

Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



April 5, 2023

Speak UP and Have Your Say on Public Safety in U.P.

Voters in University Place will have another chance to weigh in on the issue of public safety in University Place by voting in the April 25 special election. Ballots will be mailed to U.P. voters this Friday, April 7. The proposal will provide voters with the opportunity to vote on a revised, less expensive version of the public safety levy that appeared on the November ballot and failed by 99 votes.



This proposal increases the City's levy rate by approximately \$0.35 per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2024. For a home assessed at \$652,240 (the average assessed home value as determined by the Pierce County Assessor Treasurer), this levy would increase a homeowner's property tax by approximately \$19 per month. This is approximately 14 percent less than the November proposal. Low-income seniors and low-income disabled homeowners may qualify for an exemption from this increase.

The levy would be dedicated solely to funding additional public safety expenses in U.P., including eight additional patrol and traffic officers, and a specialist to address homelessness, parks safety and crime prevention. The additional staff would enable UPPD to have more than two patrol officers on duty for each shift, providing more officers to respond to calls for service.

This will be the only issue on the April 25 ballot that U.P. voters receive. To vote in this election:

- Mail-in and online voter registration must be received by April 17. In-person registration is available until the polls close on April 25 at 8 p.m.
- Early voting begins April 7. Nine ballot drop boxes will be available throughout Pierce County beginning that day. Ballots must be deposited by 8 p.m. on April 25. Visit the **Pierce County Auditor website** for location sites.
- Mailed ballots must be postmarked by April 25.
- The Pierce County Election Center in Tacoma at 2501 S. 35th St., Suite C,

will be open for early voting Monday through Friday from April 7 to April 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on April 25.

The City will send out a mailer in the coming days that provides more detail about the levy proposal. The full resolution can be viewed [here](#).

Last Call for Young Artists to Color UP!

Time is running out for young artists to leave their mark (legally!) on utility boxes in University Place.

Children in grades 5-12 are invited to submit colorful artwork that will be transferred to vinyl and used to wrap utility boxes along Cirque Drive West between Bridgeport Way and Grandview Drive. The artwork should reflect how U.P. encourages community pride and joy and follow the templates that meet the utility box dimensions.



For complete details on this free contest, visit the **City's website**. The deadline for submissions is next Friday, April 14. The winning designs will be announced in May.



What's UP with Biz

University Place offers lots of places where parents of children who are on Spring Break can find ways to keep the kiddos amused.

Odyssey One (2310 W. Mildred St., Suite #110), offers open play hours beginning at 10 a.m., seven days a week and

features a soft play Jungle Gym for children 10 and under. Art Studio 27, (7810 27th St. W.), will hold an All-Age Paint Night on April 7 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Or you could actually put the kids to work—in a fun way—at The Soggy Doggy (7518 40th Street W.), where they've got the supplies and space to make giving your dog a bath easy and fun. And of course, make time to explore any of U.P.'s many parks where playground, trails and outdoor adventures await.



Family fun is never far away in U.P.

UNIVERSITY PLACE
Parade and Community Event
Market Square and Bridgeport Way



First Saturday in June
10am Kickoff

Drive Down Auto Theft

Don't let your vehicle be an easy steal! Lock it every time, keep valuables out of sight, don't leave your car running, and park in well-lit areas. Let's drive down auto theft.

Find more auto theft prevention tips on the **Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority** website.

DID YOU KNOW?

THERE WERE 45,033 AUTO THEFTS IN 2022



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE WASHINGTON AUTO THEFT PREVENTION AUTHORITY

UNIVERSITY PLACE

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023
AT 6:30 P.M.

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

AGENDA ITEMS

- Arbor Day Proclamation
- Inclusive Playground Update

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

Volunteers Needed for Parks Appreciation Day

U.P. residents can show their love of Mother Earth and the City's wonderful parks by participating in Parks Appreciation Day on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22.

Again this year, volunteers are asked to come out to Paradise Pond Park (67th Avenue West, just north of 35th Street) to help spread wood chips on the trails, pick up trash and do some minor brush clearing. A tree will also be planted in observance of Arbor Day. The event will run from 9 a.m. until noon, rain or shine.

Thanks to the event's co-sponsor, University Place Refuse and Recycling, volunteers will be treated to free coffee, donuts, water and t-shirts. Participants are encouraged to bring their own tools and gloves (make sure they are labeled with owner information). U.P. Parks will provide additional rakes and shovels for those who do not have their own.

Parents and guardians, if you have a high school student who needs to earn some community service hours, this offers three hours of volunteer time to include on college applications. For more information or questions, please contact Tony West, Operations Manager, at 253.460.6493.



University Place Spring Clean-Up & Canned Food Drive

Residents SOUTH of 40th St W.
Saturday, April 8 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dispose of and/or recycle some
unwanted items and yard waste for
FREE!

Clean up rules:

*Limit: 1 load per household for all items
EXCEPT for yard waste only loads. Help
us be good neighbors by securing &
covering all loads! For safety reasons,
children and pets MUST remain in vehicles. Photo I.D. will be required.*



- No liquids, paint, or hazardous materials (car batteries are OK)
- No loads larger than a regular pickup truck or equivalent small trailer will be allowed
- No regular household garbage will be allowed
- Residential items only – NO commercial material or loads will be allowed
- The size of items cannot exceed 5' in any direction (except for appliances and furniture)
- No fuel tanks, enclosed barrels or rums of any kind. Water heaters and propane tanks are OK

Please separate items into the following categories for recycling:

- Wood items: clean, unpainted lumber, pallets, etc.
- Metal items: scrap steel, appliances, lawn mowers, barbecues, plumbing, etc.

- Yard waste: limbs, grass, leaves, other vegetation, no stumps or limbs larger than 4" in diameter
- No DIRT, ROCKS, SOD, BLACKBERRIES, SCOTCHBROOM, or OTHER NOXIOUS WEEDS
- Tires: with or without rims
- Concrete, brick, and stone
- Car batteries

For more information visit www.UPRefuse.com.



Free

Natural Yard Care Webinars

Deer Resistant Drama with Karen Chapman.

Wednesday, April 12, 7-8:30 p.m. Register: bit.ly/2023yardcare1

Learn time- and taste-tested design strategies for your garden. Karen will highlight tips and tricks to help you create a beautiful fence-free garden that thrives despite deer.



That a Weed or What? with Robin Haglund.

Wednesday, April 19, 7-8:30 p.m. Register: bit.ly/2023yardcare2

Weeds—every garden has them; every gardener wants to get rid of them. Find out what makes a plant a weed. Learn to identify many common weeds, get tips to manage, celebrate, and even use them in your kitchen or home apothecary.



Water Wisdom in the Garden with Sue Goetz.

Wednesday, April 26, 7-8:30 p.m. Register: bit.ly/2023yardcare3

Every garden needs water. We can design a garden to use less of it and save more of it! Get design tips and timely ideas for beauty and longevity.



Questions?

Contact Troy Rowan at trowan@tpchd.org or (253) 649-1839.

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