



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)

SEPTEMBER 2011 UPDATE

I hope you've had many opportunities to enjoy the long daylight hours of the summer months which, happily, did include sunshine and warm temperatures. If you're like me, though, you may appreciate these early autumn months too, when life settles back into more regular routines. Here's a quick review of some of the major projects and Council activities of the summer, along with a heads-up on what lies ahead. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends and neighbors in Council District 3 who may not be on my mailing list!

County Council Activity

Throughout the summer months, the Council has been working on several issues of consequence to Pierce County citizens. Finalization of many of these issues will take place in September and October.

- A number of amendments to the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan have been under review. In the coming weeks, the Council will take action on the final proposed Comprehensive Plan.
- During its Tuesday Study Sessions, the Council received briefings from the Public Works Department regarding the expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The bids have been received and awarded. The next phase will involve completion of the project design.
- For the Council, the next couple of months will be our busiest time of year, as we move headlong into the process of enacting the 2012 County Budget. In this economic climate, it will be very challenging to balance revenues coming in and seeing that essential services are delivered without increasing taxes.
- In-District Council meetings will be held in September and October. On September 20th, the County Council will be hosted by Councilmember Tim Farrell, District 4. The meeting will be located at the Fircrest City Hall Council Chambers and will begin at 6:00 p.m. In October, Councilmember Joyce McDonald will host the County Council meeting in her Council district – District 2. The specifics of that meeting are yet to be determined, but public notice will be given.

ROAD PROJECTS - Progress on 176th



TACOMA RAIL CROSSING BRIDGE

Looking east toward Canyon Rd., this photo shows the abutment work currently in progress for the new over-cross Tacoma Rail Bridge at 176th St. and 52nd Ave. East. Upgrades to the roadway approaches at 52nd Ave. East are also part of the project. By doubling the lanes available, real congestion relief will occur on all of 176th Street. The project is on schedule for completion in November.

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

Work continues from 38th Street to the rail crossing bridge.

Pictured here, the lead project inspector, Jim Aske, provides information about work finished and that still to be done on this section of 176th. The work being completed at this time includes:

- Installing the illumination and traffic signal systems;
- Roadway excavation;
- Placing crushed surfacing rock;
- Paving eastbound and westbound lanes;
- Pouring curbs and gutters.

The final phase includes pouring the sidewalks, landscaping the medians and laying the top asphalt layer, to be done in Spring & Summer 2012.



CANYON ROAD EAST – 172ND TO 160TH ST.

Paving has been completed on the west side of this section of Canyon Road and it is now open. Work on the east side continues: excavating the roadway and the detention pond, and installing a storm sewer, sanitary sewer, streetlights, and signal bases.

If weather cooperates, the first layer of asphalt will be laid on the east side before the winter suspension in late October. It is anticipated that these lanes will be open to through traffic through the winter months. Final completion is slated for Spring/Summer 2012.

PIERCE COUNTY PARKS

PARKS & RECREATION AUTUMN SCHEDULE

The County Parks Schedule of Autumn activities is available online at the Parks website. Click here: [2011 Fall Guide](#) to find Fall community events, outdoor adventures, classes and sports for adults and kids, and much, much more!

SPRINKER PROJECT UPDATE

The **Sprinker Park** renovation is moving along on schedule. You can view the progress of the project by clicking [here](#). You will see numerous photos of the project at various stages as well as descriptions of the work accomplished and work yet to be completed. A supplemental budget was approved, adding \$400,000 to the \$6.1 million project. The renovation is scheduled for completion on December 31 of this year.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you have an interest in Parks and Recreations issues, your voice is needed on the Parks Citizen Advisory Board. There are currently vacancies for Council Districts 1 and 2, and for an At Large position. If you are interested, applications are being accepted until October 5, 2011. Click [here](#) for more information or to download an application.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Summer may be coming to an end, but that doesn't mean the end of fun in and around our community. September and October have a few offerings that I'm sure you'll want to experience.

- The **Puyallup Fair** is going on right now and will run until September 25th. Celebrating its 111th year, the Puyallup Fair is the largest single attraction scheduled annually in our state, and it continually ranks in the top ten largest fairs in the world. For more information about concerts, contests, and all the other happenings at the fair, click here: [Do the Puyallup!](#)
- **Freddie Fest and the 2nd Annual Corporate Chili Challenge** is coming to the Frederickson Community on October 1st from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This is a free event sponsored by LeMay/Waste Connections. For more information, click here: [Freddie Fest](#)
- **All Bethel Community Day (ABC Day)** - Bethel area students and community groups are joining together on Saturday, October 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Graham-Kapowsin High School for this fun-filled day. Co-sponsored by the Bethel Area Council of PTA's and Operation Military Kids, this is a free event. For more information, click here: [ABC Day](#).

Remembering September 11, 2001

On September 6th, the County Council passed a Resolution commemorating the Tenth Anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, and proclaiming September 11, 2011 as "Patriot's Day" in Pierce County, Washington.

In part, the Resolution reads, "Whereas, we will never forget the brave friends and loved ones who perished that day, nor the amazing acts of selflessness -- courageous first responders risked and gave their lives to protect others; incredible men and women did everything from thwarting hijackers to gathering aid for victims and their families; and countless individuals enlisted in the armed forces to keep our homeland safe."

To read the full text of the resolution, please click [here](#).

