

# PUGET NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

JANUARY 2014

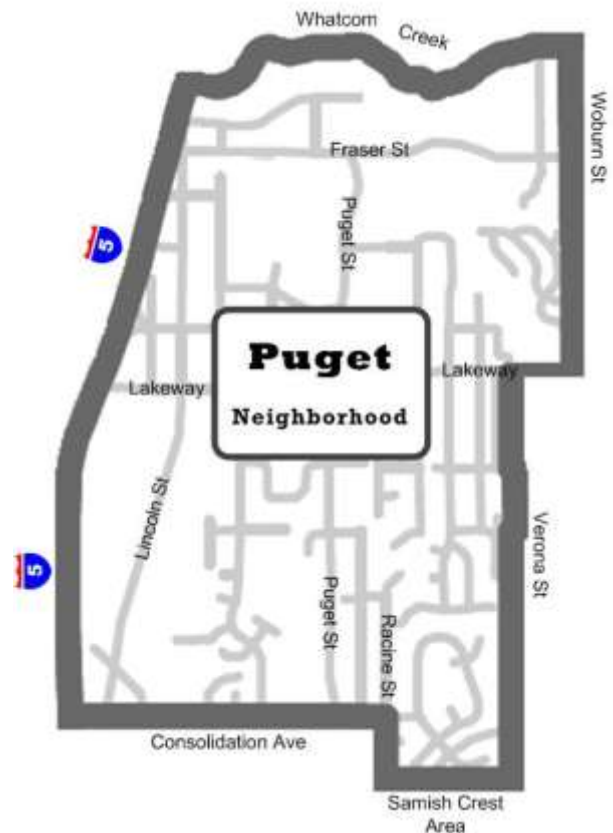
Website: [www.pugetneighborhood.org](http://www.pugetneighborhood.org)

Email: [info@pugetneighborhood.org](mailto:info@pugetneighborhood.org)

Blog: [pugetneighborhood.blogspot.com](http://pugetneighborhood.blogspot.com)

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## Call for NEW Board Members for 2014

Can you help the Puget Neighborhood Association out? It's time to reorganize the PNA Board for the New Year, and add new Board members!

Each year at the February meeting, the Puget Neighborhood Association calls for nominations of new Board Members. This will happen again at our February 18 meeting. Usually all Neighbors willing to be nominated and serve, have an opportunity to join the Board. We're always interested in new people joining Board, especial people with new and different ideas; representing older and younger Neighbors, families and singles, renters and homeowners, and residents and business owners. The time commitment is small and can vary; only four Board meetings per year, four Neighborhood meetings per year, and whatever time you can spend helping draft or proof information, helping with signs, and helping organize meetings.

Consider joining the Puget Board. We have opportunities and some resources to help share information and promote Neighborhood involvement in Neighborhood and community issues. Consider the letters we gathered concerning the Student University Ridge proposal.

Through representation on the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission that meets monthly with Mayor Linville, we have opportunities to share Neighborhood concerns and issues, and appeal for City support and consideration. The Neighborhood Association is commissioned by the City to develop and propose Neighborhood plans that can be (and have been) adopted by City Council and included in the City's Comprehensive Master Plan. The Association has access to City officials and other groups for presentations and Q&A session at Neighborhood meetings.

It's an opportunity to be involved, and many hands lighten the load for everyone. Consider joining the Board. You would be so welcome!

## University Ridge Update

The corporation is still analyzing the financial feasibility of doing the project with the restrictions set upon it by the Hearing Examiner's decision. Kathy Bell, Planning and Community Development indicated this week (1/13/14) that she has not had any discussions with the development proposal team since immediately after the decision was issued. She was not aware of the City receiving any new information regarding development of the site. As more information becomes available, the PNA will provide updates.

## Lincoln Street Planned Development

Puget Neighborhood Association President Gaythia Weis met with Brent Baldwin, Development Manager, Bellingham Public Works on December 23rd. This was an informative meeting. Issues discussed included traffic and drainage concerns along Lincoln Street raised by area Puget Neighborhood residents. Brent Baldwin has offered assurances that he will get back with answers to the questions raised. Gaythia Weis also met with Lakeway Mobile Home Estates manager Julie Burton and viewed the drainage system there with their maintenance person.

Brent Baldwin mentioned that there will be an upcoming hearing before the hearing examiner regarding a request by the developer regarding a street width reduction on Maple Street west of Lincoln Street. This is indirectly related to the drainage and traffic concerns and may be an allowed window for public comment to get those concerns addressed. The date for this meeting has not yet been announced. The PNA will provide updates as more information becomes available.

## PNA City Council Representatives and Wards

Roxanne Murphy is our newly elected At-Large Council member, replacing Seth Fleetwood as of January 2014 for a 2-year At-Large term. And, during the City Council's first meeting of the New Year, Cathy Lehman, whose Council term runs to December 2015, was elected by the Council as its president for 2014. Terry Bornemann's term also runs to December 2015. Council members representing Wards serve for 4 years.

As the Neighborhood pursues any appropriate changes in zoning, zoning rules, and community development procedures, these Council Members should be our first contacts for raising concerns and addressing issues.

At our November PNA meeting, there were concerns raised about our area zoning, how the zoning rules apply, how development happens within the rules and how this all seems contrary to the City and neighborhood plans. Many people expressed interest in pursuing changes to these processes.

The Puget Neighborhood is split between Wards 3 and 5. If you are familiar with the basic Puget Neighborhood boundary, it's pretty easy to visualize the Ward boundaries. Just to clarify, Puget Neighborhood is bordered by Whatcom Creek on the north, I-5 on the west, and Consolidation St and the City boundary on the south. The confusing east boundary is Woburn and Old Woburn, with a jog west at Lakeway, and then continues south at Verona St with a couple of other jogs before reach the City boundary. (BTW, the official Puget boundaries set by the City really aren't critical for Puget

### **Puget Neighborhood City Council representatives:**

**Ward 3 - Cathy Lehman**  
*clehman@cob.org*  
Phone: (360) 224-8877

**Ward 5 - Terry Bornemann**  
*tbornemann@cob.org*  
Phone: (360) 305-0606

**At-Large - Roxanne Murphy**  
*rjmurphy@cob.org*  
Phone: (360) 778-8211

Neighborhood Association membership... Anyone in and around, or otherwise has a “stake” in the Puget Neighborhood, is welcomed to be a member!)

The Puget Neighborhood is then split between Ward 3 and Ward 5 by Ward boundaries running the center line of Lakeway from I-5 until you reach St Paul Street. There, turning south on St Paul, Ward boundaries run the center line of St Paul and beyond on a projected straight line to the City boundary. Ward 3 is to the north and east, and includes parts of precincts 230, 231, and 232. Ward 5 is to the south and west, and includes all of precinct 248 and most of 249.

You can also see Puget’s Ward boundaries by viewing this map: [Puget Neighborhood City Council Wards](http://pugetneighborhood.org/Wards); found in the Maps section of the Document Center on the Puget Neighborhood web site: [pugetneighborhood.org](http://pugetneighborhood.org).

## February Meeting

Next PNA meeting is February 18, at 7:00 pm at Moles Funeral Home meeting room at 2465 Lakeway Dr.

*Be sure to save the date!*

### Call for Suggested Agenda Items for Feb Meeting

Although the agenda is yet to be finalize, we’re trying to arrange for Mayor Linville or one of the City Council Members representing the Puget Neighborhood (i.e. Ward 3, Ward 5, or At-Large member) to speak at our meeting. We’ll also likely have updates on the University Ridge proposed development, and the Lincoln Street development.

We’re always interested in your agenda ideas, and always try to include topics of interest suggested by the Neighbors. If you have ideas for topics or even brief updates on past issues or topics, let us know at: [info@pugetneighborhood.org](mailto:info@pugetneighborhood.org).

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ideas for topics  
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## 2nd Bicycle Master Plan Open House

### Date change

The 2nd Bicycle Master Plan Open House is now scheduled for Thursday, February 20, 5:30-8:30pm, at Whatcom Middle School. The draft Bicycle Master Plan will be available for review two weeks prior to the Open House. The City will accept public comments through March 7, 2014.



If you would prefer to be removed from this mailing list, please let us know [info@pugetneighborhood.org](mailto:info@pugetneighborhood.org).