Downtown Livability Open House

Downtown residents and workers are invited to share their vision and help shape the development of downtown Bellevue into a vibrant, livable and memorable city center. The open house and scoping meeting is scheduled Thursday, November 29 5-7p.m., at City Hall Room 1E-108.

The downtown livability initiative has officially kicked off and will continue throughout 2012 -2013. Treatment of streetscapes, building design, open space, parks, public spaces, arts and pedestrian features will all help form the exciting downtown living and working experience of the future. Under City Council direction, staff has been asked to look at the amenity incentive system, building bulk and height, design guidelines, the pedestrian corridor, parking and transportation planning.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome. For more information www.bellevuewa.gov/downtown-livability.htm or contact Julie Ellenhorn jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.

Matching grant is still available

Ever wonder about what you and your neighbors can do to improve your neighborhood? How about installing an entry sign? Maybe landscaping the median, or adding a few benches for neighbors to sit and gather? Perhaps updating the mailboxes that are falling apart? Bring in your ideas, and the City’s Match Program can help you make it happen. To qualify for funding, projects must have the support of all affected neighbors, and the neighborhood must agree to provide 50 percent of the project cost in dollars or labor. The City will then match your dollar or/and effort up to $5,000.

The initial deadline has passed, but funding is still available on a first-come first-serve basis. To learn more about the process or get an idea of what kind of projects will qualify, visit the city website at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood_match_requirements.htm or contact the program coordinator Ying Carlson at 425-452-4342 or email ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov.
Plan the next Neighborhood Forum with us

Planning is launching for the 2013 Bellevue Neighborhoods Forum Series. In 2012 these forums focused on the topics of the common good, diversity, seniors and youth.

Neighborhood Outreach plans to present two or three forums in Winter/Spring 2013. This year, we invite your involvement with the planning process. We will select a representative group of up to six residents to serve on an advisory/brainstorming committee for our neighborhood forum series. If you are interested in being part of the advisory group, please let us know by November 15.

We also welcome you to submit topic suggestions by November 15 for consideration. Once again, the opportunity to sponsor the forum series will be available to neighborhoods. To take advantage of these opportunities, please contact Julie Ellenhorn in Neighborhood Outreach at 425-452-5372 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov

Cultural Conversations ethnic potluck & cookbook

*Cultural Conversations*, a monthly discussion group created by women working to build cultural understanding and community connections, will have its annual ethnic potluck on **December 4 (12-2 p.m., Crossroads Community Center)**. A Cookbook titled “The World in My Kitchen” created by the group will be on sale, just in time for the holiday season.

Since its initial launch in 2010, Cultural Conversations has grown to a contact list of more than 170 women. From special cultural subject trainings to service projects, participants enjoy various opportunities to learn, connect and grow within their diverse community.

“The World in My Kitchen” cookbook is the latest example of a project that is driven by the group. It details nearly fifty recipes from sixteen countries around the world such as Somalia, India, China, Japan, Mexico, Russia and more. Many of these recipes have a special family story or a cultural tradition behind it, which are also shared in the book. The books are $10 each, with half the proceeds benefiting the Hopelink foodbank.

If you are interested in learning more about Cultural Conversations, please RSVP to the potluck next month or contact Ying Carlson at ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4342. Cookbooks can be pre-ordered by contacting Julie Ellenhorn at jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5372.
Name a Bellevue street

Residents now have a chance to suggest names for five new Bellevue streets this fall. The city will build the streets, to include a grand boulevard in the Bel-Red area as it is transformed from a light industrial district to a transit-oriented development featuring housing, shopping and commerce. With East Link light rail stations as anchors, the area by 2030 is expected to have vibrant walkable neighborhoods, comprehensive, connected parks and open spaces, reclaimed and enhanced streams and an arts district.

The streets to be named are:

- Northeast 15th/16th Street: This street will be a lynchpin and key east-west corridor for Bel-Red, serving cars, pedestrians and cyclists and incorporating a series of environmentally sensitive urban open spaces.

- Two segments each of Northeast 14th and 18th streets: These streets will be "green streets," generally located between stream corridors and trail connections, with an abundance of trees and landscaping to limit storm water runoff.

The city will consider all suggestions for street names. The names may be based on the area's industrial past or recall its natural, agricultural and ethnic heritage. Suggested names may also refer to neighborhood landmarks and events, as well as something about the area's future. Suggestions may be submitted online at [http://www.bellevuewa.gov/street-names.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/street-names.htm) and will be accepted until 3 p.m., Nov. 30.

Final City Budget Hearing

The City council will have a public budget hearing on the 2013/2014 City Budget on November 19. Residents are encouraged to come at 8pm during the Council regular session meeting to share their thoughts about budget priorities.

The City went through an extensive budget prioritization exercise called Budget One to develop the 2013-2014 Biennial Budget. Budget One puts the emphasis on community outcomes. It involves a series of steps that create a government based on available funding, which is then connected to these outcomes and their associated service delivery results.

The November 19 meeting is the final public hearing on the budget this year. Details of the budget can be reviewed at [http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Finance/COMPLETE_Prelim_Budget_Book_13-14_for_Web.pdf](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Finance/COMPLETE_Prelim_Budget_Book_13-14_for_Web.pdf)
November 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.)

11/1 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30am, 1E-112) Eastside Neighborhood Shuttle Presentation by Jon Morrison Winters, Mobility Coordinator, Hopelink, Committee Reports
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

11/1 Environmental Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Budget Public Hearing, Budget & Rate Recommendation, City Comprehensive Plan Updates, Winter Weather Prep
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/environ_serv_comm.htm

11/5 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) East Link Light Maintenance Facility Presentation, 2013-2014 Operating and 2013-2019 Capital Budget Discussion (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Management Brief on Community Diversity Plan Update, Consent Calendar, Legislative Rezone for Horizon View, West Lake Sammamish Parkway Discussion of Traffic Impacts and Construction Bid Award http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/6 Arts Commission (4:00, 1E-109) Review funding guidelines for 2013, Cultural Compass Update progress, and review feedback from Arts Groups at the State of the Arts meeting
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

11/6 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.)
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm


11/12 Veteran’s Day – All city offices closed

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/14 Planning Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendments – Lorge Public Hearing; Shoreline Master Program Update
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

11/15 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, Council Conference Room) Agenda to be determined http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

11/19 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) 2013-2014 Operating and 2013-2019 Capital Budget Discussion (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) 3rd and Final Budget Public Hearing, Issaquah School District Impact Fee Approval, Tax Code Amendments Approval
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/20 Human Services Commission (6:00, 1E-113) Health Care Reform Update

11/22 Thanksgiving Day - All city offices closed

11/23 Day after Thanksgiving – Crossroads Mini City Hall will be open, all other city offices closed

11/26 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) 2013-2014 Operating and 2013-2019 Capital Budget Discussion, Land Use Code Amendments Related to East Link, Regional Issues http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

11/28 Planning Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) Shoreline Master Program Update
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm