Headlines

News from University Place City Hall

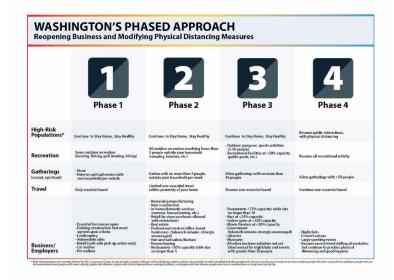


May 6, 2020

University Place Parks Reopening

In response to Governor Jay Inslee's announced relaxing of outdoor recreation restrictions in Washington, the City of University Place re-opened its parks and recreation facilities, effective Monday, May 4.

U.P.'s parks and playgrounds will be open from dawn until dusk. All playground equipment will be sterilized daily, but restrooms will remain closed.



Residents who use the City's parks are encouraged to continue to follow the basic rules of social distancing, including:

- Keep a distance of six feet between yourself and others.
- Bring masks with you in case social distancing is not possible.
- Avoid heavily crowded areas. The City of U.P. has 17 parks, playgrounds and open spaces with a combined total of more than 36 miles of trails and sidewalks, so seek out less trafficked areas.
- Bring hand sanitizer or wipes along to disinfect your hands.
- Recreate close to home and try to limit your interactions to those in your immediate household.

"We are counting on people to self-police their play and recreation during this time," said Gary Cooper, director of Public Works, Parks & Facilities for the City of University Place. "The Governor has made it clear that if people are not following social distancing requirements or if there is an uptick in cases of the COVID-19 virus, we may have to close the parks and recreations facilities again. So we hope that everyone will do their part to ensure that we can all continue to enjoy the great outdoors again."

Please visit the Governor's webpage on specific details regarding the

phased approach to re-opening of facilities.

Chief's Corner by Greg Premo

To support our commitment to proactive community-based policing, the U.P. Police Department has been looking for a platform that will enable us to communicate directly with citizens regarding real-time crime and safety concerns.

We believe we have found the right tool with Ring's Neighbors App. This free app is available to everyone, not just Ring customers. It allows residents to share information with each other about activity in their neighborhoods and creates a means of communicating that information directly to us.



The process is simple: when you **download the app**, you provide your address and create your "neighborhood" by expanding a grid around it. Based on those parameters, you will receive an alert when posts are made regarding that defined neighborhood.

This is another way we can share information on incidents that have occurred and solicit the public's help in solving crimes. If your neighborhood is in the area where a crime occurred, we may request video footage during a specific time frame via a Ring alert. If you are a Ring camera owner, you can directly share any relevant footage you have with us; if you are not a Ring customer, you can provide relevant video footage via methods such as email or flash drive, etc.

Please note: the U.P. Police Department does not have access to your cameras. We will simply make requests for footage and you can decide what you want to share. This phone app is not a replacement for calling 911 to report inprogress crimes or to report incidents when you are a victim. And you still need to call the non-emergency dispatch number at 253.798.4721 to file a report.

We are excited to connect with U.P. residents through this new platform and are looking forward to using it to reduce crime and stay connected with our community. The initial feedback we've received on this initiative has been overwhelmingly positive and further evidence of how teamwork between police and residents produces the best outcomes in public safety.

If you have general questions about the Ring app, please email the U.P. Police Department directly at **UPPublicSafety@CityofUP.com**.

Imagine 2045 Campaign Update

The City of U.P.'s Imagine 2045 Committee has been hard at work during the Governor's Stay Home, Stay Healthy order. Members have been meeting remotely twice a month while working to review and



categorize the input received from various FlashVote polls. In all, they have reviewed 1,055 comments and sorted them by themes and ensuing action items. The themes include:

- Events
- Housing

- Public Safety
- Retail Development

- Maintenance
- Nuisances
- Parks & Rec

- Schools
- Street/Parking/Garage
- Transi

According to Mayor Pro Tem Steve Worthington, who is heading up the effort, the next step will be to review those themes and determine first and foremost any that would require legislative action by the Council. "For instance, if there is a desire to address zoning density in the city, that would require legislative action to amend our zoning codes," he said. Other items will have to be addressed from a budgetary perspective, Worthington added. "We may want more police officers, but the question becomes how do we pay for them?"

Although the original plan for Imagine 2045 was to review the community's feedback during the City Council's planned annual retreat this month, the process has been altered to reflect COVID-19 restrictions. Worthington anticipates the Council will begin to review the feedback remotely. "Now that we have established a regular process for our remote City Council meetings, we encourage citizens to submit their questions and public testimony to the City Clerk prior to each meeting so that they can continue to be engaged in the Imagine 2045 process," Worthington added.

He also notes that the world has changed drastically since the Imagine 2045 campaign began. "The feedback we received was all pre-coronavirus, but I suspect that some of our community's priorities may have shifted since then," Worthington said. "So we may revisit some topics, such as parks and recreation, to make sure we truly reflect the realities of our new normal."

An Important Reminder about Illegal Dumping

Members of the City of University Place Public Works department have reported an increase in illegal dumping throughout the city since the COVID-19 shutdown began. As a reminder to all residents, regularly scheduled trash collection in University Place has continued uninterrupted so everyone should adhere to their regular collection schedules and requirements.

There was a brief interruption in recycling when **U.P. Refuse** temporarily closed its main recycling center at 2815 Rochester Rd. W. But that facility is now open again Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This is for recycling only; no garbage, yard waste, concrete, wood or appliances will be accepted.

As a reminder, per the City of University Place Municipal Code, those who engage in illegal dumping may be fined up to \$1,000 for each day that a violation occurs and may also be found guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for a period up to 90 days, by a fine of up to \$1,000, or both.

Residents who want to report illegal dumping should contact **Melanie Boehm**, the City of U.P.'s Code Enforcement Officer, or call her at 253.460.2548.

What's UP with Biz? Support Our Open Businesses

Several businesses in Green Firs Towne Center remain open to provide essential services to

members of our community, including our fourlegged friends.

Mud Bay has been deemed an essential business under Washington and Oregon's stay-at-home orders and is open to ensure the public can continue to care for their dogs and cats. You can call the U.P. store at **253.565.1955** to place an order and request curbside pickup or, starting this Friday, May 8, customers will be able to order online for curbside pickup. The store is open daily and fully stocked, but social distancing is being enforced with limited store occupancy and six-feet spacing required. Check the **Mud Bay website** for operating hours, including times reserved for at-risk customers.



In addition to Mud Bay, residents are encouraged to patronize these other Green Firs businesses that are also open:

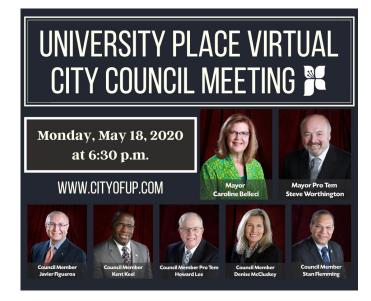
- Green Cleaners
- Jimmy John's
- Maria's
- McDonald's
- Papa Murphy's
- Pizza Hut

- Rite Aid
- Safeway
- Sapporo
- Starbucks
- Trader Joe's
- UPS Store

City Council is Meeting Virtually

This is just a reminder that the U.P. City Council is now holding its meetings virtually.

Council members are connecting from their homes and voting on Consent Agenda items that have been previously studied and discussed. In addition, the meetings also allow for public comment and public testimony on items that are emailed to the City Clerk in advance of the meeting. Those who wish to submit public comments for the



May 18 City Council meeting need to send them to **Emy Genetia**, City Clerk. Comments received by 5:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be provided to the City Council electronically for consideration at that evening's meeting. Comments received after that deadline will be provided to the City Council after the meeting.

The May 4, 2020 City Council meeting can be viewed on the City's **YouTube channel**, and residents are encouraged to tune in live on Monday, May 18 for the next meeting via Click! Channel 12 and Comcast Channel 21 or on the City's

YouTube channel. For those who wish to listen via phone, check the City's **updated calendar** for a link.

Pierce County Continues Hidden Hills Sewer Project

The Hidden Hills pump station, part of Pierce County's sewer system, was built in the 1980s and is nearing the end of its 30-year design life. Work began earlier on this project and is beginning again at this time.

Installation of the new force main will require crews to cut a six-foot-deep trench along the roads in the project area. Morrison Road West, 35th Street West, and 72nd Avenue Court West will remain open during construction, although the roads may be reduced to one lane with alternating traffic in work areas. Flaggers will be onsite to direct traffic. Motorists should expect delays.

Work hours will be 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

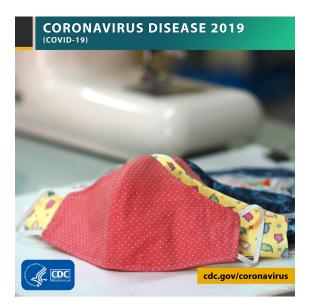
Visit the **Project Website** for more information, including project contacts.

Cloth Face Covering Tips

Your cloth face covering should:

- Reach above the nose, below the chin, and completely cover the mouth and nostrils
- Fit snugly against the sides of the face
- Be made of multiple layers of fabric that you can still breathe through
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damaging the material or shape

Do not buy surgical masks to use as a face covering. Those are intended for healthcare workers and first responders. Many items you may already have in your home can be used to create face coverings.



Try creating a cloth face covering using bandanas, ski masks, washable napkins or dish towels.

Learn more at https://bit.ly/2Ravt42

Credit: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

COVID-19 Resources, Information & FAQ's

- COVID-19 Information for You and Your Family
 - COVID-19 Information and Resources
 - COVID-19 Resources for Businesses
 - COVID-19 Public Safety Information

Shape Your Future: The 2020 Census





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University Place City Council



Mayor Caroline Belleci



Mayor Pro Tem Steve Worthington



Council Member Javier Figueroa



Council Member Kent Keel



Council Member Ken Grassi



Council Member Pro Tem Howard Lee



Council Member Denise McCluskey



Council Member Stan Flemming









