Headlines

News from University Place City Hall

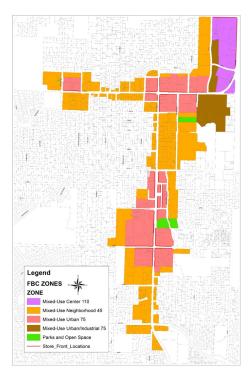


January 6, 2021

City Council Formally Adopts New Form-Based Code

At its regular meeting on Dec. 7, 2020, the University Place City Council voted unanimously to adopt Form-Based Code (FBC) and corresponding amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan. This effort is critical to the City's efforts to implement its Regional Growth Subarea Plan that was adopted in 2017.

For the better part of two years, the City's Planning Commission worked tirelessly on these changes. The commission held 12 public meetings and one public hearing on the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments. On Oct. 21, 2020, the Planning Commission unanimously recommended forwarding the amendments to the City Council for review and passage.



With the City Council's approval, U.P.'s
Director of Planning Services David Swindale says the new amendments are now
in effect and have already resulted in conversations with developers who are
interested in moving ahead with projects to take advantage of the new FormBased Code.

"The Senior Housing Affordability Group (SHAG) proposed a 140-unit, four-story senior housing project in 2013 but it was never built," Swindale said. "The project is now called Sustainable Housing for Ageless Generations (SHAG) and thanks to the new zoning amendments, the developers came to us in the last week of 2020 proposing 170 units and additional height. The proposed site is the blighted old Red Apple Supermarket at 27th Street and Grandview Drive, so it will be a very welcome improvement and evidence of how these changes are already

encouraging new investment and opportunities in U.P."

For City Council Member Kent Keel, the passage of these long-sought after changes was a welcome development. "This item has been a long time coming and I want to thank the Planning Commission for all the work they did on this," he said. "This will feed into the economic base, vitality and livability of our city."

Chief's Corner

I'm pleased to announce that we will host a Public Safety Forum on Thursday, Feb. 4. Last year's Public Safety Forum was held in person, shortly before we were forced to hold gatherings virtually. Although we will have to hold this year's event via Microsoft Teams, I am hopeful participation will equal — or surpass — the 50 residents and business owners who joined us last February.

In advance of the Forum, I invite you to **send me your questions, ideas and concerns**. I will do my best to provide the answers you seek and encourage everyone to listen respectfully and with open minds. This is how we can



continue to serve as a model for other communities and demonstrate our commitment to effective police/community partnership.

And in the meantime, don't forget to check out the videos from our Fall Public Safety Academy on the **City's YouTube channel**. All of the sessions are now posted and provide an opportunity for you to increase your understanding of law enforcement in University Place, including the important information presented in these three new videos:

Pierce County Sheriff's Department Sergeant Erik Clark discusses how officers are trained to address difficult encounters, including:

- An overview of Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) Curriculum
- Annual State-sponsored required training for officers, including scenariobased re-enactments
- How officers employ time, distance and shielding to defuse crisis situations
- How deputies' annual crisis intervention training features revolving content from experts on a variety of issues, including autism, traumatic brain injury, chemical dependency, mental illness, adult protective services (elderly), and implicit and explicit bias

MultiCare representatives Ross Moutier, Alex Brown and Viktoriya Rossiytseva explain how the Co-Responder program, a partnership between the Pierce County Sheriff's Department and mental health professionals, strives to:

- Avoid jailing mentally ill subjects who commit minor crimes
- Reduce the number of mentally ill subjects taken to local emergency rooms
- Reduce the impact of frequent non-emergency calls from mentally ill patients
- Partner with law enforcement for better outcomes and resources for subjects with mental illness

Dr. Loreli Thompson, a retired police officer and licensed clinical psychologist with significant experience in the fields of trauma and violence, covers:

- The effects of trauma on an officer's career and family
- Coping strategies, safety nets and services available to law enforcement personnel
- Impacts on the law enforcement officer's family, including what to expect and how to stabilize home life



What's UP with Biz?

Despite operating under some of the most difficult holiday conditions in modern times, the U.P. business community shone extra bright in December.

 Thanks to the organizers and businesses in the Village at Chambers Bay and Green Firs Towne Center for "decking the



- sidewalks with lots of jolly" to help community members get in the holiday spirit—even if it was from the safety of their own cars.
- Kudos to all the business who participated in the annual Light UP campaign to outline their storefronts and rooflines in white lights to brighten up the holiday landscape for those driving on Bridgeport from 27th to 44th streets,

- and 27th Street from Mildred (67th) to Grandview.
- And Cheers to Cheers UP, which generously gave away 300 frozen turkeys on the Saturday before Christmas to our neighbors in need.

Let's hope that next year we will be able to resume all of the cherished holiday traditions that mean so much to us, but until then, be sure to express your gratitude to these businesses for chipping in to make a difficult holiday so much brighter.

Advisory Commission Vacancies

Commissioners are citizens that, through their volunteer efforts, play an integral role in the growth and development of their City. Citizens serving on the City's Commissions apply their unique knowledge and experiences to the issues and the needs of their City. They function as a focus group from within the community and create ideas to assist the City Council in shaping legislative policy.

Applications are currently being accepted from City residents interested in serving on the following Commissions:

Park Advisory Commission Planning Commission

Vacancies are open until filled. Applications are available on the **City's webpage Committees, Commissions, and Partners**. For more information email **DNicholas@CityofUP.com**.

Cirque Drive Construction Update



Looking to hold on to a little bit of holiday cheer? Check out last year's Virtual Tree Lighting!



Get the Facts: COVID Resources

As the nation and our region continues to battle the COVID-19 outbreak, be sure to stay informed with accurate information from these official sources:

school or work.

- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control offers the latest facts and information about COVID-19, including information on travel and return to
- The **Governor's Office** provides details about on-going response efforts throughout the State of Washington, including the state's Risk Assessment Dashboard.
- The **Washington State Department of Health** provides updated statistics on the occurrence of COVID-19 across the state, as well as testing data.
- The Tacoma-Pierce County Department of Health and Pierce County Government provide important local information on testing sites, phased re-opening status and CARES Act funding to support recovery efforts.
- The City of University Place's dedicated COVID-19 info page includes valuable information on resources for businesses and residents, such as local school meal sites and public utilities' contact information for payment



City Hall Holiday Closure

CITY HALL OFFICES WILL
BE CLOSED ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 18 IN
REOCOGNITION OF THE
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
HOLIDAY.

CITY HALL WILL REOPEN VIRTUALLY ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 19 AT 9 A.M.

UNIVERSITY PLACE VIRTUAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

WWW.CITYOFUP.COM





Mayor Pro Tem Steve Worthington











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Mayor Pro Tem Steve Worthington



Council Member Javier Figueroa



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