

Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



March 20, 2024

Help Shape the Future of the 27th Street Business District

The City's Planning and Development Services department is seeking public input on a plan for the 27th Street Business District, which runs along 27th Street West from Elwood Drive West to Morrison Road West. The goal is to develop a cohesive vision for the future of the business area, along with goals, policies, actions and projects needed to implement the plan.



Community members are encouraged to **take a brief survey** to share their thoughts about how they currently use/visit the district as well as their vision for the future of the area. This is an opportunity for stakeholders to share the kinds of changes or improvements they want to see as well as specifics about what they believe the district needs (e.g., restaurants, parks, etc.).

Take the survey and encourage others to participate as well before it closes in mid-April. Then look for updates based on its findings to be shared with the public in the form of a sub-area plan, which will be presented to the Planning Commission and then City Council for approval.

For more details and to follow regular updates, visit the **27th Street Business District Plan page** on the City's website.

University Place Police Blotter

Keep yourself up-to-date with the latest public safety activity in University Place by checking out the U.P. Police Blotter! Chief Burke highlights some of the most notable incidents that the U.P. Police Department responds to. But that's not all - you can also browse through recent Calls for Service to get a better understanding of the local happenings in your area.

Don't miss out on staying informed and being part of a safer community - view the U.P. Police Blotter on the **City website** for updates!



Work to Begin on Cirque Park Inclusive Playground

After several years of planning and fundraising, the City of University Place, in conjunction with the University Place Parks & Recreation Foundation (UPPRF), will break ground on a new inclusive playground at Cirque Park on Friday, April 12 at 11 a.m.

In 2020, the City of U.P. applied for and received a grant from the state's Recreation and Conservation Office for playground improvements at Cirque Park. At the suggestion of the UPPRF, the plans for the playground were amended to include many accessibility accommodations designed to remove physical and social barriers so children can play and interact together, regardless of their needs or abilities.



In conjunction with the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation, the UPPRF has been conducting a fundraising campaign to support the project. To learn more and contribute, visit the **UPPRF website**.

Initial site work for the playground will begin this spring, with construction slated to last throughout the summer.

Young Artists Invited to Color It UP

Students in grades 5-12 are encouraged to lend their artistic talents to the 2024 "Color It UP" art contest. Individuals or student groups are encouraged to create colorful designs that show community pride or happiness. The artwork they create may be selected to brighten utility boxes around the city.



Those looking for inspiration can find last year's winning designs on boxes along Cirque Drive between Bridgeport and Grandview.

Winning designs will be transferred to vinyl wrappings that will cover all four sides of the utility boxes. For complete design specifications, visit the **Color It UP Art Contest page**. Don't delay: the deadline for submissions is May 5!

Be a Part of the Conversation

On Thursday, April 11, the community is invited to attend a public meeting

from 6-8 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers regarding the Cirque Park Expansion Site Study.

Last year, the Park Advisory Commission launched a "Reimagining Cirque Park" initiative that included a community survey to assess the kinds of improvements park users might want to see in the 22-acre community park in the heart of the city.

One theme that gathered support was the idea of developing a Community Center in the park. This public meeting will give residents an opportunity to learn more about the status of this project and proposed options.

Please make plans to attend the meeting and continue to weigh in with what you want to see in Cirque Park's future.



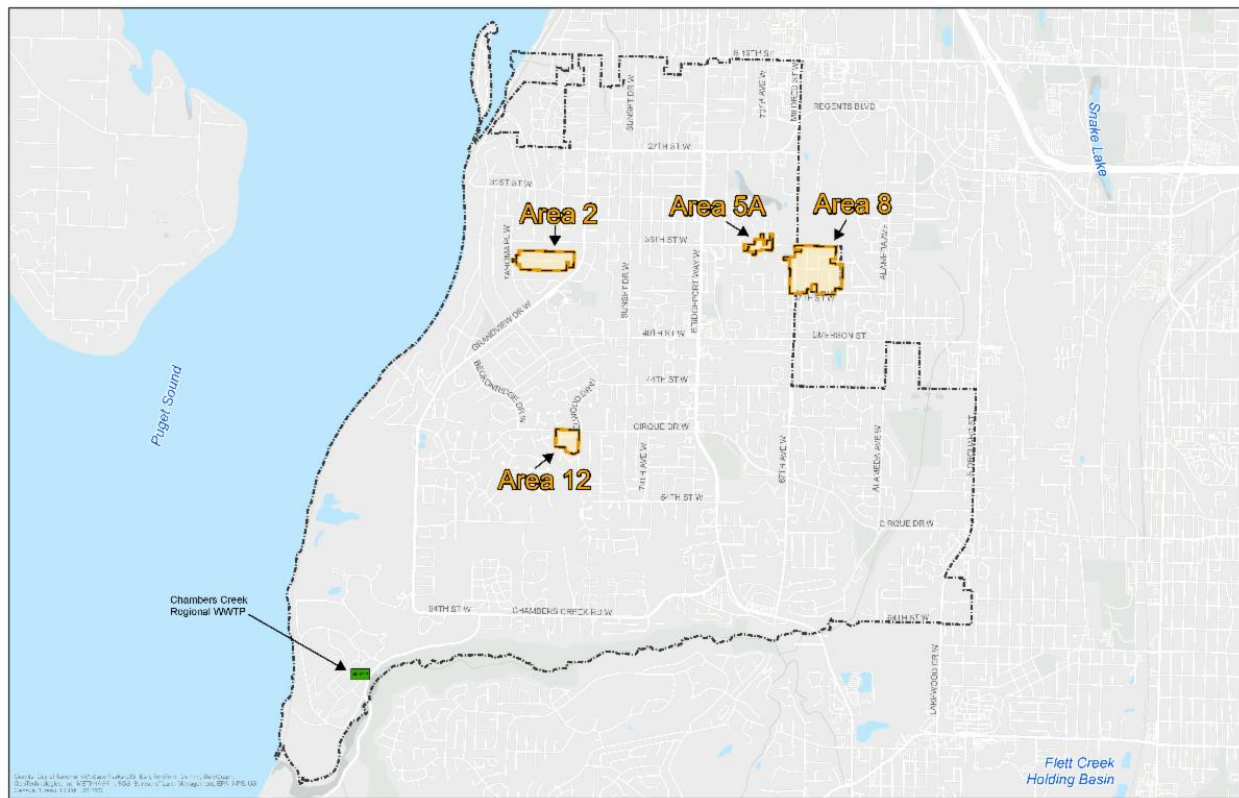
Sanitary Sewer Service Expansion Project Moving Forward with Recommendations

At the Feb. 20 Council Meeting, the City Council approved the recommendation to move forward with plans to expand sanitary sewer service in up to four neighborhoods: Areas 2, 8, 12 and 5a (see map below). These areas were selected through evaluation of factors such as cost/parcels served, environmental impacts, history of septic failures, income levels, and public support. It is anticipated that the City will go out to bid for the construction in these areas later this year. Each area will be bid as an optional alternative and final award of work will be based on the available funding. The goal is to provide sewer service for as many as possible with the money available.

The scope of this project is to construct dry sewer mains into the areas chosen. Hooking up to the sewer main will not be required unless the property experiences a failure of their septic system, or the property redevelops.

Frequently Asked Questions Sewer Service Expansion Information

For more information, contact Todd Smith, NPDES Coordinator, by email at tsmith@cityofup.com or by phone at 253.460.5432.



Women's History Month Proclamation

At the Council meeting of Monday, March 18, Council Member Denise McCluskey presented a proclamation on behalf of City Council honoring Women's History Month. We celebrated the incredible women in our community who have made a huge impact on our City and paved the way for future leaders to come. Let's continue to empower and uplift all of the women in our lives!



Pictured Left to Right: Economic Development Commissioner Dawn Morris, Former Planning Commissioner and U.P. Parks & Recreation Foundation President Chris Saunders, U.P. Historical Society Co-President Karen Benveniste, Former Council Member Caroline Belleci, Council Member Melanie Grassi, Park Advisory Commissioner Alicia Cunningham, Public Safety Advisory Commissioner Emily Calhoun, Council Member Denise McCluskey, Public Safety Commissioner Ruthann Reim, Planning Commissioner Sandy McKenzie and Public Safety Commissioner Diane Bendixen.



Pictured Left to Right: Council Member Denise McCluskey, Former Council Member Linda Bird, Council Member Stan Flemming, Mayor Pro Tem Ed Wood, Council Member Melanie Grassi and Council Member Frank Boykin.

Watch Your Mailbox! Between the Lines is Coming Your Way

All University Place addresses should receive the Spring 2024 issue of the City's "Between the Lines" printed newsletter in the next few days. This issue focuses on public safety, so please check your mail to learn more about U.P.'s newest police officers, how to avoid phone scams, plans for 2024's National Night Out in U.P. – and more. Read Between the Lines and be in the know.

Second Annual Rotary CleanUP

Mark your calendars! The second annual Rotary CleanUP is Saturday, April 27. In this event we tackle removing the trash and litter along our streets and curbs and celebrate community. (Did you know that Washington State is the worst state for littering on public roads? Let's try to "curb" that in our own fair city.) Plus, it is a great chance to meet your neighbors as you beautify what we all know is a quality community.



The event runs from 8:30 a.m. to noon from its starting point at Curtis Junior High. Registrants will receive a t-shirt, trash bag and map of your CleanUP "district." In groups or as individuals you'll set out to clean the roadsides of University Place filling bags provided by U.P. Refuse. Last year's effort removed two and a half dumpsters from our city. When the job is completed (or you run out of time), return to Curtis Junior High for your reward and refreshments. Proceeds from registrations and donations will be dedicated to support Curtis High School scholarships.

Rotarians have divided the city streets into 17 districts, lined by arterials and focused on the areas around businesses and schools. The event is sponsored by Rotary Club of University Place-Fircrest.

2024 is the second year for CleanUP. During the first year over 100 participants fanned out across the city. Proceeds from the event marked the first major local

donation to the All Inclusive Playground project sponsored by the University Place Parks & Recreation Foundation and the Cal Ripkin, Sr. Foundation.

Let's come together this year to Clean "UP" our community to raise money for Curtis High School student scholarships! Join us!

For more information and how to register visit the **registration website**.



PARKS APPRECIATION DAY

AT THE CURRAN APPLE ORCHARD

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024
9 A.M. TO NOON



UNIVERSITY PLACE

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

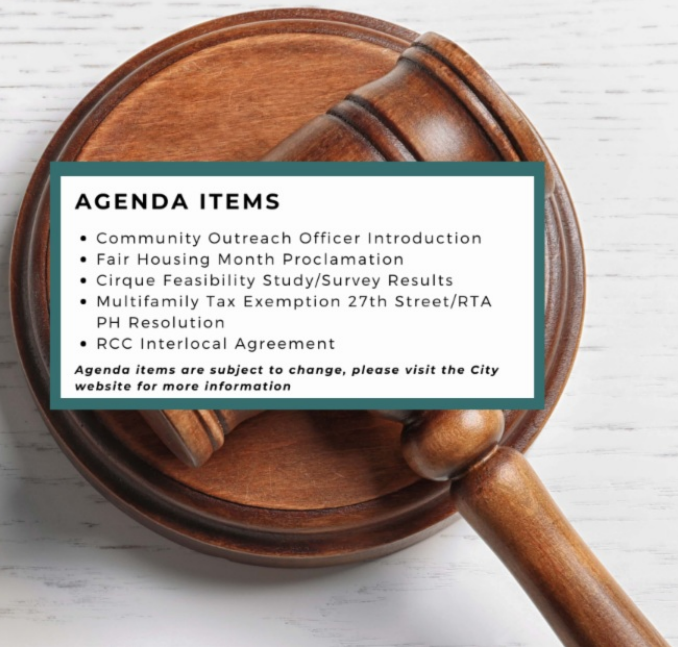
MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024
AT 6:30 P.M.

VIRTUAL: WATCH ON COMCAST
CHANNEL 21, RAINIER CONNECT
CHANNEL 12 OR LIVE ON
YOUTUBE.COM/UNIVERSITYPLACETV

AGENDA ITEMS

- Community Outreach Officer Introduction
- Fair Housing Month Proclamation
- Cirque Feasibility Study/Survey Results
- Multifamily Tax Exemption 27th Street/RTA PH Resolution
- RCC Interlocal Agreement

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



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University Place City Council



**Mayor
Javier Figueroa**



**Mayor Pro Tem
Ed Wood**



**Council Member
Frank Boykin**



**Council Member
Steve Worthington**



**Council Member
Denise McCluskey**

**Council Member
Stan Flemming**

**Council Member
Melanie Grassi**



City of University Place | 3609 Market Place W, Ste 200, University Place, WA 98466

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