Item No. 5(a)

City of Bellevue
Parks & Community Services Department

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 6, 2013

To: Mayor Lee and City Councilmembers

From: Patrick Foran, Director 452-5377

Subject: Washington Recreation & Park Association Awards

We would like to take a few moments at your May 6 Council meeting to highlight several awards presented to several Bellevue Parks & Community Services projects and people by the Washington Recreation & Park Association (WRPA) at its recent conference. WRPA honors public agencies and individuals for outstanding and unique achievements. Park and recreation professionals, facilities, special programs, and media materials from throughout Washington state were recognized during an awards ceremony at the WRPA Annual Conference & Trade Show on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 in Vancouver, WA.

Terry Smith, Assistant Director of Parks & Community Services, was awarded the **Citation of Merit – Professional** award recognizing his long-time commitment to providing services for youth, people with disabilities, and the general community. During his long career with the City of Bellevue, Terry has been instrumental in the development of the Recreation Program & Pricing Plan, has spearheaded many of the partnerships developed with not-for-profit organizations in the community, and has always sought to find meaningful ways to provide services to those who may not have access elsewhere. This award is one of the highest honors bestowed upon a professional working in the field of parks and recreation in the state.

In addition to Mr. Smith's award, the following projects, programs, and people were recognized by the Association:

- **Spotlight Award – Best Trail:** Ravine Experience bridge at the Bellevue Botanical Garden
- **Spotlight Award – Special Use Facility:** Robinswood Park off-leash area renovation
- **Spotlight Award – Trail Map/Interpretive Sign:** Mercer Slough Nature Park interpretive trail signage
- **Teen Services Section Outstanding Teen Program Award:** Kelsey Creek Farm Teen Volunteer Program
- **Park Resource Section Distinguished Service Award:** Pat Harris, Grounds Operations Manager

Please join me in congratulating the Parks & Community Services team for the hard work which led to these honors.