More walking tours available

The City’s Public Arts staff is offering some additional guided tours of the 2012 sculpture exhibit, Bellwether reGeneration. Enthusiasm has been so great for the first six tours offered to neighborhood groups that staff has agreed to offer five more tours between Aug. 1 and Sept. 30.

The tours are available on weekdays for groups of 6-12 neighbors. Prior to each 90-minute tour, the groups will gather and enjoy complementary coffee at Vovito Caffe and Gelato in The Bravern, across NE 6th from City Hall. To reserve your tour, contact Julie Ellenhorn at 425-452-6836 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.

Use City web site to relieve frustration

Are you concerned about speeding on a neighborhood street? Annoyed that your neighbor keeps a 30-foot boat in the front yard? Here’s how the City’s website provides you with a quick and efficient way to address neighborhood problems.

- **Traffic** – To address concerns about speeding vehicles, problem traffic areas or parking problems, fill out a Traffic Service Request on the Police Department’s web page at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/Traffic_Service_Request.htm. Be as specific as possible about locations, days of the week, and hours of the day that you are witnessing the problem.

  - **Nuisances** – To request Code Compliance attention to such neighborhood issues as litter, garbage or rodent harborage on private property, inoperable vehicles, vehicles parked on lawns, unscreened boats and RVs, unscreened storage, or noise from stationary sources, complete the form at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/code_compliance_complaint.

Bellevue joins America’s Night Out Against Crime

On Tuesday, Aug. 7, Bellevue neighborhoods will join thousands of communities nationwide for the 29th annual National Night Out. Residents of all ages are invited to observe the crime prevention event from noon to 6:30 p.m. at the Bellevue Crossroads Market Place (in front of the old Circuit City) on the east side of Crossroads Shopping Center, NE 8th and 156th Avenue NE.

The event will feature entertainment, food, prizes for the kids, demonstrations by various public safety departments on ways to stay safe, and other festivities designed around a crime prevention message. It’s a great opportunity for you and your neighbors to meet your local police officers and learn about ways to organize your neighborhood to fight crime.

For more information, contact Officer Dave Porter at the Bellevue Police Crossroads Community Station, DPorter@bellevuewa.gov or (425) 452-2891.
Here’s a great chance to make your voice heard!

You can help the City identify funding priorities for neighborhood sidewalks

You are invited to be part of the discussion as Bellevue takes a look at proposed funding for neighborhood sidewalks in the 2013-19 capital budget.

In 2007, the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program was developed to help address the sidewalk needs of neighborhoods throughout the City. Previously, many sidewalk projects proposed by residents or neighborhoods were deemed too large or expensive to be completed through such programs as the Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) or Pedestrian Access Improvements (PAI) Program.

In some cases NEP partnered with PAI and other programs to fund mid-sized projects but typically, neighborhood-scale sidewalk projects had to compete for funding with much larger projects in the biennial update of the Capital Investment Program CIP). And often, neighborhood sidewalk projects did not rise to a level of citywide priority when judged against roadway and intersection improvements with a vehicle capacity or safety focus.

The original allocation for the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program was $3 million, which funded three of 29 candidate projects. The current 2011-17 CIP includes an additional allocation of just over $1.5 million. On July 12, staff presented the Transportation Commission with an updated list that includes the remaining 26 candidate projects from 2007 along with 11 new projects that residents have requested frequently.

The Transportation Commission and staff are interested in your comments on the candidate project list. A map and list of the projects can be viewed online at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood-sidewalk-plan.htm. E-mail comments and recommendations to: TransportationCIP@bellevuewa.gov. Questions about the program or the project prioritization process may be addressed to Kristi Oosterveen (koosterveen@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-452-4496.

All One City now -- Mayor Conrad Lee and Deputy Mayor Jennifer Robertson joined 350-plus residents on July 26 to celebrate the annexation of Eastgate, Tamara Hills, Horizon View and Hilltop. The event at South Bellevue Community Center offered food, fun, and information about City services.
Who ya gonna call?

Forget Ghostbusters! If you have a residential or neighborhood-related question or concern, contact Neighborhood Outreach for one-stop response. If you have a maintenance concern about City streets or rights-of-way, cut to the chase by calling the 24-hour line, 425-452-7840. Or during regular business hours, call the City’s Service First desk at 425-452-6800 to be directed to the appropriate source of information. The following is a handy list of frequently called numbers for . . .

Neighborhood services
- **Neighborhood Outreach** (Dept. of Planning & Community Development) 425-452-6836
  - Neighborhood information and resources
  - Neighborhood Match Grants
  - Neighborhood projects, events and activities; neighborhood organizing
  - Multicultural community connections
- **Crossroads Mini City Hall** (Dept. of Planning & Community Development) 425-452-2800
  - Multilingual resources
- **Neighborhood Mediation** (Dept. of Planning & Community Development) 425-452-4091
  - Conflict resolution

Code violations
- **Code Compliance** (Development Services Department) 425-452-4570
  - Excessive litter on private property or illegal dumping
  - Clearing, grading, or building activity without required permits
  - Inoperable vehicles on private property (call Police if located on city streets)
  - Noise from a stationary source (call Police for construction noise complaints)
  - RV’s, boats, or trailers illegally stored on private property; vehicles parked on lawns
  - Signs in violation of the city’s sign code

Parks and trails
- **Department of Parks and Community Services** (informational requests) 425-452-6881
  - Information on parks, trails, recreational programs, and community centers
  - Long-range park planning and development
  - Requests for Bellevue Park Guide (map)
- **Resource Management Division** (maintenance requests) 425-452-6855
  - Park and trail maintenance

Roadway and storm drain maintenance
- **Streets and Surface Water Maintenance** (Utilities Department) 425-452-7840
  - Potholes on city streets
  - Sidewalk concerns: tripping hazards, etc.
  - Missing or damaged street and traffic signs
  - Hazardous road conditions: flooding, fallen trees, etc.
  - Broken drainage pipes, eroded ditches, clogged catch basins, etc.

Transportation and traffic issues
- **Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services** (Transportation Department) 425-452-4560
- **Signals and Street Lights** (Transportation Department) 425-452-6950
- **Traffic/Parking Enforcement** (Police Department, Traffic Section) 425-452-6940

Public safety
- Police, fire and medical emergencies 911
- Police non-emergencies 425-577-5656
Road closure ahead

By now, everyone’s used to the intermittent closures of SR 520 and the floating bridge. (The next bridge closure is scheduled for Aug. 10-13, 11 p.m. Friday to 5 a.m. Monday.)

But one closure that may catch people by surprise is Kirkland’s planned closure of 108th Avenue NE starting in mid August. To accommodate sewer work at NE 53rd Street, the City will close the street to through traffic for 10 days. Traffic will be re-routed to Lake Washington Boulevard between the Bellevue city limits and NE 68th Street. For more information, contact Kari Page, 425-587-3011 or kpage@kirklandwa.gov.

August 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.)

8/2 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30 a.m., 1E-120) Aging & Disability Services update, committee reports, community partnership reports [http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm]


8/6 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) threshold review (may be moved to 9/4), False Alarm Program, Hidden Valley Park partnership, Visit Bellevue Washington (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Civic Services Awards, Consent Calendar, amendment to City Code relating to firearms in parks and community centers [http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm]

8/7 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd.) Comprehensive Plan training for Council members; discussion of the planned off-leash area in Robinswood Park [http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.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.