TBD and assume all the TBD's "rights, powers, functions, and obligations," with the result that the TBD would cease to exist as a separate entity.

The law authorizes this assumption of control over a TBD by a city or county with the same boundaries as the TBD. The process to accomplish this begins with the city legislative authority passing a resolution or ordinance indicating its intention to hold a public hearing on the proposed assumption of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the TBD, and setting the time and place of the hearing. At the hearing, the legislative authority must hear all protests and objections to the proposed assumption. If, after the hearing, the legislative authority determines that "public interest or welfare would be satisfied" by the assumption of the TBD, it passes an ordinance or resolution assuming the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the TBD. The passage of the ordinance abolishes the TBD governing body and vests the city or county legislative authority with all the rights, powers, functions, and obligations that the TBD governing body possessed.

In an effort to eliminate duplication of duties and save costs, the Buckley City Council and TBD Board have expressed an interest in considering this alternative and may conduct future public discussion on moving forward with consolidation and assumption of the TBD. Notice of any consideration will be publicized and posted on City bulletin boards.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

Regular Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of April and the second Tuesday of November of each year in the City Council Chambers starting at 6:00 PM. In addition to the regular Board meetings, Special Board meetings may be scheduled from time to time. The public is encouraged to attend.

**April 12, 2016**

**November 8, 2016**

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**TBD Board Members**

Board President Milt Tremblay  
 Board Vice President – N/A  
 Board Member John Leggett  
 Board Member Marvin Sundstrom

Board Member Cristi Boyle-Barrett  
 Board Member Beau Burkett  
 Board Member Lynn Rose  
 Board Member Jenney Kyllenon