



Neighborhood News



December 2022

Snowflake Lane features nightly performances through Dec. 24

Bellevue's holiday events season returns with nightly performances at the popular Snowflake Lane (BellevueCollection.com/snowflakelane), Nov. 25-Dec. 24. The parade starts at 7 p.m. each evening.



Additional holiday activities include:

- Garden d'Lights at Bellevue Botanical Garden (Nov. 26-Dec. 31)
- Downtown Ice Rink presented by Symetra, at Downtown Park (Nov. 18-Jan. 8)
- Holiday performances at the Meydenbauer Center Theatre (Nov. 25-Dec. 23)

Please walk, roll, drive and take transit safely this holiday season, and allow extra travel time to reach your destination. In the downtown



area, watch for pedestrians in crosswalks and driveways, especially near construction zones.


Also, consider using other modes of transportation when heading downtown. Information about transportation options is available at ChooseYourWayBellevue.org.

Keep updated on traffic impacts by checking BellevueWA.gov/traffic-advisories, updated weekly, and [Twitter.com/bvuetrans](https://twitter.com/bvuetrans).

Snowflake Lane will require the following nightly street closures:

- Bellevue Way Northeast, from Northeast Fourth Street to Northeast Eighth Street, 6:30-7:45 p.m.
- Northeast Sixth Street, from 105th Avenue Northeast to Bellevue Way Northeast, 6-7:45 p.m.

During the closures on Bellevue Way, visitors to the Bellevue Arts Museum may park in the underground parking at Lincoln Square North (Westin Hotel) and Lincoln Square South (W Hotel). Both garages are accessible from 105th Avenue Northeast.

 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.

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BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news

“Sharing New Year Traditions from Around the World”

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 1-2:30 p.m.

Crossroads Community Center
16000 NE 10th St.

As we anticipate a fresh start with a new year, traditions may follow the Jan. 1 Western calendar celebration, phases of the moon where calendar dates vary, or a blend of other traditions. Included in the program will be a preview of the lunar New Year, which will be celebrated on Jan. 22. The holiday is widely celebrated by many Asian countries and in communities around the globe, including here in Bellevue.

Following the presentation, enjoy tea, cultural treats and conversation as you share your own traditions and memories of past new year’s celebrations.

As this meeting is in-person, we will continue to honor your safety preferences during the COVID-19 pandemic; masks will be available.

Cultural Conversations, entering its 13th season, has transformed relationships and perspectives among diverse women in our community through education and storytelling.

For more information, accommodation needs and to register, please contact neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6836. Parking is available in front of the community center; the overflow lot is off Northeast Eighth Street beside the fire station. Walk-off parking is not permitted at the nearby Crossroads Shopping Mall.



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-6917 (voice) or email cross@bellevuewa.gov. For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/ Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice). If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.

Bellevue Essentials

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF IMPACT



Bellevue Essentials 10th Anniversary celebration

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m.

City Hall

Don’t miss the Bellevue Essentials 10th anniversary, celebrating a decade of community impact.

Keynote speaker for the event is Gary Locke, former governor and interim president of Bellevue College.

We will honor the Bellevue Essentials 2022 graduates and finish the evening with a festive appetizer and dessert reception with live music.

Reservations are required at [BE10thAnniversary.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bellevue-essentials-10th-anniversary).

NEP UPDATES

Somerset chooses removal of invasive vegetation from greenbelts for NEP funding

Thanks to all Somerset neighbors who participated in the Neighborhood Enhancement Program over the past several months. The program kicked off in April, with the city receiving



136 resident-identified project ideas for how to spend the \$217,000 budget allocated for the Somerset neighborhood area.

City staff reviewed each of the submitted project ideas for accessibility, feasibility, cost, timeline and maintainability, and, in September, presented 11 projects on the ballot for consideration. One project – removal of invasive vegetation from Somerset greenbelts – took the most votes.

The project will focus on removal of blackberry and ivy from city-managed greenbelts in Somerset, including Somerset Park, Forest Park open space, Forest Park Meadows open space, Eastgate Park, Westwood Highlands open space and areas in the Coal Creek Natural Area.

The work will include grubbing blackberry and ivy from the forest floor and removal of ivy growing up native trees and other non-native invasive weeds as they are encountered. City staff will plant native trees and shrubs and water and otherwise maintain them until they are established and self-sustainable.

NEP is a city-funded, capital improvements program that allows residents to propose and select small-scale projects that improve the quality of life and enhance the character of their neighborhood.

The current \$5 million allocation NEP has now been distributed over the past seven years among Bellevue's 14 neighborhood areas, based on the number of households in each area. NEP rotates through two neighborhood areas per year.

In 2023 a new seven-year NEP cycle will begin, with funding available to the Eastgate/Factoria and Cougar Mountain/Lakemont neighborhood areas first. Eastgate/Factoria will kick off in late January with a virtual public meeting. Look for NEP to come to Cougar Mountain/Lakemont in early April.

To find out which neighborhood area is yours, please visit BellevueWA.gov/nep.

NEP Project Spotlight: Phantom Lake Wetlands Improvements

Residents in the Lake Hills neighborhood will now enjoy improved wetlands near Phantom Lake Park with the restoration of roughly two



acres of wetland buffer around the lake. Invasive plants were removed, and native conifer trees and shrubs were added, which will improve water quality and wildlife habitat. Area residents voted for this project in 2019. Thanks to Bellevue Parks managers Jammie Kingham and Rick Bailey for bringing this project to completion.



Save the Date: Annual MLK Celebration and Health Fair

The city is working with partners, including the Bellevue alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, to develop an engaging, informative and entertaining program for Martin Luther King Jr. Day in January.

The 2023 Virtual MLK Celebration and Health Fair will take place on Monday, Jan. 16, 10-11:30 a.m. The program theme this year is reinvesting in health, highlighting the importance of a holistic approach and concerted investment in personal wellbeing, so you can maintain overall health, enjoy life and effectively serve your community. As always, the teachings of the Rev. King will be a prominent focus of the program, and content is expected to include a panel discussion, youth

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involvement, entertainment, presentations and resources for health screenings.

Check out BellevueWA.gov/mlk-health-fair after Dec. 15 to find registration information and more detail on this year's program as it is confirmed.

Weigh in on draft emergency water supply plan

The city is working on a master plan to reduce impacts to water service after a severe earthquake. A draft plan has been developed, and residents and businesses are invited to weigh in as part of the State Environmental Policy Act review.

Why is plan needed?

Bellevue's water system and regional water supplies are vulnerable to severe earthquakes. Studies predict most customers would have no water service for up to three months while the system is repaired.

The master plan sets goals and recommendations to improve system resilience and reduce disruption. Recommendations include

continuing existing programs such as water main replacement and adding facilities such as emergency wells.

What has been done so far?

A customer survey was conducted in 2021 to inform the plan. Survey results are included in the draft plan. City staff also regularly engaged the Environmental Services Commission in public meetings during plan development.

View the draft Master Plan and provide feedback.

The draft Master Plan is available at BellevueWA.gov/emergency-water-plan. To comment on the plan, see the Weekly Permit Bulletin (BellevueWA.gov/permit-bulletin). Comments will be collected through early January.



**EMERGENCY
WATER SUPPLY
MASTER PLAN**
2022
Draft

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
WASHINGTON**

Prepare for winter weather

Colder temperatures have arrived, and with the official start of winter only a few weeks away. Are you and your household prepared? The city's Transportation Department has been fully prepared for winter weather response since the start of November. We have 15 trucks that can be configured with plows and sanders. During a storm, 60 staff from several departments are ready to respond. They work 24/7 in 12-hour shifts to clear roads. Streets are prioritized for plowing based on several factors, such as access for emergency vehicles and traffic volumes.

Here's some information and tips for staying safe:

Be prepared:

- Install snow tires or have tire chains ready. Practice putting on your tire chains now!



- Have an ice scraper/snow brush and other essentials for your car. Visit [WSDOT.wa.gov/winter](https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/winter) for a checklist of other items to have in your car to be prepared.
- Make sure your car's defrost works and that the wipers are in good condition.
- Purchase a snow shovel. Clearing your sidewalk of snow helps keep people who are walking and rolling safe.
- Buy shoes with good grip, ice grippers to put on your shoes, a walking stick or other mobility safety devices to help with walking in winter conditions.

Who to contact:

- For life-threatening emergencies, call 9-1-1.
- To report flooding, blocked or hazardous streets and sidewalks, fallen trees and similar problems, call the city's 24-hour response line at 425-452-7840 or use the MyBellevue app. 9-1-1 is for emergencies only!
- Call Puget Sound Energy at 1-888-225-5773 to report a power outage. Do not touch or drive over downed power lines.

How to stay informed:

- Check the city's Twitter (@BellevueWA and @BvueTrans) and Facebook ([Facebook.com/bellevuewashington](https://www.facebook.com/bellevuewashington)).
- During significant weather events, information is posted on the city's homepage at BellevueWA.gov.
- Street closures are posted at [BellevueWA.gov/traffic-advisories](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic-advisories).

- For highway information, check the state Department of Transportation website ([WSDOT.wa.gov](https://www.wsdot.wa.gov)) and Twitter feed (@WSDOT).
- Sign up for Bellevue-specific alerts at [BellevueWA.gov/winter](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/winter).
- Sign up for regional alerts from King County at [KingCounty.gov/Alert](https://www.kingcounty.gov/alert).

Other tips:

- If possible, stay home and avoid driving during winter conditions. If you must drive, consider the conditions — it may take more time to stop and turn.
- Clear snow off all your windows and roof prior to driving.
- Wear bright colors or reflective clothing if walking or rolling at night.



Policies take shape for Bellevue's increasingly busy curb space

The curb space in Bellevue's densest neighborhoods, long used for just parking and vehicle lanes, is a lot busier these days. Ride services (Lyft or Uber), delivery vans, employer shuttles, rental scooters and even on-street dining all compete for curb space in downtown, Wilburton and BelRed.

With input earlier this year from hundreds of people who use that border space between streets and sidewalks, the city is drafting policies and a long-range plan for designating, maintaining and operating curbside areas. Centralizing

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curb management, streamlining permitting for curbside uses and improving enforcement are all in the mix. To ensure curb spaces are easily available, the city will also consider equitable pricing strategies.

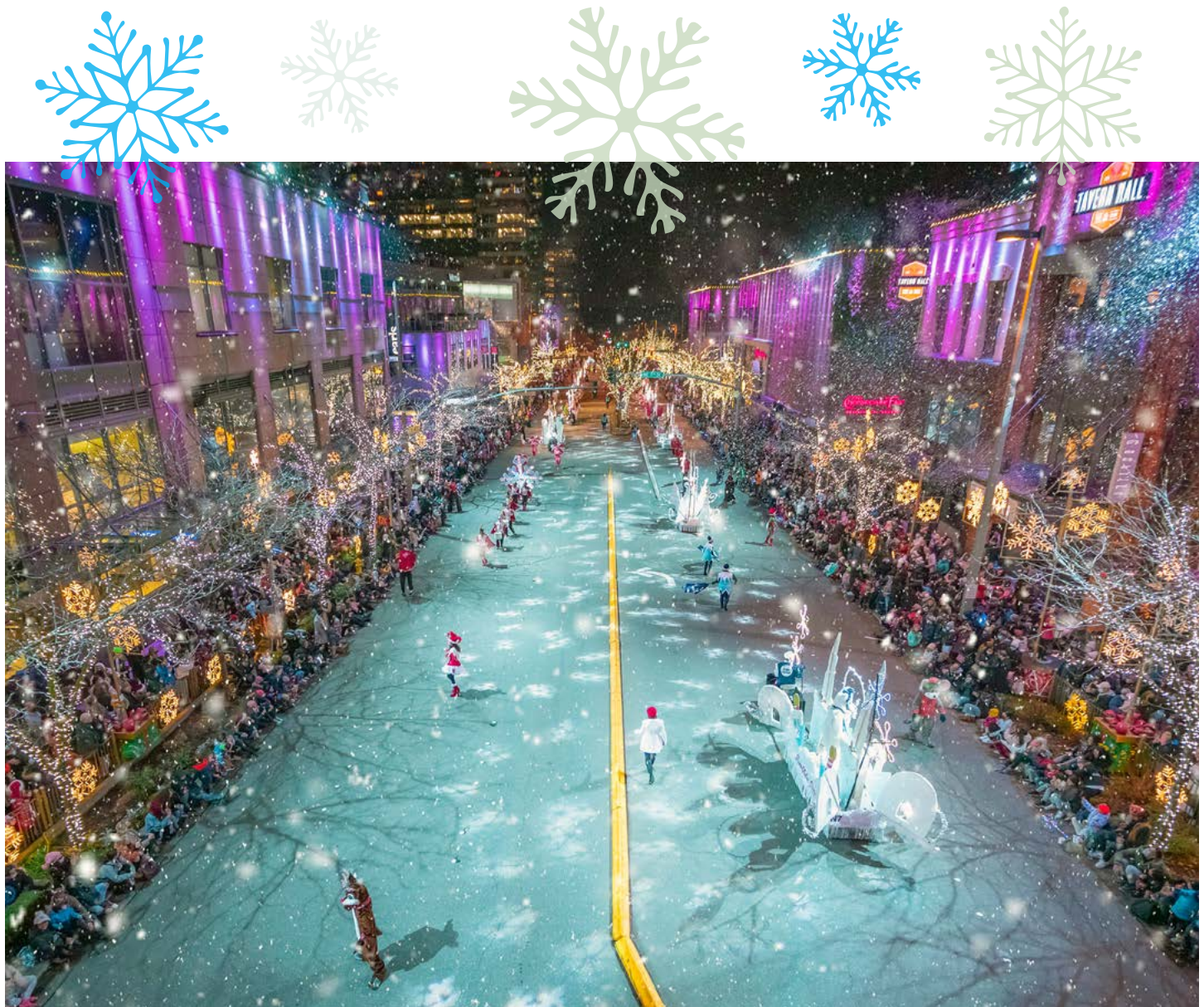
Currently, curb space in the city is managed ad hoc, and enforcement is light and spread across multiple working groups. At times this has created less-than-ideal traffic conditions, such as double-parked vehicles and vehicles blocking bike lanes. Additionally, applying for permits for employer shuttles, on-street dining, food trucks, etc. can be overly burdensome.

A Curb Management Plan will allow for informed decisions on how curb spaces should be managed as the city grows and competition for this urban

space increases. The new framework will help the city provide clear feedback to developers, residents and others about the intended use of the curbside.

Next steps include council taking final action on curb policies at the Dec. 12 meeting. Residents and other users can also provide input on curb management recommendations at the monthly Transportation Commission meetings in early 2023. A draft CMP will be available for public review in early 2023, followed by Transportation Commission plan refinements and a final CMP presented for council consideration in spring 2023.

Visit BellevueWA.gov/curb-management-plan for the latest updates.





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			