UNIVERSITY PLACE BETWEEN THE LINES

A City of University Place Publication





Light UP your Holidays

Community Christmas Tree Lighting Set for Dec. 1

Mark your calendars today for Friday, Dec. 1 when the City of University Place will celebrate the lighting of the Christmas Tree in Market Square with food, music, children's activities and much, much more.

The fun will begin at 5 p.m. with holiday music by the Stacy Jones Band who will welcome Santa to U.P. for the festivities. The man in red will be available for pictures in the beautifully decorated Civic Building Atrium from 5-7:30 p.m. and will take a brief break to help us flip the switch to light the tree at 6 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 dancer Janet Ravor
- Outdoor children's games and activities (bundle up!)
- Popular food trucks including Boss Mama's Kitchen, The Corndoggery, Jack's Savory Pie Co. and Tasty's Kettle Corn

When the festivities end at 7:30 p.m., be sure to warm up with additional bites and cocktails from U.P.'s many eateries. Don't miss this beloved holiday tradition in University Place. Visit the City website at www.CityofUP.com for updates about this year's event! See you on Dec. 1!







Reimagining Cirque Park

The City of University Place has launched an in-depth feasibility study that will include a community outreach and engagement process designed to gather community input on plans to revitalize Cirque Park.

The 22-acre park at 7250 Cirque Drive W. is U.P.'s primary field and court sports park, and also offers a large picnic shelter, sand volleyball pit, a skate park, natural surface trails, sidewalks, exercise stations and ample parking. It is also home to the University Place Veterans Plaza which honors service members from University Place.

As one of the City's most well-used amenities, Cirque Park was identified in the 2020 Parks, Recreation and Open Space plan as a candidate for improvements. Among the ideas suggested were:

- Cirque Park
 City OF UNIVERSITY PLACE
- A community center (included in the park's original 1999 plan but not yet built).
- Additional multi-purpose sports courts.
- More equipment for people with disabilities. The park is currently scheduled to receive an accessible playground through the U.P. Parks & Recreation Foundation.
- Enhanced wildlife habitat and wetland preservation and associated environmental education.

As one of the City's most well-used amenities, Cirque Park was identified in the 2020 Parks, Recreation and Open Space plan as a candidate for improvements.

With these ideas in hand, the City is asking those who use the park and understand best its potential and shortcomings to share their ideas with the City's Department of Public Works and Parks. They can do so by participating in things such as FlashVote surveys, public meetings, and presentations to community groups and sports clubs about the project.

The City of University Place does not currently have capital or operational funds to implement a design, so the feasibility study will help guide planning and allocation of future funding.

Plans call for the park improvement design plans and cost estimating to be complete by early spring of next year. The final plan recommendations will be presented to the City Council for review and approval in May 2024.

To get the latest news as this project progresses, scan the QR code to visit the City website, www.CityofUP.com. While there, you can also sign up to receive email updates on the project. For more information, please contact Tony West, Public Works Operations Manager, at 253.460.6493 or email him at twest@cityofup.com.

Cirque Park Updates

What's New and in Progress at Cirque Park







Paved walking trail, newly installed exercise equipment and the U.P. Veterans Plaza are open for public use.

While the skatepark updates and all inclusive playground are in progress!





Help Shape the Future of University Place

The City of University Place's Comprehensive Plan is a broad statement of the community's vision for the future and contains policies primarily to guide the physical development of the city. A Comprehensive Plan can also shape certain aspects of the city's social and economic character. The Comprehensive Plan is a living document that must accommodate change. Therefore, the City is required to conduct a major update of its Comprehensive Plan by the end of 2024.

As the City updates its Comprehensive Plan, they want to hear from you! 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 alternative transportation? Tell the City what you think in our Community Survey. The survey will be open until December 4, 2023. And please - spread the word to others!

Use the QR codes on the right to access the survey, or if you'd like to receive a paper version of the survey via mail, please call Zak Ott at 425.954.9219.







Español / Spanish



한국인 Korean

Get the Facts about Middle Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units

The City of University Place is reviewing its existing policies regarding the development of "middle housing," defined as housing units whose size falls between detached single-family homes and large multifamily complexes. Middle housing units are generally about the same size and height as detached houses.

During the 2023-24 session, the Washington legislature adopted House Bill (HB) 1110 to encourage construction of more affordable housing across the state and increase the overall supply and variety of housing options.

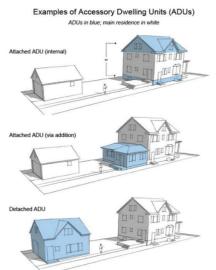
Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) are one type of middle housing that can address these challenges. These smaller, free-standing structures can blend in well with existing single-family residential neighborhoods and are typically more affordable than traditional single-family homes. That often makes them a good fit for seniors or smaller households.

regulations to contact the smaller of the state of the smaller households.

The City Council will study proposed changes to regulations regarding ADUs at its upcoming meetings.

The City must adopt new regulations to comply with the state law by the middle of 2025.

The City of U.P. currently allows ADUs and issues two to three permits for them annually. Per the regulations of HB 1337 that went into effect this past July, the City must make the following changes:



- Allow two ADUs per residential lot provided it meets the minimum lot size.
- Owners are not required to occupy the property and can sell the ADUs as independent units.
- Allow ADUs of at least 1,000 square feet.
- Set consistent parking requirements based on lot size.

But HB 1110 will require the City to make some additional changes to its existing regulations, including allowing up to four units on one lot if one is designated affordable as defined by the law.

The City Council will study proposed changes to regulations regarding ADUs at its upcoming meetings. The City must adopt new regulations to comply with the state law by the middle of 2025.

Please check the City website at www.CityofUP.com for updates on the City Council's progress on this issue. If you have specific questions, please direct them to the Planning and Development Services Department at 253.566.5656.

City of University Place 3609 Market Place West, Suite 200 University Place, WA 98466-4488 PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Tacoma, Washington
Permit No. 235

ECRWSS Postal Customer



City Council Contacts	
Mayor Steve Worthington	253.565.4855
Mayor Pro Tem Javier Figueroa	253.682.7379
Council Member Kent Keel	253.878.8041
Council Member Ed Wood	253.677.5707
Council Member Denise McCluskey	253.566.5656
Council Member Stan Flemming	253.566.5656
Council Member Caroline Belleci	253.878.8040

Stay Engaged and Get Involved!

Don't miss a beat when it comes to what's happening in your community!

Our bi-weekly e-newsletter delivers the latest "Headlines" straight to your inbox, so you can stay up-to-date on what's happening in our city. Sign up today and be the first to know about events, programs and initiatives that are shaping our community.

But we don't just want to keep you informed - we want to hear from you, too. That's where FlashVote comes in. It's free, fast and fun – you'll get a short one-minute survey every few months and you'll get to see full survey results within 48 hours! With FlashVote, you'll have the opportunity to anonymously weigh in on important topics that affect our community. Your responses will help us make informed decisions that reflect the values and needs of University Place residents.

So don't wait - sign up for the e-newsletter and FlashVote today by scanning the QR codes, and help shape the future of our city!





Surface Water Management Utility Tax Notice

As required by
Washington State Law
(RCW 35.92.460 - Utility
Fee or Tax - Disclosure)
the City of University
Place is hereby notifying
you that in 2024 the
utility tax amount
billed for Surface



Utility Taxes

Water Management Fees will remain at six percent (6%) calculated on the gross revenue of the stormwater utility.

The fee is billed on your property tax notice sent annually by Pierce County. This is a tax on the City's utility.

Scan the QR code for more information about Utility Tax in University Place.