

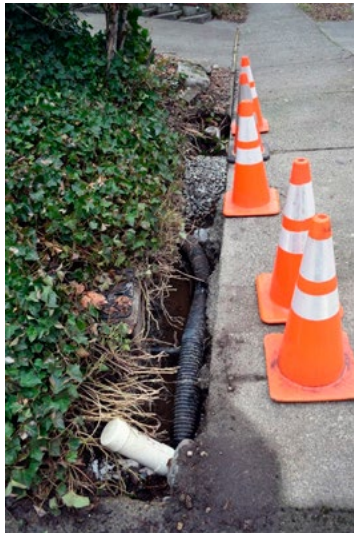


Neighborhood News

September 2023

Transportation Benefit District survey and webinar

In July, Bellevue City Council formed a Transportation Benefit District that could be used to fund the maintenance of transportation infrastructure and ongoing transportation capital programs throughout the city. A survey is open until Sept. 30 for residents to share what areas of maintenance and which capital programs are most important to them. The information collected through the survey will help the City Council understand the priorities of residents. It should take about 5 minutes to fill out and the survey is available here: <https://forms.office.com/g/AyxdT7S5K3>



Want to learn more about the Transportation Benefit District, including what it could be used for and the next steps? There is a webinar scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 20, 6:30-7:30 p.m. The webinar will take place over Zoom, and

registration is not required. The link and a calendar reminder, as well as more information on the benefit district, are available on the Transportation Benefit District website at BellevueWA.gov/transportation-benefit-district.

Welcoming Week observed Sept. 8-17



WELCOMING
WEEK

The City of Bellevue invites the community to celebrate Eastside Welcoming Week 2023 with several events. Welcoming Week is a national celebration bringing together neighbors of all backgrounds to build strong connections and affirm the importance of inclusive places in achieving collective prosperity. Welcoming Week is about celebrating and committing to the work necessary to become welcoming places for all, especially for neighbors within immigrant communities.

The Eastside Refugee & Immigrant Coalition is the hub for Eastside Welcoming Week (<https://ericmembers.org/welcoming-week-2/>). They maintain a complete list of the latest Eastside events. The events in Bellevue are sponsored or co-sponsored by the city as of press time include:

Northwest Ukrainian International Festival

Saturday, Sept. 9, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Downtown Park, 10201 NE Fourth St., Bellevue

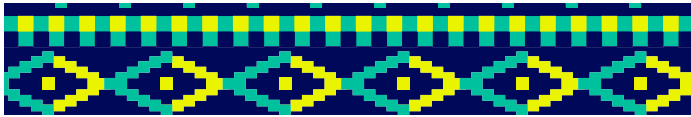
The festival will feature Ukrainian customs including authentic Ukrainian food, vendor booths featuring local businesses, stage performances including bands, soloists and choirs, and activities for children and adults, including inflatables and games. The festival has moved from Crossroads Park to Downtown Park. More at Northwest Ukrainian Festival (ukrainianfest.org).



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable modification requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-2735 (voice) or email mheilman@bellevuewa.gov. For complaints regarding modifications, contact the City of Bellevue ADA, Title VI, and Equal Opportunity Officer at ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov.

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BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news

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Cultural Conversations: “When Friends Become Family”

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 1-2:30 p.m.
Crossroads Community Center,
16000 NE 10th St., Bellevue

Let us know that you plan to attend by emailing:
neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov

Join with family, friends and neighbors for the Welcoming Week Cultural Conversations, connecting community through storytelling and small group conversation. Light refreshments will be served.

New City of Bellevue Community Relations Coordinator, Sarah Ballard, and her friend Mayara Bates have both adjusted to living in a new community and will be the storytellers at the Cultural Conversations gathering. Sarah recently moved from Compton, California, and Mayara moved to Bellevue from São Paulo, Brazil. Community Relations Coordinator Sarina Miller, who moved to Bellevue from San Antonio, Texas, this year, will be our moderator.



Bridging the Gap: Addressing Housing Disparities in East King County

Friday, Sept. 15, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Together Center, 16305 NE 87th St., Redmond

In a panel discussion, planners with the cities of Bellevue, Redmond, Kirkland, Issaquah and Sammamish will discuss how local governments are planning for more equitable housing. Join the conversation as we explore how to undo the disparities that hinder our ability to create more welcoming and affordable communities on the Eastside.

Julian Agyeman, a Tufts University professor of urban planning, will deliver the opening address.

Lunch will be available 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., with the program immediately following.



Welcoming Week Resource Fair

Saturday, Sept. 16, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Crossroads Shopping Center,
15600 NE Eighth St., Bellevue

Local agencies, organizations, businesses and community partners share valuable resources and services with immigrants and residents alike. The Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network (BDAN) is hosting the fair, in partnership with the Chinese Information and Service Center (CISC). The goal is to create a space where neighbors from all backgrounds can connect, learn and build strong relationships.

The City of Bellevue is committed to creating welcoming and inclusive places where everyone can prosper together. The resource fair reflects our dedication to providing a platform for community organizations and partners to extend a warm welcome and offer valuable assistance to all residents.



Cross-Cultural Center without Walls, Community Workshop

Tuesday, Sept. 19, 6-8 p.m.
Odle Middle School Commons,
502 143rd Ave NE, Bellevue

The City of Bellevue and the Diversity Advantage Team invite anyone who lives, works or plays in Bellevue to attend a workshop focused on sharing culture, building connections and co-creating cultural programs and activities. Community members will have the opportunity to contribute ideas on the types of programs, events and activities you would like to experience at the future Cross-Cultural Center without Walls, which will travel to different locations across the city starting next summer.

Register at eventbrite.com/e/699803319567.

Registration is encouraged but not required.

NEP Updates

Cougar Mountain/Lakemont residents:

Voting for your top three project choices is on the way! Look for your NEP Voter's pamphlet to arrive in the mail in early September and return the enclosed postage-paid ballot. Voting is by mail only and is limited to one ballot per household address. Ballots must be postmarked by **Tuesday, Oct. 24** to be valid.

The Cougar Mountain/Lakemont Projects Open House is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 14, 6:30-8 p.m. Lewis Creek Park Visitors Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE.

Join city staff and your fellow neighbors to learn more about the enhancement projects that are included on the Cougar Mountain/Lakemont NEP ballot. Visual displays will be available for all projects. A brief overview of the project scoping and NEP voting processes will be provided.

Let us know that you plan to attend the Open House by emailing neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov

Eastgate/Factoria residents: The votes are in! Look for your NEP Project Announcement Newsletter to arrive in mailboxes in mid-September with details on the projects that you and your neighbors chose to fund with the \$370,000 allotted NEP budget for Eastgate/Factoria. Please let us know how you liked the NEP process in your area by returning the postage-paid evaluation form postcard or submit your comments online using the NEP evaluation form found on the NEP website.

Evaluations must be postmarked or submitted online by **Thursday, Oct. 26**.

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, serving two areas each year. The \$7 million program allocation is distributed among each of the NEP neighborhood areas, according to the number of households in each area.



Bellevue High School celebrates 100 years!

You're invited to the hallmark event on Sept. 30

By Dr. Vic Anderson, Bellevue High School principal

The 2023-2024 school year marks the 100th anniversary of Bellevue High School. The community is invited to join together on Saturday, Sept. 30, 1-5 p.m., and stroll down memory lane, reconnect with old friends and make new ones as we honor the first one hundred years of Bellevue High School. Come for music performances, athletic showcases, alumni meet-ups, guest speakers, self-guided tours, oral histories, historical displays, food trucks and activities for all ages.

Bellevue has grown into a diverse population with cultures from around the world, and this is an opportunity to open the BHS doors and tell the story of the school and the community that supports our youth with commitment and dedication.

The event is planned and produced by Bellevue School District in partnership with the Eastside Heritage

Center, Bellevue Schools Foundation and Bellevue High School PTSA.

Find more information about the celebration at bsd405.org/bhs-100-years.





Senior Day at Bellevue Farmer's Market

Come by the Bellevue Farmer's Market for Senior Day on Thursday, Sept. 7! Learn about community organizations that support our older neighbors, enjoy great music and pick up some giveaways! Event presented by Aegis Living, in partnership with the Bellevue Network on Aging.

Enjoy a "Staycation" in Bellevue!

By Shana Aucsmith, BNOA Board Member

You don't need to endure a plane ride to experience different cultures and traditions! You can stay in Bellevue and just travel to the North Bellevue Community Center (NBCC)! There you will find a wide range of engaging activities, learn about different cultures and traditions, and meet neighbors from near and far.

I discovered the NBCC as I was emerging from the "stay-at-home" time of COVID-19. Being older, I had felt particularly vulnerable and isolated, and I was eager to reconnect and build new friendships. I also wanted to get more involved with the concerns of people in my age group, so I applied for and was honored to be accepted as a member of the Bellevue Network on Aging. In addition to advocacy and outreach, I'm learning about resources, including the NBCC!

The center has become a hub for older people while welcoming all and partnering with multicultural organizations that provide

community services and activities. Drawing from a diverse population, the center builds bridges between people from different backgrounds as



well as providing a great opportunity to improve your health, have fun and meet fascinating people. I've barely touched the surface of available programs, but have laughed my way through board games, felt encouraged by an off-site pickleball workshop and gotten creative in classes on memoir writing and painting.

I can't wait to try line dancing, go to Friday movies, schmooze at Monday Coffee Hour, and so much more!

Free transportation to NBCC and elsewhere in Bellevue, Kirkland and Redmond, is available for people age 55+ through the Hyde Shuttle "Rides and Smiles" program, by calling 206-727-6262, thanks in part to the advocacy of the BNOA.

I hope to meet you on your staycation!

The BNOA is currently recruiting new members. If you're interested in advocating for older residents in Bellevue, call Dan Lassiter, 425-452-4470 or email dlassiter@bellevuewa.gov.



Mercer Slough Farmstand Construction

As part of Sound Transit's East Link light rail project, the City of Bellevue is constructing a new produce stand adjacent to the Winters House, 2102 Bellevue Way SE. The new produce stand, which will be a 1,750 square foot, two-story building, is designed to provide space for a small office and blueberry and produce sales.

During construction of the produce stand building, the Mercer Slough Trail system will remain open to the public. Please be careful of construction activities when visiting the park. Meanwhile, berries from Mercer Slough's blueberry farm will be harvested and sold at the Larson Lake produce stand.

Construction started in April and is expected to finish in late spring 2024. Passing by the construction site on



Bellevue Way SE, you will be able to see the concrete stem walls rising from the ground. The sub-grade work will be completed along with the interior slab this August.

Watch for changes! The walls for the building will start going up soon.

When completed, the farm stand will be a short walk from the new South Bellevue Station and Park and Ride. Additional information may be found at BellevueWA.gov/ms-farmstand.

Auditions at Bellevue Youth Theatre

Attend a Bellevue Youth Theatre (BYT) audition and complete the paperwork to be cast in an upcoming show!



Participation is free for Bellevue residents and \$150 for non-residents. For more information, please visit BellevueWA.gov/byt.

Bellevue Youth Theatre auditions will be held on the following dates:

Wednesday, Sept. 6, 5-6:30 p.m. at South Bellevue Community Center for "Ghost Girls"

Thursday, Sept. 7 and Friday, Sept. 8 at Bellevue Youth Theatre for "Zombies," "Ghost Girls," and "Frozen, Jr."



Startup425 events

Residents interested in the early stages of business can join Startup 425 events, including:

CoWorking

Spend time with fellow Eastside entrepreneurs as well as the city's two Entrepreneurs in Residence.

Panels

Network with fellow Eastside founders to learn and chat with a panel of experts in dedicated topics including venture capital.

Startup 425 is a collaboration between the cities of: Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Renton and Issaquah, and has the mission of empowering entrepreneurs on the Eastside toward their goals from starting up to scaling up.

Contact us at info@startup425.org and check out the upcoming events at eventbrite.com/o/city-of-bellevue-18469380958



Preparing your family for emergencies: Packing the Essential Backpack

Just as every student starts a new school year with a backpack filled with essential tools for success, every family should prepare for unforeseen events with their own "emergency backpack." This

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isn't about pencils and notebooks, but about vital tools and resources that can safeguard our loved ones in times of unexpected crises.

Imagine if your child's school bag was only packed the moment a surprise quiz was announced. The results would not be ideal!

Similarly, waiting for a crisis to strike before preparing is a certain way to be caught off guard. The contents of our family emergency backpack should be thoughtfully assembled, anticipating various possible scenarios. Essential items might include first aid supplies, a flashlight with extra batteries, non-perishable food items, bottled water and necessary medications. Just as a student's backpack evolves based on their subjects and needs, this emergency backpack should be updated periodically to address the changing needs of your family.

A school backpack holds more than just tangible items. It also contains the knowledge and skills acquired over the year. Likewise, the family emergency backpack isn't limited to physical items. It represents each family member's knowledge and strategies. This includes understanding evacuation routes, knowing local emergency contact numbers and having a pre-set meeting point for family members in case of separation.

We wouldn't send a child to school unprepared and we shouldn't let our families navigate life without the necessary preparation for emergencies. Investing time in assembling and updating our "emergency backpack" and sharing essential safety knowledge ensures that our families have the best tools to face, navigate and overcome unexpected challenges.

Arts Grants program accepting 2024 applications

Artists and organizations providing art, cultural and educational programming or events for Bellevue



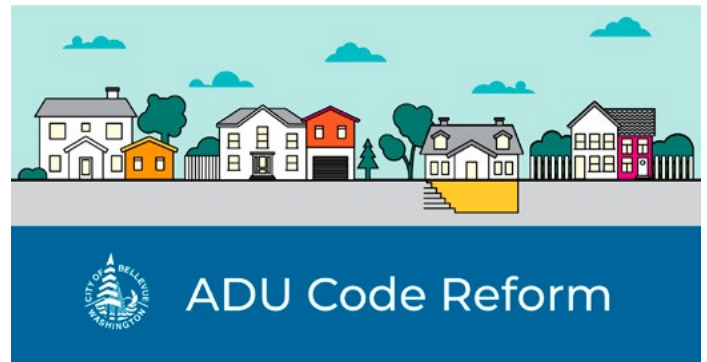
residents can now apply for a grant through the city's Arts and Culture Program.

This year, grants are available for arts, cultural and heritage projects serving Bellevue residents and visitors. The program supports innovative projects led by artists, individuals and communities which address cultural gaps and foster fresh avenues for creative engagement.

Interested individuals and groups can apply online, and applications are due Oct. 10. An eligibility checklist is required before submitting a complete application. Members of the professional arts community and the Bellevue Arts Commission review all applications. The Arts Commission and the Bellevue City Council approve the grants.

Applicants can expect to know the status of their award in December. To be eligible for grant funding, all projects must occur in 2024.

Visit BellevueWA.gov/artsgrants for more information, including guidelines, frequently asked questions, timelines and application directions. Please contact Manette Stamm at mstamm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4064 with any questions.



Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) reform passed by Bellevue City Council

On July 17, the city council unanimously adopted Ordinance No. 6746, intended to remove barriers to the development of attached ADUs from the City's Land Use Code. The new rules now make requirements and permitting for attached ADUs more streamlined and flexible. ADUs are secondary units within a residential home, such as generational suites or basement apartments. Some of the changes include:

- Increased floor area limits
- Revised parking requirements
- Revised design controls
- Consolidated permit review process – In most cases, only a building permit is required.

Detached ADUs, such as backyard cottages, are still not allowed in Bellevue. Additional environmental review and analysis of policies and procedures are needed to update the city's codes. This work will occur with the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update (BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/planning-initiatives/comprehensive-plan), which is underway now.

The type of permit required depends on the floor area and the extent of remodeling necessary.

Development Services staff are available to answer questions either by contacting the city's permit center or scheduling a virtual appointment at BellevueWA.gov/Virtual-Permit-Center.

All permit applications are submitted through MyBuildingPermit.com. Information on the application process and plan review for a residential building permit is available on the Development Services website (BellevueWA.gov/development-services) on the [Residential Building Permits page](#).

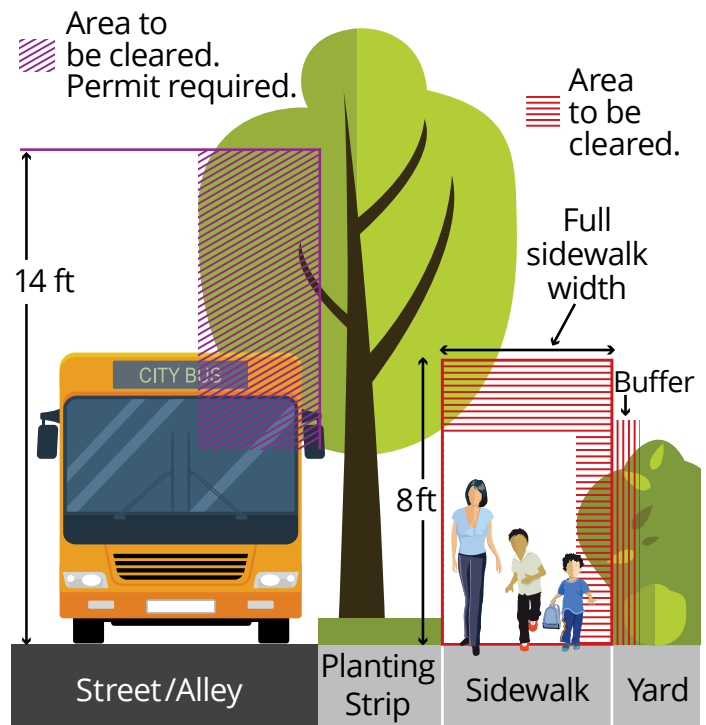
More information on the code updates can be found at BellevueWA.gov/ADU-Reform.

Maintain a safe environment by trimming overgrown vegetation

The Transportation Department's Street Maintenance division works to maintain all public streets in Bellevue. With fall just around the corner, you can do your part to help the city maintain a safe environment for people who walk, roll, drive and take transit.

When trimming trees, plants, shrubs or vegetation in the city's right of way, be mindful of the following:

- Vegetation or limbs that block street visibility for drivers or other road users.
- Vegetation overhanging or obstructing a street or sidewalk.



- Vegetation or limbs blocking the view of a traffic control sign.
- Objects such as a damaged mailbox, fallen fence, garbage can, hazardous tree, junk or any other obstruction that impacts the right of way.

If you are planning work that will block access to a street or sidewalk, check to see if you need a Right of Way permit by calling 425-452-4189 or emailing rightofwayuse@bellevuewa.gov.

Did you know?

- By law (Bellevue City Code 14.06.010) <https://bellevue.municipal.codes/BCC/14.06.010>, property owners are responsible for trimming or removing vegetation that overhangs a sidewalk, street or other public right of way, obstructs the vision of an intersection or causes one of several other obstructions. Please see the diagram (above) for guidelines on how you (or someone you hire) should cut back vegetation in the city's right of way.
- Vacant residences in the City of Bellevue are subject to specific property maintenance requirements for overgrown vegetation, in addition to the Transportation and Right of Way provisions. The Code Compliance team works to provide comprehensive

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education and consistent, fair, equitable and responsive enforcement that promotes voluntary compliance with Bellevue's code. The team also responds to concerns about possible code violations on private property. Suspected violations can be reported via the [MyBellevue app](#).



Lake Hills Sewer Relining Project

King County contractors will continue working on sewer construction in the region this September. The construction crews are continuing the rehabilitation of existing pipes on the east side of the project in Bellevue's BelRed neighborhood by adding interior lining to pipes to prevent corrosion and extend the life of the pipe another 50 years. Construction work will take place in the project area through October 2023.

Here is what you will notice:

Intersection closed at Northeast Spring Boulevard and Bel-Red Road from the week of August 21 continuing through October 1, 2023. Access to business on Northeast Spring Boulevard up to the closed intersection with Bel-Red Road is maintained via a detour from 136th Place Northeast.

- **Extension of eastbound closure of Northeast Spring Boulevard, between 130th Avenue Northeast and 136th Place Northeast.** No vehicle or bicycle access on the eastbound side through October 1, 2023.
- **Intersection closed at 134th Avenue Northeast and Northeast Spring Boulevard.**

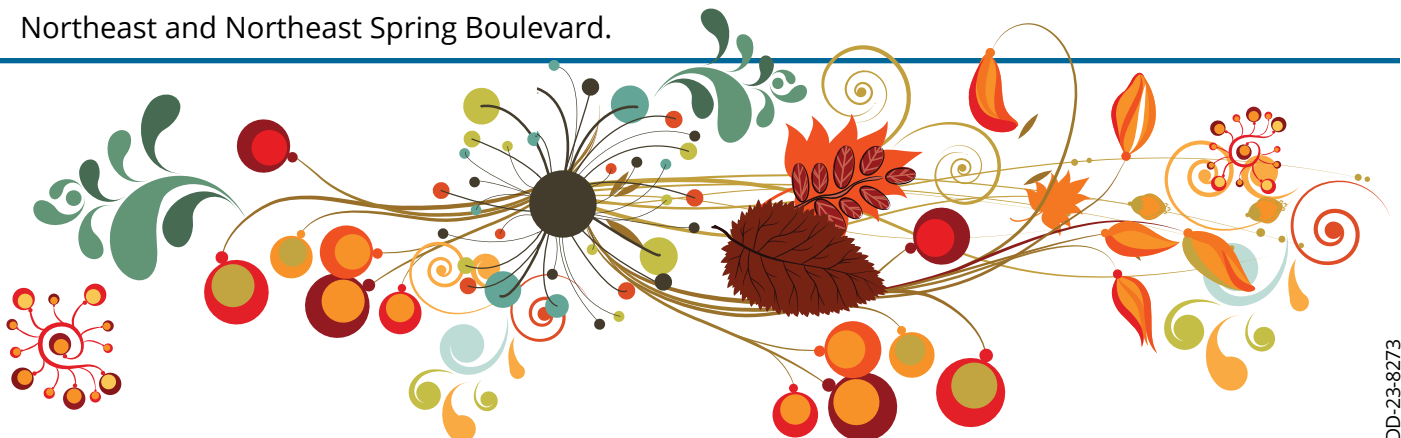
- **Detour signs** posted to direct traffic around construction.
- **Westbound Northeast Spring Boulevard will remain open** to westbound vehicles and pedestrians.
- Route 226 bus stop relocations/closures scheduled are no longer needed. **All bus stops on Bel-Red Road will not be impacted** as originally anticipated.
- Rehabilitation of permanent pipes, removal of the temporary diversion pipes and restoration of impacted surfaces on the **west section of the project sites at 120th and 124th Avenue Northeast will be completed.**

What to expect:

- Typical work hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. weekdays with occasional night and expected weekend work.
- Expect traffic detours; equipment staging; and closures of streets, sidewalks, trails, bus stops, driveways, and bike lanes.
- There will be noise and odor from the temporary pumping system and other construction activities.
- Sewer service will be maintained.

Learn more: Lake Hills Sewer Relining - King County, Washington (<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnpr/waste-services/wastewater-treatment/capital-projects/lake-hills-sewer-relining>)

For construction update see the interactive map: Lake Hills Sewer Relining - King County, Washington (<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnpr/waste-services/wastewater-treatment/capital-projects/lake-hills-sewer-relining>)



Keep Bellevue Beautiful launched with Downtown and Factoria events!

Thanks to 135 volunteers from neighborhoods, businesses and civic groups, the first two Keep Bellevue Beautiful cleanup events were a success! The community came together to pick up trash in the public right-of-way and learned about ways to prevent waste and debris to keep our streets and streams clean.

Check out the monthly cleanup events in various neighborhoods and other program updates at Keep Bellevue Beautiful | City of Bellevue (BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/neighborhoods/neighborhood-improvement/keep-bellevue-beautiful)



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			