



CITY OF PUYALLUP

City Council

June 14, 2020

To Our Puyallup Community:

Much has changed over the past few months—so many things we once took for granted are different, for now. Many of us have suffered due to financial hardships or worrying about staying safe while continuing to work or because someone we care about fell acutely ill. All of us have been affected in one way or another.

However, we are starting to see renewed signs of a gradual return to opening up many facets of our community. The Stay Home, Stay Healthy Order has been lifted and Pierce County has moved into Phase 2 of Governor Inslee's Safe Start phased approach. As your local elected officials, we continue to serve you. We have responded to phone calls and emails, and ask that you don't hesitate to reach out with your thoughts, questions and concerns.

The Puyallup City Council has continued to conduct essential business via remote meetings. Following the Governor's stay-home order in late March, we met remotely in both April and May. Members of the public were able to listen to the proceedings in real time, and the recordings are available [online](#). Our next meeting is scheduled for this coming Tuesday, June 16th, and we invite you to listen in. You can sign up to receive meeting notifications [here](#).

Among the actions we took in April and May was to approve a [resolution](#) lauding all of the essential workers who have ensured the continued provision of necessary goods and services, and encouraging preventative measures such as wearing masks to protect them. We also:

- Granted supplemental funding to local food banks to meet increased needs
- Waived utility late fees during the COVID-19 state of emergency
- Awarded a contract for construction of the Manorwood water main replacement
- Approved a contract for the annual Clark's Creek elodea removal project
- Extended the timeframes for a variety of land use permits and approvals, and
- [Lobbied Governor Inslee](#) to seek greater flexibility for certain business activities.

In response to the economic challenges faced by the building industry, we approved an [ordinance](#) temporarily modifying the time of payment of impact fees and system development charges. In addition, we green-lighted a pilot project that will allow for more outdoor eating and retail opportunities in our downtown by rethinking how we use our streets and sidewalks in a creative, inviting, and safe manner. More about that soon!

Like many of you, one thing we are doing these days is keeping a very close eye on [our budget](#). We know that our 2020 budget (and likely our 2021 one as well) will be markedly different from what we envisioned earlier this year. We're keeping on top of it and will be forthcoming with what we learn and also with what's done to make sure our expenses don't exceed our revenues.

Because so many of our local businesses have been hit hard by required closures or reduced consumer spending, the City has embarked on a new economic development campaign that aims to support and promote them. Our businesses enhance our community, and [Choose Puyallup](#) is all about helping them thrive. You can help, too—whether by splurging on a takeout meal or simply leaving a positive review for a few of the places that offer your favorite products or services.

Speaking of favorite products and services, we know there's a lot of appreciation out there for a very special product/service combo: food trucks! Last year, we modified our pilot program to feature a shorter application and a quick turnaround process. This summer, [Food Truck Fridays](#) will bring a different food truck downtown from 11 to 2 every Friday until the end of August. A great partnership with the Washington State Food Truck Association!

Although many things have changed over the last few months, we are encouraged that Puyallup citizens continue to connect, collaborate and—above all—demonstrate a spirit of generosity. We've witnessed and heard of countless testimonials to our city's inherent nature these last several weeks. Of note:

- Many of us have responded to the Puyallup Food Bank's call for more donations.
- A few of us jumped at the chance to help a local business owner deal with a senseless act of vandalism.
- At least one of us signed their federal stimulus check over to a local non-profit organization to benefit unknown others.

We know all of this has been hard. We also know our community is nothing if not resilient.

Thank you, Puyallup, for showing up for each other in ways both large and small.

Mayor Julie Door
253-320-5826
jdoor@ci.puyallup.wa.us

Deputy Mayor John Palmer
253-753-8256
jpalmer@ci.puyallup.wa.us

Councilmember Robin Farris
253-213-3174
rfarris@ci.puyallup.wa.us

Councilmember Dean Johnson
253-244-8510
djohnson@ci.puyallup.wa.us

Councilmember Cyndy Jacobsen
253-278-6044
cjacobsen@ci.puyallup.wa.us

Councilmember Jim Kastama
253-278-6022
jkastama@ci.puyallup.wa.us

Councilmember Ned Witting
253-303-1822
nwitting@ci.puyallup.wa.us