



MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2013

TO: Chair Grindeland and Members of the Parks & Community Services Board

FROM: Mike McCormick Huentelman, Neighborhood Outreach Manager
Planning and Community Development
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SUBJECT: Neighborhood Outreach Overview

This memo is intended to be informational, no action is required.

Background

Bellevue has sixteen distinct neighborhood areas, each with unique histories, character and neighborhood amenities. Neighborhood Outreach, as part of Planning and Community Development, works with neighborhood leaders and residents to increase public participation in city decision making, improve city responsiveness to neighborhood concerns, preserve neighborhood character and identity, invest in neighborhood improvements and strengthen local community connections that make Bellevue such a great place to live.

Bellevue's neighborhoods are dynamic places to live and Neighborhood Outreach continues to grow and adapt to the changes that are shaping our city. Identified below are a few of the trends that have shaped Neighborhood Outreach's efforts over this past year:

New neighborhoods have changed our Neighborhood Area Map

In the past year, Bellevue has annexed Eastgate, Tamara Hills and Hilltop – adding an additional 5,600 residents into our City. The Downtown neighborhood has become Bellevue's fastest growing residential community, now home to over 10,500 residents. Projected development will create new residential neighborhoods within the Bel-Red corridor. The emergence of these new neighborhoods provided the necessity to adapt our Neighborhood Area boundaries to better reflect the changing realities of our neighborhoods.

How we are responding: In creating new boundaries for a new Neighborhood Areas map (see Attachment 1), there were several factors that were taken into consideration: historic Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) areas, neighborhood association boundaries, elementary school attendance areas, sub-area boundaries, census tract boundaries, and input from neighborhood leaders. The Neighborhood Areas map is primarily used as a tool by Neighborhood Outreach to assign Neighborhood Liaisons and focus our community outreach efforts. The map is also used by other departments to identify the location of projects (e.g. transportation), organize asset mapping for emergency response (e.g. EMO), and assemble data for future analysis by PCD. This new Neighborhood Areas map could potentially also be the basis for future sub-area planning efforts by the City, as noted in the Council's May 13 agenda memo on the Comprehensive Plan Update.

The emergence of new neighborhoods within Bellevue has required additional effort to connect with these residents and identify their concerns and priorities for their neighborhoods. The public outreach for Downtown Livability has dovetailed with Neighborhood Outreach's efforts to identify new residential associations within Downtown. New efforts are underway to reach out to residents in Eastgate, Tamara Hills and Hilltop and improve communication and connections to City services. Neighborhood Liaisons, who respond to resident inquiries from designated neighborhood areas, are providing refocused efforts at improving neighborhood connectedness and increasing public engagement in City decision-making.

Bellevue's diversity is redefining public outreach.

Bellevue's neighborhoods are experiencing growing pains as they learn how to navigate across multiple cultures. Bellevue now is home to a myriad of cultures and languages – and Neighborhood Outreach continues to learn and adapt our public outreach to intentionally provide new pathways to engage an increasingly diverse public.

How we are responding: One primary Neighborhood Outreach tool for effective outreach to diverse populations is Mini City Hall. In this past year, we have added Farsi, languages of India, Turkish and Portuguese to the languages spoken by Mini City Hall staff. Eastside Cultural Navigators increased service hours at Mini City Hall in Spanish, Russian and Chinese. Recently, six new community bilingual volunteers/interns have received training at Mini City Hall. In 2012, Mini City Hall responded to 27,893 requests, leveraged over 2,000 volunteer hours and continued to build effective partnerships that are responsive to the changing needs of the surrounding community (including work with Eastside Pathways, Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA), King County Public Health, Hopelink, United Way, King County Library System, and ongoing community initiatives at Crossroads Shopping Center).

Neighborhood Outreach recognizes that Bellevue's growing diversity is a great asset and will be contributing toward a new infusion of civic leadership for the City. In response, Neighborhood Outreach is providing a new pathway for emerging leaders to engage in public service by launching a class called Bellevue Essentials. The goal of Bellevue Essentials as an eight-week pilot class is to provide a general overview of City governance and an onramp for emerging leaders who desire to enter into broader public service throughout the City of Bellevue. Bellevue Essentials will have open enrollment, but will give preference to applicants who are new to public service and represent the geographic and neighborhood diversity across the City of Bellevue.

Concerted effort is underway with multiple City departments on the City's Diversity Plan, working to leverage Bellevue's diversity to greater advantage and improve public outreach across all City services. As part of this effort, Neighborhood Outreach partnered with the Parks & Community Services Department and the entire Leadership Team to host the Diversity Advantage series; community events designed to listen to the public and identify ways our City can improve in the areas of economic development, human services, education, civic engagement and public safety. The input received from the public during these events will inform future Neighborhood Outreach efforts to engage Bellevue's diverse communities.

While Bellevue has exceptional neighborhoods with a high quality of life, some neighborhoods are facing points of stress

A recent study by Planning and Community Development staff examined Neighborhood Indicators which evaluated neighborhoods through multiple lenses including: age and racial breakdown, median household income, housing affordability, individuals below poverty level, educational attainment, age of housing, new single family and multifamily construction and reinvestment, foreclosures, building complaints, nuisance complaints, burglaries, and assaults. Each neighborhood ranked differently depending on the specific category being analyzed. When compiled together, Bellevue neighborhoods have expressed some common interests:

- Revitalizing their neighborhood and community associations
- Investing in their local commercial centers
- Improving public gathering places
- Enforcing code compliance for dilapidated properties, home businesses, rentals
- Mitigating impacts from increased traffic through neighborhoods
- Deterring residential crime

How we are responding: Neighborhood Outreach is retooling our support of neighborhood associations, beginning with hosting semi-annual Neighborhood Leadership Gatherings. The purpose of these gatherings is to better identify neighborhood priorities and to create a learning community among neighborhood leadership – to leverage their success to improve their neighborhoods.

A new emphasis is being placed on helping to support and revitalize neighborhood and community associations, especially in neighborhoods with weaker neighborhood connections. The neighborhoods that experienced the most points of stress – are also the neighborhoods with the fewest formal neighborhood or community associations. Building up an infrastructure of community connections enable neighborhoods to more readily adapt to shared concerns, invest in neighborhood improvements and take greater ownership of their neighborhoods upkeep and distinct character. Neighbor Link, a program that supports community celebrations and service opportunities, will be expanded to support local community clean-up efforts and the growth of new neighborhood associations.

Neighborhoods want investment for small and large improvement projects

In the past, Neighborhood Outreach has used two approaches toward working with neighborhoods on larger scale neighborhood improvement projects: the Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) and Neighborhood Investment Strategy (NIS). The NEP program was successful in funding projects that garnered the highest votes from each NEP neighborhood area. Neighborhood Improvement was successful in concentrating effort to bring improvement to a targeted neighborhood that was experiencing greater areas of stress (Lake Hills). With the recent discontinuation of the Neighborhood Enhancement Program, neighborhoods are still seeking City investment for local capital improvement projects.

How we are responding: Neighborhood Outreach is reexamining how best respond to the larger capital improvement projects desired by our neighborhoods. We have mapped budgeted and potential future CIP investments from departments citywide to determine how to best coordinate capital improvement projects for cost savings and neighborhood benefit. We have sought to determine if a second Neighborhood Investment Strategy is warranted at this time. With fewer City resources, larger neighborhood initiated projects may require a new emphasis on community collaboration and public-private partnerships – modeled on the successful efforts of Parks and the Botanical Gardens or the Youth Theater. This will remain a topic for future consideration.

For smaller capital improvement projects, the Neighborhood Match program has been adapted to better respond to neighborhood initiatives. Neighborhood Match has provided matching funds for small neighborhood improvement projects, not to exceed \$5,000 per grant. Neighborhood Outreach has added new elements to strengthen and streamline the Match program to better serve neighborhoods with local improvement projects, including:

- Increase grant amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000
- Engage neighborhoods at the beginning of the planning process
- Leveraging partnerships within the community
- Streamline permitting process and project management
- Adding another application deadline

We anticipate that by increasing the maximum matching grant to \$10,000, it will stimulate greater community investment in small neighborhood improvement projects.

Another consideration for future neighborhood investment is a developing from a new discussion centered on cultivating “third places” on a neighborhood scale. Neighborhood leaders across Bellevue have expressed their desire to have local places to enjoy and connect with one another. Community events, farmer’s markets, local commercial centers, libraries, parks and community centers all contribute to build neighborhood community and connections. Neighborhood Outreach is exploring how targeted investments in cultivating “third places” on a neighborhood scale might improve neighborhood identity and connectedness.

Social media and the technological sophistication of our communities demand different pathways for public participation

Bellevue is home to a highly educated and technologically savvy workforce and increasingly Internet-dependent residential communities. The public sector is growing in its ability to utilize technological advances to provide relevant and accessible content and two-way communication to its citizens. Neighborhood leaders are utilizing social media tools, like Next Door, and many are working on developing their own neighborhood websites to improve communication.

How we are responding: In response to the request from neighborhood association leadership, we will be hosting a workshop in November for neighborhood leaders to learn from each other on best practices concerning their own use of social media tools. Possible issues to be explored during this workshop may include: web security, privacy concerns, maintenance and site development and available platforms within social media for improving neighborhood connections. As Bellevue grows its online communities, Neighborhood Outreach is looking for ways to leverage social networks for greater neighborhood benefit.

Social media tools also provide new platforms for increasing public engagement. Neighborhood Outreach supported Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan update by utilizing a new tool, Ideascale, to collect public comments on the Community Vision. Bellevue's Best Idea's campaign succeeded in obtaining 126 ideas, 164 comments on ideas, 1,770 votes from 346 different users. Over twenty percent of the ideas submitted pertain to Parks and Recreation, Environmental Stewardship and Community Services (see Attachment 2).

Neighborhood Outreach is also working with a COB inter-departmental team to develop a Bellevue 311 mobile application. The goal is to maximize today's technology for improving communication, providing greater access to City information and identifying new tools for citizen reporting, on issues such as street lighting, pot-holes, code violations, graffiti, and other common citizen issues.

Summary

Bellevue has outstanding neighborhoods with a very high quality of life. The vast majority of residents (93%) rate their neighborhoods as good or excellent. It is also clear that Bellevue's neighborhoods are experiencing significant growth and change. Maintaining vibrant neighborhoods and responding to neighborhood issues is a City-wide function, one that involves literally every City department on a daily basis.

This Memo has focused on the role of the Neighborhood Outreach group, along with a few cross-departmental initiatives. Neighborhood Outreach has communication and response to neighborhoods as its primary mission. In the face of change, we are working on new approaches to expand public engagement, streamline neighborhood improvement projects, deepen neighborhood connections, support neighborhood leadership and broaden our community partnerships that are investing in the health and quality of life of all of our neighborhoods.

Attachments

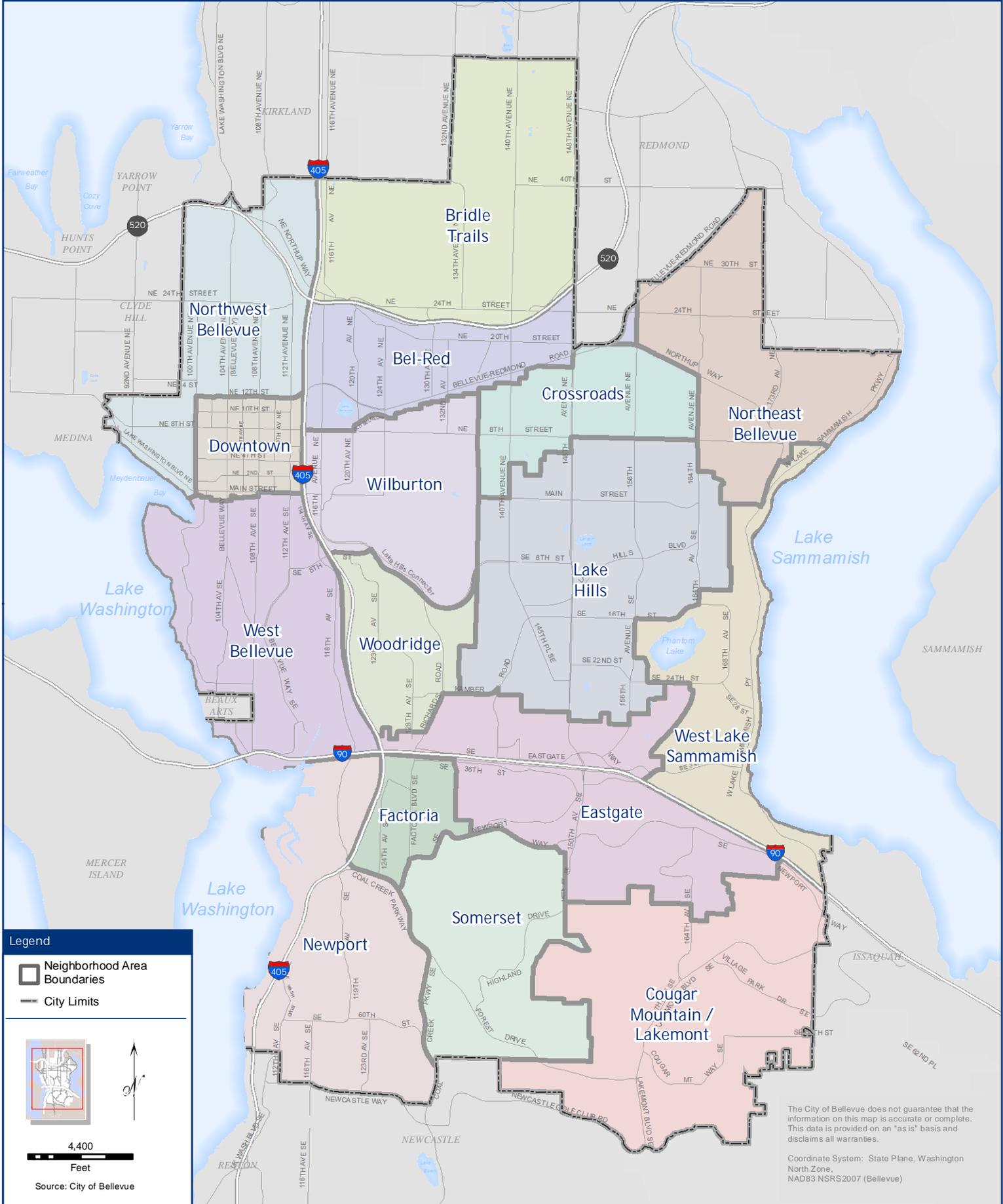
Attachment 1: Neighborhood Area Map

Attachment 2: Bellevue's Best Ideas Campaign, Planning Commission Memo 7/17/2013

Attachment 3: Enhance Your Neighborhood Meeting

Attachment 4: Neighborhood News

Neighborhood Areas



Legend

- Neighborhood Area Boundaries
- City Limits




4,400 Feet

Source: City of Bellevue

The City of Bellevue does not guarantee that the information on this map is accurate or complete. This data is provided on an "as is" basis and disclaims all warranties.

Coordinate System: State Plane, Washington North Zone, NAD83 NSRS2007 (Bellevue)



DATE: July 17, 2013

TO: Chair Tebelius and Members of the Planning Commission

FROM: Paul Inghram, AICP, Comprehensive Planning Manager
Planning and Community Development
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SUBJECT: Bellevue's Best Ideas Campaign

At the July 24 study session staff will present the outcome of the Bellevue's Best Ideas campaign, which resulted in 126 ideas, 164 comments on ideas, 1770 votes, from 346 different users. The ideas submitted and the public reaction to them add to the other forms of public outreach being conducted for the Comprehensive Plan update. They will help provide a foundation for an update to the community Vision that is anticipated to occur in the early fall. No formal action is required at this time. The Commission's observations, however, will be helpful as staff continues to identify key policy issues to address in the update process.

BACKGROUND

The Comprehensive Plan is a key document for the city. It captures the community's Vision for the future and directs how the city will grow and change over time. Goals, policies and projects in the Comprehensive Plan help guide city actions and investment so as to work toward the Vision that the community anticipates.

The update of the plan occurs about every ten years. It will be important for this update to capture changes that have occurred since the plan was last updated in 2004 and be revised in a way that it remains relevant and valued for the community. As such, community engagement is a critical part of the update process. The Bellevue City Council adopted a community engagement plan that outlines key objectives for including the public. Those objectives include using multiple styles of engagement, have outreach occur throughout the process, and include all aspects of the community. The Best Ideas Campaign, which was specifically recognized in the Community Engagement Plan, is an effort to try a new technique to reach a broader audience than for some past projects.

USING SOCIAL MEDIA

Initially, staff asked how can we leverage new technology to provide a wider audience an ability to participate in the update process? Many in the community don't have the time to come to evening meetings at City Hall and traditional public meetings attract a limited set of participants. Many people have busy lives or schedules that restrict their participation, but yet, have interest in the future of their community. With that in mind, staff evaluated several online tools from

survey tools, to blogging tools, to those that are more similar to social media sites. The tool IdeaScale was selected due to its ability for people to submit ideas and for others to respond and vote on them. As the campaign is active, it also shows what ideas are “hot” and “popular.” IdeasScale allows for a reasonably robust sorting and analysis of the results, which staff will present at the study session.

BELELVUE’S BEST IDEAS

For the Bellevue’s Best Ideas Campaign, the city solicited “best ideas” for the following categories:

- Arts and Culture
- Community Health
- Diverse Community
- Economic Development
- Environmental Stewardship
- Housing
- Improved Mobility
- Parks and Recreation
- Partnerships and Collaboration
- Quality Neighborhoods

The intent was to give people a great degree of latitude in coming up with ideas, while encouraging ideas that align with those planning topics that were emphasized during our early outreach. Wanting to encourage participation, planning terminology and overly prescriptive instructions were avoided in Bellevue’s Best Ideas.

Bellevue’s Best Ideas is not a scientific survey and may have had a larger degree of participation from some groups in the community than others. That said, the city worked to include as diverse participation as possible. The campaign ran from late April to July 4. Multiple press releases and city announcements advertised the campaign over the course of its duration. Bellevue’s Best Ideas was featured on the front page of the Bellevue Reporter, noted in online Web sites, reported in in It’s Your City, appeared in several neighborhood newsletters, and was discussed at several City Council and Planning Commission meetings. City staff actively engaged the public to encourage participation at several events:

- Spring Forward Expo Open House – April 24
- Lake Hill Library – June 5
- Downtown Park at lunch time – June 7
- Downtown Library – June 12
- Pedestrian Corridor at lunch time – June 14
- Crossroad Mall at lunch time – June 21
- Microsoft Store at Bellevue Square – June 21

Each location and event attracted a different audience and resulted in a different form of participation.

THE RESULTS

Bellevue's Best Ideas was a successful pilot of a new outreach technique. As noted above, Bellevue's Best Ideas resulted in 126 ideas, 164 comments on ideas, 1770 votes, from 346 different individuals. The Quality Neighborhoods, Improved Mobility and Economic Development categories received the most activity.

A complete list of the ideas, their comments, and vote totals is attached. Some of the popular ideas submitted and recurring themes include:

Arts and Culture

- **Performing Arts Center** – This idea received 41 positive votes (2 negative), stating, “Downtown Bellevue needs a large-scale performing arts center!” A similar idea received 28 votes. The idea commented that having access to the arts is part of what makes for a healthy community. Comments reiterated the need and suggested that the proposed “Tateuchi Center will make Bellevue complete.” Some noted the challenge of attending performances in Seattle and look forward to having local offerings.
- **Downtown Children’s Museum** – There were 35 votes in favor of this idea for a museum oriented toward families and children (2 opposed). Comments noted the need for a fun, active, learning opportunity.

Community Health

- **Ensure Crucial Early Intervention for Children!** – Twenty-six people supported this (2 opposed) that seeks more support for early intervention and special education of our children with special needs.

Diverse Community

- **Bring SIFF to Bellevue Theaters** – Seattle International Film Festival is a world renowned festival with over 400 movies shown in Seattle, Renton and Kirkland. Twenty-five people supported bringing it to Bellevue. Another idea suggests having outdoor movies in Downtown Park.

Economic Development

- **Fiber-Optic, 1-gigabit per second speeds** – This idea seeks to enhance the Internet infrastructure available in the city noting how it will help existing and attract new businesses. Thirty-six people favored the idea. A similar idea suggests that we should have citywide WiFi and another notes the expense of Comcast internet service. Another idea calls for “ubiquitous connectivity.”

Environmental Stewardship

- **Promote water conservation, rain collection systems** – This idea seeks to work with Cascade Water Alliance to promote rain barrels. It received support from 21 users.

Housing

- Two ideas submitted for housing suggest doing more to support affordable housing, including requiring it in mixed-use projects and letting a broader range of contractors into the market. Interestingly, the ideas received a mix of votes and comments for and opposed to the ideas. An idea to include senior housing at the Newport Hills Shopping Center received three positive votes.

Improved Mobility

- **Alternative Transportation Options** – This idea stated, “As a cyclist/pedestrian/bus-ride, I feel very much like a second-class citizen in Bellevue.” It advocates for changes to street design to encourage more people to walk and bike. Thirty-five voted in support, although 9 were opposed, showing a mix of opinions on the topic. Several similar ideas were also posted and received similar voting that suggest doing more for accommodating bikes, increasing pedestrian access, creating a “Green Line” trail. A counter proposal to “keep the focus on cars” received 9 positive votes, but 34 negative votes.

Parks and Recreation

- **Improve BNSF trail for recreational use** – Creating a world class trail in the old NSF rail road right-of-way was seen in this idea as a way to connect Bellevue to the region as part of a major trail system. It received 21 supportive votes.

Partnerships and Collaboration

- **Gates & fences** – This idea seeks the addition of gates and pathways that would allow people better connections within their neighborhoods, rather than some of the existing pedestrian barriers between developments. They stated that increased pedestrian access would help prevent crime, rather than reduce it. It received 14 votes in favor and 3 opposed.

Quality Neighborhoods

- **Invest in “Third Places”** – One of the ideas that received the most attention, it advocates for creating more places where neighbors can connect, citing Crossroads Mall as an example. Forty people voted in favor, while 8 opposed (one commented that they voted “disagree” by mistake).

Overall, the high quality of ideas and comments submitted was impressive. Ideas both reaffirm some of the comments that the city heard during earlier outreach events and presented new ideas that haven’t been mentioned previously. The campaign ebbed up and down in activity, largely correlating to when the city completed promotional activities. Staff would promote Best Ideas at an event or a news article would come out and the number of new ideas would tick up. Then activity might slow again until the next event or promotion.

To encourage participation, Crossroads Shopping Center and the Microsoft Store donated gift cards to use as promotional features. The gift cards were awarded to randomly selected participants that provided an idea or comment. It is unclear whether the enticement of an award made a significant difference in participation or not.

The site was intentionally designed to require users to register in order to participate. This may have resulted in fewer overall people contributing as the registration process created an extra hurdle to overcome. However, it was seen a key step to avoid the site from becoming a place for spam or abusive commenting.

NEXT STEPS

At the study session staff will provide a presentation of the ideas and the use of the tool, including lessons learned. All of the ideas will be included in the Comprehensive Plan update public comment and will help staff identify topics for further consideration during the plan update process. The city is considering using IdeaScale for future outreach efforts.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Bellevue's Best Ideas table of ideas and comments

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Arts and Culture					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
43	41	2	Performing Arts	Downtown Bellevue needs a large-scale performing arts center! We have the density, population, and most importantly, the need; we also now have a plethora of amenities to attract quality artists and programs to come to our city. Part of being a healthy community is having access to the arts, I hope this is something the City of Bellevue will make a top priority and support as we continue to grow.	Downtown
				Actually the website has changed. http://www.tateuchicenter.org/	
				Permits have already been issued for a world-class performing arts center in downtown Bellevue. 2,000 seat concert hall. Great artists. Broadway. Seattle Symphony & PNB. The best thing for Bellevue quality-of-life since indoor plumbing!!! They need more money. Get on Board, Bellevue!!!	
				We have one in the works. http://www.pac-eastside.org/	
				Definitely a worthwhile, needed institution for Bellevue.	
				Locating a 2000 seat Performing Arts Center in the heart of downtown Bellevue is a fantastic idea! We should wholeheartedly support the building of the Tateuchi Center. It will be a great addition to our growing community.	
				The Tateuchi Center will make Bellevue complete. With a growing population, having the Performing Arts available will enrich our busy, hectic lives. Please, please make this a priority!	
				The greater East side is amazing community but lacks a truly outstanding performance art center. It's time we do not depend on Seattle for this	
				With transportation challenges in Seattle continuing to grow, it would be fantastic to be able to attend symphony, ballet and performing cultural events in our own Eastside backyard. Building the Tateuchi Center is the perfect solution.	
				Tateuchi Center will be a tremendous asset to the city of Bellevue and the entire Eastside. It's completely designed and ready to build but it will need the full support of the city and county to make it a reality. I hope the city makes Tateuchi Center it's highest priority as a civic project.	
				Tateuchi Center is in the works. 2,000 seat concert hall and a Cabaret (jazz club) right next door to the Hyatt. World-class performers and regional treasures right here in Bellevue. It's completely designed and ready to go. Urge the City to get on board and treat it like what it is: a MAJOR community improvement that will serve all of our amazing & diverse neighbors.	
				Bellevue will not be a "real" city without a large performing arts venue. The current venues cannot accommodate Broadway shows, Seattle Opera, PNB, etc. Getting across the Lake to those performances in Seattle is not pleasant due to traffic glut.	
				It would be a fantastic idea to locate a performing arts center in the heart of downtown Bellevue. The community would have access to the finest theatre, ballet, concerts, educational lectures, and other cultural events conveniently located on the Eastside. I imagine a vibrant, growing city like Bellevue will greatly benefit from a performing arts center like the one already planned and named, the Tateuchi Center.	
36	34	2	Downtown Children's Museum	As downtown Bellevue continues to grow, there is a need to focus on expanding offerings for children and families. Educational and cultural centers and museums help turn a standard business-and-retail town into a first rate city. Designing Bellevue to become a world class place to live and visit means we need a wide range of museums, including a children's museum that out of town visitors can walk to, schools can collaborate with, and local young families can visit often.	Bellevue
				Having an amenity in Downtown that is offered specifically to children and families is much needed in Bellevue, and a fun, active, learning opportunity like a children's museum is a wonderful idea!!! I really hope this idea gains community support - it would make for such a nice cultural center when combined with Tateuchi and BAM.	
19	19	0	Tell the Bellevue Story - History Museum / Heritage Center	As the State's 5th largest city and with growing tourism interest, Bellevue needs to plan for a permanent Heritage Center - a place to share the Bellevue and Eastside story. Cultural amenities are strong economic and tourism drivers. By making connections to the past, history museums enhance community identity, providing a sense of place and belonging. In addition to offering public and educational programming, a Heritage Center could serve as a much needed community gathering and meeting space.	Bellevue

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Arts and Culture cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
17	11	6	International festivals	We need more international festivals in the City to showcase our diversity. Redmond has Ananda Mela, the Indian festival which is pretty well known in the area. Bellevue has such large Chinese and Indian populations, I think the City should have festivals to celebrate cultures and diversity.	
				There is already an annual cultural festival at Crossroads but I think it should be better publicized.	
				I think that there should be more festivals that are friendly to everybody, not just "international" folks.	
15	15	0	Create a town hall - speakers' forum space	Other than shopping or going out to eat, there are fewer social options in the community. We should have a not-for-profit town hall forum, similar to Seattle's, where literary and other subjects could be presented and discussed.	Lake Hills
				What about the Bellevue Convention Center? I never go there but could it be used to have community forums?	
				This is in the plans for Tateuchi Center. Great speakers, exchanging ideas, maybe even TedX talks!	
13	12	1	Protect Bel-Red Small Businesses	With a large portion of arts-related businesses that provide incredible dance, music and arts instruction to our children, we can't afford to lose this valuable community asset. Relying on these businesses to purchase their property in order to stay in Bellevue will leave Bellevue devoid of an important layer of culture. Create a path to ownership plan (with incentives and tax forgiveness) that keeps small businesses in Bel-Red.	Newport Hills
				Yes, we don't need to attract more chain stores. Let's have some neighborhood character and make the place fertile ground for small businesses.	
11	11	0	Host Shakespeare in the Park at Downtown Bellevue Park	Downtown Park is woefully underused! We had Shakespeare in the Park for 1 year, and never again. Ask GreenStage or WoodenO Theater to perform their annual Free Shakespeare in the Park there.	Downtown Bellevue
10	3	7	Travel subsidy/validation	Getting into the city from the West Side can be a hassle. It could increase the likelihood that people would want to go into Bellevue if certain institutions offered validation for the 520 - similar concept to going to the movies and having your parking waved. In this case, buy admission to BAM (or similar attractions) and get a portion of your 520 fare reduced.	Downtown
9	5	4	Farmers Market, Move from Church to DT Core	Move the Farmers Market from the Presbyterian Church to Downtown Bellevue's Core. Your Local Market is closed, move it back to that location, or some other lot that is vacati My Choices: <input type="checkbox"/> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your Local Market, parking lot <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Bellevue Square parking structure, next to JCPenny's <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Mars Hill Parking Lot (adjacent to Barnes & Noble) <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Parking Lot on SW corner of NE 8th & 110th Ave NE <input type="checkbox"/> Have no idea, whether any of these lots are available.	Monthaven
				Kemper Freeman is breaking ground on new construction in the parking lot of Your Local Market. I would like to see the farmers market more centrally located, though.	
8	8	0	Outdoor concerts	Outdoor concerts that allow for people to buy cheap tickets to sit on the lawn and more expensive tickets to sit in an amphitheater.	Eastgate
7	6	1	Artistic center for graphic designers and artists	I think that's it would be great way for people to explore there artistic sides and share them with the rest of the community also allowing the community to share there own views on life in an unpressured environment.. this would yield a more cultured lifestyle as opposed to just a business vibe.	Downtown
				Check out my "university neighborhood" in downtown idea.	
2	2	0	Performing Art Center/Bookstore	It would be nice to have a community in/outdoor theatre including a bookstore with many conference rooms, coffee/café that caters to everyone. We use to have one in California, I love the story telling, many exhibitions, like "Star Trek", Yo-Yo, magic, dance hall. A lot of many great things happening at oncé love that area near 7-11, jack in the box, radio shack, you have not seen an outdoor movie, sketch, play, you haven't seen anything, this would be a plus for everyone!	Main & NE 8th St.

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Community Health	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
26	25	1	Ensure Crucial Early Intervention for Children!	80% of a child's brain development occurs by age three. With the rising demand for special education services, the Bellevue community needs to devote more support for early intervention and special education of our ever-diverse and growing community of children with special needs. Bellevue should be committed to the mission that children should receive the early help they need to grow and thrive!	Crossroads
16	13	3	Project to increase gratitude & happiness	The new field of positive psychology has proven that increased gratitude leads to more happiness, compassion and empathy. Children with more compassion and empathy lead to are much less likely to bully or be bullied. Everybody wants to be happier.	Wilburton
				Teach positive psychology and compassion in our schools. There is tension between compassion and our hyper-competitive values. I don't know how we fix that but we can at least start talking about it.	
				The easiest way would be to declare, say, May 1st Happy/Gratitude Day in Bellevue. However, showing gratitude works best when to take active actions to show our gratitude. There are limitless possibilities for showing gratitude in action that don't cost	
				Sounds great, how should the City of Bellevue officials accomplish this?	
				Gratitude is a keystone to all the good things in life. Let's incorporate ways to feel and show our gratitude for our community!	
12	12	0	Downtown farmers market	With more and more people moving in to the downtown core of Bellevue, it would be wonderful to have more community events, such as a farmers market, that residents could walk to.	Clyde Hill
				The Saturday farmer's market in Bellevue is located right downtown in front of Bellevue Galleria. Not sure how more in the "core" than that. Bellevue hosts many events...Art Fair in July, 4th of July event, Making Strides 5k starts/finishes at the park in October, Bellevue Mingle at the BAM, Live at lunch music during summer, etc...	
				Bellevue does have a downtown farmers market on Saturdays: http://www.bellevuefarmersmarket.org/ It begins this year on June 8, and was previously held at the Bellevue First Congregational Church parking lot. (Due to proposed construction in the adjacent lot, I believe they are looking for a new site.)	
8	8	0	No Smoking	No public smoking in Bellevue! The 25 foot away from the door rule is not enough. My children and I still have to walk through clouds of smoke. It's not right that people can blow second hand smoke in the faces of others (including children) who want to live healthy lives.	Phantom Lake
				The Bellevue Aquatic Center on 143rd Ave and NE 8th is indispensable for seniors and the handicapped. This is the only facility in this area that has a nice sloping ramp for wheelchair users and those who have trouble walking to get into the pool, and the warmer water is better for those in frail health also. People come from Kirkland, Duval, and all over to use the Aquatic Center to keep up their strength and health. I need it myself. Please regard this as an essential city service!	Spirit Ridge
				It is also where Bellevue & Sammamish high school swim teams practice, and the divers from Bellevue, Newport, Sammamish, Mercer Island and Interlake all practice there. Support the pool and interscholastic sports.	
3	3	0	ADA & Mental Health	Celebrate Mental Health and ADA in Bellevue with a bike and run in the city. Help raise awareness with police, fire and the community. We need speakers and a demonstration to work a wheelchair. Bring in the Military, veterans to help raise the awareness, share their stories. Improve area's with more "Disability" signs in area's that need them.	Downtown City Hall
			Remove Fluoride toxins from our drinking water	The city of Bellevue receives their water from the Seattle City Water system. Something our annual water quality report does state. Taking on the topic of Fluoride toxin in our water system would require the city of Seattle to cease the use of Fluoride toxins. We deserve the right to choose what is in our water. We deserve the right to choose how we care for our dental health. Why does the government need to spend the money on preventing cavities? People deserve a vote.	Clyde Hill

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Diverse Community						
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood	
25	25	0	Bring SIFF to Bellevue Theatres	Seattle International Film Festival is THE World renowned film festival, with over 400 movies shown from May to end of June. Currently, movies are shown in Seattle, Kirkland and Renton. It would be great if the City works with SIFF and show movies in Bellevue. Another idea, post the Festival, re-show top 5 to 10 movies that people rated, and show them in a Bellevue Theatre. http://www.siff.net/ Ideal for the off-season at the Theatre at Meydenbauer Center.	Monthaven	
16	1	15	More indoor shopping centers	I wish the City has more indoor shopping centers for kids and families. It's hard to find a place to hang out during the long rainy season. That's one of the reasons why the Crossroads Shopping Center is so successful and the Bravern is not. I think more neighborhoods can benefit from the Crossroads' model.		
13	3	10	Add themes to your Pocket Parks	Base your park theme on the local demographic majority, themes engage the public and encourage use by sectors that may not be fully using the current park. Carefully selecting the theme can insure that the majority of community members can relate to it and thereby derive greater sense of community.	Microsoft	
				Some of the older parks are just magical, each one so very different, with unusual play equipment and creative designs. For instance, the Spirit Ridge park is tiny, and yet when you walk the paths, it feels like you are in the middle of a big forest. Each curve gives you a new and interesting view. The newest parks, in general, are more generic. For instance, the Enatai Beach Park had to be redone, so that there would be more parking and not interfere with the local neighbors, but it went from enchanting to boring and ugly. Hire another park designer of the type you used to have! I like idea of themes (kids, sports, tech, arts) but not based on demographics or ethnicity !		
				I don't want a sense of community. I want people to leave me alone.		
9	8	1	Tech for people	Redmond & Bellevue attract so many high tech workers and there are so many people that are not tech savvy; I would like to see a user fair, where new or odd uses of devices are shared, people's problems are addressed, sources of training are aired. I'm thinking of apps for handicapped, software for artists, robots for health, & games for education.	Overlake	
				Community center computer labs?		
3	1	2	5 \$ 10K Race	Have a annual city hall race, walk to raise money to help pay for things like new bicycle lanes, bring indie music and film to the Eastside .Bring awareness to health and fitness for all. Try to raise money for a new dog park near Meydenbauer area.	All	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Economic Development		
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood	
36	36	0	Fiber-Optic, 1 Gigabit per second speeds	Google Fiber is now launched in Kansas, why not Bellevue. Work with Frontier or Google Fiber, and make 1 Gbit/s speeds a reality in Bellevue. City of Bellevue will commit high tech firms to stay in Bellevue forever!	Monthaven	
				Condo-internet provides 1Gb Internet to larger communities.		
28	28	0	Arts make good business	The performing arts center in the works for downtown has been independently rated to have a 10-year \$470 million economic impact on the region. Combined with BAM and the Children's Museum (coming soon) Bellevue will have an arts triangle contributing not only to quality-of-life, but also to the local economy. Support all three & support the economy!!	Downtown	
				Building a performing arts center in the heart of downtown Bellevue is a fantastic idea! There is no doubt that everyone would benefit by its presence in our great city of Bellevue. The Tateuchi Center is going to be a great addition to our community.		
				Having working within performing arts organizations, I have seen the impact that they have not only on economic growth but also the positive impact on a community through education outreach. Being able to put children in the same room with performing artists to exchange ideas about creativity can inspire students and help shape their future. And having another venue capable of housing performances of Seattle Arts Organizations will help them serve and grow their audiences. Lastly, with the number of local companies who require a large, technically advanced venue for conferences and presentations, this center would offer an option to be able to keep those conferences right in Bellevue to the benefit of local businesses.		
				A performing arts center is long overdue in Bellevue.		
				Creating another point of brilliance with this performing arts center will be uplifting for our community and economic development.		
				The City of Bellevue has grown into a wonderful city and most importantly a community that offers something for everyone. The icing on the cake would be to build the Tateuchi Center. A performing arts center of this magnitude would allow so many types of events to be performed in our own backyard. It would also support the Seattle based arts organizations that are losing their patrons that live on the East side due to traffic issues.		
25	22	3	Food truck stands	Designate pockets between roads and sidewalks where food trucks can park. Maybe provide some metered services such as electricity and wifi. Let merchants book in advance so they can tweet, "#BestFood at #BellevueWayNE6th on June 7!"	Lake Hills	
23	22	1	Focus on small business for the City's Comprehensive Plan	We need to encourage small business. There is a distinct lack of small-scale, dense retail in Bellevue. Malls are great and probably lucrative for the city, but they discourage a sense of community that flows through walkable shops and casual street conversation. More on-street parking, actual mass transit, and zoning that encourages mixed-use retail in greater density than currently exists could minimize downtown Bellevue's "IT Wall Street" feel for a bustling, local experience.	Seattle	
21	19	2	Encourage small, locally-owned food businesses in downtown	The locally-owned, small businesses in downtown Bellevue have a loyal following: Black Bottle, Ooba Tooba, Monsoon East, Cupcake Royale, etc. But the rents in Bellevue encourage only bland corporate chains, which discourages foodies. If Bellevue wants to get its own local flavor, we need to subsidize more locally-owned restaurants/cafes/coffee houses	Downtown Bellevue	
				Please vote for pedestrian street idea that will enable your idea as well: https://bellevuebestideas.ideascale.com/a/dtd/Make-one-of-the-streets-Pedestrian-only/494275-22901		
19	2	17	Sports + Entertainment	Situate entertainment at either ends of the WALKABLE Spring District, served by Light Rail (to minimize traffic impacts). Offset planned Local Improvement District with revenues.	Eastgate	
				Sports arwna...no thanks!!		
15	14	1	Wifi in the city	Provide free public wi-fi through out Bellevue	Community	
				It is amazing that in 2013 the City of Bellevue does not have city wide free WiFi. This is key to this tech city. People visiting from other countries for work often ask me why this is not available here.		
				especially in and around parks, public buildings like schools and Bellevue College, on buses and bus stations, etc		

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Economic Development, cont.	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
13	4	9	A visitor center is needed for the City!	Many people who visit Bellevue have nowhere to get information about the City. If we want to grow tourism and encourage more international investments, we should at least have a visitor center where visitors can gather information about Bellevue and what opportunities the City offers.	
				I would suggest visitor center idea be scaled or piggybacked onto something like the like mini city hall at xroads.	
12	10	2	Bellevue needs ubiquitous connectivity	Comcast is expensive. Free high speed wifi is limited. Schools need to transition to cloud-based curriculum (for relevancy as well as cost). Health care needs to connect patients in their homes with doctors and clinics and hospitals and records. Lower economic households are in danger of being left behind and becoming further isolated from the tools and information that support informed and productive citizens. Bellevue's infrastructure could be much better!	Bridle Trails
				This is all well and good but I wouldn't want to be the one who ends up with a cell tower in my backyard. Is there a solution that you had in mind to this issue of lack of wifi?	
				Faster, cheaper Internet will help people at all parts of the economic spectrum.	
				+1 for anything that will diversify infrastructure choice!	
10	9	1	Bellevue Technology Centers	This is an opportunity to focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in the Bellevue Communities. Just like we have recreation for outdoors we need to invest in our kids future.	Community
7	5	2	Newport Hills Shopping Center	Revitalize the NH shopping center by encouraging a Grocery Outlet Bargain Market to replace the old Red Apple (all the senior citizens would benefit). Tear down Herfy's and add a Jack-in-the-Box Restaurant. Use the old Bank of America branch as a Jewelry Store and replace the Batting cage/failed pizza place with a bike/skateboard shop complete with skateboard park.	Newport Hills
7	6	1	Small business incubator	Look into using any City owned facilities that are underused as a business hub - and encourage small business incubation. Allow multiple start ups to learn from each other and generate synergy to bring new businesses to Bellevue.	Bellevue
				Underused City facilities should be sold.	
7	7	0	After School programming classes for Teens	We need to start exposing kids to Technology at a young age so we can increase registration of STEM degrees	Community
				There's more to STEM than programming...	
6	1	5	Develop a permanent Coffee museum in Bellevue	Seattle is famous for coffee. The museum will provide history, exhibit, tasting, gathering place. Tourist attraction.	Downtown
6	1	5	Attract cheaper hotels outside of downtown Bellevue	A lot of Americans visit Seattle without experiencing Bellevue (to their detriment). Many foreigners such as myself also have guests from outside the country visiting once in a while. Would be great if the city found a way to encourage hotel owners to open new locations in the cheaper parts of Bellevue (Crossroads, Factoria) in order to reduce the currently exorbitant average nightly rates that the existing hotel oligopoly in Bellevue is allowed to get away with. This will increase tourism too.	Bellevue
				I agree there are no cheap hotels in the whole area at all! Even 2* motel costs ~\$100/day. There is no affordable place to put guests for a while.	
				I guess we live in the "cheap" side of town -- near Crossroads. Personally, I prefer the quiet small town feel in the "cheaper" side of town and would not prefer big hotels over here.	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS
May - July 2013

Campaign - Economic Development, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
4	3	1	Sustainable Products Portal	Internationally there are thousands of sustainable product manufacturers that are interested in both selling and buying sustainable products from the U.S. Just a simple review of the benefits of two sustainable businesses conducting international trade makes this the most beneficial business partnership for each business. By creating sustainable product legislation here in Washington we could become the West coast portal for all sustainable products via international trade.	Pro Club
				What is a sustainable product?	
2	1	1	Main Street, Downtown area	I was hoping for Main street/old Bellevue will develop into several small restaurants, shops, galleries. From there, you can hop on a shuttle bus that can take you to your car parked near QFC, or the horse carriage, just for summer time, close some of the streets so people can use this source of transportation. I like to see more outdoor and indoor restaurants in old Bellevue and by Wendy's, etc. If there are more things to do and eat, more people will come to move in the downtown area.	Old Bellevue
2	2	0	Viewing Platform to take in Bellevue's Beautiful Views	Create someplace in Bellevue where visitors, residents and workers can go to take in the views- the top of a high rise apartment, hotel or commercial building (ala the Empire State Building). It could be free or a small fee, maybe a restaurant or lounge.	Northtowne

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Environmental Stewardship	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
21	21	0	Promote water conservation, rain collection systems	<p>Work with Cascade Water Alliance, in conjunction with Industrial Companies (food services, beverage companies, etc...) that uses 55 Gallon Barrels or 275 Gallon "Intermediate Bulk Containers" to residences to provide these items at a reduced rate. Residences use these containers to harvest rain water and use less City water. This will reduce the flow of water into Lakes / streams. Will benefit gardens / landscapes. Will prevent water rations in the summer</p>	Monthaven
				where will the rain collecting barrels go?	
				I agree. I bought a 160 gallon tank for my rainwater	
18	8	10	Environmental classes	I wish the City will provide more educational classes regarding environmental issues like global warming, and green building.	
18	16	2	Plastic Bag Ban	<p>Bellevue must take part in the effort to end the distribution of plastic carry-out bags from all retail stores. Although Bellevue has a strong recycling program, it's not effective enough to keep many plastic bags from entering landfills or oceans. This is an obvious step in the right direction as four cities in WA have already, successfully, implemented this policy including Seattle, Bellingham, Edmonds, and Mukilteo.</p>	Cherrywood - Crossroads
				I would suggest taking a look at the plastic bags you're using. The ones I've been getting are recyclable. Left alone they degrade.	
				<p>I think that Carolyn Bowie's answer to my question of why it's important to ban plastic bags even if it means we would use more paper bags is really relevant so I'm going to copy it here so other voters can read it! The largest issue with plastic bags is their detriment to the environment in our waste stream. Plastics do not biodegrade. You can recycle plastic bags but it costs a lot more energy to produce plastics from recycled bags than using raw resources. On the production end, plastic bags are of course made from oil, a non-renewable, resource and the industry helping lead our planet in climate change. Paper bags are pretty intensive in production, coming from tons of trees, and although they're recycled more than plastic, the recycling process is also energy/chemical intensive. (This is a good article on the debate http://www.treehugger.com/culture/paper-bags-or-plastic-bags-everything-you-need-to-know.html)</p> <p>Really, the best answer to this question is to redirect it to the benefit of using reusable bags. Banning plastic bags is an issue based in shifting our habits and culture. Places that already ban plastic bags (and put a tax on paper bags) have caused people to be</p>	
14	14	0	End Government Spending on Bottled Water	<p>We all know that our municipal, local tap water is some of the best quality in the nation. Large scale privatization of water for bottling is detrimental to the environment (in both production and waste) and it's an offense to the human right to water (recognized by the UN). The City of Bellevue must take a stance by ending all government spending on bottled water. We're already spending taxpayer money on our shared resource of tap water, we don't need to waste it on bottled water.</p>	Crossroads
				<p>Another informative and relevant quote from Carolyn Bowie: "The Government doesn't sell bottled water but instead, typically, hires vendors/vending machines to sell it on small scales like at City Hall. The city also purchases bottled water for a lot of events (volunteer events, employee picnics, etc.). It's definitely a smaller consumer than the general public, but when a city takes a stance on this issue it speaks huge volumes to consumers and corporations!"</p>	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Environmental Stewardship, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
11	8	3	Reduce Garbage Waste, Recycle MORE	<p>Republic services provide smaller garbage cans (<12 gallons), & give incentives to residences for using a reduced garbage can, by giving reduced rates. <input type="checkbox"/> Thinking outside the box, what about residences receives a 5 gallon garbage bucket, receive a CREDIT to their Garbage Bill. <input type="checkbox"/> City of Bellevue, give CREDITS for residences that put their garbage cans out every other week. <input type="checkbox"/> Seattle provides 12 gallon mini-cans, Bellevue smallest is 20 gallons. Seniors living alone can use a 12 gallon</p>	Monthaven
				We have property in Astoria, OR, and they only pick up trash and recycling every other week (alternating.) They also discourage buildup of clutter by providing all subscribers with two free dump tickets a year. I love Western OR Waste! Costs are lower and I'm sure it's better for the environment to cut down on truck trips. I couldn't get by with a smaller can, but would be great to see the option for people with smaller households.	
				I agree as long as the 20 gallon can is still an option. We have a family of 4 and could not make due with a smaller can.	
				If you prepare your garbage, you should be able to close your lid. Try moving stuff from the garbage bin, to the blue or green bin, try pushing the garbage down. Mayor Conrad Lee recently quoted, "In Bellevue, residents are recycling almost 70%...That is double the national average! While most residents don't take the time to sort their garbage, those who do and recycle, should be able to get a credit for their efforts. Incentives usually drive people's ability to adopt. FYI- my green bins are usually so high, the lids are not closed ever, never had a charge on my account.	
				I totally agree with you, however, the garbage company is in it for the \$\$\$\$. I just found out that if your container (trash, yard waste or recycle) is full enough that the lid is up 4" or more, the garbage company charges you for an entire extra container.	
7	3	4	Transportation for families, and for the future.	<p>Because of the growth that has occurred within Bellevue and neighboring residential areas, cutting down on vehicle congestion yet providing fun transport for everyone needs to be an option. <input type="checkbox"/> One such option could be the installation of trolleys within Bellevue and adjoining areas. These trolleys can run on biodiesel, which is a clean burning alternative fuel source. The trolleys would run throughout Bellevue and offer a clean option to transportation, and reduce vehicle congestion.</p>	Covington, WA
				Trolleys are a huge waste of money.	
				Identifying the need here is important - allow people to get around easily without a car that usually spews exhaust, has to wait a long time at downtown traffic lights, requires parking, and requires those huge 5-lane roads in downtown. Creative solutions could make the city awesome. Trolleys are good. In some cases gondolas or moving walkways or dirigibles too. think outside the box ;).	
6	3	3	Seed Library Bank - Harvest & Disperse	<p>City of Bellevue, in conjunction with the Master Gardeners Foundation or Bellevue Parks or Botanical Garden, collect quality seeds in the fall from neighborhoods/residences, and disperse them free-of-charge or small donation, to residences in the Spring. This program will help the environment, and make planting more readily available to those who couldn't afford to buy seeds.</p>	Monthaven
				This sounds like something for a non-profit to do. Bellevue's government should do things that governments are uniquely good at.	
				I like this idea. I always have seeds left after planting my vegetable garden and would love for them to be used. I can't imagine that this would be a very costly program and it could benefit so many.	
			Tree Habitat	Provide tree habitat and safety on greenbelt in northeast Bellevue	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Housing	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
29	12	17	EOH - equal opportunity housing	Require that any new mixed-use development include housing options for the same demographic percentages in the local district. High rises in downtown should be attainable to minimum wage earners in percentages equal to the demographic.	Microsoft
				there is plenty of low income housing (crossroads/lake hills/factoria/eastgate) that is just a hop skip or 5 minute bus ride away. I don't think it is a necessity to live in a downtown high rise. Furthermore, the reason these are expensive if they're new and they have amenities. The HOA dues and taxes on these places are sky-high-- are you suggesting that other owners in these high rises pay the share of the low-income residents? How about taxes--should Bellevue eliminate taxes for these people as well? Rich people have more opportunities and fancier homes. Such is life.	
				Wow, Marcus B., Snob much?! Isn't that what Mercer Island is for? Move there. If people could live near where they work they could save enough \$ to get off subsidized housing. Not sure what you call a "real Career" but not all careers pay the big bucks.	
				No. If you want subsidized housing go to Seattle! We should avoid mixed use development like the plague that it is. That is why I left Seattle! Isn't that what Federal Way is for? Minimum wage earners should get roommates and live where they can afford until they get a real career. Until then, they should not be able to live in high rises downtown! All housing should be market rate and distributed accordingly! If you can't afford it then live where you can.	
19	9	10	Balance	I would like to see Bellevue have a wide range of people of different incomes, and not just cater towards the wealthy. Have a balance of housing for high income, moderate and low income families. Let the contractors who want to build moderate and low income housing into the market. It is completely out of balance right now. Provide affordable housing for everyone.	Crossroads
				More affordable housing is definitely needed in Bellevue. Low-income families are living here for the great schools, but that doesn't mean they can find housing they can afford. 15% of Bellevue residents are currently paying more than half their income for housing, placing them at great risk for homelessness. Let's create housing options for all of our community's workforce, not just the high-income earners.	
				Affordable housing options have never been found to bring down property values, but they can be built in various ways to fit match community character. Let's have a conversation about what affordable housing for our teachers, baristas, and young people starting their careers should look like instead of just disparaging the housing needed by our community's workers.	
				No. There are plenty of places in the greater Seattle area with affordable housing for low-income. I like not having to lock my front door.	
				There's quite a bit of low-income housing in Bellevue. I don't see a lack of balance in my neighborhood (Lake Hills.) I would support SOME additional density as these older homes are torn down, perhaps adding a few duplexes or triplexes, but I don't want to see an emphasis on revising codes or placing limits on builders. My corner of Bellevue is doing its part already--take a look at the population stats in our schools if you have any doubt (particularly free/reduced lunch stats, which top 50% in some schools.)	
				I prefer not to have low income housing bringing down my property values.	
				What is affordable? The home you can afford may be out of reach for the someone else. Zoning and land use codes actually make housing more expensive.	
2	2	0	Newport Hills Senior Housing and Center	Put mixed-used retail and senior housing in the old Red Apple shopping center currently for sale. Add a central plaza with lots of benches and a senior center. The only senior center in Bellevue is way up at the north end. We've got elderly people who can't drive down here, too!	Newport Hills

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Improved Mobility	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
44	35	9	Alternative Transportation Options	As a cyclist/pedestrian/bus-rider, I feel very much like a second-class citizen in Bellevue. Reducing the size of the roads and speed limits downtown, implementing one-ways and adding some bike lanes would move the many pedestrians along more quickly and would encourage more people to bicycle.	Newport Hills
				Last week I commuted to work by bike in Bellevue- I'm usually a Seattle bike commuter and I must say I was shocked at the lack of bike lanes, bike parking-- Bellevue feels like a carcentric city. I didn't feel scared to take a lane and ride in the streets but I was somewhat shocked that I couldn't find a single bike lane.	
				I agree. Bellevue is incredibly lacking in viable bike routes. A couple bike routes into downtown and running north south throughout town would go a long way to promoting cycling and getting more cars off the road.	
				I live on 148th and the only safe way to bike there is on the sidewalk, which contends with pedestrians and dogs. I would love to have better bike paths on major roads and more sharrows downtown where widening may not be feasible. Even one really safe path through downtown would help a lot.	
43	9	34	Preserve AutoMobility	Keep the focus on the transportation method most people use. Cars. To focus on moving people instead of cars is a huge mistake and a complete waste of resources. The last thing we need is to try and change peoples mobility behavior.	Factoria
				I would love to take the bus to work, but driving takes me 13-16 minutes from downtown Bellevue to my office on south MLK. Taking a bus requires two transfers and takes an hour. I already wake up at 5:30 which is brutal. Waking up at 4:45am, taking two transfers and walking .2 miles in between transfers is a huge hassle. Just keep in mind that it isn't always a matter of a "few minutes early." Although for the most part, I do agree or would like to agree with your post.	
				Spending on car transportation never seems to be able to keep up with demand. Giving commuters effective options that don't involve cars not only helps with congestion but helps to reduce CO2 emissions and improves options for residents who can't afford cars. <u>Look at cities with effect metro systems as examples.</u>	
				There are always those who just can't seem to give up their fancy impressive cars and take the bus. They figure they are too good for the bus or they might have to leave or go a few minutes earlier or later than they think is convenient. Odds are that they probably have never ridden the bus and don't realize how nice it is to not have to fight with traffic and to sit and relax or read or sleep. during the ride.	
				Or maybe just pave the entire US and have done with it...	
				To get a handle on the issue, one needs to look at the big picture, and the long range.	
				As the area grows, demand for transport will grow apace. That's the essential problem. QED: the solution is not more and more roads.	
				Because of pent up demand. There is more expansion and improvement to be done. When the HOV lane was added to I-405 it was a huge improvement. Adding 2 more General Occupancy lanes would do even moreThe new light signals through factory have made a huge positive difference in the time it takes to get through that corridor. The Bellevue braids project is a huge success in alleviating backups through Bellevue. (they should have moved it further east however to allow more lanes through Bellevue)	
				Funny how there have been so many expensive road widenings, extensions, changes to intersections and so on - and there is still a congestion problem...	
				The paradox is wrong! only seems true when there is previously existing demand that is unmet. If demand is met then congestion disappears.	
				Look up 'Braess's Paradox' - it will tell you that widening roads does not help with congestion in the long term.	
				Cars place a heavy burden on our environment. Most people are forced to use them when other choices are lacking or transportation system horribly designed.	
				Yes. Transit isn't a solution for very many people. there is no reason I-405 can't be expanded to 5 lanes. There is plenty of room along the entire corridot-5 can be reworked through downtown.	
				Do you really want to sit in traffic as the population in the area grows. If nothing you should support the development of mass transit to preserve more space on the roads for your car.	
9	7	2	"All walk"and no EB or WB left turn at Bel Way and NE 8th		

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Improved Mobility, cont.	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
40	32	8	Bellevue needs to accommodate different types of bike riders	Bellevue needs different types of roads, not just motor-vehicle only. To allow bike commuters 'compete' on roads that were designed for cars AND ALSO to allow for families and kids safe passage to parks and schools. Bellevue needs to stop putting motor-vehicle only roadways every block. Consider alternating with bike & pedestrian routes.	North
				Having safe pedestrian / bicycle facilities should not be viewed as competing with having adequate vehicle facilities. I have posted a suggestion about an idea that I call the "Green Line," that would provide a significant grade-separated bike / ped' facility that passes through a large swath of our community. I welcome your comments.	
				It's great to see so many ideas being posted that are about improving biking access. Bellevue may have been car centric in the past, but the demographics have since changed and it is time to built a network rivaling that in some of our neighboring cities.	
				Posting that someone should move to another city instead shows unwarranted hostility & admins should remove them from this site -- they contribute nothing to a healthy discussion. Hopefully you will no longer see that post & maybe not even the user.	
				Yes! To be clear a "bike & pedestrian route" is not a road only for bikes and peds (i.e. no cars). It is just a road that is designed and engineered so that it is safe for people to walk and bike along while still allowing cars to use it. This can be done in many ways: engineering the street to be a slow speed street. Not just with speed limit signs, but using other treatments to slow and reduce traffic so that drivers who are not going to a destination on that street would prefer to use the next street over if the speed is higher (e.g. 30mph) then provide physical separation between cyclists and cars and provide safe ways for cyclists and pedestrians to get through intersections. None of this is significantly more expensive than what Bellevue is already doing. And it would reduce traffic (making the people who do drive cars happier because they could get where they are going faster) and improve safety for all road users including drivers.	
32	24	8	Pedestrian access	Downtown is a thriving area with lots of people moving about. To reduce car usage, re-parking, pedestrian-car accidents, & to increase business access, user experience, & community life; I suggest sky bridges be encouraged by code, insurance, & tax changes. Ped. bridges between tall buildings would make Bellevue a 3D model city & reduce exposure to harsh weather conditions for shoppers & workers.	Downtown
				I think that walkable downtown streets is a better idea and will achieve the same goal: https://bellevuesbestideas.ideascale.com/a/dtd/Make-one-of-the-streets-Pedestrian-only/494275-22901	
				Skybridges are an eyesore. They block skylines. Build underground walkways instead.	
				Kemper Freeman fought for a long time with a LOT of data to get just his two skybridges ok-ed by the city. Good luck getting properties not owned by the same person to sign up for that fight again.	
				Many tall bldgs have several layers of shops inside, so biz will not suffer. The skyBridge would just provide an alternative to crossing traffic & getting wet or wind blown; best 4 those with specific destination (like attending a meeting.)	
				Le Corbusier thought this was a good idea, but separation of pedestrians from storefronts and other street life has not been found to create a positive urban environment. The idea of proper awnings/verandahs which give shelter to those outdoors is excellent - specially if they have proper drainage (ie don't just pour water onto the sidewalk)	
				Keeping people inside reduces livability. Perhaps zoning to allow half of the sidewalk to be covered by awnings/canopies from buildings downtown would encourage more people to walk around downtown in inclement weather rather than getting in their car to drive 1 or 2 blocks	
22	15	7	Safe to bicycle!	Make it safer to bicycle in Bellevue. I don't want to get in my car at 4:30 to get from my neighborhood to businesses, because traffic is a nightmare at that time. However, it's NOT safe to get on my bike and be on the roads with those cars! Separate bike trails (just like safe walking trails) are necessary to get the broader populace to use bicycles instead of cars.	Woodridge
				More bike lanes to keep children active, improving their health; homes to schools and workplaces; to the theatre, library and other public places. More bike lanes would also help improve the environment, making less pollution and traffic.	Enatai
				Yes! I felt safe riding my bike on any of the streets in Santa Monica, CA. I would love to hop on my bike to go places downtown Bellevue as well, but downtown traffic is intimidating and the roads are not biker friendly.	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Improved Mobility, cont.		
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood	
20	18	2	Bellevue Green Line Bike / Pedestrian Trail	The construction of the East Link light rail project presents a unique opportunity to provide a multi-modal pedestrian / bicycle connection, linking the I-90 trail, the regional trail along I-405, parks and open spaces, and the Burke Gilman trail in Redmond. It would also provide safe, grade-separated pedestrian and bicycle access to all stations. The path should be tree-lined and constructed of pervious asphalt to minimize runoff. I would call it the "Green Line."	Enatai	
				Thanks for the feedback. I agree that the bike / ped' paths should be separated, just as we need to separate bikes and automobiles. The design standard I propose would have sufficient width for both as well as a continuous landscape strip, which could serve as a bioswale. Sound Transit will be removing miles of sidewalks and thousands of trees during construction. The opportunity is there to replace them with something permeable, more functional and green.		
				I agree, except I prefer not to mix walking trails with bikes. The two are not compatible and likely annoy each other. Maybe a special bike lane on the trail?		
				Check out Kirklandgreenways dot org or kirklandgreenways or facebook. Not going as far as the greenline, but is a lot cheaper (and there more likely to get implemented sooner) and can create a network of comfortable walking and cycling routes for people of all ages and abilities Anyone want to start up the Bellevue chapter?		
18	4	14	Delete Unneeded Light Rail Station	Delete the light rail station planned for the Bel-Red Corridor at about 130th Ave. NE and NE 15/16th. This station is too close to the station planned for 124th Ave NE (Spring District) and will slow travel times between Overlake and Downtown Bellevue. Deletion would save millions of \$s and improve light rail service.	Rock Creek	
				I think the skeleton of both stations should be built now, but 1 be finished & 1 completed later when needed.		
14	14	0	Benches and Places to sit in a "City in the Park"	Benches, benches, benches and lots of comfortable places to sit all over the city enabling residents, such as the elderly or parents with children, to walk longer distances from point to point. Wide sidewalks and fun statues along the way will make connecting pathways more appealing.	Bridle Trails	
				Please vote for pedestrian street idea that will enable your idea as well: https://bellevuesbestideas.ideascale.com/a/dtd/Make-one-of-the-streets-Pedestrian-only/494275-22901		
13	4	9	Remove Free Rights on Reds at downtown Bellevue intersections	Many intersections on Bellevue Way (specifically 2nd & Bellevue Way, Main St & Bellevue Way, 4th & BW, and 8th & BW) are extremely dangerous for pedestrians because of cars making "free rights on reds" WITHOUT LOOKING to the right to see pedestrians crossing on their green light. I have been almost killed several times. Cars do not understand that PEDS have priority in this situation.	Downtown Bellevue	
				I agree, but let's take it one step further and make those intersections "All Walks" where all pedestrians can cross in all directions at the same time while traffic is stopped in all directions without being able to turn on red as well. Due to so much pedestrian traffic at these intersections frequently cars turning right never get the opportunity to do so during their green light and end up holding up lots of traffic behind them as well.		
				YES! So dangerous and unbelievable rude.		
12	4	8	Traffic flow	While there are areas with safety and flow issues, need to get rid of so many divided roads that restrict turning directions or add more left turn or multidirectional turn lanes. Not green making people go around huge blocks, wastes time and gas. Also better for business...i alter my shopping habits over this and suspect others may as well	Crossroads/Tam O'Shanter vicinity	
12	10	2	Build a lid over I-405	Let's admit it. Our city sucks when it comes to negotiating with regional agencies like Sound Transit (aligning an elevated rail line behind fences of SF homes, to save 0.3% of the project cost) or WSDOT (the hideous 405N to 520E interchange with a blind merge from the 10th St on-ramp into traffic flowing at highway speeds) or getting a plain old bridge on Bellevue Way while Media got beautiful parks on lids. So I can only dream of a lid over 405 in downtown, but please up-vote if you agree.	Enatai	
				I've been dreaming of this for years, and even talked to the city about it. It will happen...just not in my lifetime!		
				Sounds expensive, and like it would make future freeway maintenance or expansion very difficult.		
				Sounds expensive.		
				It would be nice to get Parks on lids like Mercer Island has.		

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Improved Mobility, cont.	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
10	7	3	Pedestrians vs auto	At busiest intersections we should consider installing walk signals that allow all pedestrians to cross at one time including diagonally across the intersection. This will avoid the right turning vehicle with a green light having to wait for pedestrians (in some cases ignoring the pedestrians and slipping by) while allowing pedestrians easier access to cross two streets on one light. This should improve access for both pedestrians and motor vehicles.	Bellevue Towers
				I just walked home, having almost been run over at two consecutive intersections by people doing right turns on red lights. This road rule should be suspended at busy intersections. Do we really think car drivers could restrain themselves at an all-way pedestrian crossing intersection when they can't even handle the current rules?	
9	7	2	"ALL WALK" at Bellevue Way and 8th	"All Walk" where all pedestrians can cross in all directions at the same time while traffic is stopped in all directions without being able to turn on red as well. Due to so much pedestrian traffic at this intersection frequently cars turning right never get the opportunity to do so during their green light and end up holding up lots of traffic behind them as well.	Enatai
				Yes, similar idea. But need to take away the left turns in order to make the signal timing works. Otherwise the signal cycle would be too long for veh and pedestrian. Allow allow three lanes EB and WB thru.	
9	4	5	Improve Bus Service to/from Seatac Airport	Few people use ST 560 bus to/from downtown Bellevue to Seatac Airport because its local routing takes too long and times are inconvenient and unavailable for early morning flightsTo support conventions, tourists, and downtown residentsMake 1/2 of ST 560 buses truly Express between Seatac airport and Bellevue Transit CenterMatch bus times better to arrivals/departures at Seatac, providing more frequent service at peak hoursPublicize changes	Northwest Bellevue
9	2	7	One-ways, street parking and pedestrian safety	We see cars on some of the major downtown streets speeding on the outer lanes right next to pedestrians on sidewalks. This results in discouraging pedestrians as they feel unsafe. I would love to see some streets which have 6-7 lanes (combined) be converted to one way streets with the outer lanes reserved for street parking. This also speeds traffic movement as it eliminates turn signals.	Enatai
				I agree with the comment above. Street parking=yes. One way streets=no.	
				1. More covered walkways downtown 2. Moving sidewalks 3. shuttle busses to/from Bellevue Square/Transit Center 4. "handicapped" insignia and button at Bellevue Square "Lodge"	
				Street parking is great - separates pedestrians from fast-moving vehicles and increases safety. One way streets are disastrous though, causing frustration and confusion.	
9	7	2	Add Bike Parking at Elements buildings on 112th	The Elements Buildings house many services (bakeries, restaurants, fitness centers) but there is NO public bike parking. I have to chain my bike to a handrail. The management refuses to build it. We need street-side bike parking.	Downtown Bellevue
				I request 100 bike racks please :)	
				on the city's website (http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/walking_biking.htm), you can email kmcdonald@bellevuewa.gov to request a new bike rack placement. Can't guarantee it will happen, though :)	
				Easily accessible bicycle parking is difficult to find almost anywhere in downtown Bellevue. Going to Lincoln Square? You need to ride into the underground parking lot to find a bike rack. I suspect the same is true of Bellevue Square Mall. Part of why people on bikes are so good for local businesses is that we can hop off our bikes and into/out of a store or shopping center much more quickly than someone in a car so we are more likely to stop and shop. Studies show that people on bikes buy less per trip but make more frequent purchases (i.e. more trips) than people in cars. Bellevue would just install a bunch of convenient bike racks all over downtown (covered would be nice since it rains once and a while here) it would help downtown businesses. Of course some of the other top voted Improved Mobility ideas would also help, like actually creating some safe bicycling routes into/through downtown.	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Improved Mobility, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
8	6	2	Create a crosswalk at the corner of 105th & 4th	The corner of 105th & 4th is a very long block (105th terminates here, and does not run north), and jaywalking is common between Chipotle and the old Safeway. Before someone runs over a ped, we need a crosswalk here, with flags & lights. thanks fogoso20...you're right, I meant 105th & 4th.	Downtown Bellevue
				105 and Bellevue way are the same street. Do you mean 105th and 8th? Where the Lincoln square us bank is and maggionos is? people cross over to the hyatt below the skybridge? other than that there is a crosswalk there at 8th and Bellevue way and a cross walk going from the us bank and maggionos in Lincoln square to the other side crossing in front of the exit for the Lincoln square parking garage.	
7	5	2	New Construction Suggestion	I wish all new commercial construction would have awnings so pedestrians can walk freely during our many rainy days. How many people would visit more than one business if they didn't have to get in their car to drive down the street just to keep dry?	East Bellevue
5	3	2	More bike lanes in Bellevue and one on 108th	Bellevue needs more bike lanes so that kids and adults can stay active and improve their health, when biking to and from school and work. Many kids and adults have weight problems due to inactivity. By increasing the numbers bike lanes it will not only make it safer to bike; also the cost to treat common diseases resulting from inactivity and obesity will decrease such as diabetes and coronary diseases. Other benefits of biking are less congested streets and a reduced CO2 pollution.	Bellecrest
6	3	3	Transportation options need to include people with strollers	Especially on busses, pedestrians with strollers with small children, and possibly groceries, can have very difficult time. It would help to have space for unfolded strollers.	Robinswood
6	3	3	Covered People mover on NE 6th ped corridor	Similar to the people mover used in the airport. <input type="checkbox"/> The people mover will connect the proposed light rail station and transit center from Bellevue Way to 112th Ave. This will encourage ped traffic. People who work or shop can easily carry the merchandizes for public transprtation.	Downtown
6	3	3	"All walk"and no EB or WB left turn at Bel Way and NE 8th	No EB and WB left turn at Bellevue Way and NE 8th. Make three thru lanes going EB and three thru lanes going WB on NE 8th. Add an "all walk" signal for pedestrians.	Downtown
5	1	4	Adopt ped crosswalks with bright flags	Bellevue needs to adopt crosswalks much like Kirkland's light-up crosswalks with bright flags in buckets.	Downtown Bellevue
4	4	0	Bus stops provide sheltered benches to wait for a bus	At all bus stops install a simple sheltered area with a bench. Provide a place to sit, so bus users have a shelter from rain, sun, wind, and a place to sit while waiting for the bus.	Bellecrest
4	3	1	Link Greater Downtown Neighborhoods to downtown via Circulators	A system of circulator Buses connecting Greater Downtown Neighborhoods like Vue Crest, Surrey Downs, Bellecrest, Northtowne, and Enatai is necessary to implement use of the downtown as their commercial space, while keeping local car trips off downtown streets. Link the Library, Post Office, Bel Sq, Olde Bellevue, Downtown Park, City Hall, East Link Stations, Meydenbauer Center, and the Hospital District with short term parking at greater downtown neighborhood church parking lots.	Greater Downtown (Surrey Downs)
2	2	0	Seniors: Transportation, Health, Meals, Arts, Exercise	Free transportation on buses and light rail iBellevue and on freeway, more senior centers with <input type="checkbox"/> pools, exercise equipment, low cost meals, space <input type="checkbox"/> for making art, alternative medical centersphysical health and counseling availablelower rent for small cafes iindowntown.	Medina Heights
				The population will have greater numbers of seniors soould like to plan ahead...	
2	2	0	More stops for 550 Express	There are no stops along the Bellevue way-100th Ave stretch of NE 8th. The area in front of QFC/Bartell's should be a stop for both Metro AND Sound Transit. Its 520 only right now. Closest is NE 4th and Bellevue Way...pretty limiting for such a densely populated area of downtown. I mean its a full half mile walk. I'm not trying to be lazy but its not very convenient, especially if you're carrying groceries or something. I suppose I should take this up with Metro and ST, not Bellevue, though.	Downtown Bellevue

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Parks and Recreation					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
34	24	10	Downtown Senior Center	Bellevue's only senior center is at NE 40th St and 148th Ave NE. This is 3 to 6 miles from other sections of Bellevue. I propose a small senior center in downtown Bellevue. A lot of elderly people live in the condos and apartments downtown, and they would appreciate a place to gather and be active. This will become increasingly important in the next 10 or 20 years.	Downtown
				And for teens/preteens. And how different populations can mingle and interact with each other	
21	21	0	Improve BNSF trail for recreational use	The BNSF railway line that runs through many of the eastside cities was recently purchased by King County towards implementing a regional trail system. While Kirkland which worked in partnership with King County on the purchase has already announced plans to convert it to a trail, Bellevue has not been proactive in this regard. I would like the City of Bellevue to do its part and make sure we build a world class trail that generations of future citizens would enjoy.	Enatai
20	17	3	Offleash Dog Park in DT Bellevue	Downtown Bellevue is growing at a rapid rate. Washington is VERY dog friendly. Residents of DT Bellevue need an offleash dog park. Location idea: NE 2nd Street/110th Avenue NE where Trend Imports Auto dealership is currently located. Marriott hotel currently under construction acquired parcel from the City of Bellevue and owes us a park. See current petition! http://www.change.org/petitions/city-of-bellevue-wa-develop-an-off-leash-dog-park-in-the-downtown-bellevue-neighborhood	Downtown Bellevue
				I think there should be an off leash area in the Downtown Park. Lots of people have their dogs off leash in that park anyway even though it's against the rules. If you create a designated off leash area in the park then at least you can keep them in one area.	
17	17	0	Smoke-Free Parks	Bellevue has some of the best parks in the country but all public spaces should be smoke-free. The majority of visitors go to the parks for fresh air and enjoyment and they should not be assaulted by smokers.	Downtown
				Secondary smoke is a public health hazard. At least keep smoking to limited areas in parks.	
				I agree 100%! In fact, why not ban smoking in public completely? I am so tired of me and my family walking thru smoke clouds produced by inconsiderate smokers. Very gross.	
14	14	0	Bike map	There are many trails in Bellevue neighborhoods. Please publicize & distribute pedestrian trail & bike maps more widely by partnering with local businesses.	Crossroads
				Some Open Source projects allow you to find a lot of cycling trails in the area already: http://www.openstreetmap.org/?lat=47.632&lon=-122.1839&zoom=12&layers=C Besides, you can easily contribute to this project to improve the quality of the project, without depending on any company.	
				I agree with this, although I'm pretty sure there IS a bike map for Bellevue. Here is the online version http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Transportation/bike_map_2009.pdf Citizens can also go to http://www.myparksandrecreation.com and find trail maps. Since this is a regional site, it also shows where trails pass through city boundaries.	
14	12	2	Downtown Park	Our downtown park is an amazing asset. It's a large, open space that could be used for a great many events. Currently, it's only used for a few standout events: 1) ice skating in the winter months, 2) the Independence Day celebration, and 3) outdoor movie nights. I would like to see the park become an outdoor concert venue during the warmer months. I'd like to see alcohol (beer, cider, and wine) available during concert events in addition to food trucks and other approved food vendors.	Clyde Hill
				Yes, yes, yes. Marymoor park has been doing this successfully for years. The main issue is parking and attracting too many people driving in from out of town. I think we should implement this idea but encourage local residents within walking distance by providing them discounted tickets, or parking zone stickers for free parking based on where they live. I love the idea of concerts in the park but they'd need to do something to keep them from contributing to traffic and parking hassles.	
				An event that includes alcohol or a beer garden doesn't need to use bottles. Most beer gardens use recyclable plastic cups and you aren't allowed to leave the garden with your cup. There are plenty of ways to incorporate this without the hassles you mentioned.	
				Definitely NO alcoholic beverages in the park, the last thing we need are beer bottles everywhere. There can be permits for special occasions but we don't need rowdy crowds and beer bottle litter in the park.	
				I think the park could be a lot more interesting - there's so much lawn... and not much else. What about making a Children's Garden somewhere?	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Parks and Recreation, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
9	7	2	Create a covered/sheltered public playground for children	It is SO HARD on kids during the winter and while places like WiggleWorks are great, not everyone can afford to pay-to-play. It would be wonderful to have a sheltered playground so that even if it was raining, kids could play outside - especially in the springtime when it's not that cold but still raining!	Tam O'Shanter
9	8	1	Create a rain garden-- fun for the kids!	Build a rain garden with a seating area in the parking strip of your neighborhood's commercial area.	Newport Hills
6	4	2	Place to Race Model Cars	When I want to race my electric model cars, I have to go as far as Lynnwood (in winter, there is an indoor raceway in Seattle). It would be great if there was a smooth, flat, well-drained area to race model cars (at least 15 parking spaces long, 4 wide, larger would be better). It would be a good place for kids and adults to enjoy this hobby.	Spirit Ridge
				could you use the covered area at an Elementary school? I know that several of the schools in Bellevue have large covered areas that are paved.	
5	4	1	More Social/Sports activities for kids k-12	I think that Bellevue should have more Sports programs and social activities for kids. I think there should be Bellevue basketball/baseball/football/ soccer etc for the public and not private programs. I think we should also have more social programs like clubs and drill teams. These would be available after school and during summer.	Woodridge
				I feel that our Parks and Community Services dept., Boys and Girls Clubs, and Jubilee Reach provide quite a few activities like these. I think we compare very favorably with other communities on this scale. The key ingredient is parent involvement--the more we have, the more we can provide. Many organizations rely on volunteer coaches and leaders to thrive, and to keep costs down. If you're a parent, grandparent or community member with an hour or two a week to spare, consider pitching in!	
4	4	0	Buy open space for Public Parks in the DT area	City of Bellevue needs to develop a revenue generating tool/requirements to require existing developments and future developments to pay for Open Spaces and Parks for the enjoyment of all Bellevue. The Downtown area needs more Open Spaces and Parks-in the near future with more residents, day workers and visitors we need to get the land before it is TOO expensive. The urban environment needs to have more green, soft places of beauty, shade, peace in an ever increasing populated busy large city.	Bellecrest
2	1	1	Soap Box Derby	Let's start our first annual Soap Box Derby races in Bellevue, invite people from all over Washington, then if popular, all over the US and the World! If selected, we have to come up with rules, age, how much for the soap box, prizes, when and how long. We had one in California and it was really fun!	All
2	1	1	Soccer Tournament	Design for boys and girls to play soccer here in Bellevue. Maybe introduce more and new sports like Lacrosse.	all
1	1	0	Future Use Of Existing 520 Bridge	Do not demolish the old bridge after the new one is completed, instead use it as a place for entertainment, park, night market, or just a viewing platform.	Avondale Road, Redmond, WA.
			Year Round Ice Skating Rink	A year round ice skating rink and more outdoor water parks	
				A water park that works better than the Crossroads one	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Partnerships and Collaboration					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
17	14	3	Gates & fences	People like to move freely about their neighborhood, meeting friends, visiting neighbors, & stores. Hedges & fences often prevent this. I don't want to get into a car just to go 1000 feet. We should walk more! There should be gates in long fences & cooperation between large complexes. I feel pedestrian access reduces crime not increase it.	Crossroads
				Hedges and green places are one of the things that make Bellevue beautiful. I wouldn't want to remove those. Also, I can sympathize with residents and schools who want to have fences for safety and privacy.	
8	8	0	Intergenerational Connections	The City should be or create conduits between diverse populations, for the betterment of all. For example, connect senior citizens with elementary schools. The schools need volunteers, the sr. citizens need outlets for creativity and energy. Win-win!	Bellevue
				Check out my "University neighborhood" idea.	
				http://seniornet.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=726&Itemid=259 We have GrandPals in our schools, and they are vital to the success of some of our kids. I'm all for more kids and seniors working together. I believe the YMCA and Jubilee also provide those connections.	
3	2	1	King County Court Annex	If there was an annex of the King County Superior Court in Bellevue, at least for some trials, then one would not have to go into Seattle for jury duty.	Spirit Ridge
1	1	0	A University neighborhood in downtown Bellevue	Attract via code incentives, planning, collaboration, and partnership, a university that will develop a major portion of the southeast quadrant of downtown to include high rise housing, classrooms, labs, etc. in addition to other tenants, retail and open space, resulting in a true liberal arts/cultural environment often identified with college town life. Primary and secondary education as well as music, art and theatre should be included in the education opportunities mix.	Greater Downtown (Surrey Downs)
0	0	0	Public Parking Garages/Coordinating Circulator busses	The city should implement a collaboration of properties/businesses/developers to provide public parking for the Downtown Park/Old Bellevue, in the area of East Link/City Hall and in the southeast quadrant of Downtown. Retail suffers from lack of and abuse of proprietary parking. Adjacent neighborhoods suffer from spillover parking. One should not have to move their car to patronize several destinations within a short walk of one another.	Greater Downtown (Surrey Downs)

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Quality Neighborhoods					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
47	38	9	Invest in 'Third Places'	One great asset for neighborhoods is to have vibrant public gathering places - or 'third places' - that provide a place for neighbors to connect. Crossroads Mall is a great example of a dynamic public gathering place. Can we be more intentional about cultivating these places on a neighborhood scale across Bellevue?	
				how do I change my vote? I agree, but clicked disagree by mistake. :(
				I love crossroads mall with my daughter.	
				It's so international that I avoid iDiversity is annoying. live in Bellevue so I can avoid interacting with other people.	
				That's a great idea! I love Crossroads, it's so international there. It's always filled with people, not only to shop and dine, but also to hang out. I wish there are "third places" like that all around town!	
22	21	1	Sidewalks & Bike Lanes	Many neighborhoods in Bellevue do not have sidewalks nor safe bicycling lanes connecting residents to neighbors, community trails, parks and local businesses or local attractions. With population growth, auto traffic is becoming more and more aggressive and dangerous to people walking in the streets. A good example for bike lanes needed is 16th Ave, 156th, 164th from the Lake Hills Area down to Redmond where cars speed around like it's the freeway. Sidewalks- most inner neighborhoods apply.	Phantom Lake
21	20	1	Keep Green and Open Spaces	Every residence should have green space families can use. We love being near work and services and transit. But need an accessible "back yard" area that doesn't make us cross the street or play near cars. Kids like to play in nature; studies show that trees and green space positively impact mental health and even decrease crime! The tension is that real estate development often builds on every square foot. Allow tall, thin buildings; require trees and greenery next to them.	Bel-Red
				If you want convenience buy a house with a back yard, it all about choices	
				Bellevue has lots of public green space. Look here http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/parks_intro.htm	
				The above applies especially to permitting or up-zoning multi-family residential buildings but also very dense housing. Shared yards are needed. It's a lie if someone says that apartment-dwellers don't want green space. They just aren't given the choice in so many instances.	
20	16	4	Conduct routine televised discussions on important issues	Bellevue is confronted with a range of critical problems in the future ranging from sustainability to business development. Key concerns involve the inherent tension between continued rapid growth and preservation of quality neighborhoods for all social groups. Conduct quarterly televised discussions with moderator and panel of decisionmakers or neighborhood activists. Televisе and conduct computer-aided polls on each issued discussed.	Wallingford
				There is nothing more annoying than neighborhood activists, or any other types of activist for that matter. As far as decision making, I prefer to make my own decisions without interference from "decision makers" or "activists". The best way to preserve a neighborhood is for tough zoning that prevents infill development in existing neighborhoods and prevents mixed use development from encroaching on single family neighborhoods.	
16	12	4	Art Parties	Coordinate community events where community members design, development and build art for the community.	Downtown
				Fun idea!!! Or garden parties in parks etc	
15	13	2	Neighborhood coffee shops	Change zoning to allow for coffee shops and, or, small cafes in residential neighborhoods to have a walkable, social neighborhood gathering place and to simply get a cup of coffee without having to jump in your car.	Enatai
				I don't want any commercial activity in my neighborhood	
				Agree as long as traffic, parking and noise problems are minimized. Let's have more neighborhood gathering spaces.	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Quality Neighborhoods, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
15	12	3	Recycle Under-Used Parking Lots!	Repurpose a derelict parking lot and create community by planting an edible garden with a bench Where are there underused parking lots??? I thought parking was expensive and hard to find.	Newport Hills
15	14	1	Implement a 20 year plan to provide underground electrical power	To increase reliability and reduce outage time especially due to extreme weather. This will provide a mechanism to provide uniform electrical power distribution for all areas of Bellevue.	Bridle trails
13	9	4	Unique Neighborhoods	Bellevue should develop unique neighborhoods with hubs that relate to various cultures. I really enjoyed going to Uwajimaya when it was in my neighborhood, but now it is just a Walgreens. I think all along the Bel-Red corridor, it would be great to have areas that specialize in cuisine, architecture, and art from around the world. Cute idea if it's aesthetic only but sounds a little like segregation if you are hoping to keep certain peoples in certain areas. Why just the Bel-Red Corridor? Unique neighborhoods belong everywhere!!	Lake Hills
12	10	2	Don't let Spring District become urban monstrosity like Belltown	Ensure walk-ability, open spaces, wide sidewalks, family friendly, mix-use, community driven, safe and healthy place-making of the Bel-Red Corridor and the Spring district, as in the Portland's Pearl District or NYC's East Village or Brooklyn's Park Slope. Let's learn from Belltown's failure to prevent another crime-ridden soulless monstrosity Bellevue is not Portland, NYC or any other city. There are current projects already trashing the east side of Bellevue. Pay attention to the way the east side of Bellevue works before treating it like the west side. Keep it walkable, prevent traffic jams, keep the noise to moderate levels, and keep out the Sound Transit rail yard.	Bridle Trails
11	9	2	Host a Bellevue Food truck roundup event	There are Food Truck Roundups in Seattle (the big one is August). We definitely have the parking lot space. It would encourage locally-owned food businesses and pedestrian activity, plus it's a great outdoor summer event like the bite of seattle but more like a bite of Bellevue	Downtown Bellevue
10	7	3	Make Bellevue on a Human Scale	SIFF produces a film called Human Scale - to make the city more livable for humans, not cars. This is a great resource to start to learn about planning for people. Go to the Harriett Bullitt Foundation and learn from the Bullitt Foundation building. We can add electric cars, solar panels on rooftops, and relief stations that are open on weekends at transit areas.	Bellevue
9	5	4	Plan for young families	In order for Bellevue to thrive, it needs young families with children. It is important to look at the number of households having a child that is in K-12 - and ensure that is does not go below 30 percent of the general population. What helps young families - and make it affordable - to come to Bellevue We need good schools, affordable housing, high density housing, and additional incentives to intentionally plan for younger families. □ □ Agree about the teachers being able to afford to live here! We have lost several elementary teachers over the years to districts with lower costs of living. They get sick of commuting from Renton, Bothell and Kent! Our schools are wonderful and enrollment continues to grow. The district is looking to add capacity at all levels. Young families seem to be finding Bellevue pretty hospitable already. In complete agreement that a vibrant, sustainable community is a community where everyone invest in the next generation. To attract young families, our public schools offer excellent educational opportunity to all kids the district serves. To keep our schools great, we need to attract caring and passionate teachers. As a city, we need to be able to provide affordable housing to keep the teachers in our community. What we have now is good and there are room to improve!!!	Bellevue
7	2	5	Bellevue Way Park	Reduce/eliminate a majority of the traffic on Bellevue Way from 8th Street to 4th Street. Provide a single two lane road with no through traffic in this region, that will be eventually moved underground Replace the street with park that runs the entire length from Bellevue square to the downtown park. This is exactly what Seattle did along Pine Street. Everybody hated the idea, until it was done. Now it was the best thing Seattle Ever did.	Downtown

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Quality Neighborhoods, cont.						
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood	
7	6	1	Community Pool	I feel like we should have a great community pool like in Federal Way, they have one section for kids, lap pool, and another for people with disabilities. Have 3-5 pools design for kids to older adults/wheelchairs, etc. The one up on NE 8th is really outdated and overcrowded.	Toys R Us area	
7	6	1	Create a Newport Hills "Town Square"	Having watched people circumnavigate the NH shopping center for exercise, I suggest encouraging this healthy practice, boost the use of the currently ugly and unused space, and visually tie together the space, by replacing the sidewalk with an attractive brick walkway (neighbors can buy a personalized brick!) that centers on a brick square where the current bank parking is. Trees, a pond and benches would make for a great place to gather.	Newport Hills	
5	1	4	Fast Food Mall	I was craving for a In & Out burger and it would be great if we had one here in Washington State, including Sonic, Tommy's, Yoshinoya's (Japanese fast food), Dunkin Donuts, El Pollo Loco, Carls Jr., and a soup kitchen like they have in Eastern Europe, cheap food but good, buffet style, it would be great if we had a place to enjoy great food a low prices.	Downtown Bellevue, along Main Street, near BC	
				The last thing Bellevue needs is more chains. We need locally owned businesses.		
5	3	2	Interpersonal Internet Cafes	Internet cafes would be social spaces where tweens and teens could be online in the company of friends (instead of isolated at home). The networked computers would be set up on moveable desks to encourage friends to face each other. Sharing leads to caring, thus internet cafes may contribute to best friendships that last a lifetime.	All	
5	3	2	Bellevue (Eastside) Lending Library	The West Seattle Tool Lending Library, http://wstoollibrary.org/ is a perfect program all residences could use. This program could provide alternatives from buying, is better for the environment, and forms relationships cross-neighborhood. Items could include general tools, books, specialty tools. Liability forms would be required, that would waive users right to file suit against this governing body. □ could be hosted at a Neighborhood Center or Botanical Garden.	Monthaven	
5	3	2	Concrete	Ban the use of asphalt. All roads should have been concrete decades ago. One town back east put in concrete streets and roads in the 1950's and same are still their. Cost is only slightly higher initially but vast savings over the long term. Why has this been such a no brainer?	Bellevue SE	
5	4	1	Use of Next Door for neighborhood interaction	Wilburton is using Next Door (www.nextdoor.com) to build community communications regarding safety, projects, events and general information. I'm sure there are other Bellevue neighborhoods doing this also. It would be good to nurture this kind of neighborhood interaction and for the city to help promote (and leverage) these neighborhood forums.	Wilburton	
4	2	2	Bel-Red like Portland's Pearl District	It would be great if Bel-Red's new neighborhoods transitioned over time to include both the old and the new-- with everyone benefiting from new roads, bicycle facilities and transit. I think it could be like Portland's Pearl District.	DT	
				Pearl District is highly subsidized it would not work otherwise, which begs the question does it really work at all?		
				I agree! I was making the comparison about how the Pearl District kept its unique roots; the way it "includes both the old and the new". I'm hoping the same for Bel-Red.		
				Bellevue is not Portland, Seattle or any other city. This is Bellevue.		
2	1	1	"Little Library" Promote Connections	Provide Department of Neighborhoods with grant money so that residents in neighborhoods can build free Little Library site in their neighborhood. Develop a Little Library culture by supporting and communicating this idea.	Bellecrest	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Quality Neighborhoods cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
2	1	1	Washington State Mall(Made here in Washington state)	I had this crazy idea of having a Mall that caters to everything that came from here in this great state of Washington ! It includes REI, Starbucks, Made in Washington, Nintendo, Boeing, Seattle sports, Microsoft. I think having a children's restaurant(recipes made from Washington mom's), local bookstore, 2 famous restaurants, seafood and a buffet. And of course, on the walls, you will have videos of the famous places in Washington, how it was made, founder, etc.	Crossroads, next to Art Museum
			Family Oriented Housing	Consider some kind of incentive for new development in downtown Bellevue to include three-bedroom apartments (or larger.) believe there are a lot of families who would enjoy living in the downtown area, but cannot fit in to a two bedroom apartment. The few available three bedroom properties are so popular that there is a wishlist for their units.	Downtown Bellevue
			Welcome Package	I was living in Claremont, California and I had this lady from the Chamber of Commerce/City Hall bring us a gift basket, it included coupons, directory, calendar of the city, post cards, etc. I thought this would be nifty and also have an orientation for newcomers that are living here in Bellevue. Show them why they are living in one of the best cities in Washington State. You would have speakers in different languages, do a scavenger hunt with them, have maps, etc. Make it fun!!	All
1	1	0	Make one of the streets Pedestrian only	The proposition is to close one of the streets in downtown Bellevue for automotive traffic and accommodate it for pedestrian only use. □ This tendency can be seen worldwide. Large cities like NY and Moscow are transforming their streets to attract people to downtown, help local businesses grow customer base, host cultural events on the streets (free band stands and outside art exhibitions). □ 106th Ave NE from 4th to 8th street makes a perfect candidate for becoming such street.	Downtown
1	1	0	Volunteer Day, Tree Sculptures	I would love to volunteer one day improving the beautiful city of Bellevue by removing trash, mowing the lawn, painting, recycle, rebuild a new fence, clean the park, one day during the year, maybe a Saturday! Have teens to the elderly, everybody pitching in. Have Businesses help with snacks and water for the volunteers. It would be nice to have a tree shaped like Bruce Lee, Hendrix, famous people from WA throughout the City, have a plaque, or a tape with their memories.	All in Bellevue



Neighborhood groups are often looking for ways to help neighbors meet and connect beyond the traditional neighborhood meeting. Bring your neighbors together to participate in a learning community! Educational Workshops are now available on request (day or evening) for neighborhood meetings and gatherings. Programs can be customized in length and content for your neighborhood group. Bookings are limited and a minimum two week notice is requested to ensure staff availability.

Topics:

BUILDING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

This workshop is made-to-order for your neighborhood association. Whether you are just starting out, are long established and need re-vitalization and re-organization, or just need some assistance with governance, mentoring leaders or increasing membership and involvement, Neighborhood Outreach staff will work with your group to tailor a training(s) to meet your specific needs. We can help you recharge and determine next steps to ensure your neighborhood association is strong.

THE CHANGING FACE OF BELLEVUE

Diversity is growing in Bellevue, with the 2010 census measuring 41% minority population in Bellevue. Grab some popcorn and view the City of Bellevue's 8 minute video "The Diversity Advantage" with your neighbors, followed by small group discussions on diversity in your own neighborhood. What are the challenges and opportunities that being a diverse community present? How can neighbors effectively communicate and learn from each other in a multi-cultural world? How can neighbors overcome language and cultural barriers? What can we learn about the messages we send and how can we understand cultural cues and norms?

45-60 minutes, ideal for groups of 10+

X FORMING OUR FUTURE

Learn interesting facts about the Bellevue community, environment, and the local economy-- then add your group's ideas to help shape Bellevue's future. A discussion guide containing questions about your vision for the future of Bellevue can be staff- or self-guided. Comments received before fall 2014 will be included in the City's Comprehensive Plan update.

45-60 minutes, 10 to 15 participants

X ADDRESSING NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC SAFETY CONCERNS

Are you annoyed by cars speeding down your block? Have you ever wanted to put up a "Children at Play" sign to tell drivers that your neighborhood is filled with young children playing in their yards? Traffic and parking issues on residential streets can greatly affect your sense of community and personal well-being. Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services works with residents to help protect and preserve neighborhood livability by utilizing education, enforcement, and engineering. These efforts help to minimize cut-through traffic, discourage excessive vehicle speeds, encourage safe walking and biking practices, and reduce overflow parking. Learn how you and your neighbors can become actively engaged in this process and look at the available tools for addressing your concerns.

30 minutes, minimum 10 participants

X LIFE OF A TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN (CIP) PROJECT

Have you ever wondered how those roadway projects become reality? Join the journey of the "Life of a Transportation Project"— from idea to actual construction, with all stops in between. For example, building a sidewalk is more than just concrete. Residents will learn about the many codes, standards, public outreach, and other technical aspects that all transportation projects must comply with a before a project breaks ground.

60 minutes, minimum 10 participants

X HANDLING A DIFFICULT CONVERSATION WITH NEIGHBORS

Got a conflict with your neighbor? Need some coaching to communicate with your neighbor about trees, views, parking, noise, fences? Interested in approaching your neighbor to find a mutually agreeable solution before a problem escalates? Do you need to feel heard by your neighbor and want an opportunity for skill building? The Bellevue Neighborhood Mediation program provides these services and has a high success rate of bringing neighbors to resolution. In this participatory workshop you will learn tools to improve your people skills and enhance your neighbor to neighbor relationships.

60-120 minutes Minimum 10 participants

X RESOLVING GROUP CONFLICTS (BEFORE THEY DIVIDE YOUR COMMUNITY)

Some neighborhood disputes affect many households -- what to do about properties that aren't maintained or whether to revive a dormant homeowner's association. When neighborhood factions form, these controversies can divide formerly happy communities. But they don't have to... your neighborhood can address these controversies so that everyone has input and the decision is seen as fair. A positive process can strengthen your community. Improve your skills: get the right people to the table; insure negotiators have the necessary information and that everyone stays informed; identify mutual gains and use consensus decision making; and, if necessary, get Board approval for the decision.

60 minutes, minimum 10 participants

X ACTIONS FOR A GREENER FUTURE

We've all heard about the impacts of climate change at regional, national, and global scales. But what can we do here in Bellevue -- in our homes and neighborhoods - to mitigate the impacts? Join your neighbors for a workshop to learn what the city is doing to reduce greenhouse emissions, discuss what activities your neighborhood can participate in, and detail your community vision of a greener future.

Workshop highlights include cutting edge practices adopted by the city that save money while reducing greenhouse gas emissions, products and practices for your daily routine that can help your household save money and reduce your impact, community resources such as rain gardens, electric vehicle infrastructure, P-patches, and recycling options that contribute to a smaller community footprint and greener neighborhoods.

60 minutes, minimum 10 participants

X WAYS TO SURVIVE: HOW TO GET PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY

When disasters strike in other parts of the world, it's natural to start thinking, "What if?" We can't control what emergencies might come our way, but we CAN control how we respond to them. During this presentation, we will discuss the hazards and risks that affect Bellevue, how to build kits and make plans for your home and workplace, ways to get involved with your neighbors and hear an overview of emergency response team functions.

45-60 minutes, minimum 20 participants

**For more information or to reserve a program speaker
contact Julie Ellenhorn, Neighborhood Outreach
425-452-5372.**





POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

National Night Out Community Event

*Tuesday, August 6 12pm–6:30pm
Crossroads Farmers Market*

On Tuesday, Aug. 6, neighborhoods throughout Bellevue will join thousands of communities nationwide

for the 30th annual National Night Out. Residents of all ages are invited to observe the crime and drug prevention event from noon to 6:30 at the Bellevue Crossroads Farmers Market (in front of the old Circuit City), on the eastside of Crossroads Bellevue shopping center, 800 block of 156th Ave NE.

At the event, there will be prizes for kids, demonstrations by various public safety departments on ways to stay safe, entertainment, food and lots of fun, all designed around a crime prevention/reduction message.

Residents are also encouraged to lock their doors, turn on their outside lights and spend the evening with neighbors. Many of the neighborhoods in Bellevue are planning their own block parties and open houses. This is a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors and strengthen community pride.

For more information about the Crossroads event, please contact Officer Craig Hanaumi at chanaumi@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2891.

National Day of Service and Remembrance Breakfast Event to Honor our Elders

*September 11, 9am–11am
Crossroads Park*



HYATT
REGENCY
BELLEVUE



Microsoft

In celebration of our National Day of Service and Remembrance, City of Bellevue, Bellevue Police and Fire Departments, Microsoft & Hyatt Regency Bellevue are sponsoring a breakfast event to Honor our Elders. The event features a warm breakfast catered by the Hyatt's Eques Restaurant and a Senior Resource Fair. Microsoft volunteers will be on hand with giveaways and to assist attendees. This tented event will happen, rain or shine. Booths will offer information on the City programs, volunteer and service opportunities for seniors, senior safety tips, and information on free computer training from Microsoft, health screenings by Bellevue's Firefighters and more. Complimentary breakfast and giveaways while supplies last! For more information contact Shelly Shellabarger, Civic Engagement Coordinator at SShellabarger@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5375.



Volunteer for the Mediation Program and Learn Conflict Coaching Skills

Sept. 25th, 2013 9am–5pm

Sept. 26th, 2013 9am–5pm

Bellevue City Hall



The Bellevue Neighborhood Mediation Program is currently seeking volunteers to provide telephone intake and conflict coaching services. If you are interested in volunteering for the program, and if you live, work or go to school in Bellevue, you are eligible to apply for this 16-hour training. There is no charge for the training. Attendance at all sessions is required. Applicants must be available to work a two hour weekly shift during business hours.

Both the training and volunteering are a prerequisite to becoming a future mediator with our program. Telephone intake volunteers assist callers in understanding their issues, exploring options and developing strategies for problem resolution. If appropriate, the intake volunteer will speak to the other party involved in the conflict, and may help the two parties resolve the dispute through opening lines of communication and informal negotiations. At other times, the volunteer will assess whether the issue may be more appropriate for face to face mediation or other resources.

Training includes conflict theory, communication skills building, conflict styles, database usage and procedural tools. Qualifications for volunteering include: good communication skills, a positive attitude, the ability to empower people to resolve problems, and the ability to respect confidentiality and remain impartial.

Please visit the Mediation Program website www.bellevuewa.gov/mediation.htm to learn more about their services. To apply for this training, email mediation_info@bellevuewa.gov or call 425-452-4091. Application deadline is Sept. 16, 2013. Interviews will follow.

Earthquake and Safety Day

August 17, 1pm–4pm

Somerset Elementary School



Remember the 6.6 magnitude earthquake in 2001? Bellevue is overdue for our next earthquake, so it's critical to learn how to protect your home and family.

Earthquake and Safety Day is sponsored by the Newport High School Key Club with Deputy Mayor of Bellevue, Jennifer Robertson doing a kick off at 1pm. Stop by for multiple presentations from the City of Bellevue Office of Emergency Preparedness and the Bellevue Police Department. Topics include: building your emergency kit, home security, hazard proofing your home, first aid, emergency planning, and more.

There will also be musical performances and field games for families. The day promises tons of learning and fun! For more information, contact Lucas Moyer, lucasmoyer@gmail.com or 425-283-2729.



Save the Date for Leadership Gathering

September 26, 6:30–8pm
Bellevue City Hall

On September 26, the Neighborhood Outreach Team will host another Neighborhood Leadership Gathering. All active residents and neighborhood leaders are invited to come join city staff for an evening of interesting topics and conversation.



At the first Leadership Gathering event in February, more 80 neighborhood leaders shared their priorities for their communities and experience with the City and with each other. There was a general desire to have these meetings more frequently to help neighborhood leaders learn from each other.

Please save the date now with more details of the meeting to follow. You can send your RSVP to Julie Ellenhorn at jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5372. If you have a question or suggestions for the event, please contact Neighborhood Outreach Manager Mike McCormick Huentelman at mmhuent@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4089.

Jubilee Reach Day of Sharing and Caring, in Need of Volunteers

“A Day of Sharing and Caring,” a partnership between Jubilee Reach, the City of Bellevue, local businesses and homeowners, now in its sixth year, is scheduled for Saturday Aug. 24. More volunteers are



needed by Jubilee Reach, to tackle outside improvements on some 20 homes, including home repair, painting, deck replacement, yard work and carport cleanup. Applications for improvements have been submitted by Bellevue residents facing economic or other life challenges who own and occupy their home and are in need of home maintenance and repair.

For more information, please contact Gary King, at 206-419-5238 or garyk@jubileereach.org, or visit their website at <http://www.jubileereach.org/>



Neighbor Link

There is still time to plan your Neighbor Link neighborhood celebrations. Join other Bellevue neighborhoods to partner with the City this summer. Here is what the Program offers through September 29:

- Colorful flyers and banner customized and printed for your event
- While supplies last - thru Aug 31st, neighborhoods organizing a food drive, charity, or service project are awarded 4 Seattle Mariner's tickets
- Permit fee waived for street closures with approved residential permits



- Up to \$50 reimbursement for rental of approved “road closed” barricades
- Police and Fire will appear with advance notice and availability

For more information, please contact Carol Ross at cross@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7917.

Neighborhood Forums Now On Video

If you missed our Spring neighborhood forums, grab a bowl of popcorn and watch in the comfort of your own home! Even better, gather your neighborhood group, watch a forum and host your own discussion:

Keeping Kids Safe in Our Community, a panel discussion focused on school safety is available at [www. http://bellevue.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=5debae86-0980-1031-8b21-673bf20d68e3](http://bellevue.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=5debae86-0980-1031-8b21-673bf20d68e3)



Climate Change and Our Community, a panel discussion on community resiliency and environmental stewardship is available at [www. http://bellevue.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=13ddcd0b-3979-1031-bc96-29b50f2ba9d1](http://bellevue.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=13ddcd0b-3979-1031-bc96-29b50f2ba9d1)



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.)

8/1 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30–10:30am, 1E-120) Washington Health Benefit Exchange Presentation, Committee Reports

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

8/5 City Council (6:00 p.m. Study Session, Council Conference Room) Second Quarter 2013 Budget Monitoring Report and Project Updates and Preview of the Mid-Biennium Calendar (8:00 Regular Session, Council Chambers) Consent Calendar, Approving Names for Certain Rights-of-Way in the Bel-Red Subarea, Continued discussion and possible action on Modifications to Council Rules for Oral Communications

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

8/6 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Boys and Girls Club, 15228 Lake Hills Blvd.) Courtesy hearing for Odle Middle School CUP and a Affordable Housing presentation.

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

8/6 Arts Commission (4:30, 1E-109) Presentation regarding the Tateuchi Center Review/discussion of art and cultural policies in the Urban Design Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

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

8/21 Downtown Livability (6:30–9:00 p.m. City Hall 1E-108) Review of draft audits of Land Use Code elements under consideration for future revisions

<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/downtown-livability.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.