Bellevue is undergoing an unprecedented construction boom. Downtown bristles with construction cranes, and a record number of new office buildings, restaurants, houses and shopping and apartment complexes are going up around the city.

With the season’s nice weather and longer daylight hours, major highway, arterial and utility projects that will help accommodate the city’s growth are getting underway too. That means more noise and traffic congestion.

“A healthy economy, hot job market and new construction are making Bellevue a major urban destination,” notes Mike Brennan, deputy director of Development Services. “But that kind of transformation can’t happen without some inconvenience in the process. We’re asking people to be patient while Bellevue goes through this growth spurt.”

To keep up with builders, the city has added staff and hired consultants to handle the 13,800 permits and almost 60,000 inspections needed at this time. At the same time, the city approves construction schedules that balance ambitious project timelines with the needs of area motorists and residents. Noise at night is more of a concern than it used to be, because the downtown residential population continues to increase (from 1,200 in 1990 to 5,000 in 2007).

City code limits construction noise to 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays, but some work is allowed at night under special conditions. When utility work is required on new buildings or the city is making improvements to water and sewer systems, work may need to occur at night during non-peak hours. The city may also allow night work if no residences are nearby and a project is in an area with high day traffic volumes.

The Transportation Department always considers traffic impacts when it temporarily closes lanes and streets to make way for various projects.

To help citizens get a better idea of where projects are occurring and who to contact with questions, Bellevue is developing a section for the website focusing on traffic and noise issues related to the summer construction boom. Meantime, users can consult a real-time traffic map and weekly traffic advisories under Getting Around Town at www.bellevuewa.gov.

The surge of construction is a sign of prosperity, and residents in surveys say they think Bellevue is a good or excellent place to live and that they think the city is headed in the right direction.

“We hope people can tolerate some noise and traffic and realize that major construction will be completed by the end of 2008,” Brennan said. “The experience is a lot like remodeling your home. You put up with a few inconveniences along the way, but the end result is worth it. In this case, we are remodeling a city and I think people will be pleased with the end result.”
Council Corner
City Hall art underscores commitment to arts, culture

By Bellevue City Councilmember Connie Marshall

Our city’s commitment to providing our community with world-class public art was recognized this June by a major national arts’ group. The Americans for the Arts (AFTA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the arts in America, selected two Bellevue City Hall art works as among the most successful, innovative and exciting public arts projects in the United States.

The two arts works are “Current,” the 12,000 square-foot terrazzo floor on the main concourse created by Whidbey Island artist Linda Beaumont, and “Compass,” a 51-foot tall sculpture powered by wind and the action of visitors opening City Hall’s front doors. “Compass” was created by Vancouver, B.C. artist Alan Storey.

A third art work also commissioned for our new City Hall, “Root” by Seattle artist Dan Conson, is currently being installed and was not eligible for entry this year.

Having our city’s public art chosen as among the nation’s best is testimony to the City Council’s consistent and enthusiastic support for the city’s Public Art Program and the hard work and leadership of the Bellevue Arts Commission.

In recent years, I have served as the City Council liaison to the seven-member citizen Commission, whose job includes not only administering the Public Art Program, but providing arts funding to local arts groups.

The Commission’s important work is guided by the city’s Cultural Compass, a citywide strategic plan for the arts and culture adopted by the City Council in 2004. The plan provides a detailed road map for the future development of art and culture throughout Bellevue.

In fact, the new City Hall art was developed concurrently with the Cultural Compass plan and addresses both the spirit and the goals contained in the document.

For example, all goals outlined in the plan support the central vision of establishing Bellevue as the cultural hub for the Eastside. The largest and most ambitious public art project in our city’s history, the new City Hall art eloquently sends the message that the arts hold a central place in our community.

The art also addresses another Compass goal – expanding the Public Art Program. To meet this goal, the Commission recently developed and the City Council supported a three-part strategic vision. The first part is to use public art to define and enhance a walkway stretching from City Hall to the waterfront. City Hall’s art creates a compelling starting point for this walk.

All three City Hall art pieces are likely to rank among the most popular artworks commissioned thus far for the Public Art Program. The art conveys a story of civic values and the democratic principles under which our government conducts its affairs.

Residents Talk
What summer activity in Bellevue do you look forward to most?

Patricia Hunkins: “I would say, in general just taking the kids to the park,” said Hunkins, at the mall with her year-old daughter Flora. “My favorites are Kelsey Creek, Robinswood and Lewis Creek.”

Husam Gazioglu: “I look forward to an activity that involves my kids,” said Gazioglu of North Bellevue. “I’ll be looking for an outdoor activity that involves them, whatever that would be. Swimming at the beach will be at the top of the list.”

Joe Mahan: “I like going to the park and playing Frisbee with my friends,” said Mahan, of Somerset. “When we have nice days, it’s beautiful. We just play Frisbee and hang out there.”

Annette Kempf: “It used to be the Bellevue Arts and Crafts Fair and getting to the beach, but now that I have my first baby I don’t know how much of that I’ll be doing,” said Kempf, a Lake Hills resident out with her two-month-old baby boy Elias. “I’ll probably be going to the parks and playgrounds with my baby.”

www.bellevuewa.gov
Residents offer ‘big ideas’ for new Meydenbauer park

Public input is key to the project, aimed at connecting the waterfront with the community. More workshops are planned for July. The http://www.bellevuewa.gov/meydenbauer_bay_project_public_involvement.htm page offers details.

With public ownership of land that stretches along a nearly quarter-mile of shoreline on the north shore of Meydenbauer Bay, city planners are moving forward with plans to create a park that stretches from Meydenbauer Beach Park to the Bellevue Marina.

On May 15, residents learned about plans for the new park and possible land use changes in the surrounding area. Attendees viewed large boards displaying the project overview, objectives, historic timeline, maps, schedules and photos. Input is being incorporated in the planning process.

The city has hired Sasaki Associates of San Francisco to assist with planning and design. Sasaki has assembled a consulting team that includes local firms with expertise in environmental, engineering, architecture and public process, all of whom have been involved in successful waterfront planning across the country.

Out-of-town members of the consultant team have spent several weeks in Bellevue, getting familiar with the “lay of the land” and identifying opportunities and constraints for analysis of future park and land use scenarios.

In March, City Council appointed a steering committee to make sure the final plan considers a wide range of viewpoints and reflects the wishes of the Bellevue community as a whole. The 13 members represent a variety of expertise, interests and experience with community affairs. The committee meets the third Thursday of every month. Time and locations are posted at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/meydenbauer_project_intro.htm.

The current project schedule calls for completion of the land use portion of the project by the end of 2007, with development of specific park design alternatives through the first half of 2008.

FAQs about Meydenbauer project

General questions:
Q. What is the city trying to accomplish?
A. This planning effort includes developing a master plan for a new waterfront park on Meydenbauer Bay, and creating connections to the waterfront park from the downtown. This will result in a significant city park and public waterfront destination, providing a unique and memorable recreation opportunity for the citizens of Bellevue.

Q. Is this a new idea?
A. The city has been working toward this vision for many years. Since the early 1990s the city has been acquiring property along Meydenbauer Bay, and now holds a quarter-mile length of shoreline. The vision of establishing a new waterfront park and connecting it to the downtown area is well documented in city policy and planning documents.

Questions about the park:
Q. How much park land does the city own on Meydenbauer Bay?
A. The city holds approximately eight acres and 1,250 linear feet of shoreline along the bay.

Q. What is on the city-owned properties now?
A. Meydenbauer Beach Park is on the west end, and the Bellevue Marina, including two buildings that housed the American Pacific Whaling Company, is on the east end. In between are several occupied residences.

Q. When will the park be developed?
A. The planning process is expected to continue until mid-2008. The timing of actual park development will depend on many issues, including the scope of the project and funding.

Questions about neighboring parcels:
Q. What is planned for nearby properties?
A. The city desires to create connections from the downtown area to the proposed waterfront park. The city is analyzing land use patterns and other development characteristics in the study area to determine how redevelopment might be influenced to provide such connections.

Q. What types of changes are proposed in the study area?
A. This will not be known until the planning process is further along. Any changes to the Comprehensive Plan, Land Use Code, or other regulations affecting development patterns would require City Council approval after providing opportunity for public comment.

Q. Why are the connections important?
A. Area topography, building locations, limited sightlines, and other factors make it difficult to see and get to the waterfront from upland parcels. Visual and physical connections will help link the waterfront to the larger community, making it more accessible for Bellevue residents to enjoy.

Questions about the moratorium:
Q. What does the moratorium do?
A. The moratorium prohibits the application for or intake of most development permit applications, including applications for new development, alterations or additions to existing development on properties covered by the moratorium.

Q. Why was the moratorium put in place?
A. The moratorium maintains the status quo in the study area while the city’s planning work proceeds, preventing redevelopment that could otherwise hamper the planning effort.

Questions about the process:
Q. How long will the moratorium last?
A. The moratorium will expire on Sept. 13 unless the City Council, after holding a public hearing, votes to extend it.

Q. What properties are affected?
A. Thirteen parcels are covered by the moratorium. They are generally located either:
• In the block surrounded by Northeast Lake Washington Boulevard, Northeast First Street, 99th Avenue Northeast and 100th Avenue Northeast
• In the area between Northeast Lake Washington Boulevard/Main Street and Meydenbauer Bay, on the east and west sides of 100th Avenue Southeast/Beavillez Place Southeast.

Q. How long will this planning process take?
A. The Park Master Plan design is expected to be completed by mid-2008. Because of the desire to end the moratorium as soon as possible, it is hoped that any changes to the Comprehensive Plan, Land Use Code, or other development regulations will be adopted by the end of 2007.

Q. How can I get involved?
A. There will be several meetings and workshops throughout the planning process. The next two public meetings are scheduled for July 10 and July 31. These are open to the public, and your participation is encouraged. Check the city website (http://www.bellevuewa.gov/meydenbauer_bay_project_public_involvement.htm) periodically for announcements of upcoming events.
City installing synthetic turf at Robinswood

Carloads of muddy soccer players leaving Robinswood Park may soon be just a memory for many Bellevue parents. As part of a $2.4 million improvement project, the city is converting Robinswood’s two soccer fields from natural grass to synthetic turf.

The new turf, which will be similar to the playing surfaces at Husky Stadium and Qwest Field, is scheduled to be ready in time for the fall sports season. State and county grants covered $450,000 of the cost.

In addition to the turf conversion for the soccer fields, a lighted warm-up area will be added to the park. Other improvements include a new pedestrian walking path, which will encircle the fields, an upgraded lighting system, and a plaza area for tournaments and events. Landscaping will help maintain the natural look and feel at Robinswood.

The synthetic turf offers several advantages over the grass fields. It will not get muddy in the rain and will require no costly mowing, watering, fertilizing or re-seeding.

The durable turf will also allow year-round sports programming and general recreational use, making for a significant increase in playing time. The fields will not only be able to support organized soccer leagues and camps, but also the growing interest in lacrosse and other programmed sports.

As always, the fields will be open to the community for general recreation use when not scheduled.

For more information about the Robinswood field renovation project, contact Scott VanderFelden, project manager, at 425-452-4160.

City shows off at national conference

Officials from cities and counties across the country visited Bellevue for a conference in early June and gave the city high marks.

“I’ve really been impressed with Bellevue,” said Patrick Higgins, the city manager of Western Springs, Ill., a Chicago suburb. “It’s a city of 117,000, but it reads like a city of 250,000 to 300,000 during the day. “There’s always a tension between growth and tradition, but Bellevue seems very balanced.”

Nearly 800 city leaders converged on the Meydenbauer Center June 6-8 for the Transforming Local Government conference. It was an honor for a city to host the conference, paid for by sponsors and held in a different locale by the Alliance For Innovation each year.

Government innovations, including streamlined permitting through the Development Services Center and partnerships with other Eastside communities, caught the Alliance’s eye in 2006.

Conference goers were not disappointed, taking in the sights of the bustling downtown and the new City Hall. The city won praise for original service First, the “one-stop shopping” customer service model introduced at City Hall, was expanded to the Meydenbauer Center.

The three-day conference generated substantial business for the city’s hotels, restaurants and other businesses, particularly those located downtown, near the Meydenbauer Center.

Police hand out and receive awards

The Blue Star is not the kind of award police officers like to win. To earn it, an officer must be killed or seriously injured in the line of duty.

After surviving a brutal beating by a man he had been trying to arrest in March 2006, Bellevue Police Detective Joseph Nault was happy to be able to walk to the podium in the City Council chambers at City Hall in May and accept his award.

One of several awards handed out to police officers and civilians in May for heroics last year, the Blue Star is one of the most prestigious. Nault was cited for “courage and bravery” in fending off his attacker and relaying important information to other police units while seriously injured.

A civilian, Jeff Jacobson of Bonney Lake, received a Citizen’s Award for stopping at the scene of the fight and walking toward the fighting men, distracting Nault’s attacker.

Other awards for exemplary actions in 2006 were:
• A Lifesaving award, for providing CPR to a distressed patient, given to Officer Vittorio Mangione.
• Commander’s awards, given in recognition of exceptional job performance to nearly 20 officers, emergency dispatchers and support staff.
• Four Citizens awards: in addition to the one issued to Jacobson, one went to Douglas Hudak for helping police catch a murder suspect and Stephen Danmore and Linda Ingram-Marion each received one for performing CPR when a man collapsed at the Bellevue Regional Library on Oct. 30.
• Three special commendations to deputy prosecutors of the King County Prosecutors’ Office for their assistance to Bellevue’s Special Enforcement Team, issued to Shaya Calvo, Alex Voorhees and Doug Young.
• Seven service commendations, signifying 25 years of service to the Department, issued to Capt. Dennis Beeson, Capt. Jim Kowalczyk, Detective Robert Thompson, Lt. Jim Gasperetti, Detective Robert Herst, Corporal Mark Lewis and Police Support Officer Robert Murphy.
City earns high scores in latest performance report

Building on a tradition of exceptional customer services, Bellevue last year met or exceeded its performance targets, according to the city’s 2006 Annual Performance Report.

For the sixth year in a row, police averaged less than four minutes to respond to critical emergencies. The number of violent and property crimes committed per 1,000 residents dropped from 42 in 2005 to 38 last year.

Firefighters were able to confine reported fires to their rooms of origin 88 percent of the time, beating the 85 percent target. The cardiac arrest survival rate, primarily a responsibility of fire paramedics, was an impressive 63 percent, bettering the 50 percent rate of 2005 and far surpassing the 35 percent target.

Other departments scored well too, as 83 percent of residents registered satisfaction with parks and recreation, and 95 percent were happy with street cleanliness.

Moody’s and Standard & Poor’s gave Bellevue’s financial stability a ringing endorsement, with top ratings for the city’s municipal bonds.

“The latest data underscore the City Council and staff’s commitment to providing residents and businesses with the highest possible level of customer services,” said City Manager Steve Sarkozy.

While we can obviously improve in some areas, overall our performance last year was something we should be very proud about,” Sarkozy added.

High resident satisfaction

While overall resident ratings of the city dropped slightly from high numbers in 2005, resident satisfaction with Bellevue remained high. Ninety-three percent of residents said the city is an excellent or good place to live, and 84 percent said they believe they are getting their money’s worth with city services.

The report provides the City Council, residents and stakeholders with information about city performance. The report contains scorecards for each city department and focuses on issues affecting the departments’ performance and future challenges.

The report also contains Bellevue’s Vital Signs – a collection of key performance indicators that, when looked at together, provide a picture of the city’s health.

Seven of the vital signs track resident attitudes in such categories as the quality of life in the city’s neighborhoods, while the remainder are more technical, focusing on such areas as crime rate or traffic flow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>2004 Actual</th>
<th>2005 Actual</th>
<th>2006 Target</th>
<th>2006 Actual</th>
<th>Target Met Or Exceeded</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patrol response times to critical emergencies from dispatch to arrival</td>
<td>3.3 min.</td>
<td>3.7 min.</td>
<td>3.5 min.</td>
<td>3.4 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residents’ overall satisfaction with Parks &amp; Recreation in Bellevue</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of violent and property crimes committed per 1,000 population</td>
<td>43.5</td>
<td>42.0</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of residents saying they are getting their money’s worth when thinking about City of Bellevue services and facilities</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moody’s Investors Service Bond rating</td>
<td>Aaa</td>
<td>Aaa</td>
<td>Aaa</td>
<td>Aaa</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residents rating their neighborhood as a good to excellent place to live</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident satisfaction rating for clean streets (fairly clean to very clean)</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of fires confined to room of origin</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential street average pavement rating</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Violations of state and federal drinking water standards</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiac arrest survival rate</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residents rating Bellevue as good or excellent place to live</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of residents fairly satisfied to very satisfied with job City is doing in planning for the future</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Water service interruptions per 1,000 service connections</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>1.57</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Residents saying Bellevue is headed in the right direction</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of Mobility Management Areas achieving concurrency</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The report can be viewed online at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/citizen_outreach_performance.htm. Printed copies may be obtained by telephoning Rich Siegel, the city’s Performance and Outreach Coordinator, at 425-452-7114.
145th Pl. SE project draws foot traffic
By James E. Bell, Chair of the EBCC

In case readers hadn’t noticed, project work is nearly complete on the section of 145th Place Southeast between Southeast Eighth Street and Kamber Road. The connector arterial upgrade work includes sidewalks, bike lanes, landscaping and a three-lane design, including medians to improve safety and capacity. The landscaping provides a fresh appearance and a more open look to the corridor. There has been an increase in pedestrian traffic, with people of all ages walking along this section. The original intent was to provide a walking access to the schools.

The medians are a carryover of the 140th Avenue project and break up the view of two long lanes inviting drivers to speed up along this section. Overall, the addition of this section adds one more important piece to the nearly completed East Bellevue Transportation System, said project manager for the Transportation Department, said the cost was $2.3 million, and there are a few small items left to closeout the project.

The second phase of the 145th Place project is fully funded and begins this summer, according to Project Manager Tricia Thomson. The funding for this phase is $5.2 million and includes work to extend curbs, sidewalks, landscaping and safety improvements from Kamber Road south to Southeast 24th Street. It will also upgrade Southeast 22nd Street from 145th Place east to 156th Avenue Southeast.

Both phases of the 145th Place Southeast project were high priorities of the West Lake Hills Citizen Advisory Committee in May 2002 for the West Lake Hills Neighborhood Investment Strategy.

Costco considers Kelsey Creek for “downsized” store
By James E. Bell, Chair of the EBCC

In March Chair Bell met with Peter Kahn, the Costco vice-president in charge of real estate development. Mr. Kahn said that Costco was interested in opening a downsized store at Kelsey Creek that would fit into the neighborhood.

Some readers may recall an effort a few years ago to open a “Costco Fresh” at Kelsey Creek. That would have been a different type of retail store. Kahn said that this plan would have most of the same retail as the larger stores but be smaller to fit the neighborhood. He also said Costco is offering expanded deli services to support many of the retail needs local residents want to see at Kelsey Creek.

Most of the Costco warehouse stores have been in commercial areas. For Kelsey Creek Center there are residential areas to the east and northeast of the site. The preliminary site plan calls for a 136,474 square-foot building, which is larger than the 105,000 square-foot base of the old K-Mart. Costco met with city planners once to discuss issues in rezoning the site for the larger retail space.

Karn said that this plan would have most of the same retail as the larger stores but be smaller to fit the neighborhood. He also said Costco is offering expanded deli services to support many of the retail needs local residents want to see at Kelsey Creek. Most of the Costco warehouse stores have been in commercial areas. For Kelsey Creek Center there are residential areas to the east and northeast of the site. The preliminary site plan calls for a 136,474 square-foot building, which is larger than the 105,000 square-foot base of the old K-Mart. Costco met with city planners once to discuss issues in rezoning the site for the larger retail space.

A long-standing issue with the current concomitant zoning agreement is whether to open Kelsey Creek across the parking lot or provide an alternative mitigation plan with an equivalent environmental impact.

One feature of the new plan would be to collect all the runoff from the parking lot and filter it before releasing it back to Kelsey Creek. The present parking lot has open storm grates that allow the surface runoff and any pollutants to drain directly into the creek. Runoff and other issues will be included in the rezone application to the city, which is subject to approval by EBCC.

EBCC approves 156th Ave. SE rezoning
By James E. Bell, Chair of the EBCC

At the May 1 meeting, EBCC approved Resolution 493 adopting Bellevue City ordinance 5731. This changes the Comprehensive Plan for four large parcels at 1900 156th Ave SE from Single Family-Low to Single Family-Medium density. The CPA will allow the zoning on these lots to increase from R-1 to R-2.5 or R-3.5. Much of the surrounding residential area is zoned R-5.

Hancok/Muren have also applied to rezone the property to R-3.5 in order to facilitate future single-family residential subdivision and construction. We held a courtesy public hearing on that application at the May meeting as well. Matt Jackson, Planning and Community Development, is the senior planner in charge of developing the city’s recommendation and staff report.

There are some questions about how many housing units could be fit into the rezoned and subdivided area due to wetlands on the northern most parcel. If it were a Category IV wetland, the wetland and a 40-foot buffer would amount to about six-tenths of an acre that could not be developed.

Banker joins East Bellevue Community Council
By James E. Bell, Chair of the EBCC

At the May meeting Michael Elwin was selected by the EBCC members to fill the vacancy in position 1. He has been a resident of East Bellevue for 31 years.

Elwin’s prior community service includes the Bellevue Housing and Community Development Committee and the PTSA for Newport High School. Michael was the legislative chairman for the Newport High School PTSA and served as a vice-Chair for the Housing and Community Development committee.

Elwin says that having lived in the East Bellevue Community for 31 years he is very interested in the use of land and wants the community to grow in a controlled manner. Michael’s profession is banking. He currently works at the US Bank in International Banking. Prior professional experience includes the Boeing Company as an international focal point and The Bank of America as a personal banking officer.

When I asked Michael about changes to our area he commented about the old county roads and pastures that were here when he arrived. Now many of the spaces are filled in with homes and many of the county roads have become urban collector arterials with sidewalks, bike lanes, landscaping and safety improvements.

The EBCC welcomes comments about the East Bellevue area. Direct e-mails to EBCC@bellevuewa.gov. Keep current on EBCC activities, through the EBCC section on the city website, http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm.
Frequently asked questions about construction impacts

**Question:** Why is road construction being done during commuter hours?  
**Answer:** The city's objective during flagging operations is to limit delays to two minutes or 10 vehicles in a queue. However, there are situations, such as high traffic volumes or reduced lanes, for example, when drivers may experience longer waits. Other work that can cause delays includes placing a traffic signal, street light and other heavy equipment through the construction zone.

**Question:** How can I learn about construction projects that may affect me?  
**Answer:** For major construction impacts, the city uses several methods to notify the public about upcoming work. Signs are placed near the project site indicating estimated construction start dates, "construction ahead" notifications are mailed to nearby businesses and residences, news releases are sent to local media, project updates are included in "It's Your City" three times a year and construction information is available on the city's website, at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic_advisories.htm.

**Question:** How do I find out what streets are closed during construction?  
**Answer:** Weekly traffic updates are posted on Bellevue's website at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic_advisories.htm. General construction questions can be directed to 425-452-2029.

**Question:** If I call the city, what information should I supply to learn about a project?  
**Answer:** A specific street address with the name of the nearest cross street is helpful, along with a description of any equipment, vehicles or signs that are visible.

**Question:** Why doesn’t city staff know about every project when I call?  
**Answer:** At any given time, there could be more than 800 projects in some phase of work throughout the city. Also, even though work is taking place in a city street, it doesn’t necessarily mean it’s a city project. It could be a utility project being performed by a private developer or Puget Sound Energy or Qwest. So specifics help when you call for information.

**Question:** Why are traffic signals sometimes affected during construction?  
**Answer:** Most of Bellevue’s signals use in-street detectors to sense vehicles waiting at a red light. Construction may require the removal of these detectors, which cuts the power to the traffic signals.

Limit mosquitoes to cut West Nile Virus risk

With warmer weather come mosquitoes and the threat of West Nile Virus. The City of Bellevue is working with Public Health – Seattle and King County to educate citizens about West Nile Virus and steps they can take to reduce mosquitoes on their property.

Mosquitoes infected with the virus can spread it to humans, horses and other animals.

The Bellevue City Council has given the Utilities Department authority to apply larvicide to city-owned storm drain catch basins this summer if necessary. The larvicide, Bacillus sphaericus, is environmentally friendly and harmful only to mosquito larvae, not pets or people.

Public Health has requested 39 local cities and agencies to take similar action during the 2007 and 2008 mosquito seasons.

Although most of the more than 50 mosquito species in Washington do not carry the virus, and less than 1 percent of people infected by it experience a serious form of the disease, it’s a good idea to take action to reduce mosquito bites.

To breed, mosquitoes need a small amount of water that stays stagnant for at least seven days, conditions often found in catch basins. Bellevue manages less than a quarter of the land in the city, so other property owners are urged to reduce mosquitoes on their property by removing stagnant water. To reduce places where mosquitoes can breed:

- Tip out items that can hold stagnant water, such as wheelbarrows, plant saucers, cans or buckets.
- Change the water in bird baths, fountains, wading pools and animal troughs at least once a week.
- Get rid of old tires and other items that can hold standing water.
- Clean gutters and make sure they are draining properly.

To avoid mosquito bites:

- Make sure windows and door screens are "bug tight.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt, pants and a hat when going into areas where mosquitoes have been seen.
- Consider staying indoors at dawn and dusk – peak mosquito biting times.
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET or Picaridin when outdoors, especially at dawn and dusk.

The first human cases of West Nile Virus were confirmed in Washington in 2006—two in Pierce County and one in Clark County. All three people had mild symptoms and recovered. The virus was also detected last year in King County when six dead birds (one in Bellevue’s Somerset area) tested positive for the virus, and one horse died from the disease.

Given these findings and how the virus has spread across the country since 1999, Public Health is predicting that there will be more cases of the virus in Washington in 2007. West Nile Virus can infect humans, birds, mosquitoes, horses and other animals. People bitten by a mosquito carrying the virus usually experience mild flu-like symptoms.


Detailed information, including a flier in multiple languages, can be found at Public Health’s West Nile Virus web page, http://www.metrokc.gov/health/westnile/; or by calling the West Nile hotline at 206-205-3883.

Public Health also offers information on treating ponds or storm drain systems on private property at http://www.metrokc.gov/health/westnile/qa-privateproperty.htm.
Vuecrest marks 60th anniversary

Vuecrest neighbors have scheduled a 60th anniversary block party this September. To mark the event, the neighborhood is planning an elaborate celebration. On Sept. 6, the Vuecrest Community Association will close off the esplanade of Park Road between Vineyard Crest and Belfair Road for a block party June 16 with speeches from Mayor John Chelminiak and Bob Cromwell, co-president of the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society. Firefighters from Station 5 will bring a fire engine for display at the party, and the Police K-9 and bomb squad units will also be there.

Like much of the Eastside, the Vuecrest area was agricultural in the early decades of the 20th century, an 80-acre swath of strawberry fields, fruit tree orchards and evergreen trees owned by the Downey family. After World War II, the Downeys sold the property to developer W.E. Rogers and banker James H. Barber. This visionary duo developed the homestead into 204 residential lots. The deeds that established the Vuecrest subdivision on April 25, 1947, prohibited splitting of the large lots and limited building heights. When Bellevue incorporated in 1953, Vuecrest was one of its first neighborhoods.

The Bellevue Neighborhood Outreach team helps neighborhoods get and stay organized. For assistance with special events or information about city programs, please contact your neighborhood liaison in the Neighborhood Resource Center at 425-452-6836. For details, see the city web page http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood_outreach_intro.htm.

‘Tis the season for efficient watering

Careful, efficient watering does more than preserve a vital resource; it leads to better and healthier plants. It can also lower your summer water bills. Smart watering means giving your garden just the right amount of water — with little waste. Try these tips to improve your watering this summer:

Before watering:
• Tune up your watering system. Repair leaky faucets, hoses, and broken sprinklers. Adjust sprinklers to avoid watering the street, driveway or sidewalks. Add a water shut-off to your garden hose.
• Soak and drip your way to savings. Use soaker hoses or drip irrigation on planting beds to cut water up to 50%, and reduce weeds and plant disease.
• Mulch exposed soil. Spread bark, wood chips or compost on planting beds to stop evaporation from soil and smother weeds.
• Look before you water. Check for soil moisture before watering to be sure it’s time. Dig into the soil with a trowel a few inches. If it feels moist, hold off.

When you water:
• Get an early start. Water in the morning (when cool temperatures minimize evaporation), and when the wind is calm.

• Water according to plant needs. Lawns need only one inch of water per week (including rainfall) in summer. Water your lawn separately from other plantings. Most shrubs and perennials need less water than grass, especially in shady areas. Cut back or eliminate watering well-established trees and shrubs (2-5 years old), except in very dry years.
• Water deeply, but infrequently. Wetting the soil surface without getting water to the root zone does no good for the plants. The goal is to keep roots moist. But don’t over do it. After watering, check the soil to see if moisture has penetrated to the roots. Use what you learn to guide future watering. Then, let the top few inches of the soil dry out between watering so that the roots can breathe.
• Adjust watering regularly. Modify your watering schedule at least monthly to match weather conditions and meet plants need as they change through the growing season. Plants need less water in May and September than in July and August.
• Tune up your watering system. Repair leaky faucets, hoses, and broken sprinklers. Adjust sprinklers to avoid watering the street, driveway or sidewalks. Add a water shut-off to your garden hose.

Garden’s anniversary celebrated

In its relatively brief 15-year existence, the Bellevue Botanical Garden has already become an Eastside institution, with nine different “gardens within the garden,” and popular annual events such as Garden D’Lights and Pops in the Park.

The garden’s anniversary was celebrated with a grand party June 16 with speeches from Mayor Grant Degginger, Deputy Mayor John Chelmimiak and Bob Cromwell, co-president of the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society. Traditional Japanese dancers performed at the Tateuchi Pavilion.

More than 100 people attended the four-hour event at the Garden’s Wilburton Hill Park site. The event included a children’s commemorative tree planting at the Shorts Ground Cover Garden. A new book about the garden was unveiled at the event and the author, noted Northwest writer and horticultural expert Marty Wingate, signed copies of “The Bellevue Botanical Garden: Celebrating the First 15 Years.” The 112-page book features more than 160 images by professional and amateur photographers.

Residents who missed the party can still get the book, published by the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society: “Celebrating the First 15 Years” ($19.95 plus $5.05 tax and shipping) can be purchased at the Garden’s Trillium Gift Shop, online from the Garden website – http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/visitor/fmvisitor.htm – or by phone at 425-451-3755.

Author Marty Wingate signs copies of her new book, “The Bellevue Botanical Garden: Celebrating the First 15 Years,” at an anniversary celebration at the Garden on June 16.
Three businesses recognized as top recyclers

In 2006, La Tienda Grocery, Safeway Bakery and Aronson-Campbell Industrial Supply recycled more than any other businesses of equivalent size. La Tienda recycled nearly 90 percent of its waste last year, winning the recycling title for small businesses for the second year in a row.

Allied Waste and the city established recycling awards in 2005 as a way to promote the new commingled recycling program, which allows collection of unsorted materials. Each of the winning companies receives a free month of garbage service.

La Tienda, at 1506 145th Pl. SE, carries products from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Peru and Columbia, and serves a diverse customer base. To keep 87 percent of the company’s waste out of the landfill, owner Antonio Garcia recycles as much packaging as possible, including a large amount of cardboard.

The Safeway Bakery, which provides bread and rolls to Safeway stores throughout Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and parts of Oregon, is the winner in the medium-size category, recycling 80 percent of its waste in 2006. Plant Manager Paul Jhoosy credits his 100 employees for being extremely conscientious about recycling cardboard, office paper, plastic and metal. The bakery even sends unused dough to farms for hog feed.

Aronson-Campbell is the winner in the large business category, with a recycling rate of 76 percent. Founded in 1890, the company distributes industrial supply products to manufacturers.

Office paper is collected in desk side recycling containers and large amounts of cardboard are recycled from deliveries to the warehouse, said Bruce Buchberger, owner and president of Aronson-Campbell. The company reuses many cardboard boxes. Unusable packaging materials such as banding and plastic foam are nearly the only items thrown away.

In Bellevue’s program, businesses can recycle at no additional charge. All recyclables, including cardboard, mixed paper, newspaper, aluminum cans, plastic containers and glass go into the same container. Call the city at 425-452-6932 if you would like assistance in setting up recycling or improving your recycling program at your business.

Web portal is finalist for innovations award

A set of pioneering Web portals developed by nine Eastside communities to more efficiently deliver traditional municipal services has been named by Harvard University as a finalist for the school’s prestigious Innovations in American Government Award.

The portals offered by the eCityGov Alliance provide convenient, one-stop Internet access to such services as building permits, recreational opportunities and property information. The Alliance’s Web portals are the first in the nation that allow users to conveniently cross municipal boundaries for services.

“This is a tremendous honor for the eCityGov Alliance,” said John Backman, the Alliance’s executive director. “We believe we are setting a new standard for local government service for citizens and businesses, and this recognition validates that belief.”

The City of Snoqualmie is the fastest growing city in the state, but without the cost-effective online services provided by the eCityGov Alliance we would not be able to afford the cost of meeting the growing expectations of our community," City Administrator Bob Larson said.

Eighteen government initiatives from around the country were named as finalists for the Innovations in American Government Award, established in 1986 as part of the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. Seven finalists will win $100,000 prizes. The winners will be announced in September in Washington, D.C., at a dinner celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Innovations awards.

The Alliance is able to deliver high-tech services at a low cost for its members.

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Backman said, “By sharing the costs of the Web portals, even the smallest city can afford to put their services online. New members can be added quickly because the business and technical standards have already been established.”

“Because the service is jointly managed by members, the web portals are continually being updated. The most recent enhancements include an innovative parks search function for the parks portal and online permit inspection scheduling through MyBuildingPermit.com.”
Interim police chief named

Deputy Police Chief Linda Pillo, a 21-year veteran with the Bellevue force, was appointed interim police chief effective May 3. Pillo took over for Chief Jim Montgomery, who announced he would be retiring in March.

“I am honored to be appointed as the interim chief,” Pillo said. “I have always been an advocate of community policing, and have followed this philosophy throughout my career. The support of our community is such an integral part in the effectiveness of our police department.”

Pillo will serve as chief while the city conducts a recruitment process to fill the job on a permanent basis. That process is expected to be complete this fall.

A graduate of Washington State University, Pillo began her career in law enforcement in 1979 as a patrol officer with the Mercer Island force. She came to Bellevue in 1986 as an officer, and held various positions before being appointed a deputy chief in 2004.

Pillo presently serves on the board of trustees for Youth Eastside Services in Bellevue.

Waterwise Garden volunteers needed

As the days grow hotter and the rain gets scarcer this time of year, having a yard or garden that needs little water makes a lot of sense. Bellevue’s Waterwise Garden at the Bellevue Botanical Garden is a perfect resource for ideas.

The Waterwise Garden benefits from volunteer labor, so residents can provide service in return for what they can learn at the garden.

Volunteer days are the first and third Wednesday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m., through the fall. No experience is necessary, but volunteers must be adults. For more information, go to http://www.bellevuewa.gov/vol_waterwisegarden.htm or call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-4127.

Free showerheads make it easier to be green

Bellevue’s water provider will offer free water-saving showerheads to thousands of customers this summer as part of a new regional energy and water efficiency campaign.

“Water-efficient showerheads definitely make a difference,” said Bellevue Mayor Grant Degginger, who chairs the city’s supplier, Cascade Water Alliance.

“Conserving our natural resources, including water and energy, will help us face the challenges of future water supply and climate change.”

Bellevue acquires its drinking water through the Cascade Water Alliance, an association of water districts and cities. Cascade, along with Seattle City Light, Puget Sound Energy and the Saving Water Partnership, is offering the new showerheads.

Efficient showerheads help residents save money on their water, gas, electric and sewer utility bills.

Customers can also lower their carbon footprint, and in turn, curb the effects of climate change by reducing their water and energy use at home.

If just one-half of all single-family households install a water-efficient showerhead in each shower, the region can save almost 200 million gallons of drinking water per year, enough to meet the needs of 3,000 households in that time. Customers are urged to fill out and return the postage-paid mailer to receive free efficient showerheads and faucet aerators. The utilities’ free efficient showerhead offer ends Sept. 15. For more information on this program, please visit http://www.savingwater.org/.

Lasting anti-pollution message

Volunteers have made an effort to limit pollution running through storm drains to the lakes, streams and wetlands around Bellevue by stenciling the message “Don’t pollute. Drains to stream” on thousands of grates.

However, there are more than 20,000 storm drains in Bellevue and those painted messages wear off after a couple of years. Now the city is testing a new way - a colorful, plastic marker that may last up to 15 years.

Bordered by Lake Washington and Lake Sammamish, Bellevue is home to more than 60 miles of open streams, 850 acres of wetlands, three small lakes and numerous ponds. Hazardous chemicals that go into the storm drains flow into these bodies of water can harm fish and the bugs they eat.

For many years, Bellevue has had a storm drain stenciling program to raise awareness about the issue. In 2006, 117 volunteers stenciled 1,041 storm drains.

Now volunteers can apply the new warning to grates in the neighborhood of their choice or stencil the old-fashioned way. Interested residents can contact Karren Gratt at 425-452-6166 or kgratt@bellevuewa.gov.

City helps neighbors find win-win solutions

With summer here, residents are out more – gardening, having barbecues and walking about. Unfortunately, tours of the neighborhood may turn up some eyesores – homes with unmowed lawns, rusty compost piles, peeling paint, junk in the yard or derelict cars in the driveway.

The City of Bellevue can help. City code prohibits yard litter, broken-down cars in plain sight and rat infestations. Code compliance officers will take action if you file a complaint, but there may be an even better way – negotiation or mediation.

After all, overgrown yards and bad paint jobs are not covered by the law. Code compliance officers “don’t regulate ugliness.” And a reluctant neighbor can only be forced to comply with the letter of the law, not the spirit. If they pump up the tites, they can leave the junker in the driveway.

Negotiating with your neighbor could well result in a better solution for you than getting Code Compliance to enforce.

Still, some residents may be uncomfortable approaching their neighbor about a problem. The Bellevue Neighborhood Mediation Program can make it easier. Trained mediators can offer coaching for neighbor talks or a mediator will actually facilitate a face-to-face meeting between neighbors.

Staff with the Neighborhood Mediation Program suggest that people with concerns about an eyesore in the neighborhood investigate some questions before they take action:

- Does the Bellevue City Code address this eyesore?
- If so, does the remedy the city will impose address your concern?
- What if you have several concerns with this neighbor and the City Code only addresses some of them?
- Might there be some solutions that would benefit both parties?
- What kind of relationship would you like with this neighbor in future?
- Are there health and safety concerns or other concerns that are not negotiable?

Once a resident has answered these questions, they can plan how to address a neighborhood eyesore problem in a way most likely to get them the result they want.

Learn more about Neighborhood Mediation by checking the city website – http://www.bellevuewa.gov/mediation, intro.htm or calling 425-452-4091.
North Bellevue gets street, park and utility improvements

The city is undertaking more than 25 projects to improve community centers, parks, sidewalks and streets in North Bellevue. These improvements, many of them requested by residents through the Neighborhood Enhancement Program, will mean better playgrounds, safer residential streets and additional sidewalks.

Northwest Bellevue Neighborhood Area

1. Northeast 24th Street Sidewalk Addition
   Project Need: This is a Neighborhood Enhancement Project requested and selected by residents of the Northwest Bellevue N.E.P area as a priority project.
   Proposed Improvements: Add a missing section of sidewalk on the south side of N.E. 24th Street, along the frontage of Hidden Valley Park.
   Benefits: Increases pedestrian safety and improves the pedestrian connection on N.E. 24th Street. It will provide better access to and from Hidden Valley Park.
   Current Status: Preliminary design.
   Schedule: Construction is expected to begin Spring 2007.
   Budget: $100,000
   Project Manager: Vangie Parico, 425-452-6103 or Vparico@bellevuewa.gov

2. Improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities on Northeast 24th Street
   Project Need: This section of N.E. 24th Street lacks adequate bicycle and pedestrian facilities limiting access to, from and within the nearby neighborhoods. There is frequent cut-through traffic and speeding.
   Improvements Underway: The first phase of this project extends from the State Route 520 bike trail east to 130th Avenue Northeast. The work includes a decorative wall, five-foot-wide bike lanes on the uphill sections of the roadway, landscaped medians, planter strips, and sidewalks on the north side of the road.
   Benefits: Improves safety for pedestrians and bicyclists by separating them from vehicular traffic, and improved non-motorized access from neighborhoods to shopping, transit, and school bus stops.
   Construction Schedule: Construction is under way. Road closures may still occur depending on the construction work taking place and detours may be necessary. However, local access for residents will be maintained.

3. 132nd/134th Avenue Northeast Trail Enhancements
   Project Need: This is a Neighborhood Enhancement Project requested and selected by residents of the Bridle Trails N.E.P area as a priority project.
   Proposed Improvements: Enhancing the existing paved path on the east side of 132nd/134th Avenue N.E. from N.E. 24th Street to N.E. 60th Street. This also includes new bollards, signage, benches, trash receptacles, and a neighborhood entry sign near the 132nd Avenue N.E. and N.E. 60th Street intersection.
   Benefits: Provides improved walking conditions for all users.
   Construction Schedule: Summer/Fall 2007
   Total Project Cost: $35,000
   Project Manager: Geoff Bradley, 425-452-2740 or Gbradley@bellevuewa.gov

4. 140th Avenue Northeast Median
   Project Need: This is a Neighborhood Enhancement Project requested and selected by residents of the Bridle Trails N.E.P area as a priority project.
   Proposed Improvements: A landscaped median will be installed (approximately 100 feet in length) about 500 feet north of N.E. 24th Street (between the two driveways accessing the Innisglen property). The median would be designed to allow adequate access into and out of the Innisglen property.
   Benefits: Enhances the entrance into the Bridle Trails Neighborhood.
   Total Project Cost: $75,000
   Project Manager: Vangie Parico, 425-452-6103 or Vparico@bellevuewa.gov

Wilburton Neighborhood Area

5. Northeast 10th Street Extension, Stage 2
   Project Need: As the city and region continue to grow, the City of Bellevue identified the need to improve access to/from and within downtown, and address emerging needs within the Medical District east of Interstate 405.
   Construction Contract: $2,988,351
   Project Manager: Tricia Thomson, 425-452-6014 or Tathomson@bellevuewa.gov
   Proposed Improvements: Enhancing the existing paved path on the east side of 132nd/134th Avenue N.E. from N.E. 24th Street to N.E. 60th Street. This also includes new bollards, signage, benches, trash receptacles, and a neighborhood entry sign near the 132nd Avenue N.E. and N.E. 60th Street intersection.
   Benefits: Provides improved walking conditions for all users.
   Construction Schedule: Summer/Fall 2007
   Total Project Cost: $35,000
   Project Manager: Geoff Bradley, 425-452-2740 or Gbradley@bellevuewa.gov

The map, divided into six neighborhood areas north of Main Street – West Bellevue, Northwest Bellevue, Bridle Trails, Wilburton, Crossroads and Northeast Bellevue – shows where projects are taking place.

A few of the projects cross neighborhood boundaries. They are placed with the neighborhood with which they would be most easily identified. Managers are identified for each project.
Proposed Improvements: The final stage of the Northeast 10th Street Extension project (Stage 2) will complete the roadway segment and bridge between 112th Avenue N.E. and 116th Avenue N.E., improving access and circulation through downtown and the medical district that includes Overlake Hospital Medical Center and a new Group Health Cooperative facility. In coordination with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), this stage of the project will extend N.E. 10th Street from 112th Avenue N.E. to the east, construct a new bridge over I-405, and connect with the Stage 1 improvements that are currently under construction. Benefits: This project assures critical access to the Medical District for emergency vehicles, visitors, and freight; links two vital activity centers (downtown and the medical district); and improves the capacity and pedestrian circulation in the project area. This project also incorporates the ability to add freeway access ramps to and from SR-520 from N.E. 10th in the future. Schedule: Design is underway with construction scheduled to begin in early 2008. Total Project Cost: This stage is part of the N.E. 10th Street Extension that is budgeted at $64,606,000.

City of Bellevue Project Manager: Rick Logwood, 425-452-6858 or RLogwood@bellevuewa.gov

6. Northeast 10th Street Extension, Stage 1 Project Need: The city’s Downtown Implementation Plan identified the Need for improved access and circulation through downtown and the city’s medical district, preservation of future opportunities for access to/from SR-520 or I-405, and improved access to high-quality medical care for the greater Eastside. Proposed Improvements: The N.E. 10th Street Extension improvement includes constructing a new five to seven lane arterial from 112th Avenue N.E. to 116th Avenue N.E., between Overlake Hospital to the north and Group Health facilities to the south, which are under construction. 116th Avenue N.E. will be widened, adding one additional southbound travel lane. Also being added are two new signalized intersections, sidewalks, landscaping, and urban design elements. Benefits: Improved access and circulation to/from downtown and the city’s medical district; future regional transportation access to/from SR-520; and improved economic vitality through continued development of a regional medical district. Construction information: Construction is underway for Stage 1 and will continue into the spring of 2008. To maintain safety and traffic flow during construction, through traffic on 116th Avenue N.E. will generally be maintained with some lane closures for construction; bike and pedestrian movement will be restricted to right-turns only and left turns will be allowed at signalized intersections; turn lanes at N.E. 8th Street/116th Avenue N.E. and at the existing signalized hospital entrance (near N.E. 10th Street) will be maintained; emergency vehicle access to/from Overlake Hospital will be maintained; and night work will occur to minimize impacts. Total Project Cost: $67 million (approximately) Project Manager: Rick Logwood, 425-452-6858 or RLogwood@bellevuewa.gov

Construction Inspectors: Carl Hadas, 425-452-6937 or Chadas@bellevuewa.gov

7. Bel-Rod Red Corridor Project Project Need: As the historically industrial area changes, the city is considering what its role should be in the city’s overall economic development and growth management strategy. Currently, the city is working with the community and Sound Transit to identify how a possible light rail line going through Bel-Rod should serve the area. Benefits: When the project is complete, it will provide an updated land use and transportation vision for the 9.12-acre area in central Bellevue. It will include recommendations for land use changes and related infrastructure (such as utilities, streets, and parks), a preferred route for light rail with station locations, needed amenities, and financial strategies to put the plan into action. Status: Public involvement is ongoing. A preliminary preferred alternative was selected by the project steering committee in May 2007. The preliminary preferred alternative includes potential land use changes and transportation system improvements that could accommodate additional growth, and new types of growth (such as housing and mixed-use development) in the future. Enhancements to the streams corridors are integrated with the proposal, as are improvements to the parks/open space and non-motorized transportation systems. A Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) is being prepared and will be released in July. Schedule: The Steering Committee has endorsed a preliminary preferred alternative which is being analyzed in the FEIS. A final plan is expected to be developed and recommended to the City Council later in 2007. Once approved, actions to implement the preferred alternative will take place over the next several years. Project Managers: Kevin O’Neill, 425-452-4064; or Kevin McDonald, 425-452-4558; or BelRed@bellevuewa.gov Web site: http://www.cityofbellevue.org/belred.asp

8. Wilburton/N.E. 8th Street Study Project Need: The Wilburton area is one of the older commercial areas in the city, and one of Bellevue’s community and economic development strategies is to pursue redevelopment and reinvestment. Currently, the area lacks a coherent identity, and some properties may have potential for economic development. Circulation within the area is confusing and is a barrier to the enhancement of existing long-term uses, such as auto dealerships and major retail. Benefits: Encourage economic vitality and appropriate redevelopment; strengthen auto retail use on 116th Avenue; improve area’s urban design and identity; and improve circulation in and adjacent to the Wilburton Commercial District. The study is intended to balance policy objectives of encouraging revitalization, maintaining a well-functioning transportation system, and serving nearby neighborhoods. Status: The Planning Commission is considering a range of land use alternatives. Schedule: A preliminary preferred alternative was identified this spring. Code and policy updates that result from the study will be considered by the Planning Commission and City Council this fall. Project Manager: Paul Ingham, AICP, 425-452-4070 or pingham@bellevuewa.gov

9. Habitat/Landscaping along Kelsey Creek Project Need: This is a Neighborhood Enhancement Project requested and selected by residents of the Wilburton N.E.R area as a high priority project. Proposed Improvements: Re-establish wildlife habitat along Kelsey Creek and add formal landscape to the only remaining non-landscaped right of way along Northeast Eighth Street. Benefits: Enhances Kelsey Creek habitat and landscaping. Construction schedule: Summer 2007 Total Project Cost: $31,400 Project Manager: Tom Kuykendall, 425-452-7924 or Tkuykendall@bellevuewa.gov

10. 132nd Avenue Northeast Traffic Calming Project Need: This roadway experiences excessive vehicle speeds and cut-through traffic. Proposed Improvements: A traffic calming plan was developed with assistance from a traffic committee comprised of local resident volunteers. The plan consists of four elongated speed humps and is supported by the majority of residents. Benefits: Reduce vehicle speeds and cut-through traffic. Current Status: Construction to begin Summer 2007. Total Project Cost: $35,000 Project Manager: Rebecca Rodni, 425-452-6160 or Rodni@bellevuewa.gov

Crossroads Neighborhood Area 11. Skate Park at Highland Community Center Project Need: This is a Neighborhood Enhancement Project requested and selected by residents of the Crossroads N.E.R area as a high priority project. Proposed Improvements: This project is partially funded by N.E.P and will build a new, free, outdoor state-of-the-art skate park north of the Highland Community Center, in a triangular area currently unused. Benefits: A new skate park for the Crossroads area. Construction schedule: Summer 2007 Total Project Cost: $150,000 from N.E.P, more from other sources Project Manager: Scott Vanderhyden, 425-452-4169 or Svanderhyden@bellevuewa.gov

12. Crossroads Center Plan Project Purpose: The Crossroads Center Plan was initiated to reinforce the economic vitality of the Crossroads commercial center, improve the connections to the Crossroads Park and Community Center, and create additional community gathering places. Project Managers: Andrew Kidd, 425-452-5288 or Akidd@bellevuewa.gov

13. Community Garden at Crossroads Park Project Need: This is a Neighborhood Enhancement Project requested and selected by residents of the Crossroads N.E.R area as a high priority project. Proposed Improvements: Install a multiple plot community garden in Crossroads Park just north of the Kindering Center, including site preparation, a new pathway, and other infrastructure improvements (irrigation, trash containers, water, etc.). Benefits: Provide a community garden in the Crossroads area. Construction schedule: Fall 2007 Total Project Cost: $60,000 Project Manager: Ken Kroeger, 425-452-6624 or Kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov

Northeast Bellevue Neighborhood Area 14. Northeast 30th Street/164th Avenue Northeast Traffic Calming Project Need: This area of the Neighborhood experiences excessive vehicle speeds and cut-through traffic. Recent Improvements: Installed two sets of speed cushions on 30th Street and 164th Avenue, which are similar to speed humps but have two open channels to make it easier for large emergency vehicles to travel through them. The speed cushions are marked and striped with a double line indicating that it is a “No Passing” zone.
15. Ardmore Elementary School Playground Equipment

Project Need: This is a Neighborhood Enhancement Project which was requested and selected by residents in the Northeast Bellevue N.E.P area as a priority project.

Proposed Improvements: Adding play equipment on the north side of the school and adding landscape amenities, in partnership with the Ardmore PTA and the Bellevue School District.

Benefit: School and neighborhood children will have an improved and updated playground.

Construction schedule: 2007/2008

Budget: $65,000

Project Manager: Pam Fahrman, 425-452-4362 or Pfahrman@bellevuewa.gov

16. Northup WaySidewalk

Project Need: This is a Neighborhood Enhancement Project which was requested and selected by residents of the Northeast Bellevue N.E.P area as a priority project.

Proposed Improvements: Add a six-foot-wide sidewalk on the north side of Northup Way beginning at the end of the existing sidewalk at 165th Avenue N.E. and continuing east (in front of Ivanhoe Park) to 168th Avenue N.E. The crosswalk at 168th Avenue N.E. also will be improved.

Benefit: Increases bicycle and pedestrian safety and connectivity along Northup Way.

Status: Design.

Construction Schedule: Construction is expected winter 2008.

Total Project Cost: $400,000

Project Manager: Vangie Parico, 425-452-6103 or Vparico@bellevuewa.gov

17. Ivanhoe Park Play Equipment Replacement

Project Need: Play equipment needs to be replaced.

Proposed Improvements: Remove existing play equipment at the park, located at the 16500 Block of Northup Way, and prepare site. Add new surface under the equipment to meet ADA accessibility requirements and new equipment to serve two age groups, including swings for both age groups.

Benefit: Improved play area for children.

Construction Schedule: Expect to start spring 2007 and continue through summer.

Total Project Cost: $100,000

Project Manager: Randy Rautor, 425-452-2036 or Rrautor@bellevuewa.gov

18. Northeast Eighth Street Landscaping and Sidewalk

Project Need: This is a Neighborhood Enhancement Project requested and selected by residents of the Northeast Bellevue N.E.P area as a priority project.

Proposed Improvements: New landscaping on the public right-of-way, along N.E. 8th Street east of 164th Avenue N.E. and add new sidewalk.

Benefit: Enhancement to street landscape.

Construction Schedule: Mid-Summer 2007

Total Project Cost: $100,000

Project Manager: Don McQuillams, 425-452-7865 or Dmquillamn@bellevuewa.gov


Project Need: The pavement is deteriorating and the sidewalks and drainage systems are in poor condition and need to be replaced.

Proposed Improvements: Add new sidewalk between Northup Way and N.E. 11th Street on the northwest side of N.E. 10th Street; remove and replace curb, gutter, and sidewalk on the southwest side between N.E. 12th Street and N.E. 15th Place; and on the northwest side between N.E. 11th Street and N.E. 15th Place; improve storm drainage system the full length of the project; add new pavement; add curb extensions at N.E. 106th Street and 176th Avenue N.E., add raised crosswalks at N.E. 12th Street and 176th Avenue N.E., N.E. 13th Street and 179th Avenue N.E., and N.E. 13th Street and 180th Avenue N.E.

Project Benefit: Improved pedestrian access and safety, drainage facilities, and driving surface.

Status: Project design under way.

Construction Schedule: The project schedule has changed to reduce impacts to residents and shorten the length of construction. Instead of constructing the improvements later this year, construction will begin in early 2008.

Project Cost: $2,736,000

Project Manager: Mike Rodri, 425-452-4586 or Mrodria@bellevuewa.gov, or Karen Gonzalez, 425-452-4598 or Kgonzalez@bellevuewa.gov

20. West Lake Sammamish Parkway Analysis

Project Need: Traffic on West Lake Sammamish Parkway has grown in recent years, especially during peak periods. Presently, pedestrian and bicycle facilities are only available on the west side of the roadway. Other issues are speeding, pavement roughness, noise when driving over the pavement seams, and difficult turning movements onto and off of the Parkway.

Proposed Improvements: Two years of public involvement produced a preferred alternative that balanced the community’s desire to maintain the “rural character” of the parkway with requests to enhance the facilities and connections to the non-motorized system, and with the need to preserve the roadway, which is falling apart. The project will enhance system connectivity, preservation, and safety by providing; consistent four-foot-wide shoulder on the east side; 10.5-foot-wide northbound vehicle lane; 10-foot-wide southbound vehicle lane; repaved roadway surface; 10-foot-wide multi-purpose trail on the west side; new signal at S.E. 34th Street; new pedestrian crossings at S.E. 40th Street, the Little Store, Warren Park, Northup Way, Roosevelt, and N.E. 24th Street; and new storm drainage/water quality treatment elements.

Benefits: This analysis has given the community and the city an opportunity to jointly develop a recommendation for improvements to West Lake Sammamish Parkway.

Status: City staff is seeking funding for this project through various federal, state and local funding sources. It is expected this project will be implemented in phases.

Project Schedule: Once project funding is secured a project schedule will be determined.

Total Analysis Cost: $410,000

Project Manager: Nancy LaCombe, 425-452-4382 or Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov

Utility Department Projects

Because of the high number of small utility projects throughout north Bellevue, these locations are not identified on the map.

A. Sanitary Sewer Repairs

Project Need: Aging sanitary sewer pipes in various locations throughout the city have breaks, leaks, or show signs of loss of strength. Repairs will take place at the following locations: 116th Avenue N.E. near N.E. 6th Street; 130th Avenue N.E. between N.E. 24th Street and N.E. 25th Street; 164th Avenue N.E. near N.E. 12th Street; N.E. 29th Place near 171st Avenue N.E.; N.E. 29th Street near 163rd Avenue N.E.; N.E. 40th Street near 146th Avenue N.E.; Belt Red Road near 122nd Avenue N.E.; and 140th Avenue N.E. near N.E. 40th Street.

Proposed Improvements: Dig up and repair defective sections of sanitary sewer pipelines.

Benefits: Provides utility customers with consistent, reliable service.

Construction schedule: Summer 2007 to winter 2008

Budget: $350,000

Project Manager: Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 or Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

B. Storm Drain and Sanitary Sewer Trenchless Rehabilitation

Project Need: There is a corroded corrugated metal storm pipe near the 15000 block of N.E. 16th Place.

Proposed Improvements: Reline the inside of a 48-inch diameter, 900 foot-long storm pipe in the Fox Glen Neighborhood. This project will be constructed in conjunction with other miscellaneous smaller projects throughout Bellevue.

Benefits: Provides utility customers with consistent, reliable service.

Construction schedule: Summer 2007

Budget: $350,000

Project Manager: Steve Costa, 425-452-2845 or Scosta@bellevuewa.gov

C. Exposed Sanitary Sewer Lakelines

Project Need: Protect existing sanitary sewer pipeline along the lake and facilitate maintenance of existing sewer lakeline at miscellaneous locations along Lake Washington from South Bellevue to Medina.

Proposed Improvements: Placement of rock material on top of existing sanitary sewer lakeline to provide additional protection and installation of access manholes at Meydenbauer and Clyde Hill Beach Parks.

Benefits: Provides utility customers with consistent, reliable service and environmental protection.

Construction schedule: Fall 2007 – Spring 2008

Budget: $500,000

Project Manager: Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 or Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

D. 147th Lane at Northeast Ninth Street Sewer Replacement

Project Need: Replace a damaged section of sanitary sewer pipe crossing under an existing swamp area at 147th Lane Northeast at Northeast Ninth Street.
Proposed Improvements: Install approximately 500 linear feet of eight-inch sanitary sewer pipe along 147th Lane N.E. and N.E. 10th Street.

Benefits: Provides utility customers with consistent, reliable service.

Construction schedule or general schedule: Construction in late June 2007.

Budget: $300,000

Project Manager: Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 or Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

E. 2006 AC Water Main Replacement, Phase 2

Project Need: Elements of the water system at the following locations are nearing the end of their life spans: N.E. 24th Place west of 130th Avenue N.E.; N.E. 25th Place west of 130th Avenue N.E.; N.E. 26th Street west of 164th Avenue N.E.; 16411 N.E. 24th Street; and 100th Avenue N.E. from N.E. 24th Street to N.E. 26th Street. N.E. 10th Avenue N.E; 106th Avenue N.E.; 108th Avenue N.E.; 109th Avenue N.E.; 110th Avenue N.E.; 112th Avenue N.E.; 114th Avenue N.E.; and 115th Avenue N.E.

Proposed Improvements: Replacment of deteriorated elements of the water system. Several other projects throughout Bellevue will be combined with the ones listed above.

Benefits: Provides utility customers with consistent, reliable service and improves fire protection.


Budget: $1,900,000

Project Manager: Steve Costa, 425-452-2845 or Scosta@bellevuewa.gov

F. 2007 AC Water Main Improvements, Phase 1 & 2

Project Need: Replace deteriorating elements of the water infrastructure system at miscellaneous locations throughout the city: 154th Avenue N.E., near N.E. 5th Street. (Phase 1) and N.E. 30th Street, N.E. 30th Place, N.E. 28th Street and 88th Avenue N.E.

Proposed Improvements: Install approximately 6,000 linear feet for Phase 1 and 6,500 linear feet for Phase 2 of four-inch and eight-inch ductile iron pipe to replace the existing four-inch asbestos cement water main.

Benefits: Provides utility customers with consistent, reliable service and improves fire protection.

Construction schedule: Summer/Fall 2007 for Phase 1 and Fall 2007 for Phase 2

Budget: $1,600,000 (Phase 1) and $1,200,000 – $1,600,000 (Phase 2)

J. Commercial & Private Development Projects

These are the commercial developments under review in the Transportation Department:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spectrum Controls</td>
<td>1705 – 132nd Avenue N.E.</td>
<td>Expansion of 2nd floor in existing building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMW Services and Parking Garage</td>
<td>13605 N.E. 20th Street</td>
<td>Construction of a three-story closed parking and service garage with basement and roof parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodland/Foothill Commons</td>
<td>13700 N.E. 10th Place</td>
<td>Remove existing tennis court and grate for parking, drive aisles, sidewalk, and landscaping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115th Townhomes</td>
<td>3421 – 115th Avenue N.E.</td>
<td>Planned unit development (clustered homes) for 18 attached single family townhomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Corners Development</td>
<td>15211 Bel-Red Road</td>
<td>Construct a three-story office building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bel-Red Office</td>
<td>15603 Bel-Red Road</td>
<td>Construct a three-story office building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lakes Apartment Building</td>
<td>4220 – 144th Place N.E.</td>
<td>Construction of 21 new apartment units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roselblatt Townhomes</td>
<td>1555 – 156th Avenue N.E.</td>
<td>16 town home units located in 8 duplex buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enclave at Fen Glen</td>
<td>1025 – 156th Avenue N.E.</td>
<td>25 lot planned unit development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossroads II</td>
<td>805 – 156th Avenue N.E.</td>
<td>Construct new two-story professional office building with underground parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherwood Forest Elementary School</td>
<td>16411 N.E. 24th Street</td>
<td>Demolish existing school and construct new building; associated site work for utility installation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellevue Children's Academy</td>
<td>14600 N.E. 24th Street</td>
<td>Administrative conditional use for a school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medina Academy</td>
<td>16242 Northrup Way</td>
<td>Phased construction of an elementary school for a maximum of 200 students, including the preschool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastside Academy</td>
<td>1717 Bellevue Way N.E.</td>
<td>School for 25 to 30 at-risk high school students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Day School Phase 2</td>
<td>15749 N.E. 4th Street</td>
<td>Construction of new gym building, modifications of north and south access drives, playground and play ground upgrades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casa Property Townhome</td>
<td>123 – 99th Ave N.E.</td>
<td>Demolish existing single family residence for proposed two-unit townhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellevue Neighborhood Church</td>
<td>627 – 140th Avenue N.E.</td>
<td>Amendment to the conditional use permit to allow church activities on adjacent lot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Manager: Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 or Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

G. 2007 Pressure Reducing Valve Replacement, Phase 1, 2

Project Need: Replace deteriorating elements of the water infrastructure system at miscellaneous locations – 800 129th Avenue N.E. for Phase 1, and the following approximate locations for Phase 2: 200 Block of 167th Avenue N.E.; 17000 Block of N.E. 28th Place; 128th and Main Street; N.E. 10th and Northrup Way; 185th Avenue N.E. and N.E. 15th Place; 1200 Block of 173rd Avenue N.E.

Proposed Improvements: Install new pressure reducing valve stations.

Benefits: Provides utility customers with consistent, reliable service.

Construction schedule: Summer 2007

Budget: $70,000 for Phase 1 and $300,000 – $400,000 for Phase 2.

Project Manager for Phase 1: Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 or Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

Project Manager for Phase 2: Bob Bergetrom, 425-452-4474 or Bbergetrom@bellevuewa.gov

H. Storm Drain Dig & Repair 2007

Project Need: There are capacity issues with storm pipe near the 2500 block of 120th Avenue N.E. and a plugged culvert near the 14300 block of N.E. 16th Place.

Proposed Improvements: For the 2500 block, replace existing pipe with a larger one for the 14300 block, install a new catch basin. These projects will be constructed in conjunction with other miscellaneous smaller projects throughout Bellevue.

Benefits: Provides utility customers with consistent, reliable service.

Construction schedule: Summer/Fall 2007

Budget: $130,000 for the 2500 block; $15,000 for the 14300 block.

Project Manager: Steve Costa, 425-452-2845 or Scosta@bellevuewa.gov

I. West Lake Sammamish Culvert Rehabilitation

Project Need: Rehabilitate 20 aging culverts along West Lake Sammamish Parkway S.E. that were annexed from King County in 2001.

Proposed Improvements: Assess condition, prioritize order of repairs and make repair recommendations.

Benefits: Provides utility customers with consistent, reliable service.

Construction schedule: To be determined.

Budget: $250,000

Project Manager: Steve Costa, 425-452-2845 or Scosta@bellevuewa.gov
## Summer Community Events Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 05</td>
<td><strong>Libby’s Hall of Fame</strong> 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. <strong>Welcome Home Festival</strong> 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 2 p.m., 4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 06</td>
<td><strong>Blacksburg Bash</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Madison House, 4063-148th Ave. Madison House</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 07</td>
<td><strong>activities! Pancakes, Games, and Music</strong> 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. <strong>Food Truck Frenzy</strong> 12 noon.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>9 a.m. – 3 p.m., 12 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 08</td>
<td><strong>Prehistoric Picnic</strong> 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 09</td>
<td><strong>亲近自然的野餐</strong> 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 10</td>
<td><strong>Colorado Conference</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Madison House, 4063-148th Ave. Madison House</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 11</td>
<td><strong>Spring into May</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13</td>
<td><strong>Summer Concert</strong> 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td><strong>Around The World</strong> 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 15</td>
<td><strong>Community Picnic</strong> 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 16</td>
<td><strong>Bark &amp; Garden Bash</strong> 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 18</td>
<td><strong>Jubilee Festival</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 19</td>
<td><strong>National Days of Discovery</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 20</td>
<td><strong>Greenbelt Produce Stand</strong> 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Lake Hills Greenbelt, 700 148 Ave SE.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 21</td>
<td><strong>Festival of the Americas</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 22</td>
<td><strong>National Day of Prior</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 23</td>
<td><strong>Executive Beach</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 24</td>
<td><strong>Hawaii Day</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 25</td>
<td><strong>Canada Day</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 26</td>
<td><strong>Italian Festival</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 27</td>
<td><strong>French Festival</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 28</td>
<td><strong>Chinese Festival</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 29</td>
<td><strong>Summer Solstice</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td><strong>Summer Kick Off</strong> 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*No guard provided during inclement weather. Last day – Labor Day, Sept. 3 – 7 p.m.*

For additional information, please contact Mike Koenig, Aquatics Program Manager, at 425-452-4444.
I-405 to widen through South Bellevue

Tired of traffic backups on Interstate 405 in Bellevue? To fix one of the worst choke points on the highway, the state Department of Transportation will add lanes between 112th Avenue Southeast and Southeast Eighth Street.

For the first stage of the project, set to begin in July and continue through June of 2008, contractors will focus on the stretch of I-405 between 112th Avenue Southeast and Interstate 90. The project will be completed, with widening between I-90 and Southeast Eighth, from March 2008 through August 2009.

Stage 1 work will include: adding a northbound lane from 112th Avenue Southeast to I-90; adding a three-lane, southbound bridge over I-90; and building a sound retention wall just north of I-90. The Kelsey Creek wetland will also be improved.

Lane Closures
During construction, lane closures will primarily be at night, to avoid slowing travel at peak times. The Department of Transportation plans to minimize lane and full road closures of city streets, Interstate 405 and Interstate 90 as much as possible. Coal Creek Parkway will be closed under I-405 in September.

For more information on the South Bellevue I-405 Widening project or to sign up for e-mail updates, visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I405/112thAveSE8th/ or contact Colleen Gants, 425-456-8500 or colleen.gants@i405.wsdot.wa.gov.

I-90 on-ramp gets makeover for HOV

The project that will make high-occupancy vehicle lanes an option for travelers going east or west on Interstate 90 began this spring with construction in Mercer Island and Bellevue.

The state Department of Transportation and Sound Transit began extending the westbound HOV lane to Mercer Island. In Bellevue, WSDOT is building retaining walls on both sides of the HOV on-ramp at Bellevue Way, which will allow workers to add a lane.

Most of the work is being done at night to minimize effects on traffic. WSDOT offers complete details on the I-90 HOV lane project at www.wsdot.wa.gov/proj/050/I-90/TwoWayTransit.