

## Community & Stakeholder Engagement Overview

Bellevue's Environmental Stewardship Plan serves as the roadmap for achieving the city's environmental sustainability goals. The plan covers five focus areas: climate, energy, waste, mobility & land use, and natural systems. Each focus area has high level goals, numerical targets, and strategies and actions for achieving those goals and targets.

Bellevue has a long tradition of engaging residents and stakeholders in planning for the future. Community engagement for the Environmental Stewardship Plan update is spread over three phases:

- **Phase One: Refine goals and targets (fall 2019):** Understand key concerns & priorities and share progress under the last Environmental Stewardship Plan.
- **Phase Two: Develop strategies and actions (winter-spring 2020):** Work with the community to explore key strategies and talk about the actions needed for the plan's success.
- **Phase Three: Review draft plan (fall 2020):** Share the draft plan with residents and other stakeholders for comment.

During [Phase 1 of outreach](#), we heard from over 400 residents and stakeholders from across the city. Through surveys, pop-up events, presentations and workshops for the community and key stakeholders we heard that there is a strong desire for the city to:

- Take bold action on sustainability and environmental stewardship.
- Support healthy and livable communities.
- Thoughtfully balance costs and benefits with an eye towards planning for the future.
- Seek opportunities to collaborate with business, youth, non-profits, and major employers.

That feedback, along with input from various departments and research into best practices, was presented to city council in November of 2019. At that time, city council gave direction to set the following goals and begin considering the actions the city could take to achieve them.

**Climate Change:** Reduce Bellevue's greenhouse gas emissions and prepare and adapt to ongoing climate change impacts.

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050, below a 2011 baseline.

**Energy:** Ensure long-term access to clean energy while reducing the fiscal and environmental impacts of consumption.

- Achieve 100% renewable energy by 2045.
- Reduce energy use by 30% by 2050, compared to a 2011 baseline.

**Waste:** Reduce the negative impacts from consumption and waste practices and strive towards zero waste of resources.

- Achieve zero waste by 2050.

**Mobility and Land Use:** Minimize the environmental impacts of transportation and development in Bellevue by focusing development in growth centers and providing all residents with access to a variety of mobility options.

- Achieve a 45% commute-trip drive-alone rate for residents and people working in Bellevue by 2050.
- Strive to have 100% electric vehicles registered in Bellevue by 2050.
- Reduce per capita vehicle miles travelled (VMT) by 50% by 2050, compared to a 2011 baseline.
- Support transit-oriented development and strive to achieve 85% of jobs and 65% of households located with a ¼ mile of frequent transit service (every 15 minutes) by 2050.

**Natural Systems:** Improve and preserve the integrity and health of Bellevue’s natural systems and ensure all of Bellevue’s residents have access to Bellevue’s abundant natural resources.

- Achieve a 40% citywide tree canopy by 2050.
- Ensure that 100% of Bellevue’s residents live within 1/3 of a mile to a park, open space, or trail by 2050.
- Maintain and improve the health of Bellevue’s streams.

## Overview of Phase 2 Outreach Efforts

Bellevue has a long tradition of engaging residents and stakeholders in planning for the future. Community support is one of the key criteria for evaluating potential actions the city could take to reduce carbon emissions, so the outreach team created multiple opportunities for people to learn about the Environmental Stewardship Plan, ask questions, provide comments, and share their priorities.

### Community Open House

On March 3, 2020 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. over 80 people joined city staff at a Community Open House at Interlake High School. The purpose of the community open house was to share the city’s progress on the Environmental Stewardship Plan update, gather feedback on potential actions, and provide an opportunity for community members to discuss the potential actions.



*Figure 1: An attendee places a dot to show support for one of the potential actions*

Attendees were able to drop-in at any time during the evening and choose how they wanted to participate. Six stations provided background information and explanations of the potential actions the city is considering on boards. Each station was staffed by a city employee who could answer questions and provide more context. At each station, attendees had the opportunity to vote on potential actions using stickers and provide additional comments on post-it notes.



Attendees who wanted to engage in a deeper discussion on any of the five focus areas had the opportunity to participate in up to three rounds of table discussions that were facilitated by staff.

Attendees also had the opportunity to fill out comment cards if they wanted to provide more detailed feedback.

*Figure 2: Attendees discuss potential actions in the Natural Systems focus area.*

## Virtual Events

Originally the outreach team planned for three in-person events, but the need to stay home and stay healthy in the face of the COVID-19 outbreak meant that outreach efforts needed to adapt.

Our Earth Week Talk *Climate Anxiety – Staying Engaged Without Getting Overwhelmed* was a collaboration with Bellevue College and was scheduled to take place on campus on April 21, 2020. We were able to successfully move that to a digital platform. Over 60 people, a mix of residents and Bellevue College students, participated in a lively discussion lead by special guest speaker Dr. Jennifer Atkinson of U.W. Bothell.

The outreach team also conducted a Virtual Town Hall on April 23, 2020. Over 30 people participated in a discussion on how the update to the Environmental Stewardship Plan might be impacted by COVID-19. Councilmember Janice Zahn welcomed attendees and reiterated council's support for this work. Then Environmental Stewardship Program Manager, Jennifer Ewing gave an overview of the update process and answered questions.

## Sustainability Leaders

Making progress on the city's environmental stewardship goal will require collaboration with key stakeholder groups. In an effort to build relationships, share ideas, and lay the foundation for future cooperation the city convened a group of Sustainability Leaders made up of representatives from the developer, business, and non-profit environmental communities; major employers; and institutional partners. This group first met in fall 2019 for a kick-off event and workshop. During Phase Two, Sustainability Leaders had two key opportunities to engage in the update process.

## Briefing

On February 12, 2020, 25 Sustainability Leaders gathered at The Global Innovation Exchange (GIX) for a Lunch and Learn. Attendees got a preview of some of the actions that would be under consideration, learn about ways to participate in the plan update and take a tour of the Spring District to see how the city is supporting sustainable development.

## Focus Groups

The outreach team conducted multiple focus group sessions in March and May of 2020. The focus groups were designed to deep dive discussion on key topics – low impact development, reducing single-use plastics, trees, mobility, energy, and waste. Participants in the focus groups shared how they were addressing these issues, explored implementation, and shared ideas. City staff from relevant departments were on hand to provide information about city efforts.

Across the private, public, and non-profit sectors environmental stewardship is a key priority. For some members of the Sustainability Leaders group, addressing climate change is a core value and part of their brand identity. For others, environmental stewardship makes economic sense. Many members of the Sustainability Leaders group have ambitious goals for reducing their own carbon footprint. The Sustainability Leaders are also pragmatic and want to see the city take a thoughtful approach and make data-driven decisions.

## PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

- Amazon
- ARCH
- Bellevue Brewing+
- Bellevue Chamber of Commerce
- Bellevue College
- Bellevue Downtown Association
- Bellevue School District
- Cascade Bicycle Club
- Chinese Information Service Center
- Climate Solutions\*
- ERIC+
- Forterra+
- Forth Mobility
- GLY
- Hopelink+
- King County Housing Authority
- King County Metro
- Master Builders/Built Green
- Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center\*
- Microsoft+
- Puget Sound Energy
- REI
- Republic Services
- Sound Transit+
- Su Development
- T-Mobile
- The Nature Conservancy+
- Unico Properties
- Urban Sustainability Directors Network\*
- Vulcan

\*Accepted invitation but unable to attend

+Interested but declined

## Online Survey

An online survey on EngagingBellevue.com was open from February 21, 2020 to May 29, 2020 and received 602 responses. Survey respondents were asked to share their level of support for each of the potential actions under consideration. Respondents then chose the top five actions they felt the city should prioritize. They also had the opportunity to share comments through open-ended text questions and 200 individuals provided additional feedback on the actions.

- **Supporting Diverse Participation** – Bellevue is a diverse community and successful outreach and engagement should reflect that diversity. To assist the outreach team in understanding who was engaging in the process, survey participants were invited to share demographic information. Some highlights include:
  - **48%** of survey participants were under the age of thirty.
  - **36%** of survey participants were from communities of color.
  - **19%** of survey participants were renters.

## Youth Engagement

Climate change is a pressing issue for youth; young people are acutely aware that their generation will be greatly affected by the impacts of climate change. Across the country and the globe, young people are taking action and finding ways to make a difference. To ensure that youth voices would be a part of our engagement efforts, the team established partnerships with Bellevue high school green teams, science teachers and the non-profit [Sustainability Ambassadors](#). Engagement activities with these groups included:

- **Youth Town Hall** – high school students from several schools heard presentations from city staff about how youth can engage at the local level.
- **Sustainability Summit** – high school students shared results from community projects and heard an update from city staff on the development of the Environmental Stewardship Plan.
- **Promoting the Survey** – through their school Green Teams and the Sustainability Ambassadors program, students helped to promote the survey to their peers and families.

## Community Presentations

Staff also presented to various community groups including faith groups, community organizations, Bellevue schools' green teams, and the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce Policy Council.

### Overview of Outreach Goals

During Phase Two of the Environmental Stewardship Plan update the outreach team sought input from the public and key stakeholders on potential actions the city could take to achieve the goals set forward in the plan.

To develop the list of potential actions for consideration, city staff from the Parks, Transportation, Utilities and Planning departments met with the Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI) Team and outside experts to review research and best practices. Potential actions were evaluated based on the following criteria:

CRITERION	DEFINITION
<b>Impact</b>	How much will this action help us achieve the goals and targets of the plan?
<b>Cost-Effectiveness</b>	What will it cost to implement the action? Are there potential long-term savings? What is the cost of inaction?
<b>Ease of Implementation</b>	Does the city have the capacity to implement the action given current circumstances?
<b>Equity</b>	Does the action address the needs of all populations, especially vulnerable and historically underserved populations?
<b>Co-Benefits or Synergies</b>	Does the action complement other work the city is doing that could boost impact?
<b>Community Support</b>	Is there strong support for action from the resident and business community?

Through engagement efforts the ESI Team sought to understand community support by exploring the following questions:

- What level of support was there for each action?
- Which actions would the community and stakeholders prioritize?
- What other ideas or concerns did the community and stakeholders want us to consider?

## Overview of Outreach Findings

### Community Support for Potential Actions

Across all outreach efforts, residents and stakeholders expressed strong support for the city's efforts around environmental stewardship. People recognize the need to take action to address the impacts of climate changes.

- Over **80%** of survey respondents support or strongly support proposed actions to achieve our Waste goal.
- Over **74%** of survey respondents support or strongly support proposed actions to achieve our Natural Systems goals.
- Between **63%** of survey respondents support or strongly support proposed actions to achieve our Mobility and Land Use goals, depending on the action.
- Over **79%** of survey respondents support or strongly support proposed actions to achieve our Energy goals.
- Over **73%** of survey respondents support or strongly support proposed actions to achieve our Climate Change goal.

Residents are keenly aware of how environmental stewardship touches their everyday lives. When it comes to prioritizing which actions the city should work on, individuals highlighted actions and programs that are seen and felt most directly. The top five actions survey respondents indicated they wanted the city to prioritize include:

1. Exploring a ban on single-use plastics
2. Improving access to energy efficiency programs for low-income and historically underserved and underrepresented populations
3. Developing a Transportation Master Plan that explores opportunities to decrease per capita vehicle miles traveled through prioritization and investment to transit and other non-motorized modes
4. Introducing stricter requirements for tree preservation.
5. Providing education and outreach at multi-family buildings on waste reduction, recycling and composting.

“Aim to make Bellevue a place where truly innovative green buildings are built, using a variety of approaches including incentives, partnerships, education, demonstration projects, and recognition. Aim higher than standards considered ‘green’ ten years ago, to net-zero and similar standards. Help build excitement in Bellevue about green building innovation.”

- Survey Comment



## Community Support for Various Approaches

The potential actions under consideration explore a variety of approaches to achieving the city's environmental stewardship goals:

- Increasing fees or taxes
- Mandates or regulations
- Incentives
- Partnerships between agencies, other municipalities, and the private sector
- Education & communication
- Putting resources towards expanding capacity
- Focusing on equity and historically underserved populations

No one approach is correct, and the final plan will need to pursue a variety of actions to ensure successful implementation. A review of comments received through the survey and in focus group discussions provides insight into community support for the various approaches. Community support for specific approaches varied by focus area. Survey respondents' and open house attendees' comments are summarized as follows:

- In the area of Natural Systems, commenters expressed support for a regulatory approach, particularly for achieving tree canopy goals.
- In the area of Waste, commenters expressed support for both a regulatory approach and increased education for residents on recycling and composting.
- In the area of Mobility & Land Use, commenters expressed support for expanding capacity to make public transit, biking, and walking a more accessible and convenient option.
- In the areas of Climate and Energy, commenters wanted to see a mix of incentives and regulations to encourage green building practices.
- Commenters also expressed a desire to incentivize adoption of electric vehicles.
- Equitable access to green energy programs and incentives were a prominent theme in comments.
- Many commenters saw opportunities to forge partnerships to reach Climate and Energy goals.

"Bellevue residents rely on their cars heavily for transportation. I think even people who want to bike or use public transport find it difficult because biking can feel dangerous and public transport does not reach many places in an efficient manner like it does in other cities."

▪ Survey Comment



## Community Concerns

In comments, survey respondents raised some key concerns they want the city to keep in mind as we move forward with implementation of the Environmental Stewardship Plan.

- **Doing more, faster.** Many community members expressed a strong desire to see the city go further. These commenters encouraged the city to choose leading edge goals and actions and to move faster to address climate change.
- **Affordability.** Several commenters urged the city to consider how implementation of the Environmental Stewardship Plan would impact the cost of housing.
- **Taxes and Fees.** Survey respondents were split about increasing taxes and fees. A small majority were not supportive of raising revenue or charging fees to support implementation of the plan.
- **Regulation and code updates.** Survey respondents were supportive of policies or code updates related to tree preservation, green building, and increasing recycling.

“Too many of these items are for studies. We know what needs to be done. Time to do, not study.”

▪ Survey Comment

## Sustainability Leaders

Over the course of several focus group discussions, the outreach team brought together representatives from the business community, developers, non-profits and other institutional partners to explore the potential actions under consideration. These deep-dive conversations allowed the outreach team to understand the implications of the actions under consideration, discover potential synergies, and explore what it might take to successfully implement proposed actions.

In general, the Sustainability Leaders expressed support for the actions under consideration. In the area of green building, several Sustainability Leaders thought the city could be even more ambitious. In the areas of Waste, Mobility & Land Use, and Natural Systems, several Sustainability Leaders offered more cautious support and wanted more details and information.

Participants in focus groups raised several key considerations for the city to keep in mind to ensure successful implementation of the Environmental Stewardship Plan.

- **Provide options.** Businesses and developers need flexibility in order to meet the goals of the plan. Participants encouraged the city to consider allowing developers to choose from a list of green building strategies, giving property owners who cannot generate energy onsite to invest in green energy projects elsewhere, and allowing developers to replace trees offsite in situations when there is not enough room to replace trees onsite were some of the ideas that came up.

- **Engage early.** Changing practices or adjusting plans requires time. Participants encouraged the city to notify businesses and developers of changes to policy early, before projects are underway. Informing developers about potential incentives early in the process could also increase the number of projects that utilize incentive programs.
- **Communicate and educate.** Participants noted that sometimes businesses and developers are unaware of best practices, city programs, or incentives that could help them adopt and apply green building strategies or improve recycling & composting. Offering classes or workshops in green building, doing more to promote incentive programs, and providing more multi-language educational materials could support wider adoption of sustainable practices.
- **Think and act systemically.** Focus group participants encouraged the city to consider how proposed actions and policies aligned with state requirements and the requirements of other jurisdictions. Conflicting or misaligned regulations can make it challenging for businesses to meet expectations. In the case of recycling and composting understanding the entire lifecycle of products is key.
- **Balance mandates, incentives, and impact.** Focus group participants were not opposed to mandates, but they cautioned the city to consider the impacts to project and operating costs and how those might drive up prices overall. Targeted incentives can help offset the impacts of mandates. Additionally, incentive programs need to be targeted where they can have the biggest impact towards achieving the city's goals.
- **Keep equity in mind.** In several conversations, focus group participants raised the importance of using an equity lens in the implementation. Ensuring low-income and underserved populations have access to programs and incentives is key. The city should also keep in mind how historical practices may have contributed to inequities and seek to address them in policy decisions.

### Additional Ideas

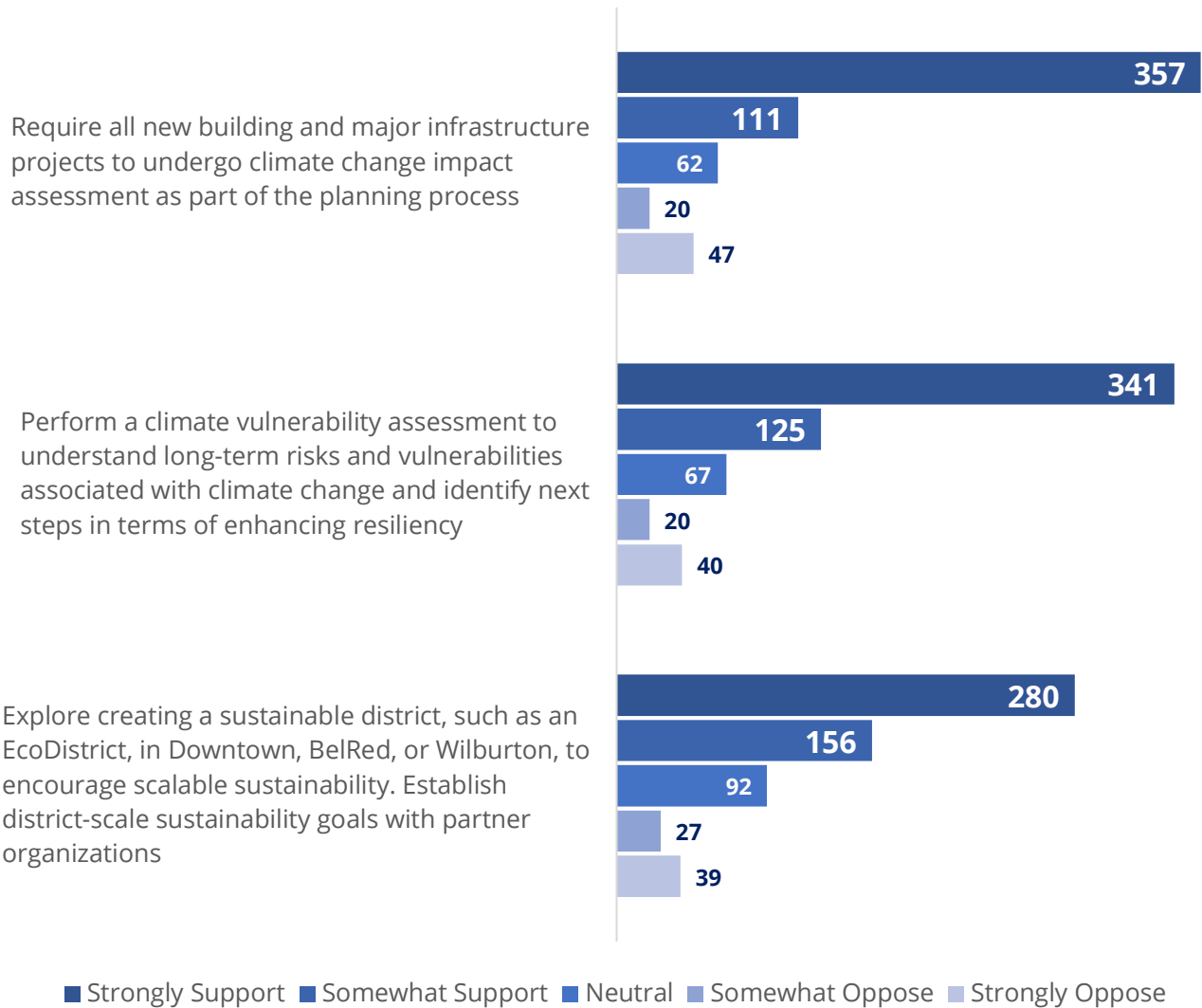
In discussions at the open house, in the focus group conversations, and in the survey comments community members and Sustainability Leaders offered many new ideas to consider. Some of the suggestions that came up include:

- Increase the tree canopy by incentivizing green roofs with small trees.
- Support creative approaches to making first mile/last mile connections to transit like using electric mini vans with flexible routes and times or autonomous vehicles.
- Encourage pilot projects that allow city staff to explore new technologies that are not yet in the code.
- Think about strategies that focus on e-bike infrastructure.
- Create an Urban Forestry Commission.

## What's Next

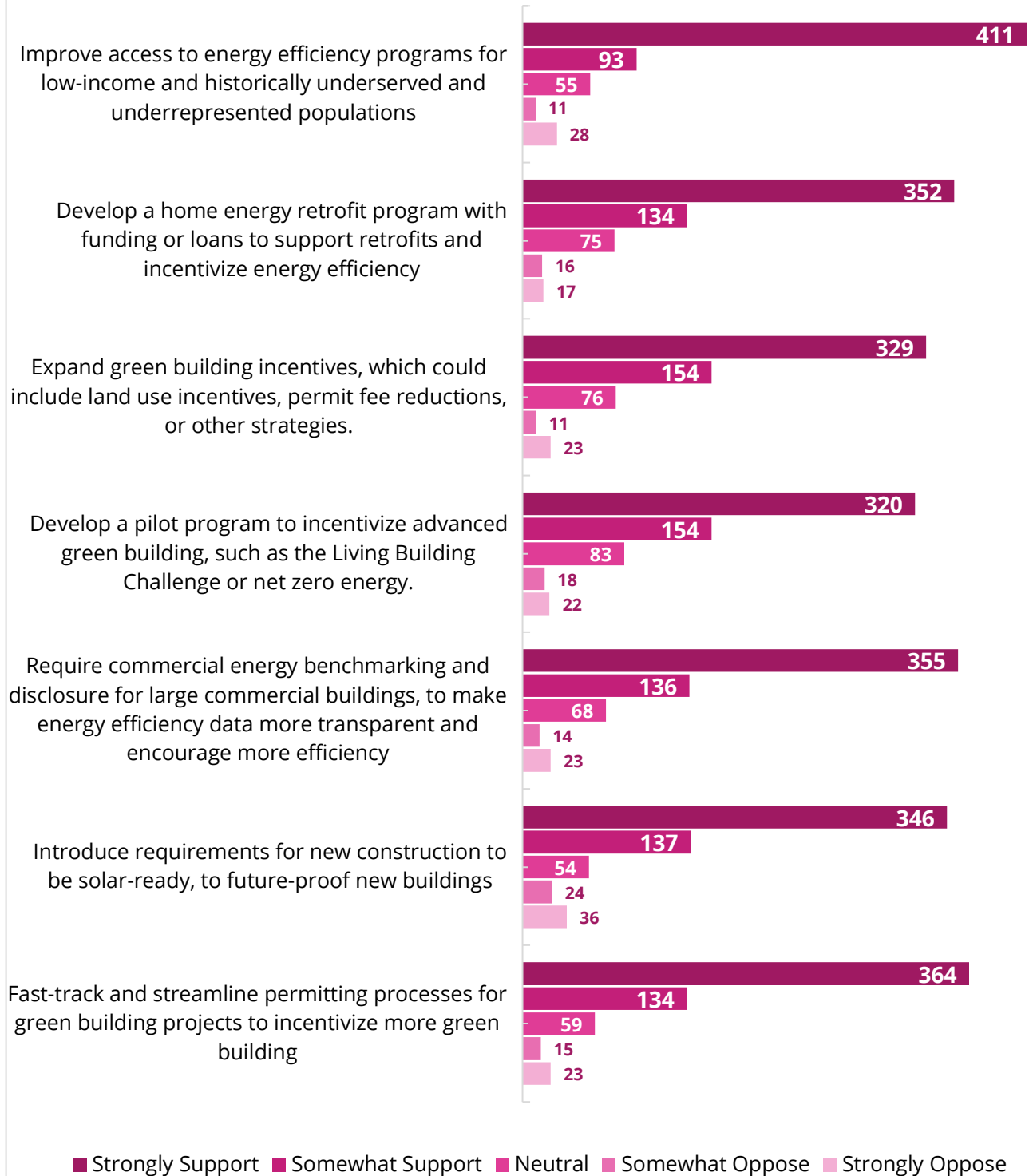
The input gathered through these efforts will be used to help inform the draft Environmental Stewardship Plan. City staff, working with consultants, will conduct further evaluation to better understand the impacts and costs of the potential actions under consideration. This fall, the draft Environmental Stewardship Plan will be shared for public comment, and community members and stakeholders will have additional opportunities to provide feedback on the draft plan, before it moves through the process of review and adoption by the City Council. The public outreach and engagement around the draft plan will also be an opportunity to continue to raise awareness about the City's Environmental Stewardship Initiative and to build support for implementing the plan.

### Potential Climate Actions



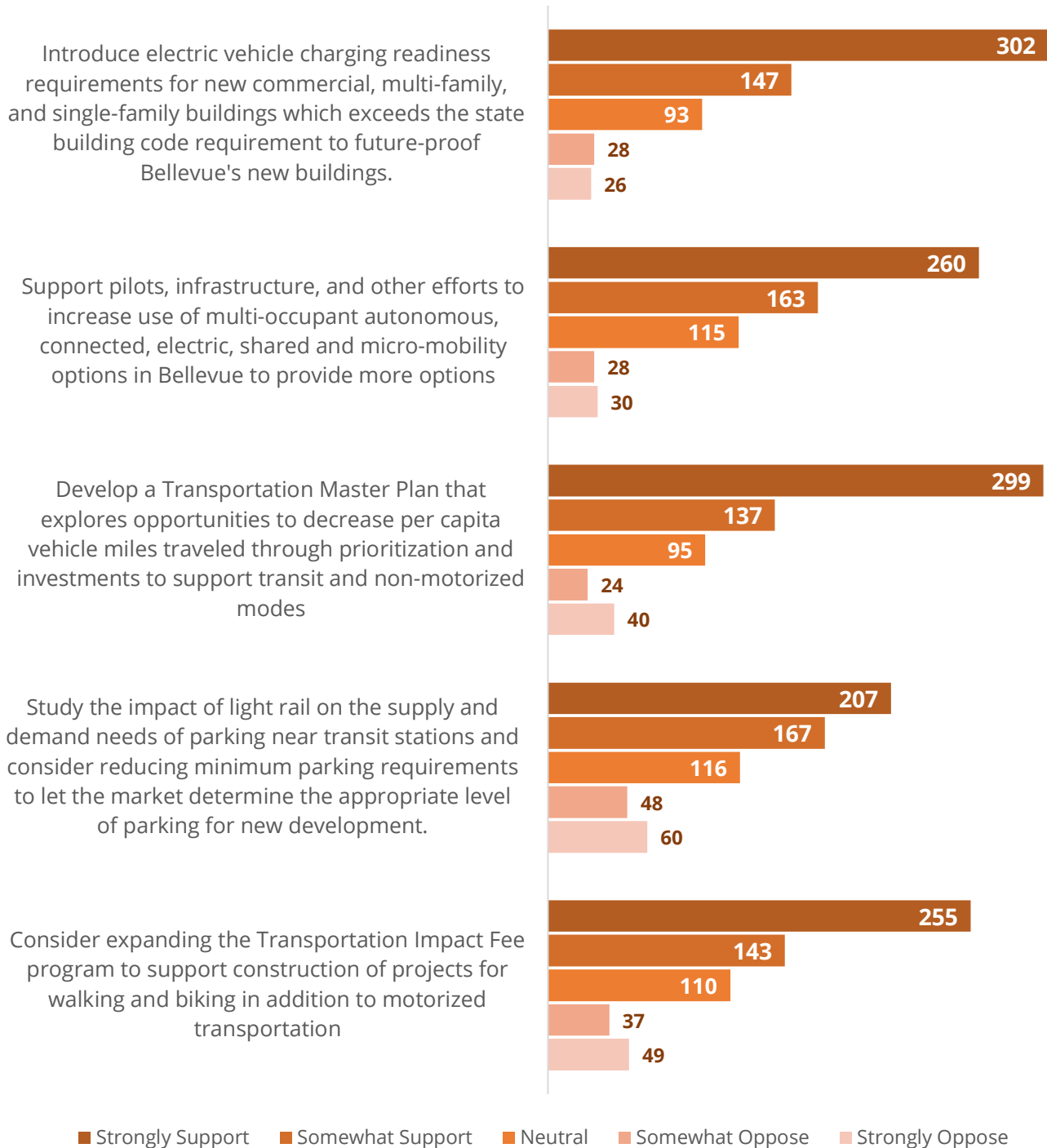
Optional question (597 response(s), 5 skipped)

### Potential Energy Actions



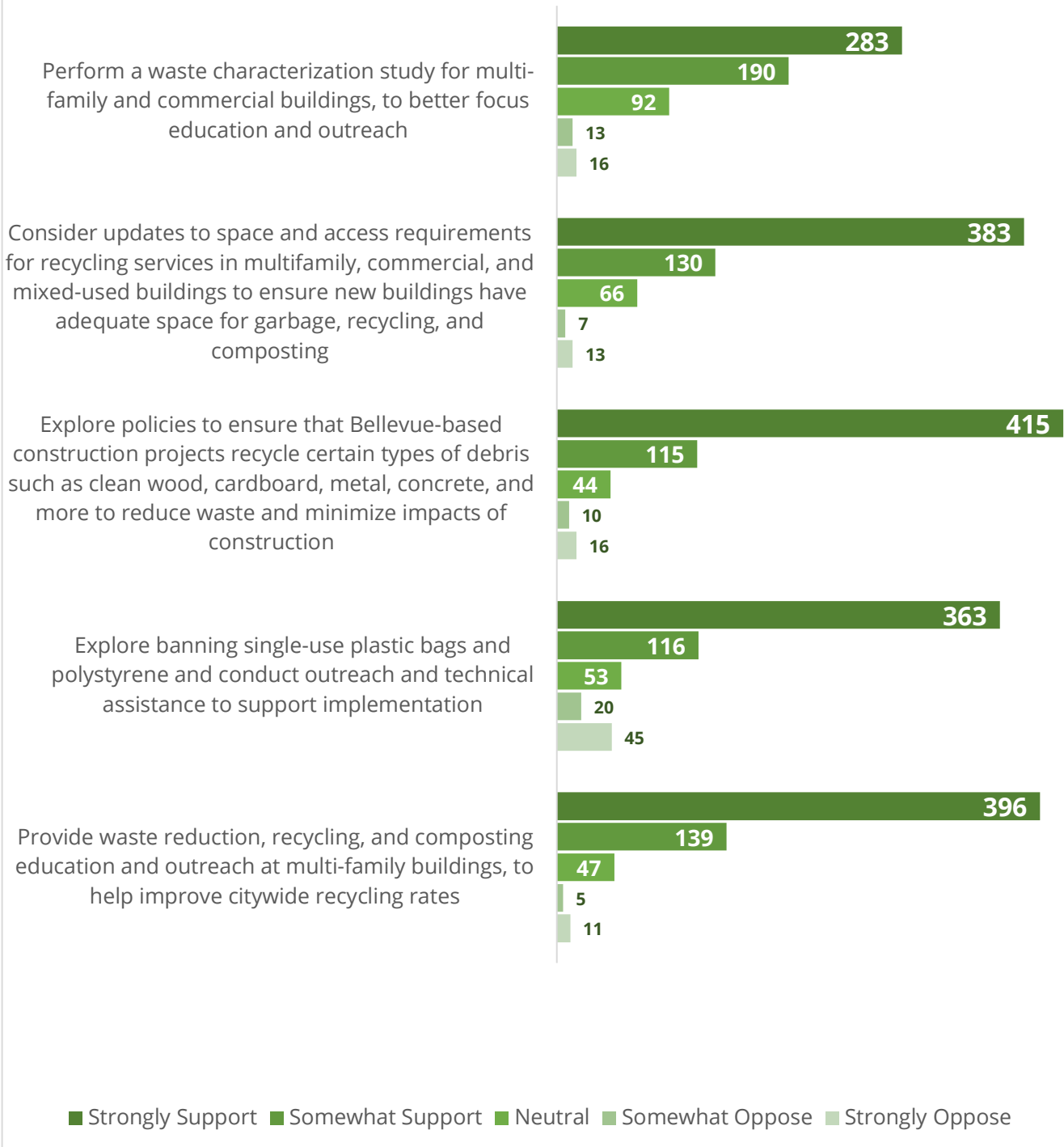
Optional question (599 response(s), 3 skipped)

### Potential Mobility and Land Use Actions



Optional question (600 response(s), 2 skipped)

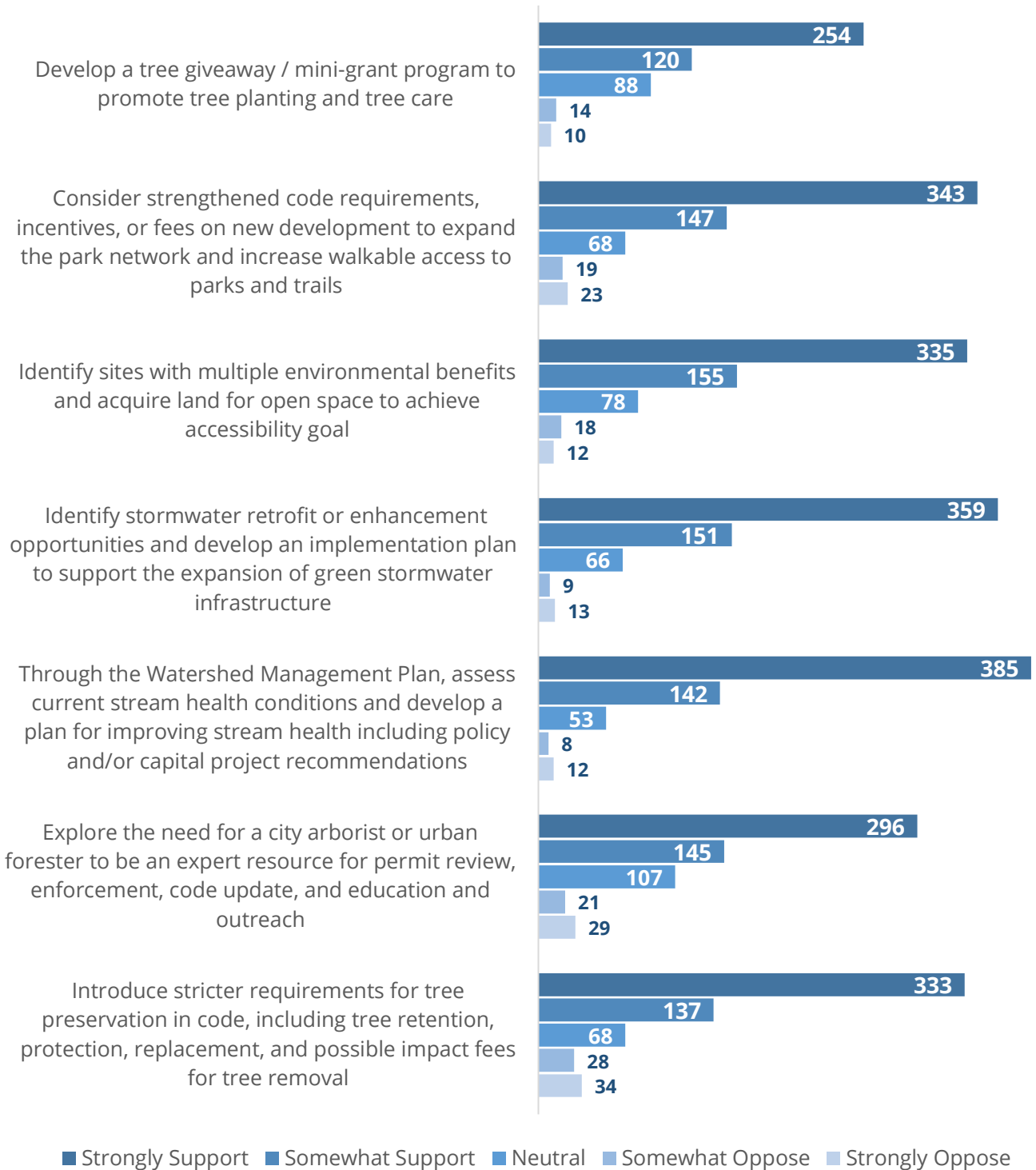
### Potential Waste Actions



Optional question (601 response(s), 1 skipped)

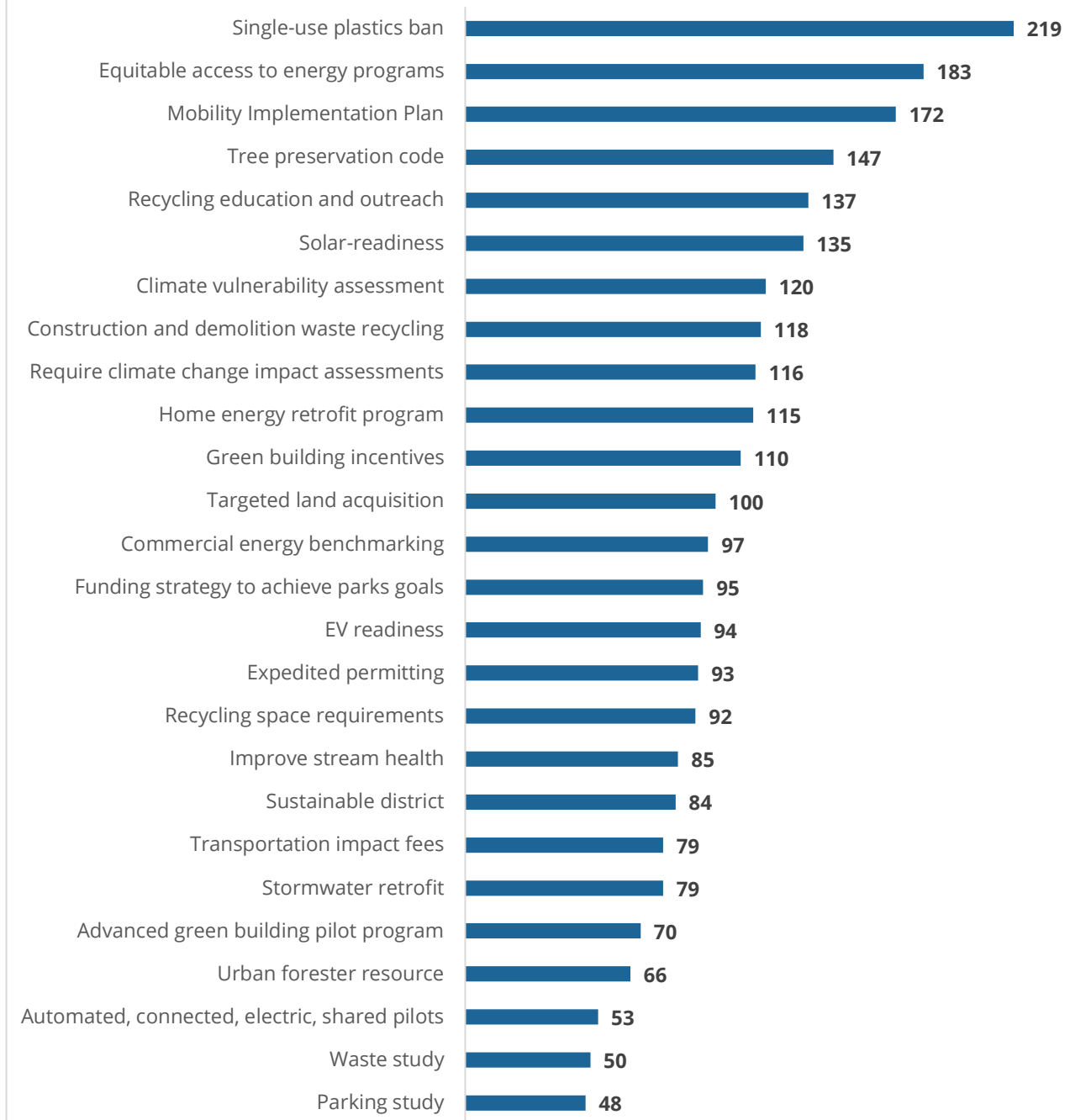


### Potential Natural Systems Actions



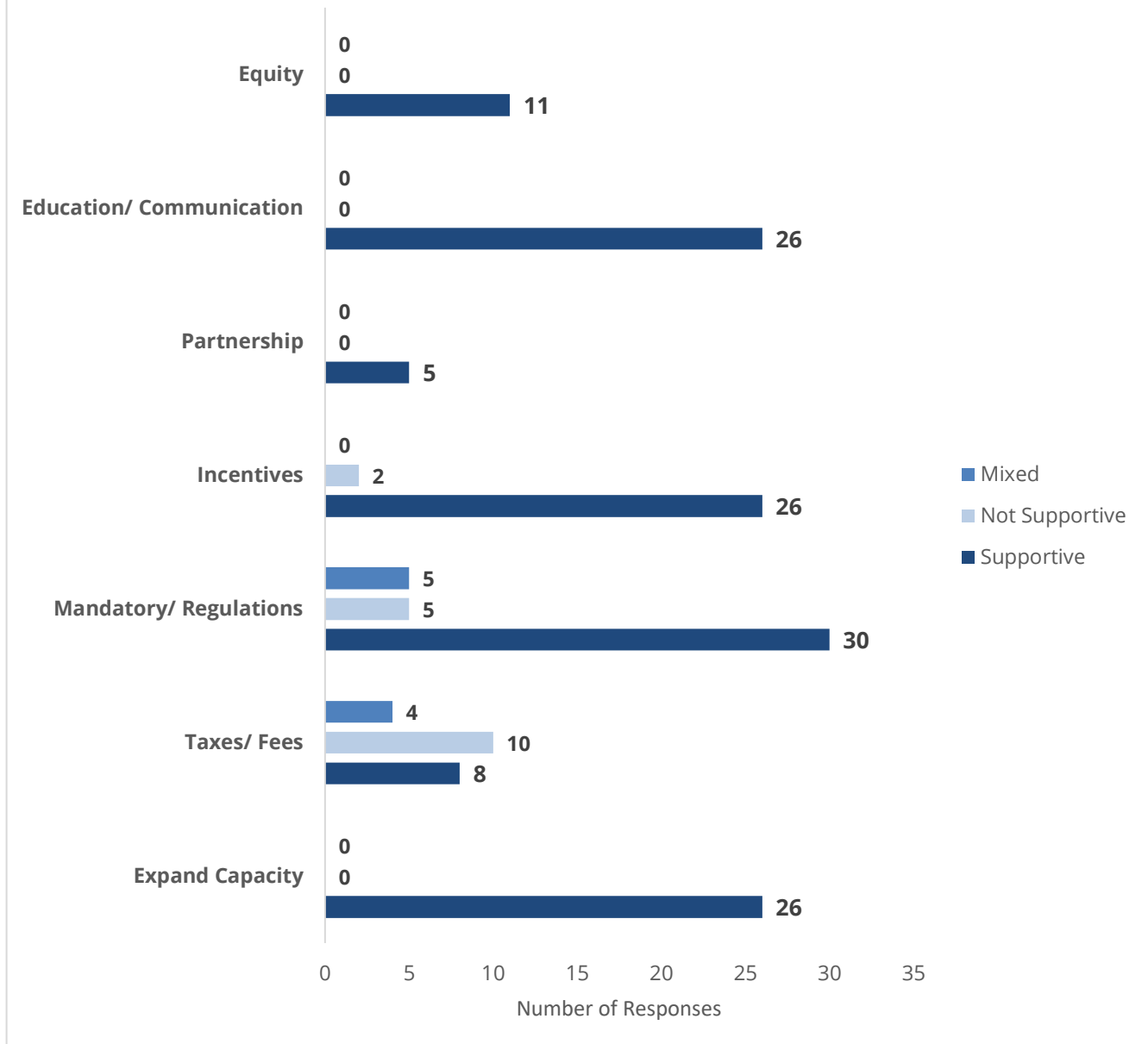
Optional question (601 response(s), 1 skipped)

### Which potential action do you think is most important for the city to work on?



Optional question (580 response(s), 22 skipped)

### Support for Approaches Among Survey Responses



## Appendix – Public Comments

Sustainability Leaders Lunch and Learn Briefing – February 12<sup>th</sup>

City staff shared an overview of the updated Environmental Stewardship Plan and broad goals with Bellevue’s large stakeholders over a lunch and learn. Stakeholders had the opportunity to share how the presented goals aligned with their organization’s sustainability and/or environmental stewardship targets and initiatives. These are the notes from the discussion.

- Amazon has not set goals yet but it's in progress
- Republic Services - zero waste is challenging, and contamination is a huge issue. Things initially recycled are returned to a landfill.
- REI - goals align, zero waste isn't the only goal. Looking at supply chain and operations, that they are designed for reuse and long life, "re-commerce" for products sold
- Forth - EV ownership goal is difficult to track if tracked by Bellevue because daytime population isn't people who technically live in Bellevue. Recommend goal related to infrastructure instead to provide a percent of EV ready or access to EV chargers.
- GLY - don't narrow our targets today based on current market availability but base it on where technology is headed
- Chinese Information Center Service Center - share goals with immigrant population

The lunch and learn also had a section for broader discussion and opportunities to ask questions.

- Cedar Grove - how is Bellevue School District (BSD) or independent/private schools and students being engaged in ESI goals? Need to map out transportation across school activities
  - City of Bellevue working with BSD green teams and engaging in Earth week plans.
  - BSD - green genius program looks at energy, water, and waste is built into every school program. School board would need to be engaged if formal commitment is made. The parents often decide to drive their children to school, but that's a personal choice.
  - Amazon - sustainability ambassadors at all campuses and buildings. Not sure about Bellevue yet. They work with Seattle. Recycling Partnership gives grants to provide access and education around contamination. Pretty involved with them. Is co-funded by the city and private.

- Unico - 30 year plan isn't tangible. There need to be intermediate deadline and targets to get things done. Already doing most of this stuff and goals aren't urgent enough. Messaging needs to be clear and ambitious when talking to constituents.
- Discussion on messaging about the plan and environmental initiatives
  - REI - Messaging the City is engaging businesses, but interested in the city actions to provide assistance around mobility. A lot is changing and we will need curb space and transportation design to accommodate future transportation technologies. We can't achieve this in a silo. How do we make these critical reductions at a city level by department and can achieve this together.
  - GLY - messaging looking at cost benefits, when we tell the story we focus too much on costs but really we should focus on the cost of inaction, especially for youth, so measure the missed opportunity cost and share that with your messaging.
- BuiltGreen - goals didn't touch on green buildings, but need to lock in new development to ensure that the embedded carbon going into the city for the long run is essential. Look at incentives now because that is a tangible way to influence embodied carbon across the City. Entire neighborhoods can be built sustainable. We need to message the benefits of building green. This is quantifiable and should be used to show how this is a community health issue. Let's communicate better.
- Chamber - Observation that the way decisions are made are different than government. As process moves forward hope that aspirational goals will be assigned by impact - what is municipally led versus what are we asking our businesses to do?
- Climate Solutions - greater emphasis on buildings, we need to focus on the built environment to reduce the cost of retrofits are needed in the future.
- BSD – feel that permitting at the City is not efficient or promoting green building

## Community Open House – March 3<sup>rd</sup>

During the Community Open House, attendees were invited to fill out comment cards. From 80 attendees, we received 16 comments, though some attendees submitted more than one comment. Comments have been transcribed from their original format.

- I'd like to see Bellevue lead (not keep pace) in environmental initiatives and incentives
- re: tree canopy -need action now - permitting req. for tree removal, fines applied (not maybe) for unpermitted removal and/or too many trees cut  
planting baby trees ≠ canopy provided by a mature tree

- A grant program (even a mini-grant program) for BSD Green teams
- On topic of climate and energy: -Introduce building code requirements for new construction and renovation that require a level of energy efficiency. The standards could be increased each year. Electric car incentives: Chargers, Free Parking, etc. City should do what Microsoft is doing: Buy 100% clean energy, bypass PSE who sells dirty energy. Replace PSE with PUD -> Clean energy + Reliability
- I think, as a mental health professional (LMAC) that not enough is being done to take into account the mental health impact of development, particularly in terms of cutting down old growth trees and disrupting other iconic aspects of the landscapes. Not only is there research documenting the negative impact of degreening on resident wellbeing, mental health, and relationships (less green = more conflict), but there's also a lot documenting the positive impact of maintaining the greenery. The degreening also tends to be unequitable. For example, PSE is removing more trees in the Crossroads neighborhood where there are Title 1 schools. That creates a cascade of negative effects for an already disadvantaged population.
- Limit the sources/materials used to place along streets in front of new homes - gravel is dangerous to pedestrians and cyclists!!
- Making sure new buildings of apts and condos must create green space to replace some of what it takes and new buildings should have to be at least somewhat green
- I would like to see the city get going on more electric chargers around the city. I also would like to see the city protect "out city trees" from companies that want to build and cut them down.
- \*Canopy replacement SHOULD be native evergreens that were taken down and SHOULD have a percentage of evergreens as the 40% canopy goal - there must be a strategic plan for canopy coverage of carbon intake of evergreens vs. a ...
- Discouraged about the desire to keep our waterways/streams clean, yet rubber crumb athletic fields are being used across the city. Seen @ numerous fields the rubber crumb goes directly into the storm drains contaminating our waterways and environment. Wish the city would consider cork (infill) or natural grass versus recycled crumbs of tires throughout the city.
- The downtown core desperately needs an off leash dog area. Ashwood Park is getting abused because there is nothing available. What land can be repurposed that all the apartment/condo dwellers can use for their pets? Not all pets can handle car trips due to anxiety.

- Re Natural Systems and the Goal of 40% tree cover. It can't allow "wastelands" to crop is as houses built in the 1950's are torn down and replaced with much larger structures that fill the lot - requiring older larger healthy trees to be removed. My neighborhood has lost hundreds of these trees in the past 5 years, and is on track to lose hundreds more as more tear-down activity occurs.
- Re Mobility and Land Use. I question the feasibility of achieving a "50% ownership Rate of Evs." Unless the C.O.B. can directly influence with incentives of disincentives I doubt that this goal is worth pursuing. And I don't agree C.O.B. should prioritize their budget dollars to provide any \$ incentives. Also, the population is very fluid - this will impact the data that would be gathered Replace PSE with PUD. This would provide a dramatic reduction in green house gasses. 2) Work with Metro to enable practical any - any mass transit. This will require smaller shuttle buses from main lines.
- Bellevue has the talent and money to be a leader in taking on aggressively global warming. Lead, don't wait for county, state, or (horrors) federal govts to lead. Do it here and now. Thank you.
- I would like to see incentives for solar energy.

### Climate Town Hall – April 23<sup>rd</sup>

Our virtual town hall event included an opportunity for attendees to ask questions directly. Following are the notes from those questions and the answers given.

Question 1: How can people get involved in synthesizing actions into immediate priorities?

Question 2: Here's an interesting public/private partnership enhancing tree canopy in Louisville, Kentucky: <https://www.fs.fed.us/research/urban-webinars/green-heart-project.php>

Question 3: I think the CETA impact on the wedge analysis is overstated (I work in the buildings efficiency sector)

Question 4: Has Bellevue signed onto the King County Cities Climate Collaboration with other Eastside cities?

Answer: Yes, Mayor Robinson and Councilmember Zahn are both members. The update on the joint commitments was scheduled to go before Council on April 27th but this has been postponed.

Question 5: Will Bellevue update the 2030 Climate Change Target from 40% to 4% to match the new state GHG emission standard that recently passed?

Answer: Yes, we will continue to examine the interim goals we've put in place.



Question 6: Does Vision Zero impact and fit into the goals of the ESI Plan?

Answer: Yes, there are a number of strategies that overlap; especially around bike and pedestrian mobility, safety, speed limits, how can we make our roads safer. Always looking for synergies across multiple plans.

Question 7: Question around economic development and tourism – what goals would we see around that and the environment?

Answer: The ED department is in the process of updating the plan; tourism is one of the strategies, along with supporting job growth and more diverse retail options

Question 8 - Councilmember Zahn: Pilot program through Visit Bellevue for a bus to move tourists around Bellevue this summer; has been put on hold because of covid pandemic.

Answer: Walkable access to parks as well when thinking about tourism

Question 9: Will Bellevue utilize actions from the KC Climate Action Toolkit for cities to help each other?

Answer: Bellevue has been in conversation with KC and the consultants on that toolkit. Some actions make be part of future interim goals and strategies later on. Toolkit has been delayed until the end of September.

Question 10: Are there regulations around interior lighting in commercial buildings at night?

Answer: Unaware of any regulations around this issue. May be a place for outreach and engagement with building owners. Lighting usage may be related to daylight savings switches and 24/7 access needed for janitorial services. Lighting can make up around 15% of a building's energy usage.

Question 11: What is the city doing for buildings to use more sustainable materials in construction?

Answer: We do have incentives in DT and BelRed for LEED buildings; which would include some sustainable materials to be used.

#### Survey Comments

As part of the public process, residents, professionals, and students of Bellevue were invited to provide comments on each section of the Environmental Stewardship Plan focus areas as well as general comments. Respondents were asked to rate their support for a variety of actions in each section of the plan and were invited to share additional comments for each section.

Comments such as "None" or "N/A" have not been included. Other comments have not been edited.

## Waste

- "It is already past time to ""Explore"" banning single use plastic bags; please just do it now! Also, we do not need to explore requiring Bellevue-based construction projects to recycle certain types of debris, we should just do it now."
- I live in a single family home in Bellevue. I have seen several different copies of the recycling guidelines, but do not know which one is most current. It would be helpful if there was a revision date printed somewhere on the pamphlet, so I can tell which is current. I hang it in my kitchen for family members to refer to when trying to decide what goes in the recycling bin. I get confused about recycling packaging material; whether or not to keep caps & lids on bottles & containers for recycling; bulb recycling, etc.
- Excessive lighting is a big waste and improperly done causes light pollution which impacts all our health.
- please do all these things ASAP!
- "Explore" sounds like a weak term to me, because it allows things to just be studied without any action or accountability. We need to take bold action.
- Bellevue should be promoting building homes, not putting up barriers.
- 1) How are we going to fund this? Does there need to be a raise in property tax or tax? 2) The workers are already working hard enough, so you want them to do more work? Because a construction worker only makes an average 38,800\$, unlike a high-tech worker, who on average earns 110,000. If you want to add this proposal to their responsibility, you should pay them more.
- In order to try to stay as "clean" as possible, I wouldn't want to cut down trees and nature to make more space for facilities for recycling etc. because I'd like to keep as much green area as possible
- BSD schools cannot have compost bins in their hallways, leading to a lot of compostable items being thrown away in the trash. If there was a way to have compost bins in the hallways, it would be very helpful.
- None of these choices are decisions or directions. They are merely basic tactics to consider. This plan could have baked in the oven longer.
- As more of the city population resides in multi-family situations, they need to be able to do their even larger share of recycling.
- Please don't turn into control nanny's.

- People need to be educated in waste, and we also need to make it easier to recycle. Need more emphasis on food waste and need smaller compost bins for kitchen scraps.
- I think it is ironic this initiative is being sent out at the same time the city is allowing PSE to cut down hundreds of trees. Please don't allow the trees to be cut down!!!!
- If recycling costs more money than disposal, then it's not worth doing. There's a \*lot\* of space in this state for landfill.
- Is there any consideration to single family homes, expanding ability to recycle more things, or more community events for things we can't dispose of or recycle curbside?
- All products sold should have a recycling fee to pay for recycling the material it is made of.
- Waxed paper bags for produce and waxed cardboard trays for meat, fish, etc, were used in the fifties and sixties. Are these biodegradable materials still available? Should the use of waxed paper be promoted/required in Bellevue?
- All great initiatives and we need this for a secured future.
- If the City is really supporting Environmental Stewardship, why has it approved PSE cutting down all the trees along 148th? I would have vetoed that request.
- Please investigate the possibility of building plastic roads (see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plastic\\_roads](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plastic_roads), particularly with attention to the Macrebur product). Plasticized road surfacing may not be ready immediately, but it should be on our radar: at the least, Bellevue should consider whether we can stream our waste plastics to those companies which are using it.
- Construction projects do produce waste that can be recycled but they are one-time ad hoc projects. Given the limited resources for encouraging and enforcing recycling it is not productive to spend time on policies for construction. The resources are better focused on improving recycling for ongoing commercial and residential activity.
- I wonder if saving the environment is really something that the City of Bellevue should be spending ANY tax dollars on.
- I think less garbage makes our environment and surroundings cleaner.
- From recent news, most recycled products still end up in landfills. There needs to be education about sorting or easier access to convenient recycling and composting.
- Why is this not done already?
- This will be hard, but we all have to change our behavior drastically. It is easier to change collectively than individually, so I appreciate the city's leadership.

- Absolutely ban single use plastic bags, styrofoam, and plastic straws. Maybe even ban cigarettes as they account for an enormous amount of waste in landfills (although I doubt this will happen any time soon). We need government sometimes to think big before even their own citizens understand what to do.
- Recycle efforts need to be strengthened by requiring that US consumers BUY recyclable-containing products. Taking your recyclables to the container is only one-half the equation. It's my understanding that our "recycle programs" are not really that, rather, we send much of our stuff to China or our own land fills. The real key is to STOP WASTE at the beginning. After all, when we "throw away" there really is no "away" is there?
- provide city-wide recycling of hard to recycle items. Services like Ridwell should be available to all.
- I marked "Neutral" for banning single-use plastic bags because of the state bill that passed, SB 5323. Otherwise, yes, let's work to raise our level of (uncontaminated) recycling and composting.
- They are all important, low cost to implement
- I would like to see actions that reduce or eliminate consumption of goods that are known to have negative environmental impact, like bottled water.
- While you're at it let's stop delivering the 'Bellevue, it's your city' news paper bagged in single use plastic to every household. On-line, available at grocery, library, and other public places for those that want it in print
- Make places like Starbucks only use reusable dishes—make them hire a dishwasher.
- Would rather see you proposing real action, rather than "explore... consider... study... "
- Recycling is not that effective if overseas countries are not accepting our recycling. Promoting reduced consumption of nonessential goods, advocating for consumer's right to repair, and banning unnecessary and/or certain types of plastic packaging (or incentivizing sustainable packaging) could also be effective
- I think that you should be able to analyze bins randomly and warn, educate people. A lot of us do wishful recycling because we are not sure and feel so bad not recycling. In France if you do not separate recycling as indicated your recycling bin is left behind with a note. An other way is to recycle different recyclable material on different days or in different bins. Cardboard in one bin, glass in a different bin.
- Reduce night time power use in office buildings. Provide recycling options for rags, worn clothing, shoes.

- Retain existing second generation trees and tree canopies throughout the city and city owned properties
- Stop building multiple family complex's. Problem solved.
- I don't understand the focus on multi family housing units. Just walking down any neighborhood street before garbage pickup shows that NOBODY understands how to recycle, nobody values buying less and reusing more, and very few people are doing their part. I think you've got your priorities out of whack.
- After hearing a recent report that so little of what we put in recycling is actually recycled, that big oil companies actually promoted the fallacy of recycling so that we would continue to buy their plastics, I am less of a believer in recycling than I used to be. I believe we need to stop the production and use of these materials, rather than count on recycling to help us in our environmental efforts.
- Thank you for addressing this, the main problem I see is trying to keep costs down on housing.
- Make sure the destruction of the tree canopy is critical in the design of projects. Just because it takes more time to protect existing trees is NOT a reason to raze them. Any tree that is removed must be replaces with the same type of tree in the same or a NEW location.
- Having curriculum and outreach in schools. Having full circle 'farm' to table programs or support them to help with compost and recycling in schools
- 1. We lived in an apartment complex for a year and it was appalling to see the abuse of the recycle and composting rules. Multifamily dwellings should be required by law to comply and fined if their residents do not comply 2. Single use plastics and all polystyrene should be banned in the city 3. All new construction should be LEED or other. No non-leed commercial or residential permits should be issued. Remodeling permits should also be leed compliant. This should be added to the LUC 4. Stricter construction waste laws should be added to the LUC"
- Recycling feels pointless now that China isn't taking it. My understanding is that it's not worth it any more.
- Recycling, reuse, and reduction are all important elements of a successful plan, but I think more will be needed to reduce landfill waste, which is a ticking time bomb for future generations (waste seeping into ground water). I strongly support a modern, clean waste-to-energy facility which will provide electricity as a byproduct of incineration. This addresses two needs (waste reduction and energy production) in one facility.

- Why is the City allowing PSE to remove over 300 trees on 148th and ruining that beautiful boulevard? No longer a City in a Park
- The policy exploration and consideration are good options because there's a clear goal that's known to be impactful, and these actions allow for flexibility so that Bellevue can work toward the goals in a way that's reflective of our context and stakeholders.
- Part of the information passed to consumers should also be to services/companies on WHERE to get recyclable utensils and daily products used in their industry. For example, my church has many events where we should be using recyclable plates, forks, cups but we tend to go to Costco for supplies - not environmentally friendly products. That needs to be done along with the data on how to use recycle bins
- Provide additional curbside recycling or clean waste management for SFR as well such as electronic waste, batteries, plastic products.
- Work with Waste Management to ensure that recyclable materials is actually recycled here, rather than shipped overseas.
- All the above are necessary!
- I strongly support the city taking all and any action toward our sustainable future.
- All good ideas but not remarkable. What are the deliverables and how will they be tracked? Modified? Etc
- The City should also consider ways to engage in single-family residential neighborhoods and neighborhood associations composting and recycling.
- If plastics bag is banned, you need to provide a more economical/cheap way to use an earth friendly plastics. To charge \$.10-\$.20 for a brown bag is expensive.
- I would more strongly support some of these programs if you had a budget attached to it. I do not support more bureaucracy that grows over time and takes increasing amounts of funding.
- These all same like approaches that build a foundation for behavior change, benefitting current and future generations. They seem relatively low cost.
- I think people should be using/consuming things with less cans, bottles, and packaging materials. Re-usable containers and minimal packaging could alleviate recycling issue. Reducing waste is the better approach.
- I believe key elements to success in the above plans will be the education and outreach to populations that tend to NOT recycle, reuse, compost, etc. and making those steps easy

to do. If people don't see the value and if the actions steps are too hard, they are less likely to do them.

- I have to say that in the last year the recycling guidelines have become more confusing and it seems that we are going backward in what types of materials can be recycled like plastic bags which tend to be part of almost every packaged product. I would also like to see the state consider trash incinerators as opposed to landfills as they are doing more and more in Europe. Landfills are not sustainable and modern incinerators have become cleaner and more efficient.
- Educate people on composting more.
- we gotta figure out something to do with all the styrofoam. meanwhile it should be banned and we should use mushrooms instead:  
<https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg21829210-300-mushrooms-are-the-new-styrofoam/> I think the city of Bellevue should partner with Ecovative and set an example for other cities
- Get zero waste by 2025. Stop this bullshit half measures. This is our futures. Stop being cowards in the face of big business and all these right wing morons who are too mentally deranged to understand that their will be 0 profits without the planet. I wanna make sure that in the future my kids can at least have the option of having kids. Every politician in the country aside from like 10 are cowards who care more about reelection then the people of this country. 2050 will be too late you idiots. I don't understand how you can be so fucking stupid.
- Please allow room for wide streets with lots of trees in the meridian and on the sidewalks. Water trees regularly. Plant more trees!
- Educate people so they'll understand better what can be or can't be recycled. Recycle locally and not overseas.
- STOP BUILDING MULTI-FAMILY SINGLE FAMILY BELLEVUE. THANK YOU
- Recycling should be mandatory- I'm appalled at how many people don't recycle, and how many apartment complexes and business do not have recycling bins and collection. This needs to be enforced yesterday! I'm all for charging deposit tax on items too, if that's what it will take. (Like it's done in BC, Canada)
- Most household waste comes from packaging (from food and household products). The city should strongly incentivize sellers to sell their products without packaging or with packaging made from non-toxic, reusable, earth-based materials. The city should also find ways to incentive business innovation in this arena, and work on a packaging reclamation program. As a city, we should include in our campaigns, education around buying bulk,



using reusable containers, and the importance of cleaning our recyclables. Our recycling centers are filthy, and often the recyclables are not able to be properly recyclable, when not properly cleaned. Also - it is often cheaper for the oil companies/ plastic manufacturers to produce more plastic than it is for us to recycle plastic. Plastic is a low value recyclable, is toxic, and never breakdowns. It is down-cycled, not truly recycled. So, we must eliminate as many applications of plastic as we are able, and to support this, I ask the city to find a way to make plastic packaging a less appealing option for businesses, and to find ways to subsidize or support the transition to ecologically-responsible materials, and high-value recyclables. Additionally, the city should incentivize restaurants to become zero waste and could partner with the Surfrider Foundation to promote a city-wide campaign for Ocean-friendly restaurants, and support the certification process in some creative way. Additionally, the city should mandate the transition to edible sustainable cutlery. Learn more about the impact of edible cutlery here:

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1240116767/edible-cutlery-the-future-of-eco-friendly-utensils> Learn more about Ocean-friendly Restaurants:

<https://www.surfrider.org/programs/ocean-friendly-restaurants>

<https://www.plasticpollutioncoalition.org/the-coalition>

- It is my hope this type of initiative reaches past Bellevue into Seattle and surrounding cities! Thank you for starting this conversation and action.
- I support ALL of these. I think we should've done this a longtime ago but its appreciated that we are taking a course of action now,
- Make sure any program changes actually have data-based demonstrable improvements, rather than feel-good actions that have little impact while unnecessarily adding costs.
- "Reduce" and "reuse" are way more efficient than "recycle." The problem with grocery bag bans is it forces people to buy garbage bags, which can be an economic hardship. How about education on how to reuse the grocery bags rather than a ban?
- Consider requiring composting collection in existing apartment buildings
- Education on exactly how to recycle items that held food, such as milk gallons or yogurt tubs.
- Many multifamily complexes don't support compost. And, the dump areas tend to be overrun due to poor sorting practices. Improving the behavior of tens of thousands of residents on an ongoing basis seems the most impactful improvement. Financial incentives may be needed.

- I live in a multi-family building and to be successful a campaign like this would need to be in the primary language of the majority of residents. Please take that into account when designing your program. Thank you!
- Bellevue \*hasn't\* already banned plastic bags?!
- The science behind banning plastic bags is awful. Paper bags are equally, if not more environmentally wasteful and their time to break down in landfills is virtually identical, and plastic bags can be reused as garbage or dog waste bags. Stop perpetuating bad science.
- Expanding local markets for waste products.
- If there's anything specific I would like, it would be that my condominium, Heatherstone Condominium, actually had compost bins so we could compost food waste. I'm honestly not that informed why we don't have any, though, and it's probably not a city level issue. A blanket ban on single use plastics seems questionable; a targeted ban would probably be more feasible. I think it could be banned for corporations and manufacturing, but individuals could have reasons why they need them. Maybe a blanket ban would also be feasible though, I'm not sure. Of course we'd have to consider the alternatives and how well they work as well as their costs and their own waste if we want such a policy. As for education regarding recycling, I hate how complicated it can be when it comes to specifically what can and can't be recycled, and it seems to change from time to time. I know there are probably online resources that help spell it out, but I bet there are some specific things which aren't clear as to whether they are recyclable or not. Sometimes I wonder why the burden of sorting is on people and not recyclers anyway. People will inevitably put trash in the recycle and recycle in the trash. It will happen. The only way to ensure accuracy in sorting is if all trash and recycle is checked by well-trained sorters and anything out of place is redirected. I realize, of course, that implementing a comprehensive trash sorting system could be challenging/costly, but maybe it would be an opportunity to create jobs or maybe it could be automated, I don't know.
- Why focus on multi-family buildings while leaving out single-family residences?
- "Explore" and "Consider" is weak language, and tells me it may or may not happen. I'd like to see strong language such as "Enact", and then see the actual efforts take place.
- My parents live in a large apartment building in downtown Bellevue (Bravern) that seems to have no functional recycling capability. Bellevue should follow the lead of other cities and require building to provide tenants with access to recycling.
- These are all great topics to focus on in our environment
- Reducing waste is more important than recycling efforts.

- Providing a recycling system which allows residents in apartment complexes to efficiently and correctly sort their recyclables rather than one large bin that mixes all forms of recycled good. this method can also be helpful in dormitories (e.g. college or high schools).
- Targeting construction and multi-family units can impact more people than just single-family households, but they need to be educated too!
- I live in a multifamily building and I see improper waste disposal all the time. I'd also like to see yard/compost options in my building.
- Plastic is detrimental to our environment. We should incentivize companies that use materials like, cardboard, glass and other biodegradable materials. We should also start looking into being able to recycle Tetra packaging.
- Please also consider education about how to properly dispose of waste. As well as education about wastewater treatment to further the understanding of the importance of disposing of waste properly.
- There needs to be enforcement on the recycling program and more proper sorting for each recycled item.
- I chose "neutral" for exploring a possible ban on single-use plastic bags because I know a lot of lower-income families reuse these.
- I think waste reduction and management are vital components to global change, not to mention the practicality issues. I would hope most if not all citizens are concerned because there is a direct impact on daily lives
- recycling doesn't help the environment. I've worked at a landfill and have seen our garbage sold for profit/create more of a problem
- In terms of waste it would be very beneficial to find ways to reduce the food waste footprint in Bellevue. There could be more education for employees in the food industry, leftover donations, or find a way to upcycle food into something useful.
- Plastic bag ban is impractical with the current epidemic - reusing bags can get cashiers in grocery stores exposed needlessly. Until a cure for Covid-19 is available, plastic bag ban should not be considered.
- Public Transportation is becoming an issue in the US since there are a lot of citizens who are not able to buy a safe car and also they tend to support ecosystem by limiting use of personal vehicles. There should be "PRECISE SCHEDULED" local public transportation that are not limited to the Seattle area.

- It is important to follow strictly the plan designed in order to achieve our goal in 2050 to achieve zero waste goal
- Banning single use plastic would be a quick way to get started on waste reduction.
- Make sure that residential composting services accept compostable packaging (model this after City of Seattle). This isn't the case in many other cities here.
- I think a lot of families want to manage their waste sustainably but don't know how, so education on this topic is very important.
- MAKE SURE EVERY PERSON IN BELLEVUE HAS A COMPOST, THERE ARE PEOPLE EVEN IN THE RICHEST NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE I LIVE WHO STILL DON'T COMPOST
- Also look into education of vegan and vegetarian diets for carbon dioxide emissions. Bellevue can build more bike paths and side walks to reduce driving
- Updates on waste management for citizens, for example, how much of recyclable waste was put in landfills last month in comparison to this month? Gives incentive for community to work together.
- Implement multi stream recycling instead of single stream recycling; focus on waste reduction in the first place rather than waste recycling
- Ban styrofoam, make businesses only give plastic straws if the customer asks for one, and find alternatives for single use products. Also encourage reusing and reduction of goods that are not necessities.
- We use single-use plastic bags as trash bags for any trash that's already going to the landfill, and if they are banned we will have to buy trash bags, kind of defeating the purpose. However, I understand that most people throw them away, so ultimately it's probably for the better. If you don't ban them, you should encourage people to use them this way too.
- It will be extremely difficult to reach the mandated goals unless there is a law that requires provision and collection of composting or recycling for multi-family/commercial buildings and food service businesses. I would strongly support such a law.

### *Natural Systems*

- It seems late in the "game", but why doesn't Bellevue impose a Parks Impact Fee, like the Transportation Impact Fees charged to new development for decades.
- Preserve our dark skies by encouraging proper lighting. Good job for already replacing over 4000 street lights - keep going and encourage all residents to use proper lighting.

- All of these are needed. Bellevue's Stormwater system is newer and better than Seattle's so i'm not sure much investment is needed in near-term, but definitely in long-term as climate change impacts accelerate. Does the city need an arborist on staff or can they just contract?
- Again, "explore" allows us to take a wait-and-see approach. We need to add words that mean action, accountability, and funding. Time is of the essence on all of these environmental issues.
- Moss and clover are also great for environmentally friendly ground cover.
- require MORE LAND to support green spaces and TREES to grow. Our tree canopy needs to increase therefore BELLEVUE MUST KEEP LANDS as GREEN SPACE. When homes/building are built or up graded keep more lands for tree and green plants
- I've noticed that whenever there is a construction project near my house, the construction company cuts down the surrounding trees which are often very old and beautiful. Can that be made a focus as well?
- Ban highly polluting gas powered leaf blowers!
- New developments need to not just profit but help our environment. If the cost is too high then they don't need their new development.
- We should aspire for more tree canopy... 50% or better. This will help capture CO2 and provide shade, reducing the heat island effect, especially in our warming climate. This will ensure equity And environmental justice for those lower income people who can't afford air conditioning.
- I think it is ironic this initiative is being sent out at the same time the city is allowing PSE to cut down hundreds of trees. Please don't allow the trees to be cut down!!!!
- Like everyone, I like the green space Bellevue offers, but I'm concerned that an ideological approach to preserving trees would limit otherwise reasonable private and public development.
- Maybe don't allow PSE to cut down 300 mature trees. This is releasing stored carbon and removing the benefits these trees provide. Yes we plant a high number of trees ever year, but a sapling does not immediately replace a major tree in benefits (canopy coverage, etc.)
- Why is PSE being allowed to cut down 300 healthy trees for power lines?
- Why did the City allow PSE to cut down all the trees along 148th?

- Note that grass cover is superior to tree cover as far as improving air quality. More important than trees (in my opinion) is preservation of natural PacNW botany and concentrated effort to raise bee and insect populations which have crashed.
- alley ways & trails through/around neighborhoods are great for separating cars & bike/foot traffic & protecting non-motorized users from noise & pollution.
- Limit studies and plans - and start doing!
- The more our environment is cleaner, the more we can use our surroundings.
- I can't find anything to object to whatsoever. Prudent. Trees need to be valued. What is going on with all the stumps? We just moved from Seattle recently and every time a tree is removed it has a permit on it for a very long time. I just drove by Crossroads and it had been clearcut? 148th? NE 8th? What is going on here? Seems the exact opposite of what you are talking about. Also, why does Crossroads part have like no trees. It is just a flat space?
- This is a critical time to act. There is huge pressure on Bellevue to add housing and commercial space. If we are smart, we can preserve access to Green space as well and partner with the developers to continue to make Bellevue such a desirable place to live and work.
- How the heck can we increase our tree canopy when PSE is cutting it down right now? The wholesale destruction of thousands of trees is so contrary to your alleged goals. Or maybe these lofty goals are only for certain privileged neighborhoods?"
- make sure to communicate broadly on social media platforms like NextDoor any project that reduces park space or trees and make time in schedule for community involvement. Not super impressed at all with community outreach on the large reduction of park/trees in McCormack park on NE 12th to make way for a bike path.
- The city added more stringent code regarding removal of trees and tree preservation. This may have made it more difficult for a homeowner to remove hazard trees or trees that grew too large for the places they were planted. But I have not seen the city step up to the plate over tree removals for utilities or new development. The current system of identifying "significant" trees, yet allowing them to be removed if they impose a difficulty to development and replacing them with trees "somewhere else" is not the answer. If you allow trees that are in the way of "progress" to be removed, then we won't be "a city in a park", but just another urbanized city with parks. There's a fine line there, and it's hard to see it sometimes.
- 40% by 2050 is way way way to slow and not sufficient. Bellevue is 37.5 square miles, 24000 acres. 1 acre mature forest sequesters 9.2 tons co2. 37% is currently tree'ed. 37%

sequesters 82 tons/year, An additional 3% only only adds 6300 tons a year. An average car puts out 10 tons /year. That is only 8 cars. We can do a lot better than that.

- Fees for tree preservation or removal need to be implemented with an equity focus (i.e. waive fees for low income property owners). Any new tree preservation policies should not prevent the construction of additional homes.
- I need to know more about these programs to get behind them. One idea to increase tree awareness, care, and benefits would be to develop an event around it... like issaquah salmon days. It needs broad appeal and community support but could bring awareness (and fun) if done right. The hatchery in issaquah is another good example of an educational opportunity that also fosters identity for the city. Bellevue needs a grove, a forest, a nurse log, a canopy walk, tree planting ceremony, forest bathing, oxygen enriched forest yoga, etc. we have lots of resources for events and education with bridle trails, BBG, KCF & the connector. What is Bellevue's oldest tree? Biggest? Daylight streams in the spring district. Hold community events to bring awareness to stream health and human connection to natural resources. Cluster mini strip parks along the banks like redmond/woodinville has done along the slough. Engage local business in these events like SLU block Party.
- I live on 1.35 acres in Pikes Peak. My yard maybe 75% native vegetation. I have well over a hundred trees. I'm all for making rules to restrict people clearing their lots. BUT in the case of someone trying to maintain a healthy forest there should be leeway it remove trees without jumping through hoops. There should be a formula that if you have over let say (x) amount of mature native trees on your lot—you can reduce to (x) amount of mature native trees—as long as you are thinning or removing problem trees to maintain a healthy forest—not clearcutting . (x) should be determined by people who know what amount of trees an acer can support—to have a healthy forest.
- Would like better oversight into PSE's energize Eastside program and other programs that ask to cut down our trees
- There are a lot of buildings that are only one story in Bellevue. For example along NE 20th. Rather than approve building sites that require trees to be cut why not use these already built areas and demolish and rebuild the buildings that are already on them. Let's develop higher not wider. We should not need quite yet to destroy even more forest.
- Encourage less urban sprawl. Reduce new development construction.
- Greenways must be incorporated to allow wildlife access to move safely to new habitats. Be it in hedging or a tree lined avenue.



- Save our matures trees — larger canopy, establish habitat, greater ability to absorb ground water .... 50 year old tree vs 3 year old tree
- Do not allow developers remote trees on city property or on private property that fills the developers pockets with money. Your program to require them to replant whatgey remove sets us back 50 yrs. the trees they choose are more than 50 yrs old. Small trees even 10' is NOT replacement to what THE CITY HAS ALLOWED TO CUT DOWN.
- This is where Bellevue is sorely lacking. We have a problem with out of control development in neighborhoods, a huge loss of tree canopy and the underground networks that correspond to those canopies, way too many impervious surfaces. Neighborhoods have been asking to control the loss of trees and reduce big box houses for many years but the city has not listened at all. When we try to put in a traffic circle with a tree in it, we're told that won't work either. My neighborhood is called "Sherwood Forest" and yet the first thing developers do when they acquire a property is to cut down all the trees. Then they build a big box house with 3 car garage. This is just totally the wrong direction. I would like to see more forested easements with trails running through them so that we can get into the greenery and preserve small wild spaces. I would like a moratorium on density in our city -- more density is dangerous in so many ways -- pollution, noise, stress, congestion -- and just take the COVID19 breakout for an example. In areas of high density it is very hard for people to get out safely and enjoy the outside.
- The tree giveaway should not be completely free but just maybe half-priced or something like this. (People should put in a financial investment so that they will also feel motivated to plant care for the tree. )
- City of Bellevue is talking out of both sides of their mouth. The city allowed the cutting of trees on 148th for an unnecessary project. The city is actively working on permitting property for development off of Lakemont Boulevard that is right next to the just renovated coal Creek. This is property that clearly should not be developed. I am opposed to the city not being good stewards of our public land but requiring that individuals carry that burden on their private property.
- Tree and plant species ought to be native plants or proven to provide ecological benefits, not just aesthetic species.
- Again, all of these ideas are excellent. Consideration to living cost has to be given to those who work here such as teachers,policeman ,fire department, and all those who keep this city running.
- With increased density in the Crossroad area, including Redmond, plan for larger open parks and buy existing commercial space to save the land around it. Work with Redmond to buy "joint" open space on the borders so parks like Crossroads are not bearing the



entire burden. When designing open spaces, like Crossroads park, plant some shady areas so those of us who love parks, but not direct sun, have a place to sit in the shade.

- Also educating those around those areas or placing signs explaining what going on and how the green space contribute to the city, especially around public spaces and buildings
- Create a real plan for achieving canopy with annual goals. Publish progress vs goals. Create a public/private outreach, campaign and incentive program. Attain lands expressly for canopy development. Create/adopt a "green city" LUC like Portland LUC should require all compliance with health water way goals Salmon habit plan should be developed. Annual goals and progress reports should be published. Bellevue should publish and have commercial/residents annual review of "Bellevue's State of the Climate"
- Incentivize replacement of concrete with permeable materials by private existing landowners, require it by new developers, and redirect recycling education funds to replacing with permeable materials to the maximum extent possible on City property.
- All great ideas, but the city's behavior falls short of these aspirations. Thousands of trees are being destroyed (or will be destroyed) by Sound Transit, PSE, and developers. Given the history of the last ten years, I do not believe that the 40% canopy coverage is realistic or achievable. How can the city make progress when preservation of trees is viewed as impeding development of our city?
- Too much government control for private homeowners regarding trees. The City leaders are hypocrites. They talk planting and saving trees but they are allowing PSE and Energize the Eastside to destroy our landscape with their projects.
- We could possible have each building or area to have a certain amount of trees in their area and have a certain amount of plants in each area.
- I worry that "stricter requirements for tree preservation" will prevent building projects in already built-up areas, thus forcing building to sprawl outward which would not only threaten more (but different) trees but also increase negative environmental impacts through the expansion of transportation and other infrastructure.
- I support stricter requirements for tree preservation in code, including a requirement for new construction not to plant potentially large trees too close to the houses since it may later cause the need for homeowners to remove such trees. Also, I don't want the code to be too strict to allow for homeowners to have flexibility in landscaping decisions. I strongly support a tree giveaway program as long as the city provides detailed guidance with the tree choice and care instructions to the recipients.

- The city really has a lot of work to do with residents and builders in maintaining tree canopy in neighborhoods with old growth trees. Adding in a component of residential planning would be a benefit
- We should be doing all of these things and more already. The climate crisis is now and needs all of our support and attention. I fully support all of these and wish they would happen asap instead of being in this survey.
- Tree canopy reduction is driven by new residents cutting down trees. All new residents should receive a letter informing them of Bellevue's tree values and a warning that the tree cutting ordinance will be strictly enforced.
- New developments need to incorporate green areas for pet owners, disabled and any that cannot go far to enjoy the outdoors. For example, green strips between complexes, roof top green spaces that assist in solar and water recycling for structure, and support for green belts that provide a walk way to the closest parks.
- Please clarify 40% canopy. Does this mean 40% of the land area in Bvue is covered by tree canopy? Any project which disturbs canopy should be required to ensure that it is replaced within a fairly short time. A city arborist should be a key part of the planning and implementation.
- I would like to see Bellevue make it much harder for developers to remove existing trees. Replanting and giving away trees to residents is great, but it still requires 40+ years of growth to replace a given tree, for example, the 400 trees cut down by PSE recently.
- Look into engaging home owners and community by making it easier to manage trees in their property. Emphasize tree understory health to prevent weed (ivy/holly) taking over healthy understory and creating opportunity for rodents that burrow and lead to adverse tree root health. This could be done by reclassification of Ivy and Holly as Class A/B weed to encourage removal and restore Tree understory. Look into a city run or non-profit Tree Health Insurance to provide bi-annual significant tree health check ups, pruning and removal at reasonable cost and under expert advice. Currently the burden is on property owners at their own expense proactively or via liability insurance (home owners) reactively when an incident occurs."
- Reconsider the 40% goal, and develop rational sections of canopy to better focus on problem areas. Residential, mostly single-family neighborhoods and parks are the primary location for canopy at present, developers are not required to provide significant canopy. Develop lifecycle allowances in code. Trees, like anything else have a lifecycle - ensure that trees that become dangerous or are near the end of their lives can be removed and replaced.

- Hell yes!!
- It was against all of the above to allow the power company to cut down almost 300 mature, beautiful and healthful trees along NE 148th and NE 8th Street. That decision was criminal and totally opposite from the hopes above.
- Views are valuable assets. Bellevue's hilly terrain provides a landscape with numerous residential view opportunities that must be protected and considered when developing the tree cover.
- Make it harder to cut down older trees, planting new trees does not replace cutting down old tree. PSE has removed many large trees that held ecological and aesthetic value to the community when other things could have been done instead.
- I feel like the tree giveaway/mini grant program would benefit schools and clubs the most, so if that's going to be a thing, I think it would be best to promote in that direction.
- I oppose spending tax dollars on grants to plant trees. I am pretty sure there are many groups that would be happy to perform this function with minimal city expenditure.
- Please incentivize private citizens and businesses for creating green spaces and preserving trees. It is best if people are encouraged to do good for the community graciously rather than through ill will.
- I strongly agree with these steps. However, they seem contradictory to the removal of so many large well established trees along 148th. That process not only aesthetically looks horrible now but dramatically reduced the canopy coverage on a larger road that helped to reduce the heat absorption from the road and sheltered the walkers along the sidewalks.
- It would also be nice to know when many trees are cut down like recently in the Crossroads parking lot, what the reason is for cutting them down and what the mitigation plan is.
- More trees are great, but "save the trees"-type language is frequently adopted as a stand-in for "stop building high-density apartments," and is as such frequently used to keep COL high. Accessibility for all communities is effectively a useless goal if you fail to strike a balance between "keep trees" and "make this city livable for low-income families." Consider significantly expanding transit and reducing road widths/parking to create more tree cover, instead.
- there's also Ecosia, it's a search engine where every time someone makes a search, they plant a tree, and they're making a greenbelt across the sahara. the trouble is it's kind of garbage at actually returning good search results so barely anyone is using it. if you

donated some money to them they could improve their algorithm and maybe advertise some more so that more people will use it and more trees will get planted

- Acquiring land for the purpose of environmental growth should not take priority over meeting housing needs for low income families and individuals in need, and imposing stricter fees and regulations on these plots for residential use over environmental use harms the people most in need of government support.
- I support trees, but I think we need to retain flexibility for the locations of trees. For instance, some trees may impeded development of structures; it should be ok to remove those trees as long as new trees are planted elsewhere.
- I'll say what I said last time. No more of this half measure bullshit. I don't fucking care whatever kemper freeman or this other fucking tools have to say about business and how important it is. Save the fucking planet.
- More trees enhance the quality of Bellevue life.
- Please support the EKC-PUD initiative, since PSE is actively investing in fossil fuel technologies while increasing the rates of their customers.
- I answered neutral for 2 first questions because: 1)city code already too complicated and permit fees too expansive so people don't want to take of their trees 2) I did the full process for tree risk assessment, removal and replacement and the price tag is very high. Instead of putting more pressure onto homeowners help them. Hire arborists, propose free consultations to help people to take care of their trees and help them for nice pruning instead of charging them more and making process more complicated. Thanks
- STOP PUNISHING BUSINESSES. THANK YOU
- I am surprised there isn't already an arborist? Weren't several hundred trees just cut down?
- How about offering incentives for maintaining 40 percent tree cover on personal property?
- Stop companies like PSE from cutting trees. If a new housing development has to remove trees, they must plant the equivalent else where.
- Need a program to help maintain trees to include Trimming to help protect homeowners views. The city would be able to do this City wide in phases . Thank you for seriously considering. It would help maintain Property values which helps with tax revenue.
- I would also like to see a Green roof and/or green wall mandated or strongly incentivized, for all commercial buildings. This will support habitat for the birds, bees, insects, that

keep our ecosystems healthy. They are also very attractive and can add to the unique appeal of Bellevue. They will also improve air quality, and help our city dwellers feel more connected to nature and improve their wellbeing. I support all of these initiatives. I would suggest that the arborist/urban forester contracted must have Permaculture Design Certificate, or be knowledgeable in permaculture principles. Additionally, I would like to see that the city incentivizes more trees planted by I405, to improve air quality and increase tree canopy. It would also be very nice for commuters to have greenery along their commute through Bellevue. Additionally, the City should increase its tree canopy goal to 50% by 2050, and partner with community groups and non-profits to execute this important work. Perhaps there is also a way to incentivize businesses to participate in a Tree Canopy Challenge of some kind to garner additional support in meeting this goal."

- I believe it is a wonderful idea to incentivize tree-planting and deter individuals from cutting of trees, even on private property.
- Please balance out the desire for more tree canopy coverage with the problems trees can cause. For example, our home cannot use solar energy due to the shade from trees. We cannot use satellite (TV/Internet) service due to blockage from trees. We have also had several "widow maker" branches fall, and are thankful no one got hurt. We had suffered some property damage, though. Any additional restrictions on single family lots will add costs without making much difference. BTW, I do strongly support the current tree retention requirements on new single family house construction. I believe they strike the right balance between tree retention and development economics/housing affordability.
- Most of the tree canopy is on privately-owned suburban land. Rather than punishing people for cutting their own trees, perhaps give tax breaks for maintaining tree canopy. I would prefer an emphasis on planting trees in the areas that lack them, such as urban areas and multi-family housing, rather than planting trees in already heavily treed parks and suburbs.
- I do support the tree giveaway program, but wonder how effective it would be versus the City planting the trees.
- PSE's expansion plans destroys our natural environment and turns green scenery into wires and metal. Stop this senseless destruction of miles of nature. These proposals are minor in comparison.
- Enable, if not already, rain barrels, outdoor laundry wires, and devote more education and grants or free info and plant material for pollinators
- It seems to me you are very behind here. I have observed and experienced that Bellevue loves cutting DOWN trees, not saving them. Such a shame, really. Pretty soon it will feel like Kent. A developer ran roughshod over the neighbors on my driveway pretty much

with the help of city of Bellevue employees. Cut down many mature trees before we even knew what hit us. Eagles used to nest here. No more.

- 1. avoid giving permits to cut down trees to build commercial buildings. 2. buildings should not have so much glass as it promotes the global warming
- Just don't plant ginko trees.

"Marymoor park is surprisingly difficult to reach on foot, and I never understood why that was the case. There is no sidewalk next to the road at the main entrance, if I recall correctly, and it makes it kind of inconvenient to reach the trails near the lake. In general I feel there are a lot of places that could use sidewalks. Also, lake Sammamish is kind of hard to reach in general. I think a trail around the lake or something could be nice. I think an arborist/urban forester is a nice idea. Maybe there are other such positions that could be created for environmental roles, too. In general, I think we have a nice number of parks already, but we could do a better job maintaining the mix of nature and trees with our residential areas. Like, why did PSE cut so many of the trees next to my condominium? Was that really necessary? Can't they make power lines go underground or something? That was rather unpleasant. Anyway, I'm not sure what stormwater retrofit and enhancement are, so I put neutral for that one."

- Please don't add any additional restrictions or speedbumps for building additional housing. As it is, Bellevue is too unaffordable for working-class families (and upper middle class families too!). Any additional restrictions only make market housing less affordable.
- Again, the wording is passive or weak (eg, "explore", "introduce", "consider", etc) and implies an uncertain commitment to taking action.
- Planting more trees is essential. The tree giveaway is a start, but city planning to add trees to city property on the sides of streets and highways would also help.
- More great topics :)
- Streets are wide. Parking lots are large. Houses are large. All of this increases runoff and decreases space for trees. How can we house people more efficiently? How can we transport people more efficiently? If there's less space for cars, combined with safe and efficient biking/walk/transit options fewer people will drive. But you have to make driving harder, which benefits our natural systems also.
- Tree preservation requirements need to consider the importance of the tree (age, height, etc.) We often let trees that "planted themselves" grow for a few years then cut them down when they're 6-8 feet tall. Trees like these don't need preservation.

- Create/manage park spaces to be environmentally friendly and provide a fun way for children of all ages to learn about how to keep their park clean and ways to save the planet.
- Increasing the amount of trees and greenery and making sure that nature is healthy are all extremely important.
- Implement the Miyawaki method in public spaces and encourage these plantations in private properties as well.
- Many people who live in the area are strong stewards of the environment and I am sure would love to see Bellevue grow and flourish as the leader of preserving this beautiful area. Education is always key in these matters. Perhaps having videos and/or a resource page residents can reference would greatly influence the care they take when determining tree care and environmental impacts of "not caring".
- I love the tree giveaway idea.
- I think for every life we lose in the world, if we can plant one tree that would really save the earth
- I completely agree. There are countless benefits of utilizing trees for both protection and soil/air health.
- Check out Douglas Tree Company if you guys are interested in a city arborist! Really reliable guys run that company. <https://douglastreetree.co/services>
- To help preserve the number of trees on properties, anyone who gets cuts down a tree must plant one more native tree on the same property or on a different property within the city.
- It is hard to evaluate the options when there is no cost/benefit information.
- Can stricter tree preservation codes be applied to Clyde Hill, Medina, and Yarrow Point? These cities should not be exempt from these rules.
- Need to strike a balance between natural habitat restoration and artificially maintained green spaces. Natural habitats do not require constant watering/fertilizer use, reducing water usage and eutrophication; however, carefully maintained parks encourage outdoor recreation, improving public health and access to fresh air
- Trees are cool



## *Mobility and Land Use*

- In the past, and maybe somewhat today, Bellevue has been known as an innovation leader. I believe some of the goals listed above could be even more aggressive. 25 or 30 years is a really long time, especially considering the current state and acceleration of climate change.
- I bought my home in Bellevue (not Seattle) because I don't want to stress over where to park my car. People need to be able to park their vehicles to go places, especially to have the option to use public transportation. I live near Eastgate, but the P & R is full. I understand I won't be able to drive to the light rail in the Spring District because there will be no parking for us to use. (I can't even go to the new Meydenbauer Beach Park because there is no parking! I guess it was made for people that can afford to live near it.)
- expanding transit is my highest priority. Also consider banning "no Walk off policies" for parking lots for a certain size ( 25 spots?). it is ridiculous that I can't walk across the street from Factoria mall to go to a neighboring business without being sneaky or fearing for my car. maybe rolling baskets to carry groceries could be a give away or a premium for program participation. make sure bike lanes are large enough for cargo bikes and trailers
- Give incentives to buy electric cars.
- Please don't listen to the NIMBYs and eliminate mandatory parking minimums combined with closer work with KCM and ST to improve transit access while increasing pedestrian and bike infrastructure combined with better land use that can enable MF housing to be close to transit stops and commercial areas.
- Why use weak language like "consider", "explore"? Please act! We need all these things now to decarbonize our transportation sector rapidly.
- "Study", "consider", and "explore" don't sound like they have any teeth in them, allow a wait-and-see approach, at a time when we must act boldly and be leaders.
- 2050? Seems like a long time.
- Though walking and biking are important forms of transportation, taking the bus is a popular way many Bellevue residents reduce their transportation carbon footprint. Whether it for protection from the weather, ease of use, or necessity, the bus is more popular than biking or walking. However, some neighborhoods don't have nearby bus stops. For the ones that do, buses are too few and far between each other that they do not work for residents' schedules, especially if they miss the bus. This leads to many people not considering the bus as a form of transportation for their local travels. I am very grateful that the city is empowered to expand walking and biking trails, but adding



more routes and buses to the metro system will have a positive impact on much more people and has the potential to offset many tons of carbon.

- I am somewhat leery of the big push for autonomous vehicles. I have heard some convincing arguments that they will, in fact, increase the amount of vehicles on the road.
- Please ban highly polluting gas powered leaf blowers!
- It is unrealistic to expect people to leave their cars unless other options are affordable, frequent, and clean. Bikes and autonomous vehicles are not real options for people with young children or who must commute.
- Some European cities have extensive bicycle networks. With our hills a standard bicycle is not an option for the vast majority of people. Electric bicycles change the dynamic. Support electric bicycles. Then imagine what would happen, besides the gnashing of teeth, if one full lane on ne 8th were converted to bicycle lanes. Does your head explode?
- Should shorten timeline for electric vehicles to 2030 and add incentives.
- I think it is ironic this initiative is being sent out at the same time the city is allowing PSE to cut down hundreds of trees. Please don't allow the trees to be cut down!!!!
- The vast majority of people in Bellevue will be driving (mostly internal combustion) cars for the foreseeable future. Refusing to plan for that in favor of trying to force individuals away from their preferred means of transportation is, frankly, authoritarian. Has anyone done any studies as to the usage of the bike lanes the city has imposed on us?
- There has been a lot of construction in Bellevue (and more to come) and lack of parking and/or adjustments to road infrastructure have caused traffic and parking issues across the city. While we want to decrease single occupancy drivers, we must be realistic in what is possible now and how to set the foundation for the future. People will not change overnight. They may also need the flexibility that driving provides and that transit doesn't currently support. Further assessment is also needed on individual construction projects and the impact to the neighborhoods and city overall.
- Hydrogen driven infrastructure would be a better alternative.
- Require ALL new housing developments to include in the design 1) a park and ride location and 2) public space for a neighborhood greenspace/park. Consider implementing the hub and spoke systems the national airlines use for transit relief.
- Bellevue can still get much more bicycle friendly.
- No more taxation

- Some of these options are not written with clarity! What do they "really" mean? I might have answered differently had I known...
- 1) expand reduction of parking minimums in residential and commercial . . .2) unbundle parking from new development purchase prices". Discouraging driving by making an already bad parking situation even worse is no way to try to achieve a reduction in driving. Efforts should instead be focused on improving non-driving options.
- Don't do anything that increases the costs of owning (or renting) a home!!!
- Walking & biking options should avoid major traffic streets as much as possible.
- I would like guidance to help existing multi-family buildings upgrade for EV needs, with advice on how to chargeback to residents.
- The more places are made, we can thrive in transportation and building.
- Let's see a focus on non-motorized options and encouragement, not different options for vehicles (even EVs)
- All for electric vehicles. But again, just moved from Seattle where like 90% of energy is clean. I just about fell out of my damn chair when I got the welcome statement from PSE stating that 40% of energy is from coal. I beg your pardon? So literally, I personally went from 2% coal usage in Seattle to 40%? And I would power my EV with coal? I mean what? If PSE is going to stay in 1922, whatever. Make it easier for me to add solar to my house. For a lot of people, including young families like us- Solar is a big expense. Make it a no brainer in Bellevue. Offer subsidies. Safety, Schools and tons of Solar- that is what could be part of Bellevue's Calling Card. I literally won't buy an EV until something changes there. It doesn't make sense.
- While Bellevue's network of bike paths is growing, alternatives to car and bus commuting are not safe. I encourage you to think of ways to make micro-transport or shared last-mile transport accessible, green and safe.
- Our local transportation system is built around commuters and students. Everyone else needs SOV. I am in my 70's, and have no idea how much longer I should drive. But until such time as I can access convenient, reasonably-priced transportation to conduct my daily life activities, I'll be forced to drive, and you will have my driver's license only when you take it from my cold, dead hands.
- If you are going to add bike lanes, you should license all bikes to help pay for them and to be able to identify biker if necessary.
- these questions/options are much more complex and difficult to understand than the other sections.

- I think there is always going to be a need for private vehicles; but electric vehicles could make a difference in pollution. I note that their batteries are not easily recyclable and they depend on rare-earth technology - which is a very polluting process. For commuting, mass transit should be the goal. But in these days of coronavirus, mass transit is not always the answer, either. This is definitely a conundrum that requires a lot more future-thinking and future solutions than we probably have now. In the short-term, encouraging people, whenever possible, to get on convenient, accessible mass transit is the best solution. Buses are likely the most flexible and affordable solution for the near-term.
- Here are my additional recommendations: Continue to emphasize multi-modal transportation in city planning -- Identify all ways that Bellevue is promoting and can promote multi-modal transportation in city planning, and look for ways to either speed up these efforts, expand them, or at least support full implementation. Continue to emphasize Transit Oriented Development in city planning -- Continue with existing planning that emphasizes Transit Oriented Development, and work to make it take shape as intended. Identify ways to expand efforts toward TOD, so that more neighborhoods are bikable and walkable, and so they provide good connections to transit, needed services, nature, and other key destinations. Continue to build, expand, and celebrate bike lanes and trails -- Continue the city's efforts to build, expand, and celebrate bike lanes and bike trails (such as Eastrail). Put special emphasis on equity, and on neighborhoods where bike access needs to be expanded. Also emphasize places where biking interconnections are needed to make biking easier and safer. Continue to build bike facilities -- Identify locations where additional protected bike facilities are needed, and build those facilities to promote biking and provide access to destinations. Improve transit coverage and efficiency -- Work with King County and Sound Transit on improving transit efficiency, reliability and service, with an emphasis on improving service for transit-dependent residents. For city vehicles, aim for electric as much as possible -- For city vehicles, aim to purchase electric vehicles or plug-in hybrids whenever they meet requirements. Include installation of electric charging stations where appropriate. Work toward the day when all city-owned cars and light trucks that residents see are electric. Electric Vehicles -- Choose a target for increasing the number of electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids in use in the city, and actively work toward it. Raise awareness of the many choices now available for electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids. Expand electric car charging stations -- Step up efforts to increase the number of public access fast chargers. Address barriers to charging for garage-free homes, and install charging infrastructure (possibly integrated into streetlights). Encourage the building of electric car charging stations in publicly accessible locations. Work with developers, building owners, and parking managers to add charging stations. And this is in the survey already -- but I say YES to a Transportation Master Plan that aims to decrease vehicle miles traveled!"

- Need to plan for the future
- 20-40% of the carbon footprint of an electric vehicle is accrued before it drives a single mile. For carbon reduction, the focus should be on biking, walking and public transit.
- I need more info on these plans. From my own experience, public transit would be an acceptable option if it's fast, clean, accessible, reliable, and easy. Once it's not those things in this crazy busy world it's not useful. The last goal in your list I think is the key. On that note, the lack of affordable housing is going to prove unsustainable. I am already seeing the service industry flee the city for a more affordable lifestyle. The quality of service in the industry in Bellevue is mediocre to abysmal. Unfriendly, unqualified people doing jobs they don't care about doesn't provide the happy "city in a park" vibe You would expect. Not really a sustainable model. Certainly better balance needs to be struck. A range of rents, not just luxury apartments but, yes multi family. Preserve the character of the neighborhoods and incentivize opportunities for DADUs to densify with out destroying the pleasant single family setting. The affordable housing also applies to the aging. Many of my school pals (I'm a Bellevue lifer) have moved to the more affordable cities and towns in western WA and wish they could have stayed in their hometown of Bellevue but we're priced out. I'm now in my 50s and at some point could see moving into a DADU on my property and renting my home out for supplemental income. What are the options for the elderly?
- In general, we need to do more to encourage 1) mass transit usage 2) carpooling 3) electric cars
- Improvements to city bus and larger metro system would be fantastic; would prefer these over exploring autonomous self driving vehicles. Transportation is an extremely complex matter. Recommend ensuring that this is done from a user experience and human-centered perspective rather than assuming that new tech is always the answer. We would take the bus more if it simply ran more often and our streets were better lit at night.
- The biggest problem with public transport is the time it takes to get from point A to point B. Buses should have their own lane so they can travel more efficiently. If I have to be in bus the same amount of time as in my car I would rather be on my own in my car. Buses also need to run more often to attract more riders.
- Provide enhanced tax credits and incentives for businesses that continue to promote Working from home programs.
- If you build the charge stations it becomes convenient. So when buying a new car an electric car becomes relevant as charging stations are no longer an issue.

- The historic elimination of bus routes through neighborhoods has created challenges using 'newer' bus systems .... please review historic bus routes
- The city allowing all this building and development now the city needs to correct these mistakes. Now that the city has done this crazy development, you may now realize the mistakes made. This is a domino effect. At some time the city is full. Just stop while we can. Do no more harm to our city.
- As caregiver for an aging parent in another city and as a worker with more than one employer, I have to drive by myself; I can't depend on public transportation or use shared transportation. I would prefer to see smaller electric cars and other mobility means rather than invest in insanely huge public projects that create density and noise and cannot be moved should the population change. Scandinavia is implementing smaller electric busses in many places -- some are autonomous -- and I see this kind of public transportation as much more palatable. Light rail is ridiculous and takes so long to build that it is out of date by the time it is built plus it relies on resources that cost the most in carbon emissions (cement, steel, and trucking movement).
- Create incentives to retire from service older carbon fuel vehicles. A carbon tax of 1 cent per pound of carbon released into the atmosphere for carbon vehicle fuels that would increase over time.
- I strongly support reducing vehicles. I am NOT sure about some of the ways you suggest preventing problems. For example, I am very concerned the lack of parking spaces in some new construction in downtown Bellevue will make the streets overcrowded with people driving around. I would like to see those who run private transportation systems (Microsoft, Amazon) be required to pay a head tax or allow those of us who live here to be able to use them. In Seattle, private transit (and food trucks) got prime spots and those of us using regular mass transit had to walk blocks and blocks. I like charging stations, but I am handicapped (without a sticker) and I am tired of many the good spots right next to Fred Meyer's entry doors empty waiting for a car to be charged. Put the spots on the other side of the parking lot by the street. Create a fast fleet of short haul mini bus routes so I can hop on and hop off like in Amsterdam. Look at cities like Curitiba in Brazil for ideas on how to keep cars out of the center of town without penalizing people like me who can only walk a couple of short blocks due to foot problems. Make it a joy to take public transit in the rain. Not all the people who want to use mass transit are in their 20s and 30s and extremely mobile. I need a place to sit. I need a place to wait without getting soaking wet.
- Giving benefits to those that meet higher standards of greener options

- Develop and promote a plan to migrate residents quickly to EVs and public transportation. Provide incentive program. Provide free EV charging to residents. Provide preferred parking, etc Create pedestrian only streets Place limits on driving in Bellevue
- Walk signals are shamefully programmed to favor cars while pedestrians wait in the rain, throughout the city and especially in the Overlake area (or that's what I see the most). (And I drive far more than I walk.)
- Traffic studies do not seem credible, and standards seem to be going lower. Developers are not paying their fare share of the impact their projects cause on traffic flow. I foresee traffic getting worse before it gets better. Although the economic effects of COVID-19 may slow the rate that congestion increases.
- I have two dogs that I take to a park. Transit does not allow dogs. I will continue to drive alone with my dogs.
- Is there a possible way to convert some old and/or reusable cars into electric cars so that we can save money in buying new ones and waste
- Don't fully understand or grasp what some of these suggestions are so cannot fully appreciate what is offered. That is why several are neutral responses.
- Effective mass transit is key. I have serious doubts that 'market based' parking can determine appropriate level of parking, but I am certain it will negatively impact transit use.
- The idea of connectivity to light rail should be autonomous electric operated drop/pickup rather than parking personal vehicles. In the short term it could be driver operated multi-passenger vehicles similar to rideshare and not mass transit buses.
- You missed the most obvious problem - bus service stinks in most of the city. The current light rail plan will service new construction near the rail and do nothing for the rest of Bellevue. Council has kicked this can down the road for a long time, but uber, autonomous cars and bicycles will not solve the problem alone. We need effective penetration into the neighborhoods, we need transportation that is effective for any set of source-destination addresses in the city. We need effective mass transit only lanes on the freeway - work with DOT. And work with Metro to get a network of easy and convenient mass transit around and to/from the city.
- No need for more walking and biking, there's already enough. Leave the forest to grow back for few years before destroying more. Enough damage has already been done. Nomadic groups throughout history have moved from site to site, to allow the forest to grow back after being used for a nomadic lifestyle, although Bellevue residents stay



where they are, we must allow the forest to heal, a similar mindset is applicable. There has been plenty of development in the last few years in regard to walking and biking, cougar mountain is a great example, leave it alone for a while.

- Due to the lay of the land, the hills and distance between bus stops and the length of time one must wait for public transportation, cars will always be needed. There are too few direct routes to get from point A to point B. I grew up with public transportation but find it way too much of a headache here and never use it....and will not.
- Even before COVID- too many empty buses driving by. Concerned about traffic issues with all the new jobs moving to Bellevue when construction is complete- Amazon, Facebook, REI. Lots of new, dense housing.
- These proposals are all exploratory. I don't see how this vision/proposal gets us to the goal. It gets us talking about it but really these are just political talking points. Has anyone seen bold action around? It's most definitely not in this plan.
- We recently purchased an EV and intend to never own another fossil-fueled vehicle. We will add solar panels and battery storage when the economics work. The City could enable residents by creating Local Improvement Districts to lower the cost by converting neighborhoods to solar roofs w/battery storage by low-cost financing and project management.
- While adding in these important features to our community make sure the cost of living does not drive essential workers into other cities. Currently, many people commute because they can not afford to live in Bellevue.
- Consider private lanes for public transportation! They bring more people to places faster and reduce traffic. In a way, this would reward people for choosing to take public transportation.
- Once again, people and businesses need positive incentives and reduction of barriers to reduce driving cars. If transportation is not convenient, driving will not stop. Additionally, let's keep up telecommuting after the pandemic situation is over. That is, everyone that has been telecommuting this spring should continue to do it at least a couple of days per week to reduce CO2 emissions and traffic congestion. Now we know that we can do it! Further, scrap the electric cars. Batteries are expensive for the environment on the manufacturing end. The mineral. required come from third world operations that are exploitive to the poor and children. The recycling potential is sketchy at best. Reduce driving rather than produce more Priuses! Oh, bike and walking trails are a good addition! People will use them when there is greater safety and connectivity between neighborhoods and commuting routes.

- Be careful in all considerations. Expecting cycling to be a real alternative has gender bias, race bias and class bias. It won't work. Also, expecting all people to have access to light rail and busses is problematic. Park n Rides have had to sacrifice numbers of parking spots for light rail construction so fewer people can park there, and many people do not live on a bus route to light rail. Taking a Lyft to the light rail every day is a non-sustainable cost. Keep all scenarios of people in mind. The people in the scenarios I have listed here, who will not benefit from what you're planning above are statistically nonwhite, low-income and women (who won't want to walk distances or bike alone at night after work). Please be inclusive.
- The focus on EVs is a little worrying. Those are still, by and large, going to be single-occupant vehicles, and their carbon footprint is still huge relative to transit. Not to mention enormous accessibility barriers. Future-proofing the city is massively expanding transit. Make it fast, reliable, cheap, and extensive, and people won't need their own cars anymore--electric or otherwise.
- what if you started a vehicle exchange program. you could also have a workshop where folks could learn to convert their vehicles into electric vehicles
- First off, the writers of this survey should evaluate their use of language. It is incredibly technical, and if they are seeking responses from all demographics considered about transportation regulation in Bellevue, then this section is not conducive to gathering accurate information. Second off, though the use of bicycles or even walking is an environmentally friendly option, it is less feasible of an option, especially as Bellevue continues to be one of Washington's major urban centers. Fees, restrictions, and tolls on traditional vehicles does not promote environmental growth for those living in lower income brackets, it promotes a slowdown in urban development and economic decline, as shown through the tolls placed on the 520 bridge into Seattle.
- Given that so much of Puget Sound Energy's energy comes from polluting sources, efforts to support electric vehicles may not be as helpful as they seem. If the city moved away from Puget Sound Energy then this might be more worthwhile.
- The people who do half measures are the same people who go home to a wife or a husband who fantasizes about other people when they have sex.
- Expand public transportation with attractive vehicles and reliable, high frequency schedules.
- 50% of vehicles in Bellevue being EVs by 2050 actually seems very low, considering the constant technological improvements to EVs, the increasing affordability, and financial incentives to own one. There'll be considerable inertia to switch from gas to electric, even in a city as tech-y as Bellevue, but again, the city (and county and state) should build in



financial incentives and improve electric infrastructure, rather than just leaving it to PSE to send EV newsletters to those who bother signing up...

- WE'RE ALREADY 1984 - OREWELEILIAN. NO NEED TO SPEED UP THIS PROCESS OF HYBRIDIZING AND CYBORGING HUMANS. CITY OF BELLEVUE MIGHT DO WELL TO REDUCE FIXED COST OF SERVICES. KING COUNTY CHARGES QUITE A LOT FOR FIXED COST. PLEASE RENEGOTIATE ALL CONTRACTS WITH KING COUNTY LOWER COSTS FOR BELLEVUE RESIDENTS. THEN - WE CAN TALK ABOUT SPENDING MORE MONEY. IN THE
- Encourage more working from home, and public school enrollment based on distance from school, not bizarre border lines. We can walk to one school, but need to drive to another.
- I do not support the transition to autonomous vehicles. They are significant, well-researched dangers in addition to serious ethical and environmental implications. Do some deep research - it is very serious, and a decision that should ABSOLUTELY not be taken lightly. However, I otherwise fully support pilots and other efforts to increase the use of multi-occupant, shared and micro-mobility options.
- Impact fees should be based on honest, accurate trip generation data. The City should use this, including actual results from its TDM program, to help determine the true mode splits generated by new development. Social engineering and wishful thinking should NOT be used to determine impact fees. These failed approaches to transportation planning should be eliminated from the process, to prevent unnecessary increases in congestion. Furthermore, the City should be very careful not to expose itself to the risk of having to return impact fees already collected from developers to maintain capacity in the road system when the City takes away this system's capacity for things like bike lanes. As for the Transportation Master Plan, its original intent was for the City to look at Bellevue's transportation system holistically (rather than in silos). It is supposed to develop a plan that MAXIMIZES THE OVERALL THROUGHPUT OF PEOPLE, GOODS AND SERVICES. A Transportation Master Plan should NOT attempt to ""decrease per capita vehicle miles traveled"". It should accommodate Bellevue's citizens need for per capita miles travelled. We've tried the failed approach of trying to reduce per capita miles travelled for decades. It hasn't worked.
- We already have a ton of congestion. Please complete projects as laid out in various plans (ne 2nd expansion, ne 10th offramp)
- Bellevue is hilly, frequently cold and rainy. It is not practical for most people to commute by bicycle or scooter every day. Vehicles remain an important way to connect people outside the downtown core. Please do not remove vehicle lanes to put in bike lanes for 1-

2% of commuters. After COVID, use of public transit will drop off for quite a while. Please prioritize vehicle throughput on arterials and freeways in Bellevue.

- I take public transportation when I can afford a trip taking at least 3 times longer. If busses on the Eastside were more frequent I would take them more often. The busses are often mostly empty when I ride so it doesn't make sense to run more, nearly empty busses. Is there the possibility of shuttles or other options for small but more frequent transportation?
- Toll surface roads for non-Bellevue residents who use Bellevue roads. Have higher fees for non-Bellevue residents during peak hours. Use the funds to support green transportation options. Ask Redmond to reduce the available parking and require large extra fees for parking single occupancy vehicles at Microsoft and businesses in the Overlake area to reduce the thousands of vehicles that travel through Bellevue to and from Redmond.
- Firstly, it's great to want a transition to electric vehicles and all, but you have to beware of the environmental costs of electric vehicle manufacturing. I have heard that if you already have non-electric vehicles, generally, it is good to switch over to electric vehicles only after your non-electric vehicles need to be replaced to. This is just something to keep in mind. However, I do support electric vehicle charging readiness being installed sooner rather than later, since this can help the transition to electric vehicles and incentivize it. Some other programs to incentivize the purchase of electric vehicles as opposed to non-electric ones could be a good idea, as well as perhaps disincentivizing the purchase of non-electric vehicles. And the city should try to make all new buses electric and eventually replace all non-electric ones. I've seen that some buses are already electric, which is good. As for the other subjects, I'm not sure what the transportation impact fee program is, but I would support increased infrastructure for walking and biking. If we want to decrease alone driving, then maybe we should get rid of bus fares? They are surprisingly expensive and quite inconvenient, and unlike taxes, they aren't any cheaper for poorer people. I don't see why we can't just pay for buses with tax money. And the buses are way too unpredictable/inconsistent. They would be a much more feasible mode of transportation if they could be more consistent.
- Please don't add any new restrictions on new housing development. We need more housing, and we need it to be more affordable - even for market rate housing.
- Electrify everything the city uses for transport; place pedestrians, bikes, and mass transit at the top of priorities.
- This is a thorny problem. Americans are addicted to their cars. But keep in mind that underserved populations cannot afford electric vehicles, and while adding more electric

charging stations for those who can afford them is convenient, perhaps, doing so through a tax on their use would help fund them while focusing on public transit for everyone else.

- I like these a lot :)
- Electric bikes are far more efficient than electric cars and your dollars will go a lot farther encouraging the use of bikes over cars. Eliminate parking minimums - don't waste time and resources studying it just do it. Providing bike infrastructure has no downsides! Cars are wasteful, dangerous, and not as necessary as we think.
- Stop giving away street parking. Discourage unshared parking at businesses. People driving into business districts should expect to pay to park their cars and feel free to walk between businesses instead of moving their car to each business' private parking lots.
- Trails for running, walking or biking don't disturb the surrounding nature, trails are placed around trees, large holders, or even fallen trees, avoiding the disruption of the natural layout of the area.
- I think this is a critical area in invest in for climate change in our region. My husband drives 40 minutes alone in his car, both ways, because he doesn't have a light rail option or decent carpool options from Bellevue to Ballard. We would sacrifice the convenience of solo driving for the ability to use public transportation for that commute.
- Electric cars  $\neq$  less pollution in all situations. Look into hydrogen fuel cell cars instead. Though our technology is limited for them, might be worth to invest some money into its research.
- Develop a Transportation Master Plan that explores opportunities to decrease per capita vehicle miles traveled through prioritization and investments to support transit and non-motorized modes  
Develop a Transportation Master Plan that explores opportunities to decrease per capita vehicle miles traveled through prioritization and investments to support transit and non-motorized modes  
Strongly Oppose My concern is that this initiative will put lower income people at a disadvantage. I myself am a college student, and could only afford a relatively cheap car. I cannot afford to buy an electric, or even hybrid. This will allow those with greater funds to ride freely with electric cars, while restricting access to those that cannot afford them.
- Public transport and parking are not convenient enough to ditch driving on personal vehicles.
- I think the shared vehicle-and-biking system currently in place on the roads should be improved before expanding upon these projects.

- Transportation is definitely an area that can use a facelift in terms of efficiency, not to mention reevaluation on how best to eliminate unnecessary practices.
- Hold off on ride share investigations until the pandemic is over - getting groups of strangers together is misguided at best in the current moment.
- Love the electric car idea.
- You combined two questions into one: ""Study the impact of light rail on the supply and demand needs of parking near transit stations and consider reducing minimum parking requirements to let the market determine the appropriate level of parking for new development. I support the study, but strongly oppose reducing the minimum parking requirements, because I believe it will be reduced excessively.
- Why are there no goals for 2030?
- Bellevue residents rely on their cars heavily for transportation. I think even people who want to bike or use public transport find it difficult because biking can feel dangerous and public transport does not reach many places in an efficient manner like it does in other cities.
- Not really sure what the second point really meant?
- Expanding bus systems to the high school and popular work places may also decrease the number of cars on the streets. Decrease parking and replace with more greenery. Increase parking costs/implement street parking fee like Seattle, while increasing the number of bike stands with public locks perhaps?
- Relying on market forces to determine the appropriate level of parking near transit stations will not result in the adequate supply of parking spaces - instead it will reduce the ridership of transit due to difficulty in getting to and from the transit station (the so called "last mile" of transport network planning). Other than setting up more parking, we also need nearby transport hubs to make it easier for bus and car share riders to access transit stations, as well as bike friendly trains and/or bike lockers in stations to encourage biking. We must do everything we can to make it easier for consumers to change their habits to incorporate light rail into their daily schedules; otherwise if left to the market, the easiest solution for most consumers would be to not take light rail at all and stick to the status quo.
- Support for increased public transit development and parking maximums
- The goals need to be stricter. Having only 50% electric vehicles by 2050 is unacceptable. It must be higher and public transportation must be the main focus. Make the entire city have public transit routes as the main form of transportation instead of cars. By 2050 we

might already have reached above 2 degrees Celsius change in wanting. If we do not have stricter goals, that would be a shame. As a highly developed city, we need stricter goals to aim for because our city produces very large amounts of emissions per person currently.

- Should coordinate with other cities and county level agencies to help develop policy strategy for transportation planning and data resources for data modeling.

### *Energy*

- In the past, and maybe somewhat today, Bellevue has been known as an innovation leader. I believe some of the goals listed above could be even more aggressive. 25 or 30 years is a really long time, especially considering the current state and acceleration of climate change.
- Eliminate excessive and wasteful lighting. All uplighting should be banned even for residential.
- Seems not fast enough to meet goals.
- Not sure solar is key here, at least not yet. Better to build utility scale solar in sunny places and transmit the electrons to Bellevue. Reducing the energy use of our existing building stock is critical. Please invest in that!
- To me this is an extremely important issue: data shows that gas appliances are responsible for in-home air pollution that affects our health and childhood asthma rates increase over 40%. We must electrify everything, stop using gas, and start educating the public that it is absolutely NOT a clean alternative. It is 86 times more harmful than CO2. Use science to explain and justify the need for electrifying.
- Please please PLEASE do these things, this will set up a society where we see the indoors as green, so our outdoors should be too.
- Give property owners property tax relief IF they keep more green spaces for EXISTING BIG TREES and OPEN SPACE on their construction project. Build UP on OUT to increase density and keep more open spaces/trees/plants/wetlands
- Please ban highly polluting gas powered leaf blowers!
- Supporting the current campaign to replace PSE with a PUD that would serve all of East King County, including Bellevue, could fast track the transition to renewably-generated electricity.

- Stop giving developers extra incentives. Create the green rules that are reasonable and let the developers do their work to meet the regulations. Improve the regulations as new research guides you.
- You already have zero interest rate programs for home improvements.
- Need to increase incentives for solar power retrofit. Since many tax deductions have been reduced under Trump, we need to bolster incentives at the state level and become leaders in sustainable energy and technology.
- I think it is ironic this initiative is being sent out at the same time the city is allowing PSE to cut down hundreds of trees. Please don't allow the trees to be cut down!!!!
- If "green" building and energy technologies were economically worthwhile, you wouldn't have to spend taxpayer dollars to force them on people.
- Anything you can do to help enable and not add barriers would be good. Also consider that overall, business and industries are the largest contributors to pollution / global warming / energy consumption. What is Bellevue doing about that? Don't put it all on the little guy.
- I would love for our city to provide means to incentivize the residents to put solar panels on their homes. It is unreasonably expensive and would love to have some help with it.
- Invest in co-generation power units for all city buildings. example "engenuity power systems" that are 80-90% efficient rather than the current 30% efficient. Turn waste heat from heating water into electricity to power an HVAC system. This technology has been implement by power utilities on the East coast. Look it up on the web. Subsidize the cost of installing solar panels especially when the panels are being used to charge electric vehicles along with home energy. This would be a great use of huge increases in tax revenues received from property taxes over the past several years.
- Keep taxes down. They're already too damn high!
- The more energy we have, the more access we have to populations and places.
- That's what I am talking about!!!
- Make it easy, people will do it!!! More solar!!!
- Individual solar capacity is not always the most cost effective way to deliver green energy. Community owned solar farms might be more economical than encouraging everyone to set up their own individual array. We pay extra to ensure 100 percent green energy from pse because the ROI on solar for our home wasn't strong.

- Here are my additional recommendations: Benchmarking for Efficiency of Multifamily Buildings-- the survey mentions commercial buildings, but benchmarking programs (of various kinds) should be developed for as many kinds of buildings as possible, including multifamily buildings. Benchmarking is a relatively simple step and can make a real difference in encouraging improvements to be made in underperforming buildings. Benchmarking for Efficiency of Houses -- develop a program where residential buildings receive an energy efficiency rating, like an "MPG" sticker but for a building, as a normal part of preparing a home to sell. This is a simple step that motivates owners to make homes more efficient, to improve the rating and/or save on heating bills. People often do work on a house right before selling, or right after buying (before moving in), so it's a great time to encourage efficiency improvements to be made. Energy Partnerships -- Create partnerships that increase energy efficiency in buildings, raise awareness of the importance of energy efficiency in buildings, and coordinate equitable access to energy-efficiency resources and programs. Partnerships can be between cities, city+county, city+Bellevue College or UW or other school, city+highschools, city+businesses, city+citizen-groups, and so on--develop every workable possibility. Demonstrate & train for efficient building operations and maintenance -- Might do this with partner organizations. Model/demonstrate this in city buildings, and train building owners, to help all buildings in Bellevue move toward more efficient controls and operational practices. This helps owners/tenants reduce emissions, save on heating costs, and improve indoor air quality. Help building or equipment owners learn about energy efficiency funding options -- Take steps so building or equipment owners can easily learn about financing options. This might be done in partnership with an organization. For the City government itself, there's King County's program called the City Fund to Reduce Energy Demand (C-FRED) that might help Bellevue move quickly on specific improvements. More broadly, there's important information to be spread about options such as the new state C-PACER option (<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?billnumber=2248&year=2019>) and community solar possibilities (<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=2248&Initiative=false&Year=2019>), and other possibilities. Increase residential retrofits (through partnerships) -- Set a goal for the number of homes and multifamily units to receive energy retrofits each year (higher than has been achieved previously), and build partnerships with organizations, utilities, training programs, and contractors to hit that goal. As partnerships develop, raise the goal. True innovation in green building in Bellevue -- Aim to make Bellevue a place where truly innovative green buildings are built, using a variety of approaches including incentives, partnerships, education, demonstration projects, and recognition. Aim higher than standards considered "green" ten years ago, to net-zero and similar standards. Help build excitement in Bellevue about green building innovation. True innovation in deep energy retrofits in Bellevue -- Through incentives, partnerships, education,



demonstration projects, and recognition, increase the number of buildings that we can point to as demonstrations of innovative success with deep energy retrofits. Help businesses and the community become aware of the many benefits of deep energy retrofits for buildings. Increase the installation of solar panels -- Set a goal for increasing the amount of solar panels installed each year (higher than has been achieved previously) and build partnerships with organizations, utilities, training programs, and contractors to hit that goal. As partnerships develop, raise the goal. Raise awareness of energy assessments for buildings -- Study the situations and motivations of various building owners (homeowners, owners of small vs. large multifamily buildings, owners of commercial buildings) and create educational campaigns and public workshops that help them arrange for energy assessments. Assessments should lay out a clear path and "next steps" for building improvements. Raise awareness of readily achievable, important steps or concepts for efficiency/green building -- Choose an efficiency/green building step or concept periodically (such as 4 per year) and offer materials/workshops to raise awareness and encourage action. Examples are "solar ready," "heat pump (air-source and ground-source)," and the fact that switching from a gas stove to electric can help reduce asthma for those living there. Raise awareness of advances in solar, wind, and battery technology -- In partnership with Bellevue College, the UW, and/or local businesses and organizations, help ensure that more people are aware of advances in solar, wind, and battery technology (and related "smart grid" technology). Help promote educational events and workshops where new advances come alive for people. "

- Do not let Puget Sound Energy move forward with Energize Eastside. Stop them from chopping trees on 148th Ave Ne. Get them out of your leadership circle and support Public Utility District. City council votes in their favor are an abomination.
- All very good initiatives, low cost with a measurable impact. What I see missing is direct activities to reduce natural gas use. That is a key factor in moving Bellevue forward. NOTE: especially the commercial building.
- Bellevue needs a Green New Deal which would provide low and moderate income households the financial means to decarbonize their homes. Commercial developments should be required to be built towards deep green standards. We cannot address climate change if we are digging a deeper and deeper hole with new carbon-dependent buildings that will be around for 50 years or more.
- All great ideas. I would add that the city focus emphasis on leveraging major business as a partner. Bezos Climate Pledge is one initiative I'm familiar with. As a major new inhabitant court and challenge them. Amazon loves exploring new territory. The also like to partner with the underserved (farestart and Mary's Place). On residential, incentives, kits, payback, lifecycle. Make it easy and show clear payback



- The elephant in the room is PSE. They are the dirtiest energy producer in the state. Over 50% of their energy production comes from burning fossil fuel. 36% comes from burning coal! Instead of addressing that problem they are busy building un-needed infrastructure to reap their state-guaranteed 9.5% return on infrastructure investment. Examples are the Tacoma LNG facility and Energize Eastside transmission line
- Take actions to limit lobbying influences in city government by PSE and other companies that invest in fossil fuels and/or individuals that serve on those companies' boards. Increase transparency in city govt officials who hold significant stocks and/or investments in companies of any kind that may be bidding for development and/or energy business from the city
- Solar panels are still quite expensive which is the reason why a lot of people do not opt for that mode of energy. It would be wonderful to see those decrease in price. All new commercial and business buildings should be required to have solar panels. Businesses can afford it!
- What if a business that feels to retrofit their facility is too cost prohibitive. But would be prepared to retrofit 10 residential homes and claim a benefit. Something is better than nothing. Good PR for the company. Great for the recipient of the retrofit and an increase in Green energy and a decrease in energy consumed from the mainsupplier.
- Low income population in Bellevue is more than the city can handle. If the city needs to do this don't.
- No construction projects should be fast-tracked, ever, period. It doesn't matter how glossy and green they appear to be. Neighbors and communities need to be informed and involved in land-use changes, so no, don't offer land use incentives without involving communities. There is already a problem that we are being inflicted with things happening in our neighborhoods without our consent. Bellevue has a big problem that it is TOTALLY pro-business and views everything from financial economic terms. There are other costs and other values that are more important -- in my opinion and in some non-white cultures -- where the land itself is valued, things that were here before us are valued, open space is valued, silence is valued, etc. I am frustrated that the city is so completely business driven and doesn't stop to see that basing everything on an economic term is one sided (and will have long-term consequences).
- Use City bonds to create a low-interest loan fund for residential solar retrofits that could allow payments to be deferred until the property is sold. Organize neighborhoods to combine solar purchases managed by city Project Managers to gain economies of scale for neighborhood conversions.

- I was horrified to see the new extension for Overlake Hospital. The building, like many in Bellevue, is glass. Glass, no matter what you do, is a good choice for energy efficiency. I would like to see housing for low income people (school secretaries, lunchroom workers, custodians) incorporated into the design of most of the low rise buildings in Bellevue. I could see housing on top of Best Buy, Micheals, Target in Factoria, and even senior housing on top of new schools. Why can't we get creative! I am concerned that rushing green building permitting will encourage ugly and bad design of which Bellevue has enough. I would love to put solar on my house. How about starting a solar business with the state and retrofitting all the houses of senior citizens? Or housing where low income families rent? We need to be very aggressive on this front. How about insisting that PG&E be required to bury electrical lines and offer free solar installation instead of supporting that atrocity of a new electrical line down the middle of the city and next to an elementary school?
- Also add green energy standards to public buildings like townhall, police and fire departments, and public schools.
- Please don't turn Bellevue into Seattle
- Create LUC incentives for commercial buildings to install solar Underground all transmission add to LUC Create LUC and incentives for water capture and retention for commercial and residential Create goals for energy conservation. Publish annual report. Make visible the best and the worst in commercial and residential energy efficiency"
- Let the market decide more on green building strategies. Be careful of accidentally encouraging building that will remove more trees and cover more land.
- The elephant in the room is the source of our electricity: Puget Sound Energy, which currently burns fossil fuels to provide nearly 60% of our supply. PSE plans to increase use of natural gas, which produces methane, a very potent greenhouse gas. PSE has little incentive to do otherwise (it is a natural gas company), and PSE may not achieve the reductions mandated by the state's new Clean Energy Transformation Act. The city should create a municipal utility or support creation of the East King County PUD. This would be one of the biggest steps Bellevue could take to reduce emissions.
- I have solar panels at a great personal expense. They are great and save energy. It would have been nice if the City made it more reasonable for others to buy solar panels.
- Use more solar panels/ other forms of harnessing energy to bring power (lights etc.) in higher developed areas, schools, homes etc. instead of electricity.

- Throughout the region, incentives have proven highly effective in promoting green building! Clear answers exist to incentivize energy-efficient new construction. Existing building stock will still need significant help.
- Create extensive program to educate commercial building owners on the financing benefits for energy and other retrofits with the newly passed C-PACER legislation. Require commercial building owners to submit plans for deep retrofits to reduce building emissions to near zero. Offer training in new technology in building efficiency. Efficiency benchmarking needs to be required and posted for all commercial buildings, multi-family residences, and homes and be required before any sale. Require all appliance dealers to maintain stock of induction cooktops and heat pump water heaters required for home electrification. Require all HVAC dealers to offer electric heat pump equipment. Ban all new natural gas infrastructure in new construction by 2022. Ban all new natural gas appliance and HVAC equipment to be installed in existing structures after 2035. Reestablish the Solarize Bellevue program to accelerate solar power installations. Modify architectural code to require new construction roofs to be amenable to solar installation. Prioritize the electrification of all vehicles and develop the needed infrastructure. Require all vehicle dealers to be trained in the efficiency, operation and service of the electric vehicles offered by their brands and maintain stock of those models for customer tryout and immediate purchase and service.
- it's important to help low-income populations reduce energy use.
- Heat is the biggest use for gas; it can easily be replaced with heat pump technology which is higher initial cost but lower operating costs - and uses far less energy. End the preferential treatment of PSE. It's time we move to a public utility district, which gives us immediate access to green energy as well as being far more responsive.
- The plan devolves into political gamesmanship around commercial development and running pilot programs. The time for that was 2010. There are ample examples of working strategies in parallel communities that could be identified, modified and implemented using adaptive analysis and design. Again, where are the deliverables, measurements, alternatives and most of all, where is the courageous leadership required to move forward in a way that is both smart and rapid?
- Form whole neighborhood home energy retrofit LID's combining solar w/battery storage. Obtain EV manufacturer discounts for resident vehicle purchases by consolidating resident purchase commitments then purchase using fleet bidding. i.e. negotiate prices for fully loaded discounted vehicles with local dealers/manufacturers that would be available to residents who participate in energy retrofit LIDs.
- Place restrictions around natural gas infrastructure in new buildings

- All of the above are good. Individuals and businesses need financial and accessibility incentives to afford to upgrade to more efficient and modern means of energy use.
- These are very valuable as long as they are accessible to all residents, not just those who can make the advanced modifications out of their own pocket. Grants and loans to improve access for those who may really love to be greener but cannot alter their current situation could help dramatically.
- while this is likely outside of your scope, from what i know our area is good for geothermal.
- It seems that in our neighborhood Spirit Ridge/ Phantom Lake, small houses are torn down to make room for mega size houses. I assume this is happening in other parts of Bellevue. This seems to go against efficiency, more square footage by occupant and most likely higher energy consumption even though this may be offset by more energy efficient building practices. This also increases the number of trees that need to be cut down. I would like to see regulations that limit house size for new constructions.
- An earlier goal to achieve canopy cover contradicts a goal to achieve solar panel usage on commercial buildings. Research shows that in Washington State, when the conditions are right, solar panels only provide all necessary power a building needs for the months May through September. Expecting commercial business to rely solely on solar panels all year round is completely ignorant. Due to the nature of many commercial buildings in Bellevue right now, for example, made completely of glass, requiring transparent energy usage might be detrimental to these businesses. They're energy usage may have nothing to do with energy efficiency as they have to do things like leave their lights on all night to prevent birds from attempting to fly into the windows at night. Business should not be faced with the incentive of using green energy, as many times that choice is not up to them, it is up to the construction company. Incentives for "green" buildings are not a commercial issue, they are an infrastructure issue that run deeper than the companies that occupy those spaces.
- People who care about the earth get that straight shot to whatever heaven your religion believes in. People who do half measures get what Sisyphus got. And people who say fuck the planet, have their relatives get what Tantalus got.
- I realize I'm harping on this now, but it seems very strange to me to aim for 100% renewable electricity without even mentioning how PSE would fit in all this.
- AGAIN- LOWER FIXED COSTS. STOP SPENDING MONEY ON NEW PROJECTS. FIX CURRENT PROJECTS. THEN - WE CAN TALK OF NEW SPENDING.

- VERY interested in incentives and support to retrofit homes for clean energy. I would be more likely to buy an electric car if I knew the charge was coming from solar panels vs PSE with a high percentage of coal in the energy mix
- YES! to all of this. I emphatically support these measures. I recommend consulting the Northwest Eco-Building Guild about the code and incentives being put forward to allow their expert opinions and experience to weigh in for effective policy making. I also suggest the incorporation of incentives specifically for cross-laminated timber (to support a burgeoning local sustainable industry). AND, I ask that the city revisits its codes for use of earthen building materials to be used in homes and commercial settings. Reduce the structural/institutional/policy barriers for building with the most sustainable materials available to us as humans. The methods most would use for modern structures are sturdy, safe, healthy, durable, and can achieve a beautiful, refined aesthetic. We can find a way to properly protect health, safety, and beauty of our communities while allowing our communities the freedom to choose healthy low-impact Earthen materials for their homes and work spaces. We must support not only high-tech green homes and buildings, but ancient tried, and true ways of living in harmony with the natural systems.
- This goal is unrealistic. The City should make reasonable goals, and work with building owners and managers for federal tax incentives on energy efficiency retrofits on existing buildings. Also, I oppose any City tax money going to these types of programs. It's already too expensive to live in Bellevue. Stop adding to the cost of housing with expensive regulations.
- I do not want a ban on natural gas in new construction like Seattle, although incentives for green energy would be ok. You have some competing goals here. My house for instance, has so much tree canopy that solar panels are not advised. Should I cut down the trees so I can use "green" fuel? Converting natural gas to heat is much more efficient than converting some fuel source (even sun or wind) to electricity and then to heat. Electric heat is more expensive than natural gas and it is not fair to low income residents to force them to use electricity.
- Education on the beneficial impacts of installing solar panels on businesses or personal homes.
- Enforce residential and commercial construction to be above code to ensure more efficient builds require less energy. For residential for example, set a min standard to be net-zero and require solar panels
- You should look at energy usage in context of health And quality of life initiatives. For example, fresh air use in buildings, operable windows as code, not just fancy 'green' programs. I'd love to see low net energy design competitions.

- force large buildings to have solar power reduce the cost of solar power panel promote the solar power energy
- Solar in Seattle is one of the worst, least environmentally friendly things we can do. Invest in nuclear, for fuck's sakes. It is 100% green, safe, long term reliable, carbon free, and there are myriads of ways to recycle and completely consume the waste that our "current" 1950's reactors do not.
- Fast-tracking permits runs the risk of failing to properly regulate projects and ensure their success/quality. I am for efficiency, but we should not cut corners. Solar-ready buildings are a great idea. I did a project not too long ago on rooftop solar panels and discovered that modern rooftop solar panels are capable of paying themselves off and being even cheaper than energy from the grid. Rooftop solar panels can even be bought with payment plans which make them similar to monthly electric payments, except cleaner and and potentially cheaper. I think we should make an effort to spread knowledge of the current viability of rooftop solar panels and implement programs to get more people to install them and reduce energy derived from fossil fuels. I'm sure there are a lot of people right now who could be saving money and reducing their carbon footprint with rooftop solar, but aren't because they don't know about it. This could even help ""historically underserved and underrepresented populations"" to save on energy costs. I'm not sure about the whole reducing energy use idea, though. Energy efficiency is great, but we can't really just set a benchmark on energy use and hope to stay below it. Our energy needs can grow as we try to do more. Making efficiency data more accessible and increasing energy efficiency is good, but I think we're better off trying to change our energy sources than trying to reduce our energy usage. I'm all for green building and programs to improve future energy efficiency and sustainability. as well as helping ""historically underserved and underrepresented populations
- This is key; our buildings are responsible for as much emissions as transportation. Please don't let PSE's influence keep you from making bold decisions. PSE is a fossil fuel company, with plans to replace coal with gas. Despite their headquarters in Bellevue, we cannot let them influence our decisions to do the right thing and follow the science.
- Green buildings are not green if you can't access them by bike/walk/transit. Green buildings are not green if they are bigger than necessary (ex: one small house replaced with one big house. Instead one small house replaced with housing for several families). Encourage passivhaus
- Requiring that new buildings and holmes have solar power and environmentally sustainable materials, or are required to follow environmentally friendly methods.



- Green building should be increased but the impact of new development on the rest of the environment (for example trees) should be considered.
- Solar energy is not feasible in WA.
- These are great ideas for the simple fact that building codes and ordinances are areas that the city can address quickly and effectively.
- How about some common sense measures, like keeping unnecessary lights off at commercial buildings outside the certain hours? The city does not need to be lit up like a Christmas tree at night. Also, we can learn a lot about energy efficiency from other countries, e.g., google ""electricity conservation germany"". We need a better informed and disciplined population. Education, awareness campaigns, and PSAs can help lot.
- There needs to be more aggressive goals and in a shorter time horizon. What about banning natural gas on new buildings.
- Look into rain wise water cisterns
- Requirements to fit low power usage appliances and timers to turn off lights after building is no longer in use. More public net zero buildings. Consider making the library net zero - would be a good attraction too.
- Prioritize clean energy and energy reduction over energy efficiency - after all, if an energy efficient building keeps its lights and heater on for longer, it's total energy use would be the same as a lower energy efficiency building. Furthermore, we need to incentivize energy storage instead of just clean energy generation - energy storage can provide energy during usage spikes, which eliminates the need for fossil fuel peaker plants (storage can also help flatten duck curve).
- Should aim to future-proof buildings by aiming for electrification over purely efficiency improvements. City of Seattle may be willing to share their analysis on building electrification vs improving building efficiency with you.

### *Climate*

- Lawns should be reduced and replaced with native vegetation or gardens. The fertilizer for lawns pollute streams. The water is wasted. Encourage rain gardens.
- What about 2030 goals? Seems too slow to meet urgently needed reductions.
- Bellevue's climate action plan is very weak. It's embarrassing. We need bold decisive leadership and real actions with rigorous measurement of results. Today all Bellevue does is "monitor" our emissions, which are far higher than science-based targets.



- Yes! Could use an ongoing citizen's advisory or commission to help with this assessment.
- For the last item (requiring new buildings to undergo climate change impact assessments), will there be a requirement for builders to address problems in their report? If not, what impact will the report have on future projects? A climate change impact report is very exciting and I am grateful that the city is pursuing it, but I am afraid that problems revealed in the report (such as higher than normal energy use) will not be addressed and buildings will continue to be built the way they currently are.
- Why are more drastic/effective solutions not proposed? Why are there only three while other categories have had close to ten? This is an important category.
- Not enough information about your ecodistrict. Sounds like a lot of hand waving. Just study the research and create programs that directly lead to the pollution reduction you want. If cities create 70% of the emissions, figure out each category and the source of each in Bellevue. Given that list pick the fastest win, do it, and prove it. Repeat. It is not rocket science. It is all political will. If you have good goals for the city, avoiding the typical "business concerns", the people will support you if you can explain your goal and your plan.
- Everyone of these items are going to increase the cost of housing and make ownership too expensive for lower income buyers.
- I think it is ironic this initiative is being sent out at the same time the city is allowing PSE to cut down hundreds of trees. Please don't allow the trees to be cut down!!!!
- There is no actual evidence that mankind has an impact on global temperatures; all we have are suspect computer model ""predictions."" In other words, global warming is a hoax (and, looking at the number of activists that fly private, own multiple mansions, yachts, and so forth, they know it's a hoax, too.) Even if everything the warming advocates say is true, without China's and India's buy in, nothing that Bellevue can do will make a detectable impact on the climate, and will only be a waste of taxpayer dollars.
- Don't really understand the goal behind an eco district. Also, encourage any changes not to punish or create barriers for individual homeowners
- Governmental regulation has a poor correlation to desired outcomes. Market forces have an excellent correlation. Let market forces prevail!
- We are already past the tipping point. We now need to invest in mitigation if our species is to survive. By mitigation I mean how do we survive on a warming planet with plastic poisoned seas and more severe weather. we are past containment, we are into "adapt or die"

- The city of Bellevue does not need to conduct its own study of the impact of climate change. The expected effects from increasing temperature and more volatile weather have already been studied elsewhere. There is no need to create a special EcoDistrict or the like. Instead we should focus on creating economic incentives to encourage individual residents and businesses to engage in eco-friendly practices.
- Don't do stuff that increases costs!
- So many studies and assessments in your plan(s). Enough with the studies - already proven across the country that it is necessary to make changes. Start doing the difficult and actually make the changes! Limit your studies and assessments.....it is just "paper" that sits there.
- The more understanding we have about climate change, the more we are prepared and know what to do or create.
- There are no models that estimate these effects that do not have ridiculous standard errors.
- Love it! Love the ideas coming up here!
- I don't think we should have a single eco-district. This should be a city-wide requirement
- great ideas!
- I made multiple climate-oriented suggestions in the Energy and the Mobility & Land Use sections. A few other suggestions: Make sure that any climate-oriented action being described to the public includes some mention of the fact that there are high costs connected to business as usual. The public still tends to compare the cost of an action (like building more car-charging stations) to zero, rather than comparing it to the large expenses of dealing with impacts such as flooding, summer droughts, wildfires, and so on. Make sure that proposals that are discussed with the business community describe the benefits of taking climate action, such as improving health, creating jobs, staying ""ahead of the curve"" (or at least ""with the curve"" ) with advances in energy technology and ideas like EcoDistricts, and attracting business to the area. Help shift perceptions away from the old limiting idea that climate actions are just bothersome expenses, and move perceptions toward the reality that climate actions are beneficial, innovative, and smart investments, and becoming smarter every day. This is in the survey already -- but I say YES to an EcoDistrict in Bellevue!
- Need to add the assessment of existing commercial buildings and identify opportunities fo reduce carbon footprint.

- Public investment in resiliency for the climate crisis must be focused on historically underserved and underinvested communities, and low-income households in general.
- Definitely the right steps. I want to know more about the eco district. My thinking goes toward this area serving as a pilot project where the contained zone could more easily and accurately be measured. Using it as a test bed and demonstration of what is possible. Getting some of our business Illuminati behind it and their creative problem solvers. I would like to see Bellevue as a trailblazer and innovator in this area. It's certainly a city rich with talent and smarts.
- On the topic of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and continuing on my previous comment about PSE... we could convert PSE to a public utility. As long as they are a private company owned by foreign interests, they are not going to lift a finger to reduce our local greenhouse emissions, unless it provided profits for their shareholders. The best solution is to make them a public utility, like Seattle City Light and most other electric utilities in the state.
- Yes, Let's think of the future. Climate change is coming but we need to try and make it as less as we can.
- It's science fact now. All the extra studies are now superfluous to requirements. It's time for action.
- No more development would work. The city is full and now is creating a bigger issue by now having to correct the problem which was caused by all the unnecessary development. If another pandemic comes by this over crowding of multi family and corporate building may be the cause. The city needs to see that further development is not going to increase further disaster. The. Government now says keep for distance. Good notice for single Family homes. Those buyers of home are luck they bought with more than 15' between their homes. Let's hope the city council and planners do not continue letting developers subdivide kits so there is only 5' between houses. All the condos and apartments filled it not have the potential to be at harm, pandemic or no pandemic.
- The entire city needs to have sustainability goals. Don't minimize some of us by making only part of the city a sustainability hub. That is offensive.
- Insulate older homes to the highest possible capability reducing heating and cooling requirements.
- If developing an eco district, please ensure that housing is available and included for low income families and individuals
- Also asses current building and plans and their impact

- Climate Change is a hoax created by and for the Chinese
- NO NO NO to all of this!
- Create an actionable Bellevue Climate Action Plan, like Portland by 2021. Create annual goals. It should be comprehensive and we should have 100 goals at least. Report on progress. Create awareness. Create incentives. This should be one of the MOST important things the city government is doing and it should partner with business and residents to aggressively pursue.
- I'm not sure an "EcoDistrict" would be as effective as a whole city policy. Our whole city, country, and world need to be involved in the solution. Special districts just balkanize the process and distract from what we should all be doing together. Regarding resiliency, we need distributed generation, micro-grids, and smart software and hardware to keep parts of our city powered even after a major disaster, like a big earthquake. PSE has no incentive to help us achieve this kind of resiliency. PSE's number one concern is maximizing revenues for its shareholders. Again, if we want to be a smart and resilient city, we must have greater control of our energy grid and policy. Municipal power or a PUD, it's a matter of immense importance for the future of Bellevue.
- All of these ideas will require money. I don't want higher taxes to pay for these studies. I won't be alive by 2050 most likely. I don't believe that there is as much climate change as you predict.
- We need to be doing everything we can to act on climate now.
- Climate change is a much slower occurring crisis than the Covid virus crisis but already more deadly globally. The seriousness of the climate crisis needs to be communicated to the public in everything the city does. Annual carbon and other GHG emissions need to be measured annually and communicated to the public to inform them of progress. The city needs to publicize practical actions that cities, groups and individuals are doing in other cities that reduce emissions. Climate effects need to be a consideration in every part of the city's planning and implementation.
- Not clear about all the details of these plans but at a high level they sound good. But would like them to be more aggressive since we are in the midst of huge growth, need to instill future capabilities now.
- Forcing Sound Transit through a wetland was a mistake. Bellevue needs to reconcile this.
- All major infrastructure project could undergo climate change impact assessment. But not SFR/MFR because that could lead to red tape. The above methods of incentives for green products/solutions will provide developers the incentive and competition in marketplace.

- There are many smaller steps that can be taken. I see we do not have a quality improvement plan listed. There are additional savings to be had if we look for them.
- ALL of Bellevue should be an “eco-district”. It should be an eco-city, although a district is a good start, the entire city needs to reflect that
- Bellevue will never have a decrease in carbon footprint if it continues to allow buildings to grow like a virus!!! The “City in a Park” is becoming laughable as more and more green space is covered with building construction. The new title should be “City of Buildings “. Is there any zoning or code for design? There does not seem to be. So much of the new architecture is either boring or ugly. Even Wuhan has more innovative and exciting architecture.
- What is the purpose of the climate impact study? This is a known. It offers political cover and is not appreciated. Leadership, leadership, courageous leadership please.
- Engage neighborhoods in residential carbon reduction retrofits. Develop a scoring system with high visibility (signs at neighborhood entrances showing carbon usage and rate of reduction). Engage the community rather than leaving the whole effort to city employees or regulations. We accomplish more sooner when everyone is involved and recognized for results.
- Please, please , please stop developers like jay mark from cutting down all the trees. These developers are a scar on our beautiful city. City of Bellevue has allowed developers like these to ruin our city and the environment. When is Bellevue going to put hr environment before the revenue generated by these huge, unnecessary homes
- Could we have more areas that are pedestrian only except for delivery vehicles?
- I know that taxes and increasing fee charges is inevitable because of the funding needed to support these programs throughout this survey. However, I still feel it is worthy of mention that increased taxes or fees are not the only way that the money can be raised. I fear that implementing such methods, especially coming out of a pandemic, will leave lead to more poverty. Stressing the importance of funding to the public and the wealthier community may be a better solution than fees and taxes. That is my only concern with what has been mentioned in this survey. As long as it doesn't cost the people more money that they don't have I see no issues with becoming more environmentally friendly.
- Creating an “EcoDistrict” is a process that could do more to hurt those that live in the lowest income bracket than genuinely help the environment. Making those in the highest income brackets feel as though they are helping the environment by living “green” because the city's budget was all spent on developing a single area of environmental sustainability, while other areas were ignored and even harmed in the process.

- I'm not sure what an EcoDistrict would entail.
- How about we get to carbon 0 by 2030 at the latest and stop being fucking morons.
- INCENTIVIZE SMALL BUSINESSES. CATERING ONLY TO LARGE BUSINESSES WILL LEAD TO UNSUSTAINABLE 1% PROBLEM. ONLY THE 1% CAN AFFORD TO LIVE HERE. DON'T BE FOOLISH. TAXING AND MANDATING BUSINESSES - LARGE OR SMALL - INTO OBLIVION IS NOT GOING TO SPEAK WELL FOR LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY - OR SURVIVABILITY OF BELLEVUE IN GENERAL. PLEASE FOCUS ON SMALL BUSINESSES FIRST. EVERYBODY ELSE CAN WAIT. THANK YOU
- I fully support the development of a sustainable district. I ask that the city deliberately seek and prioritize the input of Millennials, Gen Z and youth in the planning and design specifications for this project. I also request that this district boasts green roofs and green walls, where ever possible, with as little pavement as possible. I suggest the ecodistrict is walkable and biking friendly, with communal garden spaces. I ask that the pathways are made with woodchips to build the soil - as this is a sustainable material, cost efficient, and supports our natural water systems as a permeable surface. Additionally the woodchip pathways encourage walking and social interaction, while supports micro-organisms, insects and other creatures that contribute to human and ecological wellness. I recommend that city emphasizes the use of materials that sequester carbon in the building requirements, such as: Cork, Cob, Hempcrete, & Bioceramics. Example of new building technologies and the science behind them. <https://geoship.is/>
- This proposal will likely make most redevelopment unfeasible in Bellevue. This would, in turn, limit the creation of sorely needed new housing.
- You should act on this more quickly than 2050
- Working in partnership with regional EMS groups and response network to natural disasters and preparedness.
- As you may have noticed, I'm generally in support of studies and research. I think a study into climate vulnerability can be a good idea to help narrow down what are more pressing climate and sustainability concerns for our city. I also think that it should be a given that all new building and infrastructure projects consider environmental impact (even beyond climate change) just like they would cost and functionality in the planning stage. As for the first one, I'm not entirely sure what this is supposed to mean. What is a sustainable district/EcoDistrict and why are we establishing one? I just put neutral for that one since I didn't get it.

- This sections feels like it is vague in terms of actual impact. Our city needs to use the K4C commitments and the toolkit they are preparing right now, to save time and guide our choices toward the most impactful, cost-effective, and best actions for us.
- Most important climate change impact of buildings is how people access them. Electric cars don't count - there is too much embodied carbon in the vehicle themselves and in the necessary expansions of (hopefully) green power plants. Also electric cars are just as intimidating to people on foot/bike as gas powered cars and discourage better transportation choices. If you can't get there on a bike, your climate change efforts are for naught.
- Creating a sustainable district would allow the city to monitor the benefits and restrictions involved in energy efficiency. A great idea before rolling it out on a larger scale.
- Is there incentives to help small business owners to meet those new requirements?
- Changing building infrastructure is certainly a doable project. In this case, developers can certainly get involved because many of the infrastructure improvements are cost effective. May take time but certainly worth it.
- I especially support the sustainable district!
- There needs to be more emphasis on improving energy efficiency of existing stock of buildings. City codes can be strengthened on energy use.
- Provide community goals to incentivize being green. Perhaps a friendly competition between parts of the city?
- The scope of these assessments is too broad. Use regional studies to develop standards that will reduce emissions.

*Which of these potential actions do you think are most important for the city to work on?*

This question group asked respondents to rank their top five priority actions in the plan and invited them to share further comments about their preferences.

- It was very difficult to choose my top 5 priorities. I wasn't sure what some of the options would actually entail. We need to make sure public transportation is accessible to residents, if parking isn't going to be available for people to enjoy areas in Bellevue not near their home.
- Become a regional leader in climate action and pull K4C along with us
- Reduce Light pollution is a simple goal with major benefits. A quick easy win with minor effort.



- The problem demands an urgent and costly response. There are no excuses!
- If you want valid survey feedback, you need to shuffle the list above randomly. Survey respondents can't evaluate such a long list. They will tire and items in the middle (if they get through the whole list) or at the end (if they tire and stop) will lose out.
- Question 11 - It was very difficult to choose just 5.
- Choosing only five is very difficult, because we have to do a LOT of things at once. And PSE, which is a for-profit only fossil fuel company, has a stronghold on our community, but their customers are demanding renewables, and a new PUD is in the works, so the handwriting is on the wall. Further, we will need to educate the public, because change is hard, and there will be resistance, but the upfront costs will defray the future costs that
- Ban plastic bags/plastic food pods. Just do it like Issaquah did. It works! Can you do all of these suggestions and take on more work faster. My 5 selections are a drop in the climate change efforts that the City could be taking.
- These are all amazing initiatives! I hope that the City will be able to implement them in the next few years. The pursuit of sustainability has never been such an important issue, and as a student, I am happy to see my City taking it seriously by exploring such diverse, inclusive actions. However, just 5 of these actions will not be enough, and for Bellevue to be a leader not only in Washington, but in the country, all these actions and more need to be in place.
- I wanted to choose the action that outlined providing renewable energy for minority or historically mistreated groups/areas. Why was that not among the options?
- Create long term goals across all areas. Revise these every few years. Each year identify the most important goals for the year and place your resources there. Build a dashboard with the goals, the current status of the goal, and the resources allocated each year. A well done dashboard can be a great resource. Much easier to get an overview than a few questions on a survey or reports on just a single project or two. Good luck.
- You could create recycling centers for single use bags so we can use them again rather than outlawing them.
- Change the bright LED streetlights with one that reduce light pollution.
- I think it is ironic this initiative is being sent out at the same time the city is allowing PSE to cut down hundreds of trees. Please don't allow the trees to be cut down!!!!
- I don't think Bellevue should waste taxpayer dollars on \*any\* of those. Concentrate on keeping the city clean, modern, and safe. In particular, avoid any of Seattle's policies like the plague; use them as the model of what \*not\* to do.

- I think access to energy efficiency programs should be improved regardless of the income. Our family is considered a middle class and definitely would not get any incentive on the income bases, I feel it is undeserving. We work super hard to provide a better future for our child and family, spending tens of thousands of dollars on solar panels seems like not a viable solution, thus people who are having higher income are not installing them either. Same goes for buying electric cars, like Tesla... yes, perhaps on one side it is better for the environment, but seriously, who can afford one? Thus I would like to propose decoupling from income when it comes to any initiatives to save our planet. Wealthy or not, starts from education.
- Bellevue has many single family homes that could be made more energy efficient. Fly over any part of Bellevue with an IR camera and there will be a huge heat signature from under-insulated or non-insulated buildings. Help these structures to be insulated and made more efficient. (Perhaps Bellevue could partner with the Army to conduct the survey.) Do not penalize, help and incentivize.
- The reduction of car lanes for bikes feels/is dangerous! And allowing the cutting of numerous trees by public entities while restricting the homeowner seems quite wrong.
- All new charging facilities should be energized by solar and battery systems.
- Again, I really question if this is something the city should be spending our tax dollars on. I really disagree with the thought of requiring Arborists to get involved (aka The Arborist Employment act). I've had to hire expensive Arborist studies, for property I own at Bainbridge Island, just to get a permit to remove some dead trees! I really shouldn't have been forced to part with \$600 of my hard-earned money, just to hire a damn arborist.
- All of the choices I chose are helpful because they will help the community and the environment .
- Thanks for asking! I really really care about all of this. I am not a left wing nut, I literally think we are leaving so much on the table here. We are a strong city full of innovators. Lets be the leaders we can be. It makes sense from a million angles. Lets do this!!!!
- I am an environmentalist but a lot of this is bullshit
- General comments. A little background first -- I have learned about principles that city climate action plans should follow, such as: Science-based Expectation that measurement is built in Large number of concurrent actions for emissions reductions Climate impacts considered in all decisions of the city Equity focused actions emphasized Cost/benefit that considers the cost of damages from business-as-usual Plenty of partnerships, learning, and collaboration For the Bellevue Environmental Stewardship Plan, I see indications of a number of the above (and it's good to see that--thank you), but I see significant

possibilities for improvement in the following basic areas: Science-based: The 2018 "SR15" IPCC report calls for a 45% reduction from 2010 levels by 2030. Setting a 2050 goal of 80% reduction and working arithmetically towards this falls short. This is very important. Some kinds of city planning can be organized toward a long-term goal without specific interim goals. Climate action planning cannot do this and still be science-based. Measurement: Perhaps there's a part of the plan that outlines how we'll measure emissions reductions every 1-2 years and, if we're not on track, step up our efforts. If not, we should include that in the plan. A "2020-2025" Environmental Stewardship Plan should be set up with the understanding that we'll measure by the end of 2022 and if we're not hitting our goals, step up our efforts. We can't wait until 2025 to see if adjustments are needed. The timing is too important. Large number of concurrent actions for emissions reductions. Successful cities elsewhere often have ~100-200 actions. I imagine that the survey can't indicate the number of actions actually planned for emissions reductions, but for the categories of Mobility & Land Use, Energy/buildings, and Climate Change, I see that the survey lists just 15 actions. (And I recognize that other categories in the survey such as Natural Systems may have items with a bit of impact on GHG emissions.) With more actions, a plan encompasses the reality that we use energy and cause greenhouse gas emissions in a very large number of ways, so significant reductions require a large number of actions. A large number of actions also means that if one action doesn't produce the intended results, another might be able to take up the slack. Plenty of partnerships, learning, and collaboration. I would like to see a plan that truly indicates that Bellevue is excited to join into partnerships of many kinds with businesses and organizations, collaborate with other local governments, and learn from great ideas being developed all over the country and the world. Partnerships can be between cities, city+county, city+Bellevue College or UW or other school, city+highschools, city+businesses, city+citizen-groups, and so on--it would be great to see ideas for every workable possibility sketched out. Climate action is something we must do together. It is also a rapidly developing field, so we should look for the best new ideas as they come along.

- Endorse federal bill: the energy innovation and carbon dividend act! See [farmiddle.com](http://farmiddle.com) for intro to bill.
- All desirable. Most can be implemented at low to zero cost to Bellevue. Some are revenue generating.
- Bellevue should explore ways to open up more of its neighborhoods to multifamily and middle housing, and to connect those neighborhoods to light rail through improved biking and walking infrastructure, as well as the bus system. The environmental initiatives should be paired with Vision Zero goals so that people can bike and walk safely in

Bellevue, which have the lowest carbon footprint. Bellevue has had multiple tragedies in the past year where people driving have killed people biking and walking.

- My family moved to Bellevue in 1969 when I was 5. It was a wonderful place to grow up and now as an adult to live. Though Bellevue is growing rapidly the trajectory has been good. The parks are amazing and the addition of light rail access across the lake will be a game changer. As another wave of growth is eminent with bell red/spring district we have opportunity to further develop Bellevue's identity and culture. Community, diversity, health, arts, nature, and sustainability are all things that should be preserved and nurtured before we lose. Where we are missing elements we want to be careful to make room for them. Not let development agendas roll right over these goals. The risk: Bellevue becomes just another homogenized American city.
- Remove invasive non indigenous plants and animals (rabbits).
- Most of these would require new regulations and/ or taxes that would needlessly negatively impact families and businesses.
- Thank you for your work on this important issue and for soliciting public feedback!
- would like to see corporate polluters and energy users take their fair share of responsibility for climate actions, rather than individual tax payers. Very concerned that amazon's new construction will cause major environmental damage to the area including traffic patterns, but tax burdens in addressing its impact will fall on city tax payers
- All the above are wonderful ideas. I hope they are all implemented.
- 5 S and Lean needs to be incorporated into all new projects. Programs for people earning under 200k should be funded by more in the above 500k which Bellevue is well represented by.
- I am not a fan of Green and/or Climate initiatives; I believe it is a complete waste of my tax dollars
- I'll reiterate that I really think the city is too economics driven and doesn't place high enough value on nature and preserving the environment and true livability for citizens. Encouraging PSE to steamroll through the center of the city and remove hundreds of mature trees is an obvious example. I bought my house here 20 years ago because of access to trails, the greenery, and the rural yet urban atmosphere. I have been dismayed at how the city runs itself for itself and not for the neighborhoods -- we can't stop traffic going through our own neighborhood, for example and we can't get the city to enforce a tree ordinance, for another. There are vast inequalities -- with developers suing residents because of covenants that are supposed to prevent big box buildings. Certain developers walk in with deep pockets and issue threats (I was threatened as were my neighbors) and

then we are sued. We don't have the financial ability to go to court when we're served with lawsuits to remove covenants and the business of business in the city and county just let this happen. I feel like this is a really mean time in the city's history with yet another example of certain people being excluded from fair access to resources.

- Create neighborhood Local Improvement District projects (possibly in partnership with PGE) using city purchasing power and lower cost of capital for loans to residents reducing the costs of converting from carbon energy for heating, cooking, and vehicle fuel.
- Address be illegal dumping of waste water from RVs in to our storm water system
- Increasing access to public transportation now would be a huge help. The park and rides are overflowing which makes it substantially more difficult, if not impossible, for a lot of people to utilize public transportation.
- No new bike lanes! More free parking areas
- Most of the programs you've chosen are politically popular but very expensive and light on confirmable science.
- Consider reducing permitting fees for long-time residents, while substantially increasing fees charged to foreign developers. Let's also implement city property tax structures modeled after our neighbors in Vancouver BC to substantially increase property tax rates paid by foreign investors. There are too many investor-owned homes in my neighborhood that appear to have been purchased for real estate speculation. The gardens of these homes are not being tended. Many of them have been empty for several years.
- Educations for everyone on how to recycle/ compost, or what the green space is, or why install or support green energy. Educating the public is key to maintaining any changes especially educating in the schools because they can teach their parents or guardians.
- Don't do this to Bellevue!
- Be a leader! Bellevue should be an exemplary climate leader for the country. Should enlist business to partners as leaders such as MicroSoft, Bill Gates, REI, etc. Be bold. Think outside the box. What about partnering with Bill and Melinda Gates to be a Global Climate Leader
  - Create comprehensive Bellevue Climate Action Plan. Adopt Portland's as is to speed things up. Amend LUC accordingly Create real plan with annual goals and reports for Tree canopy Salmon habitat
  - Amend LUC and permitting so that all new and retrofit commercial and residential complies with some environmental standard such as LEED

- Provide goals and incentives to convert to EVs asap. Create annual goals. Report progress. Share success stories
- Ban all single use plastic and all polystyrene immediately
- Create a program requiring multifamily dwellings to comply with waste management, composting and recycling requirements
- Focus on city level concrete actions instead of duplicating efforts that are more appropriate for the state or private markets.
- Your list excludes the biggest thing we could do to reduce greenhouse gas emissions: form our own electric utility so we can have direct control of energy decisions, rather than hoping that PSE's profit motivation aligns with sustainable environmental policy. It is ridiculous that nearly 60% of our electricity comes from burning fossil fuels, when neighboring cities and counties already have electricity that is more than 95% fossil free.
- Recent city actions sure don't reflect any of these proposals.
- I heard somewhere that plastic can be recycled into yarn and into clothing. Could you do something like that with the plastic bags that are being used and/or the ones we are not going to be used anymore?
- It's hard to choose 5. These are all really important incentives and I hope they will be done with urgency.
- Thank you for the opportunity to input.
- We need to move faster on these efforts - environmental impacts are occurring now.
- As part of this initiative, a website should be developed which shows our progress towards the goals developed in a clear and easily understood fashion.
- Hold the wealthy corporations accountable, don't allow existing trees to be removed.
- Weed removal code to encourage home/property owners to remove ivy/holly class C weeds. A low cost, non profit Tree Health Insurance plan.
- We need to mandate more energy efficient construction, not just provide incentives Still no mention of increasing mass transit use. People will not use it until it is easy and convenient. The city needs to start spending to get better mass transit, not Uber (which increases traffic). No mention at all of natural gardening methods, reducing the excess nitrogen and phosphate runoff into lakes and streams. This has a huge impact on our carbon footprint.
- I would check more than five good future possibilities and intentions.

- City resolution to support national legislation for a price on carbon. This action would demonstrate a firm commitment to reaching IPCC and K4C climate goals. Such national legislation would synergistically with Bellevue's. The result being to magnify the affects of Bellevue's actions many times over. A truly remarkable ROI. Please look into endorsing HR763, currently in committee in the US House. The current pandemic will end. Unless we make dramatic changes to our environment soon we are simply setting the table in welcome of the next. Please be bold.
- Engage with Microsoft/Google/Amazon Six Sigma staff to organize this into a program with measurable goals and defined outcomes. Several of the topics above should be consolidated as tasks leading to milestones for the overall plan.
- Reduction of fossil fuel use from transportation is important, more encouragement for companies to use local suppliers can cut down on fossil fuel use. Creating affordable housing can also reduce overall fossil fuel use through reduced travel.
- Look into natural gas restrictions on new buildings, perhaps?
- Bellevue should strive to be the greenest city in Washington now and in the future. This city is rich and has the ability to pioneer and pave the way for sustainability.
- Prompt action is needed. Studying issues to death will not help the cause.
- The alarm bells have been going off for years now. This absolutely needs to be a major PRIORITY.
- Not allow idling in ANY areas Schools especially and car parks.
- Consumer-side initiatives are great, but by and large the biggest source of pollution and inefficiency comes from businesses. They have the power and capital to do things in a way that doesn't damage the environment; we absolutely need to ask more of them on this front. The most important consumer-side issue is the development of useable, accessible transit.
- Honestly go right ahead and sell the youth out to big business all you want. Just know when we're dying off due to climate change I'll make sure to put your names and faces up to the world along with every politician, business owner, climate change denier to make sure their ancestors along with the world know who's fault it is.
- ^NONE OF THE ABOVE. MOST IMPORTANT= LOWER FIXED COSTS CITY HAS MONEY. TOO MUCH - MONEY IN FACT LOOK AT RESERVES - DEPT BY DEPT. IT'S HORRENDOUS. ALMOST OPERATING AS A FOR-PROFIT INSTITUTE. PLEASE REVIEW. THANK YOU
- The green building / materials initiatives are crucial because they begin to shift culture. Building an eco-district is inspiring, and absolutely where we should be by 2050. Phasing



out single-use plastic is long over-due. Protecting the purity and health of our water is VITAL, and should go without saying. The other measures are very important as well, but the ones related to these issues above definitely need to be priority. We need our city to be a leader, and find the actions that are connected to the core of what it means to be a human, like having access to clean water, protecting this crucial natural resource required for our survival, and things that change the game, and give people (especially young people) hope in an era of so much threat and crisis.

- "I believe that many, if not all of these points are urgent topics that need to be explored and incentivize. By creating teams to work on each of these bullet points, Bellevue would be the leading City in the Pacific Northwest to be changing their consumer ways into green, sustainable and Earth prioritizing systems! I am given hope by these potential changes, and welcome all that is to come of this. Thank you.
- Bellevue should be very cautious about the costs and effectiveness of many of these proposals. The City's current environmental requirements are reasonable and effective. Making them more stringent will make Bellevue more expensive, congested and unwelcoming.
- Please don't increase the burden on an economy reeling from COVID19.
- I hope you will consider the cost to the city and the taxpayers in all of these policies. Bellevue residents are mostly thoughtful and well-educated so voluntary incentives and education can be effective tools. If you keep trying to increase housing density and attract new businesses, you will have to forego some trees and you will generate more emissions. Consider the trade-offs.
- Great to see Bellevue moving forward on Climate Justice and Climate Change.
- Glad you are considering so many relevant actions.
- Ban gas lawnmowers, leaf blowers.
- I don't see any reason why we can't attempt most if not all of these. None of these seem like particularly expensive or difficult things to do. A lot of this would just require introduction of or changes to policy which should be cheap and doable. I chose my most important five, but I'd like to see the city do as much as it can to achieve sustainability and environmental friendliness. However, to be honest, I don't think this is really our most pressing issue at the time. I think risks from climate change are often overexaggerated and the effects of our actions to combat it underestimated. This isn't to say we shouldn't be addressing the issues of climate change and sustainability, or that they are not important issues, but I think we have more pressing issues that should be given similar if not more attention, like homelessness, poverty, workers' rights, racial disparities in

wealth, drug use, healthcare & mental health, and quality of and funding for education, especially in poorer areas. We even have widespread drug use in our schools today and it seems like no one is really doing anything about it.

- Use the county climate toolkit that is in production right now, and include stakeholders in an advisory group to assist. We have many educated and involved citizens who can help and expand our effectiveness.
- Too many of these items are for studies. We know what needs to be done. Time to do, not study.
- NO :)
- I selected Transportation Master Plan, but we already know what to do to encourage walking, biking, and transit.
  - Allow housing near places people want to go
  - Reduce parking, and use the space for people
  - Reduce car speeds, lanes, lane widths
  - Provide safe and convenient biking and walking infrastructure, at the expense of convenient driving
  - Assume that people will not drive and build accordingly. Build for the mode share you want.
- Everything you do to provide more convenient driving is at the expense of those who are making better transportation choices, or who cannot drive. Improving driving is about convenience. Improving walking and biking is about safety, and providing safe infrastructure for those outside of cars improves the safety of those in the cars also.
- Dependence on automobiles is Bellevue's biggest problem.
- Adding protected bike lanes with plastic posts (similar to the ones used in Seattle) significantly increases biking which reduces emissions
- I have always been impressed with Bellevue's vision of the future and am happy to live here and take my part in progress.
- I am extremely in favor of all initiatives to improve public transit. It is high time an accessible and widespread system is put in place.
- I chose my 5 based on expediency. In other words, things we can do sooner than later.

- I am tired of seeing city trees cut topped poorly - they'll never come back from some things i have seen... Employ arborist those that know what they are doing, please.
- Not sufficient information. How much do options reduce GHG's and what is the cost? What is the effect on low-income families. I will pick 5 but don't feel looking at the popularity of choices is a rational way to make decisions.
- As a high schooler who is passionate about sustainability, I really do hope that the City of Bellevue will make good on its initiatives and do its best to meet its goals. What we have seen so far is already promising.
- Consider this being in tangent with the King County Climate Action Plan
- Establish an incentive program + pricing mechanism for commercial and residential storage (much like the tax credits and net metering for solar) in order to promote greater grid resiliency and hasten green energy adoption.
- To be honest I don't think me or most people that you surveyed are at all qualified to assess this.