



Pierce County Councilmember  
**Roger Bush**

**Representing the  
communities of**

Ashford, Eatonville,  
Elbe, Elk Plain,  
Frederickson, Graham,  
Harts Lake, Lacamas,  
McKenna, Roy, and  
Spanaway



**District 3 News**

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Standing Committees: Economic and Infrastructure Development (Vice Chair) ♦ Public Safety & Health Services (Member)



*January 2012*

*Greetings in the New Year!*

After serving as Council Chair for the past three years, I made the decision in November to step back from the administrative responsibilities associated with Council leadership. This is so that I can devote myself more fully to the issues that are near and dear to me and the people I represent in Council District Three. Consequently, the Pierce County Council began its work this year by electing a new Council Chair and Vice Chair. Councilmember Joyce McDonald now takes the seat as Chair of the Council with Councilmember Rick Talbert as Vice Chair. Councilmember Dick Muri remains on the leadership team as Executive Pro Tem. This will be my final year on the Council and so I will focus my efforts on seeing to the completion of the projects I've initiated and to continue working with my Council colleagues to improve the quality of life for Pierce County citizens.

Much has been accomplished over the past seven years: leaner and more efficient county government, road improvements that will finally bring congestion relief to District 3 travelers, increased law enforcement capabilities to better promote public safety, and improvements to our public parks system. But my job is not finished; there is still work to be done, and I will remain engaged in those continuing efforts to make Pierce County the best place to live, work, and do business in our state.

For your information, I'm providing this [link](#) to the Council's Calendar. Click on any of the meeting links on that Calendar for Agenda information. If you are interested in providing testimony on a particular topic that is on a meeting agenda, please attend that meeting. In addition, if you would like to present information at the Council's Tuesday Council Meeting on a topic of interest pertaining to county government that is not otherwise on the Council Agenda for that day, the Citizens' Forum allows you to make a three-minute presentation on that topic. For more information about all Council activities, please go [here](#).

As always, if you have suggestions or concerns that you would like to share with me, please contact me by phone or email. I appreciate your comments and the opportunity to assist you any way I can with matters related to county government.

Best wishes,

**Roger Bush**  
**Pierce County Council**  
**District Three**

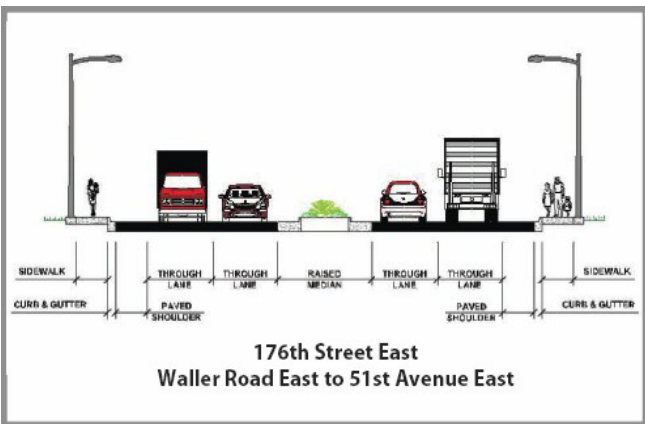
# Transportation Update

## Widening the 176<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor



### *From Canyon Road to Gem Heights*

Looking west from 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, this photo taken in mid-December shows the current status of the road construction project on 176<sup>th</sup> Street East from Canyon Road to Gem Heights. The project is now on winter suspension, but all lanes have been marked temporarily and will remain open throughout the winter months. When the final layer of asphalt is applied during the summer of 2012, this project will be fully completed.



### *From Waller Road East to 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue East*

This section of 176<sup>th</sup> is also nearing completion. To date, sidewalks and ADA ramps east of 38<sup>th</sup> Ave. E. have been poured. Two of three layers of asphalt are complete from Waller Rd. to the new railroad over-crossing bridge. Waller Rd. and 36<sup>th</sup> Ave. E. are both paved with the first two asphalt layers. This month (January), crews will begin installing the new signal systems at Waller Road, 36<sup>th</sup> Ave. E. and 38<sup>th</sup> Ave. East. The existing signal system at 38<sup>th</sup> Ave. will be removed as soon as the new system is operational.

## The Canyon Road Corridor

*Project to widen Canyon Road from 160th St. East to 172<sup>nd</sup> Street East is also nearing completion.*

This photo was taken in June, 2010



This photo was taken in September, 2011



In late fall, work on the traffic and street lights was completed. The center median, plantings, and hardscape were also completed, and the roadway was given temporary lane markings. All lanes will remain open during the winter months. When the final layer of asphalt is applied in Spring, 2012, the project will be complete.

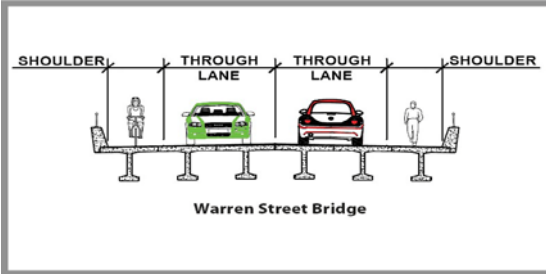
## District Three Road Projects Beginning This Year



### Replacing the Warren Street Bridge in Roy

Originally slated to be completed in 2011, the project is now on the Summer 2012 schedule and will include:

- Removal of the existing bridge.
- Rebuilding the new bridge with pre-stressed concrete girders.
- Reconstructing approaching roadways.



The new bridge will be two lanes with paved shoulders for pedestrian traffic as illustrated. During the construction of the bridge, North Warren Street will be closed for four months.

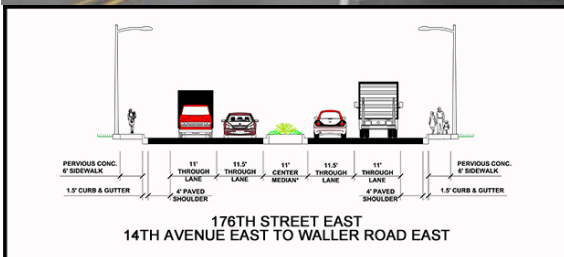
For additional information about this project, please visit the Public Works website at this [link](#).

### Widening 176<sup>th</sup> Street East from Waller Road East to 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue East



With the design phase all but complete, bid advertisements will go out in early 2012. Construction should begin in the late spring or early summer.

The design of this portion of 176<sup>th</sup> is consistent with the newly re-constructed roadway east of Waller Road to Gem Heights. It will be expanded to four lanes, and will include raised medians or U-turn lanes at designated locations.



Concrete curbs, sidewalks and gutters will be installed, as well as additional street lighting and improved traffic signals at 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. East and 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave East. The project will also include an improved storm drain system and storm water storage and treatment facilities. It is slated for completion in the autumn of 2013.

## You Can Help Keep Our Roads Safe

Public Safety is, of course, the first responsibility of government. But private citizens must participate in keeping their communities safe, and traffic safety is a part of that. Here are a few steps you can take to help ensure your safety and that of others who travel our county roads.

### 1. Report street lights that are out

You can help keep our streets safe by making sure that they remain well lit. If you notice that a street light is flickering or burned out, here are some numbers to call to report the problem:

**Elmhurst Mutual Power & Light Company . . . . . 253-531-4646**

**Tacoma Power Company . . . . . 253-591-5287**

**Ohop Mutual Light Company . . . . . 253-847-4363**

Crews will respond quickly to replace the burned out bulbs.





## 2. Report downed or missing street signs.

If you see a “Stop” or “Yield” sign that is downed or missing, contact the Pierce County Department of Public Works day or night. A technician will be dispatched right away to correct the problem. Place your call to:

**Public Works Traffic Division . . . . .253-531-6990**



## 3. Report traffic signals that are not working properly.

If you see a traffic signal with a burned out light, call the Pierce County Public Works Traffic Division. Individual signal lamp burnouts or signal timing adjustments are addressed during regular business hours. Traffic signals that are not functioning at all will be corrected right away.

Call the Public Works Traffic Division at **253-531-6990**.

# Happenings In and Around Council District Three

## Learn About Local Law Enforcement

The Pierce County Sheriff’s Department’s Community Academy will provide opportunities for citizens to learn about local law enforcement at two sessions scheduled for this winter. The South Hill Academy will hold Wednesday evening classes beginning on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-9:30 pm at the South Hill Precinct, 160<sup>th</sup> and Meridian. The University Place Academy evening classes will be held on Thursday evenings, beginning February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7:00-9:30 pm at the University Place Police Dept., 3609 Marketplace W. The course seeks to familiarize the public with all aspects of the Sheriff’s Department and provides insight into the practices of law enforcement and the criminal justice system. The class covers constitutional law, procedures of patrol deputies, internal investigations, narcotics, K-9, crime analysis, domestic violence and more. Field trips to the 9-1-1- Communications Center, the Pierce County Jail, and the Marksman Firing Range are also scheduled. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. Applicants must be at least 16 years old. Applications are available at [www.piercesheriff.org](http://www.piercesheriff.org) (select Community Academy). Fingerprinting will be required prior to final acceptance into the program.

## There’s plenty to do at Pierce County Parks & Recreation!

If you want to know what’s going on in our county parks during the winter and spring months, here’s the link to the Activities Schedule: [Parks & Recreation 2012 Winter/Spring Schedule](#). In it, you’ll find a schedule jam-packed with fun activities for children of all ages! Also included is information about the Grand Re-Opening of the beautifully renovated Sprinker Park Ice Arena. The Re-Opening celebration will take place from January 21 through February 12, 2012. Get schedule and ticket information about the Eleventh Annual Ice Show, “Reflections on Ice – Celebration, The Next Generation” [here](#). The 2012 Ice Show will be held on February 10, 11, and 12.

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