

Friday Five

Your weekly Thurston County update



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#1 - Thurston County Board of Health Welcomed Three New Members

Expanded Board of Health



New Members:



Heidi Knadel



Tanzania Zenzali-Marshall



Perla Newton

On January 9, the Thurston County Board of Health announced the expansion of its board with the addition of three distinguished community members: Heidi Knadel, Perla Newton, and Tanzania Zenzali-Marshall.

The Board of Health is excited to welcome these community leaders who have dedicated their careers to the betterment of Thurston County. Their diverse backgrounds and expertise will undoubtedly enhance the board's ability to address and navigate the unique health challenges our community faces.

[Learn more](#) about the newest Board of Health members and the [Board of Health's work](#).

#2 - Two Influenza Related Deaths Reported in Thurston County



FIRST INFLUENZA-RELATED DEATHS REPORTED IN THURSTON COUNTY FOR THE 2023-2024 FLU SEASON



Thurston County Public Health and Social Services (PHSS) was notified of two influenza-related deaths in Thurston County residents. To date, in Washington state, there have been 31 influenza-related deaths reported by the [Washington State Department of Health](#) (DOH) during the 2023-2024 influenza season, including one child.

Individuals who get sick with flu symptoms should stay home and avoid contact with others, except to get medical care. While most people with flu have mild illness and do not need medical care or antiviral medications, certain people are at increased risk of serious complications including young children, people 65 and older, pregnant people, and people with certain medical conditions. People in these higher-risk groups are recommended to contact their healthcare provider if they develop flu symptoms.

[Read the news release](#) to learn how you and your family can reduce the risk of illness and spread of respiratory viruses.

#3 - Auditor's Office Receives Award for Financial Reporting

Thurston County Auditor's Office Receives Award for Financial Reporting



The Thurston County Auditor's Financial Services Team received their 17th consecutive Annual Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. Thurston County was recognized by the Government Financial Officers Association (GFOA) for their exceptional financial reporting practices.

"Thurston County prioritizes fiscal integrity through rigorous compliance, strong controls, and exceptional accounting personnel," said Mary Hall, Thurston County Auditor. Hall oversees the Auditor's financial services division and serves as the Chief Financial Officer for the county.

For more information, [read the news release](#).

#4 - Thurston Regional Housing Council is Recruiting Members for its Two Advisory Boards



Recruiting Advisory Board Members!

Applicants must live or work in Thurston County to be considered.

Thurston Affordable Housing Advisory Board

Thurston Affordable Housing Advisory Board is recruiting for three positions with an emphasis on selecting applicants with experience/representation in any of these areas: affordable housing lender, behavioral health or primary care provider, real estate broker, lives or works in Tumwater, lives or works in Lacey.

This advisory board makes recommendations to the Thurston Regional Housing Council on funding priorities and policies related to the expenditures of local, state and federal funding designated for the development of affordable housing in Thurston County.

Apply online at: bit.ly/TAHABapp Applications due January 31, 2024.

Homeless Services Advisory Board

The Homeless Services Advisory Board is recruiting for four open positions with an emphasis on selecting applicants with experience/representation in any of these areas: veteran advocate, behavioral health or primary care provider, disability service provider, lives or works in Tumwater.

This advisory board makes recommendations to the Thurston Regional Housing Council on funding priorities and policies related to the expenditures of local, state and federal funding for homeless services in Thurston County.

Apply online at: bit.ly/HSABapp Applications due January 31, 2024.



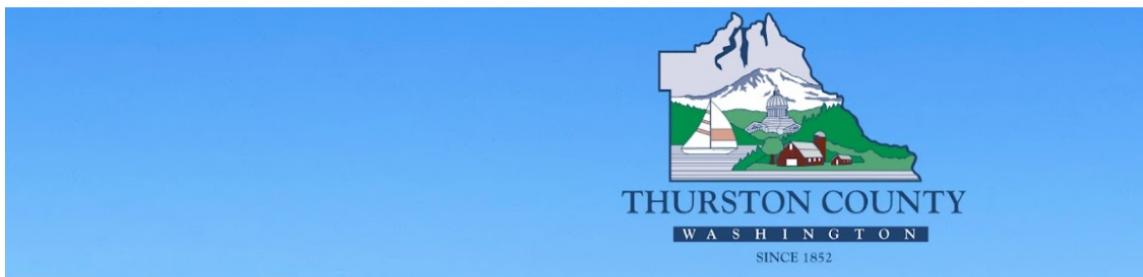
The [Thurston Regional Housing Council \(RHC\)](#) is recruiting new members for the Thurston Affordable Housing Advisory Board and the Homeless Services Advisory Board. These advisory boards make recommendations to the RHC on priorities, funding and policies related to federal, state, and local funds under their respective purviews. With a minimum of eight and a maximum of 14 voting members, each board is made up of a broad-based group of residents and community partners who advise the RHC on how best to invest limited affordable-housing money and related social-services dollars.

The Thurston Affordable Housing Advisory Board makes recommendations on expenditures of the combined county-wide and Olympia Home Fund, the federal HOME Investment Partnership, HB 1406 and HB 2060, and any other existing or future fund sources controlled by the RHC.

The Homeless Services Advisory Board makes recommendations related to the expenditures of the Consolidated Homeless Grant, Housing and Essential Needs, HB 2163 and HB 1277, Emergency Housing Fund, and the Human Services Fund. Additionally, it makes recommendations on any funding designated for homeless services by the RHC from the Thurston County Home Fund.

Applications are due January 31, 2024 for open positions on the Homeless Services Advisory Board and the Thurston Affordable Housing Advisory Board. For more information, read the [announcement](#).

#5 - Subscribe to the Thurston County YouTube Channel!



Thurston County

@ThurstonCountyWashington 1.05K subscribers 1.8K videos

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Coffee With a Commissioner - Wildfire Preparedness and Smo...

453 views · 1 month ago

Commissioner Mejia discusses wildfire preparedness and smoke safety with Ben Miller-Todd, Emergency Services Director with Thurston County, and Jeff Johnston, Executive Director at Olympic Region Clean Air Agency.

Additional Resources:

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[READ MORE](#)

[Commissioners Meetings](#) [Public Hearings](#) and [Work Sessions](#)

Did you know Thurston County has a YouTube channel? The [official YouTube channel of Thurston County](#) is where you can [watch live](#) and recorded Board of County Commissioner meetings and work sessions. You can also watch episodes of [Coffee with a Commissioner](#), our talk show program where our commissioners interview subject matter experts on timely and relevant topics to Thurston County. Subscribe to the channel so you don't miss out on new videos!



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Thurstoncountywa.gov



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