



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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Committees: Pierce County Council Chair; Rules and Operations (chair);
Economic and Infrastructure Development (vice chair); Community Development (member)

AUGUST 2011 UPDATE

Here's a quick update to keep you informed about things happening at the County Council and here in rural Pierce County. I appreciate the opportunity to be in touch with you via this electronic format. It saves dollars on printing and mailing costs, while still allowing me to keep you updated on county council activities and issues. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends and neighbors in Council District 3 who may not be on my mailing list!

Council District 3 looks a little different after redistricting

The Districting Commission has completed its work and the new council district map has been filed with the County Auditor, which makes the new council district boundaries official and in effect. To see the new map, click [here](#). In viewing the map, you will note that South Hill, Gem Heights, Mountain Park, and that part of Silver Creek east and north of Gem Heights Drive have now become a part of Council District 1, represented by Councilmember Dan Roach. Councilmember Roach will do an outstanding job as your new representative on the Pierce County Council. He and his assistant, Tammi, can be reached at 253-798-3635.

The new district line also reunites me with a few old friends. All of Graham, Spanaway, McKenna, and the town of Roy are now in the 3rd Council District. I look forward to getting reacquainted with the folks in these neighborhoods whom I served while in the state legislature. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have questions or concerns about your County government. Click [here](#) to send me an email, or call my office at 253-798-6626.

County Council Activity

Our July Budget Retreat held on July 19th was in many ways very challenging, but also highly productive. As expected, the current and projected county revenues continue to lag. However, I feel confident that continuing to exercise patience and frugality will bring us through. Effectiveness is doing the right things; efficiency is doing things right. My goal is to make the most effective and efficient use of your tax dollars while striving to provide the high quality of county services that you deserve. Please feel free to contact me with your input on ways you think we could do our job better.

During July, several proposals were reviewed for action by the Council. One of the most important, in my opinion, is in response to Federal Communications Commission mandates that reduce the operating bandwidth for first responders nationwide by January 1, 2013. The "South Sound 911" proposal, if passed by voters in November, will establish a seamless, more efficient emergency communications system that improves safety for every county resident and first responder. South Sound 911 would be funded by the existing Enhanced 911 tax (20 cents per line), an increase of 1/10 of 1 percent in the sales tax (1 penny on a \$10 purchase) and agency fees and grants. The money would be bonded to pay for radios and two dispatch facilities, and to contribute to the operating budget as well. I supported sending this proposal to the voters because I believe South Sound 911 is a thoughtful and collaborative approach to addressing critical public safety needs throughout Pierce County, while also complying with the FCC mandates. If the measure is approved by voters, we will get faster, more coordinated emergency services that can be counted on day and night.

ROAD PROJECTS: Progress on 176th

TACOMA RAIL CROSSING BRIDGE



176th looking East to Canyon Road



Looking west on 176th Street



Bridge removed – looking east

These photos above and below were taken in late July as work continues on the replacement of the over-cross Tacoma Rail Bridge at 176th Street and 52nd Avenue East. Upgrades to the roadway approaches to the bridge at 52nd Avenue East are also part of the project. By doubling the lanes available, real congestion relief will occur on all of 176th Street.

Traffic Impacts: Traffic is being detoured on 176th Street between Canyon Road and 38th Avenue until project completion in November.



From the top looking east



Bridge removed – looking west



From the top looking down

EAST OF CANYON ROAD TO GEM HEIGHTS



Work continues on those sections that are east of Canyon Road. Progress on the west half of the project is slower due to soil moisture conditions. The contractor is onsite and the following work is being done: Installing the illumination and traffic signal systems.

- Roadway excavation.
- Placing crushed surfacing rock.
- Paving West-bound lanes.
- Pouring curb and gutter.

Traffic Impacts: Traffic has been shifted to the north side of 176th.

PARKS PROJECTS

ASHFORD PARK: Phase 2 to begin

Here is a photo of Ashford Park as it is today, following Phase 1. Phase 2 will include expansion and completion of the road and parking lots, addition of an open play/picnic area with shelters, an amphitheatre, and additional amenities.

Preparation of the building pad for the construction of the Cultural Center (Phase 3) will also be done. That area will be used as a great lawn until funding is available for Phase 3 construction.

Click [here](#) to view the site plan.



Ashford Park – August, 2011

SPRINKER PARK: Renovation Update

The construction phase of the renovation of the Sprinker Recreation Center began on July 5th and will continue to the end of this year. I'm happy to report that the base-bids for the structural and safety renovations were low enough that alternate-bid upgrades were able to be included within the budget guidelines. These upgrades include a new sound system, restroom remodel and lighting, floor and wall finishes and more! To see photos and follow the progress of the renovation, you can go [here](#).

LOCAL EVENTS

There are a lot of fun events throughout these summer months, and you won't want to miss them!

Eatonville Lion's Club Art Festival August 5, 6, & 7 (Click [here](#) for more info.)

Over 100+ artists from all over the country participate in this lively festival, which includes both a live and a silent auction, nearly continuous musical entertainment, specialty cars, and, of course, food galore!

Free Family Movie Night in Frederickson. On August 12th, the movie, "Up!" will be presented at the Pierce County Skills Center at dusk. Come early, bring the kids and a picnic! There will be pre-movie educational and entertainment activities. For more information, call the Frederickson Clover Creek Community Council at (253) 847-7331 or (253) 875-7815.

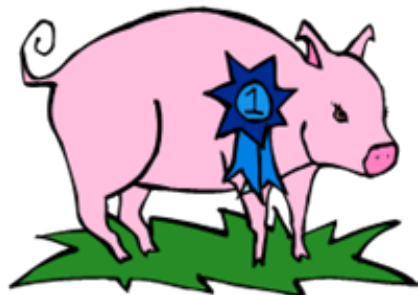
Grazing in Graham – Saturday, August 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the Graham Business Association will host the 2nd annual Grazing in Graham at Frontier Park. Admission is free. Check out all the details [here](#).

One more "**Junk in Your Trunk Sale**" will be held at Sprinker Recreation Center this summer: August 20th from 9:00 – 4:00 p.m. Click [here](#) for more info.

The Gross Out Olympics (GOO) – There will be one more GOO for the summer, this time at Sprinker Recreation Center on August 26th (Registration deadline is August 24) from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Additional information can be found [here](#). This event is for ages 3 and up. The cost is \$10/participant.

Gymnastics, Dance, or Guitar Camps – click [here](#) to find information about Sports and Music Camps for kids sponsored by Pierce County Parks.

Click here: [Pierce County Parks Summer Activity Guide](#) for a full listing of all the happenings sponsored by Pierce County Parks this summer.



See you at the Pierce County Fair in Graham!

There is a whole lot of fun in store at the 64th Annual Pierce County Fair at Frontier Park in Graham. This year's theme is "Barnyard Jamboree". The Fair opens on Thursday, August 11th, and continues through Sunday, August 14th. Pack up the kids and come to the Fair for lots of great food, free entertainment and other activities. I hope to see you there! For information on all the happenings at the Fair, click [here](#).

AUGUST CALENDAR

To assist you in being informed about your county government, PCTV brings live, gavel-to-gavel coverage of Pierce County Council public meetings. The calendar below includes the Pierce County Council's schedule of public meetings for August. Meetings of the various boards and commission on which I serve are not listed on this calendar, but information is available about those meetings at the Boards and Commissions web link [here](#). The items on the calendar that are highlighted in green are televised on the following Pierce County Cable Channels: Click! 22, Comcast 22, Rainier Connect 78. Let me invite you to tune in or join us in the Council Chamber at 930 Tacoma Avenue, 10th Floor. I am, of course, available to meet with you in my office or in the district, should you have an issue you would like to discuss with me. Please call my office at 798-6626 if you would like to schedule an appointment.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Rules and Operations Meeting Monday Study Session Meeting Community Development Committee Meeting	2 Tuesday Study Session Meeting Council Meeting	3	4	5 Eatonville Lion's Club Art Festival	6 Eatonville Art Festival
7 Eatonville Art Festival	8 Rules and Operations Meeting Monday Study Session Meeting Public Safety & Human Svcs. Meeting	9 Tuesday Study Session Meeting Council Meeting	10	11 Pierce County Fair Opening Day	12 Pierce County Fair Free Family Movie Night in Frederickson	13 Pierce County Fair
14 Pierce County Fair	15 Rules and Operations Meeting Monday Study Session Meeting	16 Tuesday Study Session Meeting Council Meeting	17	18	19	20 Grazing in Graham "Junk in Your Trunk" Sale
	22 Rules and Operations Meeting Monday Study Session Meeting	23 Tuesday Study Session Meeting Council Meeting	24	25	26 Gross Out Olympics	
	29 Rules and Operations Meeting Monday Study Session Meeting	30 Tuesday Study Session Meeting Council Meeting	31			

Did you know?

The Pierce County Veterans Bureau provides services for county veterans. Emergency assistance with food, rent and utilities to qualified indigent veterans and family members is available. Limited assistance with medical and other miscellaneous services is also available on an emergency need basis. If you or a veteran you know needs help, contact the PC Veterans Bureau at 253-798-7449 or through the county toll-free number: 1-800-992-2456.

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If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send an email [here](#) and ask to be removed from my email list.