Downtown Livability
Recommendations Being Formed – Community Input Sought

Open House & Community Discussion
Tuesday, June 3, 4:30-6:30pm
City Hall, Room 1E-108

The public process for the Downtown Livability project began in late 2012. The focus of the effort is identification of proposed changes to the land use code and design guidelines that guide development in Downtown Bellevue. The project has included a series of open houses, focus groups, walking tours, and other opportunities for community engagement. The City is now seeking additional community input as the Citizen Advisory Committee forms a set of recommendations to forward to Council. These recommendations would then be reviewed by the Planning Commission and City Council during the adoption process.

Open House displays will be open from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. with a formal presentation held at 5 p.m., followed by facilitated focus groups. Topics covered at the open house will include design guidelines, building height and density, public amenities, open space, walkability and parking.

Public comments and suggestions will be compiled for the Citizen Advisory Committee to review prior to their June 18 meeting. For more information http://www.bellevuewa.gov/downtown-livability.htm or contact Emil King, 425 452-7223 or Patti Wilma, 425-452-4114.

Community Forum on Energize Eastside
Tuesday, June 3, 7-9 pm
Bellevue City Hall

The City will be hosting a focus a Community Forum on Puget Sound Energy’s Energize Eastside project to hear directly from residents, business owners and other stakeholders on Tuesday, June 3, 7-9 pm at Bellevue City Hall.

The event will kick off with an open house at 7pm in the Concourse where residents can give staff their comments at topic tables including: neighborhood character, environmental impacts, public health, community engagement process, alternatives to consider and need for expanded capacity.

A formal presentation will be held in the Council Chambers at 7:30 and members of the public are invited to sign up to speak. Speaker sign up will be available outside the Chamber entrance beginning at 7pm. Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes.
Written and oral feedback from the Community Forum will be reported to the City Council and Puget Sound Energy and will help guide the City’s continuing engagement on this project.

For more information, please view event flyer at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/PCD/Energize_Eastside_Community_Forum_Invitation.pdf or contact Mike McCormick Huentelman, Neighborhood Outreach Manager at 425-452-4089.

Block Parties, Neighborhood Celebrations & Service

June is kickoff for Neighbor Link parties and celebrations and community service in YOUR neighborhood! There are many reasons to gather, but from those Bellevue residents that have been doing this for some time, the best reason is to simply have FUN! Let us help you with your planning to reconnect with long-time friends and your newest neighbors.

Through our 2014 Neighbor Link Program which runs June 1 – October 4 we offer the following help in planning for neighborhoods that register their event:

- Publicize the event with Colorful Flyers, a Banner or Sandwich Board graphics
- We encourage Community Service for our Bellevue neighbors and kids in need such as a food drive for Hopelink – End Summer Hunger, or your charity of choice. Other ideas may be to plan an event to help a neighbor, or help with stewardship in Bellevue Parks. Those neighborhoods participating in service will be awarded Seattle Mariners tickets. Supplies are limited.
- Fun for children, we’ll help with the contacts to have a police officer or firemen/fire truck visits based on availability.
- Close Your Street with a city permit and approved road barricades and receive reimbursement up to $50

Why Close Your Street for a Gathering?

In closing a street for a neighborhood gathering, you may increase participation by bringing the party directly to the residents. Think of the seniors in your neighborhood who may like to participate, but have trouble traveling or the parents of young children who find it easier to be near home.

The process for street closure begins by getting neighbor agreement to close the street, which allows you to immediately build community as you introduce yourself. Anticipation and planning the event generates buzz and excitement with neighbors asking, “how can I help?” or “what can I bring?”

Neighborhood Green Clean-Up

Find out more about cleaning up your “green” natural landscape debris in a day with a dumpster in your neighborhood. Neighborhood Outreach wants to make it easy for you and your nearest neighbors to work on that big project together, get to know each other better and perhaps generate ideas to enhance the beauty and safety of your community. This program is offered June 1- October 31. Limited space is available, so please call for more information. Contact Carol Ross at cross@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7917 for more information or visit our website at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighbor-link.htm.
Save the Date: Creating Community in Your Neighborhood

*Thursday, June 26, 7pm*

*Newport Way Library*

Bellevue is a wonderful place to live, but it’s even better when neighbors work together to create community. Come learn about creating community in your neighborhood. You will discover the variety of resources available and take home ideas and tools that will help you reach out to your neighbors to create a safer and healthier place to live.

Presented by the City of Bellevue, Neighborhood Outreach

For more information contact Carol Ross, Neighborhood Outreach, 425-452-7917 or Vicki Heck, Newport Way Library at vaheck@kcls.org.

“Bellevue Essentials introduces participants to the behind-the-scenes work done at the city and helps them understand how local government works,” said Mayor Claudia Balducci. “They will learn how the city responds to community concerns, how policy is made and how to effect change. When citizens take an interest and take on leadership roles, they help to positively shape the vision for Bellevue.”

Bellevue Essentials seeks participants from each of the 16 neighborhood area in Bellevue. Tuition is $95 per participant, with financial assistance available. For more information or to request a brochure and a simple one-page application, http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood-events.htm or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.

Applications Available for Bellevue Essentials Leadership Class

Emerging neighborhood leaders interested in learning more about their city are invited to join the second annual Bellevue Essentials leadership class. Bellevue Essentials immerses participants in the structure and operations of city government. Participants will learn from key city staff, neighborhood leaders, decision makers, elected officials and community leaders.

The eight-week introduction to civic engagement in Bellevue begins on September 18, with eight weekly Thursday evening sessions and a Saturday tour day, scheduled for September 27. Application deadline is July 15.

Session topics will include history and demographics, neighborhoods, parks and community services, planning, budget, transportation, arts, environmental stewardship, utilities and economic development.

Explore Bellevue by Bike

*Saturday, June 14*

*Lake Hills Community Park*

Bring the whole family for an enjoyable, non-competitive ride, on roads and trails of Bellevue on Saturday June 14. The event benefits Bellevue Youth Camp Scholarship Fund.

The Lake to Lake Bike Ride starts and finishes at the Lake Hills Community Park (1200 164th Ave SE). Day of event registration opens at 8am and riders can start between 9 and 10am. There are two scenic routes that take you to and through parks: A flat 9-mile loop; or a bit more challenging 22-mile loop. Both routes are approximately 80% on-road and 20% off-road gravel. This event is recommended for ages 8 and up. Riders under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
All participants will receive a custom designed t-shirt and there will be post event prize giveaway. Custom event socks will be given to the first 150 people to register. Pre and Post event beverages and snacks are also available.

Pre-registration is welcome and participants will pay a $15 entry fee instead of the $20 entry fee on the day of the event. To register, please visit www.myparksandrecreation.com and use activity #86106. For more information, please visit event website at www.bellevuewa.gov/lake-to-lake-bike-ride.htm. You can also call 425-452-4882 or email bikeride@bellevuewa.gov

**Sound Transit Operations and Maintenance Satellite Facility (OMSF) Project**

**Public Comment Period: May 9 to June 23**

Sound Transit is planning to build a new Operations and Maintenance Satellite Facility (OMSF) to help store and maintain the additional Light Rail vehicles necessary to operate the growing Link Light Rail system. The voter-approved expansion will extend the current 16-mile system to about 50 miles, taking riders to Bellevue and Redmond in the east, Lynnwood in the north, and Kent/Des Moines in the south.

Growing the light rail system also requires tripling the existing light rail fleet, and a new facility is needed to store, maintain and dispatch light rail vehicles for daily service because the current facility in Seattle isn’t large enough, and doesn’t support efficient and reliable service or minimize operating costs.

In the fall of 2012, the Sound Transit Board of Directors identified four potential sites for this facility, one site in Lynnwood and three in Bellevue’s Bel Red area to be studied in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Sound Transit, together with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), has prepared a Draft EIS for the OMSF project and is currently seeking public comment on the report. The 45-day public comment period runs from May 9, 2014 to June 23, 2014.

Members of the public can view a complete copy of the DEIS and submit comments on it by visiting the Sound Transit OMSF website: www.soundtransit.org/omsf. Your comments on the DEIS will help Sound Transit choose a preferred alternative. You can offer your feedback on the DEIS and OMSF project before a preferred site is identified.

Following the comment period, the Sound Transit Board is expected to identify a preliminary preferred site. Once the preliminary preferred site is identified, work will begin on a Final EIS and preliminary engineering. The Final EIS will also document and address comments received on the DEIS. Following the publication of the Final EIS, the Sound Transit Board of Directors will

**Interested parties should submit comments directly to Sound Transit:**

**By e-mail:** omsf@soundtransit.org

**By mail:** Attention OMSF DEIS Comments

Sound Transit (Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority)

Union Station

401 South Jackson Street

Seattle, Washington, 98104-2826

**In person:** Sound Transit will hold a public hearing in Bellevue to collect comments about the DEIS on Thursday, June 5 from 5-7:30pm at the Coast Hotel (625 116th Avenue NE, Bellevue)
make a final decision by selecting the preferred maintenance facility site for the project. In addition, after the Final EIS is published, the FTA is expected to issue its Record of Decision (ROD) on the project during fall of 2015. To learn more about this project, please visit www.soundtransit.org/omsf.

**Pavement Overlay Locations This Summer**

Bellevue’s annual street overlay program will start this summer. The program provides major street maintenance, pavement rehabilitation, curb and sidewalk repair, pavement markings and vehicle detection for traffic signals, and appropriate Americans with Disabilities (ADA) retrofit work. It is a cost-effective means of maintaining Bellevue’s city streets.

This summer, overlay work will take place in the following locations, Mon. through Fri.:

**Factoria Boulevard: Southeast 41st St. to Southeast 36th Street.**
Impact: Nighttime lanes closures in both directions through Aug.

**Coal Creek Parkway: 119th Avenue Southeast to Factoria Blvd.**
Impact: Daytime lane closures through Aug.

**Lake Hills Connector: Southeast 8th Street to 116th Avenue Southeast.**
Impact: Nighttime lane closures through Sept.

**Lake Washington Boulevard: 106th Avenue Southeast to Southeast 64th Street.**
Impact: Daytime lane closures through Oct.

**Woodridge: Southeast 8th Street intersection to 121st Avenue Southeast to the intersection of 128th Avenue Southeast and Southeast 32nd Street.**
Impact: Lane & sidewalk closures, Aug. – Nov.

**Highland Drive: Southeast 46th Street to Forest Drive Southeast.**
Impact: Lane & sidewalk closures, Aug. – Nov.

**Southeast 63rd Street: 151st Avenue SE to Forest Drive Southeast.**
Impact: Lane & sidewalk closures, Aug. – Nov.

For up-to-date weekly construction information, please refer to www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic_advisories.htm or follow Bellevue’s Transportation Department on Twitter, @BvueTrans. For more information about the Overlay Program and to see a map of project locations, visit www.bellevuewa.gov/overlay.htm, or contact Teresa Becker, pavement manager, at tbecker@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7942.

**Washing Your Car – The Fish-Friendly Way**

In Bellevue, everything that goes down a storm drain flows into a stream, lake or wetland. Don’t let dirty, soapy rinse water from washing your car carry oil, grease, and auto grime into a nearby storm drain. Even small amounts of these pollutants are toxic to fish and other aquatic animals. Even biodegradable soap is toxic!

Letting your car wash water go into a storm drain not only pollutes your streams, lakes and wetlands, it’s also against the law.

What can you do? Wash your car at a commercial car wash. They are required to send polluted wash water to the sanitary sewer system, which cleans and treats water before it is discharged to Puget Sound.

Still want to wash your car at home? Search “waterless car wash” on the internet to find car washing products that do not require water. This is a fish friendly way to wash away everyday road grime, prevent pollution, and save water.

What about community fundraiser car washes? Community fundraiser car washes often do not have appropriate safeguards to
protect your water or aquatic life. Consider supporting an eco-friendly fundraiser alternative instead.

For more information, please contact Janelle Lasher at jlasher@triangleassociates.com or 206-583-0655

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**Good Start to Construction Season**

Construction season in Bellevue began with a running start in May, with utilities work related to an expansion of the Lincoln Square complex that required the closure of Bellevue Way for 12 days. Thanks to a successful partnership between the city and the contractor, the project was done on time. The City appreciates our residents’ patience with this disruption. And we wanted to give a shout out to the new Downtown Bellevue Residents Association for helping spread the word about the closure. Thank you!

And as a heads up, motorists this month should brace for traffic delays on Coal Creek Parkway as well as 120th Avenue Northeast and Northeast Fourth Street in Wilburton as key improvements are made to those roadways.
June 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.)

6/2 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Transit Master Plan Report, Multi-family tax exemption, ARCH Trust Fund Recommendation (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Bellevue Botanical Garden Announcements, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Proclamation, Update on Winter Shelter in King County, Consent Calendar
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/3 Human Services Commission (6:15, 1E-120) Round 1 – Initial review of Human Services applications for funding

6/3 Arts Commission (4:30, 1E-109) East Link artist preview, Bellwether art preview, Budget One Commission engagement
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

6/3 Downtown Livability Open House (4:30 – 6:30 p.m., 1E-108) Displays will be open from 4:30 -6:30 pm with a formal presentation held at 5 p.m., followed by facilitated focus groups. Topics include design guidelines, building height and density, public amenities, open space, walkability and parking.
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/downtown-livability.htm

6/4 East Link Permitting CAC (3:00-5:00p.m., 1E-113) Agenda to be determined

6/5 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30 a.m., 1E-120) East Link Stations/Sound Transit, Committee Reports
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

6/9 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Main Street Station CAC Appointments, Planning Commission recommendations to Target Land Use Code Amendment, Shoreline Master Plan discussion, Budget Workshop
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/10 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, 1E-113) Bannerwood Park potential partnership, and Probation division overview
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

6/11 Planning Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Camp and Conference Center and clean up code amendments, Eastgate – complete review of map and policies, Comprehensive Plan Update – continue review of draft sections
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

6/12 Transportation Commission (6:30, 1E-113) CIP Preliminary Funding Priorities, Transportation Development, Comprehensive Plan Update, Consent Calendar
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

6/16 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Energize Eastside, Diversity Initiative (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Horizon View Potential Legislative Rezone, Comprehensive Plan Update, Consent Calendar
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/17 Human Services Commission (6:15, 1E-113) Topics: Round 2 – Human Services Funding Application reviews with staff reviews

6/18 East Link Permitting CAC (3:00-5:00 p.m., 1E-113) Agenda to be determined

6/18 Downtown Livability Advisory Committee (6:30, 1E-108) Focus on Building Height & Form, Downtown Parking
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/downtown-livability.htm

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

6/23 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Public Hearing on Target Land Use Code Amendment, Regional Issues, King County Metro Service Cuts, East Link Monthly Update, Budget Workshop, Shoreline Master Plan discussion
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm
6/24 Human Services Commission (6:15, 1E-113)
Round 2 – Human Services Funding Application
reviews with staff reviews

6/25 Planning Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Land Use
Code amendments to address recreational marijuana,
Comprehensive Plan Update – continue review of draft
sections, select a new chairperson and vice chair
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

6/26 Transportation Commission (6:30, 1E-113)
Public Hearing - Transit Master Plan Draft Final
Report, Transit Master Plan Recommendation and
Transmittal to Council, Old business – Commission
leadership election
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

6/27 Bellwether 2014: Connect Opening
Celebration (6:00, City Hall Concourse) Meet artists
of the Bellwether show and have a first look at the art
in the show.

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 425-452-6836.