

**City of Buckley**

**Senior Citizens Advisory Commission**

Wednesday, January 7, 2025 10:00AM

Buckley City Hall, 933 Main Street



**Agenda:**

**Welcome**

**Attendance Roll Call**

**Approval of Agenda**

**Approval of November Meeting Minutes**

**Staff Reports:**

Facility Improvement Update

Erin

Jingle Jubilee Review

Lorrie

CDBG Funding Update

Erin

2025 End of Year Review

Erin & Lorrie

**Old Business:**

2026 Work Plan

**Commissioner Comments:**

**Adjourn**

**City of Buckley**  
**Senior Citizens Advisory Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Wednesday, November 5, 2025

**Location:** City Hall

**Time:** Call to order 10:02AM

**Present:** Commissioners, Jan James-Richards, James Ricks, Wanda Burkett, Nancy Moriarty & Denise Bergerson, City Council Lainson

**Agenda:** Moved By Nacey, Seconded by James. Approved by All.

**Meeting Minutes:** approved by Nancy and second by Jim

**Staff Reports:**

Lorrie reflected on the outcomes of this year's Wellness Fair and Vaccine Clinic. This event was well attended by vendors and community members. Community partnerships were strengthened by this event, and additional sponsorships were obtained for senior center events.

Erin reported on facility improvements sharing that new carpeting will be installed at the senior center and that the vestibule flooring repairs will also be handled by the original contractors. City Council will prioritize advocating for funding for the cement walkway repairs and a bathroom upgrade. Denise added that the state's budget is not looking great and could affect outcomes for related funds needed for these improvements. Jim mentioned concerns regarding the chairs on wheels that are in the reception area. Jan has an idea of a product she ordered on Amazon that could help lessen the wheel movement and will email Lorrie.

**Old Business:**

Jingle Jubilee is set for Saturday, December 13 and the lunch will be catered by NY Catering out of Enumclaw and the band has been scheduled. Erin has

secured youth volunteer groups. Additional volunteers will be scheduled. Denise offered to help.

Newsletter distribution/upcoming programs: the SCAC members offered feedback as to good locations for dropping by newsletters. This includes the medical clinic near Wally's, Feed Store, Anytime Fitness, and perhaps the Eagles, Anchor House and Nancy will check to see if they have places to have our materials.

### **New Business:**

Volunteer Driver Update: Current recruitment of volunteer van drivers is underway. Lorrie is working on forming a solid driver's training program to include general processes for onboarding and retaining volunteer drivers. Erin has also requested funding from County District 1 Community Needs Grant for a 15 hours a week paid position for city staffed van driver. The Senior Services grant contract is pending county budget approval the CDBG funding is held up in federal litigation.

On topic of driving, Wanda asked clarification of who can be picked up outside of city limits. Erin clarified that for trips on residents inside of the city limits, who do not drive, can be picked up in order to participate in senior center trips. Those outside the city create a scheduling issue for trips to stay on their scheduled timelines for other guests.

**2026 SCAC meeting date options** were reviewed and voted on. The group will meet on Jan 7, March 4, May 6, July 1, Sept 3 and Nov 5.

New newsletter cover looks like the previous newsletter's cover page. Comments made to create a different look for each edition utilizing colors of the season.

There will be center holiday closures, but the center will remain open throughout the month of December allowing for socialization and meals for older adults who may not have holiday plans. Center to be closed: 11/11, 11/27, 11/28, 12/25, 12/26, 01/01, 01/02, 01/19.

**2026 Work Plan & Commission Goals** The 2025 Work Plan items were reviewed with he asks of which are still of highest importance currently. Wanda would like to see the CPR/AED trainings offered at the senior center for participants and volunteer drivers. Nancy would like to see youth engagement increase perhaps with further utilizing the school's Builders Club youth members.

**Comments/Questions:**

Jim asked for transparency of where the Finn Hall's \$10,000 donation to the senior center will be spent. Erin reports that funds will go toward the \$13,000 cost for new carpeting and a portion to the feeding/lunch program. The CBDG funds ended July 1. All donations to the senior center go to off-set costs of the program at this time.

Jim asked if the city will be providing funding for SAIL or Yoga classes. Erin states that the city cannot allocate taxpayer funds to pay for programs.

Jim commented liking the new yoga pre-paid punch cards. He also asked if any intervention needed to encourage everyone to pay for the lunch they eat. Erin reports that we are lunch revenue is on track and that some members pay for months at a time instead of paying daily.

**Adjourned at 10:52am** Jim moved and Jan seconded.



**To:** Buckley Senior Commission

**From:** Erin Snodgrass, Parks and Recreation Director & Lorrie Lund, Senior Center Coordinator

**Date:** January 7, 2026

**Subject:** Jingle Jubilee

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As we reflect on the December Jingle Jubilee, staff is seeking commission input to help evaluate the event and identify opportunities for improvement in future years. Overall, the event continues to be a well-attended seasonal highlight for the Senior Center, offering social connection, a special meal, and festive entertainment.

This year we had 94 in attendance and 32 Community Volunteers to help make the event possible.

To help guide discussion, please consider the following areas and share any feedback, observations, or suggestions:

- **Meal**
  - Quality, menu selection, and portion size
  - Any ideas for improvement or alternative options
- **Entertainment**
  - Overall enjoyment and appropriateness
  - Length, variety, and engagement level
- **Volunteers**
  - Adequacy of volunteer support
  - Roles, organization, and opportunities to better utilize volunteers
- **Logistics & Atmosphere**
  - Room setup, seating, flow of the event
  - Day of the week, time
  - Decorations, check-in process, and overall experience
- **General Feedback**
  - What worked particularly well
  - What should be changed, added, or removed in the future

The goal of this discussion is to build on the event's strengths while identifying practical ways to enhance the experience for participants, volunteers, and staff going forward.



**To:** Buckley Senior Commission

**From:** Erin Snodgrass, Parks and Recreation Director, Lorrie Lund, Senior Center Coordinator

**Date:** January 7, 2026

**Subject:** 2025 in Review – Senior Center Program Participation

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The Senior Center experienced steady and meaningful participation throughout 2025, continuing to serve as an important hub for connection, nutrition, wellness, and supportive services for older adults in the Buckley community.

### **Program Reach**

- Total unduplicated participants served: 299
  - 76.2% Female
  - 26.1% Male
- Total program check-ins: 16,224

This level of engagement reflects frequent repeat use of core services and consistent participation throughout the year, demonstrating the Senior Center's role as a trusted and valued community resource.

### **Key Program Areas:**

#### **Nutrition Program**

- Total meals served: 3,900
- Unduplicated participants served: 164

The nutrition program remains one of the most consistently attended services, providing affordable meals while supporting food security, routine, and meaningful social connection.

#### **Transportation Services**

- 675 van trips to and from the Senior Center
- Over 500 riders for recreation trips and activities

Transportation services continued to be a critical support for access to the Senior Center, essential errands, and recreational opportunities, particularly for participants with limited mobility or transportation options.

### **Social, Recreational, and Supportive Programming**

Participation across a wide range of activities highlights the diverse interests and wellness needs of Senior Center participants.

- Socializing / Drop-in Use: 5,021 check-ins

### **Fitness & Wellness**

- Chair Yoga
  - 74 different participants
  - 1,191 total class attendances
- SAIL Exercise
  - 57 different participants
  - 1,171 total class attendances

### **Games & Group Activities**

- Quiddler: 888 check-ins
- Pinochle: 408 check-ins
- Cribbage: 107 check-ins
- Bingo: 252 check-ins
- Thirty-One: 151 check-ins

### **Interest Groups**

- Knitters
  - 355 check-ins
  - 18 different participants

### **Trips**

- Casino Trips
  - 152 trips taken by 37 participants

### **Wellness Fair and Vaccine Clinic**

The 2025 Wellness Fair and Vaccine Clinic was a significant success, featuring 25 vendors representing local and regional agencies and services. Participating organizations included the food bank, elder law attorneys, home care providers, insurance representatives, AARP Safe Driving, library services, Pierce County Human Services, the Alzheimer's Association, SAIL Exercise, travel resources, and more.

The use of the Multi-Purpose Center (MPC) and Senior Center dining hall allowed for effective circulation and accommodated a large turnout. There was a steady and consistent flow of participants engaging with vendor tables, and vendors provided extensive educational materials and resources. Feedback from Senior Center members following the event was overwhelmingly positive, reinforcing the need and value of accessible, community-based wellness events for older adults.

The vaccine clinic, hosted by Nicholson's Pharmacy, was well attended. Pharmacy staff provided professional services, and a Public Health Nurse assisted participants by accessing individual vaccine health records. Due to ongoing demand, a second vaccine clinic was scheduled later in the year. Thirty-three participants were recorded as attending this clinic, though actual participation was likely higher due to incomplete check-ins.

In addition, both the Senior Center and the Buckley Senior Citizens nonprofit group hosted informational tables to share details about programs, services, and opportunities for involvement.

### **Additional Programs, Services, and Trips**

(numbers indicate times offered at the center)

- Chair Massage: 8
- Blood Pressure Checks: 6
- Wellness Workshops: 9
- Trips to GoodRoots Food Bank: 5
- Plateau Errands: 22
- Tech Help Sessions: 7
- AARP Safe Driving Classes: 2
- Vintage Hat Show: 1
- Memorial Day History Walk with Weeks Funeral Home: 1
- Village Theatre Trips: 2
- AARP Tax Prep Host Site: 6 days
- Shopping, lunch outings, and park trips: 20
- BUNCO: 5
- Mystery Lunch: 9
- Painting and Craft Classes: 4

### **Community Events and Special Meals**

- Volunteer Recognition and Orientation
- Summer BBQ
- Jingle Jubilee
- Special holiday meals for Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas

## Attendance Trends:

### Average Participation by Weekday:

Monday: 69.5  
Tuesday: 91.8  
Wednesday: 57.1  
Thursday: 21.6  
Friday: 74.8

Tuesdays continue to see the highest participation, largely driven by the nutrition program and scheduled activities.

### Average Daily Attendance by Month

January: 54.7	July: 64.4
February: 54.9	August: 67.1
March: 59.3	September: 66.8
April: 64.4	October: 66.7
May: 64.7	November: 68.6
June: 61.4	December: 64.8

## Trends & Observations

- **Core services continue to anchor participation.** The nutrition program, transportation services, and drop-in social use consistently generate the highest engagement, reinforcing their role as foundational services for the Senior Center.
- **Group-based programming drives repeat attendance.** Wellness classes (Chair Yoga and SAIL), games, and regularly scheduled group activities show strong repeat participation, indicating that routine, predictable programming supports sustained engagement.
- **Volunteers remain essential to operations.** The Senior Center relies heavily on the support of volunteer van drivers, receptionists, kitchen assistants, and other volunteers to keep the facility and programs thriving.
- **Transportation expands access and participation.** Van usage for both daily access to the Center and out-of-town recreational trips demonstrates the importance of transportation in removing barriers and increasing participation across multiple program areas.
- **Participation remains steady across the year.** Monthly attendance averages show minimal seasonal decline, with modest increases during spring and summer and sustained engagement through the fall, reflecting consistent demand for services year-round.

- **Weekday patterns align with program offerings.** Higher participation on Tuesdays and Fridays corresponds with nutrition services and scheduled activities, while lower attendance on Thursdays reflects more limited programming.
- **Diverse programming supports a broad participant base.** The mix of wellness, recreation, social, and enrichment activities allows the Center to meet varying interests, abilities, and support needs among older adults.
- **Affordability remains a key factor in access.** Donation supported models and grant-supported programming continue to play an essential role in maintaining inclusive participation and reducing financial barriers.

## **Overall Impact**

Participation data from 2025 reinforces the Senior Center's role as a vital community resource. The Center continues to support the health, independence, and well-being of older adults while fostering connection and reducing isolation.



**To:** Buckley Senior Commission

**From:** Erin Snodgrass, Parks and Recreation Director

**Date:** January 7, 2026

**Subject:** CDBG Funding Update

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Pierce County has confirmed that they will be moving forward with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) contracts with the federal government. As a result, the City of Buckley will receive funding for the previously awarded CDBG grant.

The funding period covers **July 2025 through June 2026**. The grant award is projected to be approximately \$35,000; however, the final award amount will be confirmed in the executed contract and will be determined by funds available.

These funds support two essential senior services:

- **The Tuesday and Thursday senior nutrition program**, helping keep meals low-cost and accessible to all while maintaining the program's dignity-based suggested contribution model.
- **Vehicle maintenance for the senior van**, ensuring safe and reliable transportation for senior participants; and

Staff are pleased that this funding is finally moving forward after a lengthy delay. With confirmation in place, staff will begin the reimbursement process for eligible expenses already incurred related to the nutrition program and senior van maintenance. The contract will go to council for adoption. These reimbursements will help offset program operating costs and reduce the financial impact on the City's General Fund for 2026.

Staff will continue to keep the Commission informed as contracts are finalized and reimbursements are processed.



## Senior Citizen Advisory Commission 2026 WORK PLAN & MEETING DATES

### Senior Center Mission Statement:

*To affirm the dignity and self-worth of older adults by providing services and activities in an atmosphere that encourages and supports senior life to the fullest. The senior center does this through wellness, educational, social, nutritional, cultural, recreational programing, and joyful experiences.*

### 2026 Work Plan

1.	CPR and First Aid With AED classes at Senior Center
2.	Connection with Community Youth
3.	Offer a fall wellness fair for the senior community.
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

### 2026 Meeting Dates:

Jan 7

March 4

May 6

July 1

Sept 3

Nov 5