

City Services

Survey and Focus Group Follow Up Q&A

The following topics or questions were raised by multiple residents on the 2010 Community Survey and/or during the 2011 Focus Groups. The City conducted the survey and focus groups to continue to improve communication with residents and appreciates all the feedback and input received. If you have a question that is not answered here or follow up questions, please visit the City website at www.CityofUP.com or call the City at (253) 566-5656.

Streets & Public Works

Q. Why aren't there any sidewalks on my street?

A. Existing sidewalks within the City were made possible due to state and federal grants along with loans from the Public Works Trust Fund Loan. Since incorporation, the City has contributed to over 26 miles of sidewalks being built in the city.

Q. How does the City determine which areas get sidewalk projects?

A. Sidewalk and road projects are most often dependent upon our ability to obtain grants.

Grants usually utilize a rating system which takes factors such as accidents and proximity to schools into account to prioritize projects. Recent grant funding was received for sidewalks in neighborhoods near schools through a Safe Routes to Schools program.

Q. Why doesn't 27th Street have sidewalks?

A. Historically, there has not been grant funding for this area. However, the City recently received notification that it has been awarded grant funding for sidewalks along 27th, and the City is in the process of gathering business support along 27th in order to secure matching funds. This will be a major improvement for the 27th street business corridor and the University Place community.

Q. Why aren't there sidewalks on Bridgeport from 19th to 27th?

A. Improving this section of Bridgeport Way has been in the City's long term capital improvement program for several years. The City continues to search for and apply for grant funding for projects that will be competitive in grant programs. Some streets, such as Bridgeport between 19th and 27th, also have added challenges, such as a need to purchase property from homeowners in order to have space for sidewalks

Q. Why did we spend money improving Bridgeport Way from Cirque to 54th Street, rather than repairing potholes?

A. Improvements along Bridgeport Way were made possible due to a \$1.75 million grant to construct sidewalks, streetlights, raised medians and bike lanes to benefit pedestrians, motorists and bicyclists in this portion of our city. When the City receives

grants, they are generally specific to certain projects and are not available for other operating costs, such as repairing potholes.

Q. What is the City's Street Sweeping Schedule?

A. The public works crew currently sweeps arterial streets 10 times a year and residential streets once per year.

Q. Why didn't the city clear our road when it snowed?

A. During and immediately following snow storms, the City focuses on clearing and keeping safe major arterials, such as Bridgeport, Grandview, Cirque, 67th, 40th, and 27th, as well as school routes, if possible. Keeping the major arterials clear and safe during snow season is a top priority, and the public works crew works hard to achieve that goal with a limited budget and staff.

Q. Why did the tar on our street melt in the summer?

A. Our City currently contracts with Pierce County for chip sealing services. Unfortunately, some neighborhoods experienced "melting" problem due to an inferior tar mixture. Pierce County contacted the supplier and reapplied suitable tar to the affected areas at no cost to the City.

Town Center

Q. When will there be something in Town Center?

A. Although the economy has slowed lending and activity related to commercial projects nationally, the City still believes in the Town Center project and continues to receive inquiries from interested parties. As soon as the City is at a point with an interested party that it can be brought public, the City will eagerly take the information to the community. Until new information is available, residents can use the beautiful new library, Market Square, and parking in Town Center.

Public Safety

Q. Can police please do something about speeding in my neighborhood?

A. The Police Department makes every effort to control traffic issues throughout the city, while also responding to other public safety calls. If you have a concern about a specific area or would like more information, please contact Jennifer Hales at 798-3141.

Parks and Recreation

Q. How can people find out what is going on?

A. Detailed information about our parks and recreation programs can be found in a variety of ways including:

- Visiting our city website at www.cityofup.com
- Visiting 'University Place Parks & Recreation' on Facebook.

- Viewing our online Parks and Rec. catalog at www.cityofup.com
- Stopping in our Parks and Rec. office at 3715 Bridgeport Way W.
- Calling Parks and Rec. office at 460-2530 OR our Senior Center at 564-1992.

Q. What type of senior programs are available?

A. The UP Senior Center has a wide variety of free and fee based programs and you can learn about the current programs by calling (253)564-1992.

Q. How are Rec. programs funded?

A. Recreation programs are funded through community donations, City general fund money, and participation fees and charges, which is the largest portion. The UP Community Supported Parks and Recreation group is the nonprofit organization that continues to raise money through donations and other fundraisers to support recreation for University Place.

Q. Where are good walking and biking routes in UP?

Check out our online Guide to Walking and Biking Routes in University Place on our website at www.cityofup.com or pick up a hard copy in the Parks and Recreation Office at City Hall.

Do you additional questions about the City?

Please visit the City website at www.CityofUP.com or call us at (253) 566-5656.