Put The City in the Palm of Your Hand

The City of Bellevue has just launched a mobile app that makes it possible for users to enter service requests and access city news, jobs and social media easily with their smart phones.

We know people who live and work in Bellevue do so much with their phones. Now they can connect with the city that way too.

See a damaged sign or a pothole? With the app, called MyBellevue, you can notify the city “in real time,” with a photo and GPS location if you wish. The app even allows you to check for other service requests in the area. If someone else has already entered one about the problem you’re seeing, you can “vote” for that request and track when it gets fixed.

In addition to service requests, MyBellevue offers widgets (links) for city news, jobs and social media, which take users to mobile-enabled pages.

As a promotion, a temporary widget goes to an interactive website, where people are invited to share what they like most about “their” Bellevue. Participants can get their names in a drawing for passes to parks features, including the Bellevue Aquatic Center and a new zip line at the South Bellevue Community Center.

Meet Finalists for Bellevue’s City Manager Position

Friday, April 4, 7-9pm,
Bellevue City Hall

The City Council invites residents and members of the business community to attend a public reception on Friday night, April 4, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm on the Concourse at City Hall to meet the finalists for the position of Bellevue’s next City Manager.

Under the Council/Manager form of government, a professional, committed and non-partisan Manager is selected by the City Council to function as the City's chief executive officer and administer the day-to-day operations of the City. The city manager works closely with the Council to carry out their vision for the city and with the community to listen to and integrate many viewpoints to help them achieve sound decisions. Councilmembers also depend on the city manager's knowledge and integrity as they carry out their duties as trustees of the public good for the City. The city manager is responsible for the enforcement of all laws and ordinances of the City. He or she must be able to create a management team that is accountable and responsive to the community and to lead city staff in
delivering high quality customer service, programs and projects.

The City Council welcomes public feedback on the qualities that each of the four Finalists will bring to the position of City Manager. Comment cards will be provided at the reception on which to capture your thoughts. Feedback can also be provided at CityManagerSearch@bellevuewa.gov.

Finding Your Own Voice
Tuesday, April 22, 1-2:30pm
Crossroads Community Center

Cultural Conversations, a women’s group with a vision to build community connection and cultural understanding, will meet this month to explore the topic of “Finding Your Own Voice”. The event will be 1-2:30 at the Crossroads Community Center, 16000 NE 10th St. Bellevue.

On April 22, two women will tell their stories of breaking through cultural and social challenges to find their voice and become strong, vocal and independent women. Storyteller Francesca Abellera will speak from her experience of breaking the cycles of domestic violence in two generations – her’s and her mother’s. Francesca eventually found the strength and courage to stand up for herself and for her daughter. She will open her heart to women in the group sharing her new voice and hopes to help others to find theirs as well. The second speaker Jenney Hu will take participants back in time to the 1990s’ when, as a young girl, she emigrated from China to the US. She will share her journey of learning, growing both spiritually and culturally, and how she treasures the freedom of expression we enjoy in this country.

Cultural Conversations is a women’s group that was launched in 2010 as a partnership between diverse women in the community and the City of Bellevue. It was initiated by women who had a desire to get better connected with their community and who wanted to enhance their knowledge and understanding of different cultural practices and world views. Gatherings include women from all around the world. The events are free, refreshments are served and women of all ages, faiths and cultures are welcome to attend.

For more information on this event, or future Cultural Conversations programs, please contact Carol Ross at 425-452-7917 or cross@bellevuewa.gov or Barb Tuininga at 425-452-2800 or btuininga@bellevuewa.gov

Bellevue Citizen Corps Council Recruitment is Underway
Deadline: April 18

The Bellevue Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is recruiting for its first Citizen Corps Council. The Council will be the advisory board for public education & outreach for the OEM, and will assist with the adaptation and promotion of the following programs for the City of Bellevue:
• Map Your Neighborhood (MYN), a state-run program designed to help citizens organize their neighborhood block.

• Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), a series of classes that teach citizens the skills to save lives during and after a disaster.

The Citizen Corps Council will also work in conjunction with our current Eastside Amateur Radio Support (EARS) group, who provide auxiliary communications support to Bellevue and agencies served by Bellevue’s 911 Communications Center during a disaster or emergency.

This is the perfect opportunity for individuals who:

• Are passionate about emergency preparedness and are looking to advance to the next level.

• Want to take a leadership role in their community.

• Want to help others sharpen their skills and/or organize their neighborhood block.

• Looking to meet others in their neighborhood

The Council will meet on an every other month basis for meetings facilitated by the Public Education & Outreach lead at City Hall. A minimum of five hours a week of work is required, which may include:

• Answering questions from citizens via phone or email interested in organizing their neighborhood blocks or taking CERT training.

• Keeping track of which MYN blocks are organized.

• Occasional attendance of CERT classes, block parties, and/or presentations, depending on assistance requested.

• Outreach to amateur radio operators living in your area who may want to join EARS.

• Eating lots of delicious snacks.

During a catastrophic event, we will look to you as Council members for information about your neighborhood area. Whether you’re safe and don’t need anything, or someone is in trouble and needs our help, we want to know so that we can best serve you.

Applications are due April 18, 2014 and can be submitted online. Alternatively, applicants can request a paper application or nominate an individual by emailing oempubliced@bellevuewa.gov or calling Sophia Le at 425-452-6935.

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**County Staff to Canvass Door-to-Door for Unlicensed Pets**

*April 5 – October 26*

Working in collaboration with the City of Bellevue, two canvassers with Regional Animal Services of King County will go door-to-door in Bellevue to help ensure compliance with the City’s requirements that all cats and dogs that are 8 weeks and older be licensed.

The effort will run on weekends only, from April 5 through October 26 in the following neighborhoods:

• Bellevue Municipal Golf Course, between 140th Avenue NE and 148th Avenue NE
• Tam O’Shanter Golf and Country Club area covering streets off of West Lake Sammamish Parkway NE
• Crossroads area between 156th Avenue NE to 164th Avenue NE and NE 8th Street to SE 16th Street
• Vasa Park area from SE 24th Street to I-90 and 161st Avenue SE to 180th Avenue SE
• Newport Hills, Somerset, and Lakemont

Canvassers can issue temporary licenses to unlicensed pets, which allow 30 days for the purchase of permanent tags. King County pet license canvassers are easily recognized by County name badges, logo shirts, business cards and pet licensing documents. They are trained, experienced, and follow strict guidelines regarding professional conduct:

They are sensitive to privacy concerns and do not, for example, peer in windows or over fences looking for pets.

They do not engage in lengthy conversation with anyone answering the door who appears to be under 18 years of age.

They do not enter homes and will avoid houses clearly posted as “No Trespassing” or “No Soliciting.”

Benefits of pet licensing are numerous, and include:

• Re-uniting owners and lost pets, including providing licensed pets a free ride home;
• Saving animals’ lives by funding shelter care;
• Responding to reports of dangerous or nuisance animals; and
• Investigations of animal cruelty or neglect.

Pet licenses are available at Bellevue City Hall, Bellevue Mini-City Hall at Crossroads, all QFC’s, Aerowood Animal Hospital (2975 156th Ave SE, Bellevue), or online at www.kingcounty.gov. Any major concerns or issues should be directed to Sandy Jones, King County pet license canvassing coordinator at 206-205-6167 or sandy.jones@kingcounty.gov

The City of Bellevue Presents:
Free Green Cleaning Workshops!

Would you like to learn how to make your own nontoxic cleaners or to decide which products are truly “green”? Want to reduce your use of products with Poison, Danger, Warning, or Caution on the label? Are you a City of Bellevue resident?

If you answered “yes” to all three of these questions, sign up for the City of Bellevue’s upcoming Green Cleaning workshop. Participants will receive a free green cleaning kit, chances for door prizes and a certificate for completing the class.

The March workshops were completed but there are two more workshops in April:

April 24th
7:00-8:00PM
Bellevue City Hall

April 28th
7:00-8:00PM
North Bellevue Community Center

Registration is required, and slots are limited. First come, first served. Email recycle@bellevuewa.gov or call 425-452-6932 to sign up or to find out more information.
The Puget Sound Regional Council’s Regional Travel Study

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is conducting a regional travel study to better understand the transportation needs and preferences of the region’s residents. Beginning in April 2014, thousands of homes throughout King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties will receive postcard invitations to participate in the online or telephone study.

Participation in the study can help answer questions about how the region can maintain and improve mobility, accessibility, and connectivity for residents as population grows and travel patterns evolve. The Puget Sound regional travel study will be conducted through June 2014.

The study will help planners understand the travel behavior of real households, such as the trips people make to work, school, or shopping centers, to help decision makers prioritize transportation projects.

Resource Systems Group, Inc. (RSG) and ETC Institute, independent research firms, are administering the survey on behalf of PSRC. A random sample of the region’s households will be invited to participate in the survey.

The survey will involve questions about general household information as well as travel details for a given weekday. All individual and household information collected in this study will remain strictly confidential. The aggregated data will be used for analysis and modeling purposes.

For more information about the study, please visit project website at https://survey.psrc.org or contact Neil Kilgren at 1-844-393-4436, 1-206-971-3602 or email help@psrc.org or nkilgren@psrc.org. Translation services are available. If you received the household transportation survey in the mail and need assistance to take it in your language, please call 206-587-4819.

April Meetings

(All meetings are in City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. You may confirm with Neighborhood Outreach the day before or day of the meeting. Or consult the City web pages listed below to download agendas.)

4/1 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update, public hearing on the extension of interim recreational marijuana regulations http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

4/1 Arts Commission (4:30, 1E-109) Arts Education Month Proclamation, Cultural Compass Focus Groups, Bellwether Update, Photography presentation by Commissioner Hugo Ludeña http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

4/2 East Link Permitting CAC (3:00-5:00p.m., 1E-113) Advisory Document for S. Bellevue Segment; Introduction to Bel Red Design and Mitigation Permit http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-permitting-cac.htm

(Continued on other side)
April Meetings (Continued from other side)

4/3 Environmental Services Commission (5:30PM, 1E-113) Capital Investment Program (CIP) Open House (6:30PM, 1E-113) Review Proposed Changes to Water CIP Investment; Summarize all proposed changes to the CIP; Utilities Early Outlook Forecast; Year-end Budget Monitoring Report 2013 http://www.bellevuewa.gov/environ_serv_comm.htm


4/3 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30a.m., 1E-120) Fire Department Cares presentation, committee reports http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

4/7 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) East Link Project Update (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Management Brief on work plan responsive to Council priorities identified at Retreat, Management Brief on Police Department Reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Consent Calendar http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

4/8 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, 1E-108) Surrey Downs Park Master Plan Update; Budget/CIP Update http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm


4/10 Transportation Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Public Hearing; CIP Candidate Proposal; Comprehensive Plan Update: Transportation Element http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

4/14 City Council (6:00 study session, Conference Room 1E-108) Surrey Downs Park Master Plan Update, Second in a series of SMP discussions, Multi-family Tax Exemption, Transit Master Plan http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm


4/16 East Link Permitting CAC (3:00-5:00, 1E-113) Topic to be determined. http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-permitting-cac.htm


4/17 Environmental Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) CIP Update: Present Preliminary CIP & Request ESC Endorsement; Wastewater Claims Discussion; Water Cost of Service Results; Shoreline Master Program http://www.bellevuewa.gov/environ_serv_comm.htm

4/21 City Council (6:00 Extended study session, Council Conference Room) 4-Hour Mini Retreat http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

4/22 Arts Program/Cultural Compass Focus Group (8:30-10:30am, 1E-118) Discussion on public art, artists & arts groups’ support, facilities and diversity. Session is open to all. https://www.bellevuewa.gov/cultural_compass.htm


4/23 Arts Program/Cultural Compass Focus Group (6:30-8:30pm, North Bellevue Community Center) Discussion on supporting Artists & Arts Groups, public art, facilities and diversity. Session is open to all https://www.bellevuewa.gov/cultural_compass.htm

4/24 Arts Program/Cultural Compass Focus Group (3-5pm, South Bellevue Community Center) Discussion on cultural facilities, public art, supporting artists and arts groups and diversity. Session is open to all https://www.bellevuewa.gov/cultural_compass.htm

4/28 City Council (6:00 extended study session, 1E-108) Regional Issues, East Link Project Update, Third in a series of SMP discussions, Consent Calendar, Odle Middle School Conditional Use Permit (CUP) http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

Subscribe this newsletter on http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood_news.htm

Bellevue's Neighborhood Outreach Office offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, call 452-6836.