

Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



February 5, 2025

Important Reminders on Snow and Ice Removal on U.P. Streets

When snow and ice are in the forecast, please remember that the City of University Place follows a tiered approach to anti-icing and snow removal. Main arterials such as Grandview Drive, Bridgeport Way West, Cirque Drive West and 27th Street West are the highest priority. Chambers Creek Road, Alameda Avenue West, 44th Street West and Sunset Drive West are secondary routes. Neighborhood and side streets are addressed last.



Please reference the **snow removal and anti-icing maps** for specifics.

Also be sure to give the City's Public Works trucks plenty of room and patience as they work to make the streets safe for all motorists.

University Place Police Blotter

Keep yourself up-to-date with the latest public safety activity in University Place by checking out the U.P. Police Blotter! Chief Burke highlights some of the most notable incidents that the U.P. Police Department responds to. But that's not all - you can also browse through recent Calls for Service to get a better understanding of the local happenings in your area.

Don't miss out on staying informed and being part of a safer community - view the U.P. Police Blotter on the **City website** for updates!



Two U.P. City Council Members to Serve on

National Committee



Council Member Frank Boykin



Council Member Denise McCluskey

U.P. City Council Members Frank Boykin and Denise McCluskey have been appointed to the **National League of Cities** (NLC) 2025 Small Cities Council. The pair were elected to one-year terms and will encourage collaboration, networking and the development of resources and programs that can be replicated among communities of similar demographics, size or location.

"I'm honored to serve with others to address issues I am passionate about and to create impactful relationships that can foster good governance for our small cities," Boykin said.

For more than 100 years NLC has advocated for, and protected the interests of, cities, towns and villages by influencing federal policy, strengthening local leadership and driving innovative solutions.

"I hope my participation on the Small Cities Council will help me glean best practices and creative ideas that will enhance U.P.'s goals and vision as well as those of other small cities like us across the country," McCluskey said.

Build Your Career With Us: We're Hiring a Building Inspector/Plans Examiner

Are you passionate about ensuring safe and high-quality construction in your community? The City of University Place is looking for a detail-oriented Building Inspector/Plans Examiner to join our team!

In this role, you'll play a key part in shaping the built environment of our city. Under the guidance of the Building Official, you'll inspect new construction and remodeling projects, review plans and documents, and ensure compliance with building codes and local ordinances. With a high level of independence and decision-making, this position is perfect for someone who thrives on problem-solving, collaboration, and making a tangible impact.

Why Join Our Team?

The City of University Place offers a collaborative and dynamic work



environment where your expertise will directly contribute to the safety and sustainability of our city. If you're looking for a role that combines technical skill with meaningful community impact, this is the opportunity for you!

Apply Today! The position closes Friday, Feb. 7—don't miss your chance to build your future with us!

Sewer Line Repairs Begin on Bridgeport Way

Beginning the week of Feb. 2, motorists along Bridgeport Way between 75th Street West and 67th Avenue West may encounter delays as Pierce County crews begin work to mark utilities prior to urgent repair or replacement of damaged sewer pipes.



Pierce County

Prior to beginning repair, a sewer bypass will be installed between 75th Street West and 67th Avenue West to divert most or all of the wastewater flow and prevent further damage to the pipe until the repair begins. Work is expected to last at least six months.

Although the majority of the repair work will occur south of University Place, there may be impacts to traffic patterns in U.P. Motorists are encouraged to take alternate routes and to be patient and courteous when navigating any lane closures or detours.

For updates on the project, visit the **Bridgeport Way Sewer Repair page on Pierce County's official website.**

WPFR Welcomes New Commissioner

At the West Pierce Fire & Rescue Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 4, Commissioner Marshal (Scott) Dellinger was sworn in to fill the vacancy for Position 5.

Commissioner Dellinger, nominated in December and appointed Jan. 21, serves as a Captain with Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority, where he has worked for 27 years. He retired from the U.S. Air Force Reserves in 2019 after 32 years of military service. He also serves on the board of The Daffodil Festival.



He will hold the seat through the remainder of 2025. An election will be held later this year to fill the next six-year term, from 2026 to 2031.

What's UP with Biz?

After many years of volunteering their time and talents, Economic Development Advisory Commission (EDAC) members Ron Kent and Rick Larson completed their terms of service in January.

Kent began his service as a member of the EDAC in 2011 and was a key contributor and valued adviser to the

City Council on a number of City planning efforts, including the Regional Growth Center Subarea Plan, the 27th Street Business District Plan and the Wayfinding Signage Plan. During a portion of his tenure, Kent also served as the EDAC's liaison to the Planning Commission.



Like Kent, Rick Larson began his EDAC service in 2011. He was instrumental in contributing his insights to the City's Housing Action Plan as the EDAC's representative to that project's Advisory Committee. As a long-time University Place businessman, Larson provided the EDAC with valuable insights into the opportunities and challenges faced by local businesses.

Many thanks to both men for their contributions for the last 14 years. Check the next issue of Headlines to learn more about the newest members of the EDAC.

Ron Kent (back row, far left) and Rick Larson (back row, second from right) are seen in this 2011 photo of the Economic Development Advisory Commission.

Honoring Black History Month: A Time for Reflection and Celebration

Each February, we recognize Black History Month—a time to honor the achievements, resilience, and contributions of Black Americans who have shaped our nation's history and enriched our local community.

From trailblazers in civil rights and public service to innovators in arts, culture, and business, Black leaders have helped pave the way for progress. This month, we encourage everyone to take part in learning, celebrating, and supporting Black history and culture.



Join us in honoring this legacy by exploring local events, supporting Black-owned businesses, and reflecting on the impact of Black voices in shaping our city. Together, we celebrate diversity, unity, and the ongoing journey toward a more inclusive future.

Curran Apple Orchard Pruning Parties

Saturdays

Feb. 1, 15 & 22

March 1, 15 & 29

More information on
the CORE Website.

www.curranappleorchard.com



Great Backyard Birds with Suzanne Harkness and Sally Larson

Participating in the **Great Backyard Bird Count**? Getting started in birding? Just want to know more about that beautiful yellow bird you saw at the feeder? Check out this virtual class put on by the **Tahoma Bird Alliance**!

Date: Thursday, Feb. 13

Time: 6-7:15 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom

Class Fee: Sliding Scale: \$15, \$20, or \$25



Presented by our Development and Community Engagement Manager Suzanne Harkness and Tahoma Bird Alliance board member Sally Larson. Suzanne and Sally will introduce 20 of the birds you're most likely to see in gardens, parks, and at feeders around the South Sound in winter. There will be time for questions at the end, so come prepared with anything you've been wondering about backyard birds!

Sally is an experienced habitat steward with a passion for native plants. If you stopped by a Tahoma Bird Alliance outreach table this year, you probably met her!

Suzanne is our resident bird expert. In addition to being an avid birder, she also enjoys bird photography and is looking forward to this opportunity to share her love of birding with others! **Learn more about Suzanne on our staff page.**

Register here!

Submitted by the Tahoma Bird Alliance.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025

**MEETING
CANCELLED**



AGENDA ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CITYOFUP.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.
WATCH ON COMCAST CHANNEL 21, LIGHTCURVE CHANNEL 12 OR LIVE ON YOUTUBE.COM/UNIVERSITYPLACETV

CITY HALL CLOSURE

CITY HALL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17 IN RECOGNITION OF
THE PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY.

CITY HALL WILL REOPEN ON TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 18 AT 9 A.M.

STAY IN TOUCH!



@CityofUPWA



@CityofUP_WA



UniversityPlaceTV

University Place City Council



**Mayor
Javier Figueroa**



**Mayor Pro Tem
Ed Wood**



**Council Member
Frank Boykin**



**Council Member
Steve Worthington**



**Council Member
Denise McCluskey**



**Council Member
Stan Flemming**



**Council Member
Melanie Grassi**



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