

# Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



January 2, 2020

## 2020 Council Members to be Sworn in Jan. 6

Please make plans to attend the City Council meeting on Jan. 6, when the Council members will take their Oath of Office. Residents are encouraged to participate in this important public ceremony that reflects our **Council-Manager** form of government. Since incorporating in 1995 as a Washington code city, University Place has retained the most local control allowed under the state constitution. The City Council is comprised of seven publicly-elected representatives who ensure that U.P. laws and policies reflect the unique concerns and wishes of the City's residents.



Current Mayor Kent Keel will return to Position No. 2, while Caroline Belleci will return at Position No. 7. Stan Flemming will be sworn in to represent Position No. 6. Flemming served as U.P.'s first mayor following its incorporation as a city in 1995 and served on the City Council until 2012.

After the members are sworn in, elections for the new Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem positions will take place. But before he turns the gavel over to his successor, current Mayor Kent Keel will debut his "State of the City" video report. The four-minute video recaps U.P.'s progress since incorporation as well as its efforts to plan for its second 25 years. Those unable to attend the City Council meeting will be able to view the video **online at UPTV** beginning on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

## Looking Back and Looking Ahead

The **Imagine 2045** campaign is designed to solicit public input on a variety of topics, ranging from land use and zoning to

parks and public safety. One way you can do that is to participate in our regular **FlashVote surveys**. The feedback gleaned from these brief, periodic surveys will be reviewed and organized into a draft vision statement for the City of University Place. This community vision will then be used to help shape the City's Comprehensive Plan, the document the City Council and Commissioners will use as the roadmap for all of the City's efforts through 2045.



This is your opportunity to actively contribute to the future of our city. Let us know what you think is important, what improvements we can make, and what features you hope will remain the same. If our first 25 years are any indication, the future is certainly bright for University Place.

## Are You Prepared?

University Place residents who participated in the City's latest **FlashVote** survey on the topic of emergency preparedness indicated they recognize the value of being ready for emergencies. Nearly 93 percent of those responding indicated that they are most concerned about earthquakes and have taken the following steps to be prepared when disaster strikes:



- 48.9% have signed up for **Pierce County ALERT**.
- 44.7% feel prepared to survive up to two weeks without power/water in the event of an emergency.
- 37.8% have signed up for **University Place CodeRED**.
- 6.9% know what is in a City or County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### In addition:

- 45.7% have secured water heaters, cabinets, bookcases and/or pictures to walls.
- 34.2% have used fire-resistant building or roofing materials.
- 28.8% have fitted gas appliances with flexible connections.
- 13.6% have secured their homes to their foundations with earthquake straps.
- 6.5% have braced unreinforced masonry, concrete walls and chimneys.

### Many respondents (or members of their households) have engaged in emergency planning or training:

- 61.0% have started or completed a "Disaster Supply Kit" with food, water, batteries or other emergency supplies.
- 60.4% have collected important documents in a safe location.
- 53.8% have attended a meeting or obtained printed materials related to natural disasters or emergency preparedness.
- 52.2% have talked with other members in their household about what to do in case of a natural disaster or emergency.
- 50.0% have verified where and how to turn off emergency shut off valves in their homes.

Local public safety officials urge all residents of U.P. to take emergency preparedness seriously. The City of University Place **website** has one page devoted entirely to the topic which includes numerous links to other resources. In addition, the U.P. Police Department regularly holds classes on topics related to

emergency preparedness.

In the next issue of **Headlines** we will take a look at how emergency preparedness will be a critical part of the City's Imagine2045 campaign, including planning and resource allotment over the next 25 years.

## University Place Mayor Kent Keel Appointed Chair of Sound Transit Board

*Release Date: Dec. 21, 2019.*

The Sound Transit Board today, Dec. 21, 2019, unanimously appointed University Place Mayor Kent Keel as chair of the Sound Transit Board of Directors and King County Executive Dow Constantine to serve as a vice chair.

"I look forward to working with my colleagues across the region to guide infrastructure investments that will keep our commuters moving and create economic growth and opportunity," Keel said. "We must continue working together regionally to cost-effectively expand options for people to escape congestion. One of my priorities as Chair will be to work with my Board colleagues and Olympia legislators to identify transportation funding solutions that residents throughout our region can support."



The appointments begin Jan. 1. They follow the retirement of outgoing Chair John Marchione from his position as Redmond mayor. Board members praised Marchione for his leadership over the past year and throughout his nearly 12 years on the Board, which included steering the Downtown Redmond Link light rail extension to its recent groundbreaking.

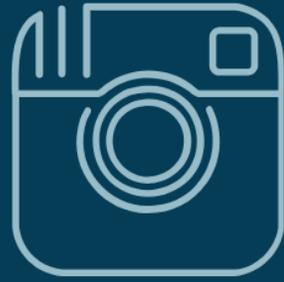
"On behalf of everyone at Sound Transit I want to thank Mayor Marchione for the indelible mark he made on our regional transit system. Moving forward, commuters throughout our growing communities will benefit as Kent Keel steps forward to lead the Board," said Sound Transit CEO Peter Rogoff. "Chair Keel's leadership will come at a critical time for the region, and particularly for Pierce County as we construct Tacoma Link's extension to the Hilltop neighborhood, prepare to connect regional light rail to Tacoma and work to expand Sounder service."

Keel will serve the remaining year of the Board chair term left by Marchione's departure. Constantine was appointed to fill the vice chair seat vacated by Keel, while the Board's other vice chair role will continue to be filled by Everett City Councilmember Paul Roberts.

CONTACT: Geoff Patrick, (206) 398-5313 or [geoff.patrick@soundtransit.org](mailto:geoff.patrick@soundtransit.org).

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## Upcoming Events

### City Hall Holiday Closure

City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 20 in recognition of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

City Hall will reopen on Tuesday, January 21 at 9 a.m.

### Sweetheart Dance 2020

#### *Formerly Known as the Daddy Daughter Dance*

It is that time of year again for the annual Sweetheart – Daddy Daughter Dance!

We may have a new name, but it will still be the same great event that it has been since 2004! This year marks the 17<sup>th</sup> year for memories to be made for all to attend. The Curtis High School ASB is excited to continue the tradition!

Uncles, grandfathers, big brothers, moms, grandmas and even aunts are welcome to accompany their little princess. An array of music will please all age groups and tastes so come prepared to dance the night away. Participants will receive refreshments, party favors and a night of fun and entertainment that the Princess and her date will never forget. You won't want to miss it! There will also be a fun photo booth to enjoy!



This event will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2020 from 6:30-9 p.m. in the Curtis High School Cafeteria. Pre-registration is \$45 per couple, \$5 each additional child; at the door fee is \$50 per couple, \$5 each additional child.

Registration will open January 10 online at [www.upsd83.org](http://www.upsd83.org), look for the link on the Curtis High School home page; or come on in to Curtis Monday-Friday between the hours of 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 1:30-3 p.m. – Cash, Check, Visa and Mastercard accepted.

For more information contact Brittany Bibby in the Curtis HS Student Accounts

office at 253.566.5710 ext. 2160 or email at [bbibby@upsd83.org](mailto:bbibby@upsd83.org).

We are looking forward to seeing you!



**Jazz in the Village**  
**Wednesdays**  
**12:30-1:30 p.m.**  
**Civic Building Atrium**



**For more events and Council Meeting information  
visit the Upcoming Events Calendar.**

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**University Place City Council**



**Mayor Kent Keel**



**Mayor Pro Tem Caroline Belleci**



**Council Member  
Javier Figueroa**



**Council Member  
Steve Worthington**



**Council Member  
Ken Grassi**



**Council Member Pro Tem  
Howard Lee**



**Council Member  
Denise McCluskey**



**Council Member  
Chris Nye**

