



Summer 2017

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## Downtown Park comes full circle

By Christina Faine, Parks & Community Services Public Information Officer



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The "Complete the Circle" project nears completion.

More than 30 years after a circular promenade was designed for Bellevue's iconic Downtown Park, the walkway will be complete. The southern half of the park will reopen this month, following construction of both the last segment of the promenade and a play area for people of all abilities.

A community celebration at the park on Wednesday, June 28, 3-6 p.m., will feature a ribbon cutting at 3:30 p.m. along with activities, live music and food trucks.

"Finishing the circle completes the 35-year vision of beloved Downtown Park," said Mayor John Stokes. "We invite you to come to the grand opening to enjoy the finished promenade and to play in the universally accessible playground."

While the canal and path were planned to circle the entire park from the beginning, the well-used park looked like a pie with a quarter cut out of it for

two decades. Typical of significant large-scale park improvements, construction was phased over multiple years as funding was made available.

In addition to completing the circular canal and tree-lined promenade, the work included creation of a "grand entrance" and water feature at the south end of the park.

The play area was expanded to include an "Inspiration Playground" through a partnership with the Bellevue Rotary. The new space includes tactile sculptures that encourage touching and climbing and an interactive music plaza that allows users to create and respond to sound.

Featuring a central "Whimsy Plaza" with a fanciful tree sculpture, the playground is open to kids of all ages and abilities – with unique play opportunities for people with developmental and physical disabilities.

## Council continues work on proposed shelter site

By Lenka Wright, Chief Communications Officer

At its June 5 meeting the City Council approved, by a 6-1 vote, moving forward on the development of revisions to the Eastgate Land Use Code Amendment to potentially allow shelter use in this area. Included in the motion was the request to draft several other code provisions related to the shelter discussion. These include:

- Provisions that would apply citywide to better define how shelter uses are permitted;
- Prohibition of safe injection sites;
- Options for stronger vehicle parking and camping in public places enforcement; and
- Development of a public education campaign on panhandling.

Councilmembers also requested the city explore the Sound Transit Operations & Maintenance Facility: East property in BelRed as a potential site for the project.

In a third and final motion, the council unanimously requested a later update on improvements to the current Eastside Winter Shelter located at Lincoln Center, 515 116th Ave. NE, in the Wilburton neighborhood.

None of the council actions during the June 5 meeting amounted to a formal approval of the shelter project at the Eastgate location. Councilmembers will likely discuss the proposed Eastgate Land Use Code Amendments revisions sometime in July.

The meeting was a direct follow-up to the council's April 18 discussion on the proposal. At that

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# Council Corner

## Council Corner: Investing in our parks



By Councilmember Jennifer Robertson

It's summer, and that means it's time to get outdoors and enjoy the splendor of our region. In Bellevue, we make that easy by having an abundance of parks and open space available for your recreation needs. That is one reason that Bellevue is known as a "city in a park," and why you feel it's vital to our quality of life to preserve this unique characteristic of our city.

So what have we done recently? The answer is, "A lot."

The City Council supports the vision of Bellevue as a "city in a park" and we are investing your dollars to continue to improve these amenities. While the city has nearly 100 parks, we keep making our park system better by purchasing available open space, improving existing parks and adding amenities the public desires. This year we are making major investments in Downtown Park and the Meydenbauer Bay Park.

The City Council takes its commitments seriously. With Downtown Park, we are making good on a 30+-year vision to "complete the circle" and install a larger, more inclusive playground. With Meydenbauer Bay Park, we are bringing to life a new waterfront park near downtown, a project that's been decades in the making.

### Downtown Park's "Complete the Circle"

This phase of the Downtown Park has been a long time coming because in Bellevue we invest as funds are available. Our large projects (whether parks, transportation, utilities, etc.) are often done in phases.

This project was approved by voters in 2008. The city will finish the promenade and complete additional phases of the 1997 Downtown Park master plan. Key elements of "Complete the Circle" project include:

- Completion of the circular canal and tree-lined promenade;
- Creation of a grand entrance and water feature at the south end of the park;
- Terraced seating, stairways and accessible paths;
- Closure of the parking lot off Northeast Second Street and expansion of the one off 100th Avenue Northeast; and
- Additional landscape plantings.

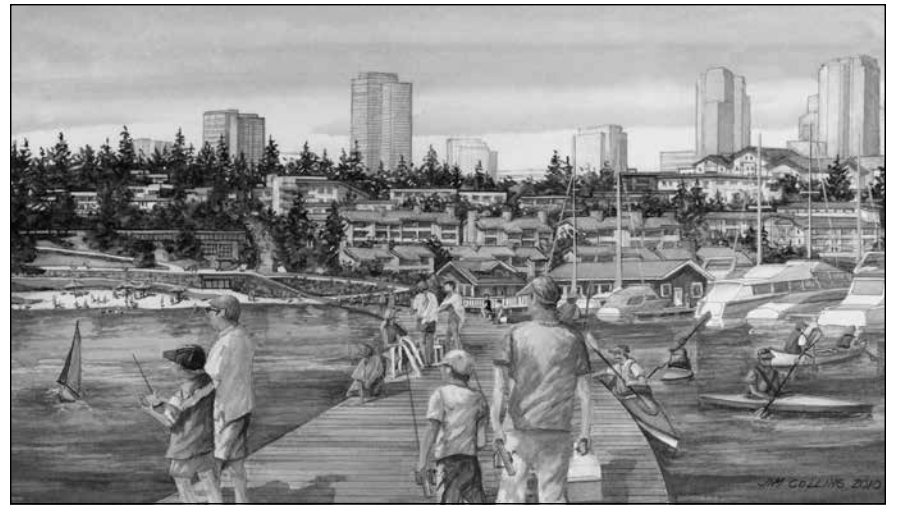
Although my children are now beyond "playground age", I am particularly excited about the changes coming to the playground at Downtown Park. The existing play area will be transformed into the "Inspiration Playground" through a partnership with the Rotary Club of Bellevue. The inclusive outdoor play environment will include:

- Universally accessible design and equipment suitable for all ages and abilities, including play spaces that will accommodate the needs of all children – those who are typically developing, as well as those with physical, cognitive or sensory disabilities;
- Interactive play features that engage the senses, including tactile sculptures that encourage touching and climbing, and an interactive music plaza allowing users to create and respond to sound; and
- A central "Whimsy Plaza" that will feature a tree sculpture that evokes Dr. Seuss.

Construction is expected to be completed in time for this year's annual Fourth of July event held at the park. Join your community in celebrating America's birthday and enjoy the newly upgraded Downtown Park.

### Meydenbauer Bay Park

The City of Bellevue has had a longstanding vision of connecting the Meydenbauer Bay waterfront to Downtown Park to create a signature park and waterfront destination. Construction of phase I of this park started in



Artist rendition of the Meydenbauer Bay Park

May and is expected to be completed in the fall of 2018.

The two homes on 99th Avenue Northeast were demolished in May, creating visual access to the waterfront and changing that area of the city significantly.

This project has been a long time in the making. First envisioned in 1987 in the Parks Plan, the city started acquiring property in 1992 as parcels became available. Eventually, the city acquired 10 acres of land, including a quarter mile of waterfront.

The park, which will include the currently existing Meydenbauer Beach Park, will enhance public access to the Meydenbauer Bay waterfront and help distinguish Bellevue as a waterfront city. Project highlights include:

- Relocation and expansion of the public swimming beach.
- Construction of a new beach house with restrooms and showers.
- Creation of a curvilinear pedestrian pier and hand-carry boat launch.
- Conversion of the lower portions of the existing park into a natural ravine.
- Lake Washington Boulevard right-of-way improvements, including undergrounding of overhead power lines.
- 99th Street parking lot and marina entrance improvements.
- Walking paths, picnic areas, pedestrian promenade and children's play area.
- Renovation of the Whaling Building to include accessible restrooms, a meeting room and boat rentals.

Additional features for the park, including a redeveloped marina and improved pedestrian connections to downtown, are planned but not budgeted at this time.

Like all projects, the planning has included engagement with neighbors, community stakeholders, the city's Parks and Community Services Board and the City Council. The park plans have focused on providing pedestrian connections between the new waterfront park and downtown. Ultimately this will be part of the city's planned "Grand Connection," which will connect Meydenbauer Bay Park, Downtown Park, the Downtown Pedestrian Corridor, City Hall Plaza and the Eastside Rail Corridor.

### Thank you for supporting Bellevue parks

We couldn't be a "city in a park" without the support from all our residents and businesses in Bellevue who support our parks by paying taxes, voting for parks levies and supporting our community events. These projects demonstrate our shared values in preserving parks and creating new ones – places to play and help preserve trees and open space for the next generation. We couldn't do it without you! Thank you.

# Council Roundup

By Brad Harwood, Deputy Communications Officer

### Highland Village preservation funds approved

On May 15, the City Council authorized a \$2 million contribution for King County Housing Authority's acquisition of the Bellevue Highland Village Apartments. The vote marks the culmination of a joint effort by the city, state, King County and KCHA to preserve 76 apartments as affordable housing. Thanks to the agreement, spearheaded by KCHA, 85 children living at Highland Village will be able to continue their education in Bellevue schools.

Highland Village gained widespread community attention last summer when the complex's owner announced plans to redevelop the property into new market-rate townhomes. Due to the affordability of the units and high proportion of families with children in the schools, KCHA stepped forward to coordinate a public purchase of the property for \$20 million.

Mayor John Stokes in his remarks before the vote noted that the Highland Village preservation marked an "amazing collaborative effort."

### Simas takes oath of office

During the April 3 council meeting, Councilmember Ernie Simas was sworn in to office. Simas was appointed in March to fill the Position 5 seat vacated by Vandana Slatter. Forty-three people had applied.

Simas' term will extend until Nov. 28, when the general election is certified. He is not seeking election to the seat.

### Boosting efficiency with Utilities tablets

The council on March 13 was briefed on the initial success of the Utilities Department's recently deployed mobile devices program. The program, part of the Utilities Mobile Workforce initiative adopted by the council in the 2015-16

budget, has received positive responses from both frontline field staff and customers.

Thanks to the new tablets, staff can now diagnose issues in real-time, avoid cumbersome paper maps and logs, reduce the number of miles they have to drive, and communicate with non-English speakers via a translation program.

The preliminary batch of 65 iPad Pro tablets were deployed to field staff in December. A majority of staff now use the new tool daily.

Utilities' program highlights Bellevue's commitment to become a "Smart City," one of the Council 2016-17 priorities. Smart Cities use advances in information and communications technology to enhance livability, sustainably and resilience. The ultimate goal of it is to achieve predictive, interoperable and adaptive services and operations.



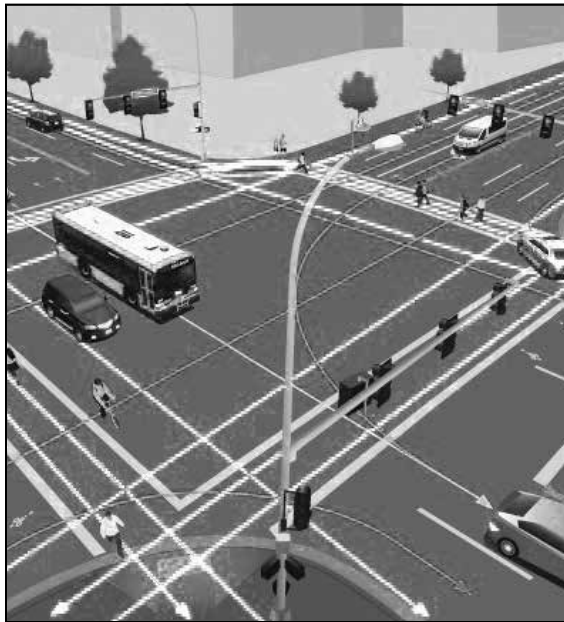
# Video analytics offers chance to save lives

By David Grant, Transportation Public Information Officer

Bellevue, along with Microsoft Corp., the University of Washington and other organizations across North America, has launched a high-tech project to prevent deaths and serious injuries from traffic crashes. The partnership – co-led by the city – is asking the public to take part in a crowd-sourcing effort crucial to the project's success.

The idea behind the “Video Analytics Towards Vision Zero” project is for computers to analyze traffic camera video footage collected by many cities, including Bellevue, then predict where future crashes are likely to occur by identifying near-miss collisions. Traffic engineers could then take corrective action to prevent them. The nationwide project launched June 1.

Project organizers are urging as many people as possible to help by watching traffic camera video and using tracking tools to identify objects and movements. The more volunteers who take part, the better computers will learn



to pick out vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians in the video and recognize near-miss collisions. To participate online, visit [www.ite.org/visionzero/videoanalytics/](http://www.ite.org/visionzero/videoanalytics/).

The potential of the project for saving lives is significant. In 2016, road crashes resulted in approximately 40,000 deaths and 4.6 million injuries in the United States alone. For young people under age 19, these collisions were the leading cause of death.

The Video Analytics project fits with the City Council's vision to make Bellevue a “Smart City,” with a goal to achieve predictive, interoperable and adaptive services, and operations. Vision Zero is an international initiative that aims to end all traffic deaths and serious injuries on streets by 2030. To achieve that goal, pre-emptive action is required, and that's where Video Analytics can play a role.

## Construction along entire East Link line soon

By Marie Jensen, East Link Outreach

Over the summer months, you'll notice key Sound Transit East Link Lightrail construction activities along the alignment through Bellevue.

### South Bellevue

- Lane closures on Bellevue Way between Interstate 90 and the intersection at 112th Avenue Southeast.
- Clearing and grading at Bellevue Way and 112th Avenue Southeast.
- Sidewalk closure on east side of Bellevue Way, south of the closed Sound Bellevue Park and Ride, up to 112th Avenue Southeast.
- Demolition of vacant structures on 112th Avenue Southeast and 111th Place Southeast.

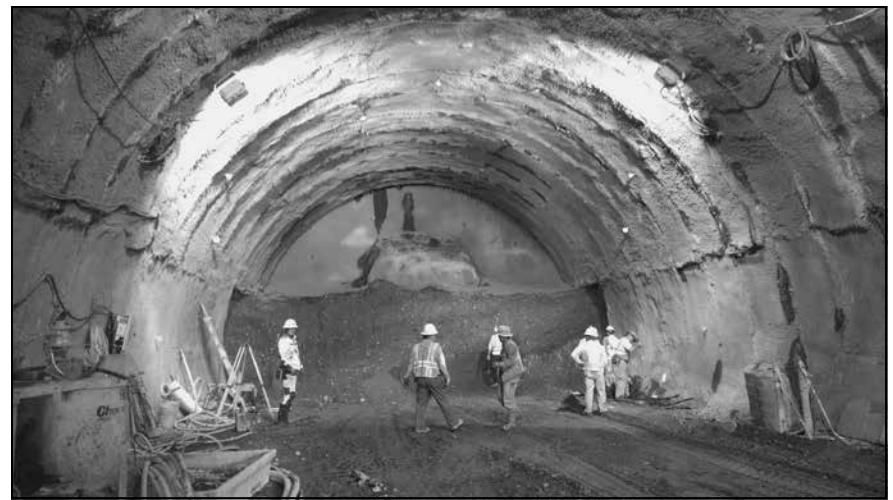
### Central Bellevue

- Full closure of a portion of 110th Avenue Northeast near Northeast Sixth Street for approximately nine months.
- Modifications in access to City Hall visitor parking.
- Lane closures on Northeast Sixth Street and Interstate 405.
- Clearing and grading within the Eastside Rail Corridor adjacent to Lake Bellevue.
- Excavation continuing on the downtown tunnel.

### BelRed

- Traffic revisions along Northeast 20th Street, 136th Place Northeast and Northeast Spring Boulevard.
- Demolition of vacant buildings.

Typical construction work hours in Bellevue are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. However, the city



Contractors for Sound Transit are in the downtown East Link tunnel under construction.

has approved expanded hours of construction for tunnel excavation and for some construction activities in each segment. Construction noise complaints should go to Sound Transit's 24-hour Construction Hotline at 1-888-298-2395.

Construction schedules often change, and the best way to receive current information is to subscribe to Sound Transit's East Link construction alerts at [www.soundtransit.org/subscribe](http://www.soundtransit.org/subscribe) or contact its Outreach Office at 206-398-5465 or [eastlink@soundtransit.org](mailto:eastlink@soundtransit.org).

## Lessening impacts of East Link construction, operation

By Marie Jensen, East Link Outreach

As you notice more signs of East Link construction in Bellevue, what may not be as visible are measures Sound Transit is taking to limit noise, traffic and environmental impacts from the light rail line, both during construction and after it's up and running.

To protect Bellevue neighborhoods, the City Council required Sound Transit to mitigate impacts from East Link. Land use, design and permitting policies and codes ensure the project meets city standards.

### Sound walls and more

Noise mitigation was a high priority for the council.

While East Link was being designed, the city required taller and longer temporary and permanent sound walls to be installed along the alignment and to be built sooner rather than later when feasible.

Ways to address operational noise include track lubrication at certain points, wheel skirts on the train cars, use of ballasted track rather than

paved track in certain areas, and reduced night train bell noise.

### Discouraging commuter traffic in neighborhoods

At the recommendation of a neighborhood traffic mitigation committee consisting of neighborhood volunteers, the city is monitoring traffic volumes in Bellecrest, Enatai and Surrey Downs and near Beaux Arts Village, and installing “Local Access Only, Residential Area” signs.

The committee will consider other tools to discourage commuter traffic during East Link construction, should impacts from construction on Bellevue Way and 112th Avenue Southeast become more evident.

### Environmental mitigation

Environmental mitigation is occurring through wetland restoration, tree replacement, habitat enhancement and acquisition of new park land.

At Mercer Slough Nature Park, over six acres of wetland and wetland buffer will be

restored. More than 2,800 trees will be planted to offset the removal of 691 trees. Additionally, six acres were added to the park, as well as 700 feet of new boardwalk, expanded parking and a new, relocated fruit stand.

Following the completion of the East Main station at 112th Avenue Southeast and Main Street, Sound Transit will deed approximately 1.5 acres to the city for a new park. The park will provide pedestrian connections between the station and neighborhoods to the west and a green buffer between the higher density mixed-use development and single-family residential neighborhoods.

More recently, the Parks and Community Services Department relocated 40 trees and plants from City Hall to various parks including Bellevue Youth Theatre at Ivanhoe, Hidden Valley Sports Park, Newport Hills Community Park and Wilburton Hill Community Park.

For the latest updates, a map at [bit.ly/bellevue-east-link](http://bit.ly/bellevue-east-link) illustrates all of the mitigation efforts underway for East Link.

# City kicks off Meydenbauer Bay Park construction

By Christina Faine, Parks & Community Services Public Information Officer

Construction is now underway for the long-awaited Meydenbauer Bay Park, which will improve the connection between Bellevue’s bustling downtown and its scenic Lake Washington waterfront.

With a quarter mile of waterfront, the 10-acre park considerably expands the current Meydenbauer Beach Park. A large public swimming



A backhoe clears and grades the area for Meydenbauer Bay Park construction.

beach, pedestrian pier, restored whaling building and new beach house will make the park a destination for residents and visitors.

“This project is a testament to the patience and tenacity of city leaders who wouldn’t give up on their dream of increasing waterfront access and connections to the heart of our city,” said Mayor John Stokes.

In 1987, Bellevue officials made acquisition of Meydenbauer Bay waterfront a major focus of the city’s Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan. Between 1992 and 2007, the city acquired 12 properties along the bay to add to the land that King County transferred to Bellevue when the city was incorporated in 1953. The city purchased the Bellevue Marina in 1992.

In 2007, the City Council appointed a 13-member steering committee, representing various neighborhoods and citywide interests to engage with staff and the public through the long-range planning process. A master plan was adopted in 2010.

The new park responds to the community’s long-held interest in additional public water access. Despite Bellevue’s 14 miles of shoreline along Lake Washington and Lake Sammamish, total shoreline in public ownership is limited to approximately 1.6 miles, or 12 percent, with the majority along Lake Washington.

Meydenbauer Beach Park will be closed during the project, and the Bellevue Marina will remain open. Construction is expected to be completed in late fall 2018.

## Bellevue debuts new city website

### Mobile-friendly design, improved navigation and better visual presentation

By Lenka Wright, Chief Communications Officer

The City of Bellevue recently debuted its new website, BellevueWA.gov, offering users an improved mobile experience with greater functionality. Incorporating feedback from users along with web best practices, the new website better reflects the needs of today’s users. BellevueWA.gov replaces a site that was developed more than 10 years ago.

“BellevueWA.gov better serves the 81 percent of our users who access city services on a mobile device,” said Sabra Schneider, interim chief information officer. “Through an online survey in 2016, more than 1,000 stakeholders told us what they wanted in a new city website, and the new site reflects what we’ve heard, including better search, a more responsive experience and a modern look and feel.

“We’re excited about this dialogue with our users, which will drive the continued evolution of BellevueWA.gov,” Schneider added.

The redesigned website is the first step in supporting increased communications and civic

engagement through a responsive, mobile-friendly design. With 39 percent of residents being foreign-born, important information is translated online into the top five languages spoken in Bellevue: Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Russian and Spanish.



There’s also a new city newsroom section, providing a central location for news our community cares about, including the latest

news releases, recaps of City Council meetings, emergency and extreme weather information, and a Hot Topics/Initiatives page providing quick links to timely issues ranging from homelessness response to the levy projects.

“The website redesign project provided a unique opportunity to rethink the city’s online presentation to residents, businesses and visitors,” said Lenka Wright, chief communications officer. “The emphasis is on helping users find quality content for the information they seek, while showcasing Bellevue’s customer-centric service, programs provided to the community and commitment to transparency.”

Site visitors are encouraged to provide feedback about their BellevueWA.gov experience through an online survey ([www.surveymonkey.com/r/bellevue-site-redesign](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/bellevue-site-redesign)), accessible on the website. Based on user feedback and site analytics, the website project team will continue to enhance the site in order to further improve the user experience over time.

## New planning and community development director

By Lenka Wright, Chief Communications Officer



Michael “Mac” Cummins, a planning professional with nearly 20 years of experience, has been appointed to lead Bellevue’s Planning and Community Development Department. Cummins has served as planning manager with the City of Westminster, Colo. since 2008. He’s also worked for the cities of Scottsdale, Ariz. and Seal Beach, Calif. and the Southern California Association of Governments.

Cummins begins his director position in early July.

“Mac Cummins’ vast experience in city planning, housing-related issues and community development, especially in urban growth, makes him an ideal fit for Bellevue,” said City Manager Brad Miyake after making the appointment in May. “Not only does he have the technical know-how, but Mac also understands the opportunities and challenges that face a growing city like ours and how to address them as a

community.”

“I look forward to leading Bellevue’s efforts to grow and develop smartly while retaining its ‘City in a Park’ character,” said Cummins. “I enjoy local municipal planning and working with the community as we address big-picture topics together such as the Wilburton-Grand Connection initiative and affordable housing, making sure the implementation appropriately reflects the city’s values and vision.”

Cummins’ broad experience has included land use planning, transit-oriented development, economic development and housing. Cummins has a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Policy and Management with honors from the University of Southern California and two master’s degrees – one in Public Administration and one in Planning – also from USC. In addition, he’s a certified planner, having achieved this designation through the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Miyake expressed his appreciation to Dan Stroh, the longtime planning director in the department, who’s been serving as PCD’s acting director since Chris Salomone retired last year.



## Boys and Girls clubs take ‘Greener Living Challenge’

By Jennifer Goodhart, Conservation and Outreach Administrator



Sheo Kim, left, and Herenim Solomon, participants in the Greener Living Challenge, show off a poster about the program.

More than 200 members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue tried out sustainable ways of doing things as part of a “Greener Living Challenge.” Over several weeks, from February to April, the young people in three clubs learned how to reduce waste and conserve resources.

The Boys & Girls Clubs joined with the King County Housing Authority and the City of Bellevue to develop a fun curriculum for students designed to immerse them in a specific environmental issue each of the weeks of the challenge.

Each week, a guest from a different city department visited the students and taught a hands-on activity, then provided a challenge for students to complete during that week. Challenges included:

- promoting recycling and waste reduction;
- using natural cleaners;
- eliminating contaminants from going down local storm drains and sewer pipes; and
- conserving energy.

The clubs, based in the Spiritwood Manor, Hidden Village and Eastside Terrace apartment complexes, were well-placed for the children to put the challenges into action.

Families received tools to help implement the challenge at home, such as reusable recycling bags, car wash coupons and LED bulbs. Many students speak a language other than English at home and were able to act as ambassadors for the city by translating materials to teach everyone in their home.

Congratulations to each of the participants for taking and meeting the challenge, helping to reduce waste and conserve resources in Bellevue.

## A strategy for adding affordable housing

By Janet Lewine, Associate Planner

With help from a panel of local experts, the city has come up with a strategy for bringing more affordable housing to Bellevue, including funding efforts by nonprofits to preserve housing for low-income residents and offering incentives to private developers who include affordable housing in their projects.

The lack of affordable housing in Bellevue affects everyone – residents, employees, businesses, seniors and families. Rents continue to climb and now average over \$2,000 a month in parts of Bellevue. This rent is beyond the reach of about two thirds of Bellevue’s workforce, including grocery clerks, restaurant workers, bank tellers and teachers.

The median sales price for a single-family home on the Eastside is \$880,000 and, in Bellevue, it is over \$1 million. One third of Bellevue households spend over 30 percent of their income on housing, forcing them to cut back on other needs such as food, transportation and medical care.

The City Council made creation of an action-focused affordable housing strategy a priority in 2015.

The strategy is a set of actions that, when fully implemented, could create up to 2,500 affordable homes in Bellevue over the next 10 years and provide new or expanded assistance for residents struggling to remain in Bellevue.

The city’s strategy is a culmination of more than a year of research, analysis and community input. It is actually five interrelated strategies with over 20 actions.

A team of 15 housing experts that included developers, residents, architects and representatives of housing nonprofits evaluated all parts of the housing strategy. This Technical Advisory Group highlighted several “bold” actions for the council to consider, including:

- partnering with nonprofit housing providers to purchase and preserve existing, affordable apartments;
- increasing the amount of housing that can be built on existing nonprofit housing sites and faith-based owned properties that are appropriately located for housing;
- using tax exemptions and other development incentives to encourage private development to include affordable housing; and
- seeking additional local, county and state funding to build more affordable housing in Bellevue.

The council reviewed the proposed actions at study sessions in April and May, and adopted the strategy on June 5. Implementation will occur over the next two to three years, with additional council and public review required for several of the actions.

The Affordable Housing Strategy also includes a monitoring program to measure overall progress and effectiveness of individual actions.

More information on the project, including the Council draft report and additional background information can be found on the city website at <http://planning.bellevuewa.gov/planning/planning-initiatives/affordable-housing-strategy/>.



## All drains lead to Bellevue’s streams and lakes

If you see pollution, call us. Storm drains in Bellevue lead directly to local waterways without treatment. Call 425-452-7840 to report pollution – including grease, paint, concrete, leaking dumpsters or wash water going into streams, lakes or storm drains in Bellevue.

You can prevent pollution by using a commercial car wash, which sends its waste water to the sewer for treatment. Dirty car wash water down storm drains pollutes our local waterways with petroleum, hydrocarbons, heavy metals, phosphorus, nitrogen and sediments. Even biodegradable soap pollutes water. Contact the Stream Team ([streamteam@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:streamteam@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-542-5200) for questions about pollution prevention.

## Shelter continued

time, councilmembers voted 4-to-3 to give preliminary approval on siting the proposed Eastside men’s shelter and supportive housing project at the Eastgate site, located at 14350 SE Eastgate Way, while considering the viability of Sound Transit maintenance facility and Lincoln Center sites over a 45-day study period.

Establishing a permanent Eastside shelter is a 2016-17 City Council Vision Priority. The project, associated with the initially proposed Eastgate site, is in partnership with King County, Congregations for the Homeless and Imagine Housing.

As proposed, the shelter would operate under a low-barrier model, meaning the facility generally would not turn anyone in need away; however strict standards for behavior and clear protocols for anyone not meeting those standards would be part of the operating model. During the June 5 meeting, some members of the council also expressed interest in further discussing the “low-barrier” shelter model, which was part of the original proposal.

More details about the proposed shelter and supportive housing project are available at: <https://bellevuewa.gov/eastside-mens-shelter>. Residents are encouraged to share their comments by sending an email to: [EastsideMensShelter@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:EastsideMensShelter@bellevuewa.gov).

## Variety of transportation projects in progress this summer

By Tresa Berg, Transportation Public Involvement Manager

There's something for everyone – pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and drivers – on the Transportation drawing board or under construction this summer.

In south Bellevue, design work is beginning on a multipurpose pathway and a bike lane on Southeast Newport Way, between 150th Avenue Southeast and Somerset Boulevard. With the goal of improving safety, the pathway will be added on the north side of the street, with the bike lane on the south side.

Also in design is a project aimed at reducing travel times for transit riders, carpoolers and vanpoolers on Bellevue Way Southeast. A proposed southbound high-occupancy vehicle lane would run from the “Y” intersection at 112th Avenue Southeast to the South Bellevue Park and Ride. Sound Transit will add an HOV lane from the Park and Ride to Interstate 90 as part of its East Link light rail project.

Transportation engineers also will study the possibility of a slightly longer HOV lane – to 108th Avenue Southeast. The design work is funded but money has not yet been budgeted to purchase needed right of way or for project construction.

Other transportation projects of interest this summer include:

**Northup Way:** In northwest Bellevue, work is winding down on the construction of sidewalks, bike lanes and intersection improvements that give cyclists and walkers a safe connection on Northup Way, between Northeast 33rd Place and Northeast 24th Street. The new bike lanes will link the SR 520 regional trail to the west and an existing trail off Northeast 24th Street to the east.

**120th Avenue Northeast:** On the west edge of the BelRed area, contractors are nearly done widening 120th Avenue Northeast and adding bike lanes and sidewalks, from Northeast Eighth Street to Northeast 16th Street. Completion is anticipated in the fall.

**Spring Boulevard:** Northeast Spring Boulevard will provide a new east-west arterial in BelRed. Construction is taking place between 120th Avenue Northeast to just west of the Eastside Rail Corridor. It's the first of four project phases planned over the next several years.



Widening 120th Avenue Northeast in the BelRed area has been a major project, expected to be completed in the fall.

**Repaving locations:** The full length of Richards Road will be resurfaced this summer, along with the west end of the Lake Hills Connector. To avoid traffic hang-ups, please watch for electronic message board signs, which will provide specific dates and times.

Several other repaving projects will include a bonus this year – bike lanes that will improve safety. For information on road construction impacts, check the city's Traffic Advisories web page. Streets getting bike lanes include:

- Village Park Drive from Lakemont Boulevard to the south city limits;
- Southeast Newport Way from 164th Avenue Southeast to Lakemont Boulevard; and
- 108th Avenue Southeast from Bellevue Way to Main Street.

## Recruiting for Bellevue Essentials class of 2017

By Julie Ellenborn, Neighborhood Outreach



Park ranger Curtis Kukal gives a Bellevue Essentials class at tour of the Mercer Slough Environmental Center.

The City of Bellevue is seeking applicants for the 2017 class of Bellevue Essentials, the city's program for emerging neighborhood and

community leaders. Residents interested in learning more about the structure and operations of city government are invited to participate in the program, now in its fifth year.

Class members will build familiarity with government process and decision-making, while networking with a cohort of similarly minded people looking to expand their minds and their skills. Participants will learn the “nuts and bolts” of Bellevue from key city staff, neighborhood leaders, decision makers, elected officials and community leaders.

The nine-week introduction to civic engagement in Bellevue begins on Sept. 27, with eight weekly Wednesday evening sessions and a Saturday tour day. Class size is limited to 35 participants and the city has had a waiting list each year.

The application deadline is Aug. 1. Applicants should be interested in becoming engaged in the community, and the city seeks to have the class represent a broad range of geographic areas and the diverse make-up of Bellevue.

Bellevue Essentials tuition is \$95 per participant, with financial assistance available. Tuition includes all classes, materials and a light dinner at each session. The brochure and application are available at <http://bit.ly/essentials-application>.

For more information or to request a hard-copy brochure and simple one-page application, please contact Julie Ellenborn, Neighborhood Outreach, 425-452-5372 or [jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov).

## First of 38 Neighborhood Levy projects underway in Crossroads

By David Grant, Transportation Public Information Officer

The first project funded by the voter-approved Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion levy is really 360 mini-projects in one.

That's how many locations will be upgraded over the next few months in the Crossroads area with new sidewalk sections, the equivalent of approximately 1.75 miles of six-foot wide sidewalk. The \$826,780 construction contract will pay for fixes to damage caused by tree roots, unevenness caused by erosion and other impacts. In addition to a better walking surface for pedestrians, the work ensures that sidewalks comply with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Projects funded through the levy will be marked with distinct signs wherever possible.

Crossroads is just one of 38 levy-funded transportation projects identified by the City Council scheduled to begin construction in 2017 and 2018. Other Neighborhood Levy projects expected to begin in the coming months include:

- New bike lanes on 139th Avenue Southeast, from Eastgate Way to Kamber Road, and on Village Park Drive, from Lakemont Boulevard to 179th Avenue Southeast (\$65,000 preliminary cost estimate);
- Crosswalk improvements and radar signs along Lake Hills Boulevard, from the Lake Hills Trail crossing to 159th Place Southeast

(\$180,000 preliminary cost estimate); and

- Design work for future congestion relief projects near the Interstate 90 interchange: one at 150th Avenue Southeast at Newport Way, and one at 150th and Southeast 37th Street (\$1 million preliminary cost estimate).

The full project list and other information is available on the levy projects web page at <https://bellevuewa.gov/transportationlevy>. To keep on schedule and realize efficiencies, the city's Transportation Department is adding staff and grouping similar projects.

Revenue from the Neighborhood levy, approved by voters last November, will be used to reduce a lengthy backlog of work in several categories: projects to reduce neighborhood congestion, neighborhood safety projects, including new bike facilities, new and enhanced sidewalks and trails, and technology for safety and traffic management.

The transportation-focused Neighborhood levy was one of two property tax measures approved by Bellevue voters last November. The other was a Fire Facilities levy. The Neighborhood levy, approved by 54 percent of voters, will raise \$140 million over 20 years (15 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value), or \$7 million per year. In addition to construction work, revenue from the levy will pay for related project costs such as planning, design property acquisition and public outreach.



# After mediation, clashing neighbors share sugar

By Marcia McReynolds, Neighborhood Mediation Co-Manager

When neighbors are in conflict, Bellevue's Neighborhood Mediation team can make a big difference. Hatchets get buried. Peace pipes get passed. Eventually, cups of sugar get shared.

It's true. As one client wrote, "Our new neighbor had never met us and was feeling very threatened." So they spoke to a conciliator at the mediation

share sugar when needed and help watch each other's houses when someone's on vacation."

## Resolving all kinds of conflicts

Neighbor disagreements represent only some of the conflicts the city Mediation team helps people who live or work in Bellevue resolve. The team, which includes a small staff and many volunteers trained in conciliation (peacemaking via phone) and mediation, also assists with other kinds of conflicts.

When a conciliator answers the phone at the Mediation office at City Hall, it could be a story about a swamp from the neighbor's sprinkler, tenants making noise, landlords holding deposits, a business startup partner's different view of workload, parents confounded by teen behavior or adult children not knowing how to talk to elder parents about narrowing choices.

The conciliator knows there are many perspectives, so he or she then calls the other party to hear how they see things, and then goes back and forth via phone to help the parties find a way through the conflict and preserve the relationship. Just having an intermediary on the phone can go a long way.

## Happy customers

"It was helpful to be able to speak with someone who seemed to have genuine compassion and concern for the problem I was having," one resident reported. "It is always good to have someone who can listen without being biased."

Another says the conciliator "helped me not feel so crazy, that what I needed was important. Having someone to talk it over with and get things reframed helped."

Bellevue conciliators can often help people resolve issues on their own, just giving them a little coaching instead of setting up a full-on mediation.

"My first email to the landlord would have been a nastygram," one client reports. "The conciliator helped me rewrite it, being more respectful. It got results."

If the conflict is complex or sensitive, conciliators will arrange a mediation. In a neutral location, with a trained mediator to help when things get difficult, anything is possible, as the couple referenced at the beginning of this article learned.

"I don't think we would have this amazing, neighborly relationship if it weren't for the City of Bellevue Mediation team," the client said.



Kathryn Luster (left) and mediator Ashley Feng model neighborly relations.

program who arranged a face-to-face mediation so they could resolve their issues. First both parties shared their stories without interruption, allowing the others to hear their full perspective, perhaps for the first time.

"All of us began to nod our heads in understanding, instead of disapproval," said the client, whose identity, like that all of Mediation clients, is kept confidential. "The stories allowed us to step into one another's shoes for a brief moment."

"We started the meeting very upset, but actually left exchanging emails and phone numbers," the resident added. "Today, we are good friends. We

## Preparedness theme for neighborhood parties

By Carol Ross, Community Relations Coordinator

Thinking about the possibility of a disaster such as an earthquake can be daunting, leading to paralysis instead of preparation. How do you make preparedness more compelling and less scary? Have a party, of course.

Neighborhood Outreach offers a guide with fun ideas to lighten a heavy topic, including creative ideas for appetizers and information about the best foods to stockpile for an emergency.

Through its Neighbor Link program, Neighborhood Outreach provides colorful flyers and signage, and facilitates street closures for block parties and the like. Staff can help arrange visits from police officers or firefighters.

Last summer, there were 36 neighborhood parties coordinated through Neighbor Link, with roughly 3,000 residents participating. New this year is a welcome banner from Neighborhood

Outreach. Also consider making preparedness education part of the package with information and resources offered by the city.

Living in the Pacific Northwest, we've been told it's a matter of when, not if, for a major earthquake. Emergency preparedness also means being ready to shelter in place for several days if a storm knocks out power.

Neighbor Outreach, in collaboration with the Fire Department's Office of Emergency Management, encourages those who live or work in Bellevue to start with the basics and build an emergency kit for your home, office and/or car.

At your neighborhood party, you can learn about emergency kits and meet neighbors trained in emergency response. When something dire goes down, these people will be life savers while police officers and firefighters are busy elsewhere, but they can't do it alone!

At <https://fire.bellevuewa.gov/emergency-management>, learn about training to know what to do in an emergency. Learn how to identify skills and resources, and begin mapping your neighborhood by developing a plan with your neighbors who might require extra help.

Not interested in a preparedness party, but like the idea of sharing this emergency information with your neighbors? How about incorporating an information table into your block party planning, displaying a sample kit and creating a sign-up list for neighbors who might be interested in this topic at a later date?

For more information on Neighbor Link, and to find out about special incentives for the first 10 neighborhoods who book and hold a preparedness party, contact Carol Ross, [cross@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:cross@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-452-7917.

## Predators and your pets

By Marji Trachtman, City of Bellevue RASKC Liaison

As parents, we do all we can to keep our children safe. The same holds true for our pets: we want to do everything in our power to make sure they are kept safe and sound.

One of the dangers we may not often think about is predators. Even in urban areas such as Bellevue, residents may encounter predators, most commonly raccoons and coyotes, which can seriously injure or even kill your pet.

The best prevention strategies involve minimizing the chances for interactions between your pet and a potential predator. Here are some tips for keeping your pets and your property safe from predators:

- Never feed wildlife or feral animals;

- Don't leave garbage cans where they are accessible to wildlife;
- Feed your pets indoors;
- Always keep your dog on a leash when out for a walk; and
- Keep your cats and dogs inside, especially between dusk and dawn.

If you spot a coyote in your neighborhood, report it to the state Department of Fish and Wildlife (425-775-1311). The city offers a "Living With Wildlife" class on Aug. 11. (Call 452-6885 to register.) To learn more about keeping your pet safe, visit Regional Animal Services of King County at [www.kingcounty.gov/depts/regional-animal-services](http://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/regional-animal-services).



## We love our parks in East Bellevue

By Betsi Hummer, EBCC Member

The East Bellevue Community Council is parks. Some of the EBCC's very first meetings in the 1960s were focused on the creation of Robinswood Park and the Lake Hills Greenbelt around Larsen Lake.

To support the creation of the park and open space, the EBCC worked closely with the city parks department, the landowners and the Forward Thrust Committee (which put bond propositions on the ballot in 1968 for several projects in King County). I believe those spaces are the root of Bellevue's reputation as "A City in a Park." Our parks have been carefully developed over the years, and now host regular users and special events year-round.

Last year, citizens came to us, concerned that the restrooms at Larsen Lake were closed six months out of the year, even though walkers, baby strollers, runners and cross-country teams use the park space year round. The EBCC petitioned the Parks and Community Services Board and the City Council to put year-round maintenance of the bathrooms back in the budget. The proposal was passed, and nine other parks have their bathrooms open as well.

These parks are extremely important to our physical and mental health, and overall well-being. Larsen Lake is also the headwaters for Kelsey Creek, which is the largest drainage basin in Bellevue. It is also home to salmon habitat, so you may be surprised to learn that the Muckleshoot Tribe and the Army Corps of Engineers are informed of any changes to Kelsey Creek.



Lake Hills Greenbelt

You already are aware that the owners of the Kelsey Creek Shopping Center installed giant culverts under the parking lots to help salmon habitat and the health of the stream.

The Utilities Department is now in the process of replacing culverts by Larsen Lake with a foot bridge. Hopefully, construction will have little impact on daily users, and we can see improved stream drainage in the future. New plantings along Kelsey Creek that are part of the project will also improve salmon habitat in the creek.

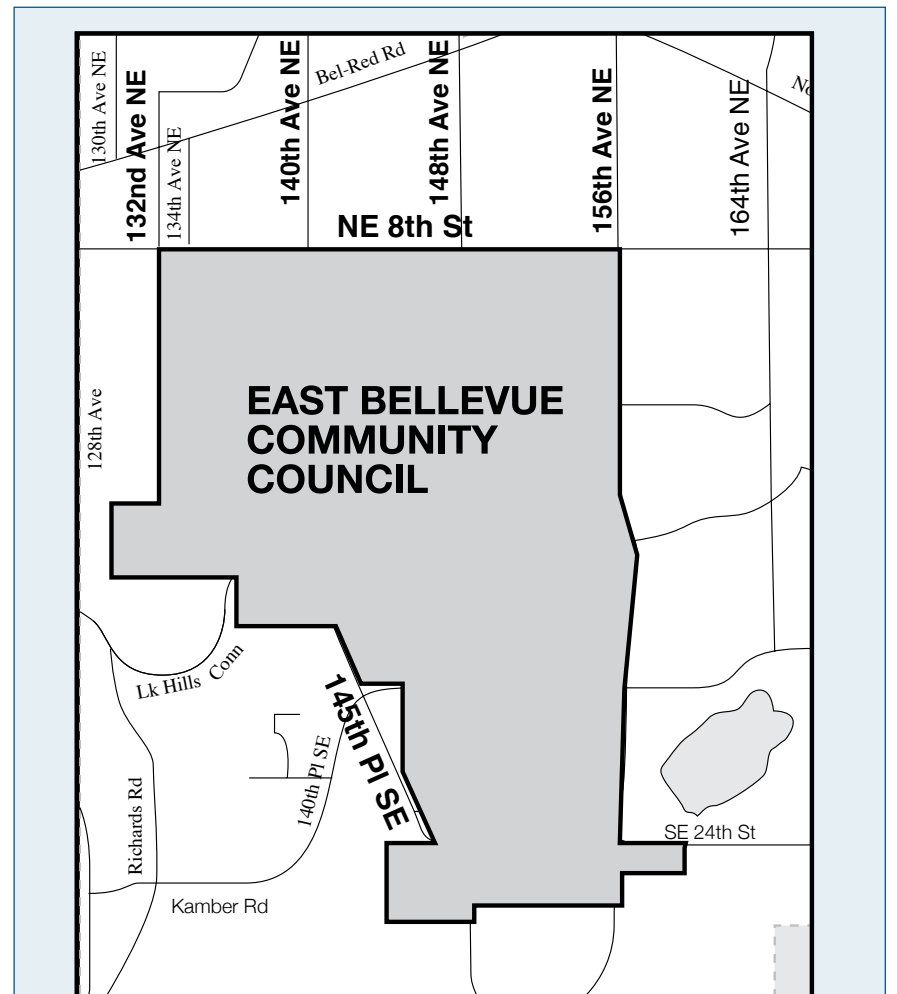
This culvert replacement not only impacts East Bellevue, but the greater city from Overlake through the Spring District and out to Mercer Slough.

I have attended a number of Park Board meetings and want to be sure all Bellevue's parks, but especially those in East Bellevue, are protected from un-parklike uses. We need to treat them as the valuable resource they are; not disturbing off-path planting, scooping our pets' waste and reporting any violations of park use.

Back in the 1970s, neighbors worked with local youth to prevent rough-housing and graffiti. We need to be vigilant to make sure our parks stay as parks, so if you see anything illegal, be sure to use the MyBellevue app on your smartphone to record and report it. The city responds promptly! The parks and recreation facilities code is chapter 3.43 of the Bellevue City Code.

We also want to be sure our parks continue to be used as parks, not as construction holding areas or parking lots.

Be sure to let your Park Board (Terry Smith, [tsmith@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:tsmith@bellevuewa.gov), is the staff liaison), EBCC and the City Council ([council@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:council@bellevuewa.gov)) know how important your parks are to you. The EBCC values and supports the parks!



For more information about the East Bellevue Community Council, call Deputy City Clerk Karin Roberts, 425-452-6806.

**East Bellevue Community Council** meets the first Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.

**Members:** Gerald Hughes, Ross Gooding, Steven Kasner, Betsi Hummer, William Capron

We welcome comments about the East Bellevue area. You can share your views with the Community Council via email at [EBCC@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:EBCC@bellevuewa.gov). To find out more about the agendas and decisions of EBCC, go to the website, [bellevuewa.gov/city-government/east-bellevue-community-council](http://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/east-bellevue-community-council).

## Utility bill help for qualified customers

By Michael May, Utilities Public Information Officer

The City of Bellevue offers low-income seniors (62 and older) and low-income residents with permanent disabilities up to 75 percent off on their utility costs for water, wastewater and drainage. There are two ways you may qualify:

- **If you pay a Bellevue utility bill directly**, you may qualify for a rate reduction on your 2017 utility bills if your 2016 household income was \$31,400 or less for one person or \$35,910 or less for two persons.
- **If your utility costs have been paid through rent or other third party**, you may qualify for a rate rebate check on 2016 utility costs if your 2015 household income was \$31,030 or less for one person or \$35,480 or less for two persons.

Additional requirements apply. Complete program guidelines and application materials are available at [bellevuewa.gov/UtilityRelief](http://bellevuewa.gov/UtilityRelief) or by calling Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-5285.

## Help us help you enjoy July 4

By Ken Carlson, Fire Marshal

Bellevue residents and communities across the country come together on the Fourth of July to enjoy a variety of events, culminating with spectacular fireworks displays. Fireworks shows have been an integral part of our Independence Day celebrations since 1776.

However, fireworks, when used incorrectly, can cause great harm. The use of fireworks has been illegal in Bellevue since 1994, except for permitted displays. Nonetheless, the city receives complaints about fireworks throughout the year, particularly around July 4.

The best way to protect you and your family is to not use fireworks – period. We also ask your help in making this July 4 a safe and fun day by spreading the word that fireworks are illegal in Bellevue. You can "host" a yard sign and/or ask us to send a reminder to a neighbor who may not have gotten the word.

Bellevue police officers and firefighters will conduct fireworks safety patrols throughout the city. The unauthorized use and/or sale of fireworks may be prosecuted as a misdemeanor or treated as a civil violation where monetary penalties could be assessed.

### High toll from fireworks

Each July 4, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using fireworks. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks, such as fires, devastating burns, injuries and even death. In 2015, there were 481 fireworks-related injuries and/or fires reported to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, including 17 that resulted in amputations.

### See free, elaborate public displays

Bellevue Fire and Police recommend that people take advantage of the elaborate, free public displays in Bellevue and throughout the region. These displays are done by licensed professionals in coordination with the Fire Department, with the safety of everyone as a primary focus.

Please let us know how we can help by contacting Fire Lt. Brian Gomez (425-452-6995 or [bgomez@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bgomez@bellevuewa.gov)) or Police public information officer Seth Tyler (425-452-4129 or [styler@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:styler@bellevuewa.gov)).





# Citywide Projects Update

Throughout the city, there are many projects in various stages of development. This update includes all projects with an estimated budget of \$250,000 or more, sorted by neighborhood. If you have questions, please contact the project manager.

## Bridle Trails

**Pikes Peak Reservoir and Pump Station Replacement:** Replacing 1-million gallon steel reservoir with 1.25-million gallon reservoir and replacing pump station. Public outreach and alternatives analysis in progress. Design and permitting est. 2017/2018, construction est. 2019/2020. \$5.7 million. Jay Hummel, Jhummel@bellevuewa.gov

## BelRed

- Mid Lakes Pump Station Capacity Improvements: Replacing pump station in BelRed area. Construction:** TBD. \$4 million (est.) In design. Vanaja S. Rajah, Vrajah@bellevuewa.gov
- New Water Inlet Station:** Installing a water inlet station connected to Seattle Public Utilities to provide additional capacity for growth in Downtown, Bel-Red and Wilburton areas, and improved water supply. Design est. 2017-2018, Construction est. 2018-2019. \$5.2 million. Jay Hummel, Jhummel@bellevuewa.gov
- 120th Ave NE: NE 7th St - NE 12th St (Stage 2):** Widening roadway to five lanes with bike lanes, landscaping, sidewalks and utility work. Construction complete Fall 2017. \$40 million. Paul Krawczyk, Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov
- 120th Ave NE: NE 12th - NE 16th (Stage 3):** Widening roadway to five lanes with bike lanes, landscaping, sidewalks and utility work. Construction through Summer 2017. \$26 million. Paul Krawczyk, Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov
- NE Spring Blvd: 116th to 120th Ave NE (Zone 1):** Widening NE 12th St to five lanes from 116th Ave NE to a new intersection at NE Spring Blvd (Zone 1A). From NE 12th St to 120th: new four-lane roadway, a multipurpose path along the north side, and two bridges over the East Link light rail alignment (Zone 1B). Zone 1B construction complete Oct 2018, Zone 1A construction in 2018 (est.). \$36.5 million. Steve Costa, Scosta@bellevuewa.gov
- NE Spring Blvd: 120th to 124th Ave NE (Zone 2)\*:** Design complete for a new four-lane roadway, outside lanes for shared non-motorized use, landscaping, sidewalks and on-street parking. Construction in 2018 subject to right-of-way negotiations. \$3.4 million. Steve Costa, Scosta@bellevuewa.gov
- NE Spring Blvd: 130th to 132nd Ave NE (Zone 4)\*:** Design and construct an eastbound lane, a bike lane, landscaping, and a sidewalk south of the future 130th light rail station. Construction 2020 (est.). \$17 million (est.) Gregory Lucas, GLucas@bellevuewa.gov
- 124th Ave NE: Ichigo Way to Northup Way\*:** Widening 124th Ave NE to five lanes. 90% design complete. Construction in 2021 pending right-of-way acquisition and funding availability. \$31 million (est.) Marina Arakelyan, Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov
- 124th Ave NE: NE Spring Blvd to Ichigo Way:** Widening 124th Ave NE to five lanes. Design complete. Construction in 2018 pending right-of-way acquisition. \$29.3 million (est.) Marina Arakelyan, Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov
- 124th Ave NE: BelRed Rd to NE Spring Blvd\*:** Widening 124th Ave NE to five lanes. Complete design Fall 2018. Construction in 2020 pending ROW acquisition and funding availability. \$20.1 million (est.) Marina Arakelyan, Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov
- 124th Ave NE: NE 8th St to NE 12th St\*:** Developing 30% design and environmental documentation for roadway and non-motorized improvements. Completing 30% design Fall 2018. Construction pending right-of-way acquisition. \$0.91 million (est.) Marina Arakelyan, Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov
- 130th Ave NE: BelRed Rd to NE 20th St\*:** Widening 130th Ave to include bike lanes, sidewalks, and landscaping. Construction in 2021 (est.) \$25 million (est.) Gregory Lucas, GLucas@bellevuewa.gov

\*Design, right-of-way and/or construction contingent on Transportation Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan approval needed for this project.

## Crossroads

**Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2017:** Repairing existing sewer system in advance of street paving projects throughout the city. Construction Summer/Fall 2017. \$1.2 million (est.) Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

## Downtown

- Downtown Park - Complete the Circle & Inspiration Playground:** Completing the circle and canal, expanding the 100th Ave parking lot and building an accessible playground. Under construction. Grand opening: June 28. \$17.1 million. Ken Kroeger, Kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov
- Downtown Transportation Plan Projects:** Raising the 106th Ave NE and NE 6th St/Compass Plaza intersection. Installing crosswalks at 100th Ave NE and NE 1st St and 102nd Ave NE and NE 1st St, near the Downtown Park. Improving curb ramps and installing bike lanes east of Bellevue Way on Main Street. Kevin McDonald, Kmcdonald@bellevuewa.gov
- Meydenbauer Basin NE 8th & 100th:** Designing and constructing stormwater conveyance improvements on 100th Ave NE and NE 4th St to reduce/eliminate local flooding. Construction 2018. \$2.3 million James B. Nicolls, JBNicolls@bellevuewa.gov
- 107th Ave NE Rockery Replacement:** Replacing existing rockeries with a soldier pile wall on 107th Ave NE between Main St and NE 2nd St. Construction Summer 2017. \$350,000 (est.) Jun An, JAN@bellevuewa.gov.
- Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2017:** Repairing existing sewer system in advance of street paving projects throughout the city. Construction Summer/Fall 2017. \$1.2 million (est.) Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

## Eastgate

- Bellevue Airfield Park:** Design and permitting Phase 1. New park's master plan is to include a sports field, trails, playground, parking and landfill infrastructure. Phase 1 design. \$1.6 million Pam Fehrman, Pfehrman@bellevuewa.gov
- Horizon View #1 Reservoir and Water Booster Pump Station:** Installing new reservoir and pump station. Construction underway. \$3.2 million. James B. Nicolls, JBNicolls@bellevuewa.gov
- Cougar Mountain #3 Pump Station Rehabilitation or Replacement:** Construction 2017. \$1.3 million James B. Nicolls, JBNicolls@bellevuewa.gov
- Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2017:** Repairing existing sewer system in advance of street paving projects throughout the city. Construction Summer/Fall 2017. \$1.2 million (est.) Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov
- SE Newport Way Improvements: 150th Ave SE to Somerset Blvd:** In design for a multipurpose path on the north side and a bike lane on the south side. \$8.1 million. Paul Krawczyk, Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov
- 150th Ave SE at SE 37th St and at Newport Way:** Begin design Summer 2017 on intersection improvements at these two locations to lessen congestion. Construction dependent on funding. \$5.4 million. Paul Krawczyk, Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov

## Factoria

- Factoria Blvd Storm Conveyance Improvements:** Improving storm water conveyance system along Factoria Blvd between SE 38th St and Richards Creek inlet. \$2 million (est.). In design. Construction 2018. Birol Shaha, Bshaha@bellevuewa.gov
- Eastside Rail Corridor Interim Trail:** King County project will construct interim (gravel) trail from Newcastle Beach Park to Ripley Lane (in Renton). Construction 2017. Mike Ingram, Mingram@bellevuewa.gov

### Newport Hills

**Lake Heights Wastewater Pump Station:** Rehabilitating wastewater pumping station to meet current standards. In final design and permitting. Construction 2019. \$1.1 million (est.). Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

### Newport

**Lower Coal Creek Flood Hazard Reduction Project:** Replacing five culverts and two outfalls in Newport Shores. One culvert in design. Construction 2017. First culvert cost: \$1.7 million (est.) Debbie Harris, dharris@bellevuewa.gov

### Lake Hill

**Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2017:** Repairing existing sewer system in advance of street paving projects throughout the city. Design/2016-17, Construction Summer/Fall 2017. \$1.2 million (est.) Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

### Northeast Bellevue

**Northup Way Connection to the SR 520 Trail:** Adding bike lanes and sidewalks from NE 24th St to NE 33rd Place to connect the SR 520 trail with the new regional trail at 108th Ave NE. Construction complete Summer 2017. \$12.8 million. Steve Costa, Scosta@bellevuewa.gov

**Eastside Rail Corridor Interim Trail:** King County project will construct interim (gravel) trail from 108th Ave NE (near the South Kirkland P& R) to SR 520. Construction 2017. Mike Ingram, Mingram@bellevuewa.gov

### Northwest Bellevue

**Meydenbauer Bay Park - Phase 1:** Implementing Master Plan. Expanding park west of 99th Ave NE. Construction began in May 2017. \$17 million. Scott VanderHyden, Svanderhyden@bellevuewa.gov

**2830 - 107th Ave NE Fish Passage:** Removing fish passage barrier on west tributary to Yarrow Creek behind office park off 112th Ave NE to allow access for critical spawning and rearing habitat for salmon. Design/permitting 2017-2018 (est.), construction 2018 (est.). \$626,220. Jay Hummel, Jhummel@bellevuewa.gov

**Vuecrest Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation:** Rehabilitating the existing sewer system. Construction late 2017 thru 2018. \$1.1 million (est.). Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

**Vuecrest Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Replacement:** Replacing sections of existing sewer system along with a section of AC water main. Construction Summer 2017 thru 2018. \$1.3 million (est.). Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

### Somerset/Sunset

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail – I-405 to 150th Ave SE:** Designing new 12' wide trail from I-405 to the vicinity of 150th Ave SE. Includes crosswalks, landscaping, lighting, and urban design. Design complete Summer 2017. \$1.2 million for design only. Chris Masek, Cmasek@bellevuewa.gov

**Somerset Reservoir No. 1 Pressure Reducing Station (PRV) Relocation:** Relocating the existing PRV out of the existing reservoir. Design completion Fall 2017; Construction early 2018. \$100,000 (est.). Stephen Noeske, snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

### West Bellevue

**Surrey Downs Park Development:** Design and permitting. \$7 million. parks.bellevuewa.gov/planning-and-development/current-projects/surrey-downs-park-master-planning. Scott VanderHyden, svanderhyden@bellevuewa.gov

**Bellevue Way SE Southbound HOV Lane:** Developing 30% design and environmental documentation for extending a southbound inside high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from the Bellevue Way/112th Ave SE and Bellevue Way/108th intersection to the South Bellevue P & R main entrance. Completing 30% design Fall 2017. \$4.4 million. Marina Arakelyan, Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov

**108th Avenue SE south of Bellevue Way:** Adding southbound bike lanes and a bike box at the intersection northbound, and replacing curb/gutter/sidewalk on the west side of 108th Ave SE. \$300,000 (est) Construction Summer 2017. Kevin McDonald, kmcdonald@bellevuewa.gov

**Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2017:** Repairing existing sewer system in advance of street paving projects throughout the city. Design/2016-17, Construction Summer/Fall 2017. \$1.2 million (est.) Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

### West Lake Sammamish

**Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2017:** Repairing existing sewer system in advance of street paving projects throughout the city. Design/2016-17, Construction Summer/Fall 2017. \$1.2 million (est.) Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

### Wilburton

**NE 8th Street Culvert Replacement at Kelsey Creek:** Replacing existing culverts with a new fish passable culvert. Design 2017; Construction 2018. \$3.2 million. James B. Nicolls, JBNicolls@bellevuewa.gov

**118th Ave SE, 128th Ave, and NE 2nd St Sidewalk:** This Neighborhood Levy project will provide sidewalks in these areas. In design; construction late 2017 to Summer 2018. \$1.6 million (est.) Jun An, JAn@bellevuewa.gov

### Woodridge

**Woodridge Open Space Sewer Pipeline Replacement:** Replacing 1,500 feet of sewer pipeline within Woodridge Open Space. Construction late 2017. \$1.2 million. Birol Shaha, Bshaha@bellevuewa.gov

**Kelsey Creek Glendale Country Club 8th Tee Assessment:** Evaluating recently constructed fish passage improvements and impacts to 8th tee channel stability. Stephen Noeske, Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

**Richards Road Inlet Modifications:** Replacing inlet station with meter, pressure reducer valve, telemetry, and vault along Richards Rd at SE 26th St. Under construction. \$563,000. Abe Santos, asantos@bellevuewa.gov

### Various Locations

**East Link Light Rail:** Construction activities occurring along the entire alignment segment within Bellevue this summer. Sound Transit Construction Alerts: soundtransit.org/subscribe and 24-Hour Construction Hotline 1-888-298-2395 Marie Jensen, mjensen@bellevuewa.gov

**SCATS Traffic Adaptive Signals:** Monitoring traffic entering intersections and adjusting signal timing. Deploying and testing signal priority for buses (Route B). Finetuning and updating system parameters. Fred Liang, Fliang@bellevuewa.gov



# Community Calendar

## Strawberry Festival

June 24, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., June 25, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Crossroads International Park  
16000 NE 10th St.  
Entertainment, auto show, vendors, food and family fun.  
Hosted by the Eastside Heritage Center with support from the City of Bellevue.  
[www.bellevuestrawberryfestival.org](http://www.bellevuestrawberryfestival.org)

## Downtown Park Complete the Circle/Inspiration Playground Grand Opening

Wednesday, June 28, 3-6 p.m.  
Downtown Park  
10201 NE Fourth St.  
Ribbon cutting 3:30 p.m., live music, activities and food trucks.

## Bellevue Family 4th

Presented by The Bellevue Collection and PACCAR  
Tuesday, July 4, 2-10:30 p.m.  
Downtown Park  
10201 NE Fourth St.  
Family activities and evening fireworks set to music performed by the Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra.  
425-453-1223 or  
[www.bellevuedowntown.com](http://www.bellevuedowntown.com)

## Live at Lunch Concert Series

July 11-Sept. 14, noon-1:30 p.m.  
Tuesdays through Thursdays. Free live music at various locations downtown.  
425-453-1223 or  
[www.bellevuedowntown.com](http://www.bellevuedowntown.com)

## Downtown Movies in the Park

July 11-Aug. 29, Tuesday nights at dusk  
10201 NE Fourth St.  
Free movies, all rated PG, on a 40-screen, complementary popcorn, too!  
July 11 - Sing  
July 18 - Storks  
July 25 - The Angry Birds Movie  
Aug. 1 - Monster Trucks  
Aug. 8 - Lego Batman  
Aug. 15 - The Secret Life of Pets  
Aug. 22 - Middle School  
Aug. 29 - The Sandlot  
Movie will be canceled in the event of rain.  
More information: 425-452-4240 or [outdoormovies@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:outdoormovies@bellevuewa.gov)

## ChowDown(own)-Bellevue Food Truck Round-up

July 12 and Aug. 19, 4-8 p.m.  
Ashwood Park  
10895 NE 12th St.  
Live music and offerings from variety of food trucks.  
Free admission; food prices vary.  
425-452-4278

## Arts and Crafts Fairs

### July 28-30 (Hours vary)

Three art fairs all weekend throughout downtown.  
Bellevue Arts Museum ArtsFair: [www.bellevuearts.org](http://www.bellevuearts.org) or 425-519-0770  
6th Street Fair: [www.bellevuedowntown.org](http://www.bellevuedowntown.org) or 425-453-1223  
Bellevue Festival of the Arts: [www.bellevuefest.org](http://www.bellevuefest.org) or 206-363-2048

## Crossroads Movies in the Park

Aug. 3-Aug. 24; Thursday nights at dusk  
16000 NE 10th St.  
Free movies, all rated PG, on a 40-foot screen—free popcorn, too!  
Aug. 3 - Finding Dory  
Aug. 10 - Zootopia  
Aug. 17 - Pete's Dragon  
Aug. 24 - Moana  
\*Titles subject to change without notice  
Movie will be canceled in the event of rain.  
More information: 425-452-4240 or [outdoormovies@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:outdoormovies@bellevuewa.gov)

## Beach Park Lifeguards

Clyde, Enatai and Newcastle: June 24-Sept. 4, noon-7 p.m.  
Chism and \*Chesterfield: July 1-Aug. 20, 2-5 p.m.  
(\* Chesterfield will be guarded from 2 to 5 p.m. only, and will not open on days of inclement weather.)  
425-452-4444

## Ranger Hikes, Discussions and Movies

Times and locations vary.  
Explore local wildlife and natural history with ranger-led tours, discussions and nature movie events.  
Lewis Creek Park, 425-452-4195  
Mercer Slough Nature Park, 425-452-2565  
Lake Hills Greenbelt, 425-452-7225



The Georgetown All-Stars perform at Live at Lunch at the Bellevue Connection. The summer concert series is in full swing again this year.

## National Night Out Against Crime

Aug. 1, noon-5 p.m.  
Crossroads Farmers Market  
Crossroads Bellevue  
15600 NE Eighth St.  
Free community event with games and giveaways for kids. Meet your local police officers and neighbors and learn how to organize your neighborhood to prevent crime.  
425-452-2891

## Theater on the Green

Aug. 2-16, 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday evenings  
Northwest Arts Center  
9825 NE 24th St.  
Aug. 2 - The Three Little Pigs  
Aug. 9 - A Comedy of Errors (Shakespeare)  
Aug. 16 - The Magic Hat  
Bring a picnic and enjoy a night out with a complimentary performance presented by Last Leaf Productions. Free craft activities for kids start at 6 p.m.  
[NWAC@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:NWAC@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-452-4106

## Alice in Wonderland

August 4-20  
Aug. 4, 5, 11, 12, 18 & 19 at 7 p.m.  
Aug. 5, 6, 12, 13 19 & 20 at 2 p.m.  
Bellevue Youth Theatre-Crossroads  
16051 NE 10th St.  
The Bellevue Youth Theatre presents the adventures of Alice, a girl who falls through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world with characters including White Rabbit and Mad Hatter.  
Suitable for all ages. \$10/ticket. All seats reserved.  
[byt@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:byt@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-452-7155

## Eastside Fuschia Society Plan Show & Sale

Aug. 19, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Bellevue Botanical Garden  
12001 Main St.  
Featuring plants from local gardeners.  
[www.bellevuebotanical.org](http://www.bellevuebotanical.org) or 425-452-2750

## Day Camps & Recreation Programs

Register now for summer and fall recreation programs and day camps.  
425-452-6885 or [parks.bellevuewa.gov](http://parks.bellevuewa.gov)

## LAKE HILLS GREENBELT FRESH PRODUCE STANDS

### Cha Family Farm Fresh Produce Stand

15550 156th Ave SE  
425-233-1198

### Larsen Lake Blueberry Farm

700 148th Ave. SE  
Hours vary.

More info: 425-260-2266

## Picnic Shelter Reservations

Hosting a special occasion or casual summer gathering at a Bellevue park? Picnic shelters are available for reservation. 425-452-6914

## City Contact Information

### City Hall

450 110th Ave. NE/P.O. Box 90012  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012

**Service First (general information):** 425-452-6800

**City of Bellevue website:** [bellevuewa.gov](http://bellevuewa.gov)

**City Council Office:** 425-452-7810

### City Council Meetings

1st and 3rd Mondays each month: study session 6-8 p.m., regular session 8-10 p.m.  
2nd and 4th Mondays each month: extended study session 6-10 p.m.

### Board & Commission Meetings

Call 425-452-6466 for meeting locations/agendas

Arts: 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m.

Civil Service: 2nd Tuesday, 4 p.m., Jan., Mar., July, Oct.

Environmental Services: 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Human Services: 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Library Board: 3rd Tuesday, 5 p.m.

Network On Aging: 1st Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

Parks & Community Services Board: 2nd Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Planning: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Transportation: 2nd Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

Youth Link Board: 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.

### City Offices

City Clerk's Office and Public Records: 425-452-6464

City Manager: 425-452-7228

Crossroads Mini City Hall: 425-452-2800

Development Services: 425-452-6800

New permit applications: 425-452-4898

Inspection requests, application and inspection status, pay fees: 425-452-6875

Simple permits, inspection requests: [MyBuildingPermit.com](http://MyBuildingPermit.com)

Application and inspection status: [MyBuildingPermit.com](http://MyBuildingPermit.com)

Code Compliance: 425-452-4570

Diversity Program: 425-452-7886

East Bellevue Community Council: 1st Tuesday each month, 6:30 p.m.

Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.: 425-452-6466

Fire Emergency Only: 911

Fire Non-Emergency

Business and Information: 425-452-6892

Inspection: 425-452-4254

Fire prevention: 425-452-6872

Human Resources: 425-452-6838

Information Technology: 425-452-4626

Neighborhood Mediation Program: 425-452-4091

Neighborhood Outreach: 425-452-6836

Parks & Community Services

Aging Services: 425-452-4200

Recreation Program Registration/Parks Info: 425-452-6885

Youth Sports: 425-452-6885

Ballfield Rental: 425-452-6914

Picnics/Facility Rentals: 425-452-6914

Park Maintenance: 425-452-6855

Human Services: 425-452-6884

Probation: 425-452-6956

Community Centers:

Crossroads Community Center: 425-452-4874

Highland Community Center: 425-452-7686

North Bellevue Community Center: 425-452-7681

South Bellevue Community Center: 425-452-4240

Marina Hotline: 425-452-4883

Planning & Community Development: 425-452-7892

Police Emergency Only: 911

Police Non-Emergency

Crossroads Station: 425-452-2891

Factoria Station: 425-452-2880

Complaints and Information: 425-452-6917

Crime Prevention: Commercial 425-452-2979; Residential 425-452-6915

Traffic Enforcement: 425-452-6940

Transportation

Administration/Information: 425-452-6856

Utilities

Administration/Information: 425-452-6932

Billing/Customer Service: 425-452-6973

Water, Sewer, Street, & Surface Water Maintenance & Emergency: 425-452-7840

### Other Numbers (Not city government)

King County Animal Control: 206-296-PETS

Allied Waste/Rabanco: 425-452-4762 (recycling, yard debris, garbage)

Metro Transit/Sound Transit: 206-553-3000

[bellevuewa.gov/itsyourcity.htm](http://bellevuewa.gov/itsyourcity.htm)

## Bellevue City Council



John Stokes  
Mayor



John Chelminiak  
Deputy Mayor



Conrad Lee



Jennifer Robertson



Lynne Robinson



Ernie Simas



Kevin Wallace

## Learn about city's accomplishments through annual report

By Lenka Wright, Chief Communications Officer

With the theme of "Living for Today, Ready for Tomorrow," the 2017 City of Bellevue Annual Report is an easy-to-read, visually compelling publication that highlights the city's major accomplishments, initiatives and milestones over the last 12 months.

Mayor John Stokes and Deputy Mayor John Chelminiak presented the annual report in conjunction with their State of the City address at an event, hosted by the Bellevue Downtown Association, in April. Hard copies of the report are available at City Hall, community centers, Mini City Hall, visitor centers and county library branches. You can also read the report online at <http://bit.ly/annual-report-bellevue>.



The 26-page publication highlights significant investments made in the community, including:

- Neighborhood transportation projects;
- Planning for the Grand Connection pedestrian and bike path downtown;
- Environmental stewardship efforts;
- Community policing; and
- "Smart City" innovations.

The report is filled with engaging photographs that capture the city's vibrancy and "city in a park" character. It also breaks down Bellevue's \$1.513 billion budget for 2017 and 2018, and how it's funded. A city resources guide with phone numbers is included.

In summary, the report showcases the city's high quality of life and customer-oriented public services provided by staff, further demonstrating why Bellevue is "the city where you want to be."

## Bellevue IT'S YOUR CITY

*It's Your City* is published for people who live or work in Bellevue. For questions or comments about this publication, contact Claude Iosso, 425-452-4448 or [ciosso@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ciosso@bellevuewa.gov)

**Editor:** Claude Iosso

**City Manager:** Brad Miyake



*It's Your City* is printed on recycled paper. Please recycle.

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