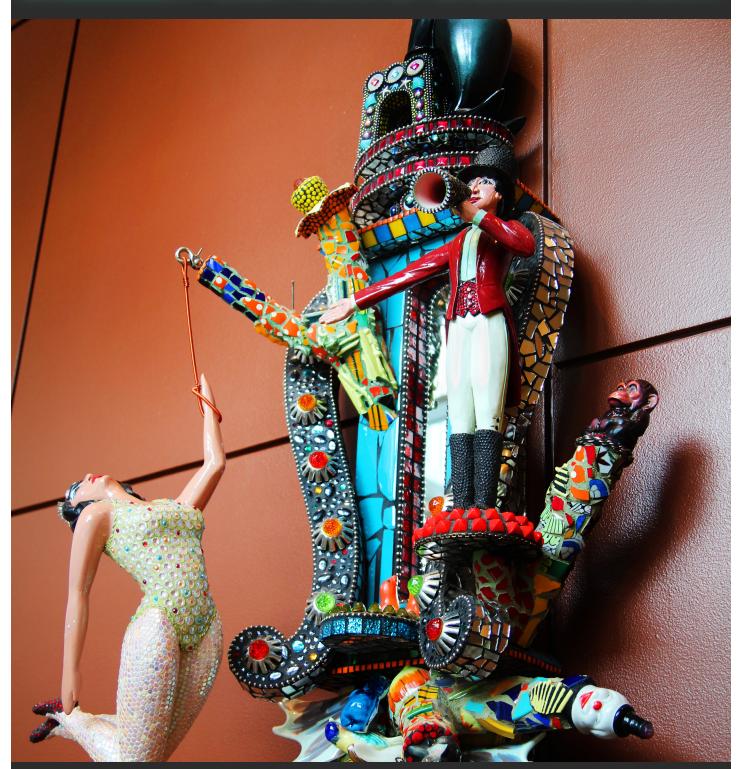
# **BELLEVUE ARTS COMMISION**





Community Development

August 4, 2020 ZOOM MEETING

Cover artwork: Presenting a Most Astonishing Feat by artist Judy Onofrio

"The arts are an important expression of how people think of and experience the city and each other. Bellevue seeks to foster a strong arts and cultural community chiefly supported through a wide range of artists, art and cultural institutions, and arts groups offering a variety experiences to an engaged audience."

-City of Bellevue, Comprehensive Plan, Urban Design & the Arts Element



Tuesday, August 4, 2020 Meeting: 4:30 p.m. Zoom Meeting **Bellevue Arts Commission** 

4:30 - 4:35

4:35 - 4:40

4:40 - 4:45

Commission Staff Contact: 425.452.4852

The City of Bellevue Arts Commission meeting for August 4, 2020 will be conducted virtually via Zoom Webinar. The public can access the meeting here, https://cityofbellevue.zoom.us/j/93062762962 using Password: 725795 or by connecting to the Zoom Webinar using Webinar ID: 930 6276 2962 and Password: 725795. For those members of the public unable to access internet services, a telephone option will be made available to listen to the proceedings. The phone number to access the meeting is (253) 215 8782, Webinar ID: 930 6276 2962 and Password: 725795.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Malkin will call the meeting to order.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

- A. Chair will ask for approval of the agenda.
- B. Chair will ask for approval of the July 2020 regular meeting minutes.

### 3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

5.

6.

8.

**There will be no opportunity for oral communications at this meeting.** All written comments received prior to 3 p.m. on August 4, 2020 will be read or summarized into the record at the meeting. If you wish to provide written comment to the Arts Commission, please email <u>mstamm@bellevuewa.gov</u> with the subject line "Written Communications – August 4".

### 4. ACTION, DISCUSSION, AND INFORMATION ITEMS

<ul><li>A. Environmental Stewardship Plan Update</li><li>B. Arts Audience Participation Survey</li></ul>	4:45 - 5:25 5:25 - 5:45
C. Economic Development Plan – Creative Economy	5:45 - 6:15
COMMISSION QUICK BUSINESS	6:15 - 6:20
<b>REPORTS</b> A. Commissioners' Committee and Lead Reports B. Project Updates from Staff	6:25 - 6:30
ADJOURNMENT	6:30 pm

Chair will adjourn the meeting.

Bellevue Arts Commission meetings are wheelchair accessible. Captioning, American Sign Language (ASL), or language interpreters are available upon request. Please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-6168 (VOICE) for ADA accommodations. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, dial 711 (TR). Assisted listening devices are available upon request. Please contact the Arts Program at least two days in advance <u>smacdonald@bellevuewa.gov</u> • 425-452-4852 (Voice) • Please dial 711 for assistance for the hearing impaired.

### **ARTS COMMISSION MEMBERS**

Philip Malkin, Chair Maria Lau Hui, Vice Chair Lydia Aldredge Ashmita Gulati Rebecca Lewis Carl Wolfteich

### Vacant seat

### **COUNCIL LIAISON**

John Stokes

### **STAFF CONTACTS**

Scott MacDonald, Arts Community Manager, 425-452-4852 Manette Stamm, Arts Program Assistant, 425-452-4064

# Community Development Minutes

### BELLEVUE ARTS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 7, 2020 Bellevue City Hall 4:30 p.m. Virtual COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioners Aldredge, Gulati, Lau Hui, Lewis, Malkin, Wolfteich COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None STAFF PRESENT: Scott MacDonald, Manette Stamm, Community Development Department OTHERS PRESENT: None RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Commissioner Malkin who presided. All Commissioners were present.

Commissioner Malkin noted that because in-person meetings were prohibited by the Governor's emergency order concerning the Open Public Meetings Act, the Arts Commission would be holding its meetings remotely for an unknown period of time. He said that brought about the need to suspend several provisions in the Commission's bylaws. The preamble to the bylaws provides that if the bylaws do not address a procedure, such as rule suspension, the Commission may rely on the City Council's rules of procedure, Resolution 8928. Section 13 of that resolution allows a City Council procedural rule to be temporarily suspended where a suspension is requested and no objection is offered.

A motion to suspend the remote participation provisions, Article V, Paragraph G of the Commission's bylaws, was made by Commissioner Lewis. Absent objection, Commissioner Malkin declared the motion to be adopted and the provisions to be suspended.

A motion to suspend the oral communications provisions in Article VI and Article VII of the Commission's bylaws was made by Commissioner Lewis. Absent objection, Commissioner Malkin declared the motion to be adopted and the provisions to be suspended.

A motion to suspend the order of business provisions, Article VI, Section D, of the Commission's bylaws, was made by Commissioner Lewis. Absent objection, Commissioner Malkin declared the motion to be adopted and the provisions to be suspended.

### 2. COMMISSION ELECTION

A motion to nominate Commissioner Malkin to serve as Chair was made by Commissioner Gulati. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis.

There were no additional nominations for Chair.

The motion to elect Commissioner Malkin to serve as Chair carried unanimously.

A motion to nominate Commissioner Lau Hui to serve as Vice Chair was made by Commissioner Wolfteich. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis.

There were no additional nominations for Vice Chair.

The motion to elect Commissioner Lau Hui to serve as Vice Chair carried unanimously.

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

A. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Aldredge. The motion was seconded was by Commissioner Gulati and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Minutes

It was noted that Commissioner Lau Hui was indicated in the minutes as being present when in fact she did not attend the meeting.

Motion to approve the March 3, 2020, minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Wolfteich. The motion was seconded was by Commissioner Lewis and the motion carried unanimously.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Malkin noted that no opportunity for oral communications could be made during the meeting. Instead, all written comments received prior to 3:00 p.m. were to be read or summarized into the record.

Arts Program Assistant Manette Stamm confirmed that she had received no written communications.

- 5. ACTION ITEMS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS
  - A. COVID-19 and the Local Arts Community

Commissioner Gulati asked if the Commission would be conducted virtual meetings in August and September. Arts Community Manager Scott MacDonald said there were no current plans to hold in-person meetings and that virtual meetings would be conducted until told otherwise.

Assistant City Attorney Catherine Drews explained that King County was currently operating under the Phase II order. Until there is a change in that order, no in-person gatherings will be held. She said the city was also awaiting more guidance from the Governor's office concerning the Open Public Meetings Act given that the waivers were set to expire.

Mr. MacDonald stated that Covid-19 has been particularly hard on the arts and cultural sectors in the community. He said estimates he had seen put the percentages of staff layoffs at over 60 percent across the sector. Everyone in every organization has a

different story to tell, as does every artist. While there have been some positives, there have been far more negatives and there is no way to sugarcoat the story into one that has the arts community thriving. There are no parallels for the situation in recent memory. Even the economic crash in 2008 did not trigger shutdowns across the arts and culture sector.

Most events for 2020 in Bellevue have been canceled. The grantees to whom awards were given are along with city staff scrambling to determine how to honor their grants in the new environment. Along with all of the large events, including the arts fairs and the Fourth of July celebration, were canceled, along with numerous cultural festivals. There are a few cultural events planned for the fall months, but they remain tentative and in a holding pattern to see how things play out. The 2020 Wintergrass event in February was held successfully just prior to everything shutting down, but the event slated for February 2021 has been canceled.

Performing arts organizations have been particularly impacted. Theaters cannot seat patrons, and projections through instruments are not the best situations during a pandemic. Theaters like Meydenbauer Center has a seating capacity of 410. Factoring in social distancing, their seating capacity would fall to between 70 and 75. Apart from simply changing the entire experience, that also changes the economics, wiping out revenues. Organizations like the Village Theater, which has 500 seats, can seat only 125 with social distancing, but that still is not economically feasible, thus they are looking at March 2021 as a possible reopening, effectively putting their entire program on hold for a full year. Pacific Northwest Ballet and the Seattle Symphony are looking dates between March and June of 2021 for possible reopening dates.

Mr. MacDonald said not surprisingly there have been impacts in regard to funding. Many organizations are heavily built on educational programming. While those additive elements are on top of their core mission, they are often where the organizations make their money. Some organizations have been able to capitalize on revenue-generating virtual experiences, but not at their full capacities. Music Works Northwest has been able to transfer 50 percent of its students to a paid virtual experience.

To the credit of the Northwest community and beyond, there have been a number of different relief funds created. There are, even so, challenges for organizations where the sums offered are not large. An organization receiving a \$5000 grant might possibly be able to sustain only a single employee. Additionally, the awards are highly competitive. One of the most successful programs, at least initially, was the Payroll Protection Program. Through that program, organizations were awarded loans based on a percentage of their payrolls. The loans, if used in accord with the program rules are forgivable. The program resulted in many organizations keeping close to the mark of being fully staffed through mid-June at which time the funds ran out. Since then, nearly every organization with paid staff has had to lay people off or impose significant reduction in hours of around 50 percent.

On the positive side, Mr. MacDonald said he was not aware of any organization that has closed down in Bellevue. On the negative side, the school programs conducted by organizations, such as Emerald Ballet Theatre and the Village Theatre's Pied Piper program, have been canceled for the foreseeable future, leaving kids out. However, the organizations that offer educational components have been the most successful at transferring to virtual environments. That is a positive for Bellevue given how many Bellevue organizations offer educational programming. Philanthropy has increased across the board, though the increase has not by any means matched the lost revenues. There have been new donors step forward, and in fact 70 percent of the ArtsFund relief fund

were new donors, while for the Artist Trust 76 percent of the donors for their relief fund were new donors. Hopefully the arts will be able to harness the new donors and come out on the other end with a much stronger support network.

On the Eastside, the community came together very quickly. What started as the executive directors of Kids Quest and the Bellevue Arts Museum getting together once a week to talk about the different loan programs, funding options and staffing levels has grown into the Eastside Arts and Culture Coalition, a group of about 25 to 30 organizations across the Eastside. It is a good thing to have the arts coming together and speaking with a strong voice. Among other things, it gives the Council a touch point. Mr. MacDonald said Bellevue has been co-leading the organization and working to see it grow and has been working on ways to collaborate with other Eastside cities.

The city's first move to support the arts was to put up a list of local and national resources for artists and arts organizations. Most cities and counties have done the same. There have been one-on-one meetings with arts organizations that are either based or work in Bellevue to better understand what they are going through. There have also been meetings with arts businesses. The hope is to expand the conversations to include artists. Much of the city's budget is sales tax based and as such impacts are projected, including to the arts program. Ways are being sought to support artists and organizations with existing funding. Much of the funding is tied up in the grants program and in public arts projects, but ways are being explored for getting money out the door.

Work has progressed on updating the Power Up program to focus on resiliency and moving into the virtual world. The program has been opened up to all Eastside organizations. The focus is on recovery and planning for the future. The focus on capacity building is not appropriate during a time of just trying to stay alive. Work has been undertaken to align grant deliverables agreed to before the pandemic with the new reality that most art events will be online in 2020. An arts audience participation survey was launched in partnership with Redmond, Kirkland, Issaquah, Renton and the Eastside Arts and Culture Coalition. The survey will close on July 17 and it is focused on better understanding the community's comfort level as things do start to come back. The survey also seeks to know if there are plans for any hybrid or modified experiences, such as drive-in theater performances or dance performances in parks. They survey is available in eight languages and responses have been received in seven of them so far. In all there have been over 650 responses.

Work is under way to re-envision Bellwether 2020. It has been moved to start in December and it most likely will go a little longer.

Chair Malkin raised concerns about the event happening in the winter, especially moving a lot of the events outdoors. Weather could be an issue. Mr. MacDonald clarified that all of the events will be moved outdoors with the exception of some virtual events. Chair Malkin said he would not want to see the event canceled, but said he was also concerned about staging the event and having no one attend because of the weather. Mr. MacDonald said some very interesting things are lined up. He pointed out that Snowflake Lane happens outdoors in the winter and is always well attended. It is hoped that Bellwether will be something people who live in the downtown can see from their living room windows, and for those driving or walking by. More than likely the elements will be largely light-based with a minimum of ten medium to large projections around the city, though there will hopefully be some smaller companion art projects that also would be outdoors. A proposal is being developed that will potentially be at the scale of one of the downtown's skyscrapers in terms of a projection or light element.

Answering a question asked by Commissioner Lau Hui, Mr. MacDonald said originally a number of performances were planned for 2020 at the Meydenbauer theater and the Bellevue Arts Museum. Because those proposals were fairly well developed prior to the pandemic, the opportunity has been taken to pre-record the performances at different places throughout Bellevue over the summer months. One possible site is the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Another venue could in fact be inside the Bellevue Arts Museum, so long as the social distancing thresholds are met. Meydenbauer Bay Park and other locations are also being considered. The recordings will be released online on schedule as part of Bellwether 2020. A series of virtual talks is also being planned and curated by Gary Faigan, a long-time arts writer for the Seattle Times.

Commissioner Wolfteich asked how the pandemic will affect the work of the Allocations Committee for 2021. Mr. MacDonald said he had not been told that that work would be impacted for 2021. The budget will be transmitted to the Council in September, after which more specifics will be known.

Commissioner Gulati asked if grants made to organizations for events that will not happen in 2020 will still the funds, and if the funds could be reallocated to organizations that are doing real work online, such as teaching music. Mr. MacDonald said funding that has been committed cannot be reallocated until it is known for sure an organization will not be holding their event. More resolution on that front is needed before moving on to a new program. To date only one organization has been clear about not wanting to even try to put on events in 2020.

Commissioner Gulati pointed out that some artists have not been able to apply for government help for various reasons. She asked if 4Culture or King County will be giving the city any additional funds to pass on to organizations. Mr. MacDonald said he was not aware of 4Culture having any additional funds. The money they put into its cultural relief fund was borrowed from 2021 revenues, much of which comes from lodging taxes. They have been looking at redistributing or canceling some of their grant programs. There is the potential for cities to get some funding should there be a federal relief package.

Commissioner Aldredge asked if the marketplace that was going to be part of Bellwether could be transferred to an online option, allowing artists to sell their work. It would be especially good to have it during the holidays when people are more inclined to spend. Mr. MacDonald said plans were being made to move the physical market to 2021. The pandemic has forced a rethink of 2020 and has allowed for a shifting of many projects into 2021. He allowed that an online marketplace could made sense and said he would like to follow up on the idea during the larger Bellwether update at a future meeting.

Chair Malkin asked if the same Bellwether consultant team would remain onboard going forward. Mr. MacDonald said effectively the team is planning both 2020 and 2021 simultaneously. The will be no room left on their contract to do anything beyond 2021.

Mr. MacDonald said there are a number of collaborations going on currently between Bellevue and other Eastside cities. The Heart of Bellevue campaign is largely being run by the Bellevue Downtown Association, though the city is helping by guiding and assisting. The idea is to market the return and particular attention is being given to featuring activities and cultural things. The way Bellwether is being thought about for 2020 is half art experience and half arts in Bellevue and that perfectly aligns with the what the Bellevue Downtown Association is doing with the Heart of Bellevue campaign.

Mr. MacDonald said it remains unknown what the long-term impacts of Covid-19 will be. Little is known about how long the pandemic will run or how the economy will return.

When and if a vaccine will be created is unknown, and it is not understood how people's habits, where they will want to live, or the types of things they will want to do will change. Staff will provide the Commission with regular updates moving forward.

B. Portable Art Collection Call

Mr. MacDonald said the call is a response to getting the money in the budget out the door as soon as possible, and with a eye on the Bellevue arts collection mission of targeting new voices. In the past the city has purchased mostly sculptures intended to be sited in a permanent location. Just by going after portable artworks the collection will be diversified. The focus is on the space between an aspiring artist and a professional artist. The previous call for the portable art collection entailed purchases up to \$25,000, though there was only \$25,000 budgeted. Two purchases were made totaling just under \$10,000. While open to artists from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and British Columbia, the two purchases were made from a single artist. There is a desire to broaden the collection and it is a good time to do so given the need to support artists. The program mirrors a program Seattle recently released that had a price of \$2500 per artwork and a goal of purchasing art from up o 60 artists. Bellevue's program is of course smaller in that it will pursue art from a minimum of ten artists, and the area has been narrowed to King, Pierce and Snohomish artists. There is an additional budget beyond purchasing works for framing and display. Purchased works will be sited through Bellevue in public buildings, with a focus on publically accessible locations.

Portable artworks are a major part of public art collections. Currently Bellevue has only seven portable works in its collection. The call will be open to both 2D and smaller 3D works. It includes electronic and video art, but the price per work would need to include the necessary operating hardware. The call would be due on August 17 following which a three-person panel of two arts professionals and the Chair of the Arts Commission or his designee.

Commissioner Gulati said if Chair Malkin did not want to participate, she would volunteer to do so.

Commissioner Lau Hui asked if the intent is to run the program annually. Mr. MacDonald replied that unfortunately the program is only budgeted for every other year. The next opportunity to make purchases would be 2022. Commissioner Lau Hui asked if the deadline of August 17 allows for enough time to get word out. Mr. MacDonald said in general calls do not allow for more than a month to apply.

Commissioner Aldredge asked if there is language in the call that gives preference to minority communities and those who are not historically well represented in typical art collections. She added that there are considerable conversations ongoing about classic art museum and public collections being very white centric, and it would be wise for the Commission to think very carefully about how the call is curated and how selections are made. Mr. MacDonald said the call notes that a segment of the collection is devoted to artworks that raise the discourse on the defining aspects of Bellevue civic life, exploring the diverse identities of residents, converging cultures, international connections, technological currents and the interplay between nature and the urban experience that makes Bellevue's environment unique. Additionally, the selection. Commissioner Aldredge suggested that language was far too open ended and said it would be tone deaf of the Commission to not give the issue of white-centric collections serious consideration. The selection criteria should make the point very clearly. Mr. MacDonald stressed the need to be consistent with procurement law and limiting the field of applicant's works. He

said he would need to check with the city attorney's office about the legalities involved. If necessary, the call deadline could be pushed back a month.

Commissioner Lewis said if it can be done, the call should be made sooner rather than later.

Chair Malkin concurred and suggested the guidance given to the panel could include taking into consideration the question of diversity. Commissioner Aldredge reiterated her desire to see the language of the call itself express interest or give weighting to diverse artists. Chair Malkin said that could be done by simply adding language to the application encouraging diversity. Mr. MacDonald said that certainly could be done. The unknown is whether or not the selection criteria could go beyond merely encouraging diversity.

There was consensus to add language to the application encouraging diversity.

Mr. MacDonald clarified that the two options under discussion were to see if the selection criteria could be changed, which would push the call back a month by bringing the issue back to the Commission for approval; and to amend the call language encouraging diverse artists to apply.

Chair Malkin recommended the latter. He said that would avoid having the call appear as though the Commission were only looking for submittals from the diverse community.

Mr. MacDonald said calls are typically published on the city's website along with the websites of 4Culture, the city of Seattle and to social media. He said it could also be pushed to residents in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

Commissioner Gulati suggested notice should also be posted to the Facebook page hosted by Artist Trust. Mr. MacDonald added that notice will also be sent out to the city's diverse list-serve.

A motion to recommend approval of the Portable Artworks Call as amended to modify the language to encourage the diverse community to participate was made by Commissioner Lewis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Aldredge and the motion carried unanimously.

### C. Eastside Artist Roster

Mr. MacDonald noted that on March 3 a number of Commissioners directed staff to explore the development of a roster of artists living or working on the Eastside. The goals are to identify artists working locally, to connect them with information about opportunities, and to direct to them specific types of opportunities to the roster. The roster would be open to all artists living and working in east King County, which is defined as Bellevue, Bothell, Duvall, Issaquah, Kirkland, Mercer Island, Newcastle, North Bend, Redmond, Renton, Sammamish, Snoqualmie and Woodinville, along with the unincorporated areas of east King County. Anyone who considers themselves an artist can be added to the non-juried roster. The roster will be used as a resource for selecting small public art projects of up to \$30,000, with a particular view toward emerging artists seeking to establish themselves in the field of public art. It will also be a source for curators working on future Bellwether events.

Mr. MacDonald clarified that the roster would be open to all kinds of artists, including musicians, performers, visual artists, conceptual artists and multimedia artists. He said staff does not have the capacity to referee the roster, so if someone says they are working

in east King County the claim will not be verified. Additionally, artists that make it onto the roster but later move away will not be removed from the list unless requested by the artist. The roster will open on August 1 and will remain open for as long as the city finds it helpful.

Chair Malkin suggested using the term "visual arts" in the first sentence of the mission statement instead of "public art projects." The portable art collection will not necessarily consist of public art projects. He asked where the roster will be stored and Mr. MacDonald said the online grants portal will be adapted and used as the place for people to submit their materials. The roster will be held as private to the city of Bellevue. Language could be added to the application asking if the applicant would want to opt in to other cities have access to their contact information and submitted materials.

Commissioner Aldredge said the roster will be a great beginning that can be tinkered with as time goes on.

Commissioner Gulati asked if building the roster will cost the city of Bellevue any money. Ms. Stamm said the only cost will be in the form of staff time.

Commissioner Gulati suggested there would be benefit from having the Eastside cities work together in building the roster, and where there are hard costs each city could pitch in to cover them. Mr. MacDonald said there has been work done toward removing barriers to supporting artists, particularly on the Eastside. The thrust of the roster is to facilitate that. If the roster were for Bellevue artists and Bellevue projects, if Redmond were to have an art opportunity, they would not necessarily be able to connect with the Bellevue artists via the roster, and that would be a loss for the Bellevue arts community. Given that development of the list will not cost anything other than time, it should be open to the other Eastside cities, which is in line with the Cultural Compass and the notion that Bellevue is the heart of the Eastside.

A motion to approve the Eastside Artists Roster Call as revised was made by Commissioner Wolfteich. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lau Hui and the motion carried unanimously.

- 5. COMMISSION QUICK BUSINESS None
- 6. REPORTS
  - A. Commissioners' Committee and Lead Reports As Noted

Mr. MacDonald confirmed that he had been tapped to serve as the new Arts Community Manager. He said he was happy to be taking on the challenge during a difficult but rewarding time.

B. Project Updates from Staff

Mr. MacDonald reported that the city is working with the restaurants and retailers in Old Bellevue to identify ways to help them during the Covid-19 crisis. One option for restaurants is to create temporary outdoor seating on Main Street, an idea that came from Old Bellevue stakeholders. Microsoft has agreed to be the sponsor for any associated costs. The project could potentially include a mural. Guidance has been provided to Microsoft on that element, and staff have also been working with the community regarding what the mural could look like. With regard to grants, Mr. MacDonald informed the Commissioners that as noted many grantees are not currently able to fulfill their original grant conditions given the prohibitions against in-person events. Other avenues are being explored. Funds not spent in 2020 cannot be carried forward into 2021, so organizations that cannot fulfill their grants cannot just move their events to next year.

Mr. MacDonald shared that the artist for the 130th Streetscape public art project has given consideration to the feedback offered by the Commission. The artist has developed a new artwork concept that will be brought back to the Commission in the coming months. The bells are still in the proposal but the form of the artwork is significantly different.

Mr. MacDonald said Bellwether will be the subject of an agenda item at a future meeting.

Concerning the Downtown Park Public Art project, the Commissioners were told construction on the park has begun. The final fabrication and installation contract for the artwork is still being negotiated with the artist, but there have been delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Chair Malkin asked if the maintenance question had been resolved for the project. Mr. MacDonald said the artist will be providing a maintenance plan. He said he had conducted an additional round of references on the artist's projects. None of them reported any maintenance needs beyond an annual power wash, and all remarked positively on the high quality of fabrication. He said he was confident that once the project is completed it will be possible to keep it looking fresh.

Turning to the Lattawood Park project, Mr. MacDonald reported that installation is slated to occur in the second half of July. It likely will be complete by the end of August. The only thing that could possible hold up the project is the fact that the bollard lights are backordered because of the pandemic. They supposedly will arrive in the middle of July. All of the manufacturing of the artwork is wrapping up, including the engraved tops.

In regard to the public art collection, Mr. MacDonald said staff has revised the scope of the maintenance RFP to focus on artworks that are in need of repair. Two of the major restorations are included in the scope, namely *Garden of Alternatives* and *Arc with 4 Forms*. It is hoped the work will be at least scheduled in 2020 if not under way or completed in 2020.

There are a couple of items in the collection that are facing different conditions or situations that will require a more in-depth discussion by the Commission at a future meeting. The two works have been in storage for 12 years. Parks has indicated it does not want either piece sited in a park based on their artistic merit. One of the works is a bronze figurine of a young girl reading a book and it was donated to the city by the Shirley family. There could in fact be a site for that work within a city facility; that option is being explored. The other work, however, should be considered for deaccessioning.

The Facilities and Asset Management department has asked that the work *Longboat Reed Rookery* be moved to a new location at City Hall. The pond in which the work is sited would then be removed. One complication involves the Visual Artists Rights Act under which direction would need to come from the artist regarding resiting the work. A second complication is the fact that the piece is in need of a major restoration. The work has not functioned fully for some time given problems with the fiber optic lighting that have been damaged by ultraviolet light. The materials alone for restoring the work have been estimated at between \$30,000 and \$50,000. The labor is estimated at about \$10,000, and according to the materials manufacturer, the restoration work will likely need to be done very 10 to 15 years. The work was appraised as part of the process and if fully functional is worth \$175,000. The maintenance cost every ten years would equal roughly a third of its value.

Commissioner Aldredge asked if the artist has been part of the conversation thus far. Mr. MacDonald said the artist Dan Corson was a very successful artist on an international level. After working for many years as an artist, he purchased a chocolate farm on the big island of Hawaii. He has been contacted about the work but has not expressed much of an interest in what is done with the piece, though he is willing to offer some advice on siting it. He will be kept in the loop.

Chair Malkin asked what happens to works that are deaccessioned. Mr. MacDonald said works can be given back to the artist or disposed of. Deaccessioned works are not supposed to have a financial value. He said a future discussion with the Commission will include the deaccession policies.

Mr. MacDonald Bellgate is not a work the city wants to deaccession nor is it in need of any major maintenance. The site on which it stands is slated for redevelopment and the property manager has asked the city to move the sculpture. Besides the fact that the work was designed for the pedestrian corridor, now called the Grand Connection, the most complicating factor is the ownership of the piece. The primary owner is the Bellevue Allied Arts Council, an organization reduced to only a single member who died earlier in the year. That person's husband technically retains ownership but could decide to dissolve the organization. If the organization is dissolved, their ownership will transfer to the Bellevue Arts Museum. The Bellevue Arts Museum does not, however, want the artwork. The dues of the Bellevue Allied Arts Council are past due and the organization has until September to either pay the dues or officially lose control of the artwork. The city owns one-third of the work and could work with the current majority owner to effect transfer of his interest to the city. Failing that, the city could wait until the Bellevue Arts Council organization is dissolved and ownership of the work transfers to the Bellevue Arts Museum and negotiate with that organization instead for ownership. With construction on the site set to occur in early 2021, the timeline does not conform with what will be needed to figure out a new site or to come to an agreement with the property owner about keeping the work on their property.

Commissioner Aldredge asked if there would be any tax benefit to the majority owner from donating his share to the city. Mr. MacDonald said he could look into that approach. One complicating factor has been that he has not returned any phone calls since the death of his wife.

Chair Malkin asked if the work could be put into storage, if in fact the city does gain full ownership, and reinstalled as part of the Grand Connection. Mr. MacDonald said the cost of storage would be substantial. The best solution will be to try to keep the work on the current site and that is the path the city will pursue.

Ms. Stamm added that the work was designed to be on the pedestrian corridor between 106th Avenue NE and 108th Avenue NE. There is not, however, much space left there and the property is actually the only remaining site that could hold the work.

Commissioner Wolfteich asked if any aspect or part of the mural on the DOXA church will be preserved before construction begins. Mr. MacDonald said his understanding was that the work will be fully destroyed. The artist is in fact planning to get video of the demolition.

With regard to the funding allocations for 2020, Commissioner Wolfteich asked if there were situations where funds were transferred to an organization in anticipation of an event going forward, only to see the event canceled. Mr. MacDonald said the city does not allocate funds prior to events, rather funding is allocated after events have concluded. There is a question concerning the organizations that lost rental fees for events that had to be paid up front. The City Attorney's office has been asked to weigh in on whether or not the city can reimburse for those costs even though the events never took place. For many organizations, if they had not received the grant, they would not have organized the event.

Mr. MacDonald referenced a letter received from Putter Burt thanking the Commission for the grant awarded to her organization.

Mr. MacDonald noted that according to the Commission's bylaws, Commission meetings are not held in August. The Commission can, however, vote to hold a meeting during that month and he asked if the Commissioners would be willing to do so. He said there are plenty of items to discuss.

A motion to schedule a Commission meeting for August 4 was made by Commissioner Lewis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gulati and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. MacDonald informed the Commissioners that the application period for those applying to fill the vacant Commission seat was set to end on July 8. The selection typically involves the Chair and the Council liaison along with staff.

### 8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Malkin adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

# Community Development Action & Discussion

Tuesday, August 4, 2020 Zoom Meeting: 4:30 pm **Bellevue Arts Commission** 

### **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PLAN UPDATE**

At today's meeting, staff will present on the update to the Environmental Stewardship Plan, the City of Bellevue's sustainability plan, and seek input from the Arts Commission on the draft actions. The focus of the discussion will be on:

- Arts Commission feedback on relevant actions which impact or support the arts;
- The role of the arts in supporting and bringing awareness to climate and sustainability issues;
- How the efforts of the Environmental Stewardship Plan can support economic recovery for arts organizations.

### BACKGROUND

The Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI) formally began in 2007 with a mission to implement continuous change, learning and innovation in practices that drive the City of Bellevue organization and the larger Bellevue community toward achieving a larger vision of environmental sustainability. Over the last five years, ESI's work has been guided by the 2013-2018 ESI Strategic Plan. This plan contains 57 actions related to greenhouse gas emissions, energy and water, mobility and land use, ecosystems and open space, and materials management and waste, addressing our municipal operations and the community as a whole.

City Council's 2018-2020 Vision Priorities include Priority #11 related to the ESI, which states: "Review the progress of the Environmental Stewardship Initiative and analyze additional steps that the City may wish to take to achieve its environmental goals (e.g. tree canopy)". The 2013-2018 ESI Strategic Plan is being updated in direct response to Priority #11. As part of the plan update, the City Council in November 2019 directed staff to seek input from boards and commissions on strategies and actions for achieving updated Environmental Stewardship Plan goals.

The city has been working on Environmental Stewardship strategies to increase local sustainability and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the past 13 years, and will use this plan update to build on this foundation to identify additional high impact actions for implementation over the next five years, to support implementation of our goals.

As with other city initiatives the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on this planning process and has impacted short-term mobility patterns, greenhouse gas emissions, energy use, and waste. The development of the actions for the plan has taken the economic recovery into account, and this will continue to be a consideration moving into implementation.

### APPROACH

On November 13, 2018, staff presented to the Council the scope and approach for updating the 2013-2018 ESI Strategic Plan, along with the main focus areas for the plan. These include: climate change; energy; materials management and waste; mobility and land use; and natural systems.

The following steps outline the City's approach to the update:

### Phase 1: (complete)

• Review progress with the ESI Strategic Plan Progress report

- Review the city's environmental goals and update as appropriate (May 20, 2019 Council presentation)
- Develop targets for each goal (November 12, 2019 Council presentation)

Phase 2: (current phase)

- Analyze best practices and additional actions for consideration in an updated Environmental Stewardship Plan
- Engage with Boards and Commissions for input on possible strategies and actions related to their purview
- Engage with residents, businesses, and key stakeholders on possible actions for the plan **Phase 3:** 
  - Develop a draft Environmental Stewardship Plan for public comment
  - Finalize Environmental Stewardship Plan for adoption by the Council

### **RECOMMENDED COMMUNITYWIDE GOALS AND TARGETS**

As part of the plan update, staff developed a suite of goals and targets to provide the long-term vision for achieving our environmental goals. The long-term goals are outlined below:

### **Climate Change**

- **Goal:** Reduce Bellevue's greenhouse gas emissions and prepare and adapt to ongoing climate change impacts.
- **Target:** Reduce Bellevue's communitywide greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050, compared to a 2011 baseline.

### **Natural Systems**

- **Goal:** Improve and preserve the integrity and health of Bellevue's natural systems and ensure all of Bellevue's residents have access to Bellevue's abundant natural resources.
- Targets:
  - Achieve a 40 percent citywide tree canopy by 2050, (increasing from a 37% citywide tree canopy in 2017).
  - $\circ~$  Ensure that 100 percent of Bellevue's residents live within 1/3 of a mile to a park, open space, or trail by 2050.
  - Maintain and improve the health of Bellevue's streams.<sup>1</sup>.

### Materials Management and Waste

- **Goal:** Reduce the negative impacts from consumption and waste practices and strive towards Zero Waste of Resources.
- Target: Achieve Zero Waste of Resources by 2050.

### Mobility & Land Use

- **Goal:** Minimize the environmental impacts of transportation and development in Bellevue by focusing development in growth centers and providing all residents with access to a variety of mobility options.
- Targets:
  - Achieve a 45 percent commute-trip drive-alone rate for residents and people working in Bellevue by 2050.
  - Strive to have 50 percent electric vehicles registered in Bellevue by 2050.
  - Reduce per capita vehicle miles travelled (VMT) by 50 percent by 2050, compared to a 2011 baseline.

Support transit oriented development and strive to achieve 85 percent of jobs and 65 percent of housing located with a ¼ mile of a frequent transit network stop (15-minute headway or less) by 2050.

### Energy

- **Goal:** Ensure long-term access to clean energy while reducing the fiscal and environmental impacts of consumption.
- Targets:
  - Achieve 100 percent renewable energy by 2045.
  - Reduce energy use by 30 percent by 2050, compared to a 2011 baseline.

Staff have also developed a suite of municipal operations goals and targets which generally mirror the communitywide targets, although they have a more aggressive timeline of 2040, following Council's direction of leading by example with Bellevue's municipal operations.

### **DRAFT ACTIONS**

Attachment A outlines the draft community and municipal operations actions for the plan. The following actions are most relevant to the Arts Commission and arts organizations:

Draft Action	Considerations for the Arts Commission
<b>C1-1 Sustainable District:</b> Explore creating a sustainable district, such as an EcoDistrict, in downtown, BelRed, or Wilburton, to encourage district-scale sustainability. Establish district-scale sustainability goals with partner organizations.	As we consider options for a sustainable district, how could this complement the idea of an arts district?
M1.1 Mobility Implementation Plan: Develop a Mobility Implementation Plan that explores opportunities to decrease per capita vehicle miles traveled through prioritization and investments to support transit and non-motorized modes.	How can the Mobility Implementation Plan include strategies for not only commuting to work, but also travelling to events and other destinations in Bellevue?
M1.7 Commute Trip Reduction: Continue the Commute Trip Reduction program for employers and study the impact of COVID-19 on future commuting patterns and associated multi-modal mobility needs.	How can the City's Commute Trip Reduction program further support arts organizations, artists, and small businesses?
<b>E2.1 Commercial Energy Efficiency.</b> Provide technical assistance and develop a commercial energy benchmarking and disclosure program for large commercial buildings, to make energy efficiency data more transparent and encourage more efficiency. Support implementation of the statewide program and early incentives, and consider a program for mediumsized buildings (less than 50,000 SF), not covered by the state policy.	How might any commercial energy efficiency programs support arts organizations in saving money through energy efficiency improvements?
<b>E2.3 Equitable access to energy programs.</b> Improve access to energy efficiency programs for low-income and historically underserved and underrepresented populations.	How might artists and living in Bellevue increase their access to residential energy efficiency programs?
<b>E3.2 Solarize Campaign.</b> Identify key partners and facilitate a Solarize Campaign, to support group installations of onsite solar.	How might arts and community organizations benefit from future Solarize Campaigns, such as with the campaigns in

Draft Action	Considerations for the Arts Commission
	2014 and 2015 which resulted in a free
	solar array for the KidsQuest museum?
W1.1 Recycling education and outreach. Provide waste	How might our recycling education and
reduction, recycling and composting education and	outreach programs support artists and arts
outreach targeted at multi-family and commercial	organizations in reducing their waste and
buildings, to help improve the citywide recycling rate.	using less harmful materials?
W2.1 Single-use plastics ban. Explore a prohibition on	What impact would a ban on single-use
single-use plastics such as polystyrene and conduct	plastics have on arts organizations and arts
outreach and technical assistance to support	and community events in Bellevue?
implementation, to reduce waste and litter.	

### **OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT**

Staff launched a second phase of outreach and engagement in early March, 2020, to seek input from the public on a short list of actions for the plan. This outreach included an open house on March 3, an online survey which received over 600 responses, focus groups with Bellevue businesses and organizations, and an online townhall and Earth Day presentation in April. Residents were generally supportive of the actions outlined in Attachment A, and a common theme in the feedback was a desire for the City to expand and accelerate implementation. Respondents were asked to select their top five actions, and the top selections included: Single-Use Plastics Ban, Transportation Master Plan, Tree Preservation Code, Home Energy Retrofit program, and Integrated Site Design and Selection.

### DISCUSSION

Staff request input from the Arts Commission on the relevant actions which impact or support the arts; the role of the arts in supporting climate and sustainability issues, and how environmental stewardship can support economic recovery for arts organizations.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Staff will review and address feedback from the Arts Commission and other boards and commissions and will aim to release a draft Environmental Stewardship Plan in the fall. Staff will summarize input from the Arts Commission and other boards and commissions and include that in the transmittal of the draft plan to Council later in 2020.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Draft List of Actions

### **STAFF CONTACT**

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# **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PLAN**

### **Draft List of Actions**

Overview

Stewardship is a core value for the City of Bellevue. We recognize that environmental stewardship is intrinsic to a healthy economy, healthy communities, and a healthy planet. With the Sustainable Bellevue: Environmental Stewardship Plan, we commit to act, boldly and aggressively, to ensure Bellevue is a healthy, livable, sustainable, and prosperous "City in a Park" for decades to come.

The ambitious approaches Bellevue will take to environmental stewardship are more important—and more feasible—than ever: the increasing pace of the climate crisis and the vulnerabilities to our vital infrastructure and services exposed by COVID-19 have demonstrated that rapid social change is possible, even for complex systemic challenges.

Bellevue's future is one where people travel together instead of on their own, where homes and businesses are powered by clean renewable energy, where less waste clutters the streets, and everyone is just a few minutes' walk from a park, trail, or green space. This clean, healthy, community-focused future also means Bellevue will be doing its part to stem the global climate crisis, achieving a drastic, 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by mid-century.

This plan will be a strategic roadmap built on our past environmental stewardship successes and the expertise and input of more than 1,000 residents, city staff, community leaders and stakeholders. Through two surveys taken by over 800 people, two community workshops, six community pop-up events, and workshops with sustainability leaders and city staff, those who participated in the plan's development shaped it from the beginning: their priorities, concerns, values, and vision for a sustainable Bellevue drove how ambitious our targets became, which strategies we selected to meet those ambitious targets, what criteria we used to evaluate potential actions, and ultimately, the final product you see here. Across engagement methods, participants overwhelmingly viewed environmental stewardship as good for the community and good for business, and voiced support for ambitious action across all five sectors in this plan. As a result, we have chosen bold or leading-edge approaches for every sector, making Bellevue not only a "City in a Park", but a city to watch as a sustainability leader.

### **Focus Areas**

The Sustainable Bellevue Plan will be organized into the following focus areas:



### Sustainable Bellevue Goals

The draft actions for the next five years will support the achievement of the following goals.

### Goals



We'll reduce GHG emissions by 80% and prepare for a changing climate.

# 0

100% of vehicles will be electric, and when we commute, we will drive alone less than 45% of the time.

 $( \mathbf{f} )$ 

We'll use 45% less energy, and the energy we do use will be 100% renewable.



We'll achieve zero waste of resources.

### **Key Strategies**

- Explore creating a sustainable district
- Perform a climate vulnerability assessment
- Continue to participate in regional partnerships to achieve shared climate goals
- Advocate for state-level policies and funding
- Prioritize investments in historically underserved and underrepresented communities
- Perform an environmental equity assessment
- Install EV charging infrastructure
- Rely on the Clean Fuel Standard and fuel efficiency standards
- Accelerate and increase investments in multi-modal travel such as bicycle, pedestrian, and transit infrastructure improvements
- Locate future development along the frequent transit network
- Support commute trip reduction and a market-based parking supply
- Support implementation of Washington State's Clean Energy Transformation Act
- Expand green building and rooftop solar, for example through expedited permitting, code changes, building incentives, green affordable housing, and relaunching the Solarize campaign
- Increase energy efficiency through home energy retrofits, equitable access to residential energy efficiency programs, and technical assistance to large commercial buildings
- Increase the recycling rate of multi-family, commercial, and mixed-use buildings through education, outreach, and ensuring buildings have sufficient space for recycle, compost, and trash
- Explore a ban on single-use plastics, as well as policies to support King County's construction & demolition waste recycling ordinance
- Encourage food waste prevention

### Goals

### **Key Strategies**

+ Acquire and preserve green and open space that serves multiple environmental benefits Increase the number and diversity of trees on public and private property through a tree preservation code, tree planting and loss tracking, Street Tree List, and Tree Everyone will live within 1/3 Ambassador program Expand green stormwater infrastructure mile of a park, open space, + ✦ Improve stream health and/or trail, and citywide tree canopy will reach 40%. + Upgrade city buildings to minimize heating and cooling needs, use light and energy efficiently, improve indoor air quality, install and use renewable energy, and achieve energy performance and green building standards + Reduce landfill waste from staff, purchasing, and construction, and demolition through environmentally preferable vendors and purchasing, and material reuse, composting, and recycling Increase EV infrastructure and fleet, using less fuel in city fleet, and supporting telework and commute trip reduction The City will lead by example. Lead and pilot sustainable infrastructure certifications for capital projects Continue to landscape sustainably, installing water-efficient plumbing and expanding the healthy urban forest Mainstream sustainability city-wide and monitor plan ← implementation

To reach our ambitious goals, Bellevue's diversity, innovation, economy, and sense of community will be crucial. We will also need the ongoing involvement and input of the public, business leaders, and community stakeholders to ensure that plan implementation is efficient, effective, equitable, and reflective of Bellevue's values. To this end, we will monitor, evaluate, and report on progress annually through our <u>Environmental Performance Dashboard</u> and will adjust implementation as we learn anew what is working well and what needs to change to create the sustainable future we seek.

### **Community Actions**

#	Action	Action Type	Timeframe
Strate	gy C-1. Mitigate emissions and promote sustainability across sectors.		
C.1.1	<b>Sustainable district.</b> Explore creating a sustainable district, such as an EcoDistrict, in downtown, BelRed, or Wilburton, to encourage district-scale sustainability. Establish district-scale sustainability goals with partner organizations.	Policy / Education/ Outreach	2022-2023
C.1.2	<b>Climate vulnerability assessment.</b> Perform a climate vulnerability assessment to understand long-term risks and vulnerabilities associated with climate change and identify next steps in terms of enhancing resiliency.	Analysis / Planning	2021-2022
C.1.3	<b>King County Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C).</b> Continue participating in the King County Cities Climate Collaboration to support the achievement of the countywide K4C goals.	Policy / Staff	Ongoing
C.1.4	<b>State advocacy.</b> Advocate for state-level policies and funding which support the achievement of the Environmental Stewardship goals	Policy	2021
C.1.5	<b>Climate equity.</b> Prioritize climate mitigation and adaptation investments in historically underserved and underrepresented communities.	Planning / Capital	2021
C.1.6	<b>Environmental equity assessment.</b> Perform an environmental equity assessment to identify environmental risks to communities of color in Bellevue and equitable access to environmental resources, and develop recommendations for policies and programs to continue to advance equity and reduce environmental burdens.	Planning	2021
Strate	gy M-1. Expand mobility options.		
M.1.1	<b>Mobility Implementation Plan.</b> Develop a Mobility Implementation Plan that explores opportunities to decrease per capita vehicle miles traveled through prioritization and investments to support transit and non-motorized modes.	Planning	2021-2022
M.1.2	<b>Transportation impact fees.</b> Consider expanding the Transportation Impact fee program to support construction of projects to improve walking and biking, in addition to increasing capacity for motorized vehicles.	Policy	2020-2021
M.1.3	<b>Growth Center Parking study.</b> Study the impact of light rail on the demand for commuter and residential parking in buildings near transit stations and consider modifying the minimum parking requirements to let the market determine the appropriate amount of parking needed for new development.	Policy	2024
M.1.4	Ambitious Transportation Strategy Study. Explore ambitious transportation strategies such as speed and reliability improvements for transit, accelerated completion of the pedestrian and bicycle network, and curbside management, to support the availability and accessibility of mobility options.	Planning	2021-2022

#	Action	Action Type	Timeframe
M.1.5	Accelerate implementation of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan. Increase accessibility of travel routes for people walking and bicycling through accelerating implementation of projects identified and prioritized in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan and the standards and guidelines recommended in the 2017 report on Multimodal Level-of-Service Standards and Guidelines.	Capital	2021-2025
M.1.6	<b>Leverage Frequent Transit Network Service.</b> Identify locations along the frequent transit network to consider for additional housing, employment, and recreation opportunities.	Planning	2022-2024
M.1.7	<b>Commute Trip Reduction.</b> Continue the Commute Trip Reduction program for employers and study the impact of COVID-19 on future commuting patterns and associated multi-modal mobility needs.	Analysis	Ongoing
Strateg	y M-2. Convert and replace vehicles and equipment to electric and o	ther low-carbon fue	els.
M.2.1	<b>EV readiness</b> . Introduce electric vehicle charging readiness requirements for new commercial, multi-family, and single-family buildings to exceed the state building code requirement.	Policy	2021
M.2.2	<b>EV infrastructure.</b> Increase EV charging infrastructure through partnerships, incentives, and targeted investments.	Capital / Policy	2022
M.2.3	<b>Clean Fuel Standard.</b> Support a regional or statewide Clean Fuel Standard to reduce emissions from transportation fuels and support funding for clean fuels.	Policy	
Strateg	y E-1. Improve performance of community buildings and sites.		
E.1.1	<b>Expedited permitting.</b> Develop program to fast-track and streamline permitting processes for single-family residential green building projects, to incentivize more green building. Evaluate impact and opportunities for expanding the program.	Policy / Incentive / Staffing	2021-2023
E.1.2	Advanced Green Building Pilot program. Develop a pilot program to incentivize advanced green building, such as the Living Building Challenge or net zero energy.	Policy / Incentive	2022-2023
E.1.3	<b>Green building incentives.</b> Review effectiveness of existing green building land use incentives and consider options for increasing the impact and making them more consistent across neighborhoods which are undergoing rezonings.	Policy	2022-2023
E.1.4	<b>Green Affordable Housing.</b> Evaluate opportunities to incentivize green affordable housing more broadly, and for projects with city funding, consider requiring green building beyond the Evergreen green building standard.	Policy	2021-2023

#	Action	Action Type	Timeframe
E.1.5	<b>State building code improvements.</b> Support ongoing energy efficiency and green building improvements to the WA State Energy code, to achieve the statewide goal of increasing energy efficiency in new construction by 70 percent by 2031 compared to the 2006 code and net-zero GHG emissions in new buildings by 2031.	Policy	Ongoing
Strateg	gy E-2. Engage the community on best practices for energy conservati	on.	
E.2.1	<b>Commercial Energy Efficiency.</b> Provide technical assistance and develop a commercial energy benchmarking and disclosure program for large commercial buildings, to make energy efficiency data more transparent and encourage more efficiency. Support implementation of the statewide program and early incentives, and consider a program for medium-sized buildings (less than 50,000 SF), not covered by the state policy.	Incentive	2021-2024
E.2.2	<b>Home energy retrofit program.</b> Develop a home energy retrofit program with to support retrofits and incentivize energy efficiency.	Incentive	2021-2023
E.2.3	<b>Equitable access to energy programs.</b> Improve access to energy efficiency programs for low-income and historically underserved and underrepresented populations.	Education/ Outreach	2021-2023
Strateg	zy E-3. Support renewable energy.		
E.3.1	<b>Solar-readiness.</b> Introduce requirements for new construction to be solar-ready, to future proof new buildings. (WSEC Appendix D (2015).	Policy/Code	2021
E.3.2	<b>Solarize Campaign.</b> Identify key partners and facilitate a Solarize Campaign, to support group installations of onsite solar.	Program	
E.3.3	<b>Community Solar</b> . Support opportunities for community solar in Bellevue, but identifying potential sites and funding opportunities.	Planning	Ongoing
E.3.4	<b>Clean Energy Transformation Act.</b> Support the implementation of the WA State Clean Energy Transformation Act, to achieve 100 percent renewable energy by 2045.	Policy	Ongoing
Strateg	y W-1. Increase community recycling and composting of waste.		
W.1.1	<b>Recycling education and outreach</b> . Provide waste reduction, recycling and composting education and outreach targeted at multi-family and commercial buildings, to help improve the citywide recycling rate.	Education/ Outreach	Ongoing
W.1.2	<b>Recycling space requirements.</b> Consider updates to space and access code requirements for recycling services in multifamily, commercial, and mixed-use buildings, to ensure new buildings have adequate space for three waste streams.	Policy	2023-2024

#	Action	Action Type	Timeframe
W.1.3	<b>Food waste prevention.</b> Encourage food donation and food waste prevention.	Education / Outreach	2021
Strateg	y W-2. Reduce community waste generation.		
W.2.1	<b>Single-use plastics ban.</b> Explore a prohibition on single-use plastics such as polystyrene and conduct outreach and technical assistance to support implementation, to reduce waste and litter.	Policy / Education/ Outreach	2023
W.2.2	<b>Waste study.</b> Perform a waste characterization study, and/or review existing regional waste characterization for comparable outcomes, for multi-family and commercial buildings, to better focus education and outreach.	Analysis	2023
W.2.3	Assess strategies. Analyze additional or updated strategies for achieving the short-term recycling and long-term Zero Waste goals.	Analysis / Planning	2023-2024
Strateg	y W-3. Address construction and demolition (C&D) waste.		
W.3.1	<b>Construction and Demolition waste recycling.</b> Explore policies to ensure that Bellevue-based job sites recycle certain types of construction and demolition debris prohibited from disposal by county ordinance, such as clean wood, cardboard, metal, gypsum scrap (new), and asphalt paving, bricks, and concrete, to reduce waste and minimize impacts of construction.	Policy / Education/ Outreach	2021-2023
Strateg	y N-1. Increase tree canopy citywide.		
N.1.1	<b>Tree preservation code.</b> Introduce stricter requirements for tree preservation in code, including tree retention, protection, replacement, and possible impact fees for tree removal, bonds for tree protection during and post-construction, and considerations for exceptional trees.	Policy	2021-2023
N.1.2	<b>Tree Planting.</b> Develop a program to incentivize residents and large property owners to plant the right tree in the right place and sustain existing trees, with reduced cost or free trees.	Program	2021-2022
N.1.3	<b>Urban Forester resource.</b> Explore the need for a city arborist or urban forester resource for permit review, enforcement, code update, strategic planning, and education and outreach.	Staff	2021
N.1.4	<b>Public property tree planting.</b> Identify locations on public property for increasing tree canopy, such as in the right-of-way or parks, and develop a plan and funding strategy for planting and maintenance.	Planning	2021-2022

#	Action	Action Type	Timeframe
N.1.5	<b>Street Tree list.</b> Develop an approved street tree list for all Bellevue districts, including prohibited tree species, to guide in tree species selection and ensure diversity of tree species.	Planning	
N.1.6	<b>Tree Ambassadors.</b> Launch a Tree Ambassadors program to provide education and outreach around the value and benefits of trees.	Education/ Outreach	2020
N.1.7	<b>Tree loss tracking.</b> Track total number and diameter at standard heights of trees removed per year as part of the land use permitting and construction process, and require replacement.	Analysis	2021-2023
Strateg	y N-2. Improve ecological conditions for forests, streams, wetlands,	and wildlife.	
N.2.1	<b>Improve stream health.</b> Through the Watershed Management Plan, assess current stream health conditions and develop a plan for improving stream health, including watershed-specific recommendations which could include capital projects, enhanced maintenance/operational changes, and policy recommendations.	Planning	2020-2023
Strateg	y N-3. Improve natural stormwater retention systems and reduce wa	ater pollution.	
N.3.1	<b>Stormwater retrofit.</b> Identify stormwater retrofit or enhancement opportunities and develop an implementation plan to support the expansion of green stormwater infrastructure.	Analysis / Planning	2022
Strateg	y N-4. Support preservation and access to green and open spaces an	d agriculture.	
N.4.1	Multiple environmental benefits for open space preservation. Identify and acquire sites whose preservation as open space would confer multiple environmental benefits, including but not limited to stormwater management, flooding mitigation, and enhancement of tree canopy.	Policy / Capital	2022-2035
N.4.2	<b>Funding strategy to achieve open space goals.</b> Consider strengthened code requirements, land use incentives, or fees on new development to expand the park system and increase walkable access to parks and trails.	Analysis	2023
N.4.3	<b>Plan for walkable access to parks.</b> Continue to plan for achieving the walkable access to parks, open space, and trailheads goal as part of the next update to the Parks & Open Space System Plan.	Planning / Capital	2022
Strateg	y N-5. Improve air quality.		
N.5.1	<b>Air Quality.</b> Incorporate air quality information in planning for major rezonings and pilot air quality monitoring sensors.	Capital	2021-2022
Strateg	<ul> <li>Plan for walkable access to parks. Continue to plan for achieving the walkable access to parks, open space, and trailheads goal as part of the next update to the Parks &amp; Open Space System Plan.</li> <li>N-5. Improve air quality.</li> <li>Air Quality. Incorporate air quality information in planning for</li> </ul>	Capital	

### Municipal Operations Actions

#	Action	Action Type	Timeframe
Strategy N	1.C1. Mitigate emissions and promote sustainability across all oper	rations.	
M.C.1.1	Implementation - monitor and report. Report on progress towards Environmental Stewardship goals.	Planning / Reporting	2021-2022
M.C.1.2	<b>Sustainable operations training.</b> Incorporate sustainability commitments into city staff trainings.	Policy / Planning / Training	2021 – 2022
M.C.1.3	Implementation - stewardship team. Establish a "Stewardship Team" to oversee the implementation.	Planning / Training	2021-2022
M.C.1.4	<b>Sustainable projects training.</b> Develop sustainability training opportunities for city employees working on capital projects.	Planning / Training	2021-2022
Strategy N	I.M.1-1. Expand mobility options.		
M.M.1.1	Green employee commutes. Pilot emerging electric vehicle (EV) technology for medium to heavy-duty fleet vehicles.	Policy / Planning / Capital	2021 – 2022
Strategy N	I.M.2-1. Convert and replace city vehicles and equipment to electric	and other low-c	arbon fuels.
M.M.2.1	<b>Green fleet strategy.</b> Develop long-term plan and policies for purchasing electric vehicles (EV) and installing charging infrastructure at city-owned facilities.	Policy / Planning / Capital	2021 – 2022
M.M.2.2	<b>Reduce fuel use.</b> Pilot fuel reduction technology on fleet vehicles and equipment.	Policy / Planning / Capital	2021 – 2022
M.M.2.3	Sustainable infrastructure certifications. Pilot sustainable infrastructure certification for a capital project.	Planning / Capital	2023-2025
Strategy N	I.E.1-1. Improve performance of municipal buildings and sites.		
M.E.1.1	<b>Conduct building tune-ups.</b> Conduct building tune-ups and implement efficiency measures at city-owned buildings.	Planning / Capital	2023 - 2025
M.E.1.2	<b>Improve lighting efficiency.</b> Upgrade indoor and outdoor lighting to efficient technology.	Planning / Capital	2023 - 2025
M.E.1.3	Improve plug-load efficiency. Manage plug loads efficiently and reduce peak demand.	Planning / Capital	2019 - 2020
M.E.1.4	<b>Energy performance standards.</b> Meet energy performance standards for city-owned buildings.	Policy / Analysis	2021 - 2022
M.E.1.5	<b>Enhance indoor air quality.</b> Enhance indoor air quality in city- owned buildings.	Policy / Analysis	2021 - 2022
M.E.1.6	Support renewable energy. Use local renewable energy for city operations	Analysis / Planning	2021 - 2022

#	Action	Action Type	Timeframe
M.E.1.7	Sustainable building certifications. Achieve green building performance standards for new and existing city-owned buildings	Analysis / Planning / Capital	2023 - 2025
M.E.1.8	<b>Upgrade building envelope in city-owned buildings</b> . Upgrade building envelope in city-owned buildings	Analysis / Planning / Capital	2023 - 2025
Strategy N operation	1.W.1-1. Improve green purchasing practices and sustainable materi s.	als management	t in city
M.W.1.1	<b>Green, local procurement.</b> Implement the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Policy across city operations.	Policy / Planning / Training	2021 – 2022
M.W.1.2	<b>Operational waste management.</b> Identify waste streams generated in city operations and plan to divert materials from landfills.	Policy / Planning / Training	2021 – 2022
M.W.1.3	<b>Reduce operational waste.</b> Provide recycling and composting next to trash receptacles in city-owned buildings.	Policy / Planning / Training	2021 - 2022
M.W.1.4	Support vendor stewardship. Develop vendor stewardship programs or partnerships for ongoing or bulk purchases.	Policy / Planning / Training	2021 - 2022
M.W.1.5	<b>Divert construction &amp; demolition waste</b> . Divert construction and demolition (C&D) waste streams from landfills for capital projects.	Policy / Planning	2021 – 2022
Strategy N operation	<i>I</i> .N.1-4. Promote sustainable landscaping and protect and conserve s.	natural resource	es in city
M.N.1.1	Increase landscaping benefits. Improve functionality of landscaped areas on city-owned property.	Planning / Capital	2021-2022
M.N.1.2	Improve operational water efficiency. Install water efficient irrigation and plumbing fixtures in city-owned landscapes and buildings.	Planning / Capital	2021-2022
M.N.1.3	<b>Reduce pesticide and fertilizer impacts.</b> Explore alternatives to reduce pesticide and fertilizer use and impacts on city-owned property while maintaining service levels.	Planning / Capital	2021-2022
M.N.1.4	Sustainable landscaping certifications. Pilot third-party sustainability certification for landscaped areas, where feasible.	Planning / Capital	2021-2022
M.N.1.5	<b>Tree preservation.</b> Develop requirements for tree preservation and replacement for capital projects.	Planning / Capital	2021-2022
M.N.1.6	<b>Tree restoration.</b> Perform an urban forest health assessment for the tree canopy on Parks natural areas and develop a long-term forest strategies to ensure the health of the urban forest.	Planning / Capital	2021-2022

### **Arts Audience Participation Survey**

At today's meeting, staff will present early information on the Arts Audience Participation Survey. Staff will ask the commission for feedback on proposed inquiries into the data. This discussion will inform the development of an executive summary to be released in August.

### BACKGROUND

As a potential measure to better understand perceptions and experiences of arts audiences during the pandemic, staff developed a survey that looked at three topic main topic areas: general profile of survey responders, desired safety measures and comfort around a future return to in-person events and gauging interest in alternative models of presentation; virtual, moving indoor events outdoors, or other. Recognizing that Eastside audiences may have different perceptions than Seattle-based audiences, Bellevue partnered with the Eastside Arts and Culture Coalition and the cities of Issaquah, Kirkland, Redmond and Renton to assist in maximizing the number of Eastside responses. Bellevue administered and drafted the survey with partner input. In total, the survey received 1,074 responses largely from Eastside audiences. Outreach on the survey was done through the city's channels, social media, and arts organization's networks. The survey was offered in Chinese, English, Japanesse, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Ukranian, and Vietnamese.

### SURVEY RESPONSE PROFILES

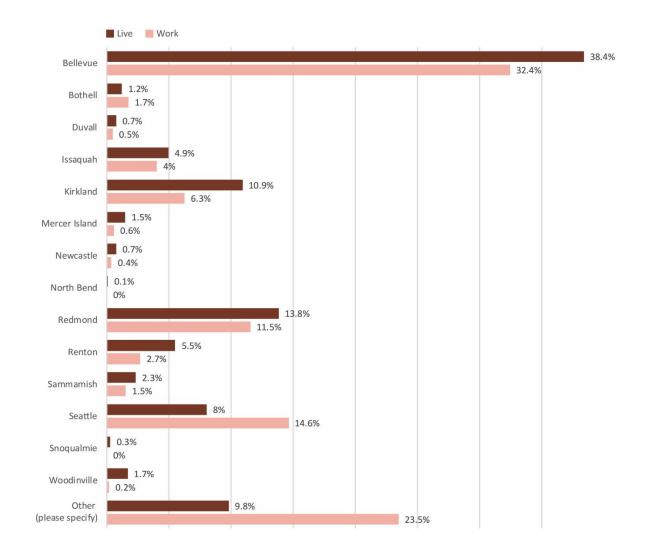
In general, responders were comprised of an audience that is active and interested in the arts. Below are results taken directly from the survey on the profiles of survey responders. Additional inquiries on the later parts of the survey which focus on comfort, safety measures, and alternative forms of events will be driven by the commission discussion. To summarize the below results, responders lived and worked across the Eastside, were older, and Bellevue was a clear destination for arts, cultural and educational experiences.

### Questions 1 and 2: Where do responders live and work?

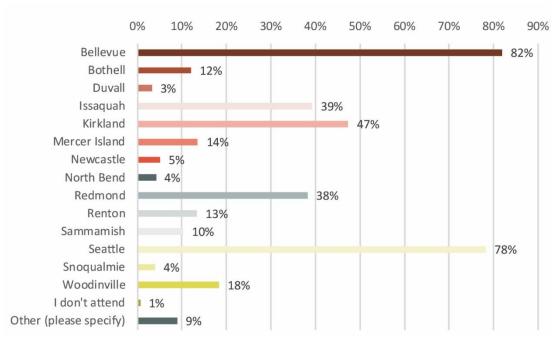
Bellevue and its partners felt that it was important to ask where people lived and worked, recognizing that many Eastsiders work in Seattle and many Seattle residents work on the Eastside. Staff sees, particularly Seattle residents that work on the Eastside as a potential opportunity for Eastside organizations to grow their audience. In total, people that identified as living in Bellevue comprised 38% of total responses to the survey. This indicates that there was good representation across the Eastside.

Where people work is clearly impacted by the age demographics of survey responders, as survey responders tended to be older and many wrote in "retired" into the "Other" category.

Below is a graph showing where people that took the survey live and work.



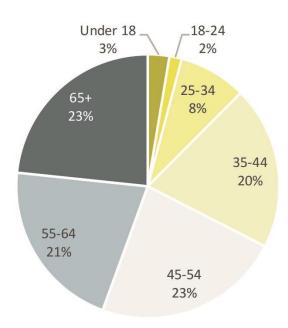
Question 3: In which city or cities do you attend arts, cultural or educational experiences?



Responders where able to select multiple cities for this question. Bellevue outpaced Seattle among responders.

Additionally, responses to this question are noteworthy because for those that took the survey, Bellevue clearly is the destination on the Eastside for arts, cultural and educational experiences.

### Question 4: What is your age?



The age of responders trended older with 44% 55 years or older. The most underrepresented demographic groups were those 34 years and younger. As this survey applied to educational experiences as well as arts and cultural, which on the Eastside are predominantly oriented towards younger participants, this indicates that the survey isn't a complete picture of the total population, rather a good gauge on how older audiences are feeling at this moment.

As many organizations develop their programming with specific age groups in mind, breaking down how the age groups answered the survey questions could be very helpful for organizations.

### EARLY TAKEAWAYS

Staff has identified a couple key trends among responders:

- 95% of responders require some kind of safety measures in place even after the governor clears events to take place;
- 74% of responders where either somewhat likely or highly likely to attend an event outdoors in physical distancing was practiced;
- 65% of responders had attended a virtual unpaid experience with 33% attending a paid virtual experience.

### TRENDS TO EXPLORE

Staff is starting to work through the data to parse out helpful information for Eastside cities and arts and cultural organizations to use. Staff is looking to better understand:

- How do different age groups respond to the survey?
- A large number of responders indicated that they had attended paid and unpaid virtual experiences since the start of the pandemic. Who is that group and what types of events do they normally attend?
- What types of virtual events are responders attending and how can that inform what organizations program?
- How does this inform what Bellevue does?
- Staff welcome input from the commission on possible inquiries.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Staff are working to develop an Executive Summary which will include an attachment including all the results to the survey questions. Staff hope to have that available to the public by the end of August or before.

### **STAFF CONTACT**

Manette Stamm, Community Development Department Public Art Assistant <u>mstamm@bellevuewa.gov</u> 425-452-4064 Tuesday, August 4, 2020

Zoom Meeting: 4:30 pm

### **Economic Development Plan – Creative Economy**

At today's meeting, staff will present an overview on the economic development plan update and the Creative Economy Chapter. The below includes information gathered during the analysis and focus groups and how that informed the strategies included in the plan.

### INTRODUCTION

The Bellevue City Council adopted the current Economic Development Plan in July 2014. That plan focused on four direct strategies.

- 1. Cultivate Bellevue's Next Generation of Technology Entrepreneurs
- 2. Position Bellevue as a Pacific Rim Gateway
- 3. Strengthen Bellevue's Tourism and Visitor Cluster
- 4. Develop a Multi-pronged Economic Development Marketing Campaign

Since 2014, the Economic Development program has evolved to include the arts program, and Visit Bellevue Washington (the city's destination marketing organization) has added organizational capacity to implement their 2017 Destination Development Plan.

Additionally, due to Bellevue's economic growth, the changing needs of Puget Sound businesses, evolving nature of major sectors like technology and retail, as well as impacts from COVID-19 a strategic update to the Economic Development Plan is essential for keeping the community prepared for the future.

In July 2019, Council approved eight objectives for the Economic Development Plan Update:

- 1. Identify ways to support the creative economy
- 2. Explore new opportunities to support small business
- 3. Support more robust retail activity
- 4. Identify best practices for integrating new businesses into the community
- 5.Support capacity building for community groups
- 6. Integrate key recommendations from Tourism Plan
- 7. Make the Plan easier to update
- 8. Support local workforce development options and programs

Based on the Council-approved objectives, staff has worked with the consultant to review previous studies and documents, perform a data analysis of Bellevue's economic position, and conduct extensive stakeholder outreach with more than 75 participants. These combined inputs help to inform the strategies and implementation tactics of the updated plan.

The creative economy strategies of this plan will be a companion document to the updated Cultural Compass. Staff are pursuing grant funding to assist with consultant work on the Cultural Compass. The creative economy strategies within the Economic Development Plan contribute to a broad economic development vision for Bellevue. The Cultural Compass will be focused on supporting, strengthening, and growing the arts and Bellevue's role as an arts leader on the Eastside.

### FINDINGS

### **Data Analysis - Digital vs Traditional Creative Sector**

As defined by the City of Bellevue's 2018 Creative Edge report, the Creative Economy includes a variety of sub-clusters in industries such as manufacturing, retail, information services, design, and performing arts. More than 16% of all employment in Bellevue falls under the Creative Economy designation.

For purposes of this plan, we looked at the Creative Economy into two sub-clusters – Digital Creative (which includes software) and Traditional Creative (which includes art museums, performance studios, and other similar operations). Bellevue's Digital Creative sub-cluster is very large at 91%, with the Traditional Creative sub-cluster at just 9%.

Between 2013 and 2018, Traditional Creative employment in Bellevue grew more than 32% – creating slightly more than 500 new jobs. In contrast, Digital Creative grew 21%, but created more than 3,600 new jobs.

### **Focus Group Finding**

Staff and the Conslutant also conducted stakeholder interviews and focus groups to understand the needs and opportunities of the Creative Economy in Bellevue.

During the two focus group, participants discussed the challenges and opportunities around Bellevue's Creative Economy. Participants shared their thoughts on strategic ideas, explored how these ideas might work operationally, identified existing related efforts on which to build, and brainstormed additional strategies.

The focus group discussion covered a range of topics, including:

- Conducting a detailed inventory of performing arts venues and facilities in Bellevue. Some
  participants identified challenges associated with the task, including ownership and maintenance
  of the information. Similar concerns were expressed about the creation and maintenance of a
  centralized website with up-to-date information on Bellevue's Creative Economy.
- Establishing a Creative Coalition to bring together the Creative community, enhance communication, facilitate advocacy, share ideas, provide support, and overall speak with one voice. There is a significant need for information about artists in the city. A database of local artist may help address this deficiency.
- Creating more accountability for action around Creative Economy needs. There is a distinct need for leadership and coordination among the arts community, particularly in setting a timeframe and agenda to "get things done." There remains some question as to whether there is an existing organization focused on community building that might take the lead on this effort or if a new organization is needed. Although the City does not currently possess sufficient staffing resources to directly manage this effort, it might be able to assist in the creation of organization. The BDA was also mentioned as having a potential role.
- Expanding public art offerings and allowing for more diverse options, including digital projections and other formats.
- Promoting opportunities to display more local artist work at local businesses and in public spaces and buildings. These could be highlighted on maps and walking paths.
- Connecting people to more space for juried shows.
- Highlighting the importance of art as a public health issue.
- Exploring options for the City to work with private partners to establish a multi-purpose facility for the creative arts. Although a feasibility study has been completed, it remains to be seen if this facility will become a reality.
- Continuing the Bel-Red Streetscape plan and the City's partnership with 4Culture to continue the Arts District Planning, with the intent to finish by the end of the year.
- Building on Bellwether to provide expanded events and include more local artists.

- Creating a High Tech Working Group or Digital Council to find ways for digital artists to engage more with the Creative community and build events and exhibits that showcase local digital creatives.
- Identifying roles for the Arts Commission in the plan. It was also noted that the City has not expanded its budget for the arts in some time.

### **CREATIVE ECONOMY STRATEGIES**

Based on the data analysis and stakeholder input staff and the consultant developed the following strategies for the Creative Economy sector in Bellevue. Due to the impacts of COVID staff will first focus on strategies essential for a strong recovery before shifting to strategies pertaining to growth.

1. Enhance Bellevue's leading position in the digital creative sector and encourage linkages with the traditional creative sector where possible.

1.1 Pursue regional collaboration that supports and promotes the creative cultural sector in Bellevue.

- 1.2 Expand audiences for Bellevue's multi-cultural organizations and offerings.
- 1.3 Partner with Visit Bellevue to create a High-Tech working group to foster collaboration and explore opportunities for technology focused festivals and events (Growth)
- 2. Develop the built and institutional infrastructure needed to position the BelRed Arts District as a major destination.
  - 2.1 Establish a working group to convene, foster and promote the BelRed Arts District.
  - 2.2 Reduce barriers to arts uses and improve prioritization of the arts incentive for new development in the BelRed Arts District.
  - 2.3 Recruit an anchor arts-education institution to BelRed. (Growth)
  - 2.4 Explore options for the City to deliver multi-purpose creative arts spaces via public private partnerships. (Growth)
- 3. Promote and expand festivals, events and activities to grow the creative economy sector and promote a strong creative brand for Bellevue. (Growth)

### **NEXT STEPS**

Staff and the Consultant will take the full draft Economic Development Plan to Council on September 14, 2020 with adoption expected by year end.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Based on the creative economy strategies what does success look like to you?
- What do you see as the Bellevue Arts Commissions role in helping to implement the Creative Economy Strategies of this plan?

### **STAFF CONTACT**

Philly Marsh, Community Development Department Economic Development Manager <u>pmarsh@bellevuewa.gov</u> 425-452-7909



Zoom Meeting: 4:30 pm

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

### GENERAL

### Old Bellevue Business Support

**Update:** Following continued outreach with the community, staff has developed a permit to allow restaurants in Old Bellevue to utilize parking spaces in front of their businesses for outdoor seating. A mural will no longer be included as part of the business support.

### Artspace

**Update:** Staff recognizes that the Arts Commission would like to keep discussions on the potential of an artist affordable housing project in Bellevue going. Staff is developing a grant proposal for the National Arts Endowment's Our Town grant for "BelRed Arts District Planning." This proposal includes funding for the final stages of the Artspace Feasibility Study, which includes an Arts Market Survey.

### **GRANT PROGRAMS**

### 2020 Funding Cycle and Allocations Committee

**Update:** Staff is working to understand if any grants will go unclaimed. A few organizations have indicated that they will not pursue their full allocated grant.

<u>CIP Cultural Arts Fund</u> No updates to report.

<u>Power Up Bellevue</u> Update: Staff will have an update on the Power Up program and schedule at the September commission meeting.

### **PLANNING PROJECTS**

### BelRed Arts District

Update: Staff is working with artist Katie Miller on scoping out an engagement process aimed at better understanding the vision for the BelRed Arts District and developing implementation strategies to achieve that vision.

BelRed Streetscape Plan Update No updates to report.

<u>Cultural Compass</u> No updates to report.

### **PUBLIC ART**

### 130th Streetscape Public Art

**Update:** The artist has developed a new artwork concept and will present it to the Arts Commission in the coming months.

Bellwether 2019 No updates to report.

### Downtown Park Public Art

**Update:** Staff are working to get the fabrication contract with THEVERYMANY on the consent agenda for approval at City Council's September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

East Link Public Art No updates to report.

<u>Grand Connection</u> No updates to report.

### Lattawood Park

**Update:** Trenching for the associated electrical and lighting has begun. The artwork is scheduled to start install mid-August.

### Public Art Collection & Maintenance

**Update:** Staff only received quotes on a portion of the work needed. Staff is working to get quotes on the complete scope including restoration of Garden of Alternatives and Arc with 4 Forms.