

Parks & Community Services Board

Regular Meeting

September 10, 2019

6 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall

Room 1E-113

450 110th Avenue NE

Bellevue, WA



AGENDA

Parks & Community Services Board Regular Meeting

<p>Boardmembers:</p> <p>Heather Trescases,, Chair</p> <p>Dave Hamilton, Vice-Chair</p> <p>Paul Clark</p> <p>Stuart Heath</p> <p>Debra Kumar</p> <p>Eric Synn</p> <p>Pamela Unger</p> <p>City Council Liaison:</p> <p>Jennifer Robertson, Councilmember</p> <p>Staff Contacts:</p> <p>Camron Parker 425-452-2032</p> <p>Nancy Harvey 425-452-4162</p>	<p>Tuesday September 10, 2019 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Bellevue City Hall Conference Room 1E-113 450 110th Avenue NE Bellevue, WA 98004</p>
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1. Call to Order of Meeting – Chair Trescases	Page
2. Approval of Agenda	
3. Approval of Park Board Minutes	
a. Minutes from the July 9, 2019 Regular Meeting	1
4. Oral Communications/Public Comments	N/A
<i>Note: Three-minute limit per person; maximum of three persons permitted to speak to each side of any one topic.</i>	
5. Communications from City Council, Community Council, Boards and Commissions	N/A
6. Director’s Report	N/A
7. Board Communication	N/A
8. Chair Communication & Discussion	N/A
Recognition for previous Board Chair, Debra Kumar	
9. Boardmember Committee/Liaison Reports	N/A
10. Discussion/Action Items (presentation/discussion time)	
a. Newport Hills Neighborhood Park – Planning Process and Site Alternatives (feedback/direction requested) – Glenn Kost, Scott Vander Hyden	11



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests, please phone 425-452-4162 (voice) or email nharvey@bellevuewa.gov at least 48 hours in advance. For complaints regarding accommodations, contact the City of Bellevue’s ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice). If you are deaf or hard of hearing, dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible. Room 1E-113, where the Park Board typically meets, is equipped with a hearing loop system.



11. New Business	N/A
12. Proposed Agenda for Next Meeting	N/A
13. Other Communication	
a. CIP Project Status Report	25
b. Memo from staff re Downtown Park NE Gateway Project Update	29
c. Email from Heidi Dean re Newport Hills park planning	33
d. Email from Pamela Johnston re children’s safety/staff salaries	39
e. Email and attachments from Heidi Dean re neighborhood parks vs community parks	41
f. Email from Sierra P re summer camps	51
g. Email from Amber A re summer camps	53
h. List of upcoming Parks special events	55
14. Oral Communications/Public Comments	N/A
<i>Note: Three-minute limit per person; maximum of three persons permitted to speak to each side of any one topic.</i>	
15. Adjournment	N/A

Email the Board: parkboard@bellevuewa.gov

Online information about the Board -
<https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/parks-and-community-services-board>

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday
July 9, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-113
Bellevue, Washington

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Trescases, Vice-Chair Hamilton, Boardmembers Clark, Heath¹, Synn, Unger

BOARDMEMBER ABSENT: Boardmember Kumar

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Shelley Brittingham, Nancy Harvey, Glenn Kost, Shelley McVein, Camron Parker, Doug Sanner

OTHERS PRESENT: Susan Hainze, Karen Mauden, Susan Pappalardo, Katy Terry (King County Dept. of Natural Resources and Parks)

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Trescases at 6:01 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Boardmember Unger and second by Boardmember Clark to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Boardmember Unger and second by Boardmember Synn to approve the June 11, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

¹ Arrived at 6:09 p.m.

4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Susan Pappalardo, SplashForward
320 7th Ave. W., Kirkland, WA

On behalf of the SplashForward Board, Ms. Pappalardo stated that SplashForward has formalized into a WA State nonprofit and a federal tax-exempt 501(c)3 public charity.

SplashForward's role is the following:

- Advocate:
 - Access for all ages and abilities.
 - To build awareness and showcase the great community need.
- Stakeholder:
 - As a thought leader bringing best in class vision and practices, gathered from local and national facilities to demonstrate that operational sustainability is not just a model but attainable.
 - Bring the voices and vision of the stakeholders to the table.
 - Build partnerships with key community stakeholders, local businesses, foundations and institutions.
- Private Funding Partner:
 - Act as the funding vehicle for private capital and ongoing programmatic funding through local, regional, state and national sources.

Ms. Pappalardo clarified that SplashForward has made progress in the following areas:

- Hired an independent Aquatics Consultant in January, 2019.
- Performing a deep regional aquatics analysis to support enhance, and complement the work being done by Bellevue.
- Engaged with and secured the endorsements and support of:
 - Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue
 - Bellevue School District Special Needs PTSA
 - Jubilee Reach
 - Special Olympics of Washington
 - Sports Governing Bodies and User Groups (PNA of Masters Swimming, Pacific Northwest Swimming).
- Continue to broaden outreach efforts and build engagement and awareness within the community.

Ms. Pappalardo stressed that SplashForward is committed to helping guide the effort for the aquatic center.

5. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

No report.

6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Ms. McVein provided the following report:

- Great turnout for the Bellevue Family 4th of July event with approximately 60k people in attendance.
- The Leadership Team has been conducting neighborhood walks. These have been a great opportunity for the leaders of Bellevue to get in touch with the community.
- Some of Bellevue's water beaches have been opened with lifeguards (Newcastle Beach Park, Meydenbauer Beach Park, Enatai Beach Park). Efforts are underway to staff the additional beaches with lifeguards.

7. **BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:**

Boardmember Unger recently participated in the neighborhood walk for her community. She also enjoyed the Bellevue Family 4th of July celebration.

Boardmember Clark thanked the Parks Department for the reusable water bottles that were distributed to Boardmembers. He also visited Downtown Park, Wilburton Hill Park, McCormick Park and Ashwood Park. He commented about the well-maintained grounds around the Bellevue Library, adjacent to Ashwood Park.

Boardmember Synn enjoyed the Bellevue Family 4th of July celebration. He also requested an update regarding the recent developments with Amazon relocating to Bellevue and the effects this may have on park impact fees. Boardmember Heath added that it would be helpful to receive an annual update about the building development projects in Bellevue.

Vice-Chair Hamilton enjoyed spending time at the Newport Hills/Tyler property area. He is anxious to see how this parcel will be developed.

8. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION & DISCUSSION:**

Chair Trescases enjoyed the Bellevue Family 4th of July celebration. She also spoke about the exciting new play structure at Crossroads Park. Like Boardmembers Synn and Heath, Chair Trescases would like an update about the various building developments in Bellevue (i.e., Amazon and Vulcan).

9. **BOARDMEMBER/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:**

No reports.

10. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. **King County Parks Levy Renewal**

Mr. Parker provided an overview of the King County parks levy. The previous King County parks levy was approved by voters in 2003 to support operations and maintenance of regional and rural parks. Mr. Parker noted that the levy was renewed and increased in 2007 and again in 2013 to support both operations and expansion of parks, open space and trails. If the parks levy is renewed in August, the levy would extend from 2020 to 2025.

Katy Terry, King County Parks & Recreation Director, explained that the parks levy goals are to:

- Take care of existing parks and trails
- Increase access
- Improve regional trails and mobility
- Grow and connect regional open space and natural lands

Ms. Terry added that the levy was developed to keep King County's parks, regional trails and open spaces clean, safe and open, as well as keep pace with the growing region by expanding and improving access to parks and recreation for all King County residents. Ms. Terry clarified that the total levy generates an estimated \$810M over a six year period, which is approximately \$0.1832 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The levy would break down in the following manner:

- 39% - Keep parks and trails clean, safe and open (\$319M)
- 24% - Make parks, green spaces and recreation more accessible (\$193M)
- 20% - Improve regional trails and mobility (\$166M)
- 15% - Grow and connect regional open space (\$121M)
- 2% - Other costs (\$13M)

Some of the specific investments in and around Bellevue include:

- Eastside Rail Corridor
- Pass-through funding for Bellevue parks and trails
- New and expanded grant funding for cities

Ms. Terry reviewed a detailed investments summary of some of the levy allocations.

Ms. Terry discussed the fundamentals of a levy and the voting process, in response to questions from Boardmember Unger regarding this topic. Ms. Terry also discussed some of the ramifications if the levy does not pass.

Boardmember Clark asked if the levy calculations were calculated bottom-up or top-down. Ms. Terry explained that the greatest interests and concerns were taken into consideration for the levy. A significant amount of outreach was also conducted with many stakeholder groups to obtain feedback for the continuation levy or a levy with additional investments. An executive proposal was developed and then the King County Council deliberated on the findings. When King County Council approved the levy, there were very specific tasks identified.

Boardmember Clark inquired if the 8th Street Bridge is parallel to the light rail. Ms. Terry discussed the trail crossing in this area and the sensitive nature of the crossing. She added that this specific crossing is complementary to the Sound Transit crossing.

In regards to the aquatic center funding, Boardmember Clark asked if the project is county-wide and if other municipalities are moving forward in support of the project. Ms. Terry noted that the greatest interest for the aquatic center project is from the Cities of Bellevue, Redmond and Kirkland. The Cities of Shoreline and Enumclaw have also expressed interest in the project.

Boardmember Clark asked how Bellevue would access the funds allocated in the grant program portion of the levy. Ms. Terry explained that King County Council is evaluating the grant requirements and how the process might work. There are already other grants administered through King County so the process will most likely be similar.

In regards to the length of the levy, Boardmember Synn inquired if six years is a common length of time. Ms. Terry clarified that a six year levy is the maximum amount when the index is set to inflation—this is a state statute.

Boardmember Synn asked when the current Bellevue Parks levy will expire. Mr. Parker clarified that Bellevue's levy was approved in 2008 and is a 20 year levy. However, the City is not prohibited from having another levy. Boardmember Synn expressed concern about the risk of being over-levied with the King County levy ending in 2025 and the Bellevue levy ending in 2028. Ms. Terry explained that there has been a lot of discussion regarding the levy timing. This has also been considered during the outreach process. Ms. Terry added that King County is trying to focus their investments on things the cities within King County might not be able to do. The hope is that the King County levy will be complementary to other jurisdictions' levies.

Boardmember Synn asked how many King County Councilmembers represent Bellevue. Ms. Terry noted that Bellevue fits into two Council districts so both Councilmembers Balducci and Dunn represent Bellevue.

Boardmember Heath expressed his support of the levy and thanked staff for the presentation.

Vice-Chair Hamilton asked if informal polling has been conducted for the levy. Ms. Terry explained that once the levy goes onto the ballot, campaigning can commence. However, outreach efforts have been ongoing.

Boardmember Unger asked if growth is being accommodated within the levy. Ms. Terry explained that it is always a challenge to keep the level of service up, while having new things. Keeping parks clean, safe and open has a small amount of staff allocated to take care of these things.

Boardmember Synn requested clarification regarding the \$36M provided to the Woodland Park Zoo. Ms. Terry noted that these funds are over a six year time period for continued environmental education and conservation programs.

B. Aquatics Facility Feasibility Study

Mr. Kost and Mr. Sanner provided an overview of the Aquatic Center Feasibility Study. Mr. Sanner clarified that the presentation was for informational purposes only—no Parks Board decision/approval was needed.

Mr. Sanner recalled that the existing Bellevue Aquatic Center (BAC) was built in the 1970s and acquired by the City in 1997. A 2009 study supported the need for a contemporary regional aquatic facility. However, the concept did not move forward due to the recession and the lack of a partnership interest. Regional interest in an aquatic center resurfaced in 2017. In November 2018, the City approved a consultant contract with ARC Architects to help inform the Council's decision on whether to proceed with exploring an aquatic center. Mr. Sanner said the 2018-2020 Council Vision highlights the development of a regional aquatic center as a priority.

Mr. Sanner identified a number of potential partners for a regional aquatic center. He noted that the Bellevue School District submitted a letter of interest to meet the needs of student athletes and is exploring capital funding options. City staff has presented a project overview to the Bellevue College Board of Trustees. Mr. Sanner said staff has had initial conversations with healthcare and wellness providers. However, the City has not yet pursued corporate sponsorship. The City will continue to work with King County to discuss the benefits of a coordinated regional approach and potential funding mechanisms. Mr. Sanner highlighted the advocacy of the SPLASH Forward group as well.

Mr. Kost stated that the feasibility study update includes a number of tasks, including:

- Finalize the scale and scope of the program elements, and preparing a schematic drawing and architectural rendering
- Update the estimated capital costs by program element and identify potential cost recovery strategies
- Update the estimated operating cost performance by program element
- Conduct a site feasibility analysis
- Develop a financing and operations plan, potentially with public, private and/or nonprofit partnerships
- Prepare communication tools and conduct public outreach meetings and presentations
- Provide information on how existing pools and aquatic facilities might be impacted by a new aquatics center

Mr. Kost noted that the consultant team for the feasibility study update includes: 1) ARC Architects, the primary consultant and a participant in the 2009 study; 2) Ballard*King to address income statements, cost recovery, and business planning; and 3) the Aquatic Design Group to address a sustainable aquatic center design to meet the needs of the project partners. Mr. Kost added that that SPLASH Forward and the Isaac Sports Group are developing complementary/supporting information.

Mr. Kost discussed the following core principles of the study:

- Bellevue is considering a contemporary, state-of-the-art facility to meet aquatic needs and promote community health and wellness.
- The facility will be culturally inclusive, operationally sustainable, and a vibrant hub for the entire community.
- The facility will serve the full range of fitness, recreation, health, and programs for all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.
- Bellevue encourages partnerships with public, non-profit, and for-profit organizations that enhance the ability to meet demand and support universal public access.

Mr. Kost summarized the work to date on the feasibility study update, which includes working with SPLASH Forward, evaluating sizing and development issues, developing a framework for evaluating costs and program options, reaching out to potential partners, participating in the King County regional process, and gathering financial, marketing, and programming information from comparable facilities. He highlighted the lessons learned from the 2009 study and described potential program elements to be provided by a regional aquatic center in the areas of leisure/recreation, instruction/fitness, program pool, wellness/rehabilitation, and competitive sports.

Mr. Kost explained that a regional aquatic facility could be accommodated on a four-acre site with structured parking, or up to a seven-acre site with surface parking. A detailed site analysis is proposed for Bellevue College, Lincoln Center, Marymoor Park, and Airfield Park. Mr. Kost noted that additional sites could emerge based on the King County regional study and/or partners' interests.

Boardmember Unger commented that it is difficult to integrate Bellevue College with the community.

Boardmember Synn asked if privatization of the open space within the aquatic facility being considered (i.e., another business within the dry side amenities of the facility). Mr. Kost explained that some options have been discussed, like Starbucks. He added that the dry side amenities are being explored to help drive down the operating cost of the aquatic facility. If dry side amenities are incorporated, Chair Trescases requested that the amenities complement the aquatic facility.

Mr. Sanner said the next steps in the process for Council are a review of the aquatic center technical options (i.e., preliminary program, design, financial model) this fall and a review of the final study in First Quarter 2020 (i.e., partnerships, business model, and funding alternatives).

Mr. Sanner reviewed Council's feedback from the study, including: general support for the proposed approach, financial analysis and partnership modes; continue to study full-service facility ("Go Big or Go Home"); support the need to evaluate separate deep water tank; explore the future of BAC/Odle Pool; and explore impacts on Bellevue's neighborhood pools and Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center.

Boardmember Unger asked if there has been any preliminary feedback from the local and regional pools. Mr. Kost said that initial feedback shows support of the aquatic center concept, with one minor exception from Samena Pool regarding programming.

Boardmember Unger expressed her support for the Lincoln Center site as the favored aquatic center location.

Boardmember Clark asked if Odle Pool can be repurposed as a fun, non-competitive swimming pool and then build a competitive swimming pool at an alternate location. He favors Bellevue College for the competitive pool location and supports the overall concept.

From a viability standpoint, Boardmember Synn views the Lincoln Center location as the least favorable option. Mr. Kost clarified that all sites are still being considered. Boardmember Synn also asked how an agreement would work if Marymoor Park or a location outside of Bellevue was selected. Mr. Sanner discussed some of the current interlocal agreements and fee differentials that may also be considered for an aquatic facility if the location is not located within Bellevue. Boardmember Synn would like Bellevue citizens given priority/discounted pricing if the facility is located in Bellevue.

Boardmember Heath expressed his support of the aquatic facility concept and the process that is being undertaken to determine viability. He also supports SplashForward and citizens being highly involved in the process. Boardmember Heath noted that there is public perception that the focus is on a regional aquatic center. He supports both large and small aquatic facilities being considered. He would also like the City to err on the side of caution and conduct early outreach and consider partnership opportunities for the site location.

Vice-Chair Hamilton asked why Highland Park was eliminated as a preferred site location. Mr. Kost clarified that the aquatic facility would have taken the entire park/community center so it was eliminated from the list. Vice-Chair Hamilton also inquired about the presentation tools being used. Mr. Kost explained that stakeholder interviews have been conducted but there is currently limited information to show the public.

In regards to Boardmember Synn's comments about discounted pricing for Bellevue residents for the aquatic facility, Chair Trescases reminded Boardmembers that many of Bellevue's programs, including the BAC, operate with resident and non-resident pricing. She supports a facility with the "dream big" concept and multiple uses; however, she cautioned about selecting Bellevue College as the preferred site location due to significant traffic congestion in the area.

Boardmember Unger asked if Bellevue College would support an aquatic facility that wasn't located at the college. Mr. Kost responded that this is not likely. He added that the size and expense of the facility will be substantial—various financial mechanisms are being discussed.

Boardmember Synn suggested that funding cycles be taken into consideration since this might create additional risk (i.e., King County levy funding cycle, Bellevue Parks levy funding cycle, etc.).

Motion by Boardmember Clark and second by Boardmember Unger to extend the meeting to 8:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

11. **NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

12. **PROPOSED AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:**

Mr. Parker reminded Boardmembers that the August Board meeting has been cancelled. The September meeting agenda will tentatively include the following items:

- Newport Hills Neighborhood Park Design Presentation
- Choices Plan for Individuals with Disabilities

13. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. CIP Project Status Report
- B. Memo re Election Activities and Public Disclosure Commission Rules
- C. Memo and Proclamation re World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (from Council Packet)
- D. Email re Youth Sports
- E. Email re Ashwood Park planning
- F. Note re Downtown Park
- G. List of upcoming Parks special events

14. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Karen Mauden
316 131st Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA

Ms. Mauden suggested that the scope of the aquatic center analysis include the community. She also suggested that the feasibility study include the voice of the business community and region. The facility needs a return on investment and the old Sears facility in Redmond should be considered.

These minutes are in DRAFT form until approved by the Parks & Community Services Board.

Susan Pappalardo, SplashForward
320 7th Ave. W., Kirkland, WA

Ms. Pappalardo clarified that the lifeguard shortage at various Bellevue beach parks is a national issue. She also noted that various user groups are being evaluated for their commitments and sustaining partnerships for an aquatic center.

Susan Hainze
2 Diamond S. Ranch, Bellevue, WA

Ms. Hainze expressed her support for a large-scaled aquatic facility. Her kids participate in competitive aquatics—Ms. Hainze discussed the huge lack of pool time for this sport.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Trescases adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

MEMORANDUM



Bellevue Parks &
Community Services

Date: September 10, 2019

To: Parks & Community Services Board

From: Glenn Kost, Planning & Development Manager
Scott Vander Hyden, Project Manager

Subject: Newport Hills Neighborhood Park - planning process & site alternatives
No action – discussion/direction requested

BACKGROUND & INITIAL VISION PLANNING (2011-2015)

Part of the 2008 Bellevue Parks & Natural Areas Levy included “Acquisition Opportunity Funding” dedicated to “*obtain land that complements the existing park system to increase access to lake shores, preserve open space.....and create opportunities for new neighborhood parks.*” The Park and Open Space System Plan identified the Newport Hills subarea as deficient in neighborhood park land, so the staff sought land to create a neighborhood park. In February 2010 the City acquired the Tyler property, a 4.79-acre parcel along SE 60th St. with the assistance of matching funds from King County. Approximately half of the property is a large, gently sloping grassy area, with the remainder a steeply sloping, wooded open space. No funds were available for any significant development, so in the summer of 2010, the City simply removed part of an old residential foundation, created 2-3 gravel parking spaces, installed park entry signs, dog waste bags and began basic park maintenance. The area quickly became a popular, though unofficial, off-leash area (OLA). Park Rangers would periodically remind users that dogs were to be kept on-leash, but with limited success.

In early 2011 the Newport Hills Community Club (NHCC) President approached the City to develop a “Vision Plan” for the park. We reminded NHCC that no funds existed to plan for or develop the park and cautioned against setting unreasonable expectations. However, we eventually agreed to assist NHCC with the understanding that it would be a neighborhood-driven process. NHCC appointed a Park Committee (PC) Chair and initiated a neighborhood outreach effort. The PC Chair solicited feedback at NHCC’s annual 4th of July picnic and ran an on-line survey. City staff also attended 3 NHCC monthly meetings and two neighborhood picnics. The results of those outreach efforts are provided on **Attachment 1**. A dog park was clearly the most popular element requested for the new park, though a wide variety of additional park amenities were also requested.

By 2012, the NHCC leadership had changed and the PC chair resigned. NHCC appointed a PC and Chair to work with the City to finalize the vision plan. Using previous feedback and comments from a subsequent NHCC meeting, the PC prepared two alternative plans to represent the views of NHCC. Each contained varying sized OLA’s and general use areas. These plans were reviewed by NHCC, and after further comments, the City drafted a vision plan that was approved by NHCC in June 2015. The NHCC-prepared and approved Vision Plan are depicted on **Attachment 2**.

Separately, in June 2015 the City purchased the adjacent 5.02-ac Patterson property, again using King County matching funds. This property is a heavily wooded, steeply sloping open space. The acquisition was to preserve open space. In late 2015 through the summer of 2016, we developed a soft-surface loop trail through the Patterson property with the assistance of Eagle Scouts and local businesses. In January of 2019, the City approved the purchase of the adjacent 3.7-acre Brick Property to continue the open space system. The park is now 13.7-acres (**Attachment 3**). 3.0-3.25 acres are considered developable, with the remainder in open space and passive recreation.

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH (2019)

In December of 2018 the City Council approved the 2019-25 CIP budget that included \$3m to plan, design and construct a new neighborhood park in Newport Hills, commonly referred to as the Tyler Property. In February of 2019, staff met with the NHCC President to alert them to the availability of funds and to re-engage the neighborhood in the park planning process. Unlike the previous outreach, the City would lead the process.

On May 21, 2019 staff attended a NHCC meeting at Newport Hills Community Church to re-introduce the project to the neighborhood. Invitations were mailed to 3,189 Newport Hills residents, advertised on the City and NHCC websites, on the NextDoor app, and .gov alerts. Approximately 75 people attended, including Councilmembers Robertson & Zahn and Park Board members Kumar, Hamilton, Heath and Clark. Staff shared project history, past outreach efforts, the expected planning process, and urged residents to offer feedback to help inform the plan moving forward.

Between the May 21 meeting and July 23 City staff received 55 emails expressing preferences for park amenities. Verbatim comments were previously provided to the Board. Some advocated that all developable land be dedicated as an OLA, though more requested both an OLA and a common area with a variety of neighbor-requested park amenities. These comments are consistent with the results of the earlier process that reflected the neighborhood's desire for both neighborhood park amenities and an OLA component. Frequently requested park amenities included trails, children's play area, picnic shelter and gathering area, benches, and an open lawn area.

On July 23, the City hosted a second meeting at Newport Hill Swim and Tennis Club. Invitations and alerts were identical to the first meeting. Approximately 50 residents attended, including Park Board members Kumar, Hamilton and Clark and Councilmember Zahn. Attendees were asked to sign-in with names, addresses and contact information. Of the 42 that signed-in, 41 provided addresses from the Newport Hills area and one from nearby Somerset. Staff summarized the comments received following the May meeting and presented three alternative park plans followed by breakout stations to allow residents to closely review the plans, ask questions and encourage dialogue. A description of each plan is presented below.

PLAN ALTERNATIVES

The three plan alternatives have been developed to reflect the neighbor's interests, which provide varying levels of program use and intensity. About 3/4 of the park will remain natural open space and passive recreation, with development limited to soft-surface trails and a ravine overlook. The remaining area will provide park visitors with a variety of recreation opportunities. Park elements common to all three plan alternatives include:

- A fenced OLA. The size varies slightly with each option, ranging from 1.6-1.75 acres. Each option includes a double fenced entry, drainage improvements, informational kiosk and water station.
- A general use park area. The size varies with each option, ranging from 1.35-1.50 acres. Each option would contain open lawn area, a picnic shelter and gathering area (varying size) and pathway connections;
- Soft surface trail connection to 116th SE, future trail connection to the Brick Property and ravine overlook;
- Park frontage improvements along SE 60th St. and pedestrian crosswalk at 116th Ave SE;
- Sani-can with an enclosure;
- Parking improvements.

Alternative A (Attachment 4): The least developed of the three alternatives, it closely resembles the 2015 Vision Plan. The OLA is 1.75-acres and the general use area is 1.35-acres with a small (15'x25') picnic shelter and an open lawn area. The small off-street parking area would be expanded slightly and the picnic shelter would include an access drive with one ADA and one service/convenience parking stall;

Alternative B (Attachment 5): Moderately developed, this option adds several amenities to Alternative A such as a larger (20'x30') general use picnic shelter, a perimeter loop trail and a children's adventure play area. The OLA is reduced slightly in size to accommodate the perimeter path. A small shelter, agility equipment and a dog wash station are added to the OLA. Off-street parking is relocated to near the picnic shelter and lighting is added to allow for the OLA to be used after dark.

Alternative C (Attachment 6): The most highly developed, this option provides the largest (20'x35') picnic shelter/gathering space, includes a grass viewing/seating mound and adds adult exercise equipment to the play area. It includes a separate shy/timid dog area and provides two small shelters in lieu of one larger one in the OLA. A small retaining wall is proposed to separate the OLA from general park area, creating a more level and useable general park area and an overlook/viewpoint into the OLA. This would also create a more defined sense of space between the OLA and the general park uses. A section view of this feature is depicted on **Attachment 7**.

FEEDBACK RECEIVED ON THE THREE ALTERNATIVES

140 responses have been received to-date: 20 comment cards received at the July 23rd meeting, 9 email comments following the meeting, and 111 responses to an on-line survey posted on the City website. The survey depicted the three alternative plans and asked respondents to identify their preferred alternative and desired amenities. The results are as follows:

Alternative A:	13 (9%)
Alternative B:	35 (25%)
Alternative C:	63 (45%)
Combination:	15 (11%)
Neither Alternative:	1 (< 1%)
None chosen	13 (9%)

The most popular general park area amenities:

1. Loop Trail 84%
2. Open Lawn Area 75%
3. Picnic Table/Benches 75%
4. Community Shelter 71%
5. Off-leash Overlook 55%
6. Grassy Hillside 53%

The most popular OLA amenities:

1. Dog Wash / Water Station 76%
2. Air Lock Entries 72%
3. Shelter(s) 63%
4. Small/Timid Dog Area 51%

Though optional, respondents were asked to identify their city and zip code. Of the 57 that provided their city, 51 were from Bellevue, 3 from Renton and 3 from Newcastle. Of the 53 that provided zip codes: 45 were in 98006 (south Bellevue), 2 in Bellevue north of I-90 and 6 in Renton or Newcastle.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Each alternative identifies separate spaces for the OLA and general park area. To help assess the merit of the alternatives, it is important to understand whether the spaces can successfully achieve their intended purpose. To compare the proposed space allocations to existing spaces within Bellevue's park system, some comparable areas are listed below for the OLA and general park area.

OLA proposed @ 1.60 - 1.75-acres. Two OLAs exist at Robinswood Park. The larger corral, located near 148th Ave SE, is 1.25-acres and improved with a double-gated entry, information kiosk, small shelter, water station and loop pathway. The smaller (0.5-acre) corral is located behind the tennis center and generally used by smaller dogs. It includes a double-gated entry, information kiosk, small shelter and benches. Both facilities are very popular.

While the City Council has taken no action, the Park Board approved recommendations contained in a 2010 system-wide OLA study. Key recommendations from that study include:

- Establish a service level standard of one OLA for every 30,000 residents, which would require (in 2010) 3 additional OLAs in addition to Robinswood (now 4);
- Geographically disperse OLAs in identified areas of need, specifically in Downtown, central Bellevue and south Bellevue.
- Established criteria for locating OLAs in existing parks, including parking, residential buffers and size, recommending that OLAs be a minimum of 1-acre in size.

General park area proposed @ 1.35 – 1.50-acres. Bellevue maintains several parks or park areas comparable in size to the area proposed at Newport Hills, including:

- Evergreen Park @ 1.33-acres with a children's playground, court games area, restroom, pathways and off-street parking;
- Norwood Village Park @ 1.6-acres with 2 tennis courts, 2 basketball courts, children's playground and open lawn area.
- Bridle Trails Corner Park @ 1.37-acres, with a children's playground, small parking lot, loop pathway and open lawn area. Area excludes the wetland and steep slopes.
- Killarney Glen @ 10.44-acres. The developed (general use) area is 2.2-acres with two tennis courts, children's playground and pathways. The adjacent wooded natural area is 8.2-acres.
- Ashwood Park @ 1.8-acres. Open lawn area only - excludes the parking lot.

- Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area @ 0.7-acres. Separate from the main park, with two picnic shelters, restroom, connecting pathways and open lawn area.

Though vastly different uses, another size comparison are the synthetic turf soccer fields at Newport Hills (1.6-ac) and Wilburton Hill (2.0-ac with perimeter track).

And finally, the picnic shelters range in size from 375-700sf with capacities of 2-4 picnic tables. These are relatively small shelters consistent with a neighborhood park, but large enough to accommodate large families or small groups. For comparison, the two shelters at Surrey Downs Park are 320sf (2 tables) and 480sf (3 tables). Our larger shelters at Crossroads Park (1,700sf) and Newcastle Beach (1,300sf) community parks are popular with large groups and company outings.

Though these parks or park areas are uniquely different, each reflects the interests of the users and neighborhood. All have proven successful over time and are well-loved neighborhood amenities.

EXPECTED NEXT STEPS & TIMELINE

Using the information from the outreach effort, together with the feedback received from the Park Board, the staff will prepare a “Preferred Alternative” Plan to present to the neighbors at a public meeting scheduled September 24. Based on feedback from that meeting, we will make any necessary revisions and present it to the Park Board at your November meeting asking that the Board recommend that the Council endorse the plan and authorize the staff to proceed with detailed design, permitting and construction.

A Council Study Session is expected in late 2019/early 2020 to review the preferred plan and Park Board recommendation. Assuming Council endorses the plan, we expect to complete park construction in 2020.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2011 NHCC survey responses
2. 2012-2015 Early Vision Plans
3. Park property aerial
- 4-7. Park Plan alternatives A, B and C and section view

NHCC Survey Response Summaries (2011)

Results of Online Survey Conducted by Newport Hills Community Club p(NHCC) in 2011

<u>Use or Idea</u>	<u>Number of Responses</u>
Dog Park	22
Skate Park	9
Children's Play Area	8
Walking/running path	7
Picnic Area	7
Community Gardens / P-Patch	4
Water Play area	4
Sports Fields	4
More Parking & lighting	4
Restrooms	4
Other improvements (Basketball, Frisbee golf, Covered stage, community center tennis courts, older kids' area sand volleyball, pickleball, Climbing wall, do nothing)	3 or fewer
Total Responses	93

Intercept Survey - NHCC 4th of July Picnic

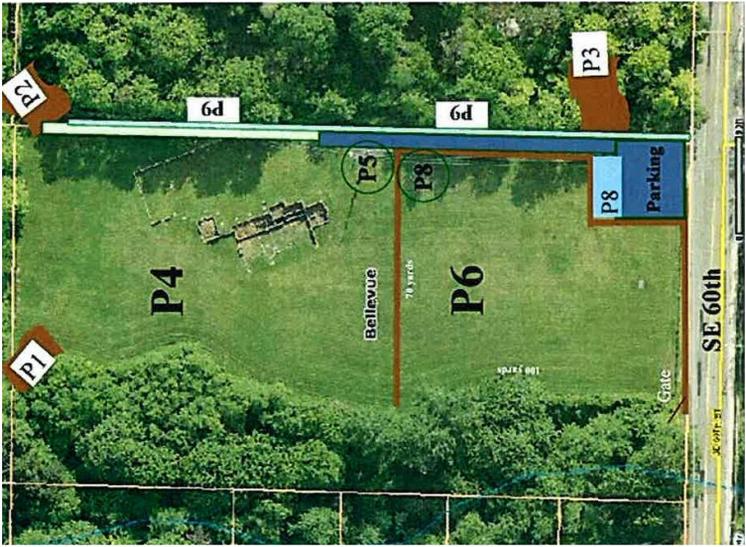
<u>Use or Idea</u>	<u>Number of Responses</u>
Dog Park	14
Young kids playground	13
Skateboard park	7
P-Patch	6
Older kids playground	5
Tennis courts	5
Community Center	4
Grass field	4
Other improvements (Picnic tables, trees, sports fields basketball court, mountain bikes walking trails, farmers market, golf, water fountain, model airplanes rock climbing)	2 or fewer
Total Responses	76

2012-2015 'Vision Planning'

NHCC Prepared Options



Option 1



Option 2



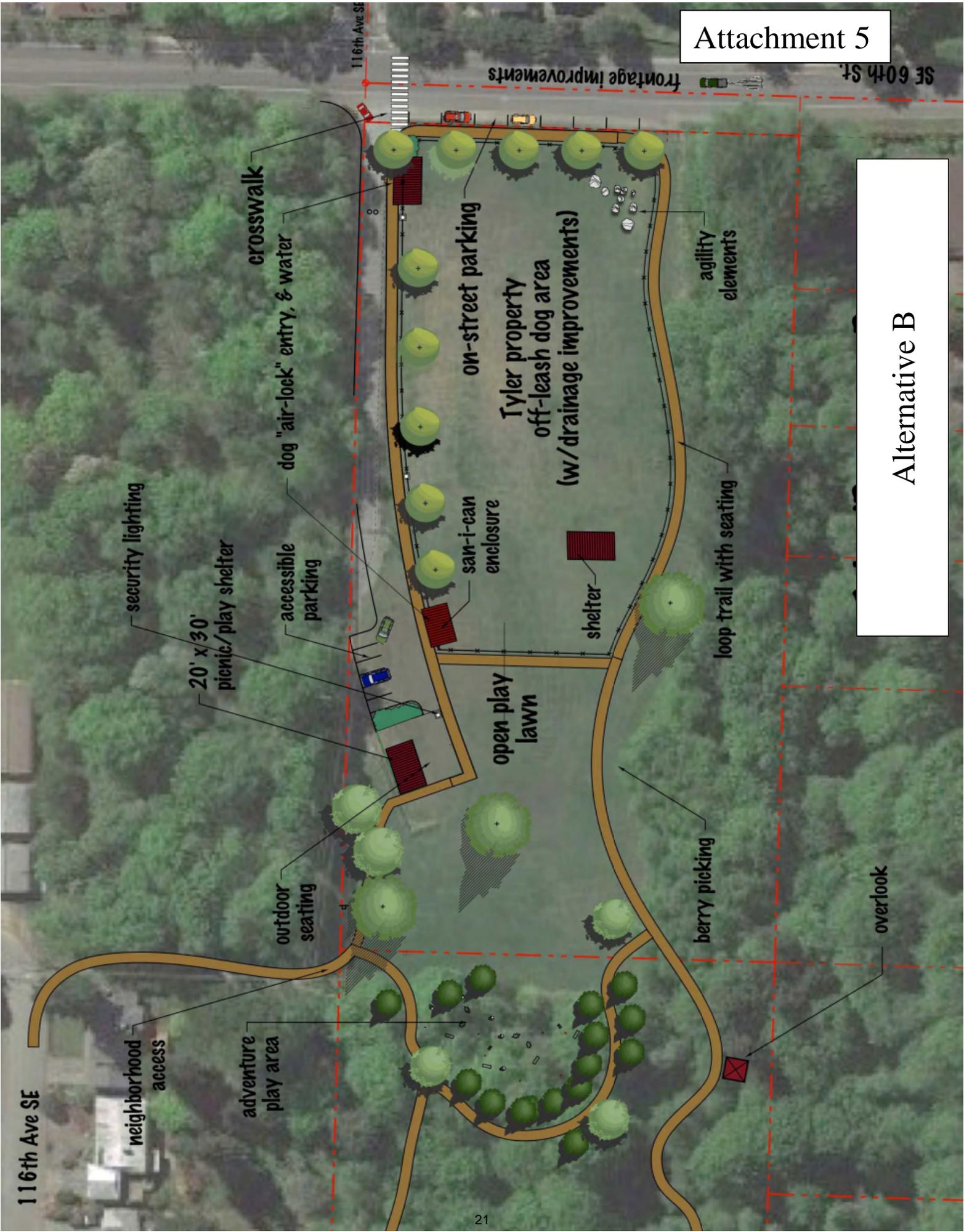
Approved Vision Plan

- P1-3: Pathway/trail connection
- P4: General park area elevated with tables & chairs
- P5: Light on pole
- P6: Fenced OLA
- P7/P10: Perimeter path
- P8: Expanded parking
- P9: Water fountain
- P11: Info kiosk



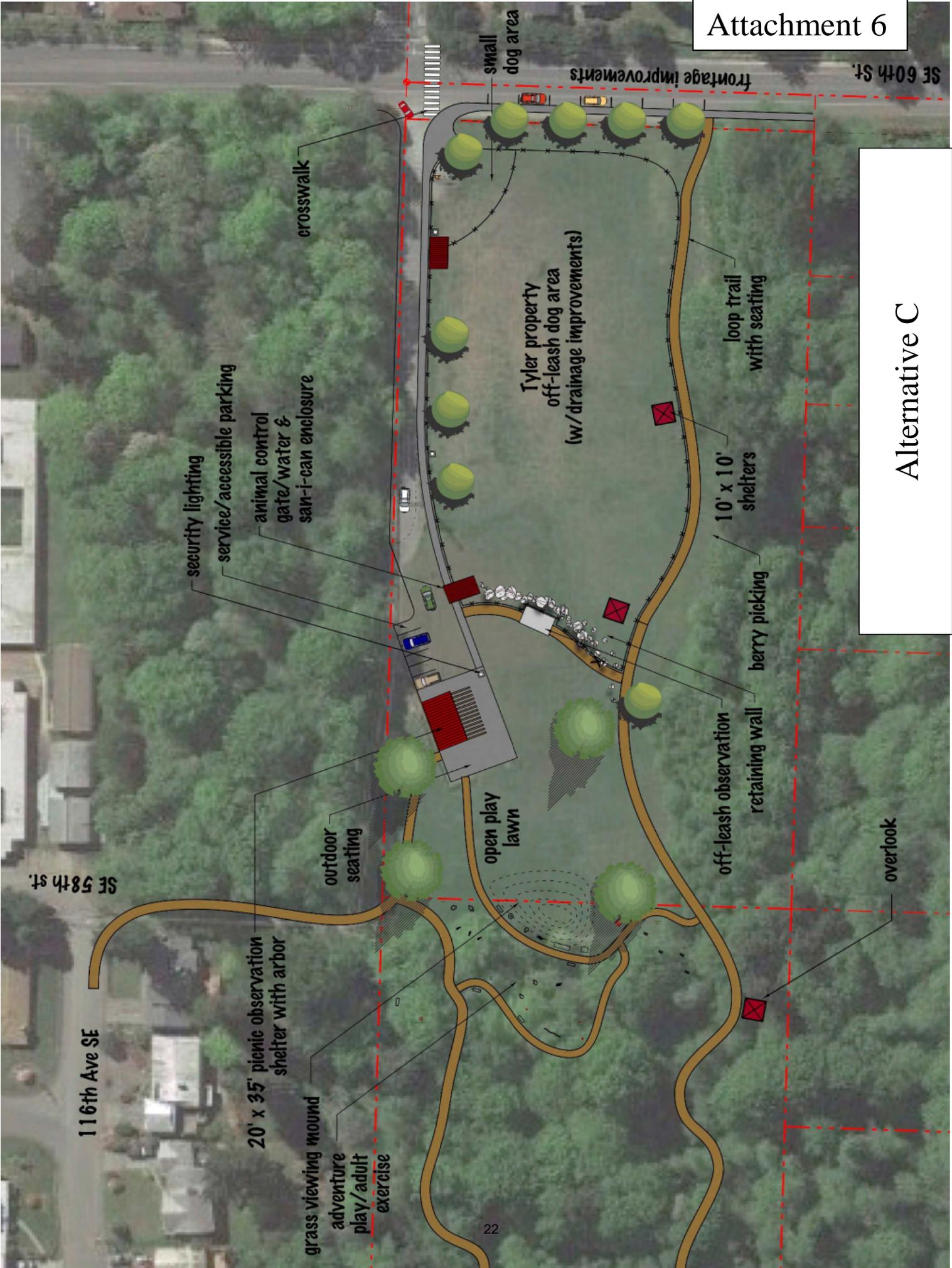
Alternative A

116th Ave SE

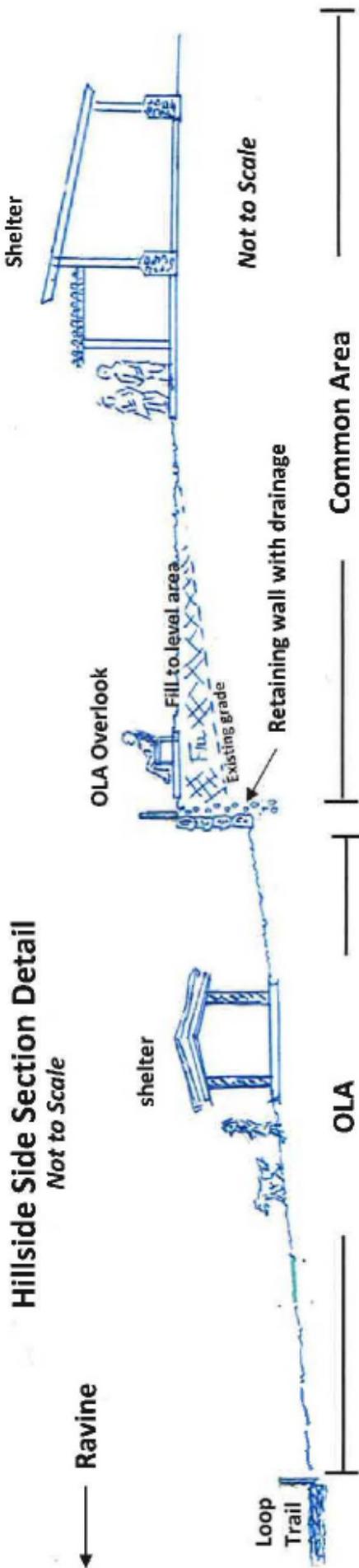


Alternative B

Alternative C



Side Section Detail- Alternative C- Overlook



Overlook feature

- Creates additional level common area
- Improves drainage in OLA
- Excess material could create hillside berm



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT August 2019

Aquatic Center Feasibility Study

Staff presented the status of the aquatic center study to the Board and briefed them on general program, sites and opportunities. Staff continues to work with SplashForward to solidify area aquatic needs and opportunities to address in the feasibility update. We have finalized initial program options and are now developing capital and operating costs for each option, and preparing site analyses. We continue to meet with representatives of Bellevue College to explore opportunities for locating the facility on their campus, and expect to meet again with their Board of Trustees in September. We also met recently with Bellevue School District representatives, who continued to express interest in partnering on this facility. We are scheduled to present a preliminary report to the Council in October, with a final report expected in spring 2020.

Ashwood Park Master Plan Update

Survey and analysis work is underway. Staff is working with MacLeod Reckord and the design team on the project schedule, developing a public outreach plan, and informing site and regulatory analysis. Survey work should be complete early September and we plan to begin public outreach later this fall or early winter.

Ashwood Plaza

The current 1020 Tower building owner, UDR, has begun work to make landscape repairs to the plaza located above their underground garage and adjacent to Ashwood Park. Repairs include replacement of planter box: water-proofing, irrigation, lighting, soil, and plants. Staff is participating in construction meetings and monitoring work to assure successful operation and maintenance. Work should be complete by the end of October.

Bridle Trails 140th Street Park Development

Construction design and permitting phases will begin later this year, with construction following in 2021. Staff met with BTCC in March to present the project timeline and attended the Bridle Trails Night Out event in August to begin the process for naming the park. Staff will attend BTCC's February quarterly meeting to update the community on the planning process.

Downtown Park – NE Gateway

Staff has prepared a response to the Board regarding their expressed concerns about the loss of trees and amount of hardscape, and an update on the public art. Council conducted a public hearing regarding the vacation and closure of the NE 4th Street right-of-way (alley). No opposition was received and we are finalizing the vacation. Environmental and construction permits have been submitted and staff is preparing for an early spring public bid, with construction starting this spring. The artist has refined the proposed art piece and will be requesting final Arts Commission approval at their meeting of September 10.

Hearing Assistance for Public Spaces

The staff is finalizing a study to determine the hearing assistance needs for the large meeting spaces in our community centers. The study includes Highland, South Bellevue, North Bellevue and

Crossroads Community Centers as well as the Botanical Garden Visitor Center. When complete, the spaces will be prioritized and a determination made as to which spaces can be completed within available funding. We plan to install a hearing loop at North Bellevue Community Center this fall, with the remaining spaces following next year. We are working with the City's ADA coordinator.

Newport Hills/Tyler Park

Work continues on neighborhood park planning in the Newport Hills neighborhood. We attended a Newport Hills Community Club meeting on May 21 to kick-off public outreach. Over 70 people attended, and 55 responses were received from neighbors expressing their desires for this park. Three alternative site plans were presented at the second community meeting held July 23. 140 comments (comment cards, emails & on-line survey) have been received following this meeting. We will present our findings to the Park Board for feedback on September 10 and have a third community meeting scheduled on February 24 to present a preferred plan. We hope to have the park completed by the end of 2020.

Park & Natural Areas Levy Projects Summary

- **Synthetic Sportsfield at Wilburton Hill Park:** Project complete.
- **Synthetic Sportsfield at Newport Hills Park:** Project complete.
- **Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area:** Project complete.
- **BYT Construction:** Project complete.
- **Bellevue Airfield Park:** Site analysis and initial schematic design is complete. The cost estimates for Phase 1 are significantly over the anticipated budget, so we continue to explore schematic design options and costs to determine the Phase 1 scope of work.
- **Botanical Garden Projects:**
 - **Ravine Garden:** Project complete.
 - **Visitor Center:** Project complete.
- **Neighborhood Parks:**
 - **Bridle Trails/140th Ave property acquisition:** Project complete.
 - **Bridle Trails Corner Park acquisition & development:** Project complete.
 - **Newport Hills Tyler/Patterson acquisition:** Project complete.
- **Downtown Park "Complete the Circle" Development:** Project complete.
- **Hidden Valley/Boys & Girls Club Partnership:** Project complete.
- **Lake Sammamish Neighborhood Park:** No activity.
- **Surrey Downs Park Development:** Project complete.

Renovation Program

Project Status: Planning (P); Design & Bid (DB); Construction (C); Complete (CP); Deferred (D)

The following projects were deferred into 2019:

- Chism Burrows Insurance Claim (CP)
- Coal Creek Lower Bridges (P)
- Crossroads CC Air Handler (CP)
- Eastgate Park Ticket booth & deck (CP)
- Meydenbauer Whaling Building (CP)
- Forest Glen Playground (CP)
- Highland CC Door & Lock (CP)
- Kelsey Creek Rabbit Hutch (CP)
- Lattawood Playground (CP)
- Bannerwood Power Extension (CP)

70 projects are approved for the 2019 program, as follows:

Programmatic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park furnishings (C) • Multi-site asphalt repairs (C) • Energy Conservation (C) • NPDES requirements (C) • Natural Area Restoration (C) • Urban Forestry Park Sites (C) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streetscapes (C) • Greenways & Trails (C) • Pedestrian Counter System (D) • Irrigation Modem Repl (CP) • Dock Inspections (CP)
Ardmore Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground Improv (NEP) (CP) 	
Bellevue Aquatic Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carpet Replacement (DB) • Recirculating Pump Replacement (DB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm Springs Liner Repl (P) • Fire Suppression Add (CP)
Chandler Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation System Replacement (CP) 	
Crossroads Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spray Park & Play Area Impr (CP) • Sport Court Repairs (CP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CC Playground Swing Repl (CP) • Gym Air Conditioning (DB) • Vault Access Improvements (P) • Challenge Course Improv. (DB)
Downtown Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plaza Power Extension (CP) 	
Eastgate Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SBCC Boiler Replacement (CP) 	
Evergreen Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation Repl. (DB) 	
Forest Hill Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground Equipt & Surf Repl. (DB) 	
Highland Community Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boardwalk Repairs (CP) • Indoor Skate Park Remodel (CP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gym Air Conditioning (DB)
Kelsey Creek Farm Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picnic Shelter Restain (CP) • Trail Timber Stair Repl (DB) • Ed Barn Fan Install (CP) • Transformer Relocation A&E (DB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Connector Trail Repair (D) • Barn Conc Apron&Drain (CP) • Footbridge Replacement (CP)
Killarney Glen Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power POC Reconfigure (DB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport Court Repair & Resurf (CP)
Lake Hills Greenbelt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabin Roof & Ext Maint (C) • Ranger Station Interp Signs (DB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larsen Produce Stand Cooler (CP) • Produce Stand Farm Bridges (CP) • Produce Stand Parking Imp (DB)
Lake Hills Nursery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bunker Improvements (DB) 	
Lake Hills Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballfield Asphalt Repair (DB) 	
Lakemont Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street of Dreams Trail Repair (C) 	
Mercer Slough EEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beam & Handrail Refinish (DB) 	
Meydenbauer Bay Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contingency Project (C) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting Connection (Cancelled)
Newcastle Beach Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathway Repairs (CP) 	
Newport Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking Area Sealcoat & Stripe (C) 	
North Bellevue Community Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restroom Remodel A&E (CP) • Hearing Loop Room D (DB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accordion Partion Repl (CP)
Robinswood Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barn Security System (P) • Dog Park Surfacing (CP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seal Log Cabins (DB) • Irrigation System Repl (DB)
Saddleback Mini Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summit Stairs Renovation (CP) 	
SE 32 nd Street Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asphalt & Trail Repairs (DB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation Replacement (DB)
Silverleaf Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport Court Resurface (CP) 	
Wilburton Hill Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformer Relocation (DB) 	

The following contingency projects were added in 2019:

Entatai Beach Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boathouse Waterproofing Asses. (CP)
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MEMORANDUM



Bellevue Parks &
Community Services

DATE: August 14, 2019

TO: Parks & Community Services Board

FROM: Glenn Kost, Park Planning & Development Manager
Ken Kroeger, Project Manager

SUBJECT: Downtown Park NE Gateway Project Update
(Information only – no Board action requested)

At your June 11, 2019 joint meeting with the Arts Commission, several concerns and requests were expressed about the plans for the NE Gateway and public art. Concerns included the loss of trees and the amount of paving in the central plaza, and a request to be updated on the status of the public art. We will address each individually.

Loss of trees - The preferred plan calls for the removal of 53 trees. 33 of these trees are relatively small (4-8" diameter), and would be replaced by 70 trees, but together this represents a changed landscape. Most tree removal will occur in three areas, each for a different purpose, as follows:

Alleyway – 16 trees. To achieve the vision of creating a continuous pedestrian experience into the park, eliminating the north-south vehicle drive connecting NE 4th is essential. The adjacent business owners (Mod Pizza and Bellevue Rare Coins) agreed to allow this access to be removed if we widened the existing drive behind these



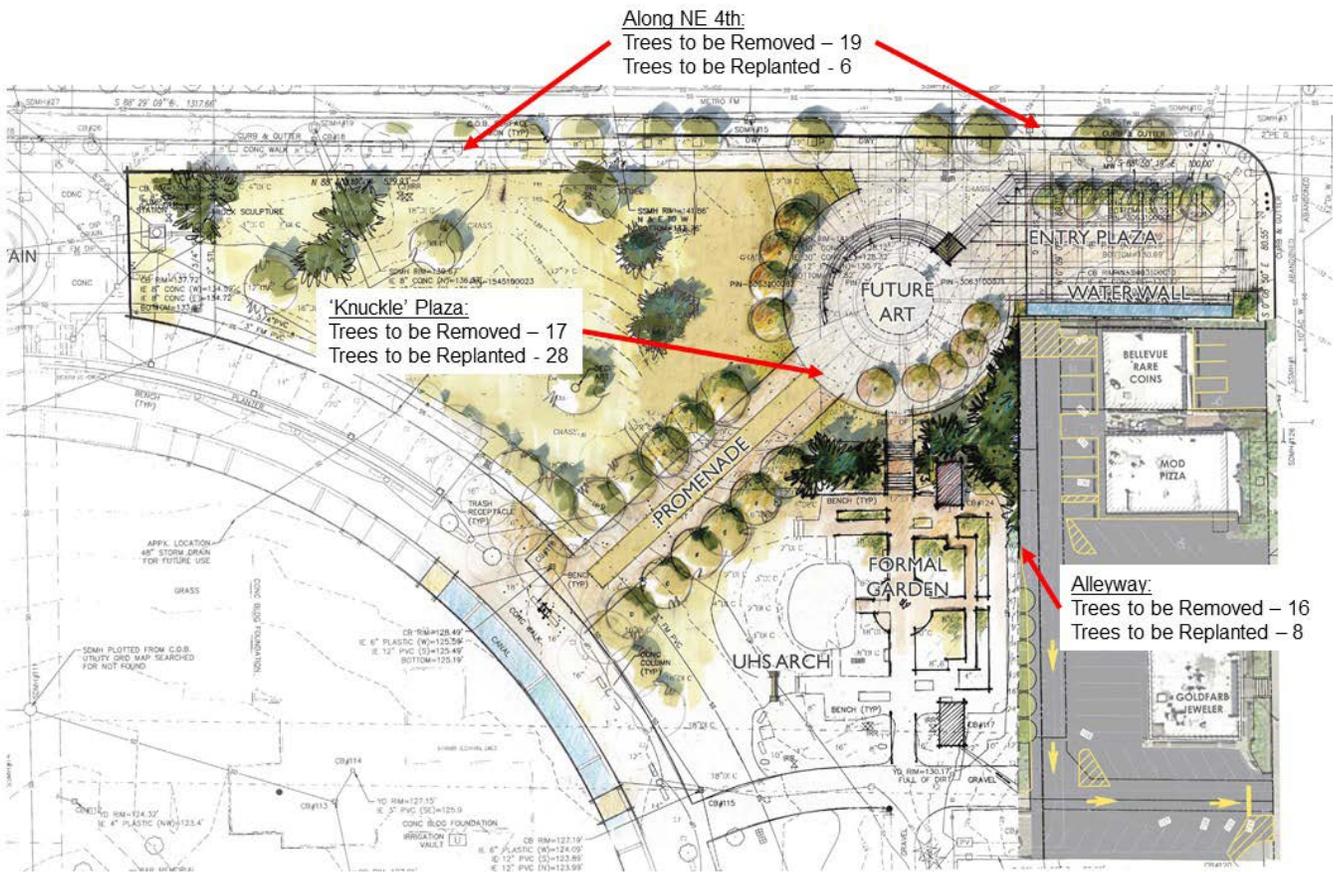
businesses to allow for better turning movements. The widening results in the loss of the trees along the existing drive depicted in the photos on the preceding page. At their August 5 meeting, the City Council agreed to vacate this portion of the right-of-way to facilitate the development of the NE Gateway project.

Along NE 4th – 19 trees. One of the design goals has been to open views into the park from NE 4th, which currently has a double row of street trees and additional vegetation that block these views (see photos below). This goal, together with the City’s right-of-way requirements along NE 4th, results in the removal of the inner row of street trees and thinning of selected others. Several of the frontage trees would be replaced in-kind, and the inner row of street trees would be replaced by a series of raised planters in the plaza area.



“Knuckle” Plaza – 17 trees. Another key plan goal is to create an accessible pathway from the plaza into the park and to visually connect the plaza with the park and formal garden. However, the plaza area is currently separated visually and topographically from the remaining park by mature landscaping on a small hillside. To create the desired pathways, and to provide space for public art, trees must be removed and earthwork completed to create the transition.



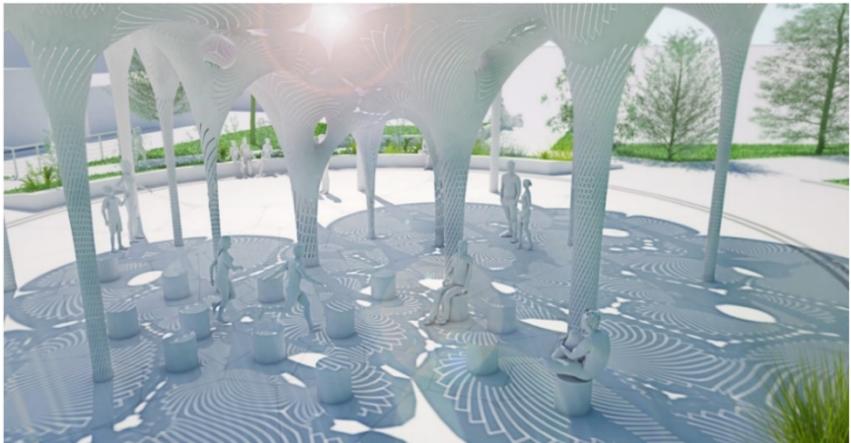


Plaza Paving vs green space – While much of the plaza is proposed as hardscape, several features are expected to set this space apart from the more standard commercial plaza, including:

- A series of raised planters that will replace one of the rows of street trees and provide opportunities for seating;
- A water wall to soften the south edge of the plaza and to separate the public space from the commercial storefront. It will also provide much needed white noise and add an interactive feature to engage the public;
- An entry to the dramatic public art installation; and
- Lighting to encourage evening use and to welcome the public into the remaining park and art.

We continue to explore alternate paving styles, colors and scoring patterns to further distinguish this space from others.

Public Art – Since providing the conceptual plans at the joint meeting, the artist has continued to refine the concept in response to questions and comments raised by the staff and Arts Commission. The resulting changes are reflected below and represent (we think) a more graceful expression. The artist continues to refine the details and explore colors (the piece is not expected to remain white) and is currently scheduled to present a final recommendation to the Arts Commission on September 10.



From: Heidi Dean <technogeekswife@yahoo.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2019 2:17 PM

To: parkboard <parkboard@bellevuewa.gov>; Robertson, Jennifer S. <j.robertson@bellevuewa.gov>; Nieuwenhuis, Jared <JNieuwenhuis@bellevuewa.gov>; Lee, Conrad <CLee@bellevuewa.gov>; Zahn, Janice <JZahn@bellevuewa.gov>; McCommon, Nathan <NMcccommon@bellevuewa.gov>; Heilman, Mark <MHeilman@bellevuewa.gov>

Cc: McVein, Shelley <SMcVein@bellevuewa.gov>

Subject: Newport Hills park planning

Hello everyone:

I wanted to start by thanking all of you who attended our May 21 NHCC meeting/park planning session. I appreciate you making the time after a long workday to watch & listen to what happened at that meeting. I felt very strongly it needed to be witnessed, as does the rest of the process, which is why I'm reaching out to you now. I apologize for the length of this communication but it's important info which you should all have.

The planning process for Newport Hills' undeveloped park properties has been broken since the beginning, long before that May 21 meeting. For ease of reading I've bulletpointed the reasons:

- The Vision Plan process was not initiated by the NHCC but rather by CoB Parks. In 2011 the dog group, led by Todd Wirig, was driving the Parks Dept. crazy with constant requests for improvements at the Tyler property even though CoB had made it clear there was no money for park improvement until 2015 or later.
- Mr. Wirig's dog group claims they were prevented from participating in the Park Committee when it formed in 2012. They also claim the Park Committee omitted ~40 comments from the 2014 survey of the two park options. Both claims are bogus. The Park Committee application process was open for 6 months (3 months longer than advertised), it was well-publicized, and Mr. Wirig & friends were kept apprised of it by their ally, former NHCC president Lisa Viereck. NONE of Mr. Wirig's group applied (NOTE: applications went through CoB Parks, not NHCC). All comments received from our 2014 survey were turned over to Glen Kost in a spreadsheet with the request to redact names and addresses for privacy. I have an email exchange between myself & Mr. Kost as proof. Also, Mr. Wirig & friends encouraged non-Newport Hills residents to participate in the survey in 2014 just as they are recruiting people from other neighborhoods and cities to drive the planning process currently.

- What Scott VanderHyden is representing as the "NHCC approved plan" is **NOT** what was submitted to Glen Kost as the winner of our survey. Option 1, which garnered 70% of the votes, had the split between off-leash dog space and people recreation space at 50/50. What Scott posted to the website is a misrepresentation, possibly due to gaps in information as he took over this project from Glen. The "Vision Plan" posted to the website is a prototype Glen sent to the Park Committee for review after we submitted Option 1 and the survey results. Michelle Hilhorst, the Park Committee Chair, sent the prototype back to Glen and told him the off-leash dog area was disproportionately large (75%) as compared to the people space (25%), and therefore not reflective of what the Park Committee had envisioned based upon neighborhood feedback.
https://bellevuewa.gov/sites/default/files/media/pdf_document/tyler-property-vision-plan.pdf
- After sending the prototype back to Glen that was the last we heard from CoB Parks re: planning, presumably because we'd been told there was no money for park improvements. The next time the NHCC heard from CoB Parks is when Scott VanderHyden reached out to me, Michelle Hilhorst, and Ann Brashear in February 2019 to begin discussions re: park planning & buildout. In the meantime, Mr. Wirig & friends took over the park property, running off not only non-off leash dog users but also other dog owners who were made uncomfortable by the hostile & territorial attitudes of that group. **The Tyler property functioned as an unofficial off-leash dog park simply because there was no money to build other recreational uses upon that property. That shouldn't set precedent for planning for the future uses of our neighborhood park.**
- Glen Kost made a unilateral decision sometime in late 2015 to allow an unnamed Scout troop to build a loop trail on the Patterson property (purchased June 2015) without involving the neighborhood or the NHCC Park Committee. We didn't know about those plans until trail construction started. Mr. Kost was unapologetic when he met Michelle Hilhorst & me at the park property in April 2016 to talk about it. Not only did he refuse to tell us which Scout troop was involved or how they came to be involved, but he was also openly hostile & aggressive toward me, getting within inches of my face to growl "I thought that's what you WANTED, Heidi- isn't that what you WANTED?". Answer: no, a "loop to nowhere" was not what I (or the Park Committee) had wanted or communicated to Mr. Kost previously re: desired trail connections. Had he included the Park Committee in that decisionmaking it would have saved some drama.

- o Current planner Scott VanderHyden has refused to do anything to mitigate outside influences on our park planning, claiming it would cause more drama to do so. Scott's post on the CoB Parks page for Newport Hills claims the May 21 meeting was attended by 75 *residents*, which is untrue as quite a number of those people were from Newcastle, Renton, Cougar Mountain and other areas. I'd asked Scott to contact the dog group and ask them to stop advertising the park planning meetings, but Scott has refused. Instead, he openly pandered to the dog group at the May 21 meeting. Prior to that meeting Scott had advised 2019 NHCC president Ann Brashera & myself that it wouldn't be a good idea to do any kind of poll or survey re: use of the park but rather to rely on written comments submitted to the CoB. YET... during the May 21 meeting, after pandering to the dog group, Scott asked for a show of hands re: who wanted to see the park property used as a dog park!!!! Since the meeting was stacked with dog owners brought in by Mr. Wirig they've been gloating on Nextdoor.com about how "90%" of the attendees were in favor of a dog park only. Scott has also indicated to Ann Brashear that he is leaning toward 2/3 of the property being off-leash and 1/3 people space. He's tried to use the submitted comments as justification but I have yet to see those comments. Given that members of the dog group are posting about our park planning process on Nextdoor and reaching neighborhoods as far north as Enatai/Surrey Downs, 118th Ave SE (near Woodridge) and Cougar Mountain, we now have people with absolutely NO STAKE in our neighborhood park weighing in to tell us it should be for DOGS ONLY.
- o Yet, our own neighborhood residents are largely unaware of the opportunity to give comment because Scott **sent mailers ONLY to homes within 1/3 mi of the park**, which didn't reach a large # of Newport Hills homes. The NHCC does not have the email addresses of all of our residents, not everyone is on Nextdoor, nor is everyone signed up for our Facebook page. We cannot afford to send out a mailer to all 2,600+ homes, so what Scott is receiving in terms of written comment is just a fraction of what could be received if he'd sent mailers to all of Newport Hills. EVERY Newport Hills resident should have an opportunity to weigh in on our future park, and the comments of Newport Hills residents should be given greater consideration than that of people from other neighborhoods and other cities. Scott VanderHyden says he has a way of identifying where people are from but I don't believe that. There are many Newport Hills residents who are wondering why the input of people from faraway Bellevue neighborhoods and other cities are being given consideration at all for our neighborhood park. This is not a COMMUNITY park or

REGIONAL park, it is a NEIGHBORHOOD park, and as such the input for planning should come from the NEIGHBORHOOD in which it resides.

- o Because Scott VanderHyden refuses to address the influence of the dog group's many non-Newport Hills members, our follow-up park planning meeting has been scheduled **OUTSIDE of the neighborhood** at the South Bellevue Community Center. A meeting held in the neighborhood and adequately advertised by CoB would be attended by more residents than just those part of the "dog coalition". However, by moving the meeting outside of the neighborhood- to almost Eastgate!!- Scott has ensured that very few Newport Hills residents will attend who are not part of that coalition, but you can be sure Mr. Wirig's dog coalition will show up in force. HOW IS THIS FAIR to the residents of Newport Hills????

Upon exiting the May 21 meeting my neighbor Erin Leach used the same word I did to describe it: "shitshow". She felt bullied by the dog group and she was angered by Scott VanderHyden's pandering to them (a sentiment she shared with Councilmember Robertson). I recently spoke with my neighbor Barbara Baillie who was also in attendance and she expressed the same feelings about the meeting and the park planning process. The sentiment among residents who are not part of this "dog coalition" is that we don't really matter, that CoB Parks has already made up its mind and is just going through the motions of soliciting input: our neighborhood park will wind up 75% or greater off-leash dog park, serving the needs of not our Newport Hills neighborhood but rather the desires of dog owners from Renton, Newcastle and other Bellevue neighborhoods, as well as dog owners from Newport Hills. And we're all asking: is THAT really what we waited almost 9 years for??? Is it really fair that just because CoB allowed off-leash usage on the park property for years they can now essentially give away a neighborhood asset to a special interest group, leaving us still with no place to gather as a neighborhood since the turfing of Newport Hills Park turned it into a regional sports field???

It is because of CoB Parks's

-History of misrepresentation and unilateral decisionmaking during the park planning process

-Refusal to adequately engage *Newport Hills residents* to solicit input & prioritize our input over outside groups

- Refusal to recognize that NEIGHBORHOOD parks are not the place for large off-leash dog areas (that would be COMMUNITY parks) as evidenced by the design & programming at all other Bellevue NEIGHBORHOOD parks (as well as by design of neighborhood vs community parks in other cities)

- Willingness to sacrifice the Newport Hills neighborhood's park assets to serve the needs of dog owners from Renton, Newcastle, and other areas of Bellevue that have their own neighborhood parks

that a growing coalition of Newport Hills residents, including myself, are considering legal action against the City of Bellevue. I hope it doesn't come to that, which is why I'm reaching out to you now.

The day after the May 21 meeting I spoke to a councilmember who told me CoB Parks has been behaving in a "rogue" manner for a while now, making a lot of decisions they don't have the authority to make. You all have the power to stop that. I'm also working with the One Bellevue group to address this situation and it may very well become an election issue, as it speaks to the lack of transparency with CoB and to the problem of **STAFF** running the city the way *they* want rather than doing what's right for citizens. One Bellevue board members & Bridle Trails residents Loretta Lopez and Pam Johnston are mystified that CoB Parks/Scott VanderHyden has allowed non-Bellevue residents (and residents from faraway Bellevue neighborhoods) to disrupt and take over the planning of Newport Hills' neighborhood park, as they did not experience that with the recent planning & buildout of their two neighborhood parks. So the question remains: WHY NEWPORT HILLS? Why are we being sacrificed?

Thank you for taking the time to read my very long email. I hope to speak with some- or all- of you in the near future.

Take care,

Heidi Dean

11661 SE 56th St., Bellevue 98006

425-240-2510 (cell)

18 year Newport Hills resident, NHCC Park Committee member

From: p johnston <pamjjo@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 04, 2019 8:42 AM
To: Council <Council@bellevuewa.gov>
Cc: parkboard <parkboard@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Value of our children's safety

Was the park operating budget accepted by Council?

In the postings for jobs openings on May 9, the City of Bellevue has some wages that are under \$15, although some are variable:

Diabetes Management Assistant (Variable)
Variable - \$12.50 - \$21.50 Hourly

Rock Climbing Instructor (Variable)
Variable - \$12.50 - \$21.50 Hourly

Swim Instructor (Variable)
Variable - \$12.00 - \$21.50 Hourly

Lifeguard/Swim Instructor (Variable)
Variable - \$12.00 - \$21.50 Hourly

Adaptive Day Camp Staff (Seasonal)
Seasonal - \$14.00 Hourly

Day Camp Counselor (Seasonal)
Seasonal - \$13.50 - \$15.00 Hourly

These are not simple jobs. These positions have a lot of liability: working with kids as young as 4, working with youth with intellectual, and physical disabilities and managing diabetes.

Could the shortage be that the positions were first listed as "Lifeguard/Swim Instructor (Variable) Variable - \$12.00 - \$21.50 Hourly" at the same time Wendy's was offering \$500 box and \$15 hourly?

https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/eastside/beach-bummer-facing-lifeguard-shortage-bellevue-offers-hiring-bonus/?utm_source=marketingcloud&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Morning+Brief+7-4-19+7+4+2019&utm_term=

-pamela Johnston

From: Brittingham, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, July 09, 2019 9:29 AM
To: pamjjo@msn.com
Cc: Council <Council@bellevuewa.gov>; McVein, Shelley <SMcVein@bellevuewa.gov>; parkboard <parkboard@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: FW: Council FW: Value of our children's safety

Hello Ms. Johnston – Thank you for your email on July 4. In answer to your question about the parks operating budget, the Bellevue City Council has approved the department’s operating budget for 2019 – 2020 which included operations of our recreation programs.

Regarding hourly rates for some of our variable and seasonal recreation positions, upon recent review of our lifeguard/swim instructor pay scale through our Human Resources department, the starting rate was raised to \$15/hour. That rate is reflected in the current job descriptions on-line.

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/bellevuewa?keywords=lifeguard> Hourly pay rates throughout the region vary for different recreation positions. We are currently reviewing all of our variable and seasonal recreation positions and pay scales to help ensure we are offering competitive wages.

Safety is our top priority in all our programs. Staff are trained on all aspects of working with children and families with disabilities. This includes working with physicians and families to safely provide recreational opportunities.

If you have other questions, please contact me at 425-452-5213. Thank you again for your interest.

Shelley Brittingham
City of Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Assistant Director

425-452-5213

From: Heidi Dean <technogeekswife@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 7:55 PM
To: Council <Council@bellevuewa.gov>
Cc: parkboard <parkboard@bellevuewa.gov>; McCommon, Nathan <NMcccommon@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Neighborhood parks vs Community parks

Dear Council, Park Board, and Mr. McCommon:

Tonight I'll be speaking during public comment re: the Newport Hills Park Planning process. I didn't have time to print up multiple copies of my handout on Neighborhood parks vs Community parks, so I thought I'd send it to you. I will provide a printed copy to the city clerk tonight.

Unlike many other cities, Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan's Parks, Recreation & Open Space element does not define the difference between "community" parks such as Robinswood Park, Crossroads Park, Downtown Park, and Meydenbauer Park meant to serve a radius of citizens up to several miles vs "neighborhood" parks, which are meant to serve those within a specific neighborhood- usually within walking distance- and to act as a place for community gatherings & passive recreation. Because CoB doesn't define the two I went looking at other cities for definitions. Attached you'll find a very good document from Baton Rouge, LA, which clearly defines the difference and is in line with how we've created our community vs neighborhood parks in Bellevue... except for the planning of the undeveloped park property in Newport Hills.

In 2008 Bellevue voters like myself voted to turf our only *neighborhood* park because we believed the literature sent out by CoB that it would be in our best interest- "you'll be able to use it year-round!". What wound up happening is our *neighborhood* park, our gathering space, was turned into a *community* park just like the Robinswood sports complex and we can no longer use it as a community gathering space (yes, CoB Parks argues that point but turf= no food & we have to schedule around sports teams). Even the park designation has been officially changed to *community* park.

In 2010 the CoB purchased the Tyler property on SE 60th to make up for taking away our *neighborhood* park property (then councilmember Claudia Balducci even announced that at an NHCC meeting!). Newport Hills residents have been patiently waiting for almost 9 years for the funding that would allow design & build of our replacement neighborhood park. In the meantime, CoB turned a blind eye to illegal off-leash usage of the park property by area dog owners, including bringing burn barrels onto the property for "fireside chats", bringing & leaving personal items such as bbq grills & plastic chairs, drinking, smoking pot, etc. Unfortunately, that set up the false expectation that the property would remain a "dog park" in perpetuity and the dog owners have become extremely territorial about the property. It's not only dog owners from Newport Hills, but also dog owners from other cities such as Newcastle, Renton, and neighborhoods far away from us like Cougar Mountain, all of which have their own neighborhood parks.

I have to wonder why Newport Hills is THE ONLY neighborhood in the entire city that has been asked twice now to surrender its *neighborhood* park property to *community* level uses to service all of South Bellevue and our neighboring cities? Dog parks are *community* park level uses, which is why the only other "dog park" in the city is located at Robinswood, and also why dog parks are noted as separate "off-leash facilities" instead of "parks" in the Parks Element of the Comp Plan. Shouldn't a "dog park" meant to serve South Bellevue and possibly our neighboring cities like Newcastle go into a larger *community* park like Newcastle Beach Park? Or shouldn't the CoB purchase an acre that can be dedicated to off-leash recreation without taking away the people-oriented recreation & community gathering opportunities of the Newport Hills neighborhood (AGAIN)? Or, shouldn't City of Newcastle listen to their citizens and enclose an off-leash area at Lake Boren Park or at one of their own neighborhood parks like Donegal Park in the Hazelwood neighborhood just across Newcastle Way?

The Newport Hills park planning process needs to be halted until this can be figured out. What's happening- including Newport Hills residents being bullied by people from other cities/neighborhoods- is not okay. Information that's being presented on the CoB's website and at meetings has not been accurate. I'm asking for your help in addressing this. Newport Hills deserves a fair process that involves the wants & needs of *our* residents rather than having our park stolen AGAIN.

Thank you,

Heidi Dean

Newport Hills

From: McVein, Shelley
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 3:25 PM
To: technogeekswife@yahoo.com
Subject: FW: Neighborhood parks vs Community parks

Dear Ms. Dean:

Thank you for your continued interest and comments regarding the Newport Hills Park planning process. I have been asked to follow up to your email to Council, Parks Board, and Mr. McCommon. The following information may be helpful.

In 2016, the City Council adopted the current Bellevue Park & Open Space System Plan 2016. The plan defines "Neighborhood Parks" and "Community Parks". I have attached the link to the plan. The definitions of "Neighborhood Parks" and "Community Parks" are on pages 50 and 51.

https://bellevuewa.gov/sites/default/files/media/pdf_document/parks-open-space-plan-2016.pdf

In particular, please note that located in the attached Bellevue Park & Open Space System Plan 2016, Appendix I "Bellevue Parks & Open Space System Inventory" correctly identifies the Tyler/Patterson properties as a neighborhood park.

We're committed to engaging with the community with an open and inclusive process. Invitations have been mailed to 3,189 residents in the Newport Hills neighborhood and meeting notifications are posted on the City of Bellevue website and social media sites. This is to provide the neighborhood with the greatest opportunity to participate in the planning process. Additionally, we will continue to notify the neighborhood of future Newport Hills park planning meetings.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and the community to plan the park for the Tyler/Patterson property. Your enthusiasm for a quality park will be an important contribution to this process moving forward. The next planning meeting for the Newport Hills Park is on July 23rd at the Newport Hills Swim and Tennis Club. After that meeting, we plan on updating the Parks & Community Services Board at its September meeting and returning to the community in the fall for another public meeting.

The Parks & Community Services Board will ultimately make its recommendation to the City Council that best fulfills the purpose of the neighborhood park. The Council will make final decisions on the plan.

For any clarification regarding the next steps in the process, please contact Scott VanderHyden at 425-452-4169.

As always, I remain a resource moving forward.

Shelley McVein
Acting Director
Park & Community Services

From: Heidi Dean <technogeekswife@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 6:50 PM
To: McVein, Shelley <SMcVein@bellevuewa.gov>
Cc: McCommon, Nathan <NMcommon@bellevuewa.gov>; parkboard <parkboard@bellevuewa.gov>; Council <Council@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Re: Neighborhood parks vs Community parks

Hello Ms. McVein:

Thank you for the link to the Park & Open Space System Plan. It sounds like you thought I didn't realize the Tyler property is designated a *neighborhood* park, but I did. I also know the designation of our Newport Hills park at the corner of SE 60th St. & 120th Ave SE was previously *neighborhood park* and was changed to *community park* following the turfing project in 2011.

I reviewed the link you provided with interest, particularly the part about off-leash dog facilities. As a professional park planner, I'm sure you're aware that off-leash dog areas are *community park level* amenities due to the amount of space they require, as well as the need to be kept separated from people-oriented spaces. That's why the only *legal* off-leash facility currently operating in Bellevue is located in a *community* park (Robinswood), which is quite large and hosts many different- and distinctly separated- recreational areas. Because of their smaller size, *neighborhood parks* are not appropriate for siting off-leash areas because they take away so much room from people-oriented activities. Not one other *neighborhood park* within Bellevue has been forced to give up its people space to take on the burden of providing off-leash facilities for a large portion of the city (and neighboring cities). I have been studying the other *neighborhood parks* and, in fact, they have all been built and designed to facilitate gatherings for *people*, specifically the people living *in that neighborhood*. The two parks that Bridle Trails built via the 2008 Parks Levy are good examples. The Forest Hill Neighborhood Park in Somerset is another good example. Even the new Surrey Downs Park, which has much more useable space due to its topography, was built to facilitate *people gathering* and was not asked to include an off-leash area to service the rest of the city. As a matter of fact, the new Surrey Downs Park contains many of the park elements that our non-dog owning Newport Hills residents have been expressing an interest in but will not be able to receive if an off-leash area is forced into our *neighborhood park*.

Currently, the Newport Hills Community Club board of directors is trying to plan a neighborhood movie night. We had previously wanted to host a neighborhood bike parade & ice cream social or hotdog feed. The problem?

We don't have a space to host it that won't cost us an arm & a leg to rent. Power is another consideration- we don't have access to power at Newport Hills Park in the grassy area. We would also have to try to schedule around rec teams there. At the Tyler property there's currently no power and we'd also have to compete with the very aggressive dog owners for that space. We literally have nowhere to gather as a neighborhood! We are forced to sit & watch as neighborhoods like Lake Hills, Somerset, and Bridle Trails throw neighborhood picnics at their neighborhood parks, picnics that were patterned on the Newport Hills 4th of July Picnic & Children's Parade that we used to host. If our developed park property was once again people-oriented we could host not only our neighborhood picnic but so much more... movie nights, ice cream socials, community faires with neighborhood vendor booths, musical performances, and more. Newport Hills is, and always has been, a neighborhood that likes to gather but our opportunities to do so have become limited by available space as our park was taken away, the school district rental rate is very high (and we have to compete with rec leagues), and the shopping center owner refuses to allow use of his property. Newport Hills NEEDS a people-oriented gathering space, period.

As I pointed out to council during the King Co. Parks Levy public hearing, I'd be supportive of the levy & the associated tax increase if they would consider taking a portion of Bellevue's allocated money to purchase a 1-2 acre parcel to create an official, dedicated off-leash dog park in South Bellevue rather than taking away Newport Hills' *neighborhood park* for *community park usage* once again. Building a dedicated dog park that is separate from people space is ideal for everyone and would stop the fighting over Newport Hills' *neighborhood park*. If the CoB doesn't want to spend money purchasing a 1-2 acre parcel then CoB Parks, the Parks Board, and Council should consider creating an official off-leash area in one of the two *community level parks* in South Bellevue- Newcastle Beach Park or Lewis Creek Park, the latter of which is actually the better choice.

By the way, the location of the informational signage posted at the Tyler park property is completely inappropriate. The sign, which is large & should be fairly visible, was mounted to the fencing on SE 60th St., near the small parking area. Vehicles park in front of the sign and then it is not visible to passersby. Only those who visit the park- dog owners- are aware of the signage and are therefore the majority of the people submitting comments. I wonder why the sign wasn't mounted *above* the fence or in another more visible manner? When notification signs are mounted for land use actions they are mounted up high so as to be visible to those driving by- why not the park planning meeting sign?

I was a member of the Park Planning Committee. The 2014 Vision Plan was

meant to be a template for short-term, bare-bones buildout of the Tyler property (as requested by CoB) if CoB had allocated funds in 2014 for basic upgrades; obviously that didn't happen. I'm unhappy that the Vision Plan is being falsely presented as a starting template for major buildout, as that was not the intent. The neighborhood shouldn't be punished & forced to take on an off-leash dog area simply because the CoB turned a blind eye to illegal usage during the years it let the park property sit undeveloped. Lack of funding should not= an obligation to allow off-leash usage to continue when we cannot even find places to gather for our neighborhood picnics.

Thank you for following up with me and for considering my input. I will continue to be actively involved in this process, including educating the Council, the Parks Board, and my fellow Newport Hills residents about parks as I continue to do research on appropriate park planning & development.

Take care,

Heidi Dean
Newport Hills resident

With the implementation of BREC's 10-year strategic plan "Imagine Your Parks" in 2004, the East Baton Rouge Parish Park System was transformed. The revitalized system included the establishment "Community Parks" and "Neighborhood Parks" with plans for the development of twelve "Community Parks".

As the next strategic plan was executed – Imagine Your Parks 2 – the model of larger, special feature Community Parks and easily-accessible Neighborhood Parks was reinforced. The new plan followed its predecessor with strategies for the development and maintenance of larger, more varied amenities at Community Parks and essential recreational and green space needs at Neighborhood Parks

What is a Community Park?

A Community Park is the larger category of BREC parks meant to serve a larger geographic area than the surrounding neighborhood. These parks are designed to engage families and visitors for an entire day with multiple and diverse activities and amenities throughout. They serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks and focus on meeting a wide variety of community-based recreation needs.

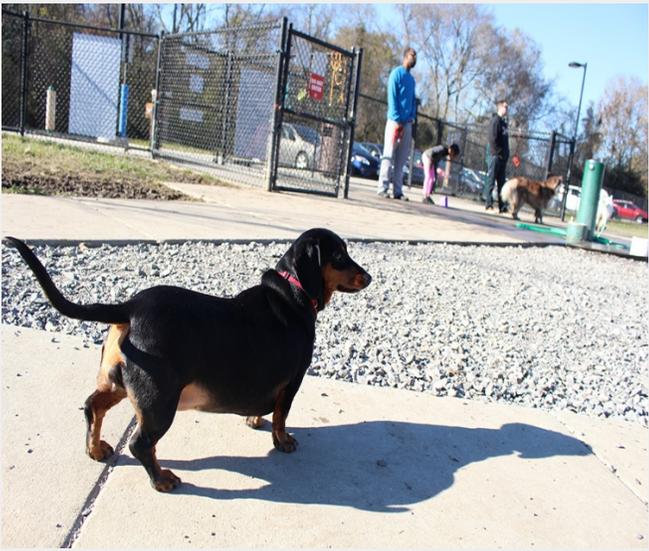
One of the foundations of BREC's 2004 Imagine Your Parks Plan (IYP1) was to focus on developing a higher level of quality parks. Twelve Community Parks were identified throughout the parish to serve this purpose and provide at least one Community Park within a 10-minute drive from anywhere in East Baton Rouge Parish. BREC was able to utilize nine existing parks and purchased land for three additional Community Parks. The average Community Park size is 140 acres.

The following is a list of all BREC Community Parks:

- [Anna T. Jordan Community Park](#)
- [City-Brooks Community Park](#)
- [Forest Community Park](#)
- [Greenwood Community Park](#)
- [Highland Road Community Park](#)
- [Howell Community Park](#)
- [Independence Community Park](#)
- [Jackson Community Park](#)
- [North Sherwood Forest Community Park](#)
- [Perkins Road Community Park](#)
- [Sandy Creek Community Park](#)
- [Zachary Community Park](#)

Selected Examples of Community Park Amenities:

- Dog parks
- Extended operating hours
- Extensive walking trails
- Lighted paths
- Nature trails
- On-site park attendants
- Overall uniqueness in design
- Splash pads/Swimming Pools
- Tennis centers
- Thematic, larger playgrounds
- Other unique and special amenities



What is a Neighborhood Park?

A Neighborhood Park is the smaller type of BREC parks meant to serve the citizens living within walking distance of the park. Neighborhood Parks remain as the core facility of the BREC park system and serve as the recreational and social focus of neighborhoods throughout all of East Baton Rouge Parish. The concentration in Neighborhood Parks is on informal activity, programmed activity, passive recreation, and community cohesion.

There are over 100 neighborhood parks that BREC has completed a range of improvements and/or new construction to over the past ten years of Imagine Your Park 1 funding. The average Neighborhood Park size is 15 acres but can range anywhere between approximately 1 and 60 acres.

There are over 160 neighborhood parks throughout East Baton Rouge Parish. [Click here for the full list.](#) The following is a representative selection:

- [Baringer Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Cadillac Street Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Cedar Ridge Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Church Street Neighborhood Park](#)
- [College Town Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Expressway Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Flanacher Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Goodwood Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Gus Young Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Jefferson Highway Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Parkview Neighborhood Park](#)
- [Spanish Town Neighborhood Park](#)

Selected examples of Neighborhood Park Features:

- Ball fields
- Exercise stations
- Outdoor Basketball courts
- Picnic pavilions and benches
- Playgrounds
- Recreation Centers
- Tennis Courts
- Walking paths





From: Sierra P

Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2019 1:39 PM

To: HCC <HCC@bellevuewa.gov>

Subject: Group at Luther Burbank playground today

Hi! Just want to give a shout out to the fabulous counselors who were with the adaptive recreation group today. The park was very busy at times with other groups. The counselors worked so well with all the kids and using it as a gentle teaching moment about waiting your turn in line. They would then praise the group members for their patience and taking the correct turn.

I am sure this is there norm but it was so great to see the counselors being so positive and loving with their campers. A reminder to all present about how to be a good human.

Sierra P

From: Amber A
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2019 8:46:46 PM
To: Gonzales, Steve <SGonzales@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Help with Registering M*** for Sept. Football

Hi Steve,

The boys ABSOLUTELY loved camp this week. Thank you for arranging this and please thank your staff; you have hired some of the kindest people to work with your children and we cannot thank you enough.

Could I have your help registering M**** for Flag Football? I already registered C**** and E****. :)

thank you,
Amber

**Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)**

SEPTEMBER 2019

- Sept 1** **High-Flying Hawks**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
From patrolling 405 to flying over the trees of Lewis Creek Park, hawks can be found in almost all of Bellevue's habitats. Learn about the different raptor species that call Lewis Creek Park home before we head out on a hike to scan the sky for them. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Sept 2** **Holiday Farm Tour**, two sessions, choose one:
10 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. OR 11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Come visit our resident farm animals! Meet our ponies, pigs, sheep, goats, chickens, and rabbits, all while discovering what it takes to be a farmer. You will get to pet many of our animals and even feed some of them! Each person who attends the tour must register and pay. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Ages:** 2 years and older; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** \$8/resident and \$10/non-resident per person. **Pre-registration:** Pre-register to guarantee your spot. Day-of registration will be accepted if space allows. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, courses 1931091 (10-10:45 a.m.) and 1931092 (11-11:45 a.m.).
- Sept 4** **Garden Lecture: From Dreams to Reality - Practical and Artistic Elements in Creating a Garden**, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Rosemary Alexander, principal, owner, and founder of The English Gardening School, and one of the UK's most influential garden designers and writers, will speak at the Bellevue Botanical Garden! The third updated edition of her book, *The Essential Garden Design Workbook*, was recently published by Timber Press and was awarded one of eight Silver Awards by the Garden Writers Association of America. Rosemary speaks all over the world and is a frequent contributor to *Gardens Illustrated* and the Royal Horticultural Society's *The Garden*. **Cost:** \$5 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members and \$15 for non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <https://bellevuebotanical.org/events/>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Sept 6** **Garden Class: Mindfulness in the Garden**, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Deborah Wilk, LMFT, and Jessica Hancock, ND. Stroll through the vibrant colors of the late summer garden while Deborah and Jessica guide you in Mindfulness Meditation while opening your senses with Shinrin-Yoku (Japanese Forest Bathing). Restore mind, body and spirit as you let the stress and demands of daily life melt away and you experience the healing power of Nature. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members and \$35 for non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <https://bellevuebotanical.org/events/>
- Sept 6** **Tag-A-Long Farm Tour**, 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Rise and shine! Adult and child teams will get a sneak peek at Kelsey Creek Farm life as they help the farmers with their morning chores. You and your little farmer will meet animals both big and small, feed some of them, and learn how to clean their stalls as we get ready for a new day on the farm. After all that hard work, we'll reward ourselves with a farm-themed snack and story! Adult/child teams only. A team is one child and one adult. **Ages:** 4-6 years old. **Cost:** \$30/resident and \$35/non-resident per person. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, course 1931801.
- Sept 6** **Lewis Creek Story Time: "Life in the Forest Floor"**
Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts! You might be amazed how much life goes unnoticed in the woods just because it's under our feet! This is an indoor program. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- Sept 7** **Garden Event: Master Gardeners Plant Sale & Continuing Education**,
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Shop for cool plants from unique local nurseries and attend sessions with excellent speakers. Master Gardeners can earn Continuing Education credits for these sessions. Event includes a Master Gardener Clinic from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Cost:** Admission to the plant sale and parking are free. Speaker session fees vary; pre-registration is recommended. **Pre-registration:** Recommended for speaker sessions. **Info and to register:** <http://www.mgfk.org/events>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Sept 7** **Ranger-Led Hike at Lewis Creek Park, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Sept 8** **Living with Wildlife – There’s a Bear in the Yard! 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Living in south Bellevue means roaming bears. Learn all about black bears, including how to prevent conflicts in your neighborhood, and what to do if you see a bear. This is an indoor program. **Ages:** Best for adults, but ages 13 years and older are welcome with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Sept 9** **Story Time at Kelsey Creek Farm, 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.**
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Come enjoy story time in a farm setting. Each story session will involve a different farm-related theme and include a visit with one of our resident farm animals. The stories will come alive for your children as they see the featured animal characters from the stories in real life. Space is limited. Doors close when the program begins. **Ages:** 3-6 years old; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Sept 13** **Colorful Caterpillars, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.**
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Every fall, our region begins crawling with life in the form of bright, patterned, and sometimes very fuzzy critters. Caterpillars are plentiful in Bellevue this time of year, preparing for a cozy winter (and getting ready to become butterflies and moths). Peek into the park’s foliage to test your observational skills while on a ranger-led walk, and enjoy creating a craft to bring home! **Ages:** Best for ages 3 to 7 years old, with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults. **Info and to RSVP:** ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Sept 13** **Garden Lecture: Botanical Gardens – Cultivating a Culture of Discovery, Inclusion, and Access**, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Tim Johnson, Director of the Botanic Garden of Smith College, will focus on the important role botany historically played in women’s access to science education at the 144-year-old women’s college, and how the garden is reframing what it means to provide equitable access today. A question-and-answer session will follow to discuss the social role of botanical gardens and their potential contributions to diversity and inclusion efforts. Presented by the City of Bellevue and the Botanic Garden of Smith College. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Recommended. **To register:** seattlesmithclub@gmail.com **Info:** <https://bellevuebotanical.org/events/>
- Sept 13** **Batty Nights at Lewis Creek Park**, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Come test your echolocation with a Park Ranger. We’ll learn all about our Northwest bat species before taking a dusk hike to watch for bats as they leave their roosting sites to forage for insects! Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as sturdy shoes for the journey. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5 years and older with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required for children and adults. **To register:** <https://register.bellevuewa.gov> for course 1903218. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Sept 14** **Garden Event: Hardy Fern Foundation Plant Sale**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Purchase unusual ferns for your garden and learn about ferns from the experts! Event is hosted by the Hardy Fern Foundation. **Cost:** Admission and parking are free. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** <https://hardyferns.org/events/>
- Sept 14** **A Closer Look: Pacific Northwest Caterpillars**, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Of all the insects we observe in our parks, gardens, and beyond, lepidopterans boast arguably one of the most incredible and complex life cycles. Get an in-depth look at the species we share our region with, how they survive, and everything you should know about interacting with them. We’ll be looking at live specimens with a focus on understanding their unique adaptations. **Ages:** Best for ages 9 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Sept 14** **Historical Walking Tour**, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Learn about the history of Kelsey Creek Farm during this one-hour walking tour of the park. In the 1920s and 1930s, this land was a working dairy farm that housed thirty cows and provided Bellevue residents with milk, cream and butter. We'll put the story in the context of Bellevue's early development. We will tour inside both barns, visit some of the farm animals, and compare historic pictures of Twin Valley Dairy to the park as it is now. This program is designed for adults and teenagers. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Sept 15** **Ranger-Led Hike at Lakemont Highlands Open Space**, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Meet at: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Bellevue Park Ranger at the Lewis Creek Visitor Center to explore the Lakemont Highlands Open Space trail system. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call. **Distance:** Approximately 3.5 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Moderately difficult (680 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Sept 15** **Garden Lectures from Northwest Perennial Alliance**, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Join us for two lectures – “Designing a Dry Woodland Garden” by Alanna Matteson and “The Gardens at Sunnyside – 30 Years of Living Next to the Candy Store” by Steve Smith. Doors open at noon for plant sales. **Cost:** Free for NPA members; \$15/non-NPA members. **Pre-registration:** Tickets may be required. **Info and to register:** <http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org>
- Sept 20** **Indoor Play with Caspar Babypants**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Caspar Babypants will perform a 45-minutes show at 10:30 a.m. for children and their parents/guardians. Afterwards, the families are encouraged to stick around and participate in our Indoor Play program. **Ages:** Family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** sbcc@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4240.
- Sept 20** **Story and a Stroll: “Crawdad Creek”** 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
This story explores the treasure of Crawdad Creek from a child's perspective. The illustrations draw you into a quiet world that gets richer the closer you look. **Ages:** Best for 3-6 years. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Sept 20** **The Power of Masks: Faces of Diversity**, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
This is a City of Bellevue Welcome Week activity. Join us for an evening of mask making! Feel the power of masks... create a mask inspired by your favorite cultural influence. Masks will be combined into a community art project and on public display for three weeks. **Instructor:** Brad Niemeyer. **Ages:** Ages 7 years and older. Parents must accompany and participate with children. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Highly recommended; space is limited! **To register:** <https://register.bellevuewa.gov>, course 1903816. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Sept 21** **Fall Farm Fun**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Meet a sheep, feed a chicken, and pet a bunny! Enjoy a fall morning on the farm in the company of our animals. Activities include animal petting, crafts, and snack time with a story. Come dressed for the weather. Adult/child teams only. **Ages:** 3-6 years old; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** \$25/resident and \$30/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, course 1903128.
- Sept 21** **Mix, Measure and Chop!** 10 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Caregiver and child will mix, measure, and cook a delicious and tasty mini-meal together. One caregiver/one child. All materials provided. **Ages:** 2 to 5 years. **Cost:** \$25/residents and \$28/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1903144. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Sept 21** **Fraser Cabin Heritage Program**, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
The Fraser Cabin, built in 1888, comes to life with hands-on activities that relate to 1880s settler life. This program is presented by the Eastside Heritage Center in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** All ages welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** www.eastsideheritagecenter.org or 425-450-1049.
- Sept 21** **Garden Class: Paper Itoh Peonies**, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Join us and make an Itoh peony, a striking herbaceous peony whose subtle cream and pink petals sport dramatic dark red markings. You'll learn techniques for creating a charming seed-pod center, adding a wash of color to your petals, stamen making, petal shaping, and basic crepe paper flower construction. You'll also receive supplies so you can practice your new skills by making a second flower at home. Beginners warmly welcomed! **Cost:** \$25/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members and \$35/non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info:** <https://bellevuebotanical.org/events/>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Sept 21** **Family Discovery Series: Fall for Frogs**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Have you ever heard the chorus of frogs and wondered how they stop and start in unison? Hop on over to the Mercer Slough to discover more about our frogs thriving in the wetland. These musical amphibians play an intricate role in the food web and help keep our ecosystems in balance. Enjoy some fun activities, crafts and a nature walk. It will be a splash! **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Sept 22** **Chinese Cultural Celebration**, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Celebrate and learn about Chinese culture. Booths representing four regions - Beijing, Shanghai and Jiangnan, Canton, and SW China - will share their cultures, tea, plants and flowers. Visit information desks for living, schooling and other residence needs for new Chinese immigrants. Performances will include music, dance, and Taiji. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** <https://bellevuebotanical.org/events/>
- Sept 23** **Story Time at Kelsey Creek Farm**, 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Come enjoy story time in a farm setting. Each story session will involve a different farm-related theme and include a visit with one of our resident farm animals. The stories will come alive for your children as they see the featured animal characters from the stories in real life. Space is limited. Doors close when the program begins. **Ages:** 3-6 years old; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Sept 26** **Wisdom Café Themed Conversations – Rise and Shine**, 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Downtown Bellevue Main Club, 209 100th Avenue NE
Converse, connect, and reflect! Come share your wisdom! These cafés provide an opportunity to converse and connect with others in discussion of universal topics such as gratitude, legacy, happiness, and what gives life meaning. Come for one session or more in a facilitated small group conversation. Connect with others, build community, and share wisdom. Coffee, tea and treats provided! This conversation – Looking forward to each day relates to living fully. What gets you up every day? What would get you up with enthusiasm and a sense of purpose? We'll discuss how to infuse our days with the elements that rouse us. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1935624. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or <https://bellevuewa.gov/mainclub>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Sept 27** **Toddler Trails**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the trails at Lewis Creek Park with a Park Ranger and get out some wiggles on select Fridays this summer. We'll take frequent stops while we investigate the different environments of Lewis Creek Park as we wander through and learn how we can make hiking fun for everyone. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. This is an outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 18 months to 3 years with accompanying adult(s). **Distance:** Approximately a half mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- Sept 27** **Sensational Squirrels**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Who knew such a small animal could have such a big personality? As one of the area's most commonly-observed critters, the squirrel evokes many different emotions in those who come across them. We'll discuss the species present in our forests and backyards, and learn all about this adaptive animal. Join us for a fun time and a craft! **Ages:** Best for ages 3 to 7 years old with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults. **Info and to RSVP:** ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993.
- Sept 27** **Movies at Mercer Slough: "Fresh Water,"** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Only 3% of the world's water is fresh, yet all life forms depend on it. This *Planet Earth* episode follows the journey of our fresh water and demonstrates how various species take advantage of this precious natural resource. Narrated by David Attenborough. We'll provide the popcorn! **Ages:** All ages welcome, but best for 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Sept 28** **Painting with Chickens**, 11 a.m. – noon
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Create a painting in partnership with our chicken artists! Children will work with a chicken to create a fun, colorful piece of artwork combining your child's creativity with the footprints of our resident chickens. Children also get to pet the chicken artists and feed them some yummy treats. All activities will be inside, but dress warmly because the barn is not heated. The nontoxic children's finger paint is washable, but wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. **Ages:** 5-9 years old. **Cost:** \$25/resident and \$30/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, course 1931291.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Sept 28** **High-Flying Hawks**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
From patrolling 405 to flying over the trees of Lewis Creek Park, hawks can be found in almost all of Bellevue's habitats. Learn about the different raptor species that call Lewis Creek Park home before we head out on a hike to scan the sky for them. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Sept 28** **An Evergreen Evening**, 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Join us for an evening hike in the Lake Hills Greenbelt. Bring your flashlight and a warm coat as we learn about native Washington trees and listen for creatures that get active in the dark hours. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required. **Info and to RSVP:** ParkRangerProgram@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6993.
- Sept 29** **Garden Class: Great Grasses for Your Garden**, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by George Lasch. Ornamental grasses introduce exciting textures to the garden, along with movement and sound as they rustle in the breeze. We will talk about plant selection and care. Slides and handouts will start the class, followed by a walk in the garden to appreciate how grasses are used in the landscape. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members and \$35 for non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <https://bellevuebotanical.org/events/>

**Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)**

OCTOBER 2019

- Oct 4** **Lewis Creek Story Time: “Salmon Stream”**
Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts! Swim along with baby salmon from the time they hatch until they complete their long, harrowing journey home. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- Oct 5** **Pumpkin Pals, 10 a.m.. – 11:30 a.m.**
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Spend a fun-filled morning pondering the perfect pumpkin! Art, music, a yummy snack, and a pumpkin relay race are some of the happy activities planned for the morning. All materials provided. This is a caregiver/child class - one caregiver/one child. **Ages:** Ages 2 to 5 years old. **Cost:** \$21/residents/ and \$26/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1902815. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Oct 5** **Ranger-Led Hike at Lewis Creek Park, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 5** **Volunteer for Special Event - Kelsey Creek Farm Fair, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Earn community service hours! Assist with children’s activities and other event tasks. Volunteers need to be able to follow directions, be comfortable in crowds, and be on their feet in all types of weather. Participants must register by Oct. 4, 2019 and be enrolled in high school at date of event. All volunteers will be required to complete a Criminal Background Check and provide their Social Security number, which must be submitted by Oct. 1, 2019. **Ages:** 14-18. **Cost:** Free. **Pre-registration:** Required by October 4. No day-of-event registrations will be accepted. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, course #1903175.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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- Oct 5** **Kelsey Creek Farm Fair**, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Bring your family to the farm and enjoy our fall festival. The Farm Fair features live entertainment, heritage demonstrations, pick-a-pumpkin (gathered from the vine but in a farm pasture), and farm animals. No pets are allowed in the barnyard areas or on the shuttle bus. Free shuttle service from Wilburton Park & Ride and Bannerwood Sports Park. **Ages:** All ages – family event. **Cost:** No entrance fee; cost varies for food and activities. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Oct 5** **Fraser Cabin Heritage Program**, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
The Fraser Cabin, built in 1888, comes to life with hands-on activities that relate to 1880s settler life. This heritage program is part of Kelsey Creek Farm’s Farm Fair event and is presented by the Eastside Heritage Center in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** All ages welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** www.eastsideheritagecenter.org or 425-450-1049.
- Oct 6** **Living with Wildlife – Raccoons** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Are you neighbors with one (or several) of these mischievous mammals? If so, you’re not alone. Learn all about raccoons, including how to prevent conflicts in your neck of the woods. This is an indoor program. **Ages:** Best for adults, but ages 13 years and older are welcome with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 7** **Story Time at Kelsey Creek Farm**, 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Come enjoy story time in a farm setting. Each story session will involve a different farm-related theme and include a visit with one of our resident farm animals. The stories will come alive for your children as they see the featured animal characters from the stories in real life. Space is limited. Doors close when the program begins. **Ages:** 3-6 years old; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 10** **Wisdom Café Themed Conversations – Aging Creatively, Living Life with Intention and Discovery**, 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Downtown Bellevue Main Club, 209 100th Avenue NE
Converse, connect, and reflect! Come share your wisdom! These cafés provide an opportunity to converse and connect with others in discussion of universal topics such as gratitude, legacy, happiness, and what gives life meaning. Come for one session or more in a facilitated small group conversation. Connect with others, build community, and share wisdom. Coffee, tea and treats provided! This conversation – Being intentional and awake are choices we can make at any age. Being older often gives us time to explore and discover what matters most to us. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1935621. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or <https://bellevuewa.gov/mainclub>
- Oct 11** **Night Hike at Lewis Creek Park**, 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
When the sun sets and the dark of night creeps in, Lewis Creek Park comes alive! Learn about the different nocturnal and crepuscular species that call the park home, and join a Park Ranger on a hike through the woods after dark! Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes and warm clothes for the journey. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5 years and older with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** <https://register.bellevuewa.gov> for course 1903219. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 12** **Fall Farm Fun: Pigs and Pumpkins**, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Pigs love pumpkins, and we think you will too! Children get to make pumpkin treats, go on a scavenger hunt, do a craft, and learn all about pigs. Each child will pick out a pumpkin to take home. Come dressed for the weather. Adult/child teams only. **Ages:** 3-6 years old; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** \$25/resident and \$30/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, course 1903137.
- Oct 13** **October is for Orcas**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Did you know that our southern resident orcas communicate in a different “language” than transient orcas, or that they use sonar to hunt for their prey? Join us for an introduction to the families that make up the J, L, and K pods, a fantastic orca game, and to learn how you can help our endangered southern resident orcas starting right here in Bellevue! This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 14** **Tag-A-Long Farm Tour**, 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Rise and shine! Adult and child teams will get a sneak peek at Kelsey Creek Farm life as they help the farmers with their morning chores. You and your little farmer will meet animals both big and small, feed some of them, and learn how to clean their stalls as we get ready for a new day on the farm. After all that hard work, we'll reward ourselves with a farm-themed snack and story! Adult/child teams only. A team is one child and one adult. **Ages:** 3-5 years old. **Cost:** \$30/resident and \$35/non-resident per person. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, course 1931802.
- Oct 16** **Garden Lecture: Spring Starts in October**, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Professional gardener and writer, Daniel Mount, will share the ins and outs of bulb selection, planting, and maintenance. From the classics like tulips and daffodils to the oddities like fritillarias, brodiaeas, and corydalis, you will learn to have the ephemeral beauty of these gems in your garden. Presented by the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society. **Cost:** \$5 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members and \$15 for non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <https://bellevuebotanical.org/events/>
- Oct 17** **Garden Lecture: Fall Dahlia Care – Digging and Dividing**, 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
The Puget Sound Dahlia Association presents this lecture, with a digging demonstration at 6 p.m., and the meeting and lecture at 7:30 p.m. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** <http://www.pugetsounddahlias.org/>
- Oct 18** **Toddler Trails**, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Explore the trails at Lewis Creek Park with a Park Ranger and get out some wiggles on select Fridays this summer. We'll take frequent stops while we investigate the different environments of Lewis Creek Park as we wander through and learn how we can make hiking fun for everyone. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. This is an outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 18 months to 3 years with accompanying adult(s). **Distance:** Approximately a half mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 18** **Garden Class: Mindfulness in the Garden**, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Taught by Deborah Wilk, LMFT, and Jessica Hancock, ND. Stroll through the vibrant colors of the garden while Deborah and Jessica guide you in Mindfulness Meditation while opening your senses with Shinrin-Yoku (Japanese Forest Bathing). Restore mind, body and spirit as you let the stress and demands of daily life melt away and you experience the healing power of Nature. **Cost:** \$25 for Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members and \$35 for non-BBGS members. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** <https://bellevuebotanical.org/events/>
- Oct 18** **Story and a Stroll: “When Rain Falls”** 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
When rain falls, we scurry indoors. But what about all those animals in the forests and fields? Journey from your neighborhood to the woods and wetlands of the Mercer Slough after enjoying this engaging story of animal habitats. **Ages:** Best for 3-6 years. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Oct 18** **The Great Pumpkin Hunt**, 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Presenting Sponsor: Sterling Bank & Trust
Kid games, Halloween crafts, entertainment and the Great Pumpkin Hunt make this an event you will not want to miss! Pumpkin Hunt is offered by age groups: 2-4 year-olds at 6:30 p.m., 5-8 year-olds at 7:15 p.m., and 9-12 year-olds at 8 p.m. Only one hunt per age group is offered. Older children are not allowed in younger group hunts. Tickets in plastic pumpkins collected from the hunt can be redeemed at Prize Central for all prizes. Children’s entertainment and themed art projects provided. Cost include access to all activities and the Pumpkin Hunt. Wear your costumes; there will be prizes for the Best Costume Contest! Register early, as this event sells out. Event will be held, rain or shine. **Ages:** 2-12 years old. **Cost:** \$15/participant, includes tax. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Oct 19** **Adventures in Pioneer Farming**, 10 a.m. - noon
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Enjoy a fall morning immersed in farm life. Spend time with our animals and learn about pioneer farming in our historic log cabin that was built in 1888. Activities will include learning how to grind wheat into flour, feeding lunch to the farm animals, and working with real wool from our sheep. Children will have fun experiencing what life was like a hundred years ago. **Ages:** 8-11 years old. **Cost:** \$33/resident and \$40/non-resident per person. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, course 1903138.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 19** **Family Discovery Series: Swim to Spawn**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Salmon were once abundant here in the Pacific Northwest but have been on a rapid decline in most of our region. Come learn more about the salmon that make the arduous journey from the ocean to the Mercer Slough where they will eventually spawn in the shallow waters of Kelsey Creek. Learn about the different stages of our salmon and what you can do to help aid in their survival. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Oct 19** **October is for Orcas**, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Did you know that our southern resident orcas communicate in a different “language” than transient orcas, or that they use sonar to hunt for their prey? Join us for an introduction to the families that make up the J, L, and K pods, a fantastic orca game, and to learn how you can help our endangered southern resident orcas starting right here in Bellevue! This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 20** **Ranger-Led Hike at Coal Creek Natural Area**, 10:30 a.m. – noon
Meet at: Cinder Mine Trailhead, 15400 SE Newcastle Coal Creek Road
Explore Coal Creek at the Cinder Mine Trailhead to discover Bellevue’s largest park and get lost in the wilderness while still in the city! This area is rich in history and wildlife that you’ll learn about while being guided by a Park Ranger. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call. **Distance:** Approximately 2 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Moderately difficult (240 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Oct 20** **Garden Class: Chinese Tea**, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
This class will focus on several Chinese Teas and include a discussion of how the tea plants are grown and harvested, as well as the regional cultures around them. There will be a tea presentation to show the etiquette of the tea ceremony. **Cost:** \$25 per person. **Pre-registration:** Recommended. **Info and to register:** <https://bellevuebotanical.org/events/>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 21** **Story Time at Kelsey Creek Farm**, 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Come enjoy story time in a farm setting. Each story session will involve a different farm-related theme and include a visit with one of our resident farm animals. The stories will come alive for your children as they see the featured animal characters from the stories in real life. Space is limited. Doors close when the program begins. **Ages:** 3-6 years old; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Oct 22** **Garden Lecture: Crown Jewel Wilderness – Creating North Cascades National Park**, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Author Lauren Danner traces the fascinating narrative of Washington State’s third crown jewel national park, North Cascades National Park, in the 1960s, including how its creation helped lead to the founding of the Washington Native Plant Society. Presented by the Washington Native Plant Society. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** <https://www.wnps.org/>
- Oct 23** **Garden Class: Perfect Peonies**, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Join Kit Haesloop in the classroom for a PowerPoint on peonies, followed by a stroll around the border to learn all about this essential perennial. **Cost:** \$25/Bellevue Botanical Garden Society members and \$35/non-members. **Pre-registration:** Recommended. **Info and to register:** http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org/classes_signup19.php
- Oct 24** **Wisdom Café Themed Conversations – The Artist Within**, 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Downtown Bellevue Main Club, 209 100th Avenue NE
Converse, connect, and reflect! Come share your wisdom! These cafés provide an opportunity to converse and connect with others in discussion of universal topics such as gratitude, legacy, happiness, and what gives life meaning. Come for one session or more in a facilitated small group conversation. Connect with others, build community, and share wisdom. Coffee, tea and treats provided! This conversation – We are all born with the capacity to engage with the world creatively. Yet, most people don’t think of themselves as “artists.” How does your inner artist show up? You might be surprised by what you discover. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1935626. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or <https://bellevuewa.gov/mainclub>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Oct 25** **Movies at Mercer Slough: “Our Blue Planet,”** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
This episode examines the role of human anthropogenic activity on the oceans. Microplastics and pollution are an increasing problem for the world’s seas, threatening the lives of marine life and ultimately affecting the ecosystem. Can humans reverse their activity to protect these threatened ecosystems and the wildlife dependent on them? We’ll provide the popcorn! **Ages:** All ages welcome, but best for 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Oct 25-Nov 3** **“The Phantom Tollbooth” (Bellevue Youth Theatre play),**
Oct 25, 26 and Nov 2 at 7 p.m.;
Oct 27, Nov 2 and 3 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
Packed full of playful puns and wonderful wordplay, “The Phantom Tollbooth” is the story of Milo, a young child who has become disenchanted with life. Through the magic of a tollbooth, he is transported to the Land Beyond where he discovers the limitless powers of imagination. This show will be a delight for all ages. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$15. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- Oct 26** **Halloween on the Hill,** 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Come join your family and friends for some Halloween fun! South Bellevue Community Center will host this annual event that consists of a full day of Halloween-inspired events on Saturday, Oct. 26. There is something for everyone, including our Carnival on the Hill, The Great SBCC Pumpkin Race, Dessert Theatre on the Hill, and Haunted Movie on the hill! **Ages:** Family events. **Cost:** Varies according to specific event. **Pre-registration:** Required for Pumpkin Races (Activity codes are PUMPKINRACE-1 for the morning race and PUMPKINRACE-2 for the afternoon race), and Dessert Theatre on the Hill (course 1903727) **To register:** <https://register.bellevuewa.gov> **Info:** sbcc@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4240.
- Oct 27** **October is for Orcas,** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Did you know that our southern resident orcas communicate in a different “language” than transient orcas, or that they use sonar to hunt for their prey? Join us for an introduction to the families that make up the J, L, and K pods, a fantastic orca game, and to learn how you can help our endangered southern resident orcas starting right here in Bellevue! This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

NOVEMBER 2019

Oct 25-Nov 3 “The Phantom Tollbooth” (Bellevue Youth Theatre play),

Oct 25, 26 and Nov 2 at 7 p.m.;

Oct 27, Nov 2 and 3 at 2 p.m.

Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street

Packed full of playful puns and wonderful wordplay, “The Phantom Tollbooth” is the story of Milo, a young child who has become disenchanted with life. Through the magic of a tollbooth, he is transported to the Land Beyond where he discovers the limitless powers of imagination. This show will be a delight for all ages.

Ages: All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$15. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.

Nov 1

Lewis Creek Story Time: “Very Hairy Bear”

Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts! Where do our bears go when it gets chilly out? Join us as we read some fun stories about our local fuzzy neighbors. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.

Nov 2

Grateful for Goats and Happy for Horses, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE

There’s a lot to be thankful for at Kelsey Creek Farm! Children will ride a pony, take our goats on a walk, and give treats to the animals for a job well done. Then we’ll come inside the barn for a craft and a story. Come dressed for the weather. Adult/child teams only. **Ages:** 3-6 years old; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** \$35/resident and \$42/non-resident. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, course 1903128.

Nov 2

Ranger-Led Hike at Lewis Creek Park, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 3** **Mercer Slough Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Park Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This kid-oriented program aims to educate kids and their parents about the Nature Park while discovering the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. The hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge in the middle of the park. From there you can continue on to further explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Nov 3** **Let's Plant a Tree!** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn why tree leaves change color and why some trees don't. We'll try some experiments on tree leaves, go for a short walk through the forest at Lewis Creek Park, and then each participant will plant a willow tree! Please wear waterproof shoes. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years old with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- Nov 4** **Story Time at Kelsey Creek Farm**, 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Come enjoy story time in a farm setting. Each story session will involve a different farm-related theme and include a visit with one of our resident farm animals. The stories will come alive for your children as they see the featured animal characters from the stories in real life. Space is limited. Doors close when the program begins. **Ages:** 3-6 years old; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Nov 7** **Wisdom Café Themed Conversations – The Gifts of Memory**,
11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Downtown Bellevue Main Club, 209 100th Avenue NE
“Your presence is your gift” speaks to the intangibles we each bring to our lives. What are your gifts of presence? What holiday traditions are most important to you? We'll share stories about how to bring ourselves and those close to us more fully to this season of celebration. Converse, connect, and reflect! Come share your wisdom! These cafés provide an opportunity to converse and connect with others in discussion of universal topics such as gratitude, legacy, happiness, and what gives life meaning. Come for one session or more in a facilitated small group conversation. Connect with others, build community, and share wisdom. Coffee, tea and treats provided! Offered by the Northwest Center for Creative Aging and the King County Library System. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1935625. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or <https://bellevuewa.gov/mainclub>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 8-17** **“The Monkey King” (Bellevue Youth Theatre play),**
Nov 8, 9, and 16 at 7 p.m.;
Nov 10, 16, and 17 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
A rambunctious young boy wants to be a god! In this adaptation of a portion of the classic Chinese legend, the Monkey King (Sun Wukong) has supernatural abilities. When his kingdom is overrun by demons, he sets out to be the first monkey ever to become an immortal. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$15. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- Nov 9** **Let’s Plant a Tree!** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn why tree leaves change color and why some trees don’t. We’ll try some experiments on tree leaves, go for a short walk through the forest at Lewis Creek Park, and then each participant will plant a willow tree! Please wear waterproof shoes. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years old with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- Nov 10** **Salmon Sense,** 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Each year, salmon migrate inland throughout our region... but have you ever wondered why they make this perilous journey or how they find their way? Join us at the Lewis Creek Visitor Center as we dissect an adult salmon and discuss this incredible journey. Afterwards, we’ll head outside to learn about stream habitat. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 9-14 years old with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- Nov 11** **Holiday Farm Tour,** Two sessions, choose one:
10 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. OR 11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Come visit our resident farm animals! Meet our ponies, pigs, sheep, goats, chickens, and rabbits, all while discovering what it takes to be a farmer. You will get to pet many of our animals and even feed some of them! Each person who attends the tour must register and pay. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Ages:** 2 years and older; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** \$8/resident and \$10/non-resident per person. **Pre-registration:** Pre-register to guarantee your spot. Day-of registration will be accepted if space allows. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688, courses 1931401 (10-10:45 a.m.) and 1931402 (11-11:45 a.m.).

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 16** **Living with Wildlife – Cunning Crows**, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Crows are one of Bellevue’s most commonly-seen wildlife residents. They have more advanced cognitive abilities than many mammals, an amazing memory, and are very social. Find out why crows gather in enormous numbers, and what the fuss is all about. Learn what crows know, and discover how we can get along together. This is an indoor program. **Ages:** Best for adults, but ages 13 years and older are welcome with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Nov 17** **Ranger-Led Hike at Lakemont Community Park**, 10:30 a.m. – noon
Meeting place: Lakemont Community Park, 5170 Village Park Dr SE
This lovely trail winds alongside a creek as we ascend and descend throughout the park. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call. **Distance:** Approximately 2 miles. **Level of difficulty:** Moderately Difficult (700 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Nov 18** **Story Time at Kelsey Creek Farm**, 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Come enjoy story time in a farm setting. Each story session will involve a different farm-related theme and include a visit with one of our resident farm animals. The stories will come alive for your children as they see the featured animal characters from the stories in real life. Space is limited. Doors close when the program begins. **Ages:** 3-6 years old; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Nov 21** **Wisdom Café Themed Conversations – Gratitude, More than Counting Blessings**, 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Downtown Bellevue Main Club, 209 100th Avenue NE
All of the world’s spiritual traditions emphasize gratitude as a central practice. How does gratitude manifest in your life? Converse, connect, and reflect! Come share your wisdom! These cafés provide an opportunity to converse and connect with others in discussion of universal topics such as gratitude, legacy, happiness, and what gives life meaning. Come for one session or more in a facilitated small group conversation. Connect with others, build community, and share wisdom. Coffee, tea and treats provided! Offered by the Northwest Center for Creative Aging and the King County Library System. **Ages:** Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1935622. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or <https://bellevuewa.gov/mainclub>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 22** **Story and a Stroll: “Owl Moon”** 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Enjoy this heartwarming story of father and daughter out for a winter evening walk. While the trees are still and the night is quiet, the father knows there are creatures of the night. Do you know how to call the owls? **Ages:** Best for 3-5 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Nov 22** **Movies at Mercer Slough: “Seasonal Forests,”** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
This episode of *Planet Earth* explores our seasonal coniferous and deciduous woodland habitats and the animals that depend on them. Narrated by David Attenborough. **Ages:** All ages welcome, but best for 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Nov 22** **Night Hike at Lewis Creek Park,** 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
When the sun sets and the dark of night creeps in, Lewis Creek Park comes alive! Learn about the different nocturnal and crepuscular species that call the park home, and join a Park Ranger on a hike through the woods after dark! Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes and warm clothes for the journey. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5 years and older with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** <https://register.bellevuewa.gov> for course 1903220. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Nov 22-Dec 1** **“Madagascar, Jr.” (Bellevue Youth Theatre play),**
Nov 22, 23, 29, and 30 at 7 p.m.;
Nov 24, 30, and Dec 1 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
Take a walk on the wild side! Join four friends when they find themselves shipwrecked in Madagascar. This lively musical is appropriate for all audience members. There’s plenty of song and dance for the whole family. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$15. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- Nov 23** **Visions of Sugar Plums,** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Join us for a sweet beginning to the holiday season by making a gingerbread-type house, singing songs, dancing and eating yummys for your tummies. Dress in your party clothes for happy holiday wholesome fun! All materials provided. This is a caregiver/child class - one caregiver/one child. **Ages:** Ages 2 to 5 years old. **Cost:** \$21/residents/ and \$26/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1902816. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Nov 23** **Ranger Program: Nocturnal in November**, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Several types of owls can be found living throughout many of Bellevue's parks. These silent predators of the night are considered a keystone species within the ecosystem. Join us for a fun-filled hour learning about these owls. Dissect an owl pellet to discover who was for lunch. Put your creativity to use with a craft activity that's yours to keep. **Ages:** Best for 5-10 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Nov 23** **Let's Plant a Tree!** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn why tree leaves change color and why some trees don't. We'll try some experiments on tree leaves, go for a short walk through the forest at Lewis Creek Park, and then each participant will plant a willow tree! Please wear waterproof shoes. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5-10 years old with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- Nov 30 – Dec 31** **Garden d'Lights**, 4:30 p.m. – 9 p.m., every evening including holidays
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Garden d'Lights features over half a million sparkling lights formed into the whimsical shapes of plants, flowers, birds, animals and cascading waterfalls, set amid the natural beauty of the Bellevue Botanical Garden. **Cost:** \$5/person; children 10 and under are free and do not need a ticket. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time or at the event. **Parking:** \$5 for on-site parking; free parking at Wilburton Hill Park. **To buy tickets ahead of time (beginning October 15) and for driving, parking and general information:** <http://www.gardendlights.org/>

**Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)**

DECEMBER 2019

Nov 22-Dec 1 “Madagascar, Jr.” (Bellevue Youth Theatre play),

Nov 22, 23, 29, and 30 at 7 p.m.;

Nov 24, 30, and Dec 1 at 2 p.m.

Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street

Take a walk on the wild side! Join four friends when they find themselves shipwrecked in Madagascar. This lively musical is appropriate for all audience members. There’s plenty of song and dance for the whole family. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$15. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.

Nov 30 – Dec 31 Garden d’Lights, 4:30 p.m. – 9 p.m., every evening including holidays

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street

Garden d’Lights features over half a million sparkling lights formed into the whimsical shapes of plants, flowers, birds, animals and cascading waterfalls, set amid the natural beauty of the Bellevue Botanical Garden. **Cost:** \$5/person; children 10 and under are free and do not need a ticket. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time or at the event. **Parking:** \$5 for on-site parking; free parking at Wilburton Hill Park. **To buy tickets ahead of time (beginning October 15) and for driving, parking and general information:** <http://www.gardendlights.org/>

Dec 4-7 Hilltop Holiday Craft Show,

Dec 4-6, 10 a.m. -8 p.m.

Dec 7, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street

Life your holiday spirit! Come and enjoy a delightful, unique, whimsical craft show featuring thousands of hand-crafted items from over 60 selected Northwest crafters. This show features one-of-a-kind products, including: holiday ornaments, decorations, pottery, jewelry, wood and knit items, and more. **Cost:** Admission and parking are free; craft items vary in price. **Info:**

NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106. Crafter application and information: Bellevuehilltop@gmail.com or <http://www.bellevuehilltopholidaycraftshow.com>

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Dec 5** **Wisdom Café Themed Conversations – Staying Connected, Strategy for a Full Life**, 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Downtown Bellevue Main Club, 209 100th Avenue NE
As we age, our relationships and responsibilities change. How do we stay connected with our children, our communities, and the environment? What does it mean to stay connected with our minds, our bodies, and our spiritual lives? We all have wisdom we can share about this important topic. Converse, connect, and reflect! Come share your wisdom! These cafés provide an opportunity to converse and connect with others in discussion of universal topics such as gratitude, legacy, happiness, and what gives life meaning. Come for one session or more in a facilitated small group conversation. Connect with others, build community, and share wisdom. Coffee, tea and treats provided! Offered by the Northwest Center for Creative Aging and the King County Library System.
Ages: Adults. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1935623. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or <https://bellevuewa.gov/mainclub>
- Dec 6** **Lewis Creek Story Time: “Water Dance”**
Two sessions, choose one – 11 a.m. –noon OR 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Look, listen and create during an hour of stories and crafts! Water can behave in strange ways in winter – from forming icicles to becoming hot cocoa’s steam. We’ll read to discover how it’s all a part of the water cycle. **Ages:** Best for ages 3-7 with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults. **Info and to RSVP:** LCVC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.
- Dec 6-15** **“The Twelve Days of Christmas” (Bellevue Youth Theatre play),**
Dec 6, 7, 13, and 14 at 7 p.m.;
Dec 8, 14, and 15 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th Street
This delightful tale has all the joy of a holiday treasure. A prince longs for a new world within his kingdom and finds a town fallen to bad times. It is brought back to life with true love and Christmas joy. This is a great holiday adventure for the whole family. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** \$15. All seats are reserved. **Info and to buy tickets:** 425-452-7155.
- Dec 7** **Ranger-Led Hike at Lewis Creek Park**, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a Park Ranger to explore the natural and cultural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call. **Distance:** Approximately 1 mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Dec 7** **Holiday Barn Lighting**, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Education Barn, 410 130th Place SE
Join us for a special holiday barn lighting celebration at Kelsey Creek Farm. Bring the whole family to meet a resident farm animal, enjoy hot cocoa, complete a holiday-themed craft, and visit with Santa. Top off the evening of holiday cheer with the barn lighting and traditional holiday carols. Bring a flashlight to help make your way back to the parking lot as it will be dark at the end of the event. Join us in making this holiday season memorable as we light up the farm and enjoy this wonderful season of giving. **Ages:** All ages welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.
- Dec 8** **Mercer Slough Ranger Walk**, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Bring the whole family to join a Park Ranger on a guided hike through the Mercer Slough Nature Park. This kid-oriented program aims to educate kids and their parents about the Nature Park while discovering the birds and animals that call the Mercer Slough home. The hour-long nature walk ends at the channel bridge in the middle of the park. From there you can continue on to further explore the rich diversity the park has to offer. **Ages:** All ages welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Dec 8** **Whoooo's Hooting?** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
How does a barn owl find its prey in total darkness? How does a great horned owl clasp its talons with 28 pounds of force? Join us as we learn all about our favorite silently flying friends, try out our hoots, and dig deeper into an owl's diet by dissecting owl pellets! This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for ages 5-10 years with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program. **Info and to RSVP:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 13** **Night Hike at Lewis Creek Park**, 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
When the sun sets and the dark of night creeps in, Lewis Creek Park comes alive! Learn about the different nocturnal and crepuscular species that call the park home, and join a Park Ranger on a hike through the woods after dark! Bring a flashlight or headlamp, as well as good shoes and warm clothes for the journey. This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for children ages 5 years and older with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** <https://register.bellevuewa.gov> for course 1903221. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

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- Dec 14** **Mix, Measure and Chop Holiday Fun!** 10 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Caregiver and child will mix, measure and cook a delicious and tasty mini-meal together. All materials provided. This is a caregiver/child class; one caregiver/one child. **Ages:** Ages 2 to 5 years old. **Cost:** \$25/residents/ and \$28/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-4106, course 1903145. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Dec 15** **Living with Wildlife – Deer in the Headlights,** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Black-tailed deer are a welcomed friend in many of Bellevue’s neighborhoods. Join us to learn about how to attract deer, deer biology, how to address potential conflicts (including how to protect your fruit trees), what to do if you find a fawn, and more! This is an indoor program. **Ages:** Best for adults, but ages 13 years and older are welcome with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 15** **Christmas Ship Festival,** 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.; ship arrives off-shore at 8:15 p.m.
Newcastle Beach Park, 4400 Lake Washington Blvd SE
Join us on shore to welcome the Christmas Ship Festival presented by Argosy Cruises. Come with family and friends to marvel at the parade of boats as they come by the beach. You can join the caroling or just enjoy the onboard choir’s performance. Beach fire provided! **Ages:** All ages welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Dec 20** **Story and a Stroll: “Who Lives in the Snow”** 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Although the surface of the snow looks quiet and serene, life below is drastically different. Visit the mysterious world of winter in and under the snow. **Ages:** Best for 3-5 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Dec 21** **Ranger Program: Breakfast for Birds,** 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
The Mercer Slough provides critical habitat for both residential and migratory birds year-round. Limited resources for these birds during the winter months can make survival challenging. Join us to find out more about our winter birds and what you can do in your own backyard to help them survive tough times. **Ages:** Best for 5-10 years old. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Events List

(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

- Dec 21** **Whoooo's Hooting?** 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
How does a barn owl find its prey in total darkness? How does a great horned owl clasp its talons with 28 pounds of force? Join us as we learn all about our favorite silently flying friends, try out our hoots, and dig deeper into an owl's diet by dissecting owl pellets! This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for ages 5-10 years with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program. **Info and to RSVP:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 21** **Christmas Ship Festival**, 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.; ship arrives off-shore at 7:40 p.m.
Meydenbauer Bay Park, 419 98th Ave NE
Join us on shore to welcome the Christmas Ship Festival presented by Argosy Cruises. Come with family and friends to marvel at the parade of boats as they come by the beach. You can join the caroling or just enjoy the onboard choir's performance. Beach fire provided! **Ages:** All ages welcome; family event. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.
- Dec 27** **Movies at Mercer Slough: "From Pole to Pole,"** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
The first episode of *Planet Earth* illustrates a journey around the globe revealing the effects of gradual climate change and seasonal transitions. Narrated by David Attenborough. **Ages:** All ages welcome, but best for 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Please RSVP. **Info and to RSVP:** MSEEC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.
- Dec 28** **Holly's Not So Jolly**, 10:30 a.m. - noon
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Pull on some gardening gloves and join the battle against invasive English holly plants. We'll learn how to identify this beautiful (but pesky) plant and how it harms our forests. Afterwards, we'll go out to pull some of these invasive plants and learn how to turn them into a fun craft! This is an indoor/outdoor program. **Ages:** Best for ages 5-10 years with accompanying adult(s). **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** RSVP required for children and adults by 4 p.m. the day before the program. **Info and to RSVP:** 425-452-4195.
- Dec 29** **A Winter Wander**, 10:30 a.m. - noon
Meeting place: Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Head outside this winter to reflect on the passage of time in nature. We'll ponder seasonality, forest changes, and the bygone residents of the area. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. For groups of 10 or more, please call. **Distance:** Approximately one mile. **Level of difficulty:** Easy (50 feet elevation change). **Ages:** All ages are welcome; we encourage families to join us! **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.