

AGENDA
GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, March 9, 2026 - 5:30 PM
Council Chambers

This meeting may also be accessed through Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/93216056382> or by calling (253) 215-8782 and entering Meeting ID 932 1605 6382. Please see the public comment & decorum section at the end of this agenda for information on options for making public comments.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Before we begin this council meeting we would like to recognize that we are gathered on not only the ancestral and traditional lands of the sx̣wəbabč band of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, but also on the site of one of the largest and longest standing historic villages of their people, the original inhabitants of the Gig Harbor area.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

1. Women's History Month Proclamation
2. Greater Gig Harbor Foundation Senior Center Building Update
3. Eddon Boatyard & BoatShop Update

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

1. City Council Minutes: January 15, 2026; January 26, 2026; January 29, 2026; February 9, 2026; February 12, 2026; and February 23, 2026
2. Approval of Vouchers: AP check numbers 201888 through 202007, PR check numbers 109114 through 109117, and ACH payments in the amount of \$799,550.19
3. Approval of Payroll

4. **Ordinance 1559 and Resolution 1356 Adopting Revised Business Hours for the Civic Center and Amending Code Related to Hours of the Civic Center**

MAYOR'S REPORT

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. **Department Updates**

BUSINESS ITEMS

STAFF REPORTS

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

COUNCIL REPORTS/ COMMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. **Upcoming City Meetings**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: To discuss the potential acquisition of real estate per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b)

ADJOURN

PUBLIC COMMENT & DECORUM

PUBLIC COMMENT & DECORUM

The city council wants to hear from the public as much as possible. However, the business of the city must proceed in an orderly, timely manner. The primary purpose of council meetings is to conduct the city's business so we have created a variety of ways the community can make their voices heard. Monday city council meetings are just one opportunity. These guidelines are designed to make sure every person who wants to be heard has both the opportunity to be heard and feels welcome to do so.

We receive comments three ways:

1. During council meetings
2. During council study sessions.
3. Email mayorandcouncil@gigharborwa.gov at any time about any issue. This email goes to the elected officials and leadership at the city.

Public Comment at City Council Meetings

We welcome comment at Council meetings during three specific times: 1) prior to approval of the consent agenda (about the consent agenda); 2) prior to deliberation on each business item and 3) at the end of each business session (about any item that concerns you).

When the mayor calls for public comment, please come to the front of the room (or raise your hand on Zoom). When it's your turn, we'll ask you to tell us your name and connection to the issue you want to discuss. You'll then have a maximum of three minutes to speak.

Unfortunately, this isn't a time for dialogue, but a staff person or councilmember may be available to talk with you at a break or after the meeting.

Additional guidelines

- Anyone making "out of order" comments may be subject to removal from the meeting.
- Please address your remarks to the city council as a body and not to any specific individual.
- Please be courteous and not engage in derogatory remarks or insinuations.
- No demonstrations, including clapping, are allowed.

Email

You are welcome to email the mayor and councilmembers about any issue facing the city by writing to the address above. Do remember that council sets the policy direction while city departments execute those decisions. A series of online reporting tools might help you resolve an issue more quickly, so check them out

too: <https://www.gigharborwa.gov/146/Submit>

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) ACCOMMODATIONS

ADA accommodations can be provided upon request. Those requiring special accommodations should contact the city clerk at cityclerk@gigharborwa.gov or (253) 853-7613 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.



**City of Gig Harbor
City Council Agenda Bill**

Meeting Date: March 9, 2026

SUBJECT: Ordinance 1559 and Resolution 1356 Adopting Revised Business Hours for the Civic Center and Amending Code Related to Hours of the Civic Center

SUBMITTED BY: Katharine Shaffer

DEPARTMENT: Community Development

PHONE: 253-853-7615

SUGGESTED MOTION: Approve as presented.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This ordinance updates the City of Gig Harbor's official public operating hours from 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and amends related provisions of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code (GHMC) to ensure consistency with the revised hours. The associated resolution officially amends the business hours of the Civic Center.

The city council reviewed the proposed change during a study session on December 11, 2025. The proposed 30-minute adjustment supports the city's strategic plan goal of fostering a healthy and sustainable organization while maintaining public accessibility and service levels. The change reflects modern workforce considerations, including increased regional housing costs and extended commute times, and aligns Gig Harbor's operating hours more closely with surrounding jurisdictions in Pierce and Kitsap Counties.

Because several sections of the GHMC reference the city's closing time for purposes of filing deadlines, appeals, public comment periods, and records availability, corresponding amendments are necessary to maintain clarity and consistent administration. Specifically, this ordinance amends:

- GHMC 2.52.050 Disclosure of Public Records; Availability of Public Records
 - GHMC 8.08.080 Junk Vehicles; Hearing
 - GHMC 19.02.004 Type I–IV Project Permit Processing; Notice of Application
 - GHMC 19.05.010 Open Record Public Hearings; Reconsideration of Decision
 - GHMC 19.06.004 Open and Closed Record Appeals
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FISCAL CONSIDERATION: This section details the financial issues involved in the issue before Council, if applicable. It can include only the information contained in the table below or it can include additional financial information.

Expenditure Required: \$ 0	Amount Budgeted: \$ 0	Appropriation Required: \$ 0
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ATTACHMENTS:

1. O-1559 430 Closure Ordinance
2. R-1356 - Civic Center Hours

STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITY: Fostering a healthy and sustainable organization while maintaining public accessibility and service levels

ORDINANCE 1559

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE GIG HARBOR MUNICIPAL CODE TO REVISE THE CITY'S OFFICIAL PUBLIC OPERATING HOURS FROM 8:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M. TO 8:00 A.M.–4:30 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY; AMENDING GHMC SECTIONS 2.52.050, 8.08.080, 19.02.004, 19.05.010, AND 19.06.004; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, The City of Gig Harbor currently maintains official City Hall public operating hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the proposal to modify the City's official City Hall public operating hours to 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Council Study Session on December 11, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that a 30-minute adjustment to official City Hall public operating hours supports the City's Strategic Plan goal to foster a healthy city organization while maintaining public accessibility and service levels;

WHEREAS, the Council finds that modern workforce conditions, including increased regional housing costs and extended commute times, warrant consideration of reasonable adjustments to support employee well-being; and

WHEREAS, surrounding jurisdictions in Pierce and Kitsap Counties maintain reduced public operating hours, demonstrating regional consistency in municipal practices; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that updating references in the Gig Harbor Municipal Code to reflect revised operating hours ensures clarity, administrative efficiency, and consistent application of filing deadlines; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment to GHMC 2.52.050 – Disclosure of Public Records; Availability of Public Records.

GHMC 2.52.050(A) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Hours for Inspection of Records. Public records are available for inspection and copying during normal business hours of the city, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to ~~5:00~~ 4:30 p.m., excluding legal holidays. Records must be inspected at the offices of the city.

Section 2. Amendment to GHMC 8.08.080 – Junk Vehicles; Hearing.

GHMC 8.08.080(A) is hereby amended to read as follows:

The property owner, tenant, vehicle owner or other person responsible for the violation may appeal the notice of violation by requesting such appeal of the notice within 15 calendar days after service of the notice. When the last day of the period so computed is a Saturday, Sunday, or federal or city holiday, the period shall run until ~~5:00~~ 4:30 p.m. on the next business day. The request shall be in writing, and upon receipt of the appeal request, the enforcement officer shall forward the request to the municipal court judge.

Section 3. Amendment to GHMC 19.02.004 – Type I–IV Project Permit Processing; Notice of Application.

GHMC 19.02.004(D) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Public Comment on the Notice of Application. All public comments received on the notice of application must be received in the department of planning by ~~5:00~~ 4:30 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. Comments may be mailed, personally delivered or sent by facsimile; provided, that mailed comments received after the comment period has expired will not be accepted. Comments should be as specific as possible.

Section 4. Amendment to GHMC 19.05.010 – Open Record Public Hearings; Reconsideration of Decision.

GHMC 19.05.010(B) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Time to File. A request for reconsideration must be filed with the city planning director within 10 calendar days of the hearing examiner's written decision. Such requests shall be delivered to the director by mail, personal delivery or fax before ~~5:00~~ 4:30 p.m. on the last business day of the reconsideration period. Requests for reconsideration that are received by mail after ~~5:00~~ 4:30 p.m. on the last day of this reconsideration period will not be accepted, no matter when such requests were mailed or postmarked.

Section 5. Amendment to GHMC 19.06.004 – Open and Closed Record Appeals.

GHMC 19.06.004(A)(2) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Time to File. An appeal must be filed within 14 days after the issuance of the notice of decision. Appeals must be filed no later than ~~5:00~~ 4:30 p.m. on the final day of the appeal period. Appeals received by mail after ~~5:00~~ 4:30 p.m. on the last day of the appeal period will not be accepted, no matter when such appeals were mailed

or postmarked. Any document received by the City after 4:30 p.m. on a business day shall be deemed received on the next business day.

Section 6. Codification.

The City Clerk is authorized to make clerical corrections consistent with this ordinance and to update the Gig Harbor Municipal Code accordingly.

Section 7. Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance.

Section 8. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect five (5) days after publication as required by law. The City's official public operating hours shall change to 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning on April 1, 2026.

ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Gig Harbor at a regular meeting thereof, held this March 9, 2026.

Mary K. Barber
Mayor

Approved as to form:

Attest:

Daniel Kenny
City Attorney

Joshua Stecker, CMC
City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 1356

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, AMENDING THE GIG HARBOR CIVIC CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 1174 adopted on September 14, 2009 established the procedure for the Civic Center days and hours of operation to be set by Resolution;

WHEREAS, the city has evaluated operational efficiency, staffing patterns, public service delivery, and alignment with regional partners and peer jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, analysis has demonstrated that adjusting official business hours to 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. will better align daily staffing schedules with workload demand, improve internal coordination, and promote operational consistency across departments; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change maintains a full eight-hour workday for employees while allowing the organization to better deploy staff resources in support of the city's mission of dedicated public service; and

WHEREAS, the new Gig Harbor Civic Center hours will be posted on the city's website and other public areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Gig Harbor Civic Center hours are established as follows: The Gig Harbor Civic Center shall be open for business from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday of each and every week, except designated holidays.

Section 2. The Gig Harbor Civic Center hours established in this Resolution shall be effective starting on April 1, 2026.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor at a regular meeting thereof, held this 9th day of March, 2026.

APPROVED:

MAYOR MARY BARBER

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

CITY CLERK, TIFFANY ALIMENT

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: _____
RESOLUTION NO. 1356

A twice-monthly summary from your City of Gig Harbor Leadership Team

These department updates are an effort to increase our internal and external communication initiatives, to provide the mayor and city councilmembers with the information they need to serve the public and make informed decisions, and just as importantly, to share citywide information and updates with all staff and residents. Please feel free to send any questions, suggestions, or concerns about this document to communications@gigharborwa.gov.

Administration

City Administrator Katrina Knutson

Connecting with our waterfront business community: City staff participated in this month's Waterfront Business Meet-Up, a standing gathering hosted by the Waterfront Alliance that brings together downtown business owners and community partners. Community Development Director Eric Baker and Public Works Director Jeff Langhelm regularly attend on behalf of the city to share updates, answer questions, and hear directly from the local business community. These conversations are an important part of our economic development and community efforts. Maintaining open lines of communication is foundational to better understanding the needs of our small businesses, identify opportunities for collaboration, and respond proactively to concerns. Strong relationships with our downtown business community help the city foster sustainable growth that strengthens both heritage and opportunity.



South Sound Military & Communities Partnership: The city council recently received a presentation from Maria Tobin, who serves as the Manager of the South Sound Military & Communities Partnership (SSMCP). Ms. Tobin provided an overview of the partnership's mission, structure, and regional impact, highlighting the importance of coordinated efforts among local governments to support military installations and the broader defense economy. Following the

presentation and discussion, the council voiced support for the City of Gig Harbor to join SSMCP, recognizing the value of regional collaboration in addressing shared priorities.

By becoming a member of SSMCP, the city affirms its commitment to supporting our military community and strengthening the military-driven economy that plays such an important role in our region. We look forward to working alongside our neighboring jurisdictions, community partners, and military leaders to advance initiatives that enhance quality of life for service members and their families, protect military missions, and ensure long-term economic resilience throughout the South Sound.

SSMCP's general work plan focuses on protecting and enhancing military missions, advancing compatible land use planning, supporting infrastructure and transportation coordination, strengthening workforce development pipelines, and advocating at the state and federal levels for policies that benefit military installations and surrounding communities. The partnership has successfully fostered regional collaboration, secured funding support for military-community compatible projects, and elevated the South Sound's collective voice in Olympia and Washington, D.C. For our city, participation in SSMCP ensures we are at the table in conversations that directly impact regional economic stability, infrastructure investment, and the long-term vitality of our military community.

Legal Aid Pop-Up: The city hosted a successful Legal Aid Pop-Up on Feb. 17 in partnership with Tacoma Pro Bono Community Lawyers, providing free civil legal services directly to Gig Harbor community members. Offered twice every month, these clinics ensure residents have consistent, no-cost access to professional civil legal guidance. Upcoming Legal Aid Pop-Ups are scheduled for March 10 from 4 to 6 p.m. and March 16 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Youth council meeting: The youth council convened this month to continue advancing leadership development and civic engagement among Gig Harbor youth. During the meeting, members voted to focus their upcoming Youth Summit on youth mental health, reflecting their thoughtful assessment of current community needs. More details to come as planning progresses.

Unified Regional Approach (URA): The mayor attended the recent Elected Leadership Group meeting. The city's housing, health, and human services program manager participated in the URA Staff Work Group to remain actively engaged in regional coordination efforts. The city continues to participate to ensure the needs and voices of Gig Harbor residents are represented in this important regional conversation.

Community Development

Community Development Director Eric Baker

Community development: As a reminder, the city will be holding an open house on the critical areas code update on March 11, which followed a virtual workshop held on March 3. These combined with stakeholder discussions will help staff develop a revised draft for formal presentation to the planning commission and council later this year. For more information regarding the update, please visit the [project webpage](#).

Planning: The planning department is pleased to welcome Cory Ragan as our new senior planner. If you're near our area, please feel free to stop by and introduce yourself.

The Public Hearing for Lift Station #5 on Harborview Drive is scheduled for March 3 at 1:30 p.m. The project will replace aging infrastructure and relocate the facility outside areas anticipated to be affected by future king tides.

Building: During this past reporting period the building & fire division received applications for 36 new permits, including those for the Gig Harbor Homeport and Frankies, a new boutique going in at Uptown. 23 permits were issued, and an additional nine projects were completed.

HUGE congratulations go out this week to our very own David Boyer! David recently added "Master Code Professional" to his impressive and extensive list of professional credentials. Presented to him by the International Code Council, this is the highest level of professional credentialing that is obtainable in our field. In order to receive this honor, David had to demonstrate proficiency in over 25 disciplines. After eight long years of study, testing, and most of all dedication, we are hoping he will finally take a much-deserved break (but probably not). We truly could not be more proud of David. Just to give you an idea of David's dedication to his craft, along with being a licensed architect, his professional credentials include:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Housing and Zoning Code Specialist | Residential Plans Examiner |
| Residential Combination Inspector | Building Code Specialist |
| Residential Energy Inspector/Plans Examiner | Certified Fire Marshal |
| Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector | Zoning Inspector |
| Certified Building Official | Fire Code Specialist |
| Code Enforcement Technician | Mechanical Inspector |
| Fire Codes and Standards | Plumbing Inspector |
| Residential Plumbing Inspector | Building Inspector |
| Commercial Electrical Inspector | Fire Inspector I |
| Commercial Combination Inspector | Fire Inspector II |
| Residential Mechanical Inspector | Residential Building Inspector |
| Commercial Building Inspector | Electrical Inspector |
| Residential Electrical Inspector | Combination Inspector |
| Building Inspector | Building Plans Examiner |
| Accessibility Inspector/Plans Examiner | Fire Plans Examiner |
| Commercial Mechanical Inspector | Commercial Plumbing Inspector |
| Master Code Professional | |

Code enforcement: Our new code enforcement officer, Jesse Savage, began his new position on March 2. It is great to have him, his knowledge of the city and personality, acting as the face of community development to many in the public.

Additionally, staff conducted sign enforcement over the weekend of Feb. 28, collecting 82 signs installed in violation of city sign code. There were several real estate a-boards that only appear on the weekends. Thank you to Kyle Hendricks and Nestor Guevara for taking time out of their weekend.

Court

[Court Administrator Stacy Colberg](#)

No updates this time but stay tuned!

Finance

[Interim Finance Director Scott Larson](#)

The finance team has been hard at work wrapping up 2025, including paying final bills out of the 2025 budget, starting the financial statement preparation process, and auditing 2025 transactions and accounts. For our 2025 financial statements, we are working on engaging an outside accounting firm that can help us validate several of the new accounting standards that we have to meet and allow internal staff to focus on the challenges of generational transition within the team.

Staffing: The finance team has three positions currently open: utility billing technician, senior accountant, and finance director. We had first round interviews with utility billing technicians and have invited our top two candidates back for a second, less formal interview. We hope to have an offer out the week of March 9.

The senior accountant role is on a rolling deadline, and we are interviewing two candidates the week of March 2, with no plan on when we expect offers to be made. The finance director role is filled on an interim basis, and I have committed to stay on at least until the annual report is submitted at the end of May.

Utility rates: Finance has been working with the utility billing team and public works to implement the new utility billing rates that went into effect March 1. The bill going out at the end of March will be split between the old and new rate structure, and the bill going out the end of April will be completely on the new rate structure.

Human Resources

[Human Resources Director Shannon Costanti](#)

Advance your career: Looking to grow in your career? Check out the [current job opportunities](#) here at the city!

Position	Type	Status
Maintenance Technician (parks)	FT	Closes March 12
Senior Accountant	FT	Open until filled
Seasonal Worker	FT	Open until filled
Utility Billing Technician	FT	Closed - selection pending
Maintenance Technician	FT	Closed - selection pending

Code Compliance Officer	FT	Closed - Jesse Savage started Mar. 2
Senior Planner	FT	Closed - Cory Ragan started Mar. 2

Information Technology Systems

ITS Manager Logan Rosenstiel

No updates this time but stay tuned!

Police

Police Chief Tray Federici

Four weeks in, already leading: As Student Officer Kelly Palmore completes her first four weeks at the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA), she continues to demonstrate initiative, leadership, and strong preparation.

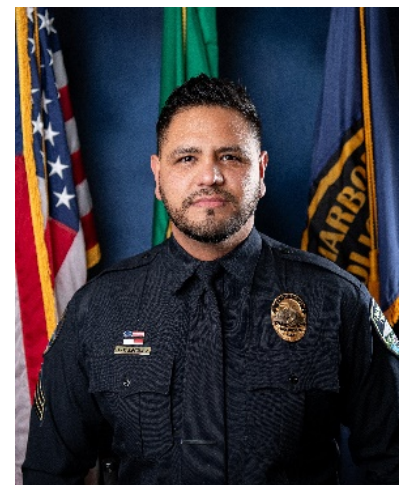
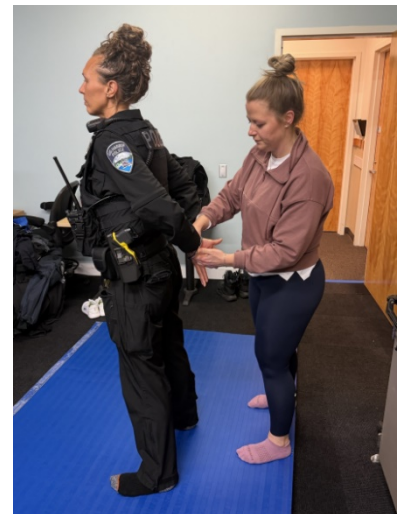
In week two, Kelly was voted in by her peers as squad leader and volunteered to serve as class scribe. Classroom instruction has been complemented by practical exercises, including a group presentation examining the evolving relationship between law enforcement and our LGBTQI+ community.

Academy training has included multiple defensive tactics sessions (standing, prone, and kneeling handcuffing), taser certification, report writing, mock theft investigations focused on reasonable suspicion and probable cause, as well as Crisis Intervention (CIT) and Emotional Intelligence (EI) instruction.

Kelly noted that GHPD's pre-academy preparation gave her confidence during skills application. She also took initiative prior to the academy by learning the phonetic alphabet and assisting classmates during mock radio exercises.

Sergeant Dominguez shared that Kelly has voluntarily dedicated personal time to sharpening her handcuffing skills. The academy recognizes recruits who complete 500 repetitions prior to graduation, a goal Kelly has set for herself. Officers have stepped in to support her scenario practice, reflecting both her commitment and the strong team culture behind her.

Sergeant Dominguez is the field training and student officer supervisor.



Ongoing vandalism at Doris Heritage Park: Doris Heritage Park has experienced repeated acts of significant vandalism and related mischief in recent months. These incidents have resulted in damage to park facilities, including restrooms, and have required temporary closures for repairs. The financial impact of these repeated repairs ultimately falls on the community. The police department has deployed overtime patrols during identified peak times of concern to deter further damage. While this has provided short-term visibility and enforcement presence, it is not a sustainable long-term solution.

We are working closely with city leadership to reinforce messaging that promotes community awareness and shared responsibility. Investigative indicators suggest the involvement of juveniles; however, we continue to assess each incident individually. Gig Harbor's parks belong to the entire community. Protecting these spaces requires partnership.

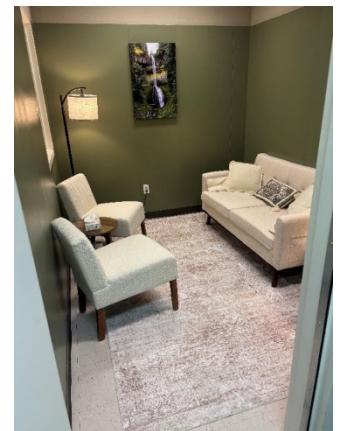


If you observe suspicious behavior or activity in or around Doris Heritage Park, please contact the Gig Harbor Police Department at (253) 851-2236, ext. 2, or dial 911 in the event of an emergency.

Community awareness and timely reporting remain critical components in preventing further damage.

GHPD modernizes victim & interview space: Many police investigations require sensitive conversations with victims of crime, children, individuals in crisis, witnesses to traumatic events, survivors of domestic violence, and others experiencing significant stress. The setting in which those conversations occur matters.

Recognizing the evolving expectations of modern policing and the importance of trauma-informed practices, the Gig Harbor Police Department has redesigned one of its interview rooms to better support those interactions. The space has been transformed into a warm, balanced, and welcoming environment intended to reduce stress and increase comfort during what are often difficult conversations.



This initiative was led by several officers and detectives who worked together with city facilities maintenance staff to bring the room to its full potential. Their collaboration ensured the space is both functional for investigative needs and thoughtfully designed for those who use it.

In addition to investigative interviews, the room will also be available for use by the city's housing, health, and human services program manager when meeting with community members in need of support. This shared use reinforces a coordinated, service-oriented approach to addressing community challenges.

Gig Harbor police assist with critical incident: On Feb. 24, officers and detectives from the Gig Harbor Police Department responded to assist the Pierce County Sheriff's Office during a critical incident in their jurisdiction.

Our personnel supported the initial response and scene management efforts, while also maintaining law enforcement coverage in Districts 14 and 15. This allowed our partner agency the necessary time and flexibility to manage the incident while ensuring continued service and visibility for the surrounding community. As is often the case in regional policing, our officers stepped forward without hesitation in support of our neighboring agency and the community.

In the hours that followed, we learned the incident claimed several lives, including the lives of two women with significant ties to the City of Gig Harbor. The news has deeply impacted many within our community.

Our thoughts remain with the families, friends, and all those affected. Moments like this remind us that public safety is a shared responsibility, and that the impact of tragedy is rarely confined by jurisdictional boundaries.

Strengthening domestic violence response: The Gig Harbor Police Department continues to make steady progress in implementing the Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT) and the Domestic Abuse Lethality Evaluation (DA-LE) program in partnership with Our Sister's House and the city's Housing, Health, and Human Services Program Manager Shea Smiley.

The DVHRT model is designed to enhance coordination in domestic violence cases where risk factors suggest the potential for continued harm. It brings law enforcement, advocacy, and community partners together to improve information-sharing, strengthen safety planning, and provide appropriate support and follow-up services. Complementing this effort, the DA-LE program equips officers with an 11-question evidence-based assessment tool used during domestic violence investigations to better evaluate risk factors and guide decision-making.

The department is currently finalizing updates to Policy 310 (Domestic Violence) to formally incorporate the DA-LE assessment. A draft of the revised policy and assessment instrument has been submitted to the Geiger Institute for compliance review to ensure alignment with established standards. Approval is anticipated shortly, after which the department will move directly into the training phase.

Following approval, a train-the-trainer session will be conducted for Lieutenant King and Shea Smiley to ensure consistent instruction and implementation. Once certified, all officers will receive training on administering the DA-LE and understanding the associated risk scale, including high-risk designations that may warrant additional coordination and safety planning.

Public Works

Public Works Director Jeff Langhelm

Wastewater operations: (1) Staff have begun preparing for the city's annual gravity sewer main inspections. This will start the second week in March and run through the month of April. The areas scheduled for inspection will be primarily downtown Gig Harbor, along with Skansie Ave and the

North Creek area. Wastewater staff will again be using sound wave detection equipment (known as SL-RAT) to identify any current or potential blockages in the lines. Staff will perform inspections of associated manholes. To see more information on the city's annual sewer line inspections, including hearing the sound made by the inspection equipment, [see this webpage](#). (2) Staff have been collecting wastewater lift station pumping data and other wastewater data to assist the city's sewer modeling consultant, BHC Consultants. BHC is currently looking at sewer flows along the Burnham Drive conveyance infrastructure. (4) Staff are working to update the operation and maintenance manual for the wastewater treatment plant. This work is a requirement of the city's wastewater National Pollutant & Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

Parks and facility operations: (1) Spring cleaning is underway across the city. Crews are out weeding planter beds in the parks and will also slowly start performing the first mow on parks and streetscapes as weather and staffing levels cooperate. (2) The city is working on a contract to install security cameras at Doris Heritage Park due to recent vandalism. (3) We will start work on the trail connection to the conservation properties from the Cushman Trail this week and work on widening some portions of those trails to open them up more. (4) Staff have now completed the annual fire system inspections at facilities across the city, including the Civic Center and the Public Works Ops Center/Shop buildings. (5) This week staff are completing the annual inspection, replacement, and updates to city fire extinguishers. These extinguishers are carried in city vehicles and inside of buildings that we all work at.

Street and storm operations: (1) Staff completed the installation of a battery backup system for the traffic signal system at the intersection of 32nd Ave and Olympic Drive. This backup system is the second such system installed by the city and will allow the signal to operate for a few hours when the electrical system is disrupted. (2) Crews installed a new Wavetronix detection system at the intersection of Grandview Street and Pioneer Way. This signal is now using modern radar detection instead of in-ground loop detection. (3) Crews have begun using our new street sweeper. It has a larger capacity so fewer dumping trips, which equates to more time sweeping. (4) The city has recently received our new 5-yard Kenworth with snowplow and sander. This replaces a 27-year-old dump truck.



Pacific Northwest Resource Management School: Parks Manager Jennifer Haro was able to attend this week-long course with other parks professionals from around the Pacific Northwest. Jennifer was able to network with other jurisdictions about parks management, and learn how to create a resource management plan, which is helpful for establishing labor needs, expectations, and establishing budgets.

Soundview Forest projects: The Soundview Forest Tree Removal project is currently out to bid. This project will remove 18 trees that were identified in an arborists report from 2018 as diseased and in need of removal. Bids are due March 12, so hopefully a contract will be awarded shortly after that. In addition, the grant with the Department of Ecology for a stormwater park feasibility study has been executed. Staff are working to bring a consultant on board to work on the feasibility study in compliance with the grant. Public works will be working with the consultant and communications manager to keep neighbors and the public informed as the projects progress.

Capital improvement project status updates: For the most recent updates on the city's design and construction projects, see our online [CIP StoryMap](#).

UPCOMING GIG HARBOR CITY MEETINGS
ALL AGENDA ITEMS TENTATIVE – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Please see the meeting agenda for specific details on how to attend: <https://www.gigharborwa.gov/811/Agendas-Minutes>

Day	Date	Time	Group	Agenda Items
M	Mar. 9	5:30pm	City Council Meeting	see agenda
TH	Mar. 12	3:00pm	City Council Study Session	Proposed YMCA Lease Amendment (15 minutes)
Tu	Mar. 17	11:00am	Arts Commission	2026 Creative Endeavor Grant Applications Review and Funding Recommendation
TH	Mar. 19	5:30pm	Planning Commission	Critical Areas Outreach Results
M	Mar. 23	5:30pm	City Council Meeting	Presentation: - Youth Council Update - Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation (Shea) Consent: 2026 Creative Endeavor Grants Business: - Ordinance 15XX Wage Schedule Amendment - Lease Amendment with YMCA - Services Agreement with YMCA for Phase 1 of Gig Harbor Sports Complex - Resolution 1355 – Harborview Drive Sidewalk Emergency Declaration
TH	Mar. 26	3:00pm	City Council Study Session	- End of Legislative Session Report (Shelly Helder) - Strategic Plan – Final Council Direction (90-min)
M	Apr. 13	5:30pm	City Council Meeting	Presentation: - GH Junior Sailing Update (Joan Storkman) Business: - Professional Services Contract with Parametix – 7601 Soundview Dr Stormwater Park Feasibility Study
TH	Apr 16	3:00pm	City Council Study Session	- Manganese Feasibility Study Discussion and Next Steps (30-min) - North Creek Culvert Replacement – RSI Next Steps (30 min) - Gig Harbor North Projected Development Discussion (30-min)
TH	May 7	3:00pm	Quarterly Civil Service Commission Meeting	
M	May 11	5:30pm	City Council Meeting	Presentation: Mental Health Awareness Proclamation (Shea)