

neighborhood news



August 2018

news for and about
Bellevue neighborhoods

National Night Out August 7

Party Against Crime with Police and Cyber Security

Tips to safeguard your home, your assets and your family

National Night Out Against Crime, happening Tuesday, August 7, is a wonderful time for neighbors to connect and talk about ways to keep their homes and neighborhoods safe. While the Bellevue Police Department won't be hosting an event at Crossroads Shopping Center as they have in past years, the department will be sending officers out to the neighborhoods to participate in local block parties. Register your party through Neighbor Link by August 4 <https://planning.bellevuewa.gov/community-development/neighborhoods/building-community/neighbor-link-block-parties/> and get a Night Out banner. The first 10 neighborhoods to register a first-time Night Out event and invite police to their gathering will also receive a pair of Mariner's tickets.

Typically, we think about crime prevention as taking measures to safeguard our homes and looking out



for our neighbors through block watch. While we are vigilant about locking our doors and windows, we can easily overlook how we use the internet to



invite strangers to enter our homes and lives without permission. As an addition to Night Out, consider having a member of the city's Information Technology team come out and share what they know about safeguarding against cybercrime.

The internet offers a world of opportunities. People of all ages are: posting video from mobile devices, building online profiles, texting each other from their mobile devices, creating alter egos in the form of online avatars, connecting with friends online they don't see regularly in person, sending photos to friends, broadcasting what they're doing to hundreds of people, among other online activities. These ways of socializing and communicating can be fulfilling and, yet, they come with certain risks. During National Night Out, several members of the city's IT professionals will be handing out materials that will help parents talk with their kids of all ages on what is appropriate and what is dangerous online! For online safety tips for kids, visit https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Chatting%20with%20Kids%20Booklet_0%281%29.pdf.

If you are hosting a block party on that day, please contact Sergeant Ben Jones via email, bwjones@bellevuewa.gov, and let him know when and where your event is so police can schedule officers to attend! For more information and to register your Neighbor Link event, contact Carol Ross at 425-452-7917, cross@bellevuewa.gov or NeighborhoodOutreach@bellevuewa.com.



Council Adopts Permanent Regulations for Homeless Services

Services

On July 16, the City Council adopted, through a split 4-3 vote, a land use code amendment (LUCA) for



homeless shelters. Mayor John Chelminiak, Deputy Mayor Lynne Robinson, and councilmembers John Stokes and Janice Zahn voted in favor of Ordinance No. 6419, while councilmembers Conrad Lee, Jared Nieuwenhuis and Jennifer Robertson voted “no.”

The LUCA adds regulations to the land use code to determine how and where a homeless shelter can be sited in Bellevue. The vote did not involve the selection of a specific site for a permanent men’s shelter.

The newly adopted ordinance, which goes into effect five days after passage and publication, addresses the following:

- The permit process to consider a proposal to build a shelter: an applicant may request the City of Bellevue to negotiate a development agreement for the use and design of a homeless services use; by resolution, the City Council can accept or decline to do so. Otherwise, the permit would be processed as a Conditional Use Permit.
- The community involvement process established through a Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA) Advisory Committee: the purpose is to foster communication between the community and homeless services use operators. The GNA Advisory Committee is made up of up to 19 members, including up to eight residents who reside within one mile of the proposed shelter, with the option for up to two of the eight residents to serve at-large by City Council appointment.
- No requirement was adopted for buffers or separation requirements for homeless services uses.

After the council voted on the ordinance, Mayor Chelminiak thanked the community for its engagement and involvement in the LUCA process. Public outreach to the community about siting a permanent men’s shelter began in 2016. Most recently, starting in March, the council sought public

input for development of the LUCA. The effort included a citywide online survey, one large workshop at City Hall, an optional “listening session” and two “Q&A sessions” at local community centers.

Since 2008, Bellevue has hosted a temporary winter shelter at various locations in the city. During this period, Congregations for the Homeless has operated the Eastside Winter Shelter as an emergency low-barrier winter shelter for men experiencing homelessness. The current location of the temporary winter shelter, which will open again in November, is Lincoln Center, 555 116th Ave. NE.

More background on the process can be found at BellevueWA.gov/ShelterLUCA.

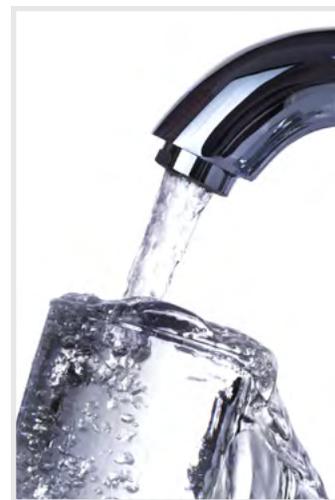
Save the Date!

Neighborhood Leadership Gathering

Thursday, Sept. 13, 6-8:30pm

Behind The Scenes with City of Bellevue Utilities

Neighborhood Outreach will host its semi-annual Neighborhood Leadership Gathering on Thursday, September 13, 6-8:30 p.m., at the Bellevue Service Center, 2901-115th Ave. NE. It’s easy to take for



granted crystal clear, clean water coming out of our faucets and our recyclables being taken away each week. Get a behind-the-scenes look at how our utilities department makes it all happen! The evening includes light dinner, presentation by Director of Utilities Nav Otal, interactive tours, and time for a question-

and-answer period. A unique experience not to be missed! Limited to the first 80 people who RSVP to neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov.



Bellwether Arts Week

September 14-23

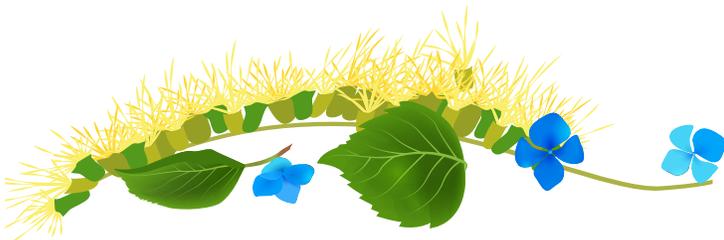
What happens when you take a three-month sculpture show, squeeze it down into just 10 days, and add music, art performances and the unexpected? Get ready to find out with a radical reboot of Bellwether coming September 14 - 23, the City of Bellevue's biggest contemporary art event!

For the first time in its 25-year history, Bellwether will be a curated event, with SuttonBeresCuller – Seattle-based artists John Sutton, Ben Beres and Zac Culler – picking the art and organizing the event. Their vision: "For 10 days and nights, Bellevue will act boldly with vision, imagination, enthusiasm and ingenuity, pushing the creative limits of the city through a series of contemporary arts experiences."

The exhibition will feature over 50 regional and nationally acclaimed artists, with a majority of artists developing artwork specifically for the show. Major sites for the artwork and performances include the first and second floor galleries at the Bellevue Arts Museum, which will be free to the public during the Bellwether exhibition, Compass Plaza at 106th Ave NE and NE 6th Street, and the Downtown Park.



Don't miss the free special evening events on Saturday, September 15 and Saturday, September 22, and a free opening event with many of the artists at the Bellevue Arts Museum on Friday, September 14. Performance schedules and details about events and performances can be found at www.bellevuewa.gov/bellwether.



City of Bellevue Leaders Walk

Neighborhoods with Residents

You asked us to "Spend time in the neighborhoods. Early morning, during commute times and later in the day. Walk them, bring your team and include a member of the community."

It was a great idea and, this summer, City Manager Brad Miyake and 32 city staff members have walked six of Bellevue's unique neighborhoods with residents and their pets! Each of the walks was about two hours in length, and residents shared their area's distinctive history and assets, as well as emerging issues and concerns.

During the six walks, we walked the pedestrian bridge over NE 12th Street, strolled through small parks, noticed changes in neighborhood character, bought some fresh produce and took some detours around city projects. Whether we spotted a fence covered with graffiti, walked past community gardens or talked with college students, we gained new perspectives on our neighborhoods by hearing from you.

We were even greeted by residents waiting in their driveways for us! We heard your concerns about development, homelessness, safe crosswalks, traffic, multifamily complexes, tree canopy and more.

At the end of each walk, we took a few minutes to catch our breath, and city staff shared with residents what they had heard and learned during the walk. It was enjoyable to see your neighborhoods with you and have extended conversations about what we all love about Bellevue. We look forward to continuing the conversation in our neighborhoods!





Good Neighboring Tips

How do we handle conflict with our neighbors? Do we have the skills to talk to our neighbors about a difficult topic? Do we know how to listen when someone tells us something we don't want to hear? Are we comfortable working out a solution that works for everyone concerned?

Welcome to the first Good Neighboring Tips, brought to you by the Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center (BCRC, formerly the Mediation Program). Every day, we help neighbors resolve their issues and teach skills to help you resolve issues on your own. In the months to come, we will be giving you tips here to help you be a good neighbor and to feel easier when conflict arises.

Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center Honors Our Volunteer Neighbors

The Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center celebrated its 22nd year of service and honored 25 of our volunteers, your neighbors, with a recognition luncheon at the Mercer Slough Environmental Center. Some of our volunteers have been with us for 20 years!

City staff and leadership as well as our keynote speaker James Whitfield, President and CEO of Leadership Eastside, inspired us with words about civic duty and civic dialogue, and honored our dedicated volunteers.

Volunteers willing to help mediate conflicts are vital to the success of the Neighborhood Conflict Resolution program. With their help, neighbors and families find peaceful resolution. The volunteers gain something too, recognizing that phone coaching and face-to-face mediating disputes is richly rewarding.

If you have good communication skills, you may be interested in joining the volunteer cadre, all of whom live or work in Bellevue. Our next three-day telephone conciliation training is in October. Please email us at BCRC@bellevuewa.gov to get a registration form. Questions? Call us at 425-452-4091.



One of the first things we ask when someone calls with a neighbor issue is "Have you talked to your neighbor?" Most often the answer is "no" because of fear someone will get mad and they want us to call the neighbor for them. It takes skills to approach our neighbors.

When our program calls the other neighbor about the issue, they often say "Why didn't they just talk to me?" Because we can get argumentative when someone asks us to change our behavior, our neighbors tend to call the middleman—code, police, conflict resolution—to handle the problem rather than talk directly to their neighbor. It takes skills to listen when there is conflict.

In future columns we will share tips, such as how to:

- approach a neighbor respectfully
- be approachable
- negotiate a shared outcome
- listen
- understand some core cultural differences,
- question our assumptions
- be kinder with one another.

In the meantime, if a conflict comes up, please contact us. We can coach you to handle it, or we can call the other person and negotiate an agreement for you.

Bellevue Conflict Resolution Program, 425-452-4091,
BCRC@bellevuewa.gov,

www.bellevuewa.gov/conflict-resolution.

...Can we make "re-friending" a thing? Can we put aside our differences long enough to rebuild the civic fabric of our communities?

When you help people who live next to one another work things out...you're "re-neighboring" our community. And, at this moment in our civic history, I'm not sure there is anything more important.

~ James Whitfield

President and CEO of Leadership Eastside





Current and former members of the Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network. Started in 2016, the group supports the city's critical outreach efforts.

Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network Recruiting Members

As part of ongoing efforts to provide better service to its increasingly diverse population, the City of Bellevue is seeking up to nine volunteers to serve on the Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network. BDAN members advise and provide insight to city departments on how to better communicate and serve our diverse community.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20.

The city defines diversity broadly and is looking for a wide range of representation. Members of the group are a conduit between the community and city to ensure that Bellevue is a culturally responsive organization guided by the principles of equity, access, inclusion, opportunity and cultural competency.

Interested applicants need to meet the following requirements:

- Work or live in Bellevue;
- Have cultural connections and knowledge of the city's diverse population;
- Possess a willingness, curiosity and interest in bridging cultural gaps to strengthen community;
- Volunteer a minimum of two and up to four hours a month, including monthly network meetings; and
- Serve a two-year term.

Members will be named the first week of September. The selection committee, comprised of current BDAN members, will rank applicants based on their ability to represent a broad range of the community's population and willingness to bridge cultural gaps. The city manager will then appoint members to the body, considering the panel's recommendations.

Bellevue has embraced diversity as a major asset positively impacting the community's economy, culture and education. In 2014, the City Council adopted the [vision statement \(https://www.bellevuewa.gov/city-government/city-council/council-vision/\)](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/city-government/city-council/council-vision/): "Bellevue welcomes the world. Our diversity is our strength." The city is following through with a [Diversity Advantage initiative \(https://www.bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/city-managers-office/diversity/bellevue-diversity-advisory-network/\)](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/city-managers-office/diversity/bellevue-diversity-advisory-network/).

To learn more about BDAN, please contact Mark Manuel, diversity outreach and engagement administrator (mmanuel@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7886).



Boards and Commissions 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.)

Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network

(6pm, Bellevue City Hall) Last Tuesday of each month
<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bdan.htm>

East Bellevue Community Council (6:30pm, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd) First Tuesday of each month
<http://bellevuewa.gov/ebcc.htm>

Arts Commission (4:30pm, 1E-109) First Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

Environmental Services Commission (6:30pm, 1E-113) First Thursday of each month
http://bellevuewa.gov/enviro_serv_comm.htm

Planning Commission (6:30pm, 1E-113) Second and fourth Wednesday of each month
http://bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

Transportation Commission (6:30pm, 1E-113) Second Thursday of the month of each month
http://bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

Human Services Commission (6pm, 1E-113) First and third Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

LEOFF 1 Disability Board (6pm, Room 1E-118) First Tuesday of each month
<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/leoff-1-disability-board.htm>

Library Board (5pm, Lake Hills, Bellevue or Newport Way Library) The third Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/library_board.htm

Parks & Community Services Board (6pm, 1E-113) Second Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

The Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA) has moved to North Bellevue Community Center 4063 148th Ave NE, Bellevue. First Thursday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

Special Events Committee (8:30am, 1E-112) Second Thursday of each month
http://bellevuewa.gov/special_events_committee.htm

Youth Link Board (6pm, 1E-120) Second Wednesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/youth_link_board.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, please visit our website at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood-outreach.htm> or call 425-452-6836 or email: neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov

City Council <https://bellevue.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Day	Scheduled Meeting(s)	Location	Public Comment Opportunity
1 and 3 Mondays except in August and December	6pm, Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8pm, Regular Session	Council Chambers	8pm, Oral Communications
2 and 4 Mondays except in August and December	6-10pm, Extended Study Session	Council Conference Room	6pm, Oral Communications
August - first Monday only	6pm, Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8pm, Regular Session	Council Chambers	8pm, Oral Communications
December - first and second Mondays only	6pm, Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8pm, Regular Session	Council Chambers	8pm, Oral Communications