

# Friday Five

Your weekly Thurston County update



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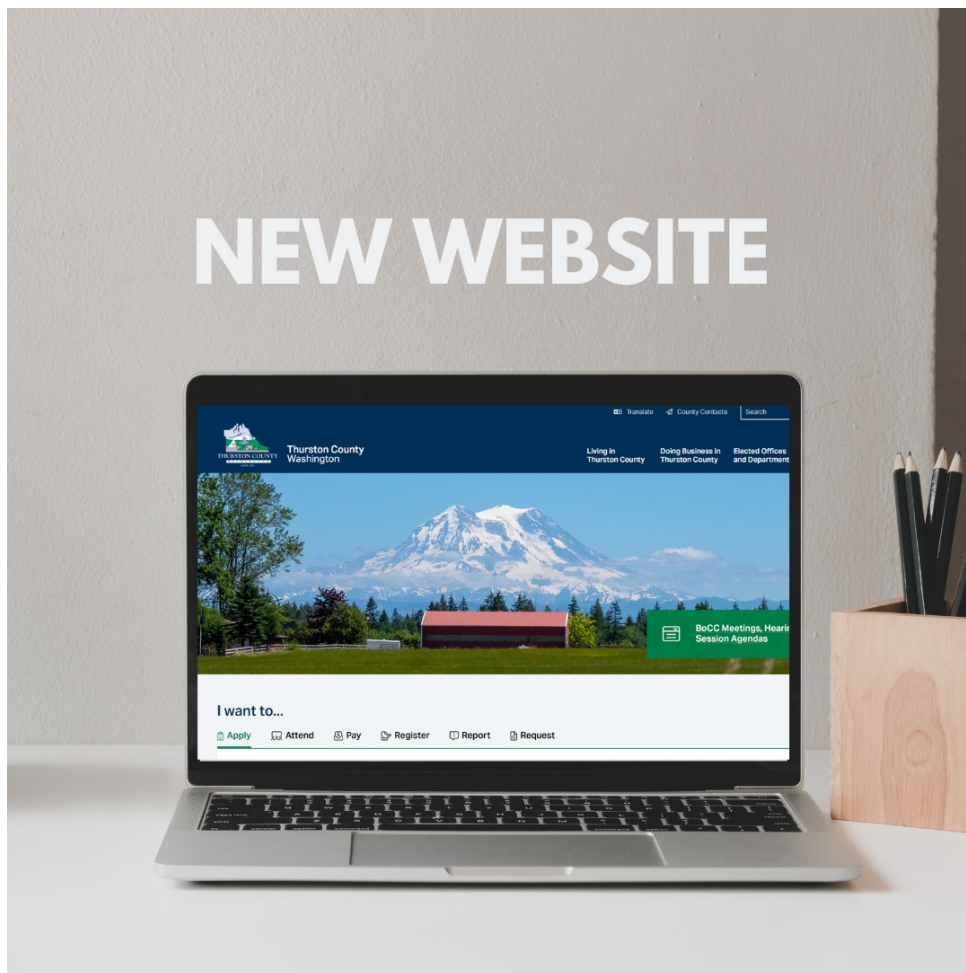
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## But first....



The Friday Five is back! We are excited to bring you weekly Thurston County updates straight to your inbox every Friday.

## #1 - Thurston County Launched New Website March



Have you visited our website recently? On March 1, the county launched a new, redesigned website. This is the county's first major website redesign in more than a decade. The county worked with a consulting company and used customer feedback collected in the first half of 2022 to complete the redesign. The new website has improved access to county services, created a consistent look across all county office and department pages, increased the county's brand recognition, and raised community engagement.

Check out the new website: <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/>

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## #2 - Thurston County Advances Electric Vehicles



At a recent briefing, the Board of County Commissioners discussed the rapid growth of the electric vehicle (EV) market in Washington and the importance of EV adoption as a strategy to help meet the goals of the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan. The board directed staff to develop a policy for EV chargers on county property and to pursue grant funding to help pay for the new infrastructure. This discussion builds upon work of the county's Central Services Department to add EVs to the county fleet. With the recent acquisition of its first all-electric pickup truck, a Ford F150 Lightning, and two more EVs on order, the county fleet will have seven EVs, five battery-electric and two plug-in hybrids. Staff are now preparing an application to the Washington Department of Commerce to fund public EV charging stations at the Southwest Washington Agricultural Business & Innovation Park in Tenino. Staff are also reviewing other state and federal grant programs and will return to the board with a draft county policy for charging infrastructure.

For more information about Thurston County's Climate Mitigation Program, visit [www.thurstoncountywa.gov/departments/board-county-commissioners/climate-change](http://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/departments/board-county-commissioners/climate-change).

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### **#3 - Commissioners to Hold Public Hearing on HUD Consolidated Plan, Needs Analysis, and Assessment of Fair Housing on April 18**

# Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing



**3:30 p.m. at 3000 Pacific Avenue  
Olympia 98501**

The Thurston County Board of Commissioners (BoCC) will hold a public hearing at 3:30 p.m. on April 18 regarding the HUD Consolidated Plan, Needs Analysis, and Assessment of Fair Housing.

For more information about meetings, public hearings, and work session agendas:  
<https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/departments/board-county-commissioners/meetings-public-hearings-and-work-session-agendas>

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## **#4 - Latest Coffee with a Commissioner; Child Abuse Prevention in our Community**



The Commissioners proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Thurston County. Child Abuse Prevention Month encourages communities to educate and increase awareness about the importance of child and family well-being. In the latest Coffee with a Commissioner episode, Commissioner Carolina Mejia has a conversation with Dr. Joyce



Gilbert, Medical Director for Providence's Abuse Intervention Center, Gretchen Thaller, Thurston County Maternal Child Health and Nurse Family Partnership Division Director, and Christy Peters, Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Chief of Staff, about child abuse awareness in our community.

Watch the latest Coffee with a Commissioner video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O266it0kMjk>

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## #5 - Go Green Yard Care Launched April 10



What's Your Yard Style? The Go Green Yard Care program launched to help you grow the yard you want, naturally – while protecting ground and surface waters. The program provides go-at-your-own-pace online content, a live Zoom Q&A, an in-person Natural Yard Care workshop, activity email reminders, and yard care giveaways for qualifying participants.

Participants receive information and tools to empower them to grow a healthy yard without relying on harmful inputs such as quick-release fertilizers and weed and bug killers that can drain into surface and groundwaters and negatively impact our family, community, and pets. To learn more, visit [ThurstonGoGreen.org](https://ThurstonGoGreen.org).

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### Before you go....

The Commissioners proclaimed April as Volunteer Appreciation Month



On Tuesday, April 11, the Commissioners proclaimed the month of April as Volunteer Appreciation Month. The proclamation honors the dedication, hard work, and contributions of volunteers and public service members throughout Thurston County. Volunteers from the Medical Reserve Corps, Interfaith Works, Tenino Food Bank, and Thurston County Emergency Management spoke about their volunteer experiences and were present to receive the proclamation.

Watch the proclamation: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPOjZw58WPI&list=PLaJwEHKVN-Tcsq1PbykXcNJP\\_8FixfZ1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPOjZw58WPI&list=PLaJwEHKVN-Tcsq1PbykXcNJP_8FixfZ1)

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Stay current on upcoming public hearings, meetings, and work sessions by bookmarking the [Board of County Commissioners' master calendar](#)! Please call the Board of County Commissioners office at (360) 786-5440 if you're having problems viewing the calendar.

[Thurstoncountywa.gov](http://Thurstoncountywa.gov)



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