



# Neighborhood News

March 2024



## Cultural Conversations Evening Forum Sharing our Art+Culture

Thursday, March 21

6:30-9 p.m.

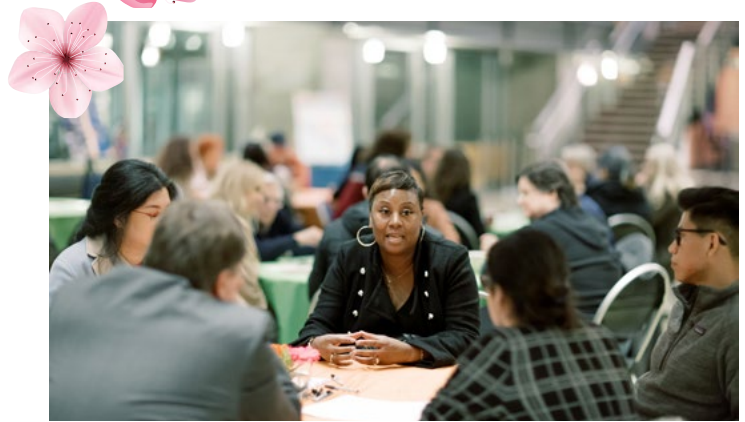
At Bellevue City Hall

Join us for the City of Bellevue's annual Cultural Conversations Evening Forum, celebrating the diverse art and culture of our community. Open to everyone, "Sharing Our Art + Culture" will kick off with a panel discussion with four Bellevue artists from around the world. **Aziza Saliev, Irma Aghajanyan, Naren Briar** and **Raja Olimuthu** will share their journey to becoming artists in Bellevue. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with fellow art enthusiasts and celebrate Bellevue's culture and community.



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](mailto:mheilman@bellevuewa.gov). For complaints regarding modifications, contact the City of Bellevue ADA, Title VI, and Equal Opportunity Officer at [ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov).

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[BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news](http://BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news)



Following the panel will be a conversation mixer with live entertainment, appetizers and desserts, and space for collaboration. An exhibit featuring the panelists' artwork will be open for viewing from 4-9 p.m. on the City Hall Concourse.

Please register on Eventbrite if you plan to attend: [bit.ly/3Sf4zXd](https://bit.ly/3Sf4zXd)

## Mini City Hall is moving to a new facility this year!

### Services continue at temporary community table

While construction of the new facility is underway, the Mini City Hall team will continue to serve customers at a temporary space, providing the same high-quality services to the Bellevue community during this transition period.

The Mini City Hall team will be available at a designated table right in front of the old location (Suite H9 inside the Crossroads Shopping Center) Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. There are no services on Saturdays.

### Some of the Mini City Hall services include:

- Bellevue water bill payment
- King County pet licenses

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- Multicultural and multilingual services and materials
- Attention to individual concerns or issues
- Quick connection to city staff, programs and services
- Navigation to other government systems and community resources

Many community partners will also serve alongside the Mini City Hall team at the temporary space:

- **Chinese Information & Service Center (CISC)** Bilingual navigators speak Russian and Chinese and provide assistance in employment, social benefits, medical, legal and financial services, children's school issues, housing and childcare resources
- **Washington Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA)** Medicare questions, issues and enrollment assistance
- **International Community Health Services (ICHS)** Information and access to Washington state healthcare marketplace and Medicaid
- **Indian American Community Services (IACS)** Social services including rental assistance, women's career services, early childhood education, crises care and youth leadership programs in English and seven languages of India
- **Kin On Computer Lab** Hands-on computer and smart phone assistance include computer file organization and email, translation tools set up, coaching on device operation, online scams and virus identification and prevention



Established in 1994, Mini City Hall has served as a vital neighborhood service center, delivering essential services to the Eastside community for the past 30 years. Located within the Crossroads Shopping Center, Mini City Hall

provides personalized customer service which is delivered by our friendly staff who are proficient in nine different languages: Cantonese, Mandarin, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Telugu, Ukrainian and Vietnamese. To ensure accessibility for all, we also offer phone interpretation services in 240 languages. Our mission is to cultivate trust, foster relationships and create a thriving community.

Learn more about our services:

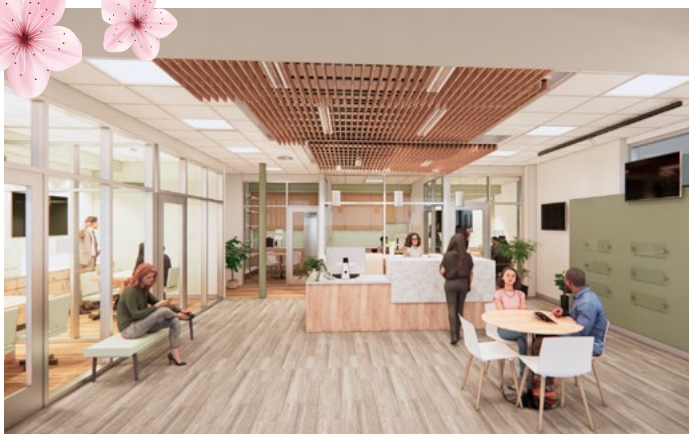
[BellevueWA.gov/mini-city-hall](http://BellevueWA.gov/mini-city-hall), call 425-452-2800 or email [minich@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:minich@bellevuewa.gov).



## Keep Bellevue Beautiful encourages community to volunteer and connect

Bellevue's ongoing efforts to keep our streets and streams clean continue this year with the Keep Bellevue Beautiful program. Building on the success and new volunteers that were part of last year's six community cleanups, which saw 196 bags of litter collected from the public right of way, volunteers are ready to help with cleanups this spring!

Residents are encouraged to join cleanup efforts in the neighborhood areas of Newport, Wilburton and Eastgate. As summer approaches, the launch





of the Adopt-a-Street program will provide an opportunity for individuals, neighborhood groups and businesses to collaborate on keeping Bellevue's streets clean.

### Join us for upcoming cleanups:

#### Newport Area Signature Street Event

Saturday, March 16, 9-10 a.m.

Beginning at Newport Hills Swim and Tennis Club  
5464 119th Ave SE

#### Earth Day Cleanup Event in Wilburton Area

Saturday, April 20, 9-11 a.m.

Beginning at Bellevue School District  
Transportation Office  
12025 NE 5th St

#### Eastgate Area Signature Street Event

Saturday, May 11, 9-10 a.m.

Beginning at Redeemer Church parking lot  
15005 SE 38th St

## Neighborhood Enhancement Program

The Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) empowers residents to propose and select modest, city-funded capital projects to enhance their neighborhoods. The program rotates through 14 neighborhood areas over the course of seven years, serving two areas each year. In 2024, the NEP will be serving the West Lake Sammamish Neighborhood and Northeast Bellevue neighborhood areas.



#### West Lake Sammamish Neighbors

The project submission phase is now closed. City staff are reviewing project suggestions in order to scope which projects to select the \$219,000 allocated budget amount.



Watch your mailbox for an invitation to a public open house at Vasa Park Resort on Thursday, June 13 when you will be able to meet with city project managers to discuss the projects that will be included on your ballot.

### Northeast Bellevue Virtual Kickoff Meeting

**Wednesday, April 3, 6:30 p.m.**

Please email [neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov) for the meeting Zoom link.

#### Northeast Bellevue Neighbors

A virtual kickoff meeting will be held Wednesday, April 3 at 6:30 p.m. City staff will provide you with a brief overview of the program guidelines and schedule, answer your questions and invite residents to share, discuss and submit project ideas. City project managers will be available in breakout rooms for specific project discussion. Each household in Northeast Bellevue will receive a postage paid NEP Project Request Form in the mail later this month. \$366,000 in NEP funding is available to the Northeast Bellevue neighborhood area.

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](http://bellevuewa.gov/nep).

Questions? Please contact Theresa Cuthill at [tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov)

## Experience Bellevue

**Three days of events throughout the city!**  
**May 4, May 18 and June 1**

Mark your calendar and visit [BellevueWA.gov/experiencebellevue](http://BellevueWA.gov/experiencebellevue). Space is limited for each experience and reservation is required.

There will be many opportunities to explore the community on three Saturday mornings this spring!

**On may 4**, start your day with a coffee conversation with Bellevue City Council members. You can then choose an experience:

- Bus tour highlighting affordable housing or a tour of several of our city parks

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- On-site tour at Porchlight Men's Shelter will include education on solutions for homelessness and a service opportunity at the shelter.
- Walking tours of downtown highlighting new buildings and development of the planned Grand Connection.
- Walking tour of the Wilburton commercial area will feature plans east of I-405.

**On May 18,** Experience Bellevue will move to BelRed and Wilburton. Choose from:

- Walking tour that explores the flourishing BelRed Arts District.
- Botanical Garden tour and a forest bathing experience.
- Board a bus to explore Bellevue's diverse neighborhoods.
- Enjoy a photography lesson at Bellevue's best view spots.
- Explore Bellevue's newest neighborhood at a Family Festival at the Spring District Plaza, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., featuring food trucks, live music and kids' activities.

**On June 1,** Experience Bellevue activities will all be at City Hall with a program that invites families to explore City Hall and enjoy interactive activities hosted by our Utilities, Police, Fire, and Transportation departments. All ages are welcome to learn about public art, recycling, Bellevue's clean drinking water, parks activities and other ways to enjoy our city!

Several experiences will be offered in Spanish, Mandarin or Russian. All activities and tours are free.

Full program information and registration will be available in April.



## ARCH (A Regional Coalition for Housing) volunteer board position available!

Make your voice heard on affordable housing funding and programs by joining the ARCH Community Advisory Board (CAB). The CAB consists of twelve to fifteen community residents

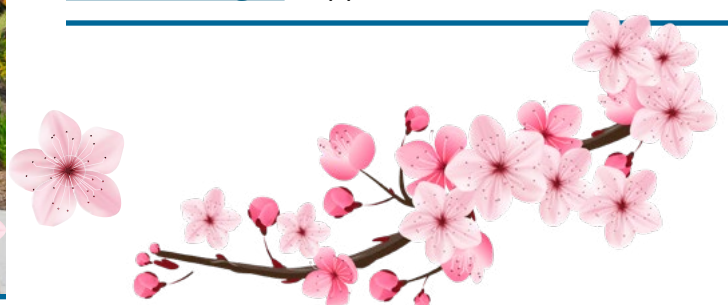
and housing professionals that work with ARCH staff to evaluate local housing funding proposals and increase awareness of housing issues on the Eastside.

Board members contribute their understanding of housing and community issues, as well as certain specialized perspectives including real estate, housing development, planning, finance, assisting persons with low income or special needs, faith community, racial diversity, architecture and residents of affordable housing. The CAB strives to be representative of the Eastside communities that make up ARCH. The CAB typically meets the fourth Wednesday evening of each month for two hours.

CAB meetings currently have a virtual and in-person option at the Together Center in Redmond.

For more information about ARCH and the ARCH Community Advisory Board visit our website: [archhousing.org](https://archhousing.org)

To apply, please fill out an application form ([archhousing.org/s/2024-CAB-Application-Form.docx](https://archhousing.org/s/2024-CAB-Application-Form.docx)) and submit to Diana Heilman ([dheilman@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:dheilman@bellevuewa.gov)). Applications are due March 15.







## Save the date for Bellevue's first EarthFest Celebration!

The City of Bellevue is thrilled to host EarthFest on Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Everyone who lives, works and plays in Bellevue is welcome to stop by for sustainable fun for all ages in celebration of Earth Day.



Community members can volunteer at a Keep Bellevue Beautiful "Signature Streets" litter cleanup event beginning at 9 a.m. at the Bellevue School District Transportation Office (12025 NE 5th St).

Festivities at the Bellevue Botanical Garden start at 11 a.m. where you can drop in throughout the day for a full slate of interactive activities and games, including garden tours, educational nature-based programs, creative arts activities and environmental resource booths.

EarthFest is free for all, and no advance registration is required. To learn more and check out the full schedule of events, and subscribe to the Sustainable Bellevue newsletter to make sure you don't miss an update, visit the Environmental Stewardship page ([BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/environmental-stewardship](https://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/environmental-stewardship))

We can't wait to see you on April 20!

## Grand Connection Crossing: Visit the online Open House

There is still time to share your feedback for the Grand Connection Crossing design!

Visit [engagingbellevue.gov/i405-crossing](https://engagingbellevue.gov/i405-crossing) by March 18 to take the survey and share your design ideas with the project team. The Grand Connection Crossing will establish a crossing over



*A conceptual rendering of the Grand Connection Crossing. The actual design is still to be determined.*

I-405 connecting downtown Bellevue to Eastrail and the Wilburton neighborhood for everyone walking, biking and rolling. When complete, the crossing will provide a safe and convenient alternative to vehicle travel, create new public spaces and economic opportunities and improve access to regional transportation options.

Visit [BellevueWA.gov/i405-crossing](https://BellevueWA.gov/i405-crossing) to sign up for emails texts with latest details about the project and invitations for future engagement events throughout the year.

Learn more about Bellevue's signature placemaking initiative, the Grand Connection Program at [BellevueGrandConnection.com](https://BellevueGrandConnection.com).



## Show your support for the Bellevue Police Department!

Join the Bellevue Police Foundation on Wednesday, March 6, 7-9 a.m. at the Bellevue Westin Hotel for a very special 15th anniversary breakfast to show support for the Bellevue Police Department. Presented by The Bellevue Collection, the breakfast brings together civic,

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business and community leaders to honor the officers who serve the community every day.

Come early to see exciting displays, learn more about our community programs, meet the K9 team and motorcycle team and be part of the Bellevue Police Foundation's impact on the safety of the community.

To register, visit [bellevuepolicefoundation.org/events/annual-breakfast/](https://bellevuepolicefoundation.org/events/annual-breakfast/) or email [info@bellevuepolicefoundation.org](mailto:info@bellevuepolicefoundation.org), or call 425-998-8190.

Let's make the 2024 breakfast the most memorable yet!

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## Public Spaces Survey: Your voice is needed!

As Downtown Bellevue continues to grow and transform, the role of public spaces in fostering a vibrant urban environment becomes increasingly important. These spaces serve as vital hubs where residents, workers and visitors can gather to relax, socialize and engage in various activities.

Recognizing the pivotal role that public spaces play in shaping the identity and livability of urban neighborhoods, we invite you to participate in a survey aimed at understanding public space utilization in Downtown Bellevue. Your feedback will inform decision-making processes aimed at fostering community engagement, celebrating local culture, and enhancing safety and accessibility in our public spaces!

Survey: [surveymonkey.com/r/bvuepublicspace](https://surveymonkey.com/r/bvuepublicspace)



## Apply for the Bellevue Home Repair Program

If you own and occupy your home in Bellevue, you may qualify for a deferred loan through the Bellevue Home Repair Program that will cover the costs of eligible repairs to your home for preserving the integrity and improving health and safety of your home, enabling you to get the repairs you need without having to pay out-of-pocket costs.

The City of Bellevue Home Repair Program has provided critical health and safety repairs to Bellevue homeowners since 1986. Bellevue partners with King County Housing Authority and Habitat for Humanity Seattle-King & Kittitas Counties who manage and oversee the repair projects. The home repair program provides zero percent interest deferred loans to Bellevue homeowners who qualify as low- and moderate-income. The zero percent interest-deferred loan is secured by a deed of trust and only needs to be paid back at the time of sale or transfer of the title to the home.

Examples of repairs provided through the program include roof and gutter repair or replacement, siding and exterior painting for preservation, repairing decks, installing wheelchair ramps and handrails, plumbing repairs, replacing broken hot water tanks and heat systems, driveway and sidewalk repairs and more.

If you are interested in learning more about the Bellevue Home Repair Program visit the website at [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/parks/community-services/human-services/home-repair-assistance](https://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/parks/community-services/human-services/home-repair-assistance) or contact Donna Adair: [dadair@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:dadair@bellevuewa.gov) or call 425-452-4069 to find out if you qualify for the program.







## The Dementia Action Collaborative: A valuable resource

One of the most frequent requests that the Bellevue Network on Aging receives is for information to help loved ones experiencing memory problems. In Washington state, approximately 126,000 people age 65 and older have dementia, with the number expected to double by 2040.

To address this important issue, the Dementia Action Collaborative (DAC), a group of public and private partners committed to preparing Washington state for the growth of the population living with dementia, was established. The public is welcome to attend DAC meetings and many volunteers participate in their work.

In 2023, the DAC completed an update of the Washington State Plan ([dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/AL TSA/stakeholders/documents/AD/Washington State Plan to Address Alzheimer%E2%80%99s Disease and Other Dementias 2023-28.pdf](https://dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/AL TSA/stakeholders/documents/AD/Washington%20State%20Plan%20to%20Address%20Alzheimer%E2%80%99s%20Disease%20and%20Other%20Dementias%202023-28.pdf)) to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias. Unfortunately, there is no cure for Alzheimer's and other dementias, but the plan notes "research is revealing ways to reduce risks for dementia, slow the progression, and improve the experience of living with dementia." The plan refers to the positive value of early detection and diagnosis and stresses there are multiple factors that may modify the risk of dementia including "managing chronic conditions, avoiding tobacco and excessive alcohol, following a healthy diet, staying socially engaged, exercising the body and mind and preventing and treating hearing loss."

The "Dementia Road Map: A Guide for Family and Care Partners" gives information on what to expect, what you can do, and what action steps are important during each stage of dementia.

The guide, along with valuable information on related topics, is available to download or order from the DAC website at [dshs.wa.gov/altsa/dementia-action-collaborative](https://dshs.wa.gov/altsa/dementia-action-collaborative). Click on "Individuals and Families" for the Road Map and information on subjects such as dementia safety, caregiver tips, and legal planning for persons with dementia. Free legal assistance is available for completing the legal forms. Call for assistance: 425-780-5589.



## Factoria Blvd SE five-month lane closures continue

To reduce the risk of flooding during heavy storms, the city is replacing a segment of stormwater pipe with a larger rectangular concrete stormwater conveyance system along the northbound lanes of Factoria Boulevard Southeast, next to the Factoria Village commercial area. This system will continue to drain into a modified Richards Creek channel at the north end of the project near I-90.

**Traffic:** The city will partially close Factoria Boulevard for an extended period. Both northbound Factoria Boulevard lanes will be closed, and one of the current southbound lanes will become a northbound lane for approximately five months. There will also be changes to normal traffic patterns and times from January to November.

**Bus routes:** The two King County Metro bus stops in the project area will be temporarily relocated. The city will coordinate with King County Metro to minimize impacts to transit service and alert riders of the new temporary bus stop locations.

**Business access:** Access to the businesses on both sides of Factoria Boulevard will be maintained throughout project construction. The city will provide clear signage to highlight business access locations.

For more information on this project, visit [BellevueWA.gov/factoria-stormwater-project](https://BellevueWA.gov/factoria-stormwater-project).

## Boards and Commissions Meetings

Stay updated on meetings and cancellations:  
[BellevueWA.gov](http://BellevueWA.gov)

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

### Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network

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

### 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](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/arts-and-culture/arts-commission)

### Environmental Services Commission

(6:30 p.m., 1E-113) First Thursday of each month  
[BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/utilities/conservation-and-the-environment/environmental-services-commission](http://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](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/planning-commission)

### Transportation Commission

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

### Human Services Commission (6 p.m., 1E-113)

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

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

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

### Parks & Community Services Board

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

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

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

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

To subscribe to this newsletter, visit: [BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news](http://BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news)

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

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