



Tukwila International Boulevard project

Progress continues on the Tukwila International Boulevard (TIB) Phase II and III roadway improvement project, between S. 116th and S. 139th Streets. Work is currently wrapping up on the east side of the roadway, and traffic will be gradually shifted to the west side for construction activity through the spring of 2010.

The traffic revisions will start on the northern end of the project (near the Department of Homeland Security building) and progress to the south as work is completed on the east side of TIB. The S. 130th Street intersection will reopen to TIB traffic early in the revisions, and the connection to 37th Avenue South on the east side of TIB will be permanently closed, allowing completion of wall construction in this area.

The project is currently on schedule and within budget, and slated for completion by the fall of 2010. The City appreciates the dedication and quality work of the construction team, as well as the ongoing patience of the local community and commuters who use the corridor daily.

Stormwater Management Program National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System update

Under state and federal regulations, the City of Tukwila is required to evaluate its stormwater education program, by surveying and measuring our residents' understanding of practices that impact the City's surface water system.

Your help is requested!

Some surface water customers received a brief survey along with their bill; we appreciate your cooperation in completing and returning it. Answers to the survey questions will be used to evaluate the general level of understanding of the City's surface water system and help us to prioritize spending of public education resources.

An informed and knowledgeable community is crucial to the success of a stormwater management program since it helps to ensure the following:

- Increased program support through an expanded understanding of why it is necessary and important.
- Greater program compliance as we accept the responsibilities expected of ourselves and other community members, including our personal actions taken to protect or improve the quality of area waters.

More surface water information will follow in the next *Hazelnut* issue.

Utility rate increases for 2010

In order to keep pace with the City's water and sewer utility costs, a rate increase has been approved by the City Council for 2010. The expenses to operate and maintain the City's infrastructure have increased each year due to aging pipe, pump facility maintenance, and Cascade Water Alliance's wholesale water charges. Effective January 2010, the minimum **water charge** for residential customers will increase from \$6.00 per month to \$8.00.

Flat residential **sewer rates** will increase from \$11.64 to \$13.39. Commercial rates will increase from \$20.37 to \$23.42 per 750 cubic feet of water consumption. Monthly sewer bills also include the King County Metro sewage treatment charge of \$31.90, which is unchanged for 2010.

King County Council has increased the sewer capacity charge in 2010. The current charge of \$47.64 per month (set up as a payment plan for 15 years) will increase to \$49.07 per month in 2010. The sewer capacity charge only affects **new sewer hookups** from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010.

Surface Water fees will also increase this year. The current rate for single-family parcels will increase from \$71.00 per year to \$85.00. However, ours is still one of the lowest rates in the area for surface water fees.

