Resident input weighed for East Link agreement

As the city hashes out details it wants to see in the East Link light rail route through Bellevue, residents have had significant input.

Tentatively set to sign an agreement with Sound Transit on Oct. 25 regarding East Link, the city in September held an open house and a public hearing, and had individual meetings with residents who would be directly affected by the route. Negotiations between Bellevue and Sound Transit cap a multi-year environmental review process and public outreach that’s included dozens of other meetings in Bellevue.

The agreement, a binding memorandum of understanding (MOU), would outline the city’s commitments for the funding of a downtown tunnel as well as route design modifications Sound Transit would make to limit noise, traffic and visual impacts on the Enatai, Bellefield and Surrey Downs neighborhoods.

To familiarize residents with the issues to be addressed in the MOU and gather feedback, the city held an open house at City Hall on Sept. 20. More than 200 people came to the event, which featured large illustrations and included staff from the city and Sound Transit. At the public hearing, during the City Council’s Sept. 26 meeting, more than 60 people spoke.

As the city has negotiated the MOU with Sound Transit, the focus has been on Bellevue’s contribution for the downtown tunnel and design options along 112th Avenue Southeast intended to limit impacts.

Downtown Tunnel Funding

Sound Transit agreed to include a tunnel through downtown Bellevue in its preferred route, with a commitment from the city to help cover some of the additional cost.

The tunnel – expected to minimize traffic impacts in Bellevue’s bustling downtown and reduce travel times along the entire Eastside light rail line – is considered vital for the city. The council has tentatively identified ways to cover the city’s $160 million contribution toward the tunnel’s price tag.

Design Options to Limit Light Rail Impacts

Sound Transit’s preferred route through South Bellevue runs along Bellevue Way and 112th Avenue Southeast. The agency has been considering design modifications to limit noise and visual impacts on the surrounding neighborhoods.

Route adjustments with the potential to cut down on warning bells and crossing gates included moving a planned crossing of 112th Avenue Southeast from Southeast Sixth Street to Southeast 15th Street, and crossing above 112th instead of at street level.

East Link will run from Seattle, through Bellevue, to the Overlake area of Redmond. Construction is forecast to begin by 2015 and service is expected to start by 2023.


More permits now available online

The City of Bellevue is expanding its online permitting services, enabling contractors and residents to submit plans for mechanical, plumbing and electrical permits electronically.

In 2002 the city made it possible to obtain a “simple” permit, which requires no staff review, without coming to City Hall. Residents and builders could apply for these permits online at www.mybuildingpermit.com. The 24/7 website is a service of the e-CityGov Alliance, a group that includes 13 jurisdictions, mostly on the Eastside.

The site has been a great benefit to residents and builders, with more than a third of all construction-related permits in Bellevue now processed electronically. Permits that require no plan review include those for replacing an appliance such as a hot water heater or furnace or a simple reroofing job.

Customers have been able to obtain, and pay for, multiple permits for member jurisdictions all in one credit card transaction. Online permitting has steadily grown in popularity, and 73 percent of simple permits in Bellevue are now issued electronically. Bellevue accounts for 40 percent of all the permits issued through MyBuildingPermit.com.

In September the site was redesigned to allow for mechanical, electrical and plumbing applications that require review by city staff. Such permits include those for installation of systems, such as those for heating and air conditioning in new construction such as a downtown high-rise.

Bellevue began taking electronic applications for permits that require plan review on Oct. 17.

If an application requires plan review, a customer will be able to:

• fill out an application;
• upload electronic plans and supporting documents;
• pay fee invoices;
• securely exchange documents throughout the review process; and
• download the issued permit and approved plans.

The e-CityGov Alliance ultimately aims to add electronic processing for additional permit types.
Council Corner

Reflecting on 12 years of progress
By Grant Degginger

It is with mixed emotions that I write this column. After 12 years as a councilmember, deputy mayor and mayor – preceded by seven years as a member of the Planning Commission – I decided not to run for re-election this year. I will complete my third term on the council at the end of December. It’s time for a little break and an opportunity to reflect on what we have accomplished together.

The last dozen years have been a time of spectacular growth and transformation for Bellevue. Our population has grown from 101,402 in 2000 to 120,373 in 2010, making Bellevue the third-largest city in King County and the 26th-largest city in the state. Our business community has grown by leaps and bounds over the past decade.

Bellevue has continued its metamorphosis from a suburb to a major jobs center and a significant force in the region’s economy. Regional, national and international companies today call Bellevue home. We have been recognized by national publications as one of the best places in the country to start a small business. And we have been lauded as a city that knows how to get things done. Few cities of our size in the country can match Bellevue’s diversity, high student achievement, low crime, business environment, entrepreneurial spirit and quality of life.

During this same period, the City Council has provided a consistent vision and steady leadership that has reflected our community’s values and has kept us moving forward. Bellevue cares about parks, and we built and expanded many of them, including Lewis Creek Park, Lattawood Park, the South Bellevue Community Center and Crossroads Park. We installed turf fields at Robinswood, Wilburton and Newport Hills. And we acquired land that will someday become a great new park on Meydenbauer Bay.

For many years our police department was disbursed in three or four locations around town. If someone asked where the police station was, you would not know where to send them. Our 911 calls were being answered in the leaky basement of a fire station. Driven by the need to improve delivery of our essential public safety services, the City Council acquired the building where City Hall is today. In doing so, we accomplished the longstanding vision of returning City Hall to downtown. Today, our police department is easy to find and our 911 calls are answered in a state-of-the-art facility on the building’s top floor.

Many times I have been impressed by how hard our city staff and our community have worked together to accomplish great things. In December 2006, we experienced a wind storm that left much of the city without electricity for days. Every city department – as well as our councilmembers – stepped up to open and staff shelters, and to keep traffic and essential services flowing. Our neighborhoods rose to the challenge and made sure vulnerable citizens were safe and received the help they needed. We continue to have a great community spirit, which I have witnessed at neighborhood events throughout the city.

Transportation has been and must continue to be an important priority for the city. We are the center of the Eastside and all the major regional routes (I-90, SR 520, and I-405) flow through Bellevue. We have made significant investments to improve mobility to and from downtown, including the expansion and rebuilding of the Northeast Fourth and Eighth Street overpasses, and extending Northeast 10th Street across I-405. We have also worked together to deliver improvements to regional roads. I am particularly proud of how our close collaboration with other Eastside cities, our state legislators, the governor and the state Department of Transportation broke a decades-long stalemate, resulting in an agreement on the SR 520 bridge replacement project. Construction is now underway on the Eastside portion of the job. The recently completed Bellevue Braids project on I-405 will help reduce congestion between downtown and I-405.

Bellevue has a growing role in the region. Our long-term economic success in no small measure is tied to our ability to be physically connected to Seattle, and cities to the north and south of us. Major employers see this connectivity as essential for them to expand here. Our citizens understand that it is important for Bellevue to be connected to all the region’s transportation systems and that is why 58 percent of Bellevue voters in 2008 approved bringing light rail to the Eastside.

While the debate on the alignment has been spirited and at times divisive, I hope that we can reach a consensus and move on toward an effective partnership that will deliver light rail to Bellevue. We have had great success in forging regional partnerships for water supply (Cascade Water Alliance), emergency dispatch services (NORCOM), and permitting services (eCityGov Alliance). I am confident that by working together we can do it again with Sound Transit.

Thank you for your support and encouragement. It has been a tremendous privilege and a great honor to serve you on the city council. Together, we have accomplished a great deal. Although we are living in challenging times, I am very optimistic about Bellevue’s future, and I am convinced that Bellevue’s best days are yet to come. Keep dreaming big dreams and let’s keep moving forward.

Reflecting on 12 years of progress

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Council Roundup

Newcastle Beach Park gets clean bill

Extensive testing of the water and soil in and around Newcastle Beach Park showed no significant pollution or health risk, staff reported to the council in October.

In April the council asked for the testing in response to a neighbor’s concerns about the potential impacts of stormwater runoff on the park. The resident had argued that construction projects on nearby Interstate 405 had increased runoff to the park and that the water draining from the highway through the park to Lake Washington was polluted. He hired an independent consultant that both the city and resident agreed upon. Otak, Inc., with an office in Kirkland, reviewed water samples collected by the city and the resident, performed additional testing and reviewed data collected by the state Department of Ecology.

Otak and the DOE determined that I-405 projects had not increased runoff in the area, meeting all drainage requirements in the vicinity of Newcastle Beach Park.

Slow recovery means budget shortfall

With the regional economy continuing to struggle, the city is facing a budget shortfall for 2011 because of lower-than-expected tax revenue, the Finance Department reported in September.

In its quarterly budget report for the City Council, the Finance Department said the lingering recession has meant limited job growth, a slow recovery and an increase in unemployment. Neither construction activity nor retail sales, which generate the bulk of our tax base, has shown significant improvement.

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Regarding possible pollution, of more than 1,200 tests analyzed, only nine samples showed slightly elevated levels of industrial compounds. Otak concluded that those results were isolated instances of compounds common to the region. They were not representative of overall conditions at the park, nor do they pose a health risk, the consultant said.

Feedback: Rick Logwood, Capital Projects Manager, 425-452-6858 or nlogwood@bellevuewa.gov

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Contests for three council seats

Position 1

Aaron Laing  
John Stokes

Position 3

John Chelminiak  
Michelle Hilhorst

Position 5

Claudia Balducci  
Patti Mann

Position 7

Jennifer Robertson

Library parking garage construction begins

Construction of a new parking garage for the Bellevue Regional Library downtown is set to begin in early November.

The main parking lot and garage will be closed during the year-long project, so library parking will be limited to 50 parking spaces at Ashwood Park (available for library and park visitors, with a three-hour time limit).

The King County Library System is committed to keeping the library open during construction and the following driving and parking alternatives are advised:

• Use nearby libraries at Redmond, Lake Hills, Crossroads, Newport Way or Kirkland;
• Carpool or consider alternatives to driving, such as public transit, walking or biking; or
• Park at nearby private pay parking lots (KCLS cannot provide reimbursement).

Ashwood Park will be open for use throughout the project, and park visitors are also encouraged to carpool, use public transit or walk. Scheduled group parks programs will be moved to other parks.

To help alleviate the demand for parking, library programs will be held off-site and meeting rooms will not be available. Information and referral services will still be available via phone, email or through KCLS’ Text-a-Librarian or Live Chat reference services.

Call 425-450-1765 for details. To find out how to take the bus, walk and bike to the library, visit www.kcls.org/bond/bellevue.

There are contests for three out of the four Bellevue City Council seats up for election this fall. When residents vote in the Nov. 8 election, they will have the following candidates to choose from:

Position 1

Aaron Laing: With Grant Degginger stepping down, Laing is one of two newcomers vying for this open seat. Laing is an attorney with Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt’s Seattle office, with a practice focused on land use and litigation.

John Stokes: A retired attorney, Stokes serves on the Parks & Community Services Board and the Bellevue School District’s fiscal advisory committee.

Position 3

John Chelminiak: The incumbent, Chelminiak was elected in 2003 and reelected in 2007. He served as deputy mayor in 2006 and 2007.

Michelle Hilhorst: A senior-level manager with AT&T, Hilhorst has volunteered with the Newport Hills Community Club the past six years, including a term as president.

Position 5

Claudia Balducci: Balducci is the incumbent, and has served on the council for eight years, including a two-year term as deputy mayor in 2008 and 2009, since her election in 2003.

Patti Mann: Mann is a Seattle firefighter/paramedic and member of the Board of Trustees of the Northwest Burn Foundation.

Position 7

Jennifer Robertson: A land use and municipal attorney for small towns, Robertson was elected to the council in 2009, after serving on the Planning Commission. She is running for reelection this year without an opponent.

Trade with Asia gets boost

When Holly Zhang wanted to open a jewelry store in Bellevue, she received key data and referrals to banks and mentors from Bellevue’s Office of Economic Development.

“(Economic Development Manager Tom Boydell) gave me lots of encouragement,” said Zhang, shortly before the Holly Zhang Pearl Gallery opens its doors in November for a six-month trial run at the Bravern. “I didn’t really expect to get any help from the government.”

Over the last couple of years, the city has focused on assisting both new and established businesses with links to Asia. Given Bellevue’s location on the Pacific Rim, a population almost 30 percent Asian and Chinese money behind much new development here, it’s a natural progression, Boydell says.

“When you look at the growing diversity of Bellevue’s population and the composition of the workforce at Microsoft and the other big tech companies in the area, it just pops out at you,” Boydell said. “There’s a wow factor.”

The Office of Economic Development (OED), a two-person operation in the City Manager’s Office, helps all businesses seeking to move and/or grow in Bellevue, but it has taken extra steps to make sure Asian interests feel welcome here.

That includes hosting seminars for businesses seeking to tap into Chinese markets and working with local Indian organizations to encourage the U.S. government to site an Indian consulate in Bellevue.

Economic Development won a state grant last year to help Washington businesses find more customers in Asia. The city is creating a blog in Chinese to generate buzz in China about opening a company in Bellevue.

These programs come in addition to the OED’s regular background efforts to help businesses make the right connections and find reliable data. The city itself can’t arrange loans or secure properties for companies, but it can suggest great resources with expertise in these areas.

While there are a number of local organizations focused on assisting businesses, the city facilitates collaboration and offers entrepreneurs neutral data about where and what to invest in Bellevue.

Zhang says she benefited greatly. A 37-year-old Bellevue resident who grew up in a farm village in northern China, Zhang got in the jewelry business with a Seattle-based company that had an office in Beijing. After five years on her own, selling pearl jewelry at various kinds of shows, Zhang wanted to open a storefront.

After a bank turned her down for a loan, Zhang turned to the city for help. The OED offered impartial data about jewelry sales in Bellevue, suggested a class on drawing up business plans and matched Zhang with a mentor, another woman from Asia who had launched a successful restaurant in Bellevue. That contact, in turn, helped the entrepreneur find a lawyer to guide her through the legal ins and outs of running a business.

“Tom helped me find the right people to get the business going,” Zhang said after a meeting in September with the management at the Bravern, where her shop will open near Neiman Marcus.

Bellevue hosts gala Sister City gathering

The connection 38 cities in Washington share with counterparts in Japan will be celebrated to the beat of taiko drums at a Sister Cities conference in Bellevue on Oct. 21.

The Sister City concept evolved in the United States from President Eisenhower’s “People-to-People” program, established in 1956 to lessen the chance of war by involving people from all walks of life in personal diplomacy.

Seattle and Kobe forged the first Sister City relationship established in Washington. Of the 55 cities in the state with sister cities, a majority have a tie with a city in Japan. Of Bellevue’s four sister cities, the southern Japanese city of Yao was the first, with the link made in 1969. Mount Rainier officially has a “sister peak” in Mount Fuji.

The conference will kick off with a dinner reception from 6 to 9 p.m., on Friday, Oct. 21, in the concourse of City Hall. Performers will include Seattle Kokon Taiko, the Kabuki Academy and dancer Michaela Kusumi. Featured speakers will be Japanese Consul General Kiyokazu Ota and KINK 5 News television anchor Lori Matsukawa.

The earthquake and tsunami that ravaged Japan in March prompted the Bellevue Sister Cities Association (BSCA) to honor Puget Sound’s connections with our neighbors across the Pacific with a gala event.

The organizers hope to attract 80 to 100 people to the reception, including Bellevue residents who have not previously been involved in Sister Cities activities.

Sponsors include Uwajimaya, Nintendo, Net System, Nichimo Internatio and Ecore Global. Tickets are $60, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the BSCA. Register at http://www.seattletradealliance.com/events/event-registration-SisterCities.php. For more information, contact (425) 452-5370 or sbarker@bellevuewa.gov.

Bellevue paramedic receives regional honor

Phil Pierson, a Bellevue firefighter and paramedic who has taught emergency medical skills around the world, received this year’s Medic One Foundation “Spirit of Team Play Award.”

Pierson threw out the first pitch at the Seattle Mariners’ Sept. 14 game at Safeco Field, accompanied by a nine-year-old girl he helped save after she suffered life-threatening injuries in a boating accident.

Medic One paramedics are select firefighters who have special training and equipment to provide advanced life support care while a patient is on the way to the hospital. There are five Medic One agencies in King County, serving 15 cities. The Medic One Foundation is a local nonprofit organization that raises funds for paramedic training.

The Team Play Award is presented annually to a Puget Sound paramedic who exemplifies integrity, teamwork and compassion.

Lily James, the Mercer Island girl who joined Pierson on the mound, is an example of Medic One’s value. In July 2009, she nearly drowned and her feet were almost severed when an inflatable flew off her family’s boat and she was caught in the tow rope. Paramedics, including Pierson, treated her on the dock of the Mercer Island Beach Club the day of the accident to keep her alive, and a series of surgeries since then have allowed Lily to regain the full use of her feet.

Coworkers nominated Pierson this year and last for his many years providing emergency medical skills and CPR training, both for the public and other paramedics. “His passion for teaching has taken him all over the county, country and even to Africa,” noted fellow paramedic Greg Clifford.
South Bellevue annexation enters second phase

Two community meetings in the annexation area have given residents an opportunity to ask questions and get information to help them make a decision about joining the city. A June 30 open house attracted more than 200 residents to a display of city services. A community meeting on Sept. 27 drew a smaller audience of individuals with specific questions.

Questions from the Sept. 27 audience focused on the mechanics of annexation (timeline, petition validation, etc.) and two other issues:

- Neighborhood character - Residents wanted to know whether the city plans changes, such as rezoning or increased commercial development, which would disrupt the current character of the Eastgate area.
- City services comparison - City Planning Director Dan Stroh said the city aims to preserve the character of Eastgate, converting county zoning to the closest city equivalent, and working with residents to achieve the improvements they want to see in their community.

City services compared to county services - City Manager Steve Sarkozy told residents that Bellevue will provide more effective local services because the city is designed and equipped to be a local service provider, while the county is focused on regional services such as transit, sewer and jail services.

Karen Freeman, liaison from King County Executive Dow Constantine, told the audience that the county is finding it difficult to provide unincorporated “islands” with local services. If annexation does not take place, she said, “these areas will continue to see a real degradation of services.”

Another open house – featuring services from all city departments – is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 25, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Eastgate Elementary School, 4255 153rd Ave. SE. Meanwhile, city staff have met with residents in neighborhood meetings and individual drop-in sessions.

For more information about annexation or to arrange a meeting in your neighborhood, contact Nicholas Matz, nmatz@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5371 or Cheryl Kuhn, ckuhn@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4089. Information is also available on the web site www.bellevuewa.gov/sbaa.htm.
Bellevue’s ‘vital signs’ still good

The city continues to deliver excellent customer service, meeting or exceeding performance targets in 13 of 15 “vital sign” areas, according to Bellevue’s 2010 Annual Performance Report.

With 151 objective measures, the Performance Report tracks how well the city performs and what citizens think about the city. The city also issues an annual Performance Measures Survey, which focuses on resident views of city services.

The Performance Report features Bellevue’s Vital Signs – a key set of performance metrics that give a reader a sense of the city’s health. The vital signs focus on how well we perform operationally. For example, are we meeting our emergency response time targets? Is our drinking water clean? Vital Signs also measure community opinion. Do citizens think they are getting value for their tax dollars? Are they satisfied with parks and utilities?

The city performed well in 2010, both operationally and in the eyes of residents, meeting or exceeding targets on 13 of 16 Vital Signs, and coming close on the others.

Bellevue’s cardiac arrest survival rate, resident satisfaction with street sweeping and reductions in unplanned water service interruptions showed significant gains.

Residents’ overall satisfaction with Bellevue includes low crime rates, and the number of community amenities such as shopping centers and restaurants. Residents reported that Bellevue employees were responsive, knowledgeable, courteous and accurate in the information they provide.

Residents remain concerned about traffic congestion and public restaurants. Residents reported that Bellevue employees were responsive, sweeping and reductions in unplanned water service interruptions showed close on the others.

For more information about our Bellevue’s performance, please write rcsiegel@bellevuewa.gov or go to our website to view the Annual Performance Report at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/citizen_outreach_performance.htm.

With proper planning, great things are possible

By Steve Kuster, East Bellevue Community Council Chair

With persistent community prodding and proper planning, great things can happen.

A flurry of positive developments for East Bellevue – including construction of a new Lake Hills Library, revival of the Kelsey Creek Shopping Center and a makeover of 145th Place Southeast – can be traced in part to the East Bellevue Community Council’s advocacy.

Some people have asked me why all of this activity is happening in our area now. These projects are actually the culmination of more than a decade of hard work, including urging from the EBCC over the years.

Major projects take years to plan, design and build. As I have stated before, input from us gets the ball rolling. Please continue to provide us feedback on anything that is important to you.

Lake Hills Shopping Center Developments

The (new) Lake Hills Library has been open for over a year, and is always jam-packed with a very diverse group of our neighbors working on so many things. Due to our feedback, the temporary Sunday hours became permanent.

Over the next few years the Lake Hills Shopping Center will continue with its phased development to add more shopping and eventually living quarters around the perimeter of the property. I believe it will be a great community resource when it is finished.

The old Lake Hills Library space has been sold to the Bellevue Boys and Girls club, which will expand its excellent programming on this side of the city.

Staff from the BBGC came to the EBCC to highlight some of their innovative ideas, which include a unique partnership with the Samena club to provide more child care. In these tight money times, partnerships are crucial to stretching limited funds as far as they will go.

145th Place Southeast Makeover

In 2007 the city made major improvements to 145th Place Southeast between Southeast Eighth and Southeast 16th streets, adding bike lanes, sidewalks, a median and landscaping. This summer the city began extending the improvements to 145th Place southward, adding bike lanes, sidewalks, a center turn lane and medians between Southeast 16th and Southeast 24th streets.

Southeast 22nd Street is also being improved between 145th Place Southeast and 156th Avenue Southeast.

About a third of the way done, the project is targeted for completion next spring. If you have any questions about it, contact Marina Arakelyan, Senior Project Manager, 452-4632 or marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov.

Kelsey Creek Shopping Center Revival

There is lots of construction activity at the Kelsey Creek Shopping Center, with a new health club set to open in the former Knart building by the end of the year. A grocery store should be open in the first quarter of next year.

City planner Mike Upston and/or the project owners Nat or Brian Franklin provide regular updates on the project’s progress.

Mitigation funds paid to the city for this project have been used to enhance approximately seven acres of wetland along Kelsey Creek in Lake Hills Greenbelt Park. Invasive vegetation is being replaced by native plantings and habitat structures to help increase habitat diversity, protect water quality and create a healthier, more productive ecosystem.

Completion of the mitigation project is expected later this fall. For additional information contact Parks staff members Geof Bradley, Environmental Programs Supervisor, 452-2740, or Dan DeWald, Natural Resource Manager, 452-6048.

EBCC Participation

In other EBCC news, we have updated our bylaws to include a section on electronic participation. If you have suggestions to make our community a better place, drop into a meeting or send us a note so we can consider your input. Or even better, go vote for the people you believe can best represent you in the years to come.

The EBCC meets the first Tuesday of every month in the Lake Hill Clubhouse across from the Samena Club. You can sign up at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/ebcc_agendas_2011.htm to receive alerts whenever agendas are posted. Thanks for reading and have a great day.

The East Bellevue Community Council meets the first Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Hills Clubhouse, 1532 Lake Hills Blvd.

To find out more about the agendas and decisions of EBCC go to http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm.
Get ready: La Niña on the way

Fall and winter mean rain and snow around here, and there are steps you can take to prepare for possible flooding or snowy streets.

People living in floodplains must get flood insurance, and it’s a good idea for other residents too.

When snow or sleet make commuting difficult, the city informs residents about road closures. With a La Niña weather pattern expected to return, delivering colder than normal temperatures and more snow this winter, commuters can keep informed about what streets to take by going to www.bellevuewa.gov/extreme_weather_response.htm.

Pages on the city website address the latest driving conditions, and include a snowplow priorities map, emergency tips and phone numbers. You can also sign up for email or text alerts about updates.

Ready for flooding?

If you’re not sure whether you live in a floodplain (next to a stream, lake or wetland), call Utilities at 425-452-7609 or look up your property at www.bellevuewa.gov/floodplain_map.htm.

Flood insurance is a requirement for properties located in a floodplain that also have federally-backed mortgages. It’s available at a 25 percent discount because of Bellevue’s floodplain management program.

Most homeowner policies do not cover water damage if the flooding source is external to the building (floodng river, plugged storm drain or sewer pipe break). But flood insurance is available through the National Flood Insurance Program, even for properties not in a floodplain. Check with your insurance carrier to see what your policy covers.

All development projects near streams and wetlands must meet setback requirements. For information on development projects near streams or in floodplain areas, call the city’s Permit Center at 452-4570.

If you need advice about drainage problems around your home, call Utilities at 425-452-7840. The city website (www.bellevuewa.gov/flood_prevention.htm) offers tips. To avoid damage from flooding, residents are advised to:

- Install a sump pump if you’ve experienced water in your crawlspace. If you already own a pump, test it now.
- Clear debris from gutters and downspouts and remove leaves from clogged storm drain grates near your home.
- Remove sediment, debris and rocks from private driveway or road culverts and drainage swales. Check the yellow pages or the Internet for vendors who clean drainage systems.
- Preserve natural drainage systems by not filling in or blocking the flows in streams, wetlands or ditches. Trash, wood, large rocks and other debris can block stream flow.
- Leave natural vegetation on steep slopes and along streams and lakes. Plants slow stormwater runoff and help stabilize the earth so it won’t wash away.

On the road to downtown transportation improvements

With light rail, rapid buses and a new State Route 520 bridge to change the way people get around and through downtown Bellevue, the city wants to identify complementary improvements in city transportation facilities.

Transportation projects for downtown were tabbed in the city’s Downtown Subarea Plan, but it was adopted in 2004, before East Link or RapidRide buses were envisioned. City planners are now updating the Downtown Transportation Plan to address the changing transportation landscape.

Residents and others interested in downtown mobility can offer input about transportation issues they want addressed at an open house and “scoping” meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at City Hall.

Targeted for completion in March 2013, the new plan could set the stage for projects as big as new highway overpasses and streets or as small as lane modifications and tweaks in traffic signal timing. The Northeast 10th Street overpass and an added lane on Northeast Eighth Street between 106th and 108th avenues are examples of completed projects identified the Downtown Subarea Plan first.

In addition to addressing emerging mobility issues and challenges, the plan will support expected downtown commercial and residential growth through 2030 (the subarea plan only extended to 2020).

In the fall of 2010 the City Council approved funding for the plan update in the 2011-12 budget.

Many people, including motorists, pedestrians and cyclists, are interested in mobility issues in downtown Bellevue. During the course of the 18-month planning process, there will be several opportunities and formats for the public to become involved, including traditional public meetings, an interactive website, bicycle tours and guided pedestrian audits.

The Transportation Commission will be an integral component of the public process – both by providing guidance and recommendations, and by listening to the ideas and concerns from the community.

Additional information is available online at www.bellevuewa.gov/downtowntransportationplanupdate.htm, or you can contact Kevin McDonald, project manager, at 425-452-4558 or kmcdonald@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 $100,000 or more, sorted by neighborhood. If you have questions, contact the project manager.

### Bridle Trails

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridle Trails Park(s): Developing two parks in the Bridle Trails neighborhood with funding from the Parks &amp; Natural Areas Levy. Worked with residents to identify preferred park locations.</td>
<td>Property negotiation</td>
<td>Master planning</td>
<td>Brian J. Krause, 425-452-6992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellevue Golf Course Improvements: Replacing existing poles and netting on the driving range and installing new lights.</td>
<td>$210,000</td>
<td>Pre-design analysis</td>
<td>Spring 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR 520 Bridge Replacement &amp; HOV Program: Rebuilding the floating bridge and replacing interchanges and highway between I-5 and Medina, from four to six lanes, with new transit/HOV lanes in each direction.</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Bridge Construction in 2012</td>
<td>Rick Logwood, 425-452-6858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLOSURES: Bridge, highway, and all ramps between Montlake Boulevard and I-405 are scheduled to be closed Oct. 15-17 and Nov. 5-7.</td>
<td>$4.5 billion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastside Transit &amp; HOV Project: Completing and improving the 8.8 mile HOV system from Evergreen Point Road to the SR 202 interchange, improving access and adding a pedestrian and bicycle path. This month excavation will begin at Bellevue Way N.E. for construction of footings and walls for the west half of the new interchange. Utility relocation continues along the westbound 108th Avenue NE entrance ramp.</td>
<td>$306 million</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Crossroads

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellevue Youth Theatre Expansion: Constructing a new 12,000 square-foot multi-functional theater in Crossroads Community Park, to accommodate up to 150 seats. In cooperation with the Bellevue Youth Theatre Foundation, who are actively fundraising for this project.</td>
<td>$8 million</td>
<td>Waiting for permits</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Creek at NE 20th Street and Kelsey Creek at 140th Avenue NE Fish Passage Improvement: There is insufficient water depth for fish and this project will modify the culverts to increase water depth.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Construction Summer 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Creek - NE 21st Street Flood Control Project: Evaluating different alternatives to control flooding in this area. A concept will be determined.</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>Pre-design Analysis</td>
<td>Construction Summer 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Eastgate/Cougar Mountain

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horizon View #3 Water Pump Station Rehabilitation: Upgrading the existing electrical and telemetry systems, installing new pumps and adding a standby generator.</td>
<td>$1.2 million</td>
<td>Planning/Design</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area, Phase 2: Constructing a picnic area with two picnic shelters, restroom, pathways, and parking lot with funding from the Parks &amp; Natural Areas Levy.</td>
<td>$1.8 million</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete end of 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newport Reservoir Water Pump Station Rehabilitation: Upgrading the existing electrical and telemetry systems, installing new pumps and adding a standby generator.</td>
<td>$1.2 million</td>
<td>Waiting for Permits(s)</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Detention Pond: Improving the storm drainage runoff water quality before it's released into Lewis Creek.</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Construction Fall 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vasa Creek Storm Damage Repairs: Repainting and restoring the stream area east of 152nd Place SE, between SE 45th Street and SE 46th Way.</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Factoria

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
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<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bannerwood Sports Field Lighting Replacement: New energy-efficient sports field lighting with new parking lot and security lighting.</td>
<td>$360,000</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factoria Multi-Use Path Connection: Installing a 10'-wide pedestrian/bicycle path between 124th Avenue SE and the eastbound I-90 off-ramp.</td>
<td>$1.4 million</td>
<td>Fall construction</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>130th Avenue SE Sidewalk: Installing a five-foot-wide sidewalk on the east side of 130th Avenue SE, between SE 45th Place and SE 47th Street.</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Complete Winter 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Newport Hills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
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<th>Contact</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SE 56th Street Sidewalk &amp; Landscaping Improvements: Installing six-foot-wide sidewalk with planter strip east of 119th Avenue SE. Landscaping improvements will be done by the Parks &amp; Community Services Department.</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Complete Winter 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE 56th Street Sidewalk: Installing a six-foot sidewalk, curb and gutter, with planter on the north side of SE 56th Street. It will begin east of 119th Avenue SE and continue to 123rd Avenue SE.</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Complete Winter 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119th Avenue SE Urban Boulevards Enhancements: Adding gateway signage, landscaping features and public art at several locations.</td>
<td>$180,000</td>
<td>Planning and design</td>
<td>Complete 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal Creek Culvert Replacement: Replacing a 30-year-old pipe culvert with a box-culvert or bridge that will have more room for increased flow, debris and fish and wildlife passage.</td>
<td>$6.5 million</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Construction Spring 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Northwest Bellevue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellevue Way NE Urban Boulevards Upgrades: Enhancing the streetscape, retaining the natural vegetation, making minor roadway repairs and upgrading the irrigation system.</td>
<td>$180,000</td>
<td>Ready for construction</td>
<td>Complete in 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-405/SR 520 WSDOT Braids: Building multi-level &quot;braided&quot; ramps to separate vehicles entering and exiting northbound I-405 between NE 9th Street and SR 520. A new bypass lane for I-405 traffic headed eastbound to SR 520. A new ramp from the NE 10th Street overpass will give drivers direct access to SR 520 from downtown Bellevue.</td>
<td>$107.5 million</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Open Summer 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Description</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Timeline</td>
<td>Contact</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>West Bellevue</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>West Lake Sammamish Parkway, Phase I: I-90 to SE 34th Street: Designing Segment 1 (of 5) to include an improved multi-use trail, retaining walls, landscaping, and improved roadway drainage. $8.3 million</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>60% Design this Summer</td>
<td>Paul Krawczyk, 425-452-7905 <a href="mailto:Pkravczyk@bellevuewa.gov">Pkravczyk@bellevuewa.gov</a> bellevuewa.gov/west_lk_samm_pkrawczyk.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellevue Airfield Park: Construct sports fields, trails, picnic facilities and stormwater improvements over an existing landfill with funding from the Parks and Natural Area Levy. $10 million</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Design</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Pam Fehrman, 425-452-4326 <a href="mailto:Pfehrman@bellevuewa.gov">Pfehrman@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Somerset</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coal Creek Stairs: Constructing stairs and trail structures to Coal Creek natural area. $150,000</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2011</td>
<td>Geoff Bradley, 425-452-2740 <a href="mailto:Gbradley@bellevuewa.gov">Gbradley@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal Creek Parkway – SE 48th Place Outfall Repair: Repairing the drainage culvert to help prevent erosion at the stream. $180,000</td>
<td>Ready for construction</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2011</td>
<td>Bruce Jensen, 425-452-7240 <a href="mailto:Bjensen@bellevuewa.gov">Bjensen@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>West Bellevue</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>108th Avenue NE: Bellevue Way to I-90 Walkway/Bikeway Project: Improving pedestrian and bicycle access. $3 million</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete Summer 2011</td>
<td>Chris Masek, 425-452-4619 <a href="mailto:Cmasek@bellevuewa.gov">Cmasek@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-90 Two-Way Transit/High Occupancy Vehicle Project, Stage 2: Adding HOV lanes to the I-90 outer roadway between Seattle and Bellevue. Improving eastbound I-90 from Mercer Island and HOV access at Bellevue Way, in partnership with Sound Transit and WSDOT. $187 million</td>
<td>Construction is more than 50% complete.</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2011</td>
<td>Rick Logwood, 425-452-6058 <a href="mailto:Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov">Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov</a> bellevuewa.gov/I-90_hov.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>East Bellevue</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Transportation Plan: Evaluating transportation alternatives including potential new roadway capacity, non-motorized and transit facility improvements, to ensure mobility through 2030. $175,000</td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>Complete Plan Update end of 2012</td>
<td>Kevin McDonald, 425-452-4558 <a href="mailto:Kmdonald@bellevuewa.gov">Kmdonald@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>West Lake Hills</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>145th Place SE and SE 22nd Street Improvements, Phase II: Adding bike lanes and sidewalk/path on both sides, a center-turn lane, left-turn pockets, medians, landscape planters, storm water and street lighting improvements between SE 16th and SE 24th streets. On SE 22nd Street, adding a sidewalk with curb and gutter on the north side, west of 156th Avenue SE and raised crosswalks. $3.6 million</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete 2012</td>
<td>Marina Arakelyan, 425-452-4632 <a href="mailto:Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov">Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov</a> bellevuewa.gov/145_improvements.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Willburton</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bellevue Botanical Garden (BBG) Runvne Bridge: Constructing a 150’ long pedestrian suspension bridge with trail connections. Project is in cooperation with the BBG Society, who is actively fundraising. Partial funding from the Parks &amp; Natural Areas Levy. $1 million</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete Winter 2012</td>
<td>Scott Vanderhyden, 425-452-4169 <a href="mailto:Svanderhyden@bellevuewa.gov">Svanderhyden@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellevue Botanical Garden - Visitor Center Expansion: Constructing a new 8,500 square foot visitor center that will include an outdoor covered orientation space, gift shop, meeting space, offices and restrooms. Multipurpose classrooms and meeting spaces. Project is in cooperation with BBG Society who is actively fundraising. Partial funding from the 2008 Parks &amp; Natural Areas Levy. $9 million</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Ken Kroeger, 425-452-4624 <a href="mailto:kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov">kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Description</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Timeline</td>
<td>Contact</td>
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<tr>
<td>130th Avenue NE Section Planning: Planning redevelopment including storm restoration, new parks and transportation facilities, in the area of NE 15th Street, where a new light rail station is expected. $100,000</td>
<td>Evaluating station area</td>
<td>Final Station Area Plan by early 2012.</td>
<td>Paul Inghram, 425-452-4070 <a href="mailto:Pinghram@bellevuewa.gov">Pinghram@bellevuewa.gov</a> bellevuewa.gov/130th_station.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE 4th Street Extension: 116th Avenue NE to 120th Avenue NE: Extending NE 4th Street with five lanes, bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides. Includes landscaping, storm drainage, street lighting, and a new traffic signal at 120th Avenue NE. Project will be in two phases. $38.4 million</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Phase 1 Construction Wtr. 2012</td>
<td>Marin Arakelyan, 425-452-4632 <a href="mailto:Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov">Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov</a> bellevuewa.gov/NE-fourth-street-extension.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE 5th Street Neighborhood Traffic Assessment: A traffic analysis will be performed on NE 5th Street between 120th Avenue NE and 124th Avenue NE to evaluate the effects the proposed Wilburton Connections projects will have on the neighborhood. STBD</td>
<td>Pre-design analysis</td>
<td>Construction 2012</td>
<td>Vangie Garcia, 425-452-6103 <a href="mailto:Vgarcia@bellevuewa.gov">Vgarcia@bellevuewa.gov</a> bellevuewa.gov/NE-5th-traffic.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE 6th Street Extension: I-405 to 120th Avenue NE: Extending NE 6th as an HOV only facility, from the I-405 interchange to the east over 116th Avenue NE and ending at 120th Avenue NE, with two lanes in each direction. +$1 million (Pre-design only)</td>
<td>Preliminary design</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Nancy LaCombe, 425-452-4382 <a href="mailto:Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov">Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120th Avenue NE Improvements: 300 Block to 700 Block, Stage 1: Widening to five lanes with center-turn lane, bike lanes, curb, gutter, and sidewalk, where missing. Adding a traffic signal at NE 6th Street. $7 million</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Construction Spring 2012</td>
<td>Steve Cost, 425-452-2845 <a href="mailto:Sco@bellevuewa.gov">Sco@bellevuewa.gov</a> bellevuewa.gov/120th-widening.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120th Avenue NE Improvements: NE 8th Street to Northup Way, Stage 2 &amp; 3: Realigning the 120th Avenue NE and NE 8th Street intersection and widening 120th Avenue NE up to five lanes. Includes intersection improvements at NE 8th Street, Old Bel-Red Road, NE 12th Street, Northup Way. Also includes bike lanes, sidewalks on both sides, landscaping, storm drainage, and street lighting stage 2. +$21.5 million</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Construction Spring 2013</td>
<td>Paul Krawczyk, 425-452-7905 <a href="mailto:Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov">Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov</a> bellevuewa.gov/120th-widening-phase-2.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE 15th Multi-Modal Corridor: 116th Avenue NE: 12th Street to 124th Avenue NE, Segment 1: Designing two lanes in each direction, left-turn lanes at designated intersections, sidewalk on both sides, bicycle facilities, street lighting, and storm drainage and detention. $5.4 million (Design only)</td>
<td>Conceptual design</td>
<td>60% engineering Spring 2012</td>
<td>Rick Logwood, 425-452-6858 <a href="mailto:Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov">Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov</a> bellevuewa.gov/NE-15th-Street-construction.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>124th Avenue NE: Proposed NE 15th/NE 16th Street Extension to Northup Way: Widening 124th Avenue NE between the planned NE 15th/NE 16th Street and Northup Way to five lanes. $1.8 million (Design only)</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>60% design by Summer 2012</td>
<td>Marina Arakelyan, 425-452-4632 <a href="mailto:Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov">Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Hills Connector and SE 8th Street Gateway and Signal Improvements: Adding gateway enhancements by removing the deteriorating asphalt traffic islands and installing new irrigated planter islands. Relocating signal poles, rebuilding island curbs, replacing old signal wiring, poles, and lighting, and installing new asphalt pavement throughout the intersection. Installing new SCATS traffic adaptive signal system and new flashing yellow left-turn arrows to reduce vehicle delay. $425,000</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Construction in Sept.</td>
<td>Patti Wilma, 425-452-4114 <a href="mailto:Pwilm@bellevuewa.gov">Pwilm@bellevuewa.gov</a> Kam Szabo, 425-452-4346 <a href="mailto:Kszabo@bellevuewa.gov">Kszabo@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelsey Creek 121st Avenue SE Culvert Fish Passage and Stream Channel Improvements: Improving the Kelsey Creek stream channel in two locations. The SE 8th Street Reach project, west of the 121st Street culvert, will improve the stream bed and channel. The Farm Reach project, on the east side of Kelsey Creek Farm Reach project, will remove invasive weeds along the stream bank and improve the stream channel. $1.7 million</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Construction complete Fall 2011</td>
<td>Stephen Noske, 425-452-5271 <a href="mailto:Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov">Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelsey Creek Stream Channel Improvements at Glendale Country Club: Modifying Kelsey Creek to make them fish passable. $900,000</td>
<td>Planning/design</td>
<td>Construction Summer 2014</td>
<td>Stephen Noske, 425-452-5271 Sно<a href="mailto:eske@bellevuewa.gov">eske@bellevuewa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Woodridge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Creek/Richards Creek Fish Passage Improvement &amp; Stream Modification: Providing stable streambed control and channel and bank modifications to address stream channel degradation. $420,000</td>
<td>Waiting for permit(s)</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunset Creek/Richards Creek Flood Control &amp; Habitat Improvement Project: Habitat improvements will be constructed in and along the stream channels to provide healthier environments for aquatic organisms and help reduce flooding of developed properties on SE 27th Place and SE 30th Street during significant rainfall events. $620,000</td>
<td>Waiting for permit(s)</td>
<td>Construction Summer 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Various Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Timeline</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AC Water Main Replacement 2011, Phase 1 &amp; 2: Replacing aging pressure reducing valves to improve water pressure in many neighborhoods. $1.7 million for Phase 1; $1.5 million for Phase 2</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete Winter 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRV &amp; Commercial Meter Vault Modifications 2011: Upgrading control valve vault and a commercial water vault at two locations to meet current standards. $280,000</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Complete Spring 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRV Replacement 2011, Phase 2: Replacing pressure reducing valves to regulate water pressure throughout three neighborhoods. $470,000</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Complete Summer 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2011: Replacing sewer line defects with new PVC pipe in two neighborhoods. $364,000</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete Summer 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm Drainage Repair 2011: Replacing storm drainage systems in several neighborhoods. $150,000</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Complete Fall 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm Drainage Trenchless Repair 2011: Repairing storm drainage pipes in several neighborhood locations. $ Yet to be decided.</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Complete Winter 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Community Calendar

### Cultural Conversations
Oct. 25, 1-2:30 p.m. at South Bellevue Community Center
Nov. 8, 1-2:30 p.m. at North Bellevue Community Center
Dec. 6, 12-1:30 p.m. at South Bellevue Community Center

**“Frankenstein”**
Oct. 28, 29 and Nov. 4, 5 at 7 p.m. at North Bellevue Community Center
Oct. 29 & 30 and Nov. 6 at 2 p.m. at Bellevue Youth Theatre

**Preregistration required by Nov. 15.**
425-452-7686

### Veterans Day Dance
Nov. 11, 7-11 p.m. and Nov. 8, 2-4 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center
4063 148th Ave. NE
Preregistration is recommended. All ages welcome.
$10-$12 per ticket. 425-452-7155

### Thanksgiving Dinner
Nov. 22, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Crossroads Community Center
1600 NE 10th St.
Cospomorsed by Aldersgate Methodist Church
(Family Cafets: 5:30 p.m.; Dinner: 6 p.m.) Free for Bellevue families in need. No preregistration required. All ages welcome. 425-452-4874

### Kids Care Coat Drive Giveaway
Nov. 21 and 22, 4-7 p.m.
Crossroads Community Center
1600 NE 10th St.
Bellevue families in need can shop for a free coat for each family member while supplies last. Please bring photo ID. (Donations accepted through Nov. 21 at Bellevue community centers and some schools.) 425-452-4874

### Turkey Day Indoor Cycling Rides
Nov. 24, 7, 8:15 or 9:30 a.m.
South Bellevue Community Center
4599 SE Newport Way
One-hour cycling class to benefit Eastside Domestic Violence with suggested donations. Receive list of requested donation items when you call to reserve your spot. Advance reservation required. Ages 18+. 425-452-4240

### Downtown Transportation Plan Open House
Nov. 1, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
City Hall Concourse
450 110th Ave. NE
Explore strategy to accommodate Bellevue’s future transportation demands. 425-452-4638

### Living with Wildlife Walk
Nov. 12, 10-11 a.m.
Lake Hills Ranger Station
15416 SE 16th St.
Walk trails to learn about local wildlife. All ages. Free. No preregistration required. 425-452-7225

### “Frog Prince”
Nov. 11, 12, 18, 19, 7 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center
4063 148th Ave. NE
Preregistration is recommended. All ages welcome. 425-452-7155

### South Bellevue Police Community Meeting
Nov. 8, 7 p.m.
Newport High School Commons
4333 Factoria Blvd. SE
Bellevue Police discuss issues for neighborhoods near Newport High. 425-452-2880

### Fit for the Feast Masters swim workout
Nov. 24, 9-11 a.m.
Bellevue Aquatic Center
601 143rd Ave. NE.
Ages 19 and up. Cost is $10, includes T-shirt. 425-452-4444

### Youth Appreciation & Safety Day
Nov. 25, noon to 2 p.m.
Bellevue Aquatic Center
601 143rd Ave. NE
Water safety promotion and free swimming. Free for children 12 and under; $6 for ages 13+. 425-452-4444

### “A Christmas Carol”
Nov. 23 and 24, 7 p.m.
Nov. 26 and 27, 2 p.m.
Meydenbauer Theatre
11100 NE Sixth St.
All ages. $10-$12 per ticket. 425-452-7155

### Hilltop Holiday Craft Show
Nov. 29 – Dec. 3
Nov. 29 - Dec. 2, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Dec. 3, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center
9825 NE 26th St.
Thousands of quality crafts from more than 80 Northwest’s artists. Free. 425-452-4106 or hilltop크rafts@frontier.com

### Seattle Civic Christmas Ship Celebrations
Dec. 2, Newcastle Beach Park, 4400 Lake Washington Blvd. SE, 8:30 p.m.
Dec. 20, Meydenbauer Beach Park
419 98th Ave. NE, 7:45 p.m.
Welcome the ship from onshore and enjoy a beach fire. Free. 425-452-4106 or NWAC@bellevuewa.gov

### Snowflake Lane
Dec. 26 - 31, nightly at 7 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.
$5 per ticket, children ages 10 and under free. Advance tickets required, available online beginning Oct. 15 at www.gardenlights.org

### Youth Holiday Party
Dec. 13, 4:30 – 7 p.m.
Crossroads Community Center
16000 NE 10th St.
Bellevue infants, youth and teens in need can visit Santa and Mrs. Claus, enjoy entertainment and refreshments and receive a gift. Free for Bellevue families in need. No preregistration required. 425-452-4874

### Bellevue Magic Season Events
### Garden d’Lights
Nov. 26-Dec. 31, 5-10 p.m. nightly (last entry at 9:30 p.m.)
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.
$5 per ticket, children ages 10 and under free. Advance tickets required, available online beginning Oct. 15 at www.gardenlights.org

### Bellevue Magic Season: Group Health Ice Arena
Nov. 25-Jan. 8, open daily, hours vary
Bellevue Downtown Park, NE First St. and 102nd Ave. NE.
Partial open-air rink and a heated tent for spectators. $10 admission includes skate rentals. $7 admission if with skates. 425-453-3110 or www.magicseason.com

### Bellevue Magic Season: Snowflake Lane
Nov. 26 - Dec. 24 and Dec. 26 - 31, nightly at 7 p.m.
Bellevue Way and NE Eighth St.
Snow falls nightly as live toy soldiers and winter characters, music, and a dazzling light show brighten the night. 425-454-8096 or www.magicseason.com

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Park Ranger Carolyn Pizzalato shows a salamander during a wildlife walk.
Business storm drains marked to prevent pollution

The city is marking several thousand storm drains at Bellevue businesses this fall and next spring with the message, "Don't Pollute, Drains to Stream." The goal is to raise awareness among business employees and the general public that whatever goes into a storm drain flows into nearby streams, lakes and wetlands without going to a sewage treatment facility.

With Chinook, coho and sockeye salmon returning to Bellevue streams to spawn, it’s important that local waterways be clean enough for salmon eggs and salmon fry to survive. Paint, antifreeze, oil, soapy water and other pollutants that flow into storm drains can end up in our streams and lakes, impacting the water for people, fish and other wildlife.

The city is targeting five of the 26 local watersheds for the first phase of the project, and 65 percent of business property owners contacted so far have given the required written permission.

Funding for the project is provided by a grant from the King Conservation District, and there is no cost for businesses to participate. If you know a business property owner who needs their storm drains marked, please ask them to contact utilities@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6932. "Business properties" include churches, schools, apartments and condominiums.

520 closure Nov. 5–7

Both directions of the SR 520 floating bridge and highway and all ramps between I-405 in Bellevue and Montlake Boulevard in Seattle will be closed over the Nov. 5–7 weekend, as construction on 520 continues.

Drivers are advised to delay discretionary trips, especially during high-traffic periods in the late morning through the early evening, and to expect heavy congestion on alternate routes such as I-405, I-5 and I-90.

Drivers should expect increased congestion on local streets, especially on 108th Avenue Northeast, 112th Avenue Northeast, Northup Way and Bellevue Way Northeast.