



Neighborhood News



July 2022

Annual celebration finishes with fireworks at Downtown Park

Monday, July 4, 5-10:40 p.m.

Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th St.

Celebrate our nation's birthday at the Bellevue Family 4th, the Eastside's largest celebration!


Enjoying the festivities

The Bellevue Family 4th, presented by the Bellevue Collection, features live music, family entertainment and fireworks set to live music by the Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra at 10:05 p.m.



The Amazon Entertainment Plaza will feature live country music by The Lowdown Drifters at 5 p.m. and the Nines (dance) at 7 p.m. The Family Fun Zone will offer family entertainment and a kids area starting at 5 p.m.

To set the stage for the fireworks at 10:05 p.m., Bellevue Fire Department's Honor Guard will present the colors followed by a performance of the National Anthem by Highland Middle School Choir.

 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. For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice) or email ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov. If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.

Getting there and back

Several streets will be closed to vehicle traffic near the park for safety and to minimize delays. Please be patient, observe posted signs and obey police officers directing traffic. Street parking on nearby residential streets is prohibited; violators may be towed.



For a full list of street closures before and after the event, please visit BellevueWA.gov/traffic-advisories and click on the "Fourth of July Advisories" heading.

Visitors are encouraged to walk, bike, take the bus or carpool to the event.

Masks are not required for the event, but participants are welcome to wear one based on their comfort level. For more information on COVID-19 prevention, safety and reduction resources, including where to get vaccinated, visit kingcounty.gov/covid.

Celebrate safely!

Bellevue Fire Department reminds everyone that personal fireworks are banned in the City of Bellevue. It's not because we enjoy being the spoilers of fun. In fact, it's quite the opposite! In 2020, over 240 people sustained serious injuries from fireworks, and two people lost their lives. We

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believe that's 242 more people than necessary. And those numbers are the antithesis to fun.

So how can you have fun on July 4th without consumer fireworks? Easy! The safest alternative with the most bang is to attend a professional display. There are many being held in the region, including the long standing Bellevue Family 4th at Downtown Park. However, if crowds aren't your thing, there are many more options for safely enjoying the holiday. Gather your friends and family for themed celebrations, replace fireworks with bubbles, noise makers, glow sticks or confetti poppers, or create new traditions through food and music!

If you still feel the pull to get your hands on fireworks, please do your research as to where you can safely and legally do so. As of 2022, consumer fireworks, and the sales thereof, are illegal in all of King County, including the unincorporated pockets that historically allowed their use.

We hope you have a fun, memorable and safe holiday! The Bellevue Fire Department reminds residents and visitors that the sale, use or possession of fireworks is prohibited within the City of Bellevue. Personal fireworks, alcohol and drugs are not allowed at Bellevue Downtown Park. In addition, grills, barbecues, camp stoves and other cooking devices are prohibited.

"Bridges to Seeing" free art workshops

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street.

Meet at the entrance waterfall.

Plan to attend free workshops co-taught by artist Coco Allred and local garden stewards, and deepen your observation skills and plant knowledge to bring more joy and awareness to your next garden visit!

"Bridges to Seeing: Less is More"

Wednesday, July 27, 5-7 p.m.

Registration: [Eventbrite.com/e/376726427887](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/376726427887)

We will use observation to create seemingly abstract images by focusing on the shadows, contour, and negative space found in the garden. We will set up along the garden path to draw from

observation, explore shapes, and work with a range of drawing materials in a series of guided drawing prompts ranging from 30 seconds long to 20 minutes.



"Bridges to Seeing: Ferns and Foliage"

Saturday, July 30, 10 a.m.-Noon

Registration: [Eventbrite.com/e/376734863117](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/376734863117)

You will create drawings inspired by Ellsworth Kelly's plant drawings and explore silhouette, color, and line. In this class, we will learn from local stewards of the garden about the native plants and the process of cultivating this space. We will set up along the garden path to pick clippings, draw from observation, trace leaves, color match to find the perfect green, and explore shapes!

"Bridges to Seeing: Native Plants"

Saturday, Aug. 6, 10 a.m.-Noon

Registration: [Eventbrite.com/e/376759607127](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/376759607127)

Gather in a Native Plant Garden to create drawings inspired by Ellsworth Kelly's plant drawings and explore overlapping shapes, movement and gesture. In this class, we will learn from local stewards of the garden about the native plants and the process of cultivating this space. We will set up along the garden path to pick clippings, draw from observation, trace leaves, color match, and explore shapes! Come ready to explore and try out new ways of seeing in a series of quick drawing exercises.

Attention Newport residents: Your vote matters!

Submit your ballot for your top three project choices by July 22.

Tell us which projects you'd like to see funded with the \$282,000 in available funds that the city has allocated for your neighborhood area.



A new bench at Newport Hills Mini Park? Newport Hills Property Forest Enhancement? New Pedestrian-Activated Crosswalk Flashing Systems at 119th Ave SE and SE 58th St, SE 60th St and 123rd Ave SE or the intersection of SE 60th St and 120th Ave SE? A Stationary Radar Feedback Sign at SE 60th Street east of 128th Avenue SE? Streetlight Enhancements on various streets north of SE 52nd St in Newport Hills? A new bike rack and bench relocation at SE 40th St Boat Launch? A sidewalk at north side of SE 60th St between 128th Ave SE and Coal Creek trailhead? Streetlights along 120th Ave SE Streetlights in Greenwich Crest?

To make sure your vote counts, simply return the postage-paid ballot included inside the voter's pamphlet that each Newport Area 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 for first choice, two for second, and one for third. Responses will be tabulated with the highest-scoring projects receiving funding.

Project specifics and a map showing the project locations for the ten Newport NEP projects can be found on the City of Bellevue's NEP website in the Newport Neighborhood Area section at BellevueWA.gov/nep

Ballots must be postmarked by Friday, July 22, to be included in the voting process. Remember to include your address, and for those in multiple housing units, your apartment/condo number must be included as well, for your vote to be counted.

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 2022, NEP is available in the Newport and Somerset neighborhood areas.



Please contact Theresa Cuthill at tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov with questions. Detailed program information can be found at BellevueWA.gov/nep.

Bellevue Essentials

Bellevue Essentials

applications due by 5 p.m., July 27

Do you want to learn how Bellevue city government really works? Perhaps you are interested in how the city was shaped by history, demographics and our changing diversity? Then the City of Bellevue's annual civic engagement program may be just what you are looking for.

Bellevue Essentials provides a 10-week introduction to civic leadership. The transformational program highlights the values, structure and daily operations of Bellevue's city government. Participants will learn about Bellevue through presentations, interactive experiences and engaging tours. A cohort of 35 students will meet every Wednesday night beginning Sept. 28 through Dec. 7.



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Full program information and application can be found at BellevueWA.gov/bellevue-essentials

Applications for the 2022 class are due July 27. For more information, contact Julie Ellenhorn, jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5372.

Check out this preview video to hear what Bellevue Essentials grads say about the program: <https://youtu.be/cGdHBmWGSaY>



Bellevue City Council passes permit requirement for residents looking to remove “Landmark Trees”

Bellevue will soon begin updating the city’s code provisions related to trees, and community stakeholders have expressed interest in strengthening regulations for



removing large trees. Until recently, a permit was only required if a resident wanted to remove more than five trees at least eight inches in diameter within any three-year period. Property owners removing fewer than five trees, even those larger than eight inches in diameter, could do so without review or approval by the city.

On June 21, the City Council passed an interim ordinance defining “Landmark Trees” as any trees at least 24 inches in diameter, or a circumference of more than 75 inches, and taller than 20 feet. Property owners must now obtain a clearing and grading permit to remove any Landmark Tree.

This interim ordinance will be replaced when the city updates its code provisions related to trees next year. The process to update the tree code provisions will launch later this summer.

To learn how to apply for a tree removal permit, visit Bellevuewa.gov/tree-removal.

For more information on future updates to tree code provisions, email kgallant@bellevuewa.gov or call 425-452-6196.



2022 Neighborhood Walks

For the sixth summer, City Manager Brad Miyake and city department directors are coming to neighborhoods to visit and walk with residents. Residents have an opportunity to visit in-person with city staff, and to share thoughts on the neighborhood’s character and emerging concerns.

You can come and visit at the gathering point, even if you don’t plan to walk the route!

Questions? Please contact Mark Heilman at mheilman@bellevuewa.gov.

2022 Schedule:

Eastgate Neighborhood Walk

Thursday, July 7, 6:30-8 p.m.

Gathering at Aldersgate Methodist Church parking lot
14230 SE Newport Way

Wilburton Neighborhood Walk

Tuesday, July 12, 6:30-8 p.m.

Gathering at Wilburton Hill Park
12400 Main Street

Bridle Trails Neighborhood Walk

Tuesday, July 19, 6:30-8 p.m.

Gathering at Cherry Crest Mini Park
2532 127th Ave NE

Lake Hills Neighborhood Walk

Wednesday, July 20, 6:30-8 p.m.

Gathering at Evergreen Park
15655 Lake Hills Blvd



Eco Fridays and Stewardship Saturdays

Group and individual volunteers needed!

Bellevue Parks & Community Services regularly hosts volunteers, and community volunteer projects are hosted at park sites throughout the city and give residents a chance to have a hand in maintaining the beauty of their city.



Volunteer events provide a unique opportunity for businesses, groups, families and individuals to participate in the stewardship and care of Bellevue's Parks & Open Space System. In city parks, volunteers plant trees and shrubs, renovate hiking trails and remove noxious weeds.

Volunteers can sign up individually or on behalf of their group. Drop-in and unregistered guests will not be able to participate. For groups, it's recommended that each volunteer registers individually so that they can get an automated confirmation and reminder email with details, such as what to bring and a map.

For more information, go to: BellevueWA.gov, and search for "Eco Fridays" or "Stewardship Saturdays."

We hope to see you at a Bellevue Parks project soon!

Tree Giveaway Program applications are now open!

The Tree Giveaway Program makes tree planting easier and more accessible for residents, businesses and property owners in Bellevue, and helps advance the city's tree canopy goals.

The program was created to encourage planting in the community and support the city's goals of achieving 40% tree canopy over Bellevue's land area and planting 75,000 trees by 2050. To meet these goals, it is estimated that every household will need to plant a tree; this program supports the community in doing just that. This year, the

City of Bellevue and its partners will be giving away 1,000 trees at a giveaway event the weekend of Oct. 22.

Bellevue residents have until Aug. 31 to apply for up to two free trees. Applicants will be notified if they will be receiving a tree in early September, and how to reserve a pick-up time for their tree. We will have program materials available in English, Spanish and Simplified Chinese available.

For more information and to apply, go to: BellevueWA.gov, and search for "Tree Giveaway."

If you have any questions, email us at trees@bellevuewa.gov and consider signing up for our newsletter to receive updates.



Bellevue Airfield Park Master Plan Virtual Update

Tuesday, July 26, 6:30-8 p.m.

The Bellevue Parks & Community Services Design and Planning team invites you to join us for the first Virtual Public Outreach Meeting for the Bellevue Airfield Park Master Plan Update!

We'll share information on Bellevue's park master planning process and discuss ideas for development of the new park. Everyone's participation is invited to help explore possibilities for the future Bellevue Airfield Park.

For the Zoom meeting access code and general Information on the project, please go to the Airfield Park website at Bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/parks/planning-and-development/current-projects/bellevue-airfield-park. For general questions or to provide project comments, please contact project manager Ken Kroeger at 425-452-4624 or kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Comp Plan Corner

Wrapping Up Engagement for Phase 1

By Brooke Brod, Community Development Department



Phase 1 of community engagement for the latest update to Bellevue’s Comprehensive Plan began in February and continued through mid-May. Engagement goals included informing the public about the periodic update, educating people on the purpose and importance of the Comprehensive Plan and gathering input on the city’s existing vision and identification of strengths and challenges. The planning team used a variety of techniques to reach as broad an audience as possible.

Through mailed and online questionnaires, community tabling events, presentations to neighborhood groups, high school workshops, the Bellevue 2044 in-person open house and two virtual events, over 3,000 people shared their thoughts about the future of Bellevue.

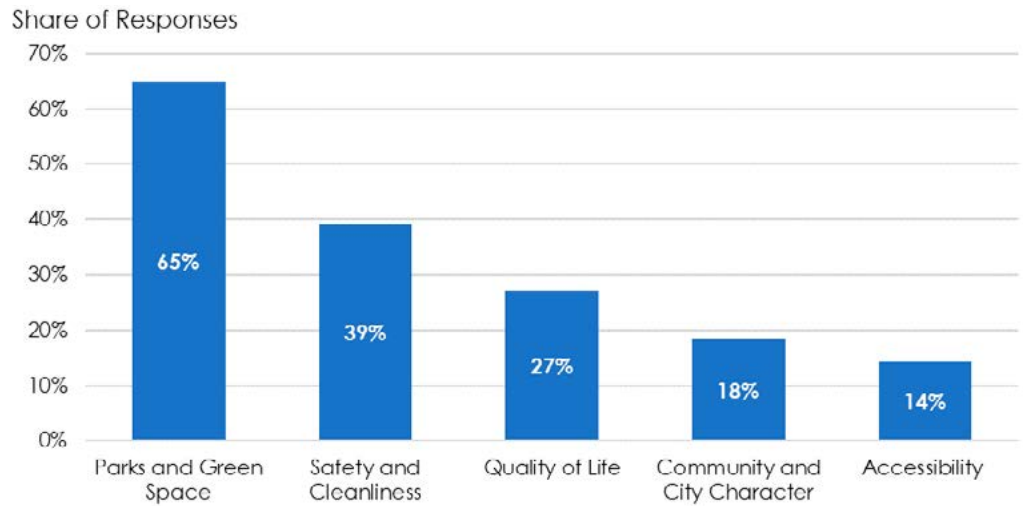
By far, the city attribute that people ranked highest in value is the parks, trees, and green spaces. People appreciate the formal parks that offer recreation and an opportunity to enjoy nature as well as the “city in a park” feel that the many street and neighborhood trees provide. Other major themes mentioned in the responses were safety and cleanliness, quality of life, sense of community and convenient access to jobs, services and other amenities.

1. “What is something you love about Bellevue that you want future generations to enjoy?”

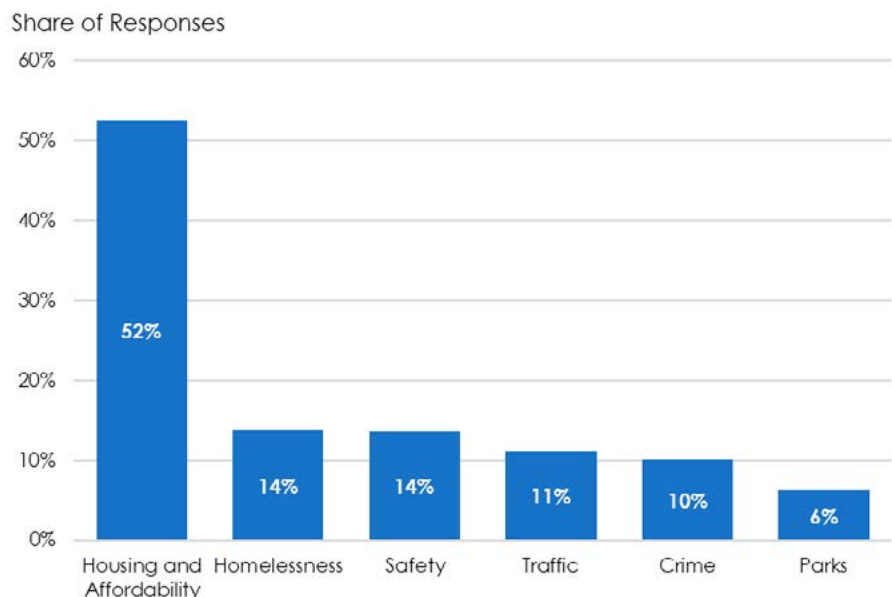
The top concern of community members is housing. Comments called for more affordable housing and more housing options, especially for low- and middle-income households, seniors, service industry workers and young people who are just starting out. Other concerns raised were the need to address homelessness, traffic, pedestrian and cyclist safety, crime and the impacts of growth on trees and open space.

2. “What is the most important challenge Bellevue should address to make sure future generations can thrive?”

Phase 2 of engagement will dig deeper into these issues with a series of Community Deep Dive



1. Source: City of Bellevue Vision Questionnaire, 2022; Community Attributes, 2022.



2. Source: City of Bellevue Vision Questionnaire, 2022; Community Attributes, 2022.

events. At these in-person workshops attendees will get to review data, ask questions and engage in small group discussion.

- **Thursday, July 14: Sustainability.** How can we reduce emissions and ensure people have access to open space in the city?
- **Wednesday, Aug. 3: Places and Spaces.** How can create great places for social and civic connection?
- **Wednesday, Aug. 24: Access & Connection.** How can we ensure people can get to work, shops, cafes, and other amenities close to home?
- **Thursday, Sept. 15: Housing.** How can we provide housing that meets the needs of people at all stages of life and income levels?

Each session will take place at Bellevue City Hall. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for a self-paced review of data and the workshop will begin at 6 p.m. People can register at bellevue-2044-community-deep-dives.eventbrite.com.

Bellevue is growing, and over the next 20 years, the Puget Sound region is expected to add 1.8 million people. The Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update is the how the city prepares for this growth. Updates happen approximately every ten years and provide the community with an opportunity to look holistically at issues including housing, transportation, parks, land use and more. People can learn more and sign up for updates at engagingbellevue.com/bellevue-2044.



Bellevue Network on Aging

On Thursday, Aug. 4, meet Bellevue Network on Aging volunteers at Bellevue Farmers Market, 1717 Bellevue

Way NE! They look forward to talking with you about community issues from 3-7 p.m.



There will be games, vouchers and music. Don't miss the fun!

What is a Long-term Care Ombudsman?

waombudsman.org

Contact WLTCO:

ltcop@mschelps.org, or 800-562-6028

The Washington state Long-term Care Ombudsman Program is an independent organization that advocates for the rights of residents living in long-term care homes, including skilled-nursing facilities, assisted living facilities and adult family homes.

It's been more than two years since the COVID-19 outbreak began. No population was more harmed by the pandemic than residents and staff of long-term care facilities. Residents of long-term care homes continue to be subject to a twin pandemic of COVID-19 infection and prolonged isolation, which is causing declines in physical, cognitive and emotional health and even death. Visitation from family, friends and independent advocates like volunteer ombuds literally saves lives, and is critical to honoring residents' rights to autonomy, quality care and dignity. Ombuds is a Swedish word meaning "to advocate for another." In Washington, we use the terminology "ombuds."

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The program depends on local citizen volunteers in every community who are trained to visit, resolve complaints and advocate for the rights of residents. Ombuds are trained and certified to identify and address potential neglect, abuse, improper eviction or retaliation that residents may be experiencing, and ensure their right to quality care and visitation is protected. Volunteers check on residents to see how they are doing and if they have concerns, questions or needs. Ombuds serve as the voice for residents who frequently don't have an advocate.

Ombuds resolve over 90% of the complaints received, reduce the need for costly government or legal interventions, and provide critical support to ensure the quality of care and that the legal rights of residents are being upheld.

Common violations of resident rights and complaints that ombuds address include:

- Involuntary discharge or eviction
- Lack of personal dignity and respect
- Slow or no response to request for assistance
- Issues with medications
- Issues related to hygiene
- Civil rights and billing issues

During the pandemic, the Ombudsman Program delivered 1,060 electronic tablets to adult family homes across the state for residents to have virtual visits with loved ones, entertainment and online consultations with doctors. Volunteers personally wrote and delivered thousands of postcards to residents to let them know we're still there for them.

Pamela Williams, King County Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman, reflected on the critical role of program volunteers: "I saw firsthand the meaning of dedication and understanding from volunteers working with vulnerable adults in long-term care. The thoughtfulness and passion from our volunteers help to ensure quality care for seniors living in long-term care facilities. Our volunteers give the gift of compassion and concern for a special slice of humanity."

Now with protective measures in place, the Washington State LTC Ombudsman Program has an urgent need for volunteers in every community. Ombuds volunteers genuinely enjoy

their work, and report that one of the things they like best about their role is the social connections they make with other volunteers and folks in their community.

Main Street Bridge closed for five months

The state Department of Transportation closed Main Street between 112th and 116th Avenues Northeast on June 13 in preparation for the replacement of the Main Street Bridge. The bridge was demolished over the weekend of June 18-19.

The principal detour for Main Street is on Northeast Fourth Street. Main Street across I-405 is closed for approximately five months while crews build the new bridge, which will feature a multipurpose path for people who walk and roll. The full closure of Main Street will be followed by a 60-day stretch when one lane is open in each direction. The Main Street connector to 114th Avenue Northeast will be permanently closed to vehicles after the completion of the project.

This project is part of WSDOT's I-405 Renton-to-Bellevue Widening and Express Toll Lanes project. The new bridge will span the new, wider I-405.

More about the Main Street bridge replacement and all WSDOT closures on I-405 is at [WSDOT.wa.gov/I405Widening](https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/I405Widening). Get the latest information on street closures citywide at [BellevueWA.gov/traffiadvisories](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/traffiadvisories) or follow us on Twitter [@bvuetrans](https://twitter.com/bvuetrans).



City's Implementation Plan wins award from PSRC!

The City of Bellevue's Mobility Implementation Plan (MIP) was awarded the VISION 2050 - Planning Ahead Award from the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) at the General Assembly in May. This award celebrates progress to enhance the region's communities and natural environment while advancing equity and opportunity for all.

Council adopted the MIP on April 18 on the recommendation from the Transportation Commission. The MIP is a long-range planning framework that was developed with public input. It has four main goals:

- Improve Safety
- Consider Equity
- Support Growth
- Improve Access and Mobility

The plan uses a new approach to accommodate anticipated growth called "multimodal concurrency." This replaces the former "vehicle level-of-service" standard, based solely on vehicle capacity at specified intersections, to include other transportation modes. Multimodal concurrency considers additional modes of travel, such as transit, bicycling and walking. It is meant to ensure the "supply" of mobility provided by all modes of travel is adequate to support the forecasted "demand" spurred by new development. The expected community benefit of this multimodal approach would be a more equitable, sustainable way to identify, prioritize and fund transportation system projects.

You can read more about the Mobility Implementation Plan at BellevueWA.gov/mobility-plan.



Boards and Commissions Meetings

Stay updated on meetings and cancellations:
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

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

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

Environmental Services Commission

(6:30 p.m., 1E-113) First Thursday of each month
BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/utilities/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

Transportation Commission

(6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second Thursday of each month with fourth Thursday as needed.
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

LEOFF 1 Disability Board (6 p.m., Room 1E-118) First Wednesday of each month 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

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

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

Special Events Committee (8:30 a.m., 1E-112) Second Thursday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/special-events-committee

Youth Link Board (6 p.m., 1E-120)

Second and fourth Wednesday of each month 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 or call 425-452-6836 or email: neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov.

To subscribe to this newsletter, visit: BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news

City Council Bellevue.Legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Day	Scheduled Meeting(s)	Location	Public Comment Opportunity
First four Mondays of each Month, except August and December	6 p.m. Regular Meeting	Council Chamber Bellevue TV channel 21 and BTV YouTube channel youtube.com/user/BellevueWashington	Emails to Council are accepted at council@bellevuewa.gov at any time. Further opportunities for public comment are published on each Council agenda and can be found at bellevue.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx
August – first Monday only			
December – first and second Mondays only			