

Parks & Community Services Board

Regular Meeting

October 10, 2017

6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall

Room 1E-113

450 110th Avenue NE

Bellevue, WA



AGENDA

Parks & Community Services Board Regular Meeting

<p>Boardmembers:</p> <p>Mark Van Hollebeke, Chair</p> <p>Eric Synn, Vice-Chair</p> <p>Yu Deng</p> <p>Stuart Heath</p> <p>Debra Kumar</p> <p>Jared Nieuwenhuis</p> <p>Heather Trescases</p> <p>City Council Liaison:</p> <p>Jennifer Robertson, Councilmember</p> <p>Staff Contacts:</p> <p>Terry Smith – 425-452-5379</p> <p>Nancy Harvey – 425-452-4162</p>	<p>Tuesday October 10, 2017 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Bellevue City Hall Conference Room 1E-113 450 110th Avenue NE Bellevue, WA 98004</p>																												
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;">Page</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Call to Order of Meeting – Chair Van Hollebeke</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Approval of Agenda (1 minute)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Approval of Park Board Minutes (1 minute)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> a. Minutes from the September 12, 2017 Regular Meeting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Oral Communications/Public Comments</td> <td style="text-align: right;">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><i>Note: Three-minute limit per person; maximum of three persons permitted to speak to each side of any one topic. Five minutes if representing a group.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Communications from City Council, Community Council, Boards and Commissions (5 minutes)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Director’s Report (5 minutes)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td> • Follow-up on Oral Communications/public comments from prior meetings</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Board Communication (7 minutes)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8. Chair Communication & Discussion (5 minutes)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9. Boardmember Committee/Liaison Reports (5 minutes)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td> • Wilburton Citizen Advisory Committee – Boardmember Kumar</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Page	1. Call to Order of Meeting – Chair Van Hollebeke		2. Approval of Agenda (1 minute)		3. Approval of Park Board Minutes (1 minute)		a. Minutes from the September 12, 2017 Regular Meeting	1	4. Oral Communications/Public Comments	N/A	<i>Note: Three-minute limit per person; maximum of three persons permitted to speak to each side of any one topic. Five minutes if representing a group.</i>		5. Communications from City Council, Community Council, Boards and Commissions (5 minutes)	N/A	6. Director’s Report (5 minutes)	N/A	• Follow-up on Oral Communications/public comments from prior meetings		7. Board Communication (7 minutes)	N/A	8. Chair Communication & Discussion (5 minutes)	N/A	9. Boardmember Committee/Liaison Reports (5 minutes)	N/A	• Wilburton Citizen Advisory Committee – Boardmember Kumar	
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Parks & Community Services Board meetings are wheelchair accessible. Captioning, American Sign Language (ASL), or language interpreters are available upon request. Please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-5379 (Voice). If you are deaf or hard of hearing, dial 711 (TR). Assisted listening devices are available upon request. Room 1E-113 is equipped with a hearing loop system.



10. Discussion/Action Items (time for presentation/discussion)	
a. Grand Connection Framework Plan Comments (5/15) (Board action requested) – Camron Parker	9
b. Overview of Parks Capital Funding (20/30) – Doug Sanner	13
c. Board Work: (5/15) – Chair Van Hollebeke Bylaws Meeting Agenda	N/A
11. New Business (1 minute)	N/A
12. Establish Agenda for Next Meeting	N/A
13. Other Communication	
a. CIP Project Status Report	31
b. Memo from staff re 2017 Summer Ranger Program	35
c. Memo to Council from staff re Zakes Foundation and Bellevue Skate Park Recognition	37
d. Email re volleyball team	39
e. Email re tree in greenbelt	41
f. Email re Bellevue 2017 National Drive Electric Week Celebration	43
14. Information	
• List of upcoming Parks special events	45
• Next scheduled regular Park Board meeting – November 14.	N/A
15. Oral Communications/Public Comments	
<i>Note: Three-minute limit per person; maximum of three persons permitted to speak to each side of any one topic. Five minutes if representing a group.</i>	N/A
16. Adjournment	

Email the Board: parkboard@bellevuewa.gov

**WELCOME TO YOUR
BELLEVUE PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
MEETING**

Most Parks & Community Services Board business is conducted in public, and citizens are most welcome to watch and listen.

In order to hold a meeting, a quorum of at least four Boardmembers must be present. The Board follows the City Council's example, which operates under its own Rules and Procedures, and conducts its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Boardmembers may add items to the meeting's agenda for discussion or action, with a majority vote of those present, at the time when the agenda is approved.

Before any agenda item can be acted upon, the Chair will call for a motion to take action on that item. After the motion is seconded, the Board discusses the arguments for and against the motion.

Sometimes a Boardmember will propose a different course of action on a subject on the agenda. This is called a substitute motion and also requires a second. After discussion, the substitute motion is voted upon first. If a majority of the Boardmembers vote for the substitute motion, it passes and the matter is completed. If the substitute motion fails to obtain a majority, the Board returns to the original motion and continues to discuss and vote on it.

Other times, a Boardmember may wish to change a pending motion in some way. This is called an amendment. It also requires a second and is voted upon before a vote is taken on the main motion. If the amendment passes, the main motion is then voted upon "as amended." If the amendment does not receive a second or a majority vote, the main motion, as originally proposed, is voted upon.

When necessary, the Board may recess to an executive session. During these closed sessions, the Boardmembers are limited, by law, to discussing only such items as personnel issues, property acquisition and disposition; or to receiving advice from legal counsel on pending or potential litigation. The Chair or Vice-Chair will announce both the reason for any executive session and the anticipated time when the Board will return.

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday
September 12, 2017
5:30 p.m.

Bellevue Botanical Gardens
Aaron Education Center
Bellevue, Washington

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Van Hollebeke, Vice-Chair Synn, Boardmembers Deng, Heath, Kumar, Nieuwenhuis¹, Trescases

COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT: Councilmember Robertson

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Shelley Brittingham, Bradley Calvert (PCD), Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Nancy Kartes, Camron Parker, Terry Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Lee Springgate, Bob & Patricia Wheeler

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Van Hollebeke at 5:36 p.m.

2. **BELLEVUE BOTANICAL GARDEN TOUR:**

Ms. Kartes led Boardmembers on a tour of Bellevue Botanical Gardens. The tour concluded at 6:08 p.m.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Boardmember Kumar and second by Boardmember Heath to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

Motion by Boardmember Heath and second by Boardmember Kumar to amend the meeting agenda and move Item 11a to be presented after Item 5; and to move Item 9 to Item 11d. At the question, motion carried unanimously (6-0) to approve the amendment to the main motion.

At the question, motion carried unanimously (6-0) to approve the main motion, as amended.

¹ Departed at 5:45 p.m.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Boardmember Heath and second by Boardmember Kumar to approve the July 11, 2017 Parks & Community Services Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

Agenda Amendment:

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- A. **Presentation of Book—“A Miracle in Downtown Bellevue: The Story of the Bellevue Downtown Park”**

Mr. Springgate discussed his book “A Miracle in Downtown Bellevue: The Story of the Bellevue Downtown Park.” The book describes the extraordinary leadership, innovative financing, creative partnerships and a design for the ages. Mr. Springgate noted that Downtown Park has helped define and shape Bellevue’s central business district, while simultaneously influencing the development of an entire park system. He added that Downtown Park has become a landmark and a source of pride and identity for the entire community. Mr. Springgate’s book describes how Downtown Park was acquired, designed and developed over a period of 35 years and why this was such a monumental achievement for both the City of Bellevue and the urban park movement within the United States.

Mr. Springgate provided copies of his book to Boardmembers.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

Councilmember Robertson reported on the following items:

- The Downtown Livability Update is nearly complete. Council hopes to adopt the plan in October/November, 2017.
- Interim regulations were adopted to ban heroine injection sites citywide. There is also an initiative that will be on the February ballot to do the same for King County.
- Council is working to streamline regulations for homeless shelters. Council recently adopted interim regulations regarding homeless shelters.

These minutes are in DRAFT form until approved by the Parks & Community Services Board.

- The Argosy Christmas ships may change their traditional Christmas caroling route, due to construction at Meydenbauer Bay Park.
- The Splash Aquatic Center 2.0 group recently formed to bring the aquatic center concept to fruition.

Councilmember Robertson noted that Council has not specifically discussed park impact fees. She clarified that there have been discussions about inserting impact fees into the Livability legislation. However, Council may ask staff to conduct additional work, outside of the Livability Study.

7. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Foran reported that approximately 25% of the Meydenbauer Bay Park project is complete. The project is progressing according to schedule.

8. **BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Boardmember Kumar spent a lot of time biking throughout the community. She looks forward to the Eastside Rail Corridor completion.

Boardmember Heath enjoyed spending time at Downtown Park and taking his daughters to classes at Bellevue Botanical Gardens.

Boardmember Deng enjoyed the Bellevue Botanical Gardens: Garden Explorers program during the summer with her daughter. She also attended the Newcastle Beach Park Backyard Campout during the summer.

Boardmember Trescases enjoyed spending time at Downtown Park with her family, taking note of the trampoline area, which reminded them of a park they had visited this summer in Cambridge, England.

9. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION & DISCUSSION:**

A. Next Quarter's Agenda Items

Postponed until later in the meeting agenda.

10. **BOARDMEMBER COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:**

A. Wilburton Citizen Advisory Committee

Boardmember Kumar distributed a report from her recent Wilburton CAC meetings. She noted that the Wilburton CAC has been working on a tactical urbanism project and is currently fleshing out feasibility and logistics.

Boardmember Heath stressed the importance of including incentives for parks and open spaces that are effective. He also would like the Board to evaluate alternative funding models for parks.

B. Planning Commission Follow-Up

No report.

11. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

A. Presentation of Book—"A Miracle in Downtown Bellevue: The Story of the Bellevue Downtown Park"

Presented earlier in the meeting agenda.

B. Board Visioning/Planning

Chair Van Hollebeke reminded Boardmembers about the following themes that were identified at the July 11, 2017 Board meeting. These include:

- Alternative funding.
- Education/partnerships.
- Advocacy.

Chair Van Hollebeke asked Boardmembers to be mindful of these themes when discussing the Grand Connection.

C. Grand Connection—Board Response

Mr. Parker highlighted the Grand Connection route. The Grand Connection will create a defined and distinctive connection from Meydenbauer Bay Park, through Downtown, over I-405, through Wilburton to the Eastside Rail Corridor. Mr. Parker noted that the Draft Framework Plan is currently open for public comment. This plan focuses on the western portion of the Grand Connection, between Meydenbauer Bay Park and City Hall.

Chair Van Hollebeke suggested that the Grand Connection area include a sense of place or unified feel. He would like the area to emphasize parks and open spaces, including community gathering areas and link the goals back to the long-term vision for parks and open spaces.

Boardmember Heath suggested that Lincoln Center be considered as a viable option for an open space or homeless shelter.

Mr. Calvert clarified that the Grand Connection: Phase 1 includes aspects of Compass Plaza, Bellevue Transit Center, the Convention Center, and other areas. Mr. Parker noted that there is also an opportunity to affirm parts of the framework plan that the Parks Board views as a priority and/or important.

Boardmember Trescases views the park-like aspect of the I-405 crossing as essential. She also would like to include wayfinding and park connections within the plan to enhance the public visual aspects and usability. Chair Van Hollebeke added that this could be included in a memo to highlight the “Pearls on a String” concept.

Vice-Chair Synn requested additional information on artist renderings of the themes and how these will be implemented. Mr. Calvert clarified some of the concepts and examples for implementing the Board’s ideas.

Mr. Parker noted that there are other opportunities in the planning and visioning phase of the Grand Connection, including evaluating routes from a cyclist’s perspective.

Boardmember Heath expressed his support of including wayfinding in the Plan. However, he noted that the Grand Connection area included in Phase 1 does not include many parks. He suggested that the Board request that another park property, within the Grand Connection Phase 1 area, be identified. Boardmember Heath encouraged Boardmembers to advocate for a vision (i.e., a Grand Connection that goes east, west, and connects Bellevue Botanical Gardens). Chair Van Hollebeke does not view the wayfinding concept as limited to the Downtown Grand Connection area. He would like the wayfinding concept to include connectivity to all of the parks. Chair Van Hollebeke reminded Boardmembers of Mr. Springgate’s comments that the Board needs to identify a vision that inspires but does not overwhelm. Chair Van Hollebeke envisions a Grand Connection that includes more open spaces with plazas and community gathering spaces.

Boardmember Deng expressed her support of wayfinding throughout the parks and would like the Grand Connection area to include a running or biking race.

Chair Van Hollebeke, Vice-Chair Synn, and Boardmember Trescases will work with staff to prepare a memo to forward to City Council regarding the Grand Connection. This letter will be reviewed/approved at the next Board meeting.

D. Board’s Future Work

Chair Van Hollebeke reviewed the list of Board Agenda Items Planning 2017/2018 that was included on page 14 of the July 11, 2017 Board Packet. He suggested that the October meeting agenda include a discussion regarding: historical funding mechanisms; funding sources available but have been utilized less frequently; and funding forces available but have not been used.

Boardmember Deng requested that Boardmembers discuss options for a Parks Foundation. Boardmember Heath noted that he made a suggestion at the 2014 Parks Board Retreat to consider a Parks Foundation. He also cited other examples of successful foundations (e.g., Rotary, Bellevue Youth Theatre, etc.). Boardmember Heath would like further education/research conducted about alternative funding sources. Then this information should be presented to Council. Boardmembers agreed that the majority of the next meeting agenda should include education on additional funding sources.

- Liaisons to other Boards/Commissions

Councilmember Robertson explained that the concept of the Parks Board having a formal liaison to other Boards/Commissions is an unusual practice and may cause confusion. She noted that Boardmembers can sign up to receive other Board/Commission meeting agendas and attend meetings to speak as individual citizens.

Boardmember Heath explained that the concept of Board liaisons was derived to create connectivity with other citizen volunteers. He prefers previous ways of Boards and Commissions getting together. Boardmember Heath noted that the concept of Board liaisons may “ruffle feathers” because people are afraid of change. He encouraged Boardmembers to continue with the Board liaison concept and suggested that the process move slowly and prudently. Boardmember Heath also encouraged Boardmembers to review other Board/Commission meeting minutes and talk with other Board/Commission representatives. In response to the Parks Board’s communications with the Planning Commission, Boardmember Heath clarified that the Parks Board responded this way because of miscommunication. He encouraged Boardmembers to educate others about the positivity of talking to other Boards/Commissions.

Vice-Chair Synn noted his agreement with Boardmember Heath’s comments. He clarified that the Parks Board reacted to a situation, when dealing with the Planning Commission, rather than being able to proactively communicate. He added that the Board was not properly informed of the CAC process so Boardmembers needed to react. Vice-Chair Synn suggested that a formal liaison creates value.

Motion by Boardmember Heath and second by Vice-Chair Synn to extend the meeting until 8:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Chair Van Hollebeke asked if the same goals can be accomplished with an informational commitment, rather than an official liaison title. Then, if there is official Board consensus, someone can speak on behalf of the Board, if needed.

Boardmember Heath reminded Boardmembers that a policy was adopted at the May 19, 2017 Board meeting to approve formal Board and Commission liaisons.

Boardmember Trescases explained that she attends other Board/Commission meetings, along with Council meetings, as a private citizen. She also expects staff and the Council appointed

Board liaison to keep each Board/Commission informed of upcoming issues, etc. Boardmember Trescases does not view it necessary for the Parks Board to appoint liaisons for other Boards/Commissions. If necessary, Boardmembers can appoint the Chair or a designee to report information to other Boards/Commissions. Boardmember Trescases expressed concern with the amount of time involved for reporting during meetings if the Board designates formal Board/Commission liaisons.

Motion by Vice-Chair Synn and second by Boardmember Kumar to extend the meeting until 8:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Chair Van Hollebeke suggested that Boardmembers review their passions at the next Board meeting to see if anyone is interested in attending other Board/Commission meetings.

- Board Bylaws

Vice-Chair Synn, and Boardmembers Heath and Deng will review the work that has been done thus far on the Board Bylaws and bring forth their recommendations to the next Board meeting.

Motion by Vice-Chair Synn and second by Boardmember Deng to appoint Boardmembers Heath and Deng to the Bylaws Subcommittee. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

- Agenda Priorities

Items noted above.

12. **NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

13. **ESTABLISHING AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:**

Boardmembers requested that the following topics be included in the next meeting agenda:

- Review Grand Connection memo.
- Alternative funding options.
- Next steps for liaison assignments.
- Next steps for the Bylaws.

14. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. CIP Project Status Report
- B. Note re TRACKS programs

These minutes are in DRAFT form until approved by the Parks & Community Services Board.

- C. Email re presentation about the Bellevue Botanical Garden
- D. Email re Little Free Library
- E. Email re 4th of July celebration
- F. Email re Bennett Elementary field turf
- G. Email re Youth Sports summer camp
- H. Email re Newcastle Beach Park rental
- I. Email re Robinswood Park dog area

15. **INFORMATION:**

- A. List of upcoming Parks special events
- B. Next regular Parks Board meeting—October 10, 2017

16. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

17. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Boardmember Kumar and second by Boardmember Heath to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).



Date: September 28, 2017
To: Parks & Community Services Board
From: Camron Parker, Park Property & Acquisition Manager
Parks & Community Services
Subject: Grand Connection Framework Plan Comments
(action requested)

Attached with this memo you will find a draft comment letter for the Grand Connection Framework Plan. At the September meeting, the Board empowered the Chair, Vice-Chair and Boardmember Trescases to develop the letter based upon the Board's discussions at the July and September meetings. At the October meeting, the Board is asked to review and approve the letter, after which it will be submitted to the Grand Connection public comment record as well as the City Council.

If you have any questions about the Grand Connection Framework Plan, or the draft letter, please contact me at 425-452-2032 or cparker@bellevuewa.gov.



Date: September 20, 2017

To: Jennifer Robertson, Councilmember
Bellevue City Council
Parks & Community Services Board Council Liaison

Bradley Calvert, Planning Manager
Planning & Community Development Department

From: Mark Van Hollebeke, Chair
On behalf of the Parks & Community Services Board

Subject: Comments on the Draft Grand Connection Framework Plan

In January and July of this year, the Parks & Community Services Board received progress reports on the Grand Connection and Wilburton planning initiatives. As the Board discussed the draft Grand Connection Framework Plan, themes emerged that we ask the City to consider as it finalizes the Framework Plan and moves ahead with planning around the Interstate 405 crossing alternatives and the Wilburton Commercial Area redevelopment plan.

Paramount is Bellevue's long-standing claim to be a City in a Park. This vision was affirmed by the City Council in the 2015 Comprehensive Plan, which describes how that claim is to be maintained:

Bellevue has a system of parks, open spaces, cultural facilities and recreational amenities throughout the city. These provide abundant access to natural beauty and extraordinary experiences to define a lifetime of recreation and learning.

From this statement, several themes can be drawn and applied to the Grand Connection Framework Plan. These include enhancing Bellevue's system of parks and open spaces, designing for natural beauty, providing abundant access, and supporting recreation and cultural facilities.

A system of parks and open spaces

Chapters 3 and 4 of the draft Framework Plan describe the Grand Connection route and the distinct identity of the route. The Board wholly supports expanding the concept of the Grand Connection to reach out beyond the confines of the primary route to embrace other nearby amenities north and south including Bellevue's original grand connector, the Lake to Lake Greenway Trail as it extends along Main Street to the Bellevue Botanical Garden, the Eastside Rail Corridor and beyond to Lake Sammamish. Tendrils from the Grand Connection should reach north to encompass McCormick Park, Ashwood Park and the Regional Library, with wayfinding that enhances park visitors' awareness of other nearby parks. In this way, the Grand Connection can be a valuable toehold for the City's existing and future efforts to improve overall connectivity in Downtown Bellevue for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Designing for natural beauty

As it serves to connect existing and future parks and public spaces like pearls on a string, the Grand Connection should also maintain its own cohesive and unique sense of place and identity. As such,

the Board supports and Framework Plan's recommendation that the Natural Landscape be the primary identity and character for the Grand Connection. The Board discussed the benefits of greening the corridor through use of vegetation and water elements along the route. This is consistent with the City's 2016 Parks & Open Space System Plan, which (as it has since the 1980's) emphasizes greenways throughout the city that "provide a natural contrast to urban density."

Providing abundant access

The Board finds that the Framework Plan could do more to analyze and plan for access and inclusion, using the broadest definitions of those two terms. How can the Grand Connection improve access through Downtown for an aging population and people with mobility impairments? How can the Grand Connection create public spaces attractive and useful to young families and children living an urban lifestyle? How can wayfinding along the route and throughout downtown be improved to best serve Bellevue's increasingly diverse and foreign-born residents?

Supporting recreation and cultural facilities

The ultimate desired outcome of the Grand Connection is to create a signature urban experience for Bellevue residents, workers and visitors. People will be drawn to the Grand Connection by its design, but equally, if not more so, by what is programmed for the corridor. The Board applauds including a chapter in the framework plan listing ideas and opportunities for programming. Yet, a framework for implementing programming is not sufficiently addressed in the Implementation and Next Steps chapter. A seed of programming around the Arts Program is included. This is valuable, but too narrowly focused. Ideas for implementing programming regarding the city's history and heritage as well as opportunities for active recreation, community gathering, events and ongoing celebration of cultural diversity and inclusion should be more fully explored in the final Framework Plan.

As the City continues in this process of design and planning for the Grand Connection and Wilburton, the Parks & Community Services Board will remain engaged and interested in taking full advantage of opportunities to provide feedback and input. As an example, the Board has already discussed the value of creating a public park of significance on the east side of the Grand Connection to counterbalance Downtown Park and Meydenbauer Bay Park, which anchor the west side of the Connection.

In conclusion, the Parks & Community Services Board wholeheartedly supports the vision of the Grand Connection and, if fully realized, we believe it moves us one step closer to becoming the City in a Park that the Council envisions. In particular, the Board supports the shift away from Downtown Bellevue's existing pattern of discrete public and private public spaces as "hidden gems" toward a more connected, inclusive and welcoming system of parks and public spaces.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments, and we look forward to future such opportunities.



MEMORANDUM

Date: October 2, 2017

To: Parks & Community Services Board

From: Doug Sanner, Fiscal Manager, Parks & Community Services

Subject: Overview of Parks Capital Funding (*Information Item*)

On October 10th we will provide an overview of Parks Capital Funding alternatives as requested by the Board at your September meeting. The presentation will focus on foundational information, including a summary of current City capital funding sources, non-City funding sources, and options that are available but not historically used by the City. The presentation will also provide an overview of how these various funding mechanisms came together for some recently completed Parks capital projects.

We're including the Financing chapter from the Parks & Open Space Plan, which we have emailed to you.

The topic of Parks capital funding has been identified as a priority for the Board, and this initial discussion may lead to further work items or Board action on this topic.

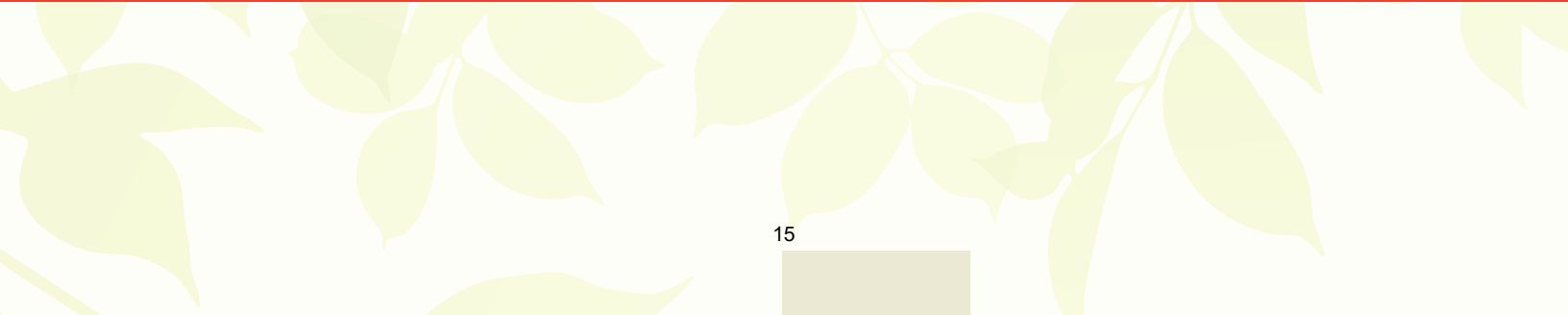
Attachment

- Financing Capital Projects, Bellevue Parks & Open Space System Plan 2016



DINESH '16

Bellevue Parks & Open Space System Plan 2016



Approved by City Council | May 2, 2016



Contact: Camron Parker, Senior Planner
Parks & Community Services
PO Box 90012 | Bellevue, WA 98009-9012
www.bellevuewa.gov/park-plan.htm
425-452-2032 | cparker@bellevuewa.gov

Acknowledgements

City Council

John Stokes, Mayor
John Chelminiak, Deputy Mayor
Conrad Lee
Jennifer Robertson
Lynne Robinson
Vandana Slatter
Kevin Wallace

Parks & Community Services Board

Kathy George, Chair
Sherry Grindeland, Vice-Chair
Stuart Heath
Debra Kumar
Erin Powell
Eric Synn
Mark Van Hollebeke

Parks & Community Services

Patrick Foran, Director
Shelley McVein, Deputy Director
Shelley Brittingham, Assistant Director
Terry Smith, Assistant Director
Glenn Kost, Planning and Development Manager

Project Team

Camron Parker, Project Lead
Mathew Dubose, Christina Faine, Pam Fehrman
Nancy Harvey, Midge Tarvid, Solvita Upenieks

Cover art donated by Dinesh Indurkar

Photographs and poems provided by winners of 2015 Bellevue City in a Park Photography and Poetry Contest.



Financing Capital Projects

“Downtown Park
a different perspective...”
– John Buckingham

The Outdoor Mentor

You show your Washingtonian love by providing a breath of reflective Evergreen air.

The admirable infinity circle of benches charity is providing sit if you desire encouragement hugs.

I stride in speed walk movement, because your nature tenderness reiterated to me to utilize the limitless inspiration from a natural outdoor beauty.

Down to Bellevue earth is the iconic mantra.

Bellevue Downtown Park how do you maintain your originality?

– Erica Hale

The City's capital infrastructure needs are funded through an established budgeting tool known as the Capital Investment Program Plan, or CIP. The CIP is a seven-year financing plan that is evaluated and updated every two years by the City Council. As part of the budget process, the CIP identifies, prioritizes and prices capital needs for the City. Planning and implementation of any capital project is dependent on its being part of the City's CIP.

The CIP Plan is the major funding program for park-related facilities including acquisition, development, redevelopment and renovation. A full description of existing and potentially available funding sources for park capital projects is provided later in this chapter. In accordance with current City of Bellevue financial policies, all park capital project costs, including planning, construction, and borrowing costs must be funded within the total revenue limit allocated to the Parks program. Overall, the Parks capital program makes up 16% of the 2015-2021 General CIP, compared to Transportation at 39% and Citywide Debt Service at 38%. The Parks CIP Plan totals \$83 million for the seven-year plan, and is primarily funded by the Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), property tax levies approved by Bellevue voters in 2008, General CIP taxes, and project-specific sources like grants and fundraising.

Funding Strategy

The two primary revenue sources used to implement the recommended capital projects in the Parks & Open Space System Plan are the City's Capital Investment Program (CIP) and voter initiatives. Funding from CIP and voter initiatives will not be sufficient to implement all recommended projects. Additional revenue is needed to realize the full potential of this plan. Aggressive exploration of grants, partnership opportunities and other revenue sources will continue to play an important role in filling the gap between the funding needed for these projects and funds available.

The following strategy is proposed to implement the recommendations contained in this Plan.

- Funding for the baseline Parks CIP Plan will continue to come from a combination of existing city-wide taxes and fees. General CIP revenues and Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) form the foundation of funding, accompanied by Parks Enterprise Fund revenues for improvements to enterprise facilities, and amenity incentive zoning fees for specific improvements within certain geographic areas.
- Voter initiatives spaced at regular intervals will provide funding for major acquisitions and park development. This will continue Bellevue's tradition of regularly placed bond issues or levies that have largely built the existing park system. It is assumed that any voter initiative would include an associated maintenance and operations (M&O) funding component.
- Conservation Futures and other programs available through King County will be used to obtain critical open space and greenway connections.
- Grants from various federal and state sources should be used for a variety of purposes, including acquisition and development of waterfront properties and open space parcels, outdoor recreation projects, and trails for use by pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Cultivation of private donations and organizational partnerships should be emphasized to help finance specific projects. Opportunities will be sought to match capital project recommendations with the interests of individuals and organizations.

Summary of Funding Sources

GENERAL CIP REVENUE

According to current fiscal policy, the City Council has dedicated to the Capital Investment Program a combination of revenue sources including local option sales tax, Business and Occupation (B&O) tax, and other miscellaneous unrestricted revenues. The amount of available revenue fluctuates with current economic conditions.

REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX (REET)

REET consists of money derived from one-half percent of the selling price of real property within the City of Bellevue. REET revenues fluctuate with the local real estate market. Per City Council ordinance, 50% of REET revenues are dedicated to the Parks CIP and 50% to the Transportation CIP. Parks REET is the revenue cornerstone in the adopted 2015-2021 CIP, contributing approximately \$7 million per year for Parks capital needs or approximately 59% of total Parks CIP funding.

VOTER-APPROVED BONDS AND LEVIES

General Obligation bonds (G.O. bonds) have been used extensively over time to develop Bellevue's park system. Local park bond issues were approved in 1956, 1965, 1970, 1977, 1981, 1984, and 1988. County-wide park voter initiatives were approved in 1968 (Forward Thrust) and in 1989, 2007 and 2013 (primarily for Open Space and Trails).

A property tax levy is another voter-approved funding source for financing capital improvements. The proceeds may be received on an annual, pay-as-you-go basis, or bonds may be issued against the levy amount if the levy duration is less than nine years.

In November 2008, the Bellevue Parks and Natural Areas Levy was approved with a 67% yes vote. This levy replaced an expiring 1988 bond issue. It provides capital funding of \$3.4 million per year for the next twenty years and includes ongoing funding for maintenance of completed capital projects. In addition, the capital project funding provided by the levy will be matched by \$28.5 million in City CIP funds. The majority of projects funded by the 2008 levy will be completed within the next seven years. Initial planning discussions for the timing and content of the next local parks voter-approved bond or levy should occur within the near future.

NON VOTER-APPROVED BONDS

Councilmanic bonds are G.O. bonds issued with approval by the City Council. Under State law, repayment of these bonds must be financed from existing City revenues since no additional taxes can be implemented to support related debt service payments. An example in Bellevue was the 1998 purchase of the Meydenbauer Bay Marina,



Downtown Park

where the City approved issuance of \$4.3 million through Limited Tax General Obligation bonds. Income generated from leasing boat slips to the public was used as the revenue source to repay the bonds over time. After the bonds are paid off, the income generated by the marina may be used to support the redevelopment of Meydenbauer Bay Park.

Revenue bonds are typically issued for development purposes, and often cost more and carry a higher interest rate than G.O. bonds. Revenue bond covenants generally require that the revenues received annually would have to equal twice the annual debt service payment. Revenue bonds are payable from income generated by an enterprise activity. For example, the City issued \$800,000 in revenue bonds in 1967 for the development of the Bellevue Golf Course.

KING COUNTY CONSERVATION FUTURES TAX (CFT)

Conservation Futures funds are a dedicated portion of property taxes in King County and are available, by statute, only for acquisition of open space, agricultural areas and timberlands. The King County Council approves funding for projects based on submittals from cities and the county. Since inception of this revenue source in 1989, Bellevue has received over \$15 million to fund several acquisition projects, including Meydenbauer Marina properties, greenway system additions, portions of Lewis Creek Park, expansions of the Bellevue Botanical Garden, Eastgate Park and new parks and open space areas in Newport Hills.

ENTERPRISE FUND/USER FEES

The City of Bellevue created a Parks Enterprise Fund to account for a number of activities in which user fees and charges are set to recover the cost of operations, including the Bellevue Golf Course, Robinswood Tennis Center, Bellevue Aquatic Center, and ballfield and facility rentals. Enterprise Fund revenues in excess of operating needs and reserve requirements are transferred to the CIP for Enterprise capital improvements, including the recent improvements to the Bellevue Golf Course driving range. In the future, the City may explore the expanded use of user fees to fund capital projects where feasible to do so.



Robinswood Tennis Center

GRANTS

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) administers a variety of grant programs from federal and state sources to distribute to eligible application sponsors for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes. The amount of money available for grants statewide varies from year to year, and most funding sources require that monies be used for specific purposes. Grants are awarded to state and local agencies



Mercer Slough Water Trail

on a competitive basis, with agencies generally required to provide matching funds for any project proposal. Bellevue has received millions of dollars in RCO grant funds over the past twenty years for a variety of projects, including the acquisition of Meydenbauer Bay marinas, portions of Lewis Creek Park, development of Enatai Beach Park and Marymoor ballfields, improvements to the SE 40th Boat Launch, and acquisition and wildlife habitat enhancements in Mercer Slough Nature Park. In recent years, RCO grants have funded the first phase of Meydenbauer Bay Park, synthetic turf fields at Robinswood Park, the skate plaza at Highland Park, the Crossroads Park Water Spray Play Area and, in the near future, development of the Inspiration Playground at Downtown Park.

PARTNERSHIPS

Over the past 10 years, partnerships have become an increasingly prevalent model for financing major capital projects. In the future, this trend will remain, if not intensify. Partnerships can leverage resources from public and private entities with great benefit to the community. At the same time, they bring challenges such as adding process steps and time to a project as well as managing long-term relationships through partnership agreements. A more in-depth review can be found within the Capital Project Recommendations chapter of this plan, which devotes a section to the subject. Examples of partnerships that have contributed to capital projects include the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society, the Pacific Science Center, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue and the Bellevue Youth Theatre Foundation. Each partner has provided support for private fundraising while at the same time providing valuable programming for Bellevue residents.

DONATIONS



Crossroads Water Spray Play Area

Bellevue parks have benefited greatly from private donations. Volunteerism is a key source of donations, with volunteers providing thousands of hours per year to parks and park programming. In terms of capital projects, donations come in many forms, but typically, land is donated for future parks or cash support is provided from community organizations, businesses or individuals for a specific feature or facility within a larger project. In recent years, two Rotary service clubs in Bellevue have raised funds for the popular Crossroads Park Water Spray Play Area as well as the Inspiration Playground, designed for

Downtown Park. Private donations in the form of land, cash and volunteer support have been central to the development of the Bellevue Botanical Garden over the years. Donations are a valuable tool to stretch the public funds available for park acquisition and development. Yet, they also require a high degree of attention and monitoring, as donations typically include project-specific conditions and obligations that must be tracked and maintained over time.

Donation programs such as endowments or estate giving have not been a point of focus for expanding the park and open space system. However, this should be considered more in the future as available land for parks and open space in Bellevue continues to become increasingly scarce and increasingly

expensive. Estate planning programs can motivate people to bequeath their property (or a portion thereof) for public purposes. Many options exist for potential donors to conserve their land for public use by future generations. Creative financing of property acquisition or donation can benefit both the seller/donor and the City.

ANNEXATIONS AND PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Annexations and transfers of property to the Bellevue parks system has been a significant contributor to the park system in the past. Coal Creek Natural Area (Bellevue's largest park), Weowna, Eastgate and Surrey Downs Parks have all come to the city through property transfers from King County. In the future, there are few, if any, opportunities left for park land to be added through annexation. Similarly, transfers of park properties or open space are becoming increasingly limited, but opportunities still remain across the city. These transfers tend to be more opportunistic in nature and cannot be planned far in advance. Yet, the City remains keenly interested in working with other public or private land owners in Bellevue who may wish to add their holdings to Bellevue's parks and open space system.

IMPACT FEES

Unlike most neighboring jurisdictions, including Redmond, Kirkland and Issaquah, Bellevue does not collect park impact fees from new development citywide as a condition of permit approval. Impact fees are designed to assess a one-time fee on new residential and in some cases new commercial development, recognizing the fact that adding additional residents and workers to the Bellevue population dilutes the level of service the parks system can provide to the community. Using an economic level of service calculation, the City's investment in the existing park system is valued and divided by the total population. As new population is added, impact fees are collected at a level that keeps the total investment of the park system at pace with the population growth.

DEVELOPER INCENTIVES AND MITIGATION FEES

Incentives for creation of public parks, plazas, open space preservation and stream corridor restoration have been built into the zoning codes for Downtown Bellevue and the BelRed area. These incentive systems are designed unique to each area and provide increased building density and redevelopment potential in exchange for the developer supporting the cost of publicly accessible park and open space features. Developers build the amenity as part of their development and make it open and available to the public. In BelRed, the developer also has the option to pay a calculated fee into a City fund that will support park and trail development or stream restoration within the BelRed area.



Sunset Park

Occasionally, the City has collected developer mitigation fees (payable either in cash or through development of recreation facilities) through the State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) and land use permit approval process. This has occurred most often in the South Bellevue. Sunset and Silverleaf Parks are examples of small parks developed through developer mitigation. These developer contributions cannot supplant other revenue sources within a project – they are in addition to existing funding and must be used for a specific purpose.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Selling or trading parcels of land that the City now owns but does not feel will be used for park purposes could be considered as a method to finance acquisition and/or development of more suitable sites. Renting or leasing park-owned property has been used to offset the cost to acquire or manage properties. For example, homes acquired as part of the overall property acquisition along Meydenbauer Bay were rented on an interim basis until the City was able to develop the property into a park. Less than fee-simple property acquisition techniques such as life estates and conservation easements can also be used to help reduce the cost of property acquisition. And finally, leasing property for non-park purposes such as wireless communication facilities can also provide a source of revenue to offset capital costs.

WASHINGTON PARK AND RECREATION SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Washington state law allows for three types of special taxing districts relating to the governance and financing of parks and recreation: Park and Recreation Districts, Park and Recreation Service Areas, and Metropolitan Park Districts. Each has its own purpose, function and powers, varying levels of revenue authority and the ability to issue debt. Formation of a parks and recreation special district typically requires voter approval via a ballot proposition from the residents of the proposed service areas. Examples of long-standing Metropolitan Park Districts in Washington include Tacoma, Bainbridge Island and Si View.

In 2014, Seattle voters approved the Seattle Park District. The Seattle Park District has the same boundaries as the City of Seattle, and the Seattle City Council members serve as the Park District's Governing Board. The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department provides all the services funded by the district. Property taxes collected by the Seattle Park District provide funding for City parks and recreation including maintaining parklands and facilities, operating community centers and recreation programs, and developing new neighborhood parks on previously acquired sites.

NEW TAX SOURCES

The possibility always exists to raise money to fund park related projects through new tax sources. However, there are currently no identified sources for potential taxation.

CAPITAL PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Waterfront Access

OPPORTUNITIES:	ACQUIRE	DEVELOP	ENHANCE / PRESERVE
Meydenbauer Bay Park		●	
Meydenbauer Bay Park to Downtown Park connection	●	●	
Connect Enatai Beach Park to Mercer Slough Nature Park	●		
Complete phased development of Enatai Beach Park		●	
SE 40th Boat Launch addition	●	●	
Sweyolocken Boat Launch redevelopment			●
Lake Sammamish waterfront	●	●	
Chism Beach redevelopment			●
Clyde Beach redevelopment			●
Additions to existing waterfront parks	●		



Partnership Opportunities

Increasing service demand and decreasing funding capabilities lead the City of Bellevue to seek innovative ways to maintain existing parks and facilities and to increase recreation opportunities. Developing partnerships with other public agencies, the school districts, and private for-profit and non-profit organizations will help meet increased demands for service. In addition, partnerships enable Parks & Community Services to serve a broader clientele, offer new services, and provide existing services more effectively than could be provided individually.

By definition, partnerships must be a collaborative relationship between two or more organizations with similar missions that pool their resources and work together to deliver mutually beneficial services. Some existing City partners include: the Bellevue School District, Bellevue Botanical Garden Society, Pacific Science Center, Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue, Jubilee REACH Center, Eastside Heritage Center, Youth Eastside Services, Master Gardeners of King County, and A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH). Many more partnership possibilities exist which could help enrich and expand park, recreation and community services for Bellevue residents.

REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL PARKS AND FACILITIES

One challenge inherent in providing park and recreation facilities in East King County is the fact that there are fifteen different municipalities, most of which operate independent park and open space systems. Yet, residents of the Eastside will use any park in any city that meets their specific need. A problem arises in the case of a large scale or highly specialized recreation facility designed to serve a population greater than any one city. These facilities include competitive aquatic centers, ice skating rinks, sports stadiums, outdoor sports complexes, and regional trail systems. To provide these facilities to their residents, Eastside jurisdictions must work together in partnership with each other and in some cases with for-profit or non-profit organizations to assemble the necessary resources to develop and operate such facilities. The City of Bellevue is committed to working through partnerships to develop additional regional or subregional facilities where demand exists.

One example of such a facility is a regional aquatic center. In 2009, Parks & Community Services completed a feasibility study exploring a range of facility options and operating models. The study was commissioned in response to a general lack of indoor community pool facilities on the Eastside that are configured to adequately serve the competitive needs of the region. The study found that there is a market for a large-scale aquatic facility that would serve competitive teams, clubs and the general public. Five types of facilities were studied ranging in size and cost from



a \$19 million outdoor facility to an \$84 million national-level indoor competitive facility. A community organization, Swimming Pools for Leisure Active Sports and Health (SPLASH), has organized to support development of a multi-use, 50-meter complex for recreational and competitive use on the Eastside.

Another regional project with a significant role for Bellevue is the Eastside Rail Corridor. The Corridor is somewhat unique in that while approximately seven miles of the corridor crosses through the city, Bellevue does not have an ownership interest. The corridor is owned by King County Parks with the exception of a two-mile segment owned by Sound Transit. Across the whole corridor several other public entities — including Redmond, Kirkland, Renton, Woodinville and Puget Sound Energy — are involved in planning the future use of the corridor.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

School District properties are important components of Bellevue's open space system. Using school sites to supplement City-operated recreational facilities is needed to satisfy community demand for active indoor and outdoor recreation space. The Bellevue School District operates 29 schools within or adjacent to the city; the Issaquah School District operates two schools within Bellevue's city limits; and the Renton School District has an elementary school immediately adjacent to the city boundary. In addition,



Tyee Community Gym

other public schools such as Bellevue College and private schools within Bellevue can offer partnership opportunities for Bellevue.

Elementary schools, usually eight to ten acres in size, are suitable for passive and/or unorganized activities and youth athletics. They incorporate many uses typical of a neighborhood park. Middle schools, usually about 20 acres in size, have indoor and outdoor sports facilities. High schools, averaging 35 to 40 acres in size, have tennis courts, sportfields, tracks, and multiple gyms for competition and recreation.

The partnership between the City and Bellevue School District has evolved within the past several years. Parks & Community Services used to schedule community use of school district outdoor recreation fields. The school district has now taken over that responsibility. While the partnership in this area has waned, other partnerships are growing. Eastside Pathways is a community movement to increase academic and life skills outcomes for all children in Bellevue. The City and School District are heavily engaged in this collective impact work. In other areas, the District's Equity Office has worked closely with the city's Diversity Advantage Initiative to work on areas of common interest around access, equity and integration within Bellevue's increasingly diverse resident population.

As the community demographics change over time, the need for school facilities will also change. The Bellevue School District has a policy that gives local municipalities first right of refusal to purchase surplus school lands. In the event school properties are surplus, top priority should be given to acquiring these properties for park-related purposes. Many of Bellevue's existing parks have been developed from surplus school property. When evaluating the appropriateness of acquiring a surplus school site, the City considers the property characteristics and particular needs of the area in which the site is located. The criteria are applied in the following order:

- **Distribution:** Priority is given to sites in areas showing deficits in available parks or open space, or if deficits would be created if these public properties were sold.
- **Adjacency:** Priority is given to sites that are adjacent to existing parks, because they represent opportunities to expand or increase available recreational space.
- **Existing facilities:** Priority is given to sites with existing recreational facilities such as gyms, ballfields, tracks, and playgrounds.

PRIVATE FOR-PROFIT AND NON-PROFIT PARTNERSHIPS

In addition to Parks & Community Services' traditional partnerships with the Bellevue School District and other public agencies, the department has become more innovative in exploring other partnerships to benefit Bellevue residents. Many examples can be given of partnerships with local non-profit organizations that provide recreation opportunities or community services to Bellevue residents. Crossroads Park is home to two facilities serving children and youth, Kindering Center and Youth Eastside Services. The City has established multiple partnerships with Jubilee REACH Center, a non-profit utilizing an old school district facility to provide a wide range of human services and programs for children, youth, teens and families in the Lake Hills neighborhood. As an emergency response initiative, an agreement with a non-profit agency has been established to offer an overnight shelter for homeless individuals during cold winter weather. All of these examples are instances where non-profits make use of Parks & Community Services facilities and vice versa.

Due to real estate values and commercial lease rates, the city of Bellevue is a challenging place for non-profit agencies to find or afford the space needed to offer their programs. Similarly, Parks & Community Services experiences space constraints that limit the full range of programs and services that could be offered if space were available. Using partnerships to create the highest and best use of existing public and non-profit facilities and collaborating to secure more space within the community is an important part of making needed recreation and community services available to Bellevue residents. An example of this could be giving preference, where appropriate, to non-profit housing providers when leasing single or multi-family homes on property owned by Parks & Community Services.

Another type of partnership witnessed in many park systems across the country are non-profit organizations established to benefit a specific park or program. These are commonly referred to as “Friends of” organizations. The King County Library System has an established a “Friends of” network for individuals interested in supporting their local library. To date, these types of organizations have not been established in significant number for parks in Bellevue. However, one example is the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society, which raises funds for and assists in the operation of the Botanical Garden. Their support was critical to the recent redevelopment of the Botanical Garden. Similarly, the Bellevue Youth Theatre Foundation was established to assist in fundraising for the new Bellevue Youth Theatre at Crossroads Park. Another example is the Eastside Heritage Center, which has long supported the historical interpretation of landmarks managed within the parks system.

Establishing partnerships with private for-profit corporations is another avenue to leverage and expand the impact of existing public investment in parks, open space, recreation and community services. In these cases, opportunities can be developed for grants or other forms of financial investment geared to fit with the mission or purpose of the private enterprise. Establishing these partnerships can help create connections within the local business community.

One project that could benefit from partnership with an existing non-profit agency, a new “Friends of” organization, or even a for-profit partner is the establishment of a Cultural Center in Bellevue. This project was first recommended in the 1993 Cultural Diversity Task Force Report and Community Action Plan. It was later supported in the Cultural Compass and the recent Bellevue Diversity Advantage plan, adopted by the City Council in 2014.



The concept of the Cultural Center is to provide a facility that would facilitate education and dialogue among ethnically and socially diverse communities within Bellevue. Bellevue is one of the most ethnically diverse cities in Washington State. This diversity presents unparalleled opportunities for community enrichment and economic development. For example, the Crossroads Bellevue Shopping Center incorporates ethnic and cultural diversity into its business model as a strategy to attract shoppers with the co-location of ethnic food vendors, shops and cultural arts programming. In 2016, Bellevue’s Diversity Advantage Initiative will form a community-based stakeholder group to begin forming the shape a Cultural Center may take in Bellevue.

CAPITAL PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Partnership Opportunities

OPPORTUNITY:	ACQUIRE	DEVELOP	ENHANCE / PRESERVE
Elementary, middle and high school recreation site improvements			●
Partner with other City departments to create parks		●	
Partner with other public agencies to create parks, including but not limited to Bellevue School District, Cascade Water Alliance, Sound Transit, Seattle Public Utilities, Washington State, King County and Bellevue College	●	●	
Partner with private non-profit or for-profit organizations to create parks where advantageous to achieve capital project goals	●	●	
Aquatic facility	●	●	
Historic building preservation			●
Cultural arts center	●	●	



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT September 2017

Congregation for the Homeless (CFH) Temporary Center

Phase 1 of the temporary homeless shelter at the City-owned Lincoln Center is complete, which provides space for CFH to program day services. CFH has relocated its current day center to this new facility, which freed up space to allow Phase 2 (the overnight facility) to start construction September 20. This work will extend into mid-December, after which CFH operations will continue here until a permanent shelter is complete. Several BOMA (Building Owners and Managers Assn) contractors are volunteering time and equipment to help reduce project costs.

Downtown Park – Complete the Circle and Rotary Inspiration Playground Expansion

Our contractor continues to complete minor “punch list” items and additional scope items that have been added to the project. We will monitor the landscaping during the warranty period, as well as mechanical and electrical equipment to make sure it performs as planned. Initial plant replacement will be completed with the remaining punch list items by the end of October.

Downtown Park – NE Entry

Work is underway on this funded CIP project, which will create a park entry at the NE corner of the park (SW corner of Bellevue Way and NE 4th). The project will also seek to incorporate the City’s Grand Connection concepts into the project. We have secured a consultant team to prepare design alternatives. A multi-departmental kick-off meeting was held with the design team which will be followed up with the full kick off meeting with the project’s internal review team.

Marymoor Park Transfer

The project remains on-hold. We have explored options to transfer the City-owned portion of Marymoor Park to King County to allow the County to enter into an agreement with a local soccer organization to redevelop the existing softball fields into a soccer complex.

Meydenbauer Bay Phase 1 Park Development

Construction is nearly 30% complete, with expected completion at the end of 2018. Foundation and abutment walls for the beach house are complete, and the major retaining walls are under construction. Site grading is ongoing, and the stream bed construction has been roughed-in for the daylighted stream. Most in-water work has been completed, including the shoreline restoration and installation of all pier pilings. The pedestrian pier structure is in place, and the floating sections will be completed over the winter. We are working with PSE and several affected neighbors to finalize plans to underground the overhead wires along Lake Washington Blvd. Work is scheduled this fall. We are also working with the neighbors at Whalers Cove to develop plans to restore their privacy once we remove a city-owned landscape hedge to complete the required 99th Avenue right-of-way improvements. Permits applications have been submitted for the Whaling Building remodeling, which will include public restrooms, a meeting room and boat rental facility.

Park & Natural Areas Levy Projects Summary

- **Synthetic Sportsfield at Wilburton Hill Park:** Project complete.
- **Synthetic Sportsfield at Newport Hills Park:** Project complete.
- **Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area:** Project complete.
- **BYT Construction:** Project complete, including a new video wall. Construction is expected to begin in October to convert a storage room into another rehearsal space with the assistance of a 4Culture grant.
- **Bellevue Airfield Park:** Site analysis and initial schematic design is complete. The cost estimates for Phase 1 are significantly over the anticipated budget, so we continue to explore schematic design options and costs to determine the Phase 1 scope of work.
- **Botanical Garden Projects:**
 - **Ravine Garden:** Project complete.
 - **Visitor Center:** Project complete.
- **Neighborhood Parks:**
 - **Bridle Trails/140th Ave Property:** Project complete.
 - **Bridle Trails Corner Park:** Project complete.
 - **Newport Hills Tyler/Patterson acquisition:** Project complete.
- **Downtown Park “Complete the Circle” Development:** Project complete.
- **Hidden Valley/Boys & Girls Club Partnership:** Complete
- **Lake Sammamish Neighborhood Park:** No activity.
- **Surrey Downs Park Development:** Design revisions and permit review are underway. Subject to light rail construction progress, park construction is anticipated to start in the spring of 2018. Staff is working with the adjacent neighbors to address property encroachment issues and to identify an appropriate boundary fence to install prior to construction. Letters have been sent to all adjacent residents and staff continues meeting with the neighbors. We are also working with Sound Transit, who has agreed to provide excess soil to begin initial construction of the landscape berms for the park.

Renovation Program

51 projects were completed in 2016. The following 7 were deferred into 2017:

Project Status: Planning: (P) Under Construction: (U) Complete: (C) Deferred: (D)	
Coal Creek Nature Park	• Trail head construction (C)
Highland Park	• Fire escape replacement (P)
Kelsey Creek	• Playground replacement (C)
Mercer Slough Nature Park	• Sweyolocken boat launch A&E (P)
Robinswood Park	• Shelter for Small Dog OLA (C)
SE 40 th St Boat Launch	• Parking lot repairs (C)
Various Beach Parks	• Dock repairs at Chesterfield, Newcastle, SE 40 th St, Enatai & Chism (U)

60 projects have been approved for the 2017 program, as follows:

Programmatic	• Re-coring of parks facilities (U)	• NPDES requirements (U)
	• Multi-site drinking fountain (U)	• Natural Area Restoration (U)
	• Park furnishings (U)	• Urban Forestry Park Sites (U)
	• ADA projects (Signage &	• Streetscapes (U)

	Robinswood House) (P)	• Greenways & Trails (U)
Bellevue Aquatic Center	• Multi-site asphalt repairs (U) • New parking lot light fixtures (U) • Security system upgrades (P)	• Warm Springs Pool: • Pump Replacement (U) • Add UV treatment (U) • Replace Chiller (U) • Pro shop air handler repl (Cancelled)
Bellevue Golf Course	• Parking lot sealcoat & restripe (D)	• Par 3 Course Furnace Repl (U)
Cherry Crest School	• Resurface sport courts (U-D)	• Ticket booth & deck (D)
Crossroads Park	• Replace Doors at Int'l RR (C)	
Eastgate park	• Replace carpet at SBCC. (C)	
Forest Park	• Trail repair due to landslide (P)	
Goldsmith Park	• Irrigation Replacement (C)	• Drinking fountain replacement (P)
Hidden Valley Sports Park	• New security lighting fixtures (U)	
Highland Park	• Sealcoat upper parking lot (C)	• Replace flat roof at gym (C)
	• Indoor & outdoor skate pk impr. (C)	• New exterior lighting fixtures (C)
Kelsey Creek Farm Park	• Replace irrigation controller (C)	• Fraser cabin log repairs (C)
	• A&E for Educational Barn Imp. (D)	
Killarney Glen	• Sealcoat parking lot (C)	
Lakemont Park	• Sealcoat parking lot (C)	• Trail at Summit Tract A (P)
Lewis Creek	• Sealcoat parking lot (C)	
Mercer Slough	• MSEEC Sullivan deck repl (C)	• MSEEC Interpretive signs (P)
Meydenbauer Marina	• Whaling Building remodel (P)	
NW Arts Center	• A&E for code upgrades (D)	• Temp registration area fix (Cancelled)
North Bellevue Community Center	• Flooring Replacement (C)	• Boiler & AHU replacement (U)
	• Kitchen Improvements (C)	
Robinswood Park	• Phased irrigation sys. Repl. (P)	• Tennis bubble replacement (D)
	• Robinswood House, door repl. (C)	• Tennis indoor court resurface (C)
Saddleback Mini	• Replace play equipment (U)	
Sunset Park	• Replace play equipment (C)	
Wilburton Park	• A&E soccer turf replacement (Cancelled)	• BBG repair RILL (U)
	• Sealcoat parking lot (C)	• BBG re-stain Visitors Center (C)
	• McDowell House repairs (P)	• BBG paint Shorts House (C)
	• BBG re-stain Tateuchi Pavilion (C)	

The following projects have been added to the 2017 program:

Ashwood Plaza	• Repair Fountain (C)
Hillaire Park	• Replace Swings (C)
Bellevue Youth Theater	• Video Wall (C)
Northwest Arts Center	• Kiln Exhaust Fan Replacement (U)
Chandler Park	• Little Free Library (C)
Kelsey Creek Park	• Barn concrete aprons and drainage (P)
Northwest Arts Center	• A&E for 2018 restroom ADA improvements (P)
Downtown Park	• Additional scope items (U)
Lake Hills Produce	• Freezer Insulation & Heaters (P)
Bellevue Aquatic Cntr	• Replace failed boiler (P)



Date: Sept 11, 2017
To: Parks & Community Services Board
From: Laura Harper, Park Ranger
Jeff Wandler, Assistant Park Ranger
Jammie Kingham, Environmental Programs Supervisor
Subject: 2017 Summer Ranger Program

BACKGROUND

The Parks & Community Services Department established the Park Ranger Program in 1987 with the development of the Lake Hills Greenbelt and Phantom Lake Management Plan. Park rangers play an integral role in public communication, outreach, and service delivery. Full time park rangers are currently stationed at visitor centers located in the Lake Hills Greenbelt, Lewis Creek, and Mercer Slough Nature Park. With increased park programming and visitation during the busy summer months the park ranger program expands with additional seasonal staff from Memorial Day – Labor Day.

RANGER DUTIES

Seasonal assistant park rangers are uniformed, front line ambassadors for the City providing a daily presence in the parks from 8am – midnight. They work cooperatively with Bellevue police and other agencies to help increase user safety, prevent resource degradation, and improve park user satisfaction. Rangers perform daily park patrols to provide education of park rules, reduce user conflicts, and decrease undesirable behavior. In addition, rangers lead environmental programs designed to increase knowledge and understanding of Bellevue's natural and cultural resources. Furthermore, they provide valuable assistance with special events and minor maintenance activities including litter pick up, graffiti removal, and signage replacement. Other duties include the following:

- Provide staffing assistance at visitor centers
- Assist with community events such as 4th of July, Sea Fair, Strawberry Festival, Downtown Park Grand Opening, and the Lake to Lake Bike Ride
- Assist with development interpretive materials
- Coordinate with state and local agencies on wildlife issues
- Maintain updated information in the park kiosk system
- Perform park visitation studies, monitor use, and solicit user feedback
- Document and report code violations to appropriate enforcement agencies
- Maintain accurate records, reports, and statistics on park use
- Hike trail system and report trail conditions, vandalism, user counts, etc.
- Work with Police to remove transient camps from parks
- Patrol Phantom Lake per the LHGB Management Plan

DOWNTOWN PARK PARKING ATTENDANT

This season the City offered parking attendance at the newly reopened Downtown Park. The Summer Park Rangers provided excellent customer service and provided the following services:

- Greeted and assisted park patrons
- Parking management
- Parking data collection
- Park rules education

MEYDENBAUER PUBLIC DOCK STAFFING

This is the fourth concurrent season the City offered staff at the Meydenbauer Marina for the duration of the Summer Ranger Program. This program was managed and staffed by the Park Ranger Program lasting from Memorial Day – Labor Day. We reached almost 4600 visitors this season at the marina alone and provided the following services:

- Greeted and assisted marina visitors
- Parking management
- Provided noise control
- Construction Site security assistance
- Alcohol rules education
- General Marina rules education

2017 SUMMER RANGER ACTIVITY REPORT

The table below illustrates the extent of the outreach efforts provided by the 2017 Summer Park Ranger Program.

	May	Jun*	Jul*	Aug*	Sep	YTD
Park Patrol - Ranger Staff						
Activity Highlights						
Parks Patrolled	217	908	984	1064	99	3272
Parks Locked	33	147	198	217	21	616
Parking Notice Issued	3	28	14	21	31	97
Camping In Park	1	1	5	12	1	21
Vandalism	1	2	11	2	0	16
Immediate Response Requested	4	7	4	18	4	37
Other	20	136	69	184	15	424
User Contacts						
Good Wills	818	6950	18290	18362	2037	46457
Provided Assistance	17	302	223	372	68	982
Dogs Off-Leash or in Beach Park	14	81	45	124	18	282
In Park After Hours	27	198	82	513	16	836

*Full ranger staff working.

The summer Park Ranger Program serves as a valuable link between the City of Bellevue and its citizens. Rangers provide a friendly, approachable field contact that helps ensure safe and enjoyable user experiences. The Park Ranger Program is just one example of how Bellevue Parks is providing the elevated level of customer service that enables Bellevue to be a world class city.

CC: Patrick Foran, Parks & Community Services Director,
 Shelly McVein, Parks & Community Services, Deputy Director
 Geoff Bradley, Natural Resource Division Manager



DATE: September 18, 2017

TO: Mayor Stokes and City Councilmembers

FROM: Patrick Foran, Director, Parks & Community Services

SUBJECT: Zakes Foundation and Bellevue Skate Park Recognition

Eight year old, Ethan Zakes was a participant at the Bellevue Skate Park, when he was diagnosed with a rare genetic disease, adrenoleukodystrophy, known as ALD. Ethan was passionate about skateboarding and found the sport to be a great release for his illness. As Ethan's health deteriorated, the Make a Wish Foundation granted Ethan's wish and sponsored a skate boarding event at the Bellevue Skate Park. With only two days of preparation, Skate Park staff, with the assistance of the Bellevue Police motorcycle division, created an unforgettable event for Ethan, his family and friends. Unfortunately, Ethan died in 2011 at the age of 10. After his passing, the Zakes family discovered that infants can be screened at birth for ALD, which could assist in early diagnoses and treatment. Ethan's parents, Brad and Nancy Zakes, established the Ethan Zakes Foundation to raise awareness regarding ALD, and lead the effort to make ALD mandatory screening for all newborn infants in Washington State.

To support that effort, the Zakes Foundation partnered with the City of Bellevue to host an annual event at the Bellevue Skate Park. The "EZRocks" event raises awareness and funds for ALD. Due to the event's high profile and the work of the Zakes Foundation, I am pleased to share that the 2017 Washington State Legislature approved ALD newborn screening to be included by the State Board of Health.

This year, the fifth Annual "EZRocks" event was held on August 5, with 450 youth and adults attending the day-long event, and 100 skaters participating in skating competitions. Bellevue businesses and organizations contributed \$30,000 in event sponsorships and donations. Bellevue Skate Park staff and Bellevue Police have been highly praised by the Zakes family for their support and participation.

Brad and Nancy Zakes will be introduced to Council.

From: Giovanni S
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 12:53 PM
To: Louie, Shirley <SLouie@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Volleyball E///

Please find here the link to our company's internal blog, where they talk about us:

<https://www.ericsson.com/careers/blog/career-topics/diversity-and-inclusion/giovannis/acing-teamwork-by-serving-up-diversity/>

And this is a log I wrote for a local newspaper (but they never published it):

When I moved from Italy to Bellevue, Washington, I was here completely lonely, not having any contact or friends and all the colleagues were new. So I had the idea to use one of my old passions, the volleyball, to try to know new people. And I have been lucky, since the City of Bellevue organize recreational co-rec (all the genders play together) volleyball leagues. However, all the teams were already full...

So I had the second idea (and that's why I now run out of new ideas....): why don't we create a Volleyball Team within my company, Ericsson? Easy to say, but how to do it? So I went directly to the Head of the Bellevue office, and I made the proposal, almost sure he wouldn't be interested thinking I am crazy....but after few words from me, he showed such an enthusiasm that I was incredulous! He said he cares a lot about the health of the employees, he will cover the cost of the gym rental, league registration and uniform and he put only one condition: the diversity and inclusion.

With the blessing of the of the big boss, we sent an email to the entire population of employees and contractors working in the Bellevue Office, and again I didn't expect any interest. After few minutes I started receiving the first answers, and in 2 days we already received 30 requests to be part of the team!

From that point onward, the logistic was a nightmare, but we had a big motivation and we didn't want to disappoint our "sponsor". For example: have you tried to find an available volleyball court to rent for the practicing in the eastside of Seattle? Impossible! (this is a good idea for a new business: just open a gym with volleyball and basketball courts and rent it!). So we had to practice jumping over 4 different gyms, 4 different schedules and day of the week and two cities. I had to create an online calendar to help the team members to remember the hectic schedule and places!

Once we have found the gyms, the real fun started: practicing. We met the first time in the gym, basically without knowing each other....and the magic started. Because, YES, the sport is a global language! And using the volleyball, we progressively came to know each other better, to have fun, to create jokes about ourselves.

When it came to play, we paid the problem of integrating so many different cultures. The beginning was a night mare, but slowly, slowly, each of us gave the best and now, one year later, we won two seasons of the Volleyball League!

One funny thing to know. I'm one of the setters of the team. The setter is much like the quarterback in football or the point guard in basketball. He/she is in charge of the offense. He/She decides who should get the ball, how and when. It doesn't matter how good a team's hitters are if it doesn't have a setter that can consistently deliver a good ball to hit. A critical responsibility of the setter is to communicate with each hitter to make sure they know the play they will run and what set they will hit. So basically, during the game, I need to "call" the hitter I will give the ball to and the type of set I will do, but without make the opponents understand the call. So we invented a call-system based on the nationality of the hitter. For example, when I want to set the ball to the Brazilian players, I will say "Ipanema", or "Coffee" if I want the Colombian one to hit. Or more, "Badada Loca" (mad potato in Portuguese) is another call. There is a specific set that I call in three different ways depending on who is the hitter for it: "Veneno" (in Spanish, poison), "Chicken" or "Gift" (in German, poison again). So the effect on the opponents or on the attendees is quite hilarious: a player of the team (me) who during the games screams "Chicken!" or "Tinder!" or "Veneno!". There is also another call we do very often, but this I can't report here....

Please find here below some picture of the team players. Among those pictures, two are in our hearts: it's when our player Nathi came with the word "IMMIGRANT'S TEAM" written on her arm, as a sign of solidarity with all the immigrants in the USA: at the end of the day, we are the Immigrants Volleyball Team! I have also attached one short video of the final point of the Final game of last Fall season, when we won the League.

The website of the Leagues is:

<https://parks.bellevuewa.gov/sports-and-athletics/adult-sports-leagues/>

The name of our team is "E///" and the players come from:

- Italy
- Hong Kong
- Brazil
- Chile
- Colombia
- India
- Germany
- USA
- Croatia
- Bielorussia

From: Catherine Z
Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 2:51 PM
To: Bailey, Rick I. <RIBailey@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Thank you again - The dead tree in the greenbelt behind our home

Hi Rick,

I've been meaning to write you and apologize for failing to do so sooner.

Thank you again for the extremely prompt response to my call about the dead tree. The company you contracted with came the following day and removed the tree (leaving the stump, etc. for the animals and insects to enjoy). Less than 3 days from call to action; incredible turn around time to say the least!

I didn't have your manager's name otherwise I would have included him/her in the email to ensure they were aware of our appreciation of the level of service we received. Please pass this on to him/her on our behalves.

Thanks again,

--

Catherine Z

From: Bailey, Rick I.
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 2:18 PM
To: Catherine Z
Subject: RE: Thank you again - The dead tree in the greenbelt behind our home

Hi Catherine,

Thank you for the kind words. Please don't hesitate to contact me in the future for any questions of concerns concerning the greenbelt. Thank you.

Rick Bailey

Forest Management Program Supervisor
City of Bellevue | Parks & Community Services Department | Natural Resource Division
C: 425.239.9677 | O: 425.452.6031 | F: 425.452.6047 | ribailey@bellevuewa.gov
ISA Certified Arborist #PN-5462A | ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor

From: Jeff F <mailto:jfinn@pluginamerica.org>]
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 6:23 PM
To: Stokes, John <JStokes@bellevuewa.gov>
Cc: Marshall, Steve <SMarshall@bellevuewa.gov>; Wilson, Jonathan S. <JSWilson@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Follow-up: Bellevue 2017 National Drive Electric Week Celebration

John,

Thank you for taking the time from your busy day on Monday to speak to the attendees at Bellevue's EV benefits celebration. Those who participated in the event are some of the most knowledgeable and passionate supporters of the technology in the Seattle Metro area, the people who drive plug-in electric vehicles every day. They appreciated knowing that the City of Bellevue also shares their enthusiasm for the accelerated adoption of EVs.

Even more importantly, I personally appreciated your leadership in making the City's staff, resources and the Downtown Park available to make the event more successful than I had imagined it would be. Both Steve Marshall and the Parks Department's Jon Wilson did an outstanding job of making sure everything worked perfectly from the City's side.

Hopefully, the City will determine that the event was an excellent use of the taxpayers' resources and will decide to make the City of Bellevue's participation in National Drive Electric Week an annual event.

Thanks,

Jeff Finn, City Captain
Bellevue 2017 National Drive Electric Week Celebration
Plug In America (<http://PlugInAmerica.org>)

**Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)**

OCTOBER 2017

- Oct 4** **Goats a-Plenty (Early Release Wednesday)**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 5 to 9 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111286. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Oct 5** **Hands-On, Minds-On Workshop: Poetry**, 10:30 a.m. – noon
Bellevue Main Club Center, Tutorial Room, 209 100th Avenue NE
Through photographs, music and objects, explore the theme of "flight" to create simple and elegant individual and group poems based on the group's ideas and imagination. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** \$18/resident; \$20/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Oct 5** **Garden Class: "Introduction to Mushroom Cultivation"**,
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
In this class we explore the roles mushrooms play in forest ecology and how those roles can benefit our gardens and our bodies. We will learn basic techniques to propagate and cultivate the wood-loving species, the Oyster mushroom. Each participant will have the opportunity to create an Oyster Spawn Mat that can be used to inoculate more substrate later at home. Participants will also receive a ready-to-fruit mushroom kit to take home. The class fee includes a \$40 supply fee. **Cost:** \$65 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$75/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- Oct 6** **Lewis Creek Story Time: "The Lorax,"**
Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an indoor hour of stories and crafts. Join us for the classic children's book, *The Lorax*, to learn the basics of safeguarding our environment. We always make a fun craft to take home. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 years with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/> or 425-452-6885, course 118745 or 118746. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 7** **The Great Northwest Glass Pumpkin Patch**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Visit the Glass Pumpkin Patch featuring over 1,000 hand-blown glass pumpkins crafted by local glass artists from the Tacoma Glassblowing Studio. Wander through a dazzling array of one-of-a-kind glass pumpkins in a variety of colors, shapes, sizes and price range. Rain or shine, come pick the perfect pumpkin for yourself or as a gift. **Ages:** All ages; children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult at all times. **Cost:** Free admission; pumpkins range in price from \$35 to \$200. Credit cards accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106, or Tacoma Glassblowing Studio – TGSGlass@gmail.com or 253-948-9699.
- Oct 7** **Farm Fair Volunteers**, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
We are seeking energetic, fun teens to assist with children’s activities at Kelsey Creek Farm’s special event. Volunteers must be able to follow directions, be comfortable in crowds and be on your feet in all types of weather. This is a great way to earn your community service hours. Dress to work outside with the public. Wear sturdy shoes that can get wet. Volunteers must pre-register. **Ages:** 14-18 years old and enrolled in high school. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 110926. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Oct 7** **Kelsey Creek Farm Fair**, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Bring your family to the farm and enjoy our Fall Festival! Featured events include: live entertainment, heritage demonstrations, tractor-pulled wagon rides, pick-a-pumpkin (already picked from the vine but in a farm pasture), pony rides, farm animals, mascots, and food for sale. No pets, please! Free shuttle service from Wilburton Park & Ride and Bannerwood Sports Park. **Ages:** All ages are welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free admission; costs vary by activity. No ATMs on site. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** Kelsey Creek Farm at kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Oct 7** **Fraser Cabin Heritage Program**, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
The Fraser Cabin, built in 1888, comes to life with activities and interpretation presented by volunteers and staff from the Eastside Heritage Center. Visitors are invited to participate in hands-on activities that relate to 1880s settler life: agriculture, dairy, household tasks, log cabins, games and Eastside history. Fraser Cabin Heritage Programs are presented by the Eastside Heritage Center in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** All ages are welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** Eastside Heritage Center – www.eastsideheritagecenter.org or 425-450-1049.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 7** **Lewis Creek Ranger-Led Hike**, 10:30 a.m. - noon
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes.
Distance: Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy-Moderate (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us!
Cost: Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 7** **Family Discovery Series: All about the Bats**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bats play a vital ecological role all over the world. Several species of bats call the Mercer Slough Nature Park home. Come learn some fun facts about these mammals. Enjoy a spooky bat story, then put your artistic skills to use, and take home your own batty creation. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Oct 10** **Wisdom Café Themed Conversation: Living Our Legacy – How Do You Want to Be Remembered?** 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Bellevue Main Club Center, 209 100th Avenue NE
We will talk about what we want our friends and family to learn from us. More than just remembering us, our lives hold lessons and messages we can start sharing now. These cafes provide an opportunity to converse and connect with others while discussing universal topics such as gratitude, legacy, happiness, and what gives life meaning. Come for one session or more in a facilitated small group conversation. Connect with others, build community, and share wisdom. Coffee, tea, and treats will be provided! Cafes are offered in partnership with the King County Library System. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Oct 10** **Washington Native Plant Society Lecture: “Pacific Feast: Where the Wild Things are Delicious!”** 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Learn from forager, wilderness guide, professor and writer, Jennifer Hahn, about sustainably harvesting a cornucopia of delicious, nutritious seaweeds, wild and weedy greens, berries, and tree tips for enhancing health and table in all seasons.
Cost: Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** [Facebook event](#) or http://www.wnps.org/cps_programs.html

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 11** **Garden Class: “Put Your Vegetable Garden to Bed”**, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
This class will be taught by Tilth Alliance (formerly Seattle Tilth). Prepare your veggie garden for next year by improving your soil over the winter. Soil building is an important component of organic gardening. Fall and winter are perfect times to add organic matter that will feed your plants throughout the year. We will discuss key components of the final harvest, how to test your soil, what cover crops to plant, and different techniques for mulching. Leave with the knowledge and skills you need to protect your soil so it is ready to go next spring! **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- Oct 12** **Hands-On, Minds-On Workshop: Digital Storytelling**, 10:30 a.m. – noon
Bellevue Main Club Center, Tutorial Room, 209 100th Avenue NE
Participants will explore ways to share personal stories by using video and photography to create a digital narrative to share with family and friends. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** \$18/resident; \$20/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Oct 13** **Creepy, Crawly and Cool!** 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Come learn about bugs, worms and spiders as we discover fun facts about these little creatures. Discover their benefits to us and our ecosystem. We will be going outside in search of these little friends, so please dress according to the weather. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** Please call 425-452-6993. **Info:** parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993.
- Oct 13-14** **Zip Scare**, 6 p.m. – 7:45 p.m., every 15 minutes
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Scary, creepy, crazy fun zipping in the dark! Experience one suspension bridge and three zip lines. Imagine stepping off a platform and zipping to the other end that you cannot see. Riders and platforms will be brightened with glow-sticks. Tours start every 15 minutes from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Please pre-register. Arrive at the SBCC front desk 20 minutes prior to your scheduled Zip Tour. Zip Tour dates – October 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 and 28. **Ages:** Participants must be at least 9 years old and weigh between 60-275 pounds. 9-13 year-olds must be accompanied on the tour by an adult. An adult can accompany a maximum of two 9-13 year-olds. **Cost:** \$27/youth (9-17 years old) and \$42/adult (18 years and older). **Pre-registration:** Strongly encouraged due to program popularity. Registration closes every evening at 7 p.m. **To register:** 425-452-4240. **Info:** 425-452-4240.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 14** **Coal Creek Natural Area “Woof Walk,”** 10:30 a.m. - noon
Meet at: Cinder Mine Trailhead (Newcastle Golf Club Road, west of Redtown Trailhead)
Come explore Bellevue’s largest park with your furry friend! Learn about the natural history and wildlife of the park and how we can keep our pets safe. Limit is one dog (with leash) per guest, and bring a doggy waste bag. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Distance:** Two miles. **Level of difficulty:** Moderate (100 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required by 4 p.m. on October 13. **Info and to RSVP:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 14** **Family Discovery Series: All about the Bats,** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bats play a vital ecological role all over the world. Several species of bats call the Mercer Slough Nature Park home. Come learn some fun facts about these mammals. Enjoy a spooky bat story, then put your artistic skills to use, and take home your own batty creation. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Oct 15** **Who’s that Bird?,** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a park ranger to learn the “who’s who” and “what’s what” of our local bird species. We’ll learn about some new friends, and participants will choose their favorite for an art piece to be displayed at the Lewis Creek Visitor Center. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 18** **Roosters vs Hens (Early Release Wednesday),** 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it’s important for animals to stay busy. Let’s make our farm animals’ habitats rewarding and fun. We’ll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 5 to 9 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111287. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 18** **Garden Lecture: “Literature into Art: Books that Changed the Way We Garden”**, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
In today’s fast-paced information age, it is hard to imagine a time when gardeners relied on books rather than YouTube videos for inspiration and practical advice. In this lecture, Colston Burrell examines the shifting roles that gardens have played in our culture, from Victorian bedding schemes to outdoor living rooms. He will highlight some seminal books that changed the way we envision, design, plant and maintain outdoor spaces. **Cost:** \$5 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$15/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Recommended. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- Oct 19** **Hands-On, Minds-On Workshop: Memoir Writing**, 10:30 a.m. – noon
Bellevue Main Club Center, Tutorial Room, 209 100th Avenue NE
During this workshop, participants will explore how to craft their personal stories into written narratives. We will explore techniques on how to generate, organize, and structure individual life experiences to include in a longer memoir to share with family and friends. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** \$18/resident; \$20/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Oct 19** **The Great SBCC Pumpkin Race Workshop**, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, Classroom 200, 14509 SE Newport Way
New to pumpkin racing? Learn tips and tricks to building a fast pumpkin racer and see past entries for creative decoration ideas. A resource handout will be provided at the end of the workshop. **Ages:** All ages welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Encouraged; please register each person attending the workshop. **To register:** <https://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/>, course 119040. **Info:** sbcc@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4240.
- Oct 20-21** **Zip Scare**, 6 p.m. – 7:45 p.m., every 15 minutes
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Scary, creepy, crazy fun zipping in the dark! Experience one suspension bridge and three zip lines. Imagine stepping off a platform and zipping to the other end that you cannot see. Riders and platforms will be brightened with glow-sticks. Tours start every 15 minutes from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Please pre-register. Arrive at the SBCC front desk 20 minutes prior to your scheduled Zip Tour. Zip Tour dates – October 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 and 28. **Ages:** Participants must be at least 9 years old and weigh between 60-275 pounds. 9-13 year-olds must be accompanied on the tour by an adult. An adult can accompany a maximum of two 9-13 year-olds. **Cost:** \$27/youth (9-17 years old) and \$42/adult (18 years and older). **Pre-registration:** Strongly encouraged due to program popularity. Registration closes every evening at 7 p.m. **To register:** 425-452-4240. **Info:** 425-452-4240.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 20** **Night Hike**, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
When the sun sets and the dark of night creeps in, Lewis Creek Park comes alive! Learn about the different nocturnal and crepuscular species that call Bellevue home, and join a park ranger on a hike through the woods after dark! Bring a flashlight or headlamps, as well as good shoes and warm clothes, for the journey! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** \$4/resident; \$5/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <https://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/course/118763>. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 21** **Who’s that Bird?** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a park ranger to learn the “who’s who” and “what’s what” of our local bird species. We’ll learn about some new friends, and participants will choose their favorite for an art piece to be displayed at the Lewis Creek Visitor Center. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 21** **The Great Pumpkin Hunt Festival**, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Gather your friends and family, and head down to Northwest Arts Center for an evening of holiday fun! Kid carnival games, Halloween crafts, entertainment, and the Great Pumpkin Hunt make this an event you will not want to miss. Pumpkin Hunts will be offered by age groups: ages 2-4 years will hunt at 6 p.m., ages 5-8 years will hunt at 6:45 p.m., and ages 9-14 years will hunt at 7:30 p.m. Children must check in 15 minutes prior to hunt time to ensure participation. Visit Prize Central and turn in tickets found in pumpkins for exciting prizes and treat. Wear your costume, and maybe you’ll win a prize for the best costume! **Ages:** Ages 2-14 years old. **Cost:** \$15 per participant (children); free for parents and grandparents. Admission gives you access to all carnival games, crafts, entertainment, and the Pumpkin Hunt. **Pre-registration:** Highly recommended; event sold out last year. Space is limited. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Oct 22** **Who’s that Bird?**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a park ranger to learn the “who’s who” and “what’s what” of our local bird species. We’ll learn about some new friends, and participants will choose their favorite for an art piece to be displayed at the Lewis Creek Visitor Center. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 24** **Wisdom Café Themed Conversation: Dreaming Our Future,**
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Bellevue Main Club Center, 209 100th Avenue NE
How has living your dreams showed up in your life up to now? What dreams do you still hope to fulfill? How do we continue to grow? Sharing our dreams out loud might just help them come true. These cafes provide an opportunity to converse and connect with others while discussing universal topics such as gratitude, legacy, happiness, and what gives life meaning. Come for one session or more in a facilitated small group conversation. Connect with others, build community, and share wisdom. Coffee, tea, and treats will be provided! Cafes are offered in partnership with the King County Library System. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Oct 26** **Hands-On, Minds-On Workshop: Improvisation Theatre,** 10:30 a.m. – noon
Bellevue Main Club Center, Tutorial Room, 209 100th Avenue NE
This interactive workshop teaches basic skills of improvisational theatre – how to say yes to new ideas, how to create characters and stories at the drop of a hat, and how to work together with other people to develop scenes and stories. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** \$18/resident; \$20/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Oct 27** **Nature Movie Night: “Secret World of Bats,”** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bats are often feared and misunderstood. However, without these amazing mammals, our ecological systems would be significantly altered, and life as we know it would drastically change. This film captures all aspects of bat behavior across five continents with remarkable slow motion photography. Wear your bat costumes! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Oct 27-28** **Zip Scare,** 6 p.m. – 7:45 p.m., every 15 minutes
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Scary, creepy, crazy fun zipping in the dark! Experience one suspension bridge and three zip lines. Imagine stepping off a platform and zipping to the other end that you cannot see. Riders and platforms will be brightened with glow-sticks. Tours start every 15 minutes from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Please pre-register. Arrive at the SBCC front desk 20 minutes prior to your scheduled Zip Tour. Zip Tour dates – October 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 and 28. **Ages:** Participants must be at least 9 years old and weigh between 60-275 pounds. 9-13 year-olds must be accompanied on the tour by an adult. An adult can accompany a maximum of two 9-13 year-olds. **Cost:** \$27/youth (9-17 years old) and \$42/adult (18 years and older). **Pre-registration:** Strongly encouraged due to program popularity. Registration closes every evening at 7 p.m. **To register:** 425-452-4240. **Info:** 425-452-4240.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 27** **Halloween Howl**, 7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
This event is facilitated for people living with intellectual disabilities. Start planning your costume now! Come dance the night away if you dare. Our annual costume showcase will highlight the evening. We'll have witch's brew and spooky delights for all. **Ages:** Ages 16 years and older. **Cost:** \$9/resident; \$11/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** Mary Boyle – Mboyle@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4118. **Info:** 425-452-7686.
- Oct 27** **Listen and Look for Creatures of the Night**, 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Come enjoy an evening with a Bellevue Park Ranger on the Lake Hills Trail. We will keep an eye and an ear out for nocturnal creatures who sleep during the day and come awake through the night. Be sure to bring a flashlight so things don't get too spooky! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** Please call 425-452-6993. **Info:** parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993.
- Oct 27-Nov 5** **“The Pied Piper of Hamelin” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Production)**,
October 27, 28, November 3, 4 at 7 p.m.; October 29, November 4 and 5 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
This show follows the delightful story of a town overrun with rats and a bad mayor. The Pied Piper saves the town but not before helping the town realize what truly matters. The show is 90 minutes in length. **Ages:** Suitable for the whole family. **Cost:** Advance tickets are \$12. Price increases to \$15 on October 23. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- Oct 28** **Pumpkin Pals**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Spend a fun-filled morning pondering the perfect pumpkin! Art, music, a yummy snack and a pumpkin relay race are some of the happy activities planned for the morning. **Ages:** Ages 2-5 years old. **Cost:** \$25/resident; \$30/non-resident. Each additional family member is \$5/resident and \$6/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106, course 118407.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 28** **The Great SBCC Pumpkin Race and Jump**, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, Upper Parking Lot, 14509 SE Newport Way
Race or jump your decorated pumpkin on wheels for prizes and bragging rights! There will be two “heats” – 10 a.m. to noon, and noon to 2 p.m.
Race: Bring your decorated pumpkin, complete with wheels, to compete in the Seventh Annual Great SBCC Pumpkin Race. Upon registration, you will receive an email with basic rules and instructions on how to prepare your pumpkin for race day. We encourage individuals, families and groups to register. **Jump:** Your pumpkin doesn’t have to be the fastest to be crowned a winner. Test your pumpkin’s ability to fly off of a ramp and jump the farthest or smash the hardest to take home a prize! **Pumpkin Racer Kits:** Visit SBCC to purchase (\$25) or rent (\$10) a Pumpkin Racer Kit, which provides hardware for one pumpkin racer. Pumpkin not included. **Ages:** All ages welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Encouraged. **To register:** <https://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/>, course 119039. **Info:** sbcc@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4240.
- Oct 28** **Carnival on the Hill**, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Games! Food! Bouncy houses! Entertainment! Expect classic carnival games with a Halloween twist, food for the family and entertainment for all to enjoy. “Trained Human” Matt Henry will perform from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. **Ages:** All ages welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free admission; tickets required for some activities. Purchase tickets at the SBCC Front Desk on the day of the event for the climbing wall, inflatables and games. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** sbcc@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4240.
- Oct 28** **Living with Wildlife: Raccoons**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Are you neighbors with one (or several) of these mischievous mammals? If so, you’re not alone. Learn all about raccoons, and how to prevent conflicts in your neck of the woods. This is an indoor program. **Ages:** 13 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 28** **Adult Enrichment Series: From Glaciers to Greenways**,
2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
What mysteries lie beneath the soggy surface and between the diversity of aquatic plants? Through both natural processes and human interactions, the area has changed drastically over thousands of years. Join a Park Ranger for a guided history hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park to uncover the past and explore the future. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 28** **Dessert Theatre on the Hill**, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, Community Room A&B, 14509 SE Newport Way
Bellevue Youth Theatre presents “Snow White and the Seven Souls.” You thought you knew the story, but we are here to share what really happened. Come enjoy some wonderful dessert and a great show. Showtime is 7 p.m. **Ages:** Best for ages 7 and older; children ages 7-13 years old must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** \$10/person. **Pre-registration:** Required by Thursday, October 26. **To register:** <https://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/>, course 119074. **Info:** sbcc@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4240.
- Oct 28** **Haunted Movie on the Hill – “Hocus Pocus,”** 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, Gymnasium, 14509 SE Newport Way
Ladies and gentlemen! Boys and ghouls! Grab your pillows and blankets for a night out on the hill. Join us after dark for free popcorn and a Halloween classic projected on our 17-foot inflatable movie screen. Additional concessions will be available for purchase, with proceeds going to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue. Presenting Sponsor of Halloween on the Hill – Champions Centre. Gold Level Sponsor of Haunted Movie on the Hill – Cinerama. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free admission and popcorn; additional concession for purchase. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** sbcc@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4240.
- Oct 29** **Family-Friendly Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Park Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This family-friendly program allows parents and their kids to explore the mosaic of habitats while learning more about the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. This hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge on the shores of the Slough. From there you are able to continue on to further explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

**Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)**

NOVEMBER 2017

- Nov 1** **Circle Dance Workshop**, 10:30 a.m. – noon
Bellevue Main Club Center, Art Room, 209 100th Avenue NE
During this hands-on (and feet-on!) workshop, participants will engage in simple dance moves designed to build strength and community. Seated dance options are available. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** \$18/resident; \$20/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Nov 3** **Lewis Creek Story Time: “Very Hairy Bear,”**
Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an indoor hour of stories and crafts. Do you know that black bears live on Cougar Mountain? Join us for some stories about bears! We always make a fun craft to take home. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/> or 425-452-6885, course 118747 or 118748. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Nov 4** **Cartooniversity Saturday Workshop**, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
This workshop will include character development, expression, directional views, action poses, background, and letter. Projects include blank puzzles, flip-book animation, character profiles, comic strips, and more! All supplies included. Bring snacks. **Ages:** Ages 9-14 years old. **Cost:** \$75/resident; \$90/non-resident. Each additional family member is \$5/resident and \$6/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Nov 4** **Lewis Creek Ranger-Led Hike**, 10:30 a.m. - noon
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy-Moderate (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Nov 5** **Living with Wildlife: Coyotes**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
So... there's a coyote in the yard... should I be worried? Nope, but there are definitely some tips and tricks to keep this fascinating urban creature as wild as possible. Join us to learn how! This is an indoor program. **Ages:** 13 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 7** **Wisdom Café Themed Conversation: Life Purpose**, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Bellevue Main Club Center, 209 100th Avenue NE
Reflecting on what we are meant to do can help us clarify goals for our present lives. Knowing our essential values and knowing what “turns us on” can be a path to self-discovery. These cafes provide an opportunity to converse and connect with others while discussing universal topics such as gratitude, legacy, happiness, and what gives life meaning. Come for one session or more in a facilitated small group conversation. Connect with others, build community, and share wisdom. Coffee, tea, and treats will be provided! Cafes are offered in partnership with the King County Library System. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Nov 8** **Pony Pleasure (Early Release Wednesday)**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it’s important for animals to stay busy. Let’s make our farm animals’ habitats rewarding and fun. We’ll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 5 to 9 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111280. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Nov 10-19** **“As You Like It” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Production)**,
November 10, 17, 18 at 7 p.m.; November 12, 18, 19 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
Our production is classic Shakespeare with a BYT twist. This fun and enjoyable comedy has great moments and lines which include “all the world’s a stage” and “too much of a good thing.” Deception and disguises lead to a delightful time in the theatre. The show is one hour and 45 minutes long. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 8 and older. **Cost:** Advance tickets are \$10. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- Nov 11** **Lakemont Highlands Open Space Ranger-Led Hike**, 10 a.m. - noon
Meet at: Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the lesser-known trails of South Bellevue. A Park Ranger will guide you through friendly neighborhood greenbelts. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Distance:** 3.5 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Moderate-Difficult (350 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 11** **Family Discovery Series: Swim to Spawn**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Salmon were once abundant here in the Pacific Northwest, but they've been on a rapid decline in most of our region. Come learn more about the salmon that make the arduous journey from the ocean to the Mercer Slough, where they will eventually spawn in the shallow waters of Kelsey Creek. Learn about the different stages of our salmon and what you can do to help aid in their survival.
Ages: All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Nov 12** **Let's Plant a Tree!**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn some local trees with a Park Ranger! We'll go for a short walk through the forest at Lewis Creek Park, and then each participant will plant a willow tree. Please wear waterproof shoes. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required by 4 p.m. the Friday before the event. **Info and to RSVP:** 425-452-4195.
- Nov 12** **Author Talk – “Waterway: The Story of Seattle’s Locks and Ship Canal,”**
(Eastside Heritage Center program), 4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Why does a city surrounded by water need another waterway? Find out what drove Seattle's civic leaders to pursue the dream of a Lake Washington Ship Canal for more than sixty years, and what role it has played in the region's development over the past century. Jennifer Ott, co-author of “Waterway: The Story of Seattle's Locks and Ship Canal,” will be joining Eastside Heritage Center for this program and will discuss “decades of false starts and political shenanigans – as well as the far-reaching social, economic and environmental impacts – of the Lake Washington Ship Canal.” This program will also discuss Eastside Heritage Center's social studies curriculum program, “Change Over Time,” developed in partnership with the Bellevue School District for sixth and seventh grade students. Light bites and non-alcoholic beverages will be available. This event is supported by 4Culture and presented in partnership with Making the Cut and Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Cost:** Free and open to the public, but a suggested donation of \$5-\$10 is warmly appreciated. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** info@eastsideheritagecenter.org or 425-450-1049. **Info:** <http://www.eastsideheritagecenter.org/>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 15** **Thankful for Our Animal Friends (Early Release Wednesday),**
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 5 to 9 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111281. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Nov 17** **A Trail of Autumn Leaves, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.**
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Why do trees lose their leaves in the Fall? Come learn more about the Autumn season, and what brings about this great change to our forests each year. For our leaf print craft, we will search the Lake Hills Greenbelt Trail for fallen leaves, but feel free to bring your own from home as well! **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to attend. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. Please register with your child. **To register:** Please call 425-452-6993. **Info:** parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993.
- Nov 17** **Nature Movie Night: "My Life as Turkey," 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.**
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Based on a true story, this beautiful, thought-provoking film explores one of those rare moments when man and animal become more closely linked than nature normally allows. Follow one man's incredible journey raising wild turkeys from hatchlings to adulthood. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Nov 18** **Visions of Sugarplums, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Jelly bellies, gumdrops and peppermint FUN! Join us for a sweet beginning to the holiday season to make a mini gingerbread house, sing songs, dance and eat yummys for your tummies! Dress in your party clothes for happy holiday wholesome fun! **Ages:** Ages 2-5 years old. **Cost:** \$25/resident; \$30/non-resident. Each additional family member is \$5/resident and \$6/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 18** **Family Discovery Series: Swim to Spawn**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Salmon were once abundant here in the Pacific Northwest, but they've been on a rapid decline in most of our region. Come learn more about the salmon that make the arduous journey from the ocean to the Mercer Slough, where they will eventually spawn in the shallow waters of Kelsey Creek. Learn about the different stages of our salmon and what you can do to help aid in their survival.
Ages: All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Nov 18** **Let's Plant a Tree!**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn some local trees with a Park Ranger! We'll go for a short walk through the forest at Lewis Creek Park, and then each participant will plant a willow tree. Please wear waterproof shoes. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required by 4 p.m. the Friday before the event. **Info and to RSVP:** 425-452-4195.
- Nov 23** **Laps Before Naps Masters Swim Workout**, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Bellevue Aquatic Center, 601 143rd Avenue NE
Join us for this two-hour Masters swim workout on Thanksgiving Day. All abilities are welcome. **Ages:** 19 years and older. **Cost:** \$12/person. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** Scott Armstrong – 425-452-2806.
- Nov 24** **Youth Appreciation & Safety Day**, 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Bellevue Aquatic Center, 601 143rd Avenue NE
This event promotes water safety and proper lifejacket use. Come for swimming, raffles and water safety demonstrations. Free water-related t-shirts for the first 50 children (12 years and younger)! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** 12 years and younger – free! 13 years and older - \$7/person. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** Julie Byers – 425-452-4444.
- Nov 24-Dec 3** **“Twas the Night Before Christmas” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Production)**,
November 24, 25, December 1, 2 at 7 p.m.; November 26, December 2, 3 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
Join us for the endearing story of a parent's love. Christmas is the backdrop for this wonderful story of Clement C. Moore, his family, and the beloved poem. This show is filled with traditional Christmas carols. The show is 90 minutes long. **Ages:** Suitable for the whole family. **Cost:** Advance tickets are \$12. Price increases to \$15 on November 20. All seats are reserved. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 25** **Porcelain Adornment Workshop**, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Create a one-of-a-kind gift or keepsake out of porcelain using a variety of tools and techniques that will help you capture how you celebrate the holiday season. Pieces will be available for pick-up two weeks after the workshop. Limit of two objects per person. Materials included. **Ages:** Teens/Adults – ages 13-15 must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** \$45/resident; \$54/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Nov 25 – Dec 31** **Garden d’Lights**, 4:30 p.m. – 9 p.m., every evening including holidays
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Garden d’Lights features over half a million lights that transform the Bellevue Botanical Garden into a blossoming winter wonderland. Each holiday season, thousands of visitors enjoy this dazzling display. This year, the route has changed, critters added, and the lights more magical than ever. **Cost:** \$5/person; children 10 and under are free and do not need a ticket. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time or at the event. **Free nights:** November 27-30 and December 4-7. **Parking:** \$5 for on-site parking; free parking at Wilburton Hill Park. **To buy tickets ahead of time (beginning October 15) and for driving, parking and general information:** <http://www.gardendlights.org/>
- Nov 26** **Family-Friendly Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Park Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This family-friendly program allows parents and their kids to explore the mosaic of habitats while learning more about the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. This hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge on the shores of the Slough. From there you are able to continue on to further explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Nov 26** **Let’s Plant a Tree!** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn some local trees with a Park Ranger! We’ll go for a short walk through the forest at Lewis Creek Park, and then each participant will plant a willow tree. Please wear waterproof shoes. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required by 4 p.m. the Friday before the event. **Info and to RSVP:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

Nov 29-Dec 2 Hilltop Holiday Craft Show, November 29-December 1, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.;
and December 2, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street

Lift your holiday spirit! Come and enjoy a delightful, unique, whimsical craft show featuring thousands of hand-crafted items from over 60 selected Northwest crafters. This show features one-of-a-kind products, including: holiday ornaments, decorations, pottery, jewelry, wood and knit items, and more. **Cost:**

Admission and parking are free; craft items vary in price. **Info:**

NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106. **Crafter application and**

information: hilltop.crafts@frontier.com or

<http://www.bellevuehilltopholidaycraftshow.com/>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

DECEMBER 2017

- Nov 25 – Dec 31** **Garden d’Lights**, 4:30 p.m. – 9 p.m., every evening including holidays
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Garden d’Lights features over half a million lights that transform the Bellevue Botanical Garden into a blossoming winter wonderland. Each holiday season, thousands of visitors enjoy this dazzling display. This year, the route has changed, critters added, and the lights more magical than ever. **Cost:** \$5/person; children 10 and under are free and do not need a ticket. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time or at the event. **Free nights:** November 27-30 and December 4-7. **Parking:** \$5 for on-site parking; free parking at Wilburton Hill Park. **To buy tickets ahead of time (beginning October 15) and for driving, parking and general information:** <http://www.gardendlights.org/>
- Nov 29-Dec 2** **Hilltop Holiday Craft Show**, November 29-December 1, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; and December 2, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Lift your holiday spirit! Come and enjoy a delightful, unique, whimsical craft show featuring thousands of hand-crafted items from over 60 selected Northwest crafters. This show features one-of-a-kind products, including: holiday ornaments, decorations, pottery, jewelry, wood and knit items, and more. **Cost:** Admission and parking are free; craft items vary in price. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106. **Crafter application and information:** hilltop.crafts@frontier.com or <http://www.bellevuehilltopholidaycraftshow.com/>
- Nov 24-Dec 3** **“Twas the Night Before Christmas” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Production)**, November 24, 25, December 1, 2 at 7 p.m.; November 26, December 2, 3 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
Join us for the endearing story of a parent’s love. Christmas is the backdrop for this wonderful story of Clement C. Moore, his family, and the beloved poem. This show is filled with traditional Christmas carols. The show is 90 minutes long. **Ages:** Suitable for the whole family. **Cost:** Advance tickets are \$12. Price increases to \$15 on November 20. All seats are reserved. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- Dec 1** **Who’s in Your Backyard: Bobcats and Cougars**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Two types of wild cats live right here in our Bellevue parks. Do you know how to tell them apart? Come learn about our local woodland felines and what to do if you come across a mountain lion! **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to attend. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. Please register with your child. **To register:** Please call 425-452-6993. **Info:** parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Dec 1** **Lewis Creek Story Time: “Let It Snow!”**
Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an indoor hour of stories and crafts. It’s winter, all right... Join us for stories about snow and wildlife! We always make a fun craft to take home. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free!
Pre-registration: Required for children and adults. **To register:**
<http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/> or 425-452-6885, course 118749 or 118750.
Info: 425-452-4195.
- Dec 2** **Garden Class: “Holiday Wreath-Making”,** two sessions; choose one
10 a.m. – noon and 1 p.m. -3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Start the holiday season right with a beautiful holiday wreath! Attendees will decorate and take home a lovely wreath made of natural greens. Decorations, ribbon, directions and ideas will be provided. **Cost:** \$60 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members; \$70/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/>
- Dec 2** **Lewis Creek Ranger-Led Hike, 10:30 a.m. - noon**
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes.
Distance: Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy-Moderate (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us!
Cost: Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 3** **Seafair’s Holiday Cruise, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.**
Meydenbauer Yacht Club, 9927 Meydenbauer Way SE
This annual event serves individuals over 16 years old living with intellectual disabilities. Meydenbauer Yacht Club provides the ships and volunteers to join the parade along the Lake Washington shoreline. Individuals interested in attending must pre-register. Those utilizing a wheelchair or walker need to register directly through Seafair. Space is limited. Interested volunteers should contact Mary Boyle at 425-452-4118. **Ages:** Ages 16 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** Mary Boyle –
Mboyle@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4118. **Info** – 425-452-7686.
- Dec 3** **Christmas Ship Festival, 3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.;** ship arrives off-shore at 3:40 p.m.
Newcastle Beach Park, 4400 Lake Washington Blvd SE
Join us on shore to welcome the Christmas Ship Festival presented by Argosy Cruises. Come with family and friends to marvel at the parade of boats as they come by the beach. You can join the caroling or just enjoy the onboard choir’s performance. Beach fire provided! **Ages:** All ages welcome; family event.
Cost: Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Dec 8** **Holiday Ball**, 7 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Highland Community Center, 14224 Bel-Red Road
Get out your holiday best, pack your festive spirit, lace up your dancing shoes, and join us for our annual holiday ball. The Highland Community Center facilitates this event each year for adults living with intellectual disabilities.
Ages: Ages 16 years and older. **Cost:** \$9/resident; \$11/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** Mary Boyle – Mboyle@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4118. Info – 425-452-7686.
- Dec 8-17** **“Miracle on 34th Street” (Bellevue Youth Theatre Production)**,
December 8, 9, 15, 16 at 7 p.m.; December 10, 16, 17 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
Is Macy’s Santa real or just hired? This work by Meredith Wilson includes some classics such as “It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas.” The show is one hour and 45 minutes long. **Ages:** Suitable for the whole family. **Cost:** Advance tickets are \$12. Price increases to \$15 on December 4. All seats are reserved.
Pre-registration: Required. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- Dec 9** **Porcelain Adornment Workshop**, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Create a one-of-a-kind gift or keepsake out of porcelain using a variety of tools and techniques that will help you capture how you celebrate the holiday season. Pieces will be available for pick-up two weeks after the workshop. Limit of two objects per person. Materials included. **Ages:** Teens/Adults – ages 13-15 must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** \$45/resident; \$54/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Dec 9** **Family Discovery Series: Whooo is in the Forest?**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Several types of owls can be found living throughout many of Bellevue’s parks. These silent predators of the night are considered a keystone species within the ecosystem. Join us for a fun-filled hour learning about these owls. Dissect an owl pellet to discover who was for lunch. Put your creativity to use with a craft activity that’s yours to keep. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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- Dec 13** **Happy Holidays for All (Early Release Wednesday)**, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Help create enrichment opportunities to actively engage and entertain our farm animals. Learn how they think, how each animal needs different activities based on their instincts, and why it's important for animals to stay busy. Let's make our farm animals' habitats rewarding and fun. We'll work in the farm yard and do art/craft activities, too. **Ages:** 5 to 9 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-7688, course 111282. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Dec 15** **Winter Visitors**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Some animals, such as the snow goose, travel incredible distances in the changing seasons. Come learn about some of these migrators and what brings them to the Pacific Northwest for the winter. **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to attend. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. Please register with your child. **To register:** Please call 425-452-6993. **Info:** parkrangerprogram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993.
- Dec 15** **Night Hike**, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
When the sun sets and the dark of night creeps in, Lewis Creek Park comes alive! Learn about the different nocturnal and crepuscular species that call Bellevue home, and join a park ranger on a hike through the woods after dark! Bring a flashlight or headlamps, as well as good shoes and warm clothes, for the journey! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** \$4/resident; \$5/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <https://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/>, course 118764. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 16** **Family Discovery Series: Whooo is in the Forest?**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Several types of owls can be found living throughout many of Bellevue's parks. These silent predators of the night are considered a keystone species within the ecosystem. Join us for a fun-filled hour learning about these owls. Dissect an owl pellet to discover who was for lunch. Put your creativity to use with a craft activity that's yours to keep. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Dec 17** **Life in the Forest Understory**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
There's an entire world in the understory of our Bellevue forests. We'll learn about fungus, nurse logs, ferns, salamanders, moss, slugs, millipedes, and more as we explore Lewis Creek Park's forest. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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- Dec 29** **Nature Movie Night: “Christmas in Yellowstone,”** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Based on a true story, this beautiful, thought-provoking film explores one of those rare moments when man and animal become more closely linked than nature normally allows. Follow one man’s incredible journey raising wild turkeys from hatchlings to adulthood. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Dec 30** **Life in the Forest Understory,** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
There’s an entire world in the understory of our Bellevue forests. We’ll learn about fungus, nurse logs, ferns, salamanders, moss, slugs, millipedes, and more as we explore Lewis Creek Park’s forest. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 31** **“A New Year’s Hike” at Lewis Creek Park,** 10:30 a.m. - noon
Meet at: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to reflect on the passage of time in nature. We’ll ponder seasonality, forest changes, and the bygone residents of the area. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy-Moderate (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 31** **Family-Friendly Ranger Walk,** 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Park Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This family-friendly program allows parents and their kids to explore the mosaic of habitats while learning more about the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. This hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge on the shores of the Slough. From there you are able to continue on to further explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.