

Headlines

News from University Place City Hall



June 25, 2025

Important Reminders about Fireworks in U.P.

University Place residents are reminded that the **only fireworks legal for discharge in the city are ground-based sparking devices such as non-aerial and non-explosive fountains, cones, novelties (snaps, snakes, poppers), sparklers/morning glories and smokes (smoke balls or aeriels)**. The fireworks stand in the Fred Meyer parking lot at the corner of 67th and Bridgeport Way West sells only fireworks that are legal for discharge in U.P.

These **fireworks can only be discharged on July 4 from 9 a.m. to midnight** by persons 16 or older. Beginning on June 28, residents can report violations of U.P.'s fireworks regulations to **www.fireworksreport.com**. Call 911 if there's a medical emergency, injury or active fire.

Visit the **City's fireworks webpage** for more detailed information on how to protect your pets and other tips for a safe and legal 4th of July.

Due to this year's drought conditions in Pierce County, fireworks pose a special fire danger. Be sure to have a bucket of water or hose handy to douse any embers that may fly into dry brush or grasses. Better yet, consider limiting your fireworks to the professional displays held in Tacoma and Steilacoom.

**FIREWORKS MAY ONLY BE
DISCHARGED ON JULY FOURTH
FROM 9AM TO MIDNIGHT**

Sewer Extension Work Reaches Major Milestone

On June 20, representatives of the City of University Place joined U.S. Rep. Marilyn Strickland (WA-10) and Pierce County Councilmember Rosie Ayala (District 4) for a special ceremony to mark another major milestone in the Sanitary Sewer Extension project.



When fully complete, this major infrastructure initiative will extend sanitary or improve sewer service to seven neighborhoods throughout the city. It is being financed by \$5.7 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, \$500,000 from Pierce County, and a \$290,000 grant from the State of Washington.

Currently, three main projects are in motion:

- **67th Avenue West Sewer Extension** is nearly complete, with only final striping remaining.
- **57th Avenue West Sewer Extension** is nearing completion but Phase 2 may extend into 2026. Paving is expected to take place this week. This work will bring sewer service to this neighborhood while also improving water quality by eliminating discharge from septic drain fields into nearby Leach Creek.
- The **2025 ARPA Sewer Improvement Project** includes five additional

neighborhood areas. Two of these have been completed, with three more to go by year's end. Visit the City's **Sanitary Sewer Extension webpage** for these specific locations.

"These improvements are more than pipes and pavement," said U.P. Mayor Javier Figueroa. "This project is a shining example of what can happen when federal, state and local partners come together with a shared vision."

Meet Your Council: A Love for Community

Get to know the people behind the decisions that shape our city! In our "Meet Your Council" video series, we're introducing you to the members of the University Place City Council, what inspired them to serve, what drives their passion, and even a few fun facts along the way.

In this final episode, we're featuring Council Member Frank Boykin. With a strong commitment to expanding housing opportunities and a deep love for community connection, Frank brings both heart and energy to his role. Tune in to hear about his path to public service, his sports background, and a surprising karaoke hobby that might just make you smile!



The Music is Back!

If it's summer, that must mean that the sound of music is returning to U.P.

Music on the Square, the City's popular free Wednesday evening concerts, will return to the Village at Chambers Bay on July 9 and continue through Aug. 27. Each week will bring a different band and a food truck to help make it dinner and a show. Get ready for a new sound each week, from rock and blues to salsa and swing. The music begins

at 6 p.m.



On Thursday nights from July 24 to Aug. 21, bring your blanket or camp chairs, picnic dinner and snacks and enjoy music from a lineup of popular artists who will bring the sounds of rock, blues, salsa and popular album covers to the Curran Apple Orchard at 6:30 p.m. for **Concerts in the Orchard**. This free music series is sponsored by CORE (Curran Orchard Resource Enthusiasts).

Visit the **City's Events page** for more details on each week's artists.

Don't Miss Being on the List: Register Your Neighborhood for National Night Out

It's not too early to start making your neighborhood's plans for National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 5. Whether you plan for a potluck or pizzas, be sure to **register your event** with the City by Friday, July 25 to ensure your celebration gets a visit from U.P.'s Public Safety teams that will be caravanning all around the city in police and fire vehicles that evening.

Every year, U.P. residents turn off their porch lights and come out to show their support for strong police-community partnerships that prevent and fight crime. This is a great opportunity to meet the public safety professionals who keep you safe, ask questions and thank them for their service to U.P.



City Seeks Public Input on Town Center District

The City of University Place wants residents' and business owners' input on a plan it is developing for the Town Center District. The plan will establish a unified vision for the future of the Town Center District (defined as the area along Bridgeport Way West from 29th Street West to 51st Street West) as well as goals, policies, actions and projects

needed to implement the plan.

When complete, the district plan will also include background and history of the area, an inventory of capital facilities and services to support growth, a market analysis, population and employment forecasts.

Please take just a few minutes to complete **the 13-question survey**. Your thoughts and opinions can help shape the future of this area in the heart of University Place. The survey will be open through mid-July 2025.



Twisted Cider Adds a 12K to 2025 Race Day Lineup

Lace up those running/walking shoes and get ready to get twisted. The popular Twisted Cider 5K and 1K is returning to U.P. on Saturday, July 26. This year, long-distance runners can go even farther with the addition of a 12K to the day's events.

The start and finish lines for all three events are at the Curran Apple Orchard (3920 Grandview Drive W.). The race courses will take participants through U.P. neighborhoods and provide stunning views of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and Puget Sound.



Those who plan on running in the 5K and 12K should **preregister with the Tacoma City Marathon Association**. Families with children under 12 can participate in the 1K and don't need to register in advance.

We're Having a Party!



The City of University Place is celebrating its 30th Anniversary in 2025 and will mark the occasion with a special day-long celebration—including a grand finale never seen in U.P. before!

The "Cheers to 30 Years" celebration will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23 when Cirque Park will be abuzz with live music, children's activities and food trucks. Stop by the skate park for a professional skills demonstration and youth skate contest. There will be bounce houses, slides and art activities for the kids, while adults can sample a special "Hop it UP" birthday brew in the E9 Brewing Company beer garden. As day gives way to dusk, the skies above the park will come alive with a breathtaking Hot Air Balloon Glow Show. This stunning display

will be a glowing sendoff to an unforgettable birthday party.

Fun Facts in History: The Life of Judge Thomas Chambers, Chapter 3

Brought to you by your University Place Historical Society



**University Place
Historical Society**

In 1845, Thomas and Letitia Chambers left Tennessee with their eight children, nine wagons, 70 head of cattle and 18 horses. Their destination: the Pacific Northwest, 2,000 rugged miles away along the Oregon Trail.

The journey brought both challenge and surprise. Near the Platte River, they crossed paths with a group of Native American warriors on horseback. Although there had been recent tensions in the region, Thomas approached to speak with them and discovered they were expecting a traditional offering of tobacco, of which Chambers obliged.

Buffalo stampedes and a measles outbreak added to their hardships, but the Chambers family wagons pressed on with determination.

Next: The Columbia River comes into view. Stay tuned as the adventure continues.

University Place is Hiring!



Do you enjoy crafting content, managing social media, and helping a community stay informed and engaged? If so, you might be the perfect fit for our team!

The City of U.P. has posted a new job opening for a Communications Specialist to assist the Communications team with organizing and implementing the City's communications programs across various platforms, including social media, broadcast and print.

This is a 32-hour week position that is eligible for pro-rated benefits. Qualified candidates should possess strong writing and

editing skills as well as the ability to multi-task.

A complete list of required skills and specifics on how to apply is available on the City's **Human Resources page**.

Street Chipsealing Begins in July

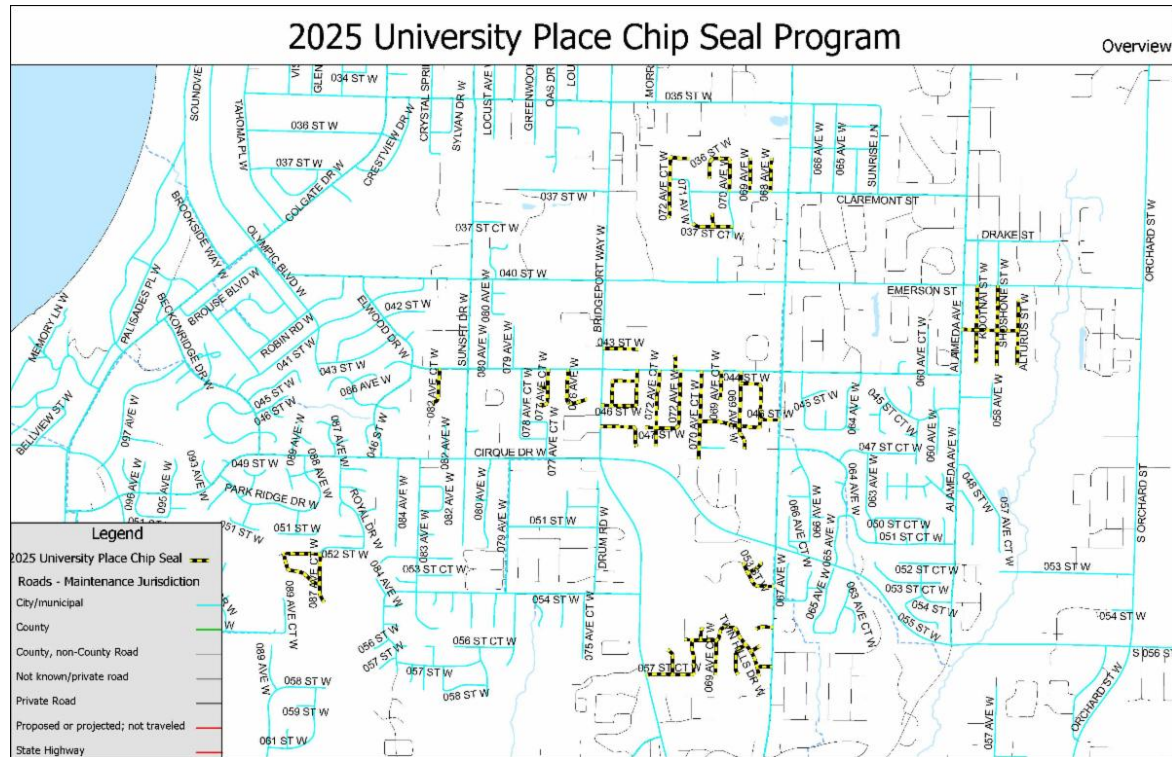
Important preventative maintenance of City streets will begin on July 21 in the neighborhoods indicated on the map below (also available on the **City's website**.)

Streets in this area will undergo chipsealing to preserve their structural integrity by putting a layer of asphalt oil and rock over the existing road to seal out water that can hasten deterioration. It is estimated that chipsealing can extend a roadway's service life by seven to ten years.

After this process, crews will fog seal these streets with liquid asphalt beginning July 28 to fill and tamp down loose rocks created by the chipseal.

Homes on the affected streets will receive door hangers with all the details, including parking and traffic restrictions. Please note that both of these processes require dry weather, so schedule adjustments may be necessary in case of rain.

For additional information, watch this **brief video about chipsealing** or contact the City's Public Works department at 253.460.6493.



CITY HALL HOLIDAY CLOSURE

**City Hall will be closed on July 4 in
recognition of the 4th of July holiday.**

**Normal hours will resume on
Monday, July 7 at 9 a.m.**

What's Up With Biz?

More than 100 business professionals
from University Place, Fircrest and

Tacoma attended a Partner UP business networking social co-sponsored by the City of U.P.'s Economic Development Department and the Westside Branch of the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce.

Held at Chambers Bay, the free event was an after-hours social featuring great food and refreshments topped off by stunning views of Puget Sound and Chambers' fairways. Attendees also enjoyed door prize raffles, including a pair of tickets to a Rainiers game.

Partner UP networking socials are another way U.P. helps local businesses thrive and grow by helping owners make connections that will bring new customers through their doors.



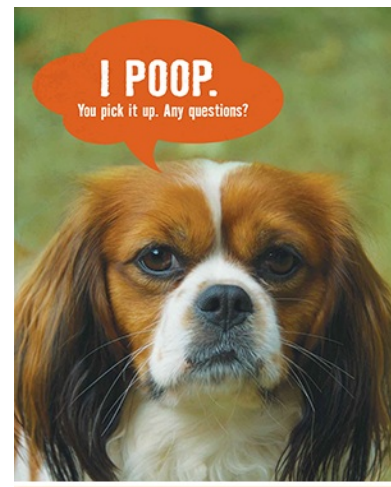
Be Dogged about Picking Up Pet Waste

If you're taking man's best friend for walks this summer, don't let the dog days of summer contribute to stormwater pollution.

Be sure to scoop your dog's poop every time. Don't be fooled by those who say dog poop is fertilizer. It isn't, and when left on the ground, it can spread bacteria and parasites that are a threat to people and animals—especially if they are carried by rainwater to our local streams, lakes and Puget Sound. This can result in unsafe swimming and fishing conditions.

Pet waste should always go in the trash, even if you use a compostable bag. Backyard and commercial compost facilities do not get hot enough to kill the germs in pet waste.

For more information on how you and Fido can help keep our waterways clean, visit **[Puget Sound Starts Here](#)**.



U.P. CITY HALL BLOOD DRIVE

Save lives in just 10 minutes!

Stop by the Bloodworks Mobile van in front of U.P. City Hall on July 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., for a quick blood donation. Each donation can help save up to three lives—and you'll get a snack afterward!

- Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood, which means more than 38,000 blood donations are needed per day.
- Blood transfusions are needed for:



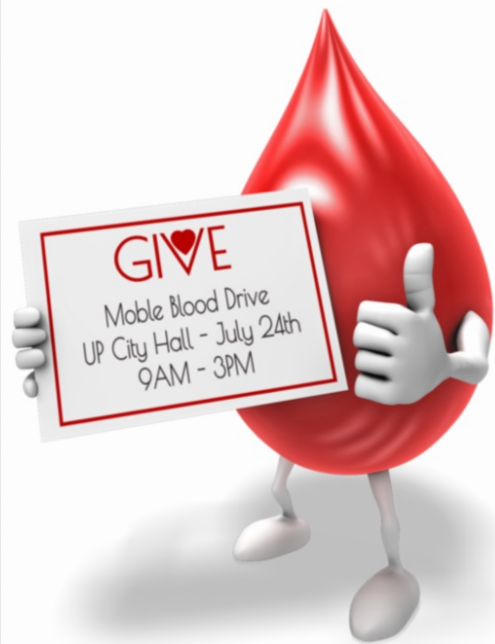
Complications of pregnancy



Complex medical procedures and cancer patients



Severe trauma



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 7, 2025 AT 6:30 P.M.

AGENDA ITEMS

- 27th Street District Plan
- Council Rules of Procedure Amendments

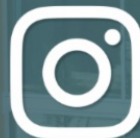


AGENDA ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CITYOFUP.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.
WATCH ON COMCAST CHANNEL 21 / 321 OR LIVE ON [YOUTUBE.COM/UNIVERSITYPLACETY](https://www.youtube.com/universityplacety)

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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