



Neighborhood News



April 2023

Bellevue's annual sheep shearing on April 29

Ewe won't want to miss this!

See the sheep get shorn before the summer heat sets in at Bellevue's annual sheep-shearing celebration, on Saturday, April 29, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Pl. SE.

Activities will include wool spinning demonstrations, children's activities, tractor-pulled wagon rides, pony rides, heritage displays, animal viewing, food and more.

The annual sheep shearing at the farm taps into a 5,500-year-old tradition that originated in Central Asia. Sheep shearing started in 3,500 B.C. when people learned to spin wool to make clothing and items such as blankets.

The Kelsey Creek event originated in the early 1990s, when ever-increasing crowds came to



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.

Subscribe to Neighborhood News electronically:
BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news

Kelsey Creek Farm Park each spring to watch the wool removal, a traditional farm practice. Each sheep produces six to 10 pounds of wool each year.

Admission is free, with a charge for some activities. Food is available for purchase. No ATM is available on site. Free parking and shuttle service is available to and from the Wilburton Park and Ride, 720 114th Ave. SE, and Bannerwood Sports Park, 1790 Richards Rd.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program Updates

The Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) is a \$7 million, city-funded, capital improvements program that allows residents to propose and select small projects that improve their neighborhood's quality of life and enhance its character. The program rotates through the city's 14 NEP Neighborhood Areas, serving two areas each year. In 2023, the program is currently available to the Eastgate/Factoria and Cougar Mountain/Lakemont neighborhood areas.



Cougar Mountain/Lakemont NEP is in the project submission phase. May 6 is the deadline to submit ideas for \$377,000 for improvements for the area.

Don't miss the opportunity to let the city know what you'd like to see done in your neighborhood.

Submit your ideas in two easy ways:

1. By Mail: Return the prepaid Project Idea Request Card all Cougar Mountain/Lakemont households received in the mail in March.
2. Online: BellevueWA.gov/nep

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

There is no limit on the number of project ideas you can submit, but all ideas must be received at City Hall or submitted online by May 6.

Eastgate/Factoria NEP is currently in the project scoping and review phase.

City staff are in the process of evaluating and reviewing resident-submitted project ideas for the Eastgate/Factoria Neighborhood Area to determine which will be feasible as eligible projects for the Eastgate/Factoria NEP ballot. \$370,000 is available in funding for this area.

Eastgate/Factoria residents should watch their mail for a Voter's Pamphlet and ballot to arrive in early June, then vote for their top three project choices. Voting is by mail only and limited to one ballot per household. A public open house is planned for June where projects on the ballot will be presented, and residents can meet with city project managers to discuss any questions they may have. Look for more details to come.

To find out which NEP Neighborhood Area you call home, when NEP will be in your area, and how much funding your area has been allocated, please visit BellevueWA.gov/nep. For more information about NEP, please contact Theresa Cuthill at tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov.

Better Together! Learn and connect with Nights of Neighborhood Learning

Neighborhood Outreach is offering a menu of great programs on various topics through a new Nights of Neighborhood Learning program, April 15-June 15.

The learning events are offered for neighborhood associations and for any group of at least 10 neighbors who want to gather for a night of learning together. There are 12 topics, and each session is provided at least twice.

Topics include:

- A day in the life of a code compliance officer
- You, me and diversity: Creating more inclusive meetings and events
- The "Why" and "How" behind civic engagement



- Dos and Don'ts for waste and water
- Toward Zero Together: Road safety is our North Star

To learn more, please email jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov or call Julie at 425-452-5372.



Cultural Conversations

The 2023 Evening of Cultural Conversations was held March 8 at Bellevue City Hall, and four speakers helped to honor International Women's Day with stories of their connections and impact for good. If you missed the evening, you can hear Marilyn, Hind, Cynthia and Rachel at: youtube.com/watch?v=rGwhqceF9OM&t=2092s



Save the date for the next Cultural Conversations!

BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/neighborhoods/building-community/cultural-conversations

Tuesday, May 16 | 1-2:30 p.m.

Crossroads Community Center | 16000 NE 10th Street

Medication Safety Week is April 1-7

Medication Safety Week raises awareness about the risks of medication errors and how to prevent them.



Medication errors are the sixth-leading cause of death and can cause serious harm to patients and health care providers. The causes of medication errors are related to incorrect dosing, drug interactions, allergies and improper storage or disposal of medications.

Some contributing factors include inadequate communication between healthcare providers, lack of medication knowledge or training, inadequate medication labeling, and patient-related factors such as limited health, literacy, or language barriers. While this can clearly impact all people in all demographics, this issue can be particularly severe in our senior populations, when the need and frequency of prescriptions may increase.

The goal is to educate patients, healthcare providers, caregivers, and the public about the importance of end-to-end safety as errors can have severe consequences. Mistakes can occur at any stage of the medication use process, including prescribing, dispensing, administering, and monitoring. In the United States, errors account for an estimated 7,000 deaths each year, and are responsible for 1 in 1,000 patient deaths in hospitals.

Ways to participate in Medication Safety Week:

- Keep a list of all your medications and allergies and share it with your health care providers.
- Read the labels and instructions carefully before taking any medication and ask questions if you are unsure about anything.
- Use medicine containers with safety caps and keep them out of reach and sight of children and pets.
- Check the expiration dates of your medications and dispose of them safely and properly.

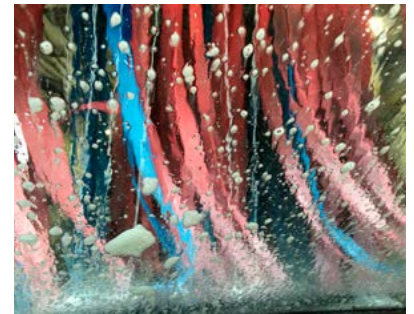
- Report any adverse drug events or medication errors to your health care provider or the FDA.

Resources for medication safety education and awareness can be found on the websites of the Institute for Safe Medication Practices, SafeWise, HealthyChildren.org, the National Institute on Aging, the Mayo Clinic Health System, American Association of Retired People (AARP), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).



Keep suds out of storm drains and streams!

Planning to wash your vehicle soon? Take it to a commercial car wash to help protect local water quality. Commercial car washes are required to send their dirty wash water to the sewer system for treatment.



Water that flows into storm drains goes directly to local streams and lakes without treatment. If you wash your car in the street or a parking lot, toxic motor oil, brake pad dust, tire wear and other chemical residues – along with soap – go down storm drains, untreated, into the waterways we swim, fish and play. Dirty wash water contains oil, solvents, anti-freeze and toxic heavy metals such as zinc, lead, and copper. Soap is harmful to fish and the insects they eat. Even biodegradable soap can kill fish before it degrades.

Do you have questions about at-home car washing or protecting water quality? Contact the Stream Team at streamtam@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5200.



New improvements in BelRed for people walking, rolling and driving

Designs for a new trail connection between Eastrail and the Downtown to Spring District Path are underway and will improve access and connectivity for people who walk and roll in BelRed. This project features a new 14-foot-wide paved trail with lighting, new landscaping and other urban design elements. The design for this project is primarily funded by a grant from the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC).

Last month work kicked off on the section from 124th Avenue Northeast from Ichigo Way to Northup Way, a project that will enhance access and improve traffic flow between Downtown Bellevue, Wilburton and BelRed for people who walk, roll, drive and take transit. Upgrades include a multi-purpose path on the west side of 124th Avenue between Northeast 16th Street and Ichigo Way only, sidewalks on both sides of the street separated by landscape planters, the construction of a culvert that fish and wildlife can navigate and raising and widening 124th Avenue to five lanes. The project is partially funded by a Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan. Learn more at BellevueWA.gov/ichigo-northup.

Bellevue’s Curb Management Plan soon available for public review

A couple of years in the making, Bellevue’s first Curb Management Plan (CMP) will provide a framework for creating a vibrant, safe and

inclusive curbside environment that continues to evolve with changing community needs.

Curb management is the monitoring and regulating of curb space (the transition area between streets and sidewalks) and ensuring its uses align with the city’s long-range transportation vision, as outlined in the Mobility Implementation Plan and the Comprehensive Plan.

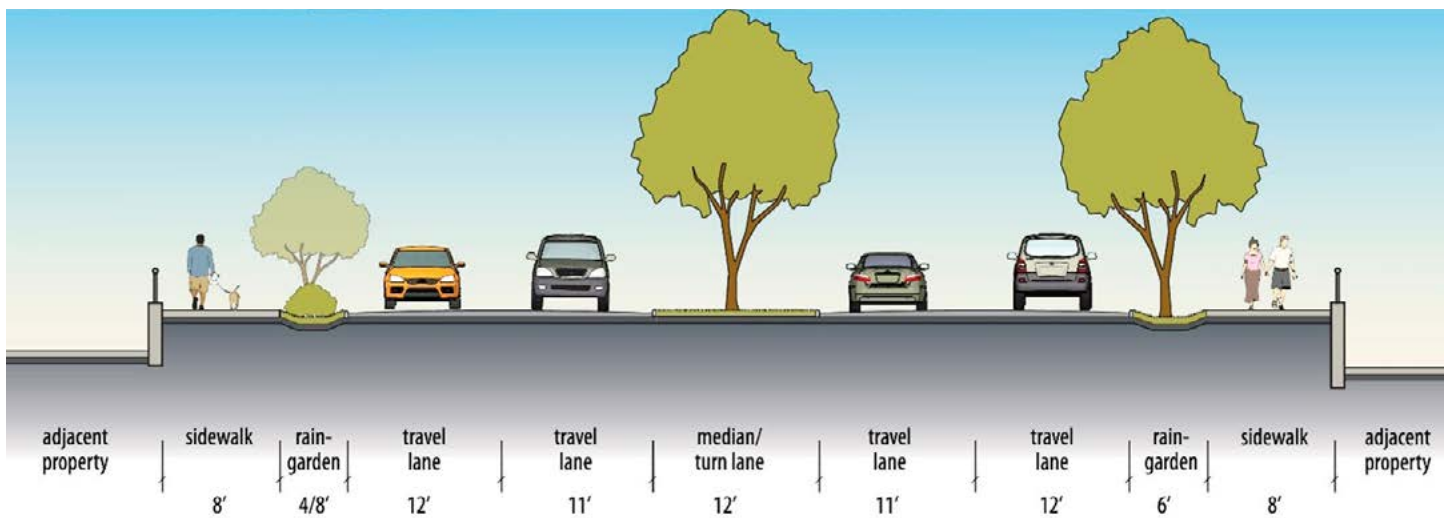
As the demand for curb space in downtown, Wilburton and BelRed, expands beyond traditional uses (such as travel lanes, parking, transit, bicycle facilities or parking, pick-up/drop-off), these guidelines are critical to managing the limited space. Bellevue’s curb areas are also regularly utilized by ride-hail services like Lyft or Uber, delivery vans, employer shuttles and on-street dining.

The CMP will offer long-term planning guidelines for designating, maintaining and operating curb spaces. It also provides clear feedback to developers, residents and others about the intended use of the curbside.

A draft of the CMP will be available for public review later this month on the CMP website. Residents and other users can provide input on the CMP recommendations at Transportation Commission meetings this spring or provide comments by email at transportationcommission@bellevuewa.gov. The final CMP will be presented for council consideration in the summer.

Learn more about the plan and read our “Frequently Asked Questions” at BellevueWA.gov/curb-management-plan.





Reminder to practice safe driving behaviors!

April is national Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Traffic crashes involving distracted driving injure more than 700 people on an average day in the United States. There are many things that can distract you when you're behind the wheel, including adjusting your radio, programming your navigation, eating, texting, talking on the phone—even in hands free mode—and more.

How can you practice safe driving behaviors?

This month, take some time to evaluate your driving habits and think about how you can be responsible when you're on the road. Consider these safety tips, courtesy of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:

- Need to send a text? Pull over and park your car in a safe location. Only then is it safe to send or read a text.
- Designate your passenger as your "designated texter." Allow them access to your phone to respond to calls or messages.
- Do not scroll through apps, including social media, while driving. Cell phone use can be habit-forming. Struggling to not text and drive? Put the cell phone in the trunk, glove box, or back seat of the vehicle until you arrive at your destination.

For more information, and to take the pledge to pay full attention to the road while driving, visit [NHTSA.gov/distracted](https://www.nhtsa.gov/distracted).

The City of Bellevue is also working to improve road safety for all users through the Vision Zero initiative,

which aims to eliminate traffic deaths and serious-injury collisions on city streets by 2030, including crashes caused by distracted driving. The city is working towards this goal through the Safe System approach, which considers the design, infrastructure and systemic issues behind crashes. For more information, visit BellevueWA.gov/VisionZero.



Fire Station 10 Groundbreaking

The community (and the sun!) came out in full force March 22 to celebrate the groundbreaking of Fire Station 10. The first new Bellevue fire station to be built in 29 years, Station 10 will serve the vertical neighborhoods of Downtown as well as West Bellevue, Northtowne and BelRed.

"Our hope is that Fire Station 10 becomes a valued part of the community," Fire Chief Jay Hagen said. "We hope our neighbors will feel welcome to stop by for blood pressure checks, to attend gatherings in the community room, tour the historical gallery or simply to say 'hello'."

Expected to open in spring 2025, Fire Station 10 will house Paramedic Unit 101, Engine 110, Aid Car 101 and Battalion Chief 101.

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-113)

First Wednesday 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			