

Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



March 2, 2022

Is Your Furry Friend Licensed?

In an effort to encourage as many U.P. pet owners as possible to license their furry friends, the City of U.P. has launched a special giveaway that includes the chance to win a special pet gift basket simply by sharing a photo of your licensed pet.

As a reminder, all pets 8 weeks and older are required to be licensed in the City of U.P. Licensing enables those who come upon lost pets to call Animal Control and speed the return of the animals to their rightful owners. The pet license application includes the fee schedule, which include discounts for senior and disabled residents. All fees collected help fund U.P.'s animal control services.

To show off your licensed pet and enter for a chance to win one of two pet gift baskets to be given away, share a photo of your licensed pet on **Facebook**, **Instagram** or **Twitter**, tag the City @CityofUPWA on Twitter or Facebook, or @CityofUP_WA on Instagram and include the hashtag #UPPets in your post!

For more information about Pet Licensing or the Pet Licensing Giveaway visit the **City Website**.



What's UP with Biz: University Place is a place to be pampered!





Within the last two weeks, two new spas have opened in U.P., including Serenity Spa at 3633 Market Place W. in the Village at Chambers Bay, and UP Wellness Spa, at 7307 40th Street W. Suite A and B.

Be sure to visit the **City's Facebook** to get a sneak peak of these new businesses and then please stop in and welcome these new "neighbors" and let them know you appreciate their investment in U.P.

Pictured left to right: UP Wellness Spa, Serenity Spa

Assessment of U.P. Streets' Pavement Underway

Residents of U.P. may spot a 2019 white Ford Transit van with two roof-mounted laser scanners cruising up and down the streets of U.P. The vehicle is assessing the condition of pavement across the city as part of a pavement management program that began on Feb. 28. The project is funded by Washington State Transportation Benefit District funds.



Downward-facing cameras mounted on the rear-end of the vehicle will image 88 center-line miles of roadway (which equates to 209 lane miles) in University Place, including arterials and neighborhood streets. The findings of the pavement assessment will be used to build a five-year plan for rehab of the surfaces.

If you encounter the van while driving, please be patient. It will travel at posted speeds while surveying roadway surfaces. If you have questions or would like additional information about this program, please contact **Jack Ecklund**, Director of Engineering, at 253.460.5411.



the
Strongest Town
CONTEST

The City of U.P. is up against White Salmon in the first round of the Strongest Town Contest! Round one voting ends March 3, at 10 a.m.

Go vote for our City today!

University Place earns WellCity Award

The Association of Washington Cities (AWC) recently released a list of the cities, towns, and other local governments that have earned the distinguished WellCity designation. The City of University Place is proud to be among this year's recipients. This recognition is bestowed to entities that meet the AWC Employee Benefit Trust's stringent WellCity standards and demonstrate a commitment to employee health.



WellCity recipients are all part of the AWC Employee Benefit Trust (Trust), Washington State's largest local government employee health benefit pool for cities, towns, and other local governments. The Trust provides health benefits to more than 262 public entities and more than 36,000 employees and family members across the state. Employers that meet the WellCity standards earn a 2% discount on their medical premiums.

"The WellCity program benefits all Trust members. WellCity members as a group have a 50% lower medical and pharmacy trend than others, which helps to moderate the rate of premium increase for everyone," said Alicia Seegers Martinelli, AWC Interim Chief Executive Officer.

This is the seventh consecutive year that U.P. has been awarded WellCity status, along with 105 other Trust-insured employers across the state. A complete list of the cities and public entities that earned this year's award can be found at wacities.org/wellcity.

TODAY IS NATIONAL READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

MARCH 2, 2022



Tacoma Moratorium on Utility Disconnection ends March 31

***Advanced notice on disconnection
provides customers time to pay down
\$30 million in past due balances***



On Feb. 8 Mayor Victoria Woodards announced that the City of Tacoma will maintain the moratorium on utility disconnections until March 31, 2022. The March 31 date provides Tacoma Public Utilities' customers with advance notice so that TPU can provide assistance and access to resources that may help them make a plan for how to pay down past due balances and apply for available payment assistance before disconnections for nonpayment resume. At that time, Tacoma Public Utilities will begin the process for disconnecting service, ending the moratorium that was put in place at the start of the State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A similar moratorium set by the State of Washington ended in September 2021.

"This additional time is intended to give residents enough notice to make a plan to take care of outstanding balances, including access to programs and resources that may help," said Woodards. "We want to get these customers onto a payment plan right away and connect them with resources to catch them up on their payments so that no one loses service, especially the more financially vulnerable in our community."

When the moratorium ends on March 31, TPU will place all past due balances on an automatic, interest-free, 24-month installment plan. Making payments on past due balances now ahead of the March 31 date will lower the monthly amount customers will owe on their installment plans.

Read the remainder of the article, including information about payment plans and how to apply for relief and assistance programs, on the **TPU COVID-19 response page**.



Don't get pinched this year by flooding, prepare your emergency plan now.



Register for FlashVote

Be sure to register for FlashVote so you can participate in upcoming surveys!



Take a minute right now to **sign up and participate.**

The best way to survey and engage citizens

You are not obligated to participate in every survey, but being registered means it will take even less time to weigh in on issues that matter to you—and University Place.

FlashVote is one more way—in addition to emails, calls or attendance at public meetings or events—that you can share your opinions and thoughts on issues impacting University Place.



You may be the person we are looking for!

View current job opportunities at www.CityofUP.com

WE WANT YOU ON OUR TEAM!



Keep Catch Basins Clear

In these times of heavy rainfall please help our storm system do its job. Any debris, limbs, leaves, litter, mud or gravel that collects on the storm grate can impede the efficient flow of stormwater. If you see puddling near a catch basin, please feel free to take a rake and make sure it is clear.



Public Hearing: DRAFT 2022 Stormwater Management Program

Review & Comment Period is Now Open

As a requirement of the National Pollution Discharge & Elimination System (NPDES), the City of University Place is required to provide a local municipal program that addresses the requirements of our NPDES Permit. Every year we provide opportunity for the public in our community to review the program and make comments, pose questions, or provide recommendations.



The DRAFT 2022 Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan continues to be available for review on the **City website**, and will remain available until the Public Hearing which is scheduled to take place at the U.P. City Council Meeting of

Monday, March 7.

If, after reviewing the SWMP Plan, you have questions or comments you'd like to share, email them to **Todd Smith**, NPDES Coordinator, or call him at 253.460.5432.

There will also be opportunity to make public comment at the Public Hearing portion of the City Council Meeting of March 7. Details for that meeting, including how to watch and/or provide public comment, will be available on the City website by the end of business day on Friday, March 4, 2022, on the **City Calendar**.

UNIVERSITY PLACE

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 7, 2022
AT 6:30 P.M.

VIRTUAL: WATCH ON COMCAST
CHANNEL 21, RAINIER CONNECT
CHANNEL 12 OR LIVE ON
[YOUTUBE.COM/UNIVERSITYPLACETV](https://www.youtube.com/universityplacetv)

AGENDA ITEMS:

- Stormwater Management Program
- ARPA Expenditures Resolution
- ARPA Sewer Consultant Contract

Agenda Items are subject to change, please visit the City website for more information.

PARKS APPRECIATION DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 9 A.M. TO NOON
PARADISE POND



COVID-19 Resources

Looking for specific information related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Here's a list of official sources of information on which you can rely:

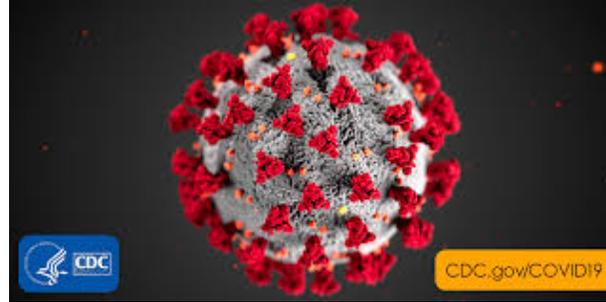
U.S. Centers for Disease Control – Pandemic facts and information
Governor's Office – Details about efforts and legislation specific to Washington

Washington State Department of Health – Updated statistics and testing data

Tacoma-Pierce County Department of Health – Testing sites, vaccine info

Pierce County – Resources for rent, utilities, mortgages, and much more

City of University Place – Pandemic resource updates specific to U.P.



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Steve Worthington**



**Mayor Pro Tem
Javier Figueroa**



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Kent Keel**



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