

**Neighborhood Leadership Gathering
COVID-19 Community Impact and Response
September 17, 2020**



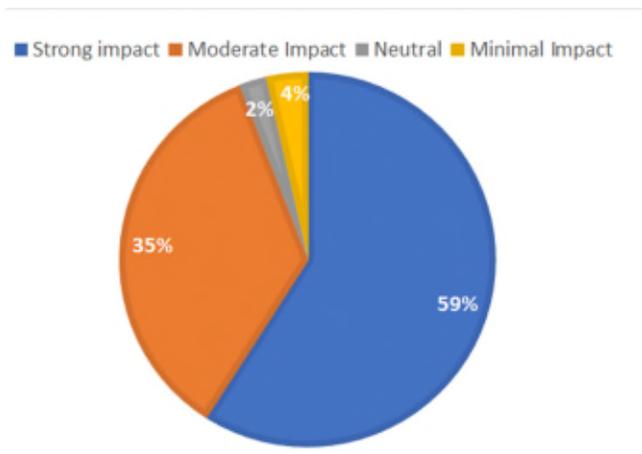
On September 17, 2020, the Neighborhood Leadership Gathering discussed the topic, “COVID-19 Community Impacts and Response”, exploring how COVID-19 has impacted Bellevue’s community and local businesses as well as city response. In preparation for this discussion, the city posted an online survey from September 1-September 14 to hear from the community about how COVID-19 has impacted their daily lives. There were 258 survey responses.

Some of the key observations from the survey results:

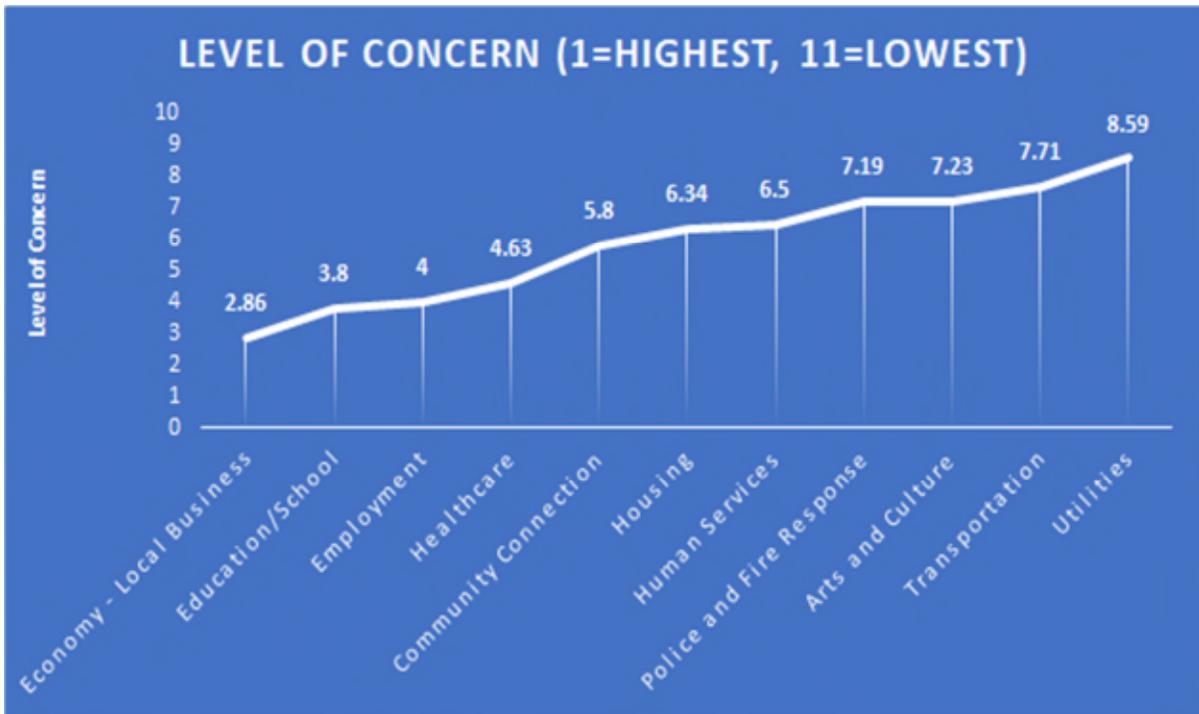
- 1) 94% of respondents have been strongly, or moderately impacted by COVID-19.
- 2) 64% of respondents have experienced a moderate of severe decrease in community connection.
- 3) Nearly half of respondent households (48%) have experience a decrease of income due to COVID-19.
- 4) One in five respondents are moderately confident, slightly confident or have no confidence in their household’s ability to pay next month’s rent.
- 5) The services that residents have had difficulty accessing include:
 - Financial assistance
 - Food assistance
 - Rent subsidy
 - Unemployment
 - Medical insurance
 - Affordable housing
 - Free COVID testing
- 6) Top 5 areas of concern were:
 - i. Economy – local businesses
 - ii. Education and Schools
 - iii. Employment
 - iv. Healthcare
 - v. Community Connection
- 7) Although 91% of respondents are very concerned or moderately concerned about local businesses – only 30% have increased purchasing from local or neighborhood businesses.

SURVEY RESULTS

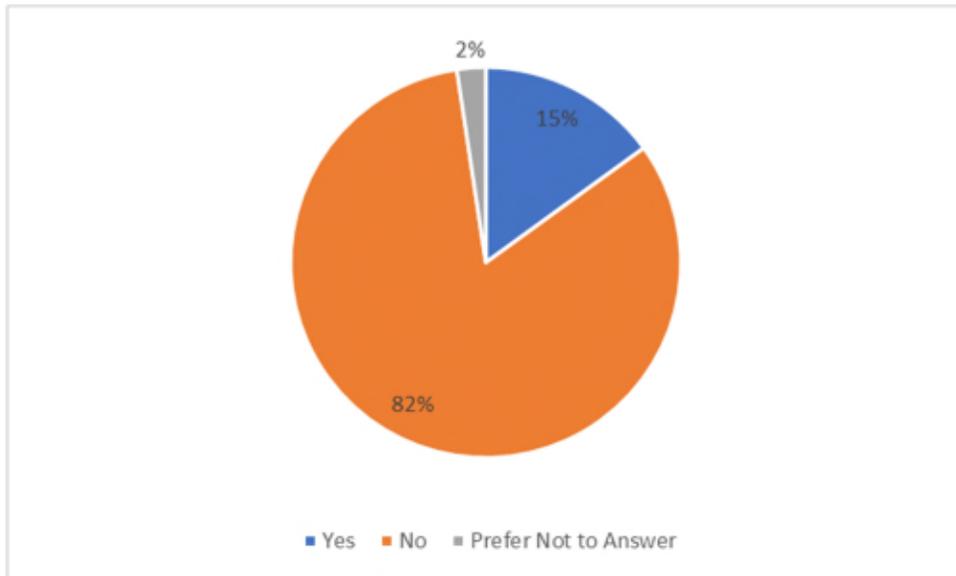
How much has COVID-19 impacted your daily life?



Please rank COVID-19's impact on the following items that have you the most concerned. (1=highest concern, 11 = lowest concern)



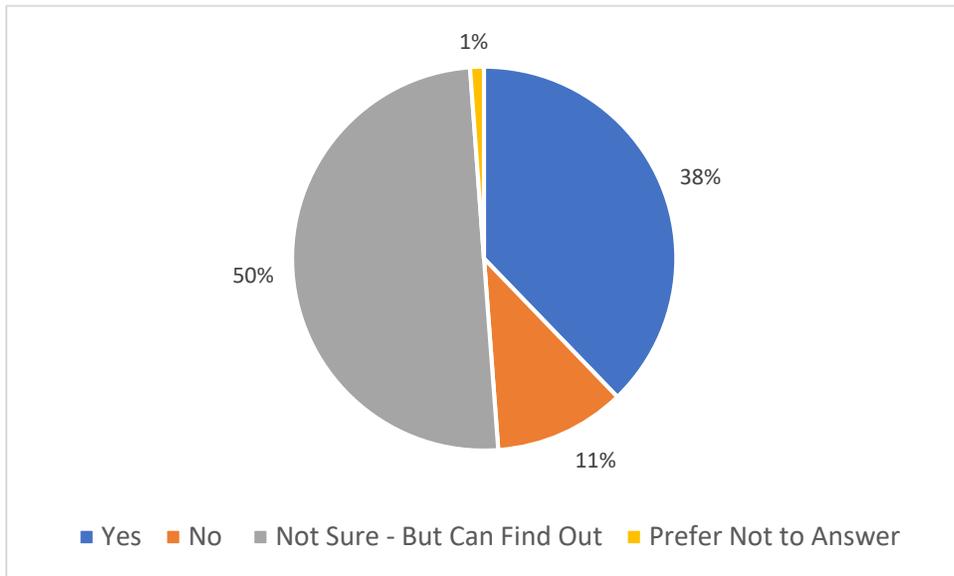
Have you needed community resources (food bank, financial assistance, etc.) during this crisis?



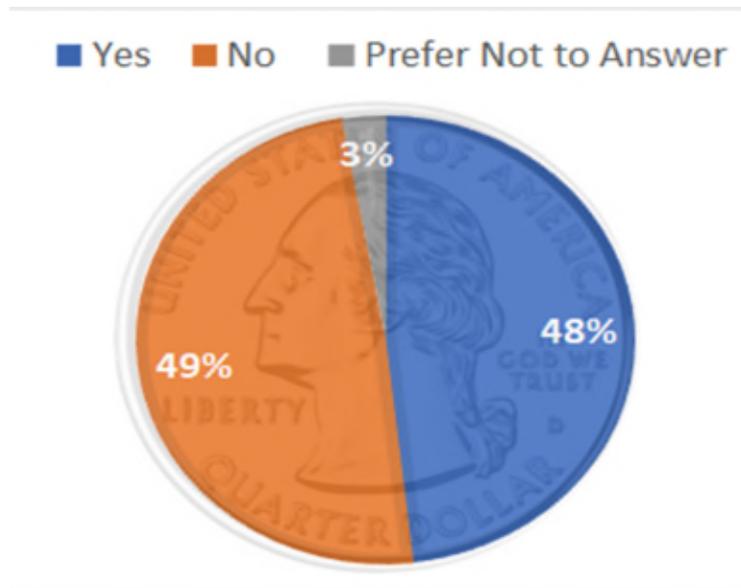
If you had difficulty accessing services, which service and why?

- Todos ya que los lugares estaban cerrados y comunicarse por teléfono es muy tardado. (All - since the places were closed and communicating by phone is very time consuming.)
- I think now a lot of community resource stop or run out of the assistance programs
- Housing and low covid risk employment. I have not been able to get on the section 8 housing wait list. My family is technically homeless. I can't work a job where I could be exposed to covid, so I'm only working 4 hours a week.
- Just being able to contact various agencies and follow-up is made more difficult due to shorter hours of operation and lack of services or service personnel.
- Food assistance for people who don't normally qualify for assistance due to retirement savings, but who currently have no income.
- Resources have been challenging as offices initially weren't staffed as reliably.
- unemployment
- Financial assistance
- unemployment
- rent subsidy specifically directed to landlords
- Grocery stores shorten business hours, restrict in-store customers
- 新冠免费测试 (free coronavirus testing)
- 医疗保险 · 福利部门关门了 (Medical insurance, welfare department is closed)
- 经济援助 (Financial aid)
- 医疗保险 (medical insurance)
- 医疗和房租减免 · 因为语言不通 (Medical and rent reduction due to language barrier)
- 失业保险和廉价屋 · 语言不通 (unemployment insurance and cheap housing, language barriers)
- 食物和申请失业金 (Food and application for unemployment benefits)
- 医保, 语言不通 (Medical Insurance, Language barrier)
- 减免水电费 (reduction of utilities bills)
- 食物和医疗 (food and medical)

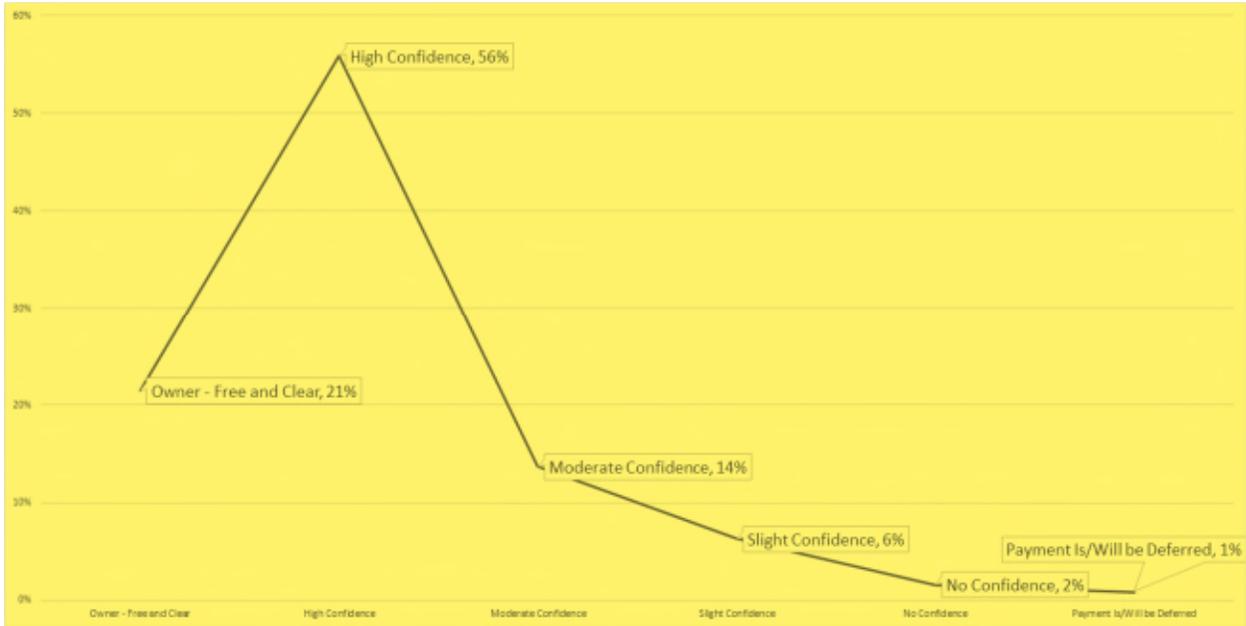
Do you know where to go if you need community resources (food bank, financial assistance, etc.)?



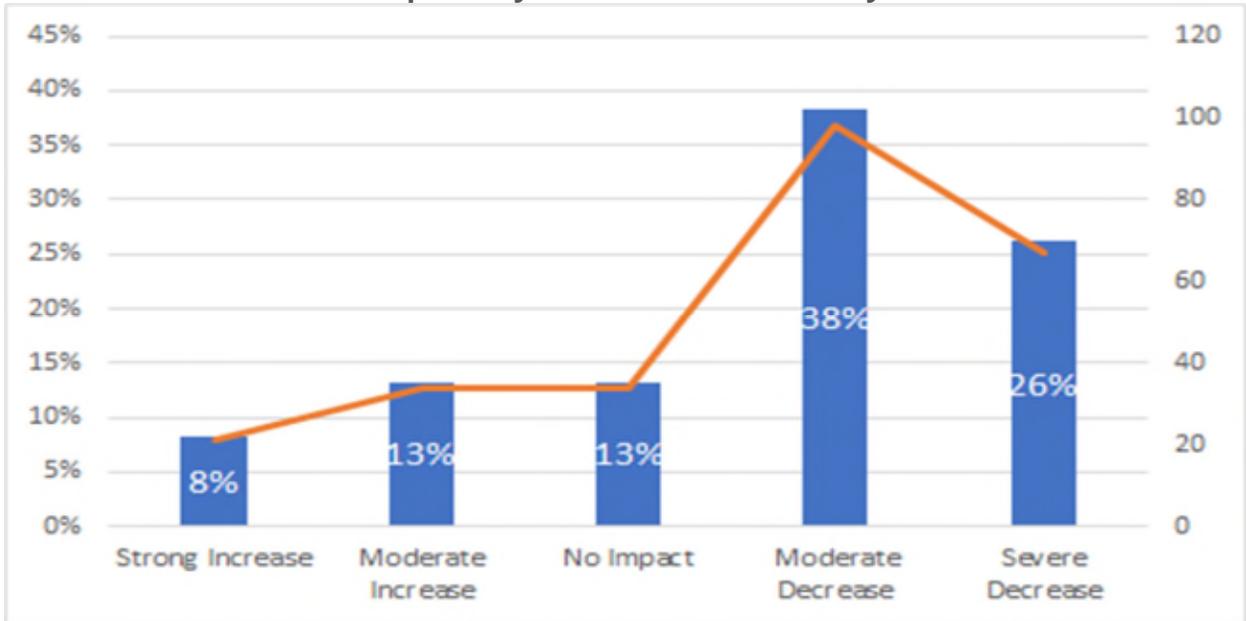
Have you or a member of your household experienced reduced income due to COVID-19?



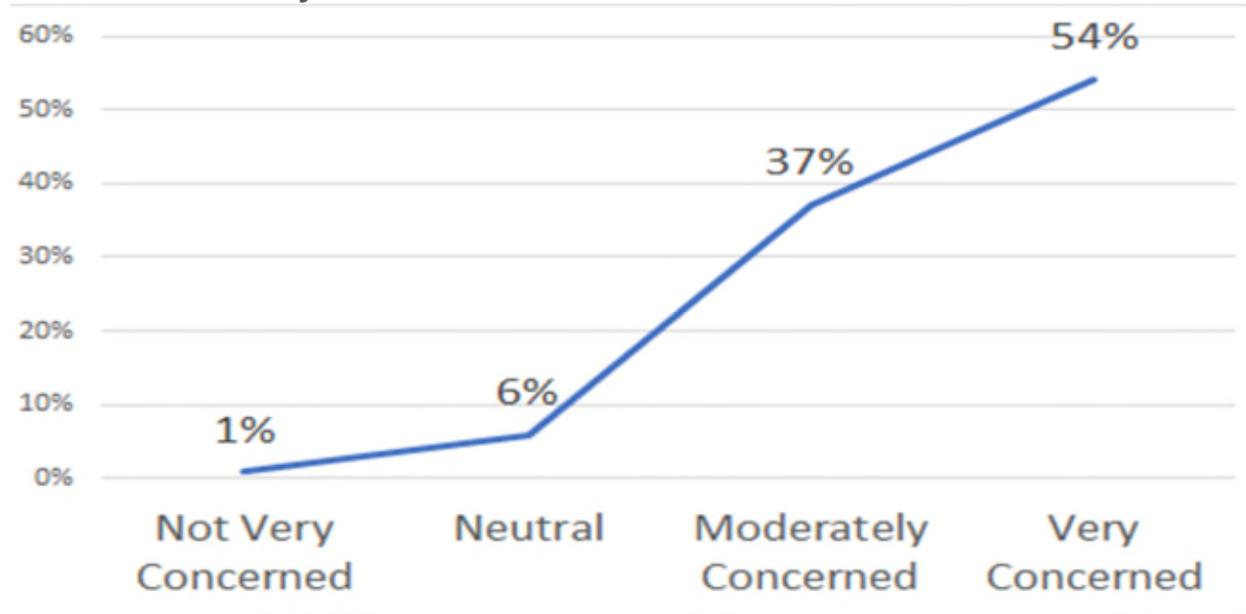
Do you have confidence in your household's ability to pay next month's housing costs?



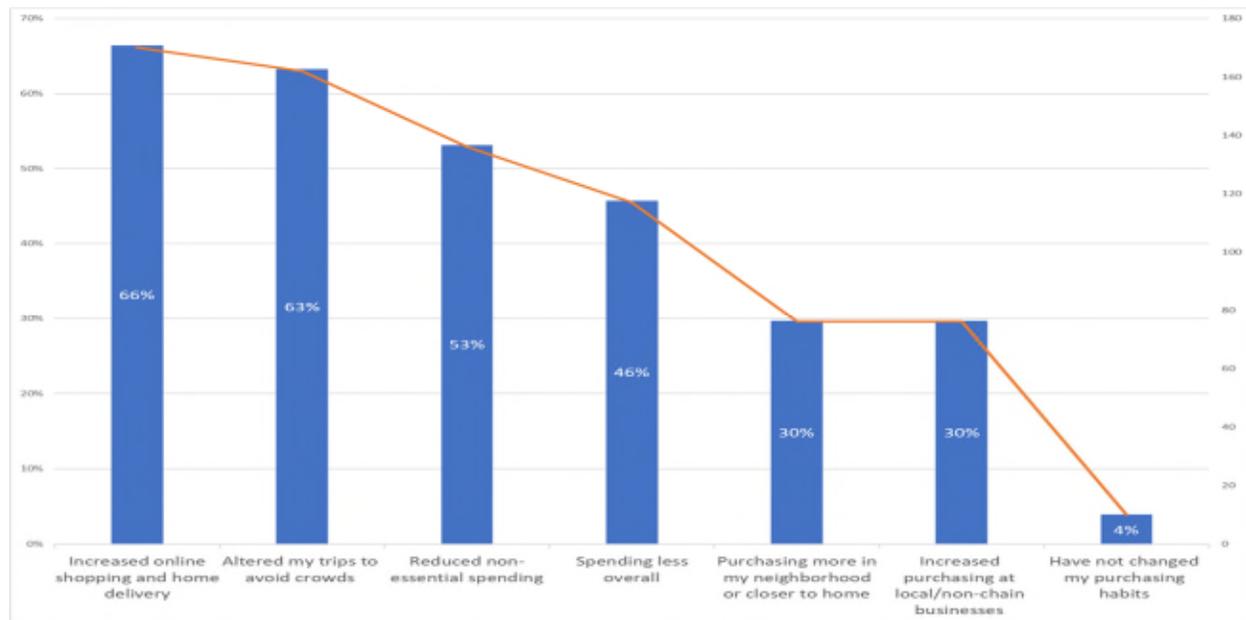
How much has COVID-19 impacted your sense of community?



How concerned are you about Bellevue's local businesses?



How have your purchasing habits changed during this pandemic?



What do you want the city to know about COVID-19's community impact?

Written submissions

General comments

- I have been glad the Seattle area is taking the risks seriously and protecting the most vulnerable. I am grateful for Bellevue's response and for the many non-profit organizations that have stepped in to fill the gap. People are working really hard to support one another and I experience the City of Bellevue as supportive and invested in our well-being. Thank you!
- We appreciate what the city is doing and we're all doing the best we can.
- I appreciate the steps the city has taken and believe city government is well aware of the impacts
- Good to see the city set a good example of sacrificing (canceling events and gatherings).
- The impact of Covid is terrible. I can only imagine another disaster at the same time - such as a big earthquake, civil unrest. I can also imagine worse pandemics. Bellevue like other cities needs to be prepared with plans for likely scenarios.
- Thank you for staying engaged and working diligently to support the community and keeping us well informed
- That there is a general lack of concern by many of its citizens.
- Maintain an approach of we're in this together - as opposed to the message from the White House.
- The local response to COVID-19 is very important and meaningful to residents, especially since the state government's response has been inadequate and flawed and the the federal government's response has been reprehensible. Neighborhoods are simmering with stress, and chronic nuisance issues are worsening in my local neighborhood. What I most want to see is long-term investment in community infrastructure and services that can meet the challenges of the whole 21st century. The idea that we'll be 'done' with pandemics after COVID-19 is fanciful; in this overpopulated world, I want to live in a city that can manage pandemics even if one happens every decade. The country as a whole is not following science, whether on disease or on climate change; it falls to Washington state, and to cities like Bellevue, to enact policies and design/redesign infrastructure so that we can lead lives that are inherently social-distancing-capable yet also sustainable.
- It's a crushing blow that could have long lasting consequences and problems. But this isn't news do anyone. Just sad.
- Stop giving away our tax dollars to developers and homeless/bums.

What do you want the city to know about COVID-19's community impact?

Written submissions

Social distancing and face masks

- Social distancing and face masks have kept me, my family, my friends, and my coworkers from getting sick. Keeping those measures in place as we slowly go back to normal will help others from getting sick as well.
- I'm covid 19 recovery survivor I live in the Landmark apartment here at this community is like another's world 98percent people do not wear mask I do not know why. Even through City and different agency try so hard to give out free masks still people in this neighborhood doesn't wear it. And the Salvation Army during the dinner pick up time start at 5:45pm running until 7pm about 20 percent people wear masks I know the staffs do their best but no rules no mask no service. I wish they do practice that rule of mask or social distance.
- Yesterday I had coffee outside with a friend, social distancing. A group of about 12 teenagers crowded around a couple of tables, no masks, jammed together. How will this get better with such behavior? That said, it breaks my heart that these kids lives are so impacted.
- Not everybody wears a mask
- People are mostly considerate about social distancing and masks
- more needs to be done to enforce social distancing and bolster businesses.
- I have been treating life as if we're in a lockdown since March, barely leave the house, and I don't plan to change until mask compliance is near 100% or there is a vaccine. I feel anger towards much of the community who don't follow mask and social distance guidelines and it makes me feel like I don't belong here and want to leave, since I'm taking things seriously and so many others aren't.
- A friend who lives in Seattle visited me recently here in Downtown Bellevue for a socially-distanced walk and he told me lots more people use face coverings in Seattle as compared to Bellevue. I always use one and I was troubled to hear that. Should the city government speak out about it more, or put up more signs?
- Open up more. Either masks work or they don't we don't need both!
- I believe more activities and businesses could have continued if government had trusted people to use common sense and wear masks and maintain social distancing.
- Mask wearing and social distancing must be enforced in all public places.
- Please enforce mask rules so that we can get through this as quickly as possible.
- We need everyone to wear masks in public so we can fight this virus and get back to business, and visiting friends and family.
- Keep your mask on and just follow the community rules to not only protect yourself, but the entire community.
- The more people don't take social distancing, masks and lock down seriously the longer this will drag out. It will affect everyone young and old alike. It's very frustrating to sacrificed my personal activities (friends, concerts, arts, restaurants) only to see cavalier attitudes by so many. On hikes I see groups of people packed together obviously not related, no masked (we put ours on when we get even 30 feet from another person) they will come right next to you with Less than 1 feet distance, I constantly Have to jump off the trail into the forest to give a little distance. Just because we are outside if you have Covid and are 1 foot away breathing heavily it's no different than passing someone in the store aisle. Young people 20's -30's are the worst offenders. I live in Bellevue to be near hiking trails but since March I may as well be over at

Greenlake. I wish authorities would emphasize to residents more to be just as cautious with Covid on a hiking trail as in a public building. Thank you.

Community Connection

- It's really hard to be new to the community with such limited opportunities to connect, make friends, and enjoy activities. Especially difficult for my teen.
- Our little neighborhood of Collingwood appears to be taking it in stride but there are families that we rarely see or interact with so it's hard to really know.
- The tremendous isolation the older residents are experiencing.
- It has been very hard for all ages 😞
- Concerned about so many things: people's livelihoods being affected. Senior members whose lives are isolated...children's education limited..
- Our family was impacted by Covid just before the start of the school year, glad we were not infecting others and isolated at home.
- 孤寡老人 (lonely old man)
- Miss community gatherings. Festivals. Feeling extreme isolation. Tired of being hooked to a computer.
- The pandemic has exacerbated social isolation and divisions. We need leadership and opportunities to rebuild connections and a sense of belonging among all residents, especially those most marginalized and disadvantaged by the pandemic.
- I have not been able to attend meetings that I normally attend.
- I worry about my kids keeping their social skills, especially my six year old who has high-functioning autism
- You don't have to contract the actual virus to suffer from COVID-19. A friend of mine died from sheer loneliness during this pandemic as she was fighting cancer and grieving the loss of her husband when the lock-down started. She was cut off from her entire support network. The social impact of this pandemic cannot be measured but is becoming apparent - violence is up, vulnerable people cannot access the care they need, kids miss their friends, teachers miss their students, parents miss adult time, moms are tired of cooking every meal, trips to the grocery store have to be planned, we miss going on hikes and visiting the beach (both have become too crowded), when will we see our parents again? When will new grandparents get to see their new grand babies? etc. Do we really need to keep our outdoor playgrounds closed and have picnic tables off limits? Zoom and the like are great but they do not replace in-person visits/meetings.
- We can't freely get together with friends and neighbors so it definitely takes more effort to maintain relationships and avoid isolation. However, most people that I know have been cooperative and are doing their best to comply with the guidelines because we know that the more we can pull together and sacrifice for others, the sooner we can have things return to the new normal.
- Covid-19 restricts residents from being able to interact with the entire community in a major way.
- 不能去社区中心活动 · 不能走访亲友 · 不能回国 (Can't go to community center activities, can't visit relatives and friends, can't return to China)
- Bellevue residents have been responsible and doing their part during this difficult time. Thanks to everyone who is working hard and keeping safe. I am concerned about the elderly in Bellevue and their health but also their connections with others. I would often visit my elderly neighbors and stop by every other week to check on them or have a coffee. But with the virus I am

concerned the elderly are lonely or lacking connection with others. I am not sure what the city can do but I do hope helping the elderly feel connected to the community is part of future city cultural agendas.

- The government's response has been horiffic and damaging to our community. We aren't supposed to go to church. People no longer socialize. Our kids can't play on the playground. It's terrible.

Public Safety

- Mail theft. It started in late June and continues to happen in our neighborhood. We have repeatedly reported this to Bellevue Police. We continue to find dumped mail on sidewalks and at the trailheads. We had mail dumped in our neighborhood from Kenmore. I have had 2 incidents where my credit cards that were sent in the mail by banks (due to expiring cards) and 6 fraudulent charges on my credit cards. I tried to explain to the police that credit cards used at Auto Repair Shops in Burien and Tukwila have been charging credit cards. But yet this still continues to be problematic. I worry about our upcoming election, as the mail theft from Kenmore were primary voter ballots.
- Our city needs to provide us with public security and enough policemen to protect us.
- To keep a strong support of our firemen and medical workers. They need to know we all appreciate the wonderful long hard work they are doing. I know, I lost my husband due to the virus the first part of April and had to call 911 to take him to Overlake Hospital. Everyone was so wonderful and helpful. Even received a call from the Bellevue Fireman Chaplin to see how I was doing and if I needed any help. Very thoughtful call.
- I see a lot of PPE on the ground, in the gutters, and stuck in planters. I try to clean up and properly dispose of what I can. A keep Bellevue clean initiative would be great. Also abandoned shopping carts are all over downtown Bellevue. It also feels like a lot more vagrants are hanging around the downtown area. It's concerning as I want to continue to feel safe while out walking. I also enjoy a clean downtown area. Our city being practically empty for such a long while has that slightly abandoned feel. I'd like to see that change as safely as possible.
- Pay close attention to public safety and medical service
- Racial equity and police brutality must matter after the pandemic is over, not just because we are stressed and trapped at home with time to pay attention.
- We really appreciate our policemen, firemen, and all the first responders who stay focused on the job and support the city and local community. Kudos to you all! We are worried that some are using Covid-19 as the excuse to attack a specific group of the community. Most Asian and Chinese are good supporter of the community and yet being targeted. We worry about our community safety. Police force are very helpful to catch the crime. But we need to have some way to prevent these malicious and targeted crime from happening. We'd want to know how the city has been planning for such.
- Trust is breaking down. I have hope that an eventual transition in leadership will address the breakdown in norms yet this breakdown has forced the acknowledgment that systematic racism must not continue. BLM has correctly identified that the root causes of systematic problems have an economic basis. The breakdown in norms has allowed for a new dialogue which exposes hypocrisy at many levels of our culture which is the only way for our society to rebuild trust over time.

Racial discrimination

- 种族歧视 · 流浪汉和医疗保险 (Racial discrimination, ***** and medical insurance)
- 对华人的歧视 · 一开始是戴口罩的问题 · 现在又开始歧视中国留学生。(Discrimination against Chinese people was a problem of masks at first, and now they are discriminating against Chinese students.)
- 老年人不能聚会很孤独, 语言不通。而且现在歧视时间偶有发生 · 让我们觉得在美国没有归属感 (Elderly people can't get together and are lonely and can't speak their language And now, discrimination happens occasionally, which makes us feel that we have no sense of belonging in the United States)
- 流浪者的感染和住房问题 · 还有种族歧视 (Homeless, infections and housing problems, as well as, racial discrimination)
- 华人很难融入主流社会 (It is difficult for Chinese to integrate into mainstream society)
- 种族歧视 (racial discrimination)
- "种族歧视 · 还有移民身份过期没有法律援助 · 还有小餐馆关门员工再就业问题 (Racial discrimination, as well as the lack of legal aid due to expired immigration status, and the problem of re-employment of employees when small restaurants are closed)"
- 移民法律问题还有歧视的问题 (immigration law issues, discrimination issues)

Human services

- Offer more financial assistance, rental subsidies, food vouchers (Seattle did it)
- People who are living on the streets really need to be better protected. Minorities in Bellevue also need additional protections so they can prevent the disproportionate spread.
- Many self employed people are impacted and have no recourse (not eligible for new City grant program, can't get PPP, etc.) We are the ones suffering e.g. personal trainers, hair stylists, airbnb operator, housecleaner, etc.
- 应该对弱势社群多点关注 (should pay more attention to disadvantaged groups)
- There is just so much stress. About everything. This takes a toll, on all of us. Community Mental health services are stretched thin, and are a vital resource that must be supported. Please find a way to increase support/resources for community mental health. Thank you.
- Keep supporting or at least do not hinder the operation of charities such as Jubilee Reach and Hopelink, and protect the right and action of safe peaceful protests.
- renting payments
- Many in my neighborhood are TERRIFIED that City services are going to decrease.
- With diminished Financial resources people may struggle to cover basic costs such as food and utilities
- A place of safety and shelter
- 为华人社区提供翻译员 (provide translators for the Chinese community)
- Que me preocupa cuánto tiempo me quedará para que me sigan dando Desempleo hasta que mi empleador me llame para trabajar ya que no tienen fecha para que regresemos, y estamos en espera para que nos llamen. (That I am concerned about how long I will have to continue giving me unemployment until my employer calls me to work since they do not have a date for us to return, and we are waiting for them to call us.)

- I see the impact on families through my work in Bellevue. People are scared, lack of food and unable to pay rent.
- Social divides are being amplified. How will those who have lost jobs find new, safe, living wage employment.
- It is vital that we protect the most vulnerable - those who are vulnerable to COVID-19, and those who are vulnerable to the economic downturn. Getting, and keeping, the infection rate low so that children can return to school, especially children with special needs.
- We need you to focus on all populations, all ages!
- Spring cleaning donations (hard goods) are not reaching those in need. There needs to be a bulk collection and distribution method - this is an untapped community investment/benefit.
- Take care of the homeless and struggling families of color
- Human Services cont.
- More needs to be done to support people experiencing homelessness and people of color (ie. black and brown people)
- Loss of employment for many people.
- Those of us with conditions such as depression need society to get back to normal.
- I am very distressed by the inability of family and support people to visit the sick. Family support is crucial to the improvement of people's condition. Permanent damage has been done to families by people dying alone, etc. people's medical tests were delayed and their cancer is now inoperable. We have concentrated all our attention on one small aspect of a very complex society and have caused untold damage and distress!!! We need to balance ALL the needs of society not just one!!!
- 贝尔魏优没有新冠测试点 · 而且要等很长时间才能有结果 (Bellevue has no new testing sites, and it will take a long time to get results)
- Looking forward, Please be prepared for the launch of vaccines. Make sure distribution and access are well-planned. For those who choose to be vaccinated, help them navigate the system, execute your plans efficiently and soundly. Most importantly, based on science, take a leadership role in achieving buy-in from Bellevue residents.
- I would like to know how many from Bellevue have been infected. I would like more statistics on Bellevue. As of now, I've been told there are no statistics that I should go to the state website which is broken down into counties.

Support local businesses

- Businesses need help! Especially those most impacted by closure. Our relies on music in the schools, and live music performance and rehearsal (we repair band instruments). With all of that shut down, we have almost nothing left.
- As long as government prohibits live music, we need to forgive the rent that's due from professional performers, and we need to forgive the mortgages and taxes of the landlords that rent to them.
- I'm especially concerned about the survival of small local businesses, including restaurants, that are so important to the economy and character and diversity of the city. I live and own a small business in Bellevue that has been significantly affected. We're still hanging in there, at reduced capacity/income/profit, thanks to a federal PPP loan/grant and a smart and generous landlord who was able to cut us some slack during the 3-month total closure, but we're on the precipice. So many local businesses are.

- 对小型企业摧毁性的影响 · 还要很多人交不起房租 (Destructive impact on small businesses, and many people cannot afford to pay rent)
- That it's really important to keep small business afloat and eventually vibrant again.
- I'm concerned both about the potential loss of local businesses AND about the impact of all the excess plastic waste generated by the increase restaurant takeout. Is City of Bellevue increasing options for outdoor seating, as Issaquah and Edmonds have done?
- Look for ways to encourage shopping (online or in person) in Bellevue. Promote human service organizations helping Bellevue families get through the pandemic. Look for ways to partner with the school district to reach broader community.
- I'm not going into businesses unless i need food or household goods. Would never forgive myself if I bought some non essential thing and hurt someone else.
- We need to help the small businesses.
- Need to make plans to restart vitality of neighborhoods and commercial areas
- How worried we are about local restaurants and small businesses
- Some items are difficult to get on line, and local retail stores are either out of stock, or forcing people to come into their store to purchase them, thus putting them at risk of getting infected with Covid-19. For example Sanitizing wipes, like Lysol and Clorox.
- We know so many people who have experienced job loss or diminution - let's actively find ways to assist
- For residents not in the tech industry or other high-paying jobs, job uncertainty is real. I've cut back my non-essential spending as I'm worried about keeping my job and with the high cost of rent, need to be as conservative as possible. Also, supporting local businesses and ensuring our restaurants and retailers can make it is key, especially in Downtown where many workers won't be returning in the near future.
- Left my job located in Bellevue that I worked at for 11 years to stay home and care for my kids. Many are having to do the same.
- On June 30 we lost a decades-old business (Lee's Martial Arts) that serves kids and adults. It could not survive without in-person classes. July/August are traditionally their slow months and they rely on the revenue from March-June to survive the summer. We are heartbroken. LMA had a long history of building up kids physically/emotionally/mentally, and of being a great partner with the community club. They were also closely connected to other businesses, as parents who were waiting for classes to be over often visited Resonate or Mustard Seed for a drink, or picked up food from one of the 5 neighborhood restaurants. 2. Negative: A lot of people in the neighborhood have turned into "Karens", reporting others to BPD and on social media for perceived violations of the governor's mandates. All of a sudden we have a bunch of "Mrs. Kravitzes" watching out their windows to report people walking together or playing at the park who they know nothing about- sometimes the people have responded on social media to say "that was me, and I was walking with my family!" In general, the divide over COVID has created a lot of incivility on Nextdoor.com. Newport Hills is connected to 44 other neighborhoods in South Bellevue, Newcastle, and Renton. It's appalling how quickly COVID-related discussions turn ugly and what people are willing to say to/about each other from the security & anonymity provided by a computer monitor. #keyboardjerks 3. Positive: Newport Hills has always been a very pedestrian & bike-oriented neighborhood. Walking & biking increased immediately following lockdown and has continued to increase as the weather improved. It's been great to meet new people as they walk by my house. Also, we've had some really great resident-driven community offerings spring up, like The Giving Tree (drop-off/pick-up items for kids) organized by neighbor PatAnn Robinson, and Teddy Bear Hunt & virtual Egg

Hunt (bears & paper eggs placed in windows for kids to look for while passing by). We held our first neighborhood vehicle parade with over 30 participating vehicles celebrating graduations, Black Lives Matter, community pride, local businesses, and more. Also, with all the large auto shows cancelled this summer our weekly Wednesday cruise-in at the Newport Hills Shopping Center has seen a HUGE surge in the # of vehicles attending, which has exposed many new people to the wonderful businesses in our commercial district (usual avg weekly attendance= 21 vehicles; 2020 avg weekly attendance= 35 vehicles; high 2020 attendance= 62 vehicles).

- You have taken the best steps you could to support restaurants outdoor dining and takeout services. That's great, and I can't imagine what more you could do! But it may be insufficient to save many of them.
- Please re-open slowly and responsibly. I want to get back but don't want to get sick again.
- Open up safely and soon.

Parks

- Parks are very confusing. The signs are put up and taken down daily. We don't know if we can use the Evergreen Park on 164th by Phantom Lake.
- Definitely been going out less and spending less time interacting with other people. Spending a lot of time at home, doing home projects and working from home. Having delivery and e-commerce ordering more frequently to supply what we need.
- Outdoor activities should not be restricted
- 公共地方的清潔 公園應該維持有洗手間和洗手的地方 (The cleanliness of public places Parks should maintain a place with toilets and hand washing)
- Please fix the libraries and please get them open. Also don't shut down parks again. Super annoying
- Is there any way to open more facilities and activities at community centers? If not, is it possible for city to provide variety of online classes or activities such as kids' computer classes like how to create games, videos and animations, DIY classes, cooking classes, workout classes...etc.?
- At this time, I haven't gone back to any of the city park or outdoor activity.
- No access to playgrounds is huge on families with kids.
- Parks and playgrounds need to reopen
- One of the many overlooked impacts. With schools being remote and all other events canceled (even Garden D'Lights which is months away) there is very little feeling of community.
- I have a question/complaint. I don't want to sound too whiny but being in quarantine since March has made me a little more whiny than usual. We have several community centers in Bellevue that remain shuttered and many Parks employees doing nothing (I'm sure some of the full-time staff are doing something, but the part-time staffers have all been laid off or furloughed or just not called in, and I know personally some of the full-time staff are doing nothing). Why doesn't Bellevue Parks at least offer child care/school help in their community centers this fall? Like the school district? Help out those who can't be home with their kids? There are a lot of gyms, community rooms, and employees that are doing NOTHING right now. I am a contractor with Bellevue Parks as well as a number of other cities around the area. Issaquah Parks is doing just that--using their ONE community center to provide child care and they are even doing after-school activities. Of course the extracurricular classes can only have five kids each, but hey, that's SOMETHING. I was able to hold two camps there over the summer under the child care rules. Bellevue? Nada. As a hefty taxpayer in Bellevue, and as a contractor, I'm getting a little irritated. I can stay home with my kids because my business is mostly

shuttered right now (except for Issaquah, of course). But I know there are a whole lotta parents who don't have that luxury. Seems our city could be doing a little more.

Education/Schools

- Los niños deberían tener más contacto con otros niños y la comunidad educativa (Children should have more contact with other children and the educational community)
- Please open schools and business. The cure is worse than the disease. Kids mental health is fragile, businesses are failing. The curve has flattened, hospitals are not over run.
- Closed schools are having a huge affect on our kids and families!
- School Education, Child Care and Support low income family
- No in-person school is going to start having a severe negative impact on our students soon. We need to address quickly options. Also, small businesses may need help strategizing on creative ways to adapt to changed needs.
- Let's get our kids back to school! Let's let businesses open - smartly - ongoing masks, distancing and always people need good hygiene - washing hands, no hugging/touching/shaking hands, etc.

COVID-19 Shutdown

- I'm a healthcare worker, and believe this response is completely overblown. Push Jay to open the darned state already. It's criminal what we are doing to kids and working families.
- You have harmed us, this shutdown was not warranted.
- I wish we could have stood up against Inslee and allowed our small businesses to stay open.
- That the impact is negligible! My zip code (98006) has 40,000 people but in six months has seen only 4 deaths to COVID with comorbidities. Why have we not reopened? It's crazy!
- We do not feel heard and are constantly being told that you are understaffed and cannot help, things are so difficult for you, budgets are tight, It's not in the budget,etc.
- Who is going to hold the local government accountable?
- The lockdown is hurting and killing people. Reopen, or the cure(lockdown) will prove worse than then disease.
- Nothing - I'm sure the city is well-aware of all of the most significant impacts. Beyond that, I fully support the city's and Gov. Inslee's science and fact-based approach to inhibiting the spread of the virus.
- Doesn't matter. I moved. Govt is nuts at all levels there. I came to build a company. Will not be building one there now.
- There are no easy answers - for every person who is loudly expressing their opinion in your face, the are many more who are silent, worried, and unsure of what the "right" answers are.
- The "solutions" thus far are more damaging than the problem.
- For those who are impacted due to actual virus complications, our heartfelt care and assistance are warranted. For everyone else, the negative impacts on their jobs and finances have been the result of government actions that are not necessary.
- Mask enforcement needs to be more universal with punitive measures in place. More needs to be done to educate citizens about the risks associated and combat the disinformation coming from fox news and the white house. Additionally, opening schools to in person instruction is a scary proposition when we don't know the long term effects of this disease. Putting our teachers and school staff at risk as well is not an effective answer when there are issues with community spread.
- Disinformation has deeply divided our community

- It's another divisive issue in the times
- Unfortunately this has hit right at the time when political conflict among us is especially high. It has made it that much harder for us to talk out our differences safely, in person. Instead we're arguing on the internet (e.g. Facebook and Nextdoor neighborhood forums) or behind masks at demonstrations, misconstruing and misunderstanding each other, unable to sit neighborly in a cafe or whatnot. Divisions have deepened. Healing will take effort. Regarding education: now is the time to reconsider the American school calendar. Shorten summer vacation (like the rest of the world)!
- COVID has created a focus on the generational gap between our citizens. Some of this focus has resulted in young people being apologetic when they pass me (over 65) if they do not have a mask on. Others I think are using the phrase "boomer remover" when they refer to COVID as if it is intended to kill off baby boomers. I have personally experienced the former more frequently than anything that feels like age discrimination among our younger neighbors but it is there to a certain extent.

What are your primary concerns as your household considers returning to public life (events, facilities, and activities)?

- Specific concern about engaging in public life
- Health and safety are #1
- Our health and the possibility of asymptomatic spread (to or from us)
- Nowhere seems safe without need to have cautiousness in interactions.
- Health, and the presence of not only a vaccine, but a highly effective treatment for Covid 19. Longer term, I'm concerned that performing artists will be driven from their homes and be unable to survive in they're chosen profession.
- Other people not complying with social distancing and mask wearing.
- Seguridad (Security)
- Whether social distancing will be kept by ALL participants.
- Being able to travel to visit family.
- That it will not be safe to do so.
- Staying away from other people who could be spreading COVID-19
- My primary concern is that some people will not adhere to the mask mandate and spread the virus.
- Community compliance with health regulations (masks, etc).
- Gyms, hair salons, school activities are vital
- health (in case getting sick)
- Limiting the spread of the virus
- seeing my grandchildren on a regular basis
- Catching the virus
- Safety of others and returning to sense of freedom to move and enjoy life.
- No concerns. Please open schools and business.
- Primary concern is catching COVID
- Health risk
- Having enough space
- Activities, outdoor recreation, events, access to grocery shopping safely,
- Government tyranny and Economic devastation, lack of tax revenue to fund infrastructure and required citizen services like DMV.
- Still seeing too many people not wearing masks OR not wearing them over both nose & mouth.
- My primary concern is that people will let their guard down and NOT be considerate of how their actions or health can affect others, and start the spread of the virus again.
- To get sick
- Virus infection rate
- That businesses should be reopened gradually. should there be new cases, it can be efficiently monitored and not hve a major lockdown again
- To get sick and spread the virus among my circle. I prefer to wait for a vaccine before engaging in outdoor events.
- spread of the virus
- The lack of national response to COVID-19
- I am mostly concerned with the lack of connection and people's emotional well-being. When we return, it seems like the lack of connection has fostered angst and aggression which will impact us when we get together.

What are your primary concerns as your household considers returning to public life (events, facilities, and activities)?

Social distancing and masks

- Health and safety standards
- Illness- COVID-19 or the flu
- Safety of being around other people such as co-workers, store clerks and co-shoppers who have made less careful choices about gatherings, restaurants, movies 2. Health of the frontline medical workers who are having high exposure 3. Health of teachers and other employees that may not be well protected by employers, for example farm workers and packing plant workers, especially likely to suffer if employers are released from any liability for worker safety 4. Church services remaining available online without large musical ensembles 5. safety of attending events such as concerts, and safety of performing in them 6. Safety of people involved in peaceful protesting when the government authorities teargas the white racist thugs from out of town but inflict collateral damage on others 7. Safety of flying to another state or having visitors here for Thanksgiving, wedding
- Others lack of protections - masks, distance, etc. Schools for my grandkids is a huge concern and I share homeschooling as we did last year.
- Staying away from groups of people, especially indoors, and especially if others may not be masked.
- Other people in the community not wearing masks. I absolutely don't feel safe outside in Bellevue since too many people don't wear masks.
- Contact tracing
- how safe are they
- Wanting to be able to enjoy activities in a safe way and trying to have faith others will abide by the rules
- Simply hoping that we can safely return to public life, the businesses that run those events, facilities and activities, I hope they make it.
- The amount of strangers and crime that has discovered our city, including the crazy meth head yelling for Jesus in the park for over an hour now, who now spend more time here contributing to the ME attitude vs Community attitude. We asked for a "safe neighborhood" partition signs on NE 1st Street on the south side of the park or in a portion of the South Parking Lot so the little kids and families could return to ride their bikes, scooters, wagons, etc. like during COVID-19, but sadly, we're told no. I have a huge pain and agony about the loud, racing cars with loud, amplified music dominating our Downtown roads and parks at dusk and late into the night. We would like to create a noise ordinance like on Alkai Beach since the police have no time or power to stop it. After 14 years of asking transportation to add traffic calming and the city to add signs to turn engines, lights and music off when in the park, I realize that neighborhood requests continue to fall on deaf ears. It feels like we are being bullied by a few drivers in their cars and it takes away from our quality of life in the evening and late into the night. In our experience, it feels like neighbors needing sleep in order to work is not important to our city leaders and personnel. These same employees and managers are the same people who don't realize that we are woken up by garbage and park machinery and blowers early in the morning at 7am. It feels like neighbors' lives do not matter to The City of Bellevue and I would love to work on a win/win solution. We could begin with traffic calming and removing the drums and gongs from inspiration playground that are beat on by late-night park trespassers and kids partying in the closed park, plus by closing the park parking lot at 11pm.

What are your primary concerns as your household considers returning to public life (events, facilities, and activities)?

- My main concern is that we will return to these things and false numbers, media hype and Inslee will take them away again.
- Health
- wondering how things will open up - when/how will i feel comfortable dining out/ shopping, not wearing a mask
- We do not want to get sick ourselves or make others sick.
- Employment, schools.
- Trying to avoid super spreader events. People that do not take wearing masks or social distancing seriously. If my student returns to a physical classroom will they bring Covid home to us or contract the virus themselves. I plan to avoid the mall this November and December. The general public is starting to take the threat less seriously and it shows in lax behavior.
- disinformation campaigns growing increasingly effective putting us all at risk, testing availability/capacity, health resources and wages for essential workers
- That we will move too fast to try to recreate our life before COVID and therefore increase the number of cases. I will not go out in public to events until I feel safe doing so not matter what phase the state or county is in.
- How crazy people are going to be about masks, especially outside. Lots of scared people out there who are unable to weigh risks and making weird decisions and exhibiting weird behavior
- Decreased education and social opportunities for children
- I live alone and am retired. But I am very active with art and culture organizations. It's all inside. I am concerned about being inside with some people clueless about properly wearing masks...and not knowing about the air filtration quality.
- Safety from the virus.
- I feel it's premature to be thinking of the return to public life. When the time comes, I'm concerned that the organizations and systems that support those public events/ programs will be seriously weakened or fully decimated.
- No vaccine and lack of concern for others who may not share your values.
- Getting kids back in schools
- People not following rules
- Mutual respect and understanding regardless what your view is in the current pandemic.
- facilities, and activities
- concerned by government's failure to support local businesses.
- People being too relaxed and having a resurgence of the virus.
- Don't plan on resuming public life this year at least; family only.
- That other people aren't as diligent as our family has been and we can still get sick.
- how to work & socialize again and stay Covid-free. I wear a mask properly, social distance, restrict my shopping trips, sanitize... but see so many others not that could potentially pass the disease on to others.
- Getting sick.
- spread of covid - intentional or unintentional.
- Concern about new waves of COVID when restrictions are lifted
- Would like to resume normal life.

What are your primary concerns as your household considers returning to public life (events, facilities, and activities)?

- Public events, indoor events, and lack of concern for others by a vast number of people in the local area.
- To be mindful
- Staying safe from virus in all things--public transportation, dining out, shopping and traveling.
- Hoping the state will make smart thoughtful choices that will allow life to return to what I believe is our new normal. Accommodations need to be made but we need to make accommodations that ADAPT to our new environment and allow the economy to grow again, people to use public spaces and services, and all in the smartest, healthiest ways given our new consideration of Covid-19.
- Safety of not getting COVID. Want to open up slowly, cautiously. But want to be supportive of small business
- Indoor activities such as school, church, gym, museums.
- None. Let's open up now.
- Violation of my personal rights to assemble, wear what I want
- Large gathering of people in confined spaces
- Worried about lingering issues with the virus due to my age.
- The level of protection and others.
- How long the pandemic will last and how long it will take to build herd immunity. Also will everyone have access to a vaccine?
- Safety in crowds and at workplace
- Not considering most activities yet outside of necessary shopping and restaurant takeout. Maintaining social distancing and everyone wearing masks are primary concerns.
- Getting a serious form of COVID health impact
- No concerns. Time to re open now. Virus transmission is low, no strain on hospitals, curve has been flattened.
- I am high risk and will probably die if I contract COVID, so I will not be returning to public life this year
- No concern, let's get going
- Primary concern is upsurge of the pandemic
- Not catching it.
- Health of immune deficient/at risk family member
- Stricter adherence to mask usage both in public spaces and by tradespersons (plumbers, appliance repairers/installers, etc.) entering residences; availability of goods and services (esp. sanitary products and Internet connectivity implements) despite stresses to supply chain; ability to conduct non-in-person business without bureaucratic nightmares
- None - It is past time to get back to normal. Real normal not the "New Normal"!
- Safety in going to restaurants, theater, gatherings with friends, and the like.
- I am concerned that the Governor will not allow events to be held until it will be too late for the organizations to continue.
- Not getting sick
- Safety
- Safety of family and others

What are your primary concerns as your household considers returning to public life (events, facilities, and activities)?

- Would like to support restaurants, cultural events with in-person seating. Would like more access to walks/trails/parking. As a landlord, we're concerned about losing rental income.
- Whether the virus has been either contained or that there is a safe and effective vaccination.
- Lack of compliance among the general public with masking and social distancing recommendations.
- being infected with the virus and bringing it back home worried about attending church, going back to work
- Virtually no clarity on plans to get to comprehensive testing And contact tracing from all sources of government though I have most faith in local leadership at the city level if anyone can get there. Though the Federal Response has been disastrous and unconstitutional I believe that Bellevue has all of the resources to lead the nation by achieving a proper response in time. We need to be the change we wish to see in the world.
 - The lack of people's respect for the pandemic-prevention rules - wearing a mask, staying 6 feet apart. (2) The lack of understanding how the virus spreads. There is so much misinformation and things change as scientists learn more. Are the current rules effective?
- Staying healthy
- My concern is that when returning to things pre-COVID 19, many businesses and organizations and non-profits will not survive the closures. I'm also concerned with those who are isolated and whose mental health is being affected.
- Poor education plans for kids. Remote learning is not adequate.
- Safety of ourselves and others
- Don't wish to return to normal activity until proven vaccine available for all.
- Covid numbers going back up.
- My primary concerns are that everyone should be wearing a mask and social distancing.
- How to keep social distances
- Safety
- Facilities not open; getting sick
- Some businesses I haven't returned to, and will probably not until a vaccine is available.
- Safety and necessity.
- Inconsistent precautions taken by others. It will be a long time before I feel comfortable inside or in large groups with others.
- That increased activity leads to increased rates of COVID-19 in the community, and that it disproportionately impacts Black, Latinx, and Indigenous communities.
- We are older adults and do not feel safe engaging until there is a vaccine. Our life has greatly changed! No volunteer work, no gym community or workouts and soon my partners employment will end. Although we will receive social security benefit I'm not sure with the current political climate that will continue And that will be disastrous to us! God help us all 🙏
- That there is a proven and widely used vaccine. Before that we will have to stay home
- How to access to public resources, like hospitality, library , sports activities , school and class
- Possibly getting covid and general safety and well-being of others
- Work travel, employees going to work sick in order to get a paycheck to pay bills and infecting others.

What are your primary concerns as your household considers returning to public life (events, facilities, and activities)?

- We've already returned to public life, as much as is being allowed. We wear masks & practice social distancing as appropriate. I refuse to live my life forever locked up inside my house waiting for this to be over. My primary concern is that public life will take YEARS to return to normal, negatively impacting the economy, as well as mental health and overall quality of life for many people. I've been impressed by how innovative many people have been in still trying to carry on business or life with precautions in place.
- That re-entry is absolutely safe for everyone.
- People not following public health guidelines.
- Doesn't matter. I moved. Govt is nuts at all levels there.
- Health
- Very worried about disease transmission, don't really want to return to our previous normal pace which was hectic.
- I am concerned with the spread of the virus to vulnerable members of my household, like my mother who has diabetes and high blood pressure.
- Our main concern is staying mentally and physically healthy until things revert to normal.
- We have participated in very few group activities with friends or members of organizations we are part of. We have met with one or two other people at a time outdoors. We have gone to one restaurant since March 1. We have ordered take out food eight times, having it delivered three times and we have picked it up five times. We stay home most of the time.
- Staying safe from Covid19 and now overall safety due to increase in violence.
- While I believe in mask wearing and distancing, we need to get kids back to school, people back to work, and public life. People have lost faith and trust in state government and media. Who deemed mental and physical health not important? Mandate masks but don't mandate lock downs. My concern is that the government response failed the people with mixed and changing messages and it became bipartisan and sowed more hatred and distrust and anger.... I am grateful for BELLEVUE and I believe the city government and leaders - like its citizens - want to do the right thing.
- health and safety of myself and those around me
- That we don't slack off public health guidelines.
- Lack of government leadership regarding public health policies. I'm concerned not enough people wear masks or stay socially distanced.
- My primary concern is that it needs to happen soon.
- I'm not comfortable at this stage to return to my previous public life. K
- Individuals not taking appropriate cautions i.e. no masks and/or going out when sick
- Although school is remote right now, we are concerning opening the school later this semester that would worsen the pandemic. We understand that a lot of parents are under huge pressure that would they really need to send the kids to school. But this pandemic is still very bad and a lot of universities got break out shortly after opening the campus.
- That government continues to grossly overstep its role in assisting the community where it is needed, and instead dictates to the community how it must act (as it has been doing). We are not idiots nor helpless children, and don't need to be treated as such.
- Other people who do not take preventing the spread of Covid-19 seriously, thus putting others at risk.
- paying property taxes. decreased work due to Covid

What are your primary concerns as your household considers returning to public life (events, facilities, and activities)?

- I am high risk, so we don't leave, don't see friends.
- Will still be scared we could get it.
- Staying safe from covid
- No concerns
- People who feel they can mask shame. Government going into debt. Increased welfare.
- Trusting everyone is following guidelines
- Inability to meet with friends, inability to go to restaurants with family members and friends, inability to fly to other parts of the country or world. Feeling of isolation in daily life.
- Risk of catching and spreading covid.
- not going into crowds; being able to socially distance
- The mental health impacts that are not being addressed. The road rage. People angry all the time. Masking so no eye contact. People pointing fingers at each other and calling each other out. Kids not able to be educated well. All involve tremendously scary impacts in the future.
- Health and safety
- We are healthy retired senior citizens so feel a bit guilty if we try to resume a normal life knowing we still should not engage with others
- Behavior of other people.
- Fear of catching the virus
- Being infected from someone who refuses to follow proper protocols.
- Possible increase in infection rate, especially as it relates to K- 12 education.
- Closed spaces with poor ventilation.
- Not having to revert back to quarantine
- My main concern is being near people who do not follow CoVid 19 protocols (don't wear masks, don't social distance etc). I am concerned by the number of people who still do not take the issue seriously.
- Safety of my family. We have people who are high risk in our household, and others in the community still fight wearing masks. It's incredibly troubling that the level of selfishness exists in our community where others have taken a public health issue and politicized it to the point where we are afraid of leaving our house because others won't wear a mask to protect people in the community that are more susceptible to severe issues associated with covid.
- No Answer
- That my favorite businesses, especially restaurants, bars, and small businesses, will be able to survive under the draconian restrictions imposed by Democrat-run nanny-state known as Washington.
- Local businesses being able to stay open, friends and family losing jobs and not having the ability to eat out, etc. A second wave moving us back to Phase 1.
- We want to get back as soon as possible. We want schools and playgrounds opened for kids. We want churches open so we can worship freely. And we want the onerous restrictions on businesses lifted so people can resume their lives and pursue, life, liberty, and happiness.
- People not wearing their masks and respecting social distancing. Racism towards Asians.
- Staying healthy but still being able to do some of our usual activities.
- That leaders will go too slow in reopening and listen to the very vocal people that worry about everything.

What are your primary concerns as your household considers returning to public life (events, facilities, and activities)?

- We should do some common-sense adjustment like social gatherings shouldn't just be limited to 5 people (or is it 6... the wording in Washington state's Safe Start guidelines is TOTALLY not clear as to whether it's 5 people including yourself or yourself + 5). It should be limited to the SAME 5 people over one month. Other than that would really love to see the schools reopen soon while keeping other things at their current restriction level.
- Concerns that not everyone is following the same standard and accepted protocol.
- Think that if people social distance and wear masks we should do it soon for people's mental health and wellbeing.
- Mother-in-law is very frail, very likely to die if she caught COVID-19.
- Lack of leadership at the federal level, lack of support for folks out of work, and lack of clear federal public health plan. This has put the burden on state and local governments which don't have the vast resources needed to coordinate and tackle the pandemic. I therefore don't see how anyone could return to public life anywhere close to where we were last year because of the failure to address the pandemic at all.
- social distance
- Stupid politicians who own no accountability for businesses and the economy.
- "Que puedan ser contaminados por el covid-19 que aunque se tomen precauciones es posible que alguien esté enfermo y no sepa y progague la enfermedad.(That they can be contaminated by covid-19 that even if precautions are taken it is possible that someone is sick and does not know and spread the disease.)"
- "Que no hay mucha información al respecto del virus, por lo que no nos sentimos confiados de salir (That there is not much information about the virus, so we do not feel confident about leaving)"
- We don't want to get covid, but really want to participate in activities.
- What will survive financially.
- The covid virus spreading
- I'm still scared to go outside, dr visit I do virtually, food that I do online that cost a lot more and you didn't get what you want most of the time, activities just around the neighborhood I cannot ask people to wear mask and keep social distance I will do it myself to protect myself
- being 38 and immune compromised, lack of sanitation enforcement is chief concern and social distancing is severely lacking. it doesn't inspire confidence when thinking of going out to do anything, much less a social event.
- Spread of virus
- Preventing the spread to vulnerable family members is very difficult and scary. My wife cares for her elderly grandmother who is not in good health. Covid could kill her, so we most likely will be unable to return to public and social life until there is a vaccine or this virus runs its course.
- I'm not currently giving consideration to returning to public life.
- We are self-employed, and therefore have abysmal health insurance coverage. We just can't afford to have high health Care costs if one of us gets sick, not to mention the costs of potential long-term issues that may arise.
- I prefer to limit public interaction.
- Schools
- Getting sick and not being able to work.
- Going to events

What are your primary concerns as your household considers returning to public life (events, facilities, and activities)?

- If I, my 80-yr-old parents, or any of my many sr. citizen friends were to attempt to return to public life w/o a vaccine, there is a high probability that we would die. At the same time, I think we are all experiencing sheltering-in-place fatigue. So it makes me SO angry, when I see seemingly healthy people w/o masks & NOT limiting their interactions to people that they live with (& this includes some of my neighbors. And I'm absolutely furious at the irresponsible behavior of our young people, who are partying w/o masks & w/o social distancing. In fact, I think every college student (especially those living on campus) should be required to be tested weekly & not allowed to return home (if the school closes or they are quarantined), until they have been tested & received at least 1 negative result.
- Health and safety of family due to COVID-19.
- Question not clear - vaccine is primary concern and all the idiots out there not listening to the "rules"
- Financial hardship, no mood to join events
- "大家放松警惕不戴口罩 (Let us relax our vigilance and not wear a mask)"
- 感染新冠 (infected Nikkapu)
- 室内通风 (indoor ventilation)
- 担心感染病毒, 特别是室内聚众 (Worried about getting the virus, especially indoor gatherings)
- 感染病毒 (virus infection)
- 人们不保持社交距离 (people do not maintain social distance)
- 感染病毒 (virus infection)
- 公共安全 (public safety)
- 其他人不戴口罩和保持社交距离 (Others do not wear masks and maintain social distance)
- Safety and Health

What concerns you the most about Bellevue's local businesses?

- Many small business won't be able to bounce back. But new business will spring up. Just sad for the business owners who have lost their livelihoods
- Small business survival
- Ability to cover fixed costs with drastically reduced income
- Will small businesses have the support to get through this pandemic recession? Will they have to shut down? How will this affect the community if we loose access to these businesses?
- Que muchos negocios cierran, haya más desempleo y consecuentemente más crimen. (That many businesses close, there is more unemployment and consequently more crime.)
- Don't want to see any go out of business.
- That they will not be able to stay in business.
- I'm concerned that a lot of businesses won't be able to make it financially and will have to permanently shut their doors.
- Small business won't have the resources to survive shutdown while the big chains won't be affected
- No Answer
- Operating safely
- How many of them had enough of a financial cushion to get them through such an extended period of closure.
- Failure due to shutdown.
- That businesses will close permanently
- How many small business can survive after all this is over?
- The loss of income
- Survival and the cost to do business, as a local citizen I cannot incur the increases for food and products.
- That too many won't make it
- That the mom and pop shops (that is, restaurants and businesses that are NOT franchises) have suffered financially and will go bankrupt - they're my favorite / preferred places to eat and shop.
- They can go to bankruptcy
- Restaurant
- That they don't hve the means to pay their rent to maintain their shop because of reduced business.
- That people will loose their job and/or the quality of service goes down significantly
- ability to survive
- Loss of jobs and small businesses
- I am concerned that the people who rely on working in local businesses have been unable to have enough income. Many of them do not live in Bellevue and the economic impact of things will be huge.
- Worry that they might go out of business
- No Answer
- That most small businesses will not have the means to make a comeback

What concerns you the most about Bellevue's local businesses?

- Many businesses opening for inside dining without careful mask use in kitchen and careful spacing; many stores not keeping track of numbers of people entering--these will lead to more cases especially as winter approaches. The re-opening of movie theaters and gyms could make this even worse, increasing the number of people carrying the virus and endangering even those who have been careful.
- Thugs coming from other cities to trash businesses under the guise of protest, followed by ICE people without any restraints in who they arrest whether or not the thugs get arrested, incited by their commander in chief, will increase use of teargas and likelihood peaceful protesters will be negatively affected by virus and other hazards.
- Lack of income due to closure.
- The ability of small, independent businesses and restaurants to survive.
- Ability to survive a prolonged pandemic.
- They might close forever.
- Will small restaurants survive
- Restaurants...a lot have announced closures this week.
- With the massive shift to work from home for tech workers in the downtown core, will those workers come back? Will the businesses that depend on them be able to hold on until then?
- The small businesses that have had to permanently close when the large stores were allowed to stay open.
- Hard for the small shops to stay in business.
- Restaurant, hospitality industry are taking a big hit concerned that many will not survive.
- Their survival
- That the planning department took away street parking without adding a place for pick up and drop off of people and/ordering out. I've suggested over and over again that if all parking is in garages, we still need a place for Uber and easy front access. A lot of businesses that are not making it do not have easy access... something the city could have helped out with during all of the new construction that began 20 years ago.
- How they maintain their ability to remain viable
- I like so many restaurants and shops and I hope they stay open, but I also am not comfortable with dining in or shopping in person. Also, on another scale, will large employers shut down offices due to remote work?
- Small businesses closing.
- I am concerned about businesses having to close due to a lack of customers. I miss the movie theaters and live performances. But I am more concerned about staying healthy and alive.
- They do not have the resources/funds to sustain themselves - the community is unable to provide enough support
- That they will not survive operating under the severe restrictions once the rain starts outdoor dining will not necessarily be an attractive option. I am not a proponent of lifting the restrictions I am just concerned that at the end of all this many will have gone out of business.
- Restaurants and 3rd spaces like Mox Boarding House and other cafe type places to hang out
- Overcoming fear of people to continue to visit
- Ability for them to go back to business while keeping staff and customers safe
- Small businesses going out of business
- Ability to continue, and that some will close

What concerns you the most about Bellevue's local businesses?

- I'm concerned that locally owned small businesses, particularly restaurants and coffee shops aren't going to be able to make it financially once the 'outdoor eating' season closes. I fear Fall and Winter will be brutal for them.
- Afraid that many will go out-of-business with many layoffs.
- Small shops, businesses, and restaurants closing.
- Businesses going out of business or losing revenue due to governor's order to close or limit capacity of certain businesses. Uncertainty of the future outlook of the businesses.
- would like to see some buy-local promotios
- a lot of places still closed, no business at all
- This is people's livelihood! And the small businesses are part of what makes our community!
- Restaurant closures.
- With no customers, the owners are having financial hardship.
- The smaller family-owned businesses & restaurants may not have enough business to stay afloat.
- I am concerned we will lose many small businesses that were not able to reopen or had to limit capacity and therefore can't recover financially.
- Ability to survive during this period of business disruption
- Small businesses and restaurants may not survive
- That many will not be able to weather the lack of business for an extended period of time.
- To help them based on their needs
- The viability of small businesses to stay in business with reduced customer engagement.
- small businesses unable to sustain themselves due to limited use
- Small business ability to stay open.
- Small/local businesses closing their doors
- Worry about failure due to extended shut down.
- Loss of small businesses that were singled out from others that were allowed to remain open
- Their ability to stay in business etc
- Worried that small businesses in large numbers might not survive, and the fallout to owners and employees - and the cascading effect on the community.
- Were they following the guidelines if opening or can they be re-open after this pandemic.
- Loss of treasured businesses, many that have been here for a long time. And impact on the owner(s) and employees.
- What will be cut from our city budget due to the loss of revenues?
- I worry that my favorite local businesses will cease to exist
- I'm concerned about independent shops and restaurants ability to survive with less business
- small businesses going bankrupt
- Many will close permanently
- Their ability to remain viable due to reduced capacity and increased cost of doing business
- Small businesses that may be forced to close or at least to reduce employment
- Not being there when we open back up again.
- Business ability to pivot business model to serve the community in our new commerce environment.

What concerns you the most about Bellevue's local businesses?

- That they don't have enough financial solvency and will go under; there's a huge risk that smaller businesses will die out and residents will be forced to deal with megabusineses instead, worsening monopolies and siphoning money away from Puget Sound and Washington state
- That small businesses will be unable to survive this. Our community will be severely limited without the diversity from all the small businesses we had.
- The possibility that the business will not survive.
- I am concerned many of our local businesses will have to permanently close.
- I fear the smaller, gathering-based businesses won't survive.
- I'm concerned about how small businesses, as well as our downtown core, will weather the pandemic storm that has many people working from home, ordering online, and avoiding populated indoor spaces. These businesses help make Bellevue thrive - economically and culturally.
- Loss of restaurants, events.
- That they can find some way to sustain themselves and their employees until the virus can be either contained or a safe and effective vaccination is available. (Hopefully and in large part, with federal economic support.)
- that local businesses will have to close
- Several of our favorite business have already closed and that was with substantial financial support of the economy. It appears that much of the support for the PPP and additional individual stimulus is now mired in partisan bickering in Congress which may lead to extensive breakdown in local businesses many of which will not come back once they lose credit support.
- Smaller business don't have a big corporation that can help them during these tough times. They won't be able to pay their workers, then they won't be able to pay rent/mortgage/utilities. As it is, lots of mom and pop businesses are disappearing because of rising rents and new residential developments replacing strip malls that housed these small businesses.
- Staying open
- What concerns me the most is that some businesses will not be able to survive the closures and restrictions.
- Safety while staying open.
- Can they stay in business until there is a return
- Being able to stay in business
- the smaller business's that depend on being open in order to earn and income for their family and the ones they hire.
- Loss of their ability to withstand financial hardship
- Restaurants closing
- Stay open
- I hope they survive.
- I worry most about local restaurants and salons. I haven't been inside a mall for about 8 months, and I don't know when i'll go back. Many residential contractors aren't based in Bellevue, but they serve the community, and I'm sure they're taking a bit.
- Lack of viability. It's a vicious circle when people lose income and can't patronize businesses, or the business is restricted, then they close, leading to more financial hardships.
- If COVID-19 rates do not fall, more businesses will fail.
- That they will be able to make it through this crisis and still be in business!

What concerns you the most about Bellevue's local businesses?

- Lack of patronage. All the growth in the restaurant and bar business seems to be hit hard and probably won't make it. When we do have a vaccine and we can all leave our homes again, I think we'll be met with many empty businesses.
- I hope small business can be reopen ASAP and necessary support can be provided
- I'm not concerned about the big businesses downtown because they have the BDA & Chamber looking out for them, though I am concerned by the # of restaurants that have closed downtown in the past couple of weeks. I think it shows that when Bellevue builds a downtown that shoves out all the small local businesses to cater to tourism and the tech industry then there will be consequences in economic downturns such as this COVID-related one. Mostly I'm concerned about all the small businesses around the city that don't have anyone looking out for their welfare. I've been watching Community Development & Economic Development's updates to the council on the CoB's efforts to support business. All the efforts are aimed at downtown. There's life & businesses outside of downtown!!! I was glad when Councilmember Zahn asked about efforts to help small businesses in the outskirts (read: neighborhoods), but I didn't hear any kind of plan for that. Why did the CoB wait so long to offer the \$5K grant money to small businesses? Lee's Martial Arts in Newport Hills had already been closed for almost 2 months by then because we were about 6 months into the pandemic by the time the offer was made-ugh!!! Yet, Econ Dev's focus has been on getting permits for sidewalk dining for downtown restaurants to increase their ability to serve more customers and stay open. What about the other types of businesses that are still unable to fully open, those who often operate in smaller spaces outside the downtown core? Don't those Bellevue businesses count too????
- Unique businesses, long standing businesses, quality businesses losing their ability to stay open. New businesses floundering.
- Empty retail and commercial space. Businesses closing and not reopening
- I came to build a company. Will not be building one there now.
- Ability to bring back employees
- Ability to stay in business and thrive long term.
- They have lost customers and their incomes have fallen. I am sure some are closed or will close because of lost income. Large chain stores such as Home Depot are crowded all the time, but small stores are not doing as well.
- Small business and small landlords ability to stay in business. Large companies seem to be fine and actually helping the overall economy.
- small businesses paying high lease rates - they may not have savings to cover rent/lease payments
- Small business being able to survive
- people staying home has caused many challenges for small businesses in our community. I really like to shop and eat local when possible, but I do most of my shopping online and most of my eating at home.
- Keeping the small businesses afloat.
- Mostly concerned for small businesses. Especially concerned about the live entertainment industry
- I am concerned about losing restaurants and other businesses that we will need once we're all back to work. I'm concerned about all the parents I know who are risking their health to work in essential jobs or losing income because they work in non-essential jobs.

What concerns you the most about Bellevue's local businesses?

- That lockdown has caused too much revenue loss for them to reopen and if they do reopen their customer base will have dropped too substantially to continue.
- Many small businesses and restaurants not surviving the reduction in business
- The economic is bad and people try to keep their purchase minimum. A lot of restaurants are under the pressure. There rivots in the Bellevue downtown make things worse. But compare with Seattle, I have more confident in Bellevue who can protect the local business when needed. Please keep support the police and fireman to do their work to protect the city.
- Unnecessary government intervention (i.e. shutdowns and excessive "emergency" rules) which creates long-term or permanent damage to businesses and their employees.
- Opening too soon, not providing enough protection of customers and employees to prevent spread of Covid-19, thus endangering the community. Also, pressure that employers may put on employees to remain at work, when they should stay home if feeling sick.
- I hope not to lose many businesses.
- I don't want local small business like independent shops, beauty salons, restaurants, etc to close permanently. I also worry about essential workers having to work for low wages, and risk getting sick and/of dying.
- No one really wants to go out, so they won't be getting any income and go out of business.
- Concern that they will continue to thrive and hold on
- They won't be able to make it and will be forced to close as a result of lost business & revenue.
- That they will not survive. There was no need for a shutdown and our local and county and state leaders are willfully pandering to fear.
- Small businesses may not be able to come back; including restaurants.
- Some will not be able to survive, especially restaurants, and their employees are or will become unemployed, and their owners will lose their lifetime businesses an probably have to declare bankruptcy.
- Loss of customers to online.
- Staying open/in business
- not being able to survive
- All the restaurants going out of business, riots and protesting.
- Safety
- Whether or not they can economically survive this.
- Some may close their doors due to long closure.
- I am concerned that many small businesses will close leaving people unemployed and giving up their dreams/jobs they enjoy. Having small, unique businesses also helps create a sense of community.
- Ability to survive
- Small business owners being able to continue offering their unique goods & services. Malls closing & leaving large empty spaces for Seattle rioters & homeless to take over.
- Small business and retail businesses are struggling. Even medical and dental offices are struggling and making cutbacks in staff
- Being able to stay open - the people running them earning enough money to "make it"
- Hard to know who is open

What concerns you the most about Bellevue's local businesses?

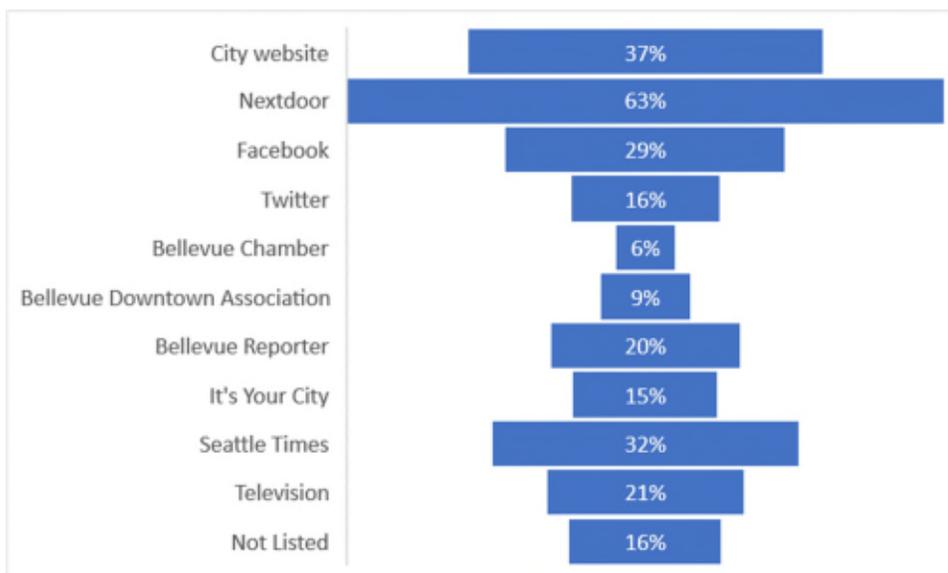
- I am concerned about the number of businesses that cannot survive the lack of customers and the fallout by their employees not earning income.
- many will go out of business permanently
- I love visiting our local establishments but until there is a plan in place that is actively preventing the spread of COVID I cannot risk my or my family's safety to visit many of these locations.
- Many going out of business

- Being able to survive under the draconian nanny-state restrictions imposed by Herr Inslee and Herr Constantine.
- People not knowing they are open or not feeling comfortable/confident that it's time to get back to shopping, dining, etc. A second wave making it impossible to stay open, businesses not being able to afford their rent in the meantime.
- We recently saw purple close, among many other businesses. We can't keep doing this! Stop the madness of lockdowns.
- Small businesses are struggling to survive. I'm very concerned about corporations being the only business that survives.
- I hope they can survive with the reduced business.
- Shops that might have to close for good.
- Inability to continue operating due to decreased revenues.
- Those that can't survive being closed down indefinitely. I've already lost my favorite Thai restaurant.
- Loss of revenue from excessive and arbitrary rules. Have already seen too many small businesses and restaurants close.
- That they won't reopen
- That they might not STAY in business if they can't get enough bodies in their stores. That Bellevue's high rents will eat their depleted earnings.
- I'm concerned for the smallest Bellevue businesses that without assistance from the government or halting loan payments by banks have been abandoned and left to fend for themselves - many closing.
- Loss of income
- Que algunas tiendas no limpien con sanitizer cada vez que un cliente termina de hacer sus compras y que algunas personas que están en las mismas no usen cubrebocas. (That some stores do not clean with a sanitizer every time a customer finishes shopping and that some people who are in the same do not use face masks.)
- Que tengan las medidas de seguridad adecuadas (That they have the appropriate security measures)
- That they may close and there would be an empty downtown
- No customers
- that they'll close due to lack of revenue. also, the job market has decreased as a direct result.
- People returning and spreading of virus
- It seems like most small businesses are taking a hit. I hate to think how many people's businesses will go under in the near future.
- Whether they are going to be able to make it through the crisis.

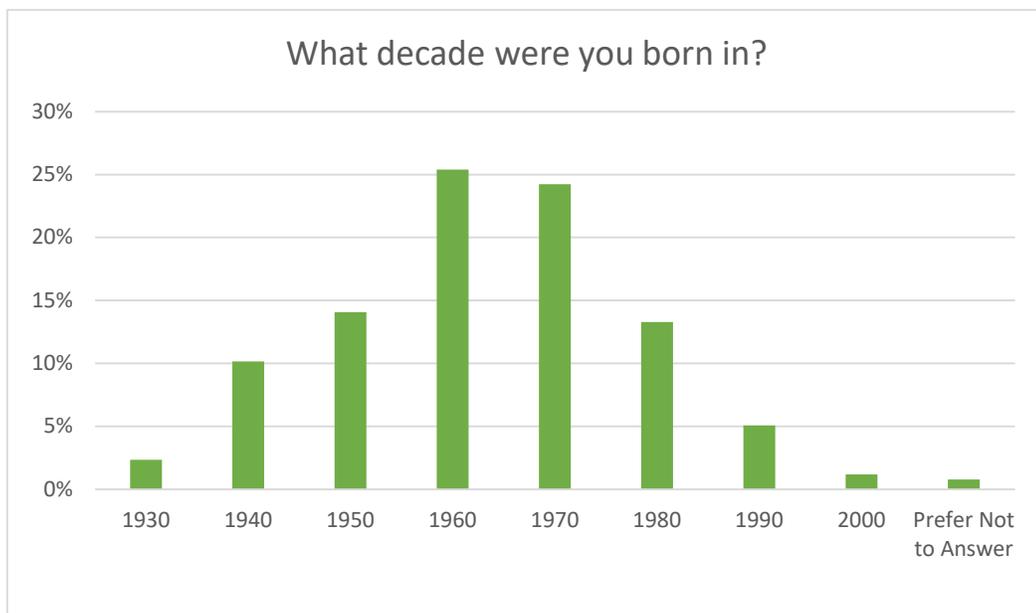
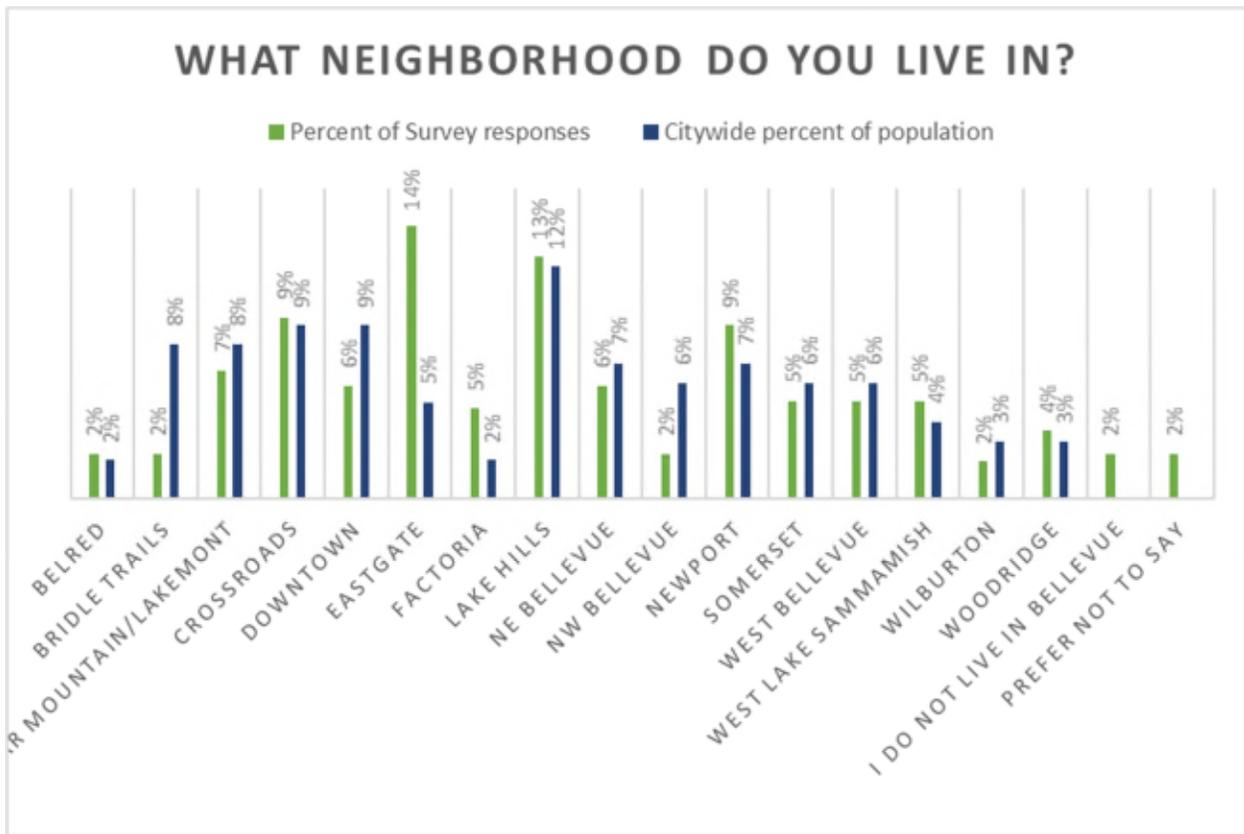
What concerns you the most about Bellevue's local businesses?

- That they will be driven out of business, permanently. Our local businesses bring a richness to our community, as compared to the mega national chain stores. I think this is especially the case with independent, locally-owned restaurants & espresso stands. Starbuck's predatory actions have nearly driven all other espresso stands out of business in Bellevue, already. This will be the nail in their coffins. This isn't the case in nearby cities, so I think the City needs to loosen permitting requirements for small, independently-owned espresso stands.
- I am especially about many of the restaurants and other small businesses that will close or have closed due to COVID-19.
- We are one of Bellevue's local businesses, and so since the shutdown we have only brought in about 25% of our normal revenue, if that. I don't know how long we can hold on.
- Small businesses won't be able to make it through this.
- Their ability to stay in business
- Businesses being closed means some people don't have jobs and can't pay their bills.
- All the small businesses going out of business. Not able to pay employees
- trickle down effect of vacant office space, leads to less B&O and sales revenue for city leads to higher taxes for residents
- More businesses close due tomorrow due to no/low profits, thus affects the economy- worse than 2008!
- 小型企业破产 (small business bankruptcy)
- 经济萧条 (economic depression)
- 餐馆营业不下去了 (The restaurants won't open)
- 很多小本生意的都破产了 · 回不来了 (Many small businesses have gone bankrupt and cannot return)
- 商家亏本就会关门 (businesses will close at a loss)
- We are losing small business.
- Hate to see businesses close and people lose their jobs.

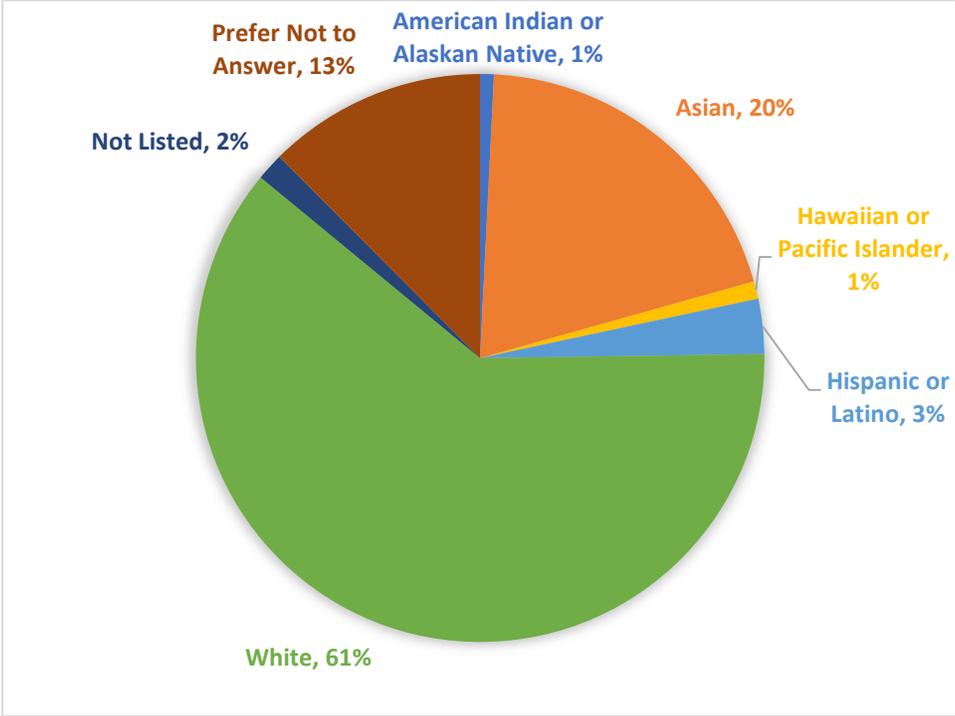
How do you stay informed about the actions the city has taken to support local businesses?



Community Information (Optional Demographics) Survey respondents



What is your race/ethnicity?



Do you rent or own your current address?

