



Talking UP

News from the City of University Place
Economic Development Office

November 2023

**WE'RE
UP &**



Welcome back!

PARTNER UP DRAWS BIG CROWD

Nearly 40 University Place business owners attended the Oct. 26 Partner UP at First Financial NW Bank. Many thanks to First Financial NW Bank and the Linton Agency for hosting the event with fantastic food and refreshments. It was a great opportunity for U.P. businesses to reconnect and network in a casual, happy hour setting.

Be sure to watch for information about our Spring 2024 Partner UP at Chambers Bay on June 13. This will be a combined Partner UP and Tacoma Pierce County Chamber After Hours event.



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING SET FOR DEC. 1



It's never too early to start thinking about how your business can take advantage of the large crowd that turns out each year for the lighting of the Christmas Tree in Market Square.

This year's event will be held on Friday, Dec. 1 and feature food, music, children's activities and much more.

The festivities begin at 5 p.m. with holiday music by the Stacy Jones Band before Santa flips the switch to light the tree at 6 p.m.



UPCOMING FREE ONLINE TRAININGS FROM THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER



Take advantage of these opportunities to start, grow or strengthen your business. Get more information and [register](#) now.

Meet your Business Resources: Tips and Tools for Business Owners
Nov. 17, 2023 noon-1 p.m.

Una Charla con SBDC: Impulsando Emprendedores
Nov. 28, 2023 4-5 p.m.

Are you Ready to Start a Business?
Nov. 30, 2023 11 a.m.- noon

Start Simple Course
Dec. 5, 2023 4-6 p.m. (Multi-session Course)

Una Charla con SBDC: Impulsando Emprendedores
Dec. 5, 2023 4-5 p.m.

Before and after the lighting ceremony, Market Square will be bustling with family-friendly attractions, including:

- Live reindeer from Rainier Reindeer Ranch
- Magic in the PNW live character performers
- Warm gatherings by Market Square's outdoor fireplace
- Stilt performer Janet Rayor
- Outdoor children's games and activities (bundle up!)

Take advantage of this time to offer special holiday promotions or discounts that will draw people to your business after the evening is over. Help them recognize that gifts of products and services from U.P. businesses are a great way to support their community—during the holidays and year-round.

CITY SEEKS BUSINESS INPUT ON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

What is your vision for the City over the next 20 years? How would you like the City to accommodate new growth? How can the City support its businesses? What opportunities are there for alternative transportation?

These are some of the key issues the City of University Place will address in its 2024 update to its Comprehensive Plan. This document provides a broad statement of the community's vision for the future and contains policies primarily to guide the physical development of the city.

Input from the business community is important, so please share your thoughts by participating in this [Community Survey](#). To receive a paper version of the survey via mail, call Zak Ott at 425-954-9219. A Spanish version of the survey is available [here](#). For a Korean version, click [here](#).



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Please note that City of University Place offices will close at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 22. They will reopen at 9 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 27.

Please encourage your fellow business owners to weigh in as well. The survey will be open until Dec. 4, 2023.

