

Neighborhood News

City of Bellevue

News for and about Bellevue Neighborhoods

January 2010

What could your neighborhood do with a \$5,000 matching grant?

If you have ideas for small projects to improve the appearance of your neighborhood, now is the time to gather your neighbors and translate those ideas into reality. The City of Bellevue Neighborhood Match Program for 2010 kicks off this month. As of Jan. 1, the City is accepting neighborhood matching grant applications for funding of up to \$5,000 for small neighborhood improvements spearheaded by the neighborhoods themselves.

Successful neighborhood projects could include beautification of a median in your neighborhood, installation of an entry sign with landscaping, or even a public art project. A list of criteria for proposed projects and a simple application form can be found at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood_match_program.htm.



To be considered for funding, the neighborhood must contribute 50 percent of the project cost in cash, donated professional services, materials or volunteer labor. Applications must be completed and returned by March 1. For more information, to discuss your project ideas, or to get help with the application process, contact Patricia Knight at 425-452-7917 or pknight@bellevuewa.gov.



How do you plan and implement a neighborhood project?

So you'd like to do a neighborhood match project – or you'd love to involve your neighbors this spring in a Neighbor Link public service project. But isn't it too much work? How do you even get started?

All it takes is a little organizational savvy, a lot of enthusiasm, and one person who can rally a few neighbors to participate. Find out how the City can help you plan and complete a neighborhood project. Attend the next Great Community Workshop:



BUILDING BLOCKS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECTS
Thursday, Jan. 28, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
City Hall Room 1E-112

This workshop provides a quick “how-to” guide for planning and implementing a successful neighborhood project. Topics include: getting organized; holding an effective meeting; scoping a project; budget and timelines; outreach and marketing; sponsorships and donations, evaluation and celebration.

Whether it is a neighborhood clean-up, construction project, fund-raising project, or a charitable project or event – a neighborhood project can be the catalyst to bring your community together. Don't miss this workshop to help

you get started planning your spring and summer neighborhood projects. Space is limited. Please RSVP to pknight@bellevuewa.gov or call Outreach at 425-452-6836 for more information.

Advice from your Bellevue Police

There's something you should know about door to door solicitors . . .

Often times, and particularly in the spring and summer months, Bellevue residents may see solicitors walking through their neighborhoods. These people (usually adolescents, teenagers, or sometimes young adults) offer to sell anything from Girl Scout cookies to magazine subscriptions to religious literature, or even solicit to accept financial donations for various charitable groups. These efforts can be legitimate of course, but some can be overly aggressive and fraudulent.



If someone should knock on your door under circumstances like these there are a few things you should consider:

- ✓ You don't have to open your door, but you should respond in some manner from within your home. Silence, or no response at all, can be met with the door being suddenly forced open by a burglar thinking no one is inside.
- ✓ You can find out everything you need to know about the solicitors from behind the closed door after initially announcing your presence.
- ✓ If you have a suspicious feeling about the solicitor(s) simply ask them to leave. If they do not, call 911 and report the trespassing or the suspicious behavior.
- ✓ If you want to receive them you may simply open the door and conduct your business. The choice is yours, but make that choice an informed one.
- ✓ Remember – legitimate solicitors will have proper identification, credentials, and usually a supervisor for you to contact if you want to verify their authorization.
- ✓ Legitimate solicitors are generally not rude, pushy, or aggressive as it is bad for business. Those that behave in such a manner may be “casing” your home as a target for a later date.

Legitimate solicitors are not rude, pushy or aggressive . . . if you have a suspicious feeling . . . ask them to leave

Courts have decided that many solicitors do not need to be licensed. They are allowed to go door to door and ask your permission to conduct business with you. If you are not interested in conducting this type of business on your property, you should consider posting “no trespassing” or “no solicitors” signs.

If at any time, day or night, you believe you observe something suspicious in your neighborhood or around your home, you should call 911. Bellevue Police will respond and investigate your concern. It is better to be proactive than regret not having called later on. Bellevue residents help the BPD do their jobs. It is a good partnership and one that keeps our citizens safe and our Police in business.

Unique neighborhood partnership creating a cleaner Bellevue

Frankly, Holiday Hill resident Richard Harris was not overjoyed, at first, to have Tent City 4 locate in his neighborhood.

But after getting to know some of the residents and their First Methodist hosts, Richard formed a unique partnership to cement new bonds of respect and friendship between neighbors. Every Tuesday and Thursday since mid-October, Richard and Tent City residents have been cleaning up northwest Bellevue rights-of-way.



Recently, the crew branched out, offering their help to disabled and elderly residents. They plan to continue their work until the end of January, when the homeless encampment moves to a new area. And in fact, Richard now hopes the Tent City partnership will continue to thrive in new locations, bringing long-term benefits to both homeless residents and their temporary neighbors.

January 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.)

1/1 New Year's Day – All city offices closed

1/4 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Election of the Mayor, Election of the Deputy Mayor, Report on the Findings of the 2009-2010 Human Services Needs Update, Eastgate Area Properties Master Plan Review (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) President's Volunteer Service Awards, Consent Calendar http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

1/5 Human Services Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) 2010 Human Services Commission Work Plan, 2011-2012 Funding Strategies http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

1/5 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd) Swearing-in of Community Council members-elect, public hearing on the Carrington Apartment rezone application http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

1/5 Arts Commission (4:00, 1E-109) http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm Agenda to be announced

1/6 City Council (7:30 am special meeting, Conference Room 1E-112) Discussion of Bellevue's 2010 State Legislative Agenda with invited 41st and 48th District legislators http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

1/7 Bellevue Network on Aging (8 a.m., 1E-112) Annual retreat http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

1/7 Environmental Services Commission (6:30, 1E-112) Draft King County Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan http://www.bellevuewa.gov/envIRON_serv_comm.htm

1/7 Community meeting on Spiritridge Elementary conditional use application (6:00, 1E-121) School district application to demolish school, replace with two-story 65,000-square-foot building with reconfigured parking and landscaping

1/11 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Agenda to be announced http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

1/12 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, Council Conference Room) Discussion of Parks & Open Space System Plan and public hearing regarding future parks, open space and recreation needs in Bellevue http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

1/13 Planning Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) East Link briefing, Neighborhood tree preservation http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

1/13 Youth Link Board (6:00, 1E-120) Agenda to be announced

1/14 Transportation Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) SR-520 update, EastLink update http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

1/18 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – All city offices closed

1/19 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Agendas to be announced http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

1/21 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-120) Agenda to be determined http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

1/25 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Agenda to be announced http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

1/27 Planning Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) Shoreline Master Program Update http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm