

# neighborhood news



July 2020

news for and about  
Bellevue neighborhoods



## Caring and Resilient

[BellevueWA.gov/covid-19](https://BellevueWA.gov/covid-19)

[BellevueWA.gov/chinese/covid-19](https://BellevueWA.gov/chinese/covid-19)

[BellevueWA.gov/spanish-espanol/covid-19](https://BellevueWA.gov/spanish-espanol/covid-19)

[BellevueWA.gov/russian/covid-19](https://BellevueWA.gov/russian/covid-19)

[BellevueWA.gov/korean/covid-19](https://BellevueWA.gov/korean/covid-19)

## Bellevue Economic Development updates

As we look forward to recovery and healing from the COVID-19 pandemic, there will again be many opportunities to enjoy our city TOGETHER. We encourage you to consider these resources shared by the city's Economic Development team.

**Federal Loan Programs – Major Changes And Availability.** The Small Business Administration recently announced that it has reopened the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) grant and loan program to new applicants from all industries, in addition to making improvements to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan terms and forgiveness rules.

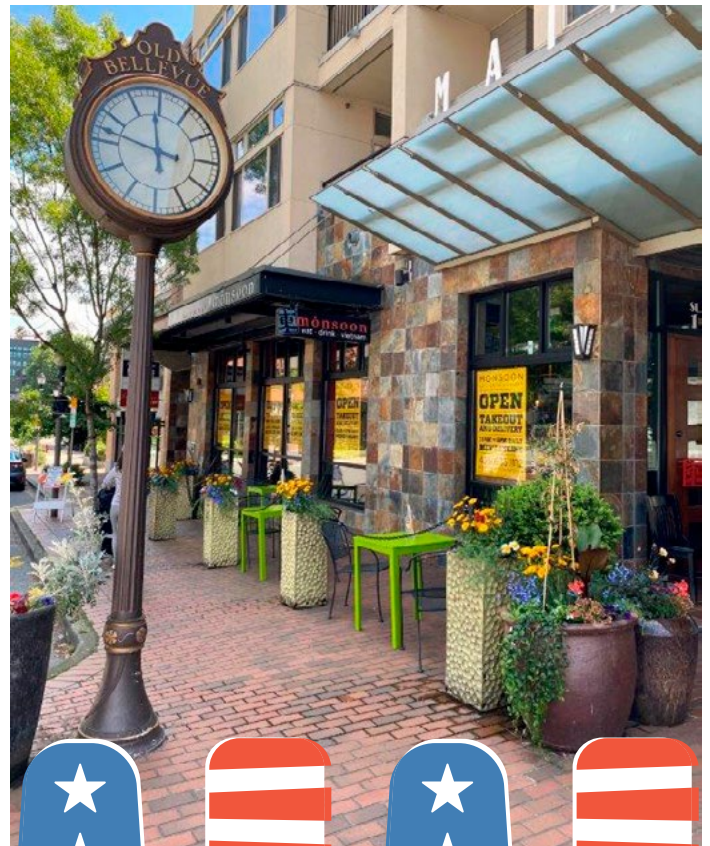
**The (re)STARTUP425 program** ([re.startup425.org](https://re.startup425.org)) offers free one-on-one advising, with language interpretation if needed, to businesses, sole proprietors and nonprofits to help you understand and access the financial assistance programs and resources available. In addition, the advisors can assist with other grant, loan and unemployment tools, as well as assisting with navigating and planning around the governor's "Safe Start" guidelines. Contact our Business Response Team today! ([re.startup425.org/technical-assistance-request/](https://re.startup425.org/technical-assistance-request/))

**What's Open Eastside.** This map ([shorturl.at/ghRZ5](https://shorturl.at/ghRZ5)) promotes local businesses and nonprofits, and their adapted operations on the What's Open map. There are already more than 750 listings! Make sure you're on

the map if you're an open establishment and share it with your customers.

**Reopening Guidelines.** As businesses begin to reopen as part of the state's Safe Start phased opening plan, the City of Bellevue is sharing updates as they happen on the Business Resources page ([BellevueWA.gov/covid-19/business-resources](https://BellevueWA.gov/covid-19/business-resources)). You can also find more information there on things like PPE exchanges and ways to take advantage of street space for uses including patio dining and curbside pickup.

**Please Subscribe** to the City of Bellevue Business Newsletter ([eepurl.com/dgTWyH](https://eepurl.com/dgTWyH)) if you're interested in receiving these updates on a regular basis.





## Bellevue Downtown Association introduces the Heart of Bellevue

During Phase 2 of Washington's reopening plan, the local businesses that we know and love will gradually begin reopening their doors. As businesses figure out their unique path forward, we've been hearing inspiring stories of how they're surviving this crisis.

The Heart of Bellevue campaign is designed to connect and promote the local businesses in downtown Bellevue. We'll be sharing stories of activity, creativity and recovery. From hosting virtual and in-person events, to promoting special offers at local restaurants - we're excited to bring life back to our urban core! Bellevue is a diverse and growing city with a community that is striving to support its own. An individual is just as much a part of the Heart of Bellevue as is a business. This is a place where people can explore their passions, test their creativity and discover what makes them unique. Things may look different after a pandemic, but the core qualities of ambition, strength and passion are still alive.

We encourage you to:

- ◆ Support our small businesses by visiting your favorite neighborhood [shops, services and restaurants \(bellevuedowntown.com/heart-of-bellevue/shop\)](https://bellevuedowntown.com/heart-of-bellevue/shop).
- ◆ Have confidence that businesses are committed to reopening safely and responsibly.
- ◆ Please be understanding and patient with local shop, service and restaurant staff while extra care is being taken.

As our city reopens, the hope is for our community to shop, dine and relax with ease in the weeks ahead. Perhaps now - more than ever - we need to think, buy and support local. After all, small businesses make us stronger and keep Bellevue whole.

**Discover the Heart of Bellevue!**

## Major city events canceled through August;

### Facilities still closed.

With the continuing recommendations for physical distancing, major city events such as the Family 4th, Arts in the Garden and Movies in the Park are canceled through August. The decision follows the governor's "Safe Start" guidelines and restrictions on gatherings during Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the reopening plan.



While services for the public are continuing remotely, City Hall and Mini City Hall facilities are closed to the public until further notice.

Neighbor Link block parties will not be promoted by the city this summer, but residents are encouraged to connect with their neighbors through safe physical distancing. Many neighborhoods have continued to build community through smaller gatherings, have walked with other neighbors and are meeting the practical needs for those vulnerable to COVID-19. Residents should continue to consult King County Public Health recommendations.

This summer's Day of Sharing & Caring is postponed. In order to protect the health of applicants and volunteers participating in the program, the city and our partner Jubilee REACH, are postponing the home improvement projects at this time.

## City Council meetings update

The Bellevue City Council is holding virtual meetings on the first four Mondays of each month, at 6 p.m., broadcasting live on Bellevue TV channel 21 and the [BTV YouTube channel \(youtube.com/user/BellevueWashington\)](https://youtube.com/user/BellevueWashington).

During virtual meetings, there will not be an opportunity for oral communications, but you can provide written comment to the council by emailing [council@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:council@bellevuewa.gov), subject line "Written Communications" (insert date of meeting)" by 3 p.m. the day of the meeting.



## Personal fireworks are prohibited in Bellevue

Personal fireworks pose a serious threat to our homes and to the green spaces and tree canopy of Bellevue. They also can result in injuries and burns, many of which are severe and suffered by young children. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reports that in 2018 fireworks resulted in approximately 19,500 fires and 9,100 hospital emergency room visits for injuries. In addition, the use of fireworks causes stress to pets and people - particularly those suffering from PTSD.

The use of personal fireworks was originally banned in 1992 in the City of Bellevue when city council passed an emergency ordinance prohibiting the use of fireworks during a time when the region was experiencing extreme drought and water shortage. Recognizing the danger that they pose to personal safety and property, fireworks were permanently banned beginning July 4, 1994. The ordinance called for enforcement to be the responsibility of the Bellevue Police and Fire departments.

To reduce the impact of reporting illegal fireworks use on the 911 system, residents are encouraged to utilize the [MyBellevue \(BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/finance/mybellevue/customer-assistance\)](https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/finance/mybellevue/customer-assistance) app for reporting. The penalty for discharging fireworks is \$1,000, and police and fire staff will have dedicated emphasis patrols on duty.

For more information, videos, safety sheets and fun ways to enjoy the upcoming holiday safely are available from the NFPA. Visit [nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Seasonal-fire-causes/Fireworks](https://nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Seasonal-fire-causes/Fireworks).



## Crossroads residents – your vote matters!

**Submit your ballot by July 24 for your top three Neighborhood Enhancement project choices.**



Bocce ball courts at Crossroads Park? A new streetlight at 140th Avenue NE and NE 14th Street? A flashing crosswalk at 164th Avenue NE and NE 12th Street? Tree replacement along NE 8th Street? Public art in Crossroads Park? 148th Avenue NE landscaping beautification? Enhancement to the



Odle Trail? Landscape improvements on 140th Avenue NE? These eight options are available as part of the Neighborhood Enhancement Program projects that are included on the Crossroads NEP ballot.

Be a part of the decision making and vote! Tell us which projects you'd like to see funded with the \$439,000 in available funds that the city has allocated for your neighborhood area. Simply return the POSTAGE PAID ballot included inside the voter's pamphlet that each Crossroads neighborhood household received in June. **Voting is BY MAIL ONLY and limited to ONE BALLOT PER HOUSEHOLD ADDRESS**, allowing you the opportunity to rate, in priority order, which three projects you feel are most deserving to be funded. Projects will be assigned points: three points for first choice, two points for second and one point for third. Responses will be tabulated with the highest-scoring projects receiving funding.

Project specifics and a map showing the project locations for the eight Crossroads NEP projects can be found on the city's NEP website in the Crossroads Neighborhood Area section at [BellevueWA.gov/nep](https://BellevueWA.gov/nep)

Ballots must be postmarked by Friday, July 24 to be included in the voting process. Remember to include your address, and for those in multiple housing units, your apartment or condo number must be included for your vote to be counted.

*Continued on next page*

*Continued from previous page*

The Neighborhood Enhancement Program is a city-funded program that allows residents to propose and select modest capital projects to enhance their neighborhoods. The program rotates through the city's 14 NEP neighborhood areas over the course of seven years, serving two areas each year. The \$5 million program allocation is distributed among each of the NEP neighborhood areas, according to the number of households in each area. In 2020, NEP is available in the Crossroads and Wilburton neighborhood areas. NEP is scheduled to come to West Bellevue and Woodridge in 2021.

Please contact NEP Coordinator, Theresa Cuthill at [tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov) with questions. Detailed program information can be found at [BellevueWA.gov/nep](http://BellevueWA.gov/nep).



## Application deadline August 3

Bellevue Essentials is recruiting the Class of 2020 cohort of 35 passionate individuals who want to experience learning about city government. Class members will spend nine weeks with the experts who keep our city running every day and will learn how to have a voice and effect change in their local government and community.



In 2020, Bellevue Essentials will provide an engaging curriculum through Zoom each week, supplemented by outside work on your own or in small groups, as COVID-19 restrictions permit. Participants will spend time connecting with each other - and simulating the day-to-

day challenges and opportunities that Bellevue faces. Class meets Wednesday evenings, 6-8 p.m., Sept. 23 – Nov. 18.

Bellevue Essentials is designed for people who are curious about civic engagement and local government and are committed to the future of Bellevue and to serving their community. Applications for the 2020

class are due by August 3. Tuition is \$125 and fee waivers are available if needed.

Brochure and applications are available now at [BellevueWA.gov/bellevue-essentials](http://BellevueWA.gov/bellevue-essentials). For more information or to request a hard copy of the class packet, contact Julie Ellenhorn at 425-452-5372 or [jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov)



## What makes your neighborhood great?

On June 16 and 17, over sixty residents joined city staff to launch [Great Neighborhoods \(engagingbellevue.com\)](http://engagingbellevue.com), the city's neighborhood area planning process. Covering issues ranging from aging-in-place, mobility, access to parks and recreation, diversity, social connectivity and more, city staff will work with residents in Northeast and Northwest Bellevue to create plans that serve as a roadmap to the future.

The launch meeting included lively discussions about how COVID-19 has changed the way people are experiencing their neighborhoods. People are walking more and talking to their neighbors more. People appreciate having access to trails and being able to get groceries without extensive travel.

We're excited to continue these conversations over the coming weeks and there are a couple of ways for you to join in the discussion.

### 1. Take our survey

The first step in the neighborhood planning process is creating a vision statement, and we want to know which values each neighborhood wants to prioritize.

- ◆ Northwest Bellevue survey [bit.ly/30Vs9j1](https://bit.ly/30Vs9j1)
- ◆ Northeast Bellevue survey [bit.ly/2YoX31q](https://bit.ly/2YoX31q)

### 2. Help Create a Neighborhood Portrait

We know that what really makes a neighborhood special are the people, unique places, stories, traditions, and history. We're asking you to share your photos, stories, mementos and more to help us create a personalized portrait of the neighborhood.

- ◆ Northwest Bellevue [bit.ly/3dpe1kz](https://bit.ly/3dpe1kz)
- ◆ Northeast Bellevue [bit.ly/2YX7ijr](https://bit.ly/2YX7ijr)

Neighborhood plans bring the city's broader Comprehensive Plan to life in a local way. They provide residents, businesses, city staff and other stakeholders guidance as each neighborhood grows and evolves. Neighborhood plans include:

- ◆ A vision statement that reflects a community's core values and hopes for the future;
- ◆ A community profile that examines current conditions and trends;
- ◆ An examination of key opportunities and challenges;
- ◆ Policies to guide future development; and
- ◆ A list of community identified goals and priority projects.

The Great Neighborhoods program is beginning with the Northeast and Northwest neighborhood areas and will work with other neighborhood areas in future years. Our community engagement process will continue this summer; we'll be reaching out to community members, educating them about planning, and discussing their values and vision for the future. This fall we'll be rolling up our sleeves to work on drafting the plan. Then in the spring of 2021, the draft plans will go through the legislative process to be adopted by city council.

If you have questions, feel free to reach out to Brooke Brod at [bbrod@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bbrod@bellevuewa.gov)

## Equal access to justice at Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center

People all over the world are speaking out for equal justice for all people. Awareness is being raised about how those of us of color or of low economic means often do not get treated fairly by the justice system.

The Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center (BCRC) has been a resource for equal access to justice for our community in Bellevue for 24 years. *Everyone* in Bellevue, regardless of race, economic status, sexual orientation or ethnic background who works or lives in the city and needs help resolving a conflict can utilize the center's free services. BCRC provides equal access to justice, fairness and helping people who may feel otherwise overpowered to get a fair, affordable resolution.

Conciliators and mediators listen to all parties in a conflict in an "omni-partial" way, not taking sides or

acting as judges, but rather helping people in conflict hear each other, untangle the issues between them, understand possible cultural or other differences that may underlie the issue, and create an agreement that they both can live with. Those who use our services are usually able to avoid court fees and attorney costs.

Our program is also partially funded by the Washington State Legislature which mandates (RCW 7.75) that Washington residents have an alternative dispute resolution option. BCRC receives these funds through an active membership with Resolution Washington, a statewide consortium of dispute resolution centers around the state. The State of Washington believes that access to justice matters, and that cost, discrimination and complexity should not be barriers.

Last year BCRC, along with all the other members of Resolution Washington, was awarded the Washington State Supreme Court-appointed Access to Justice Board's 2019 Access to Justice Community Leadership Award, "recognizing the efforts of an individual or an organization outside the legal community that has played a strategic, significant and courageous leadership role in improving access to the justice system for those who face economic or other significant barriers."

BCRC works with the Bellevue Police Department, which regularly refers nonviolent civil cases to resolve in a peaceful and equitable fashion. We also collaborate on more complex cases, going into the community together to help ease community situations.

Bellevue's Conflict Resolution Center serves everyone in Bellevue equally, and works for an equitable solution for everyone. If you have a conflict or dispute that you need help to resolve, or for more information, contact [bcrc@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bcrc@bellevuewa.gov) or call 425-452-4091.



Subscribe to Neighborhood News electronically:  
[BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news](http://BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news)



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-2735 (voice) or email [mheilman@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mheilman@bellevuewa.gov). For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice) or email [ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov). If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.



## Eastside Arts Audience Participation Survey



Do you participate in the arts? How do you feel about returning to a theater or continuing virtual learning? The City of Bellevue is leading an Eastside Arts Audience Participation Survey, in partnership with Eastside Arts & Culture Coalition and the cities of Issaquah, Kirkland, Redmond and Renton.

Eastside cities have put a lot of effort into understanding the heavy impacts of the economic slowdown caused by COVID-19 on artists and arts organizations. This survey speaks directly to the Eastside community and will help cities and organizations plan for future art and cultural and educational experiences. The survey is offered in seven languages: Chinese, English, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese, and can be found at [surveymonkey.com/r/EACASEnglish](https://surveymonkey.com/r/EACASEnglish).

The survey is open through July 10. Please direct any questions to Manette Stamm, [mstamm@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mstamm@bellevuewa.gov).

## Hazards on the homefront: Youth activity guides on safer cleaning and household products

Families are spending more time at home and sanitizing more than usual. The City of Bellevue created



at-home activity guides for youth in grades 3-5 and 6-12 on identifying safer household products, risks to look out for, and tips for poison-proofing their home and

daily routines. Bellevue School District schools are offering in-person classroom workshops each year on this topic to help students stay safe and to become savvy shoppers. Now students can engage in this topic at home, too! The guides are in both printable format and electronic versions that allow students to fill them out on a computer, tablet or smartphone. You can find the guides at this website: [bit.ly/2VrxdlG](https://bit.ly/2VrxdlG)

## Preventing elder abuse

The Bellevue Network on Aging would like to share with persons of all ages information about elder abuse. Elder abuse is present in our city, and as our population ages, elder abuse cases are increasing. Washington State Adult Protective Services received 19,401 reports of adult abuse in 2012, and the reports increased to 70,830 in 2019.



Elder abuse describes a range of behaviors, including physical abuse, financial exploitation, emotional abuse, confinement, passive neglect, willful deprivation, self-neglect and sexual abuse. Elder abuse occurs in private homes, in institutional settings (including nursing homes and assisted living facilities), and within businesses in the community. Elder abuse is often perpetrated by a known and trusted person, such as an adult child, grandchild or spouse. The National Council on Aging has reported that in almost 60% of elder abuse and neglect incidents, the perpetrator is a family member. <https://www.ncoa.org/public-policy-action/elder-justice/elder-abuse-facts/>. Because many seniors have suffered from an increase in social isolation during the COVID-19 response, an increased number of seniors are now even more vulnerable to elder abuse.



Unfortunately, elder abuse is underreported. A victim may not report abuse for varied reasons including inability to

report, fear of retaliation, concern that a report will send the abuser to jail or fear that reporting will lead to placement in a nursing home. Therefore, it is important for members of the community to report elder abuse. Signs of elder abuse include changes in banking or spending patterns, social withdrawal from friends and family, depression, agitation, confusion, unexplained bruises or scars, unexplained loss of weight, poor hygiene, lack of medical treatment or over-medication, and bedsores and other preventable conditions. [nia.nih.gov/health/infographics/spotting-signs-elder-abuse](https://nia.nih.gov/health/infographics/spotting-signs-elder-abuse)

The following King County website includes suggestions on what you can do to help prevent abuse of a vulnerable adult AND how to help protect yourself from abuse if you are a vulnerable adult. [kingcounty.gov/depts/sheriff/police-precincts/safety/seniors/](https://kingcounty.gov/depts/sheriff/police-precincts/safety/seniors/)

[elder-abuse.aspx](#). Washington's attorney general's website warns of scams frequently used to defraud seniors: [atg.wa.gov/senior-fraud](#)

**PLEASE REPORT ELDER ABUSE** To report abuse of a vulnerable adult, phone 877-734-6277. However, if you believe a crime has occurred or the person is in immediate danger, call 911.

## Neighborhood Tree Ambassadors creating self-guided tours

Over the last few months, Bellevue's Neighborhood Tree Ambassador volunteers have been working hard to create opportunities for community members to learn about the value and benefits of trees in Bellevue neighborhoods.



The Neighborhood Tree Ambassador program is a volunteer program in which Bellevue residents help to build community support for trees by creating walking tours of the trees in their neighborhoods. The tree ambassadors are currently developing self-guided tree tours for community members to download and use to learn more about the trees in their neighborhood while practicing social distancing. Once it becomes safe to plan group events, the ambassadors will be able to bring their self-guided tours to life by leading in-person neighborhood tree tours.

The tree ambassadors are creating tree tours for neighborhoods all over Bellevue, including Wilburton, Downtown, Northeast Bellevue and Crossroads. Their tours cover a diverse range of topics, including the role of trees in creating habitat for wildlife, lowering urban air temperature and contributing to public community spaces. While creating the tours, tree ambassadors have been researching and learning more about tree identification, Bellevue history and environmental justice.

Each of the tree ambassador volunteers are doing meaningful work to help create a healthy, connected and sustainable community while we're apart, and into the future. Stay tuned to learn more about how

to find tree tours in your neighborhood once the tree ambassadors finish and publish them.

For more information, visit [BellevueWA.gov/trees](#).

## Bellevue Environmental Stewardship Plan Update:

### What's next?

Bellevue's environmental stewardship staff have not been able to meet in person, but have been hard at work on the city's Environmental Stewardship Plan update. This updated plan includes goals and actions that will reduce Bellevue's carbon emissions, protect our natural systems and improve the city's resilience.

Throughout the spring, the team engaged Bellevue community members in several online outreach events, including a virtual town hall, a virtual Earth Week talk and online focus groups. Between March and May, over 600 community members shared feedback on potential actions for the plan through an online survey.

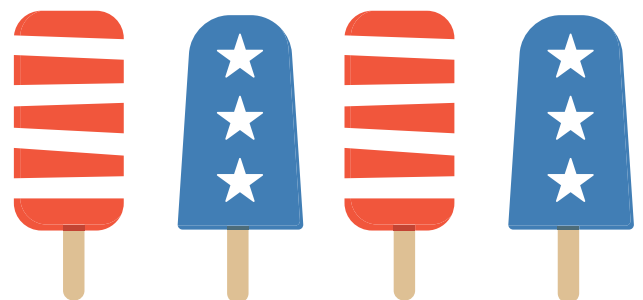
Now, we are incorporating community members' feedback as we begin putting together the draft Environmental Stewardship Plan, which will be released in the summer for public comment.

As directed by city council, the group will also engage with Bellevue's boards and commissions. In late June, staff presented at the Transportation Commission meeting. This month, staff will also present to the Environmental Services Commission and discuss potential waste and stormwater actions, and to the Planning Commission to discuss land use, trees and green building. Staff are working to schedule additional presentations to other boards and commissions and to city council later this summer and fall.

Upcoming board and commission dates:

- ◆ Environmental Services Commission – July 8
- ◆ Planning Commission – July 22
- ◆ City Council – to be determined

For updates, information, and opportunities to get involved in the process of updating the Environmental Stewardship Plan, visit [BellevueWA.gov/environment](#).



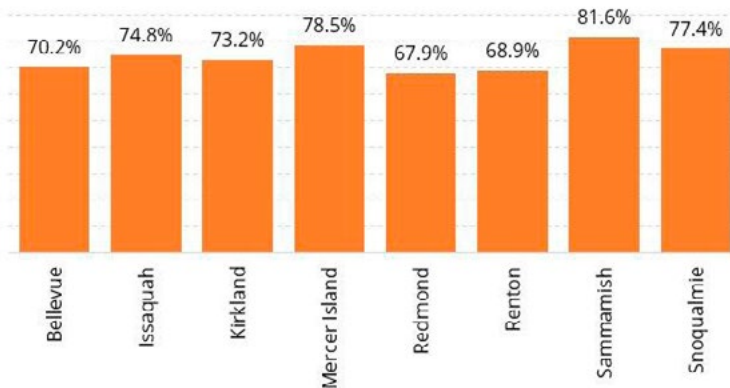
## Everyone belongs in the 2020 Census

You may have been born in Bellevue and plan to live here the rest of your life, or you may have just moved here, or you may plan to only live here for one year. Whatever your situation, YOU belong in Bellevue's 2020 Census! The 2020 Census is still underway, and you can respond now at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov) or call 844-330-2020.

As of June 18, just over 70 percent of residents in Bellevue's addresses had responded.

Some of the reasons for low response rates are complicated. Being new to a community or lacking a sense of permanency could contribute to feeling less connected to a community. This sense of not belonging shows up in many ways in a community and can have significant impacts on civic engagement activities, such as planning and policy development. In the census, the lack of permanency in a community can result in lower rates of participation in areas with high percentages of renters.

2020 Census Response Rates as of 6/18/2020



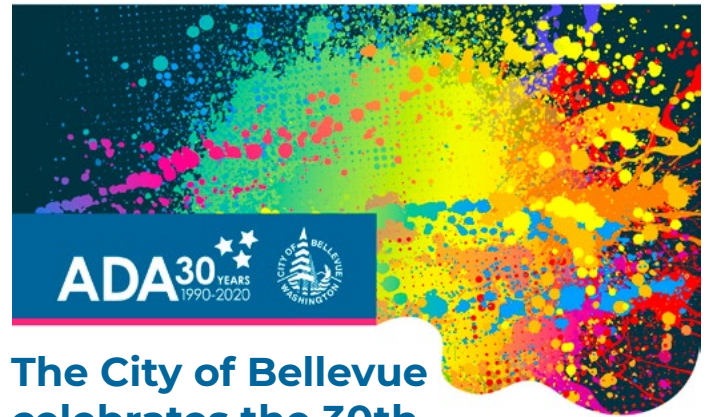
What are some ways that census data is used to promote belonging and inclusion? First, census data enable the city to look inward to assess and improve recruitment, retention and promotion practices within the organization, and to ensure that staff better reflect the dynamic diversity of people living in Bellevue.

Second, census data enable the city to expand and strengthen outreach strategies to new residents through cultural navigators and translators from underrepresented groups. For instance, this summer the Planning Division of Community Development is relaunching the Great Neighborhoods Program with specific goals to reach underrepresented groups. Staff

used census data to identify specific communities to actively seek out for involvement in the planning process.

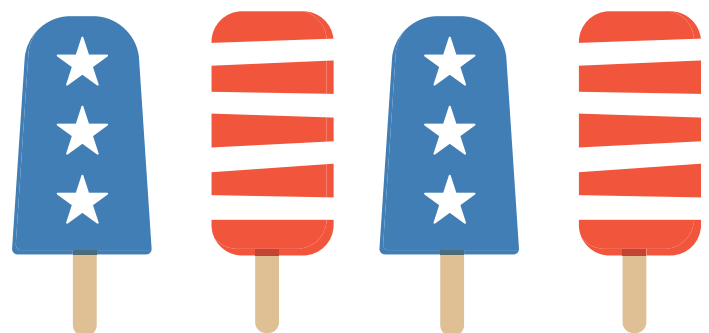
Finally, census data inform policy decisions, such as which outcomes to prioritize in the city budget, and which programs and investments to fund. Data help decision makers to consider actions that will universally improve conditions and outcomes for all residents, workers and visitors.

Everyone's voice belongs in these civic discussions - and in the data to ensure good outcomes for all. Please participate in the 2020 Census and help all residents feel like they belong, too!



## The City of Bellevue celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act!

On July 26, 2020, the City of Bellevue and the nation celebrates 30 years of progress toward equity and accessibility through the Americans with Disabilities Act. This law ensures the civil rights of people with disabilities and establishes a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities. This historic legislation reflects Bellevue's dedication to securing the equal rights and defending the intrinsic dignity of all residents. The city is currently working hard to create a web page which will showcase some of the ways that each department works to include, honor and celebrate the contributions and involvement of people with disabilities in our community. Watch our website and social media this month for more information!





## Green Genius partnership of Bellevue School District and Bellevue Utilities wins statewide award

The Washington State Recycling Association (WSRA) has awarded the 2020 Youth Education Recycler of the Year recognition for the second time to the Green



Genius program partnership. The program is a 17-year collaboration between BSD students, teachers and administrators and Bellevue Utilities. The program first won the award in 2016, and recognizing continued strides in conservation is being given the award again in 2020.

Through hands-on curriculum and tools, combined with districtwide policies and procedures, the program has helped BSD cut waste and improve recycling at all twenty-nine schools in the district. District procedures are regularly updated to reduce waste and then taught to Green Genius teams at each school, so that they can promote conservation to their school community.

A few of the outstanding 2019 achievements of this partnership include:

- ◆ A districtwide program requiring all schools to participate in annual resource conservation goals, including forming a Green Genius team and a waste-free lunch challenge.
- ◆ All schools use reusable or compostable lunch trays, and are beginning to phase out straws. Three schools now use reusable utensils.
- ◆ Nutrition Services switched from individually wrapped fruits and vegetables to serving with tongs at a salad bar.
- ◆ Staff and students are encouraged to take only what they will eat, while still fitting into federal nutrition guidelines with the "Pick 3" campaign.
- ◆ Ten schools donated unopened food to a local food bank. Approximately 24,000 pounds of food are donated each school year, which includes 35,260 cartons of milk.
- ◆ All schools sustained a recycling rate of 50% or higher, with twelve schools higher than 70%.

WSRA selects "Recycler of the Year" recipients based on criteria that include environmental benefit, commitment, economic benefit and transferability in a variety of categories. The Youth Education category awards those that meet that criteria, and show outstanding success in promoting youth involvement in recycling and waste prevention.

Part of the success of the "Green Genius" partnership is its longevity. Schools have sustained resource conservation efforts, and they continue to add more actions each year. The 2019 Cafeteria Challenge, the annual event that pits schools against each other to get closest to near-zero food waste, saw the highest levels of participation of all years. Through the long-term goal of shaping a culture of waste reduction, recycling and composting, young Green Geniuses are being trained to continue the work into the future.

Bellevue Utilities is pleased to celebrate the success of Bellevue School District's efforts, and all the students and faculty who have worked so hard to make these important strides in waste reduction.

## Busy summer road construction season continues

The city's road construction season is in high gear, with more than \$100 million worth of work on major projects, plus several smaller ones. Here's a summary of the large projects under way or about to start. More information is available through the Transportation Department homepage: [BellevueWA.gov/transportation](http://BellevueWA.gov/transportation).

- ◆ **124<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast:** Work is about 75% complete on the first of four sections of 124<sup>th</sup> to be improved, this one between Northeast Spring Boulevard and Ichigo Way in the BelRed area. Upgrades include widening the road, a bridge for a future light rail undercrossing, new sidewalks and traffic signal. The total project budget for this section is \$33 million and the project is on schedule to wrap up in fall 2020.
- ◆ **Northeast Spring Boulevard, 120<sup>th</sup> to 124<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast:** Spring is a new east-west street, also being built in the BelRed area. Work on the latest section of the project began in October 2019 and will finish up in late 2020. Once completed, it and two previously finished sections will open to traffic, connecting 116<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast to 124<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast. The budget for this segment is \$20 million.

*continued on next page*

*continued from previous page*

- ◆ **Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail:** The first phase of work to complete the regional trail through Bellevue will add a 12-foot pedestrian-bicycle path, a ped-bike bridge over Factoria Blvd, a tunnel under the I-405-to-eastbound-I-90 ramps and improvements to the eastbound I-90 to Factoria off-ramp. Construction started in October 2019 and is expected to be complete by the end of 2020. The budget is approximately \$17.7 million.
- ◆ **Southeast Newport Way:** Project improves safety for bicyclists and pedestrians by adding a multipurpose path and other improvements, from Somerset Boulevard Southeast to 150th Avenue Southeast. A 24/7 detour is in place for eastbound traffic. Construction began in April and completion is expected in November 2020. The budget is approximately \$10 million.
- ◆ **West Lake Sammamish Parkway Phase 2:** This is the second of five segments on WLSP slated for transportation upgrades. Improvements, from the Northeast 200 block to the Northeast 800 block, will include new pavement, a multiuse path 8-10 feet wide on the west side, landscaped buffer and four-foot shoulder on the east side. Roadway construction began in April and will be completed in summer 2021. The budget is \$10 million. A separate water main replacement project will be finished at the end of 2021.
- ◆ **Neighborhood Levy projects:** The 2016, voter-approved Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy generally consists of smaller projects and supplements existing safety, sidewalk, maintenance, traffic management and bicycle facilities programs. This year, 10 projects are scheduled for construction citywide. The Levy generates about \$7.4 million annually for planning, design and construction.
- ◆ **112th Avenue Northeast:** One of the biggest Levy projects this year will make pedestrian safety improvements on 112th Avenue Northeast, between Northeast 12th and Northeast 24th Street. Construction on the \$2.75 million project is expected to begin in fall 2020 and be complete by summer 2021.
- ◆ **Pavement Preservation Program:** The annual maintenance program to repave a portion of city streets is based on a citywide road condition survey. This year's work calls for repaving approximately 29 lane miles in north Bellevue, Vuecrest and Lake Hills neighborhoods (including

some locations carried over from 2019 program). Work will conclude in the fall. The contract for the 2020 repaving only is \$3.79 million.

To find out about traffic impacts due to construction, check the city's Traffic Advisories web page:

[BellevueWA.gov/trafficadvisories](https://BellevueWA.gov/trafficadvisories)



## City begins south downtown I-405 access study

With ongoing congestion on Interstate 405 through downtown Bellevue and more growth expected, the city is studying how to improve I-405 access to and from the south with a new interchange between Northeast Second and Southeast Eighth streets.

Nearly 20 years ago, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) adopted a [master plan](https://wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I405/I405MasterPlan.htm) ([wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I405/I405MasterPlan.htm](https://wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I405/I405MasterPlan.htm)) for the I-405 corridor that envisioned mobility improvements to the entire corridor, as well as the worst chokepoints in Bellevue, Bothell, Kirkland and Renton.

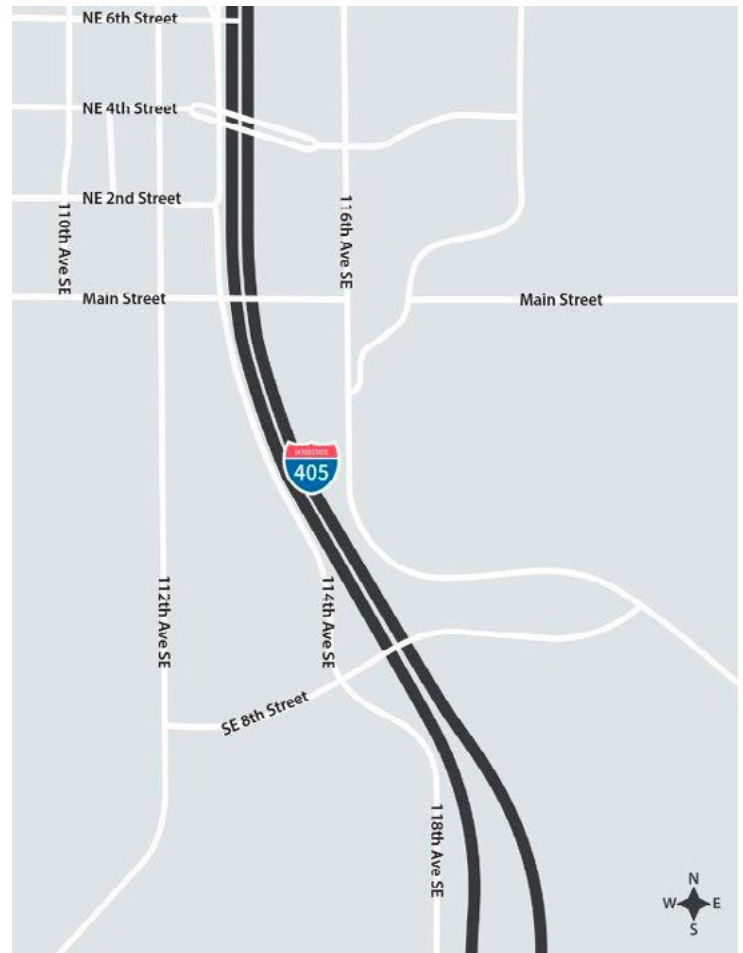
WSDOT's master plan identified a new half-diamond interchange in the vicinity of Northeast Second Street to improve vehicle access to and from the south.



With planned development along 114th Avenue Northeast, a new East Main light rail station opening in 2023 and more growth expected in Downtown and in the Wilburton area, the city's Transportation Department, in partnership with WSDOT, is taking a closer look at the interchange concept. A new study underway will analyze and identify location and configuration for the interchange. A "no build" alternative will also be considered as part of the study.

Online open houses will be held in August and in November to collect community input on the preliminary alternatives on the way to selecting a preferred alternative. Background information can be found at [BellevueWA.gov/transportation](https://BellevueWA.gov/transportation).

Results of the study will position the city for potential project funding by the state legislature. Study findings and community feedback will be presented to the City Council in late fall.



# CELEBRATE THE 4TH OF JULY

*without fireworks!*



STREAM A NATIONAL FIREWORKS SHOW

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT WITH GLOW STICKS

BE CREATIVE WITH SCIENCE, ARTS & CRAFTS

GET SILLY WITH SILLY STRING

HAVE FUN SAFELY





## Boards and Commissions Meetings

As of April 1, no meetings are taking place at City Hall. Stay updated on meetings and cancellations: [BellevueWA.gov](http://BellevueWA.gov)

All meetings are conducted at City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. If a holiday occurs on a Monday, please check the updated calendar. Agendas can be downloaded from the city's web pages listed below. Meeting alerts are available through subscribing to the City's Special Meeting Notices page. [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/special-meeting-notice](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/special-meeting-notice)

### Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network

(6 p.m., Bellevue City Hall) Last Tuesday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-managers-office/diversity/bellevue-diversity-advisory-network](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-managers-office/diversity/bellevue-diversity-advisory-network)

**East Bellevue Community Council** (6:30 p.m., Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd) First Tuesday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/east-bellevue-community-council](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/east-bellevue-community-council)

### Arts Commission

(4:30 p.m., 1E-109) First Tuesday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/arts-and-culture/arts-commission](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/arts-and-culture/arts-commission)

### Environmental Services Commission

(6:30 p.m., 1E-113) First Thursday of each month [Utilities.BellevueWA.gov/conservation-and-the-environment/environmental-services-commission](http://Utilities.BellevueWA.gov/conservation-and-the-environment/environmental-services-commission)

**Planning Commission** (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second and fourth Wednesday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/planning-commission](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/planning-commission)

**Transportation Commission** (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second Thursday of each month with fourth Thursday as needed. [BellevueWA.gov/planning/transportation-commission](http://BellevueWA.gov/planning/transportation-commission)

### Human Services Commission

(6 p.m., 1E-113) First and third Tuesday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/human-services-commission](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/human-services-commission)

### LEOFF 1 Disability Board

(6 p.m., Room 1E-118) First Tuesday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/human-resources/retirees-former-employees/leoff-1-disability-board](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/human-resources/retirees-former-employees/leoff-1-disability-board)

**Library Board** (5p.m., Lake Hills, Bellevue or Newport Way Library) Third Tuesday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/library-board](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/library-board)

### Parks & Community Services Board

(6 p.m., 1E-113) Second Tuesday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/parks-and-community-services-board](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/parks-and-community-services-board)

**The Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA)** 8:30 a.m., North Bellevue Community Center 4063 148th Ave NE, Bellevue) First Thursday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/bnoa](http://BellevueWA.gov/bnoa)

**Special Events Committee** (8:30 a.m., 1E-112) Second Thursday of each month [Parks.BellevueWA.gov/special-events/special-events-committee](http://Parks.BellevueWA.gov/special-events/special-events-committee)

### Youth Link Board

(6 p.m., 1E-120) Second Wednesday of each month [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/youth-link-board](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/youth-link-board)

*Bellevue's Neighborhood Services Division offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, please visit our website at: [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/neighborhoods](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/neighborhoods) or call 425-452-6836 or email: [neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov). To subscribe to this newsletter, visit: [BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news](http://BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news)*

## City Council [Bellevue.Legistar.com/Calendar.aspx](http://Bellevue.Legistar.com/Calendar.aspx)

Day	Scheduled Meeting(s)	Location	Public Comment Opportunity
First and third Mondays except in August and December	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications
Second and fourth Mondays except in August and December	6-10 p.m., Extended Study Session	Council Conference Room	6 p.m., Oral Communications
August – first Monday only	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications
December – first and second Mondays only	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications