



Neighborhood News

June 2024

Local organizations to deliver cross-cultural programs


18 groups to produce 35 free events over next 12 months

People in Bellevue will be able to pick from among 35 free, cross-cultural events – ranging from celebrations of food and music to sessions focused on conflict resolution and community dialogue – over the next year.

The events are all part of the Cross-Cultural Center without Walls program, intended to create interactions between people and groups from different racial, ethnic, cultural and other backgrounds. Bellevue is among the most diverse cities in the region, making this programming key to sharing and learning about the many cultures in the area.

Bellevue studies between 2018 and 2022 showed widespread community support for cross-cultural programming, and a desire for it to be



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BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-new

community-led, city-supported and directed by local organizations with support from city staff and resources.

In 2023 the city held workshops to learn from residents what events and activities they wanted to see as part of the initiative.

The organizations and projects selected to offer programming reflect the vast diversity of the Bellevue community, with nearly 80% of hosting organizations run by people of color, 60% by women, 50% by immigrants or refugees, and 17% by people from the LGBTQIA+ community.

Details about the Cross-Cultural Center without Walls, including organizations hosting events and a way to sign up for updates, are available at BellevueWA.gov/cross-cultural. A calendar of cross-cultural events is included.

Be part of the 11th Annual Lake to Lake Bike Ride!

Saturday, June 8

Information and registration are online:

BellevueWA.gov/bike-ride



Explore Bellevue’s hidden treasures by bike on the Lake to Lake Bike Ride on Saturday morning, June 8—rain or shine! Bring the whole family to this enjoyable, non-competitive ride benefiting the City of Bellevue’s youth donation fund.



Neighborhood Enhancement Program updates

West Lake Sammamish Projects Open House on June 13.

Join city staff and your neighbors at an open house on Thursday, June 13 at the VASA Park Resort Ballroom, 3560 West Lake Sammamish Parkway SE, 6:30–8 p.m. to review the six small capital projects that will be included on your NEP ballot and eligible for funding from the \$219,000 West Lake Sammamish NEP budget allocation.

A brief overview of the project scoping and NEP voting processes will also be provided. Let us know that you plan to attend by email: neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov



Northeast Bellevue NEP is in the project review phase

The project submission phase for the Northeast Bellevue NEP closed on May 7. City staff are now scoping and reviewing the 93 project ideas that were submitted for your neighborhood area and will present projects eligible for funding from the \$366,000 Northeast Bellevue NEP budget allocation at a Sept. 12 open house at Saint Peter's Methodist Church, 17222 NE 8th Street.



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

Questions? Contact Theresa Cuthill at tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov. Detailed program information can be found at BellevueWA.gov/nep



Applications for Bellevue Essentials are being accepted for 2024 classes!

Information Sessions

Contact Julie Ellenhorn at jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov

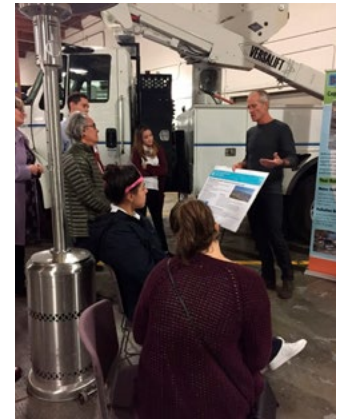
June 11, Noon-1 p.m. Zoom Virtual Meeting

June 12, 5:30-6:30 p.m. City Hall, 450 110th Ave NE Room 1E-108

June 18, 5:30-6:30 p.m. South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way

If you live or work in Bellevue, you're invited to apply for the 2024 Bellevue Essentials series, which is held on Wednesday evenings, Sept. 11 to Nov.

20. Bellevue Essentials will open your eyes to the who, what and why of city government and the avenues to get involved.



You will learn about and experience the daily structure and operations of city government through immersive and interactive learning. You will also see the work, challenges and collaboration between staff and community that make Bellevue a great place to live, work and play. Class members finish the course knowing how to impact decision making in the city, with an expanded personal network and greater awareness of volunteer opportunities.

Tuition is \$200 and fee waivers are available to those with financial need.

A cohort of 35 participants will be selected who are demographically representative of Bellevue's diverse community and are committed to the future of Bellevue and to serving their community.

Applications are due by Sunday, July 21, at 5 p.m. A brochure and application for the 2024 class is available at Bellevue Essentials.

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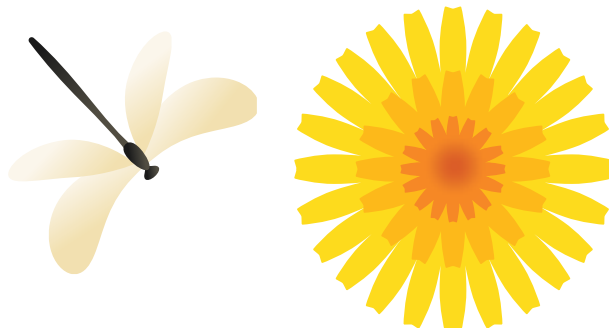


2024 State of the City: You're invited!

Have breakfast with Mayor Lynne Robinson and Deputy Mayor Mo Malakoutian on June 25 at 7:30 a.m. at the Meydenbauer Center.

Come learn what the city's future holds, including updates on the local economy, arts and tourism, equity and inclusion initiatives, housing strategies, neighborhood safety, mobility projects and more as we celebrate our shared achievements and pave the path ahead.

Registration and information link:
bellevuedowntown.com/do/2024-state-of-the-city



Bellevue Beats & Bites Music Series

Free lunchtime outdoor concerts are back in the heart of Bellevue!

From June 4 to August 15, enjoy live music and must-try food trucks at various open spaces and plazas in Downtown. Check out our lineup to see which local musicians and food trucks you can look forward to this summer.

Learn more:

bellevuedowntown.com/events/bellevue-beats

Mini City Hall has moved to new space!

Crossroads Shopping Center

15600 NE 8th St, Suite E1, near Hallmark store

Mini City Hall moved to a new, larger space at Crossroads Shopping Center to meet increasing demand for services.

The new facility builds on 30 years of serving the needs of Bellevue's residents and building partnerships with well-known community organizations to provide direct services including healthcare, computer skill building, immigration support, job counseling, housing and more.





World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is June 15

Bellevue City Council will recognize the importance of this day with a proclamation on June 11 encouraging public awareness and action against elder abuse.

Elder abuse can entail a range of behaviors, including:

- Physical, emotional or sexual abuse
- Financial exploitation
- Confinement or neglect
- Willful deprivation or self-neglect.

Elder abuse occurs in private homes, institutional settings such as nursing homes or assisted living facilities, and within businesses in the community. Abuse is often perpetrated by a known and trusted person, such as an adult child, grandchild or spouse. The National Council on Aging reported that in almost 60% of elder abuse and neglect incidents, the perpetrator is a family member. In 2022, Adult Protective Services in Washington state had 65,833 reports of abuse.

Elder abuse will not stop unless there is awareness, and unless it is reported.

To report vulnerable adult abuse in an emergency, dial 911. Otherwise, phone Adult Protective Services (APS) at 1-877-734-6277, (TTY) 1-833-866-5595, or file a report online at: dshs.wa.gov/altsa/home-and-community-services/report-concerns-involving-vulnerable-adults

Additional useful information on elder abuse in Washington is available on the websites of the King County Prosecutor's Office, the Washington Attorney general, and Washington LawHelp.

Creating a brush fire safe zone around your home

What comes to mind when you hear the word "wildfire?" Chances are, you didn't visualize your own home, because in urban cities like Bellevue, the threat of wildfires seems unrealistic and distant. We live on city-sized lots in neighborhoods lined with paved streets, shared fences and fire hydrants every few hundred feet. Despite this, parts of our community are at risk of wildfires.

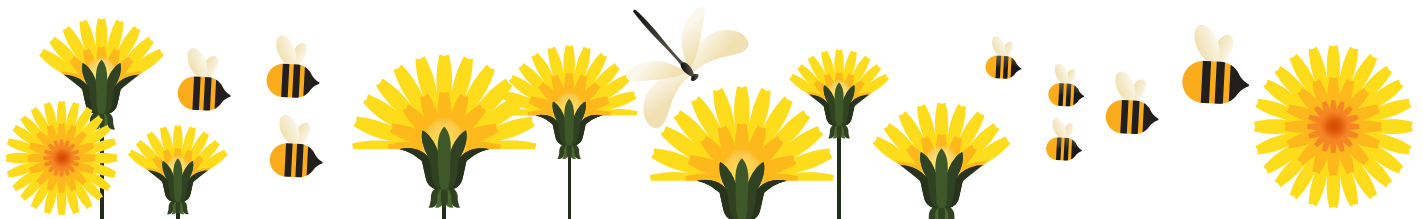
Last year, Bellevue firefighters responded to over 200 brush and vegetation fires. Fortunately, none were catastrophic, but they could have been. With climate change exacerbating fire risks, and the Department of Natural Resources predicting a higher-than-average wildfire season west of the Cascades this summer, it's essential for all of us to be proactive in safeguarding our homes.

Creating a fire safe zone does not mean cutting down trees or eliminating landscaping. It means being strategic, by cutting branches 6-10 feet from the ground and making sure none are overhanging your home's roof or other structures. This prevents the spread of fire while preserving the health and aesthetics of your tree.

Regular maintenance is key to ensuring the effectiveness of your fire-safe zone. Keep the area clear of debris, including dry leaves and fallen branches, which can ignite easily. Implementing fire-smart landscaping practices, such as using mulch made from non-combustible materials, further reduces fire risk. Additionally, consider replacing current plants with fire resistant variants, often native to the Pacific Northwest.

By taking proactive measures to create a fire-safe zone around your urban home, you can significantly reduce the risk of wildfire damage and increase the resilience of your property.

Stay vigilant, stay prepared, and prioritize safety above all else.





“Drawing Herd” free art workshops

June 20 and 22 at the Spring District
June 27 and 29 at the Bellevue Botanical Garden

More information and registration are available at: eventbrite.com/cc/city-of-bellevue-3358929
Drawing Herd is a mobile installation offering pop-up drawing workshops for all ages and skill levels.

The workshops use observation to enhance attention and foster connection, providing creative experiences in public parks to improve the well-being of individuals, communities and the environment.

Hosted by artist Coco Allred and supported by the City of Bellevue Arts Program, Drawing Herd will come to the Spring District and Bellevue Botanical Garden in June. All classes are free, no artistic experience is required and art supplies are provided.

Workshop topics will include: Shape of a Leaf, Light and Shadow, Plant Drawing, and Clouds + Climate Change.

More details on the class schedule and content are available on Eventbrite.

Coco is an artist, designer and educator based in Seattle. She works in a range of media including sculpture, printmaking and collaborative public projects. Focused on creating alternative spaces for learning and convening, she created Drawing Herd in 2020.

Public hearings scheduled for complete draft of city’s Comprehensive Plan

At the beginning of May, the city released the complete draft of the Comprehensive Plan. This milestone is the product of over two years of work that included environmental review; climate, housing and equity analyses; and broad community input. Over 7,000 individuals provided feedback through workshops, online questionnaires, pop-up events and more.

The result of this work is a Comprehensive Plan that offers a bold vision for addressing growth and development in Bellevue over the next 20 years. Updates are designed to meet the city’s growth targets of 35,000 new housing units and 70,000 added jobs with new policies related to housing, land use, sustainability, and equity.

The overall growth strategy directs most of the city’s growth in housing and jobs to mixed use centers – Downtown, BelRed, Crossroads, Wilburton, Eastgate and Factoria – where there is good access to transit and other amenities. This is coupled with a focus on enhancing neighborhood centers throughout the city to support greater walkability and access to goods and services. Updates support diverse housing choices in all neighborhoods by encouraging and allowing middle-scale housing in all parts of the city.

Bellevue residents appreciate the natural beauty of the city and want to preserve and enhance the environment for future generations. The updated Comprehensive Plan supports these efforts by continuing to focus on reducing carbon emissions, protecting natural areas, and preparing for challenges brought on by climate change.

This update also brings a new focus on building an equitable future where people of all backgrounds are able to thrive. New and updated policies throughout the plan recognize the city’s growing diversity, acknowledge the unique needs of different groups, and ensure that the city considers the impacts of various programs and projects on all parts of the community.



Continued from previous page

The Planning Commission has been reviewing these updates and making recommendations for the past several months. Their work will continue in June with two public hearings tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 20 and Wednesday, June 26. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and provide comment. To find out more about these hearings and how to participate people can visit BellevueWA.gov/comprehensive-plan or reach out to Brooke Brod at bbrod@bellevuewa.gov.

Construction noise hours updated

In April, the City Council expanded the hours when construction noise is allowed in Bellevue. The changes went into effect on May 23 and expand construction noise hours to 7 a.m.-8 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturdays. The longer daily hours are intended to shorten and length and impact of construction on the community over the long term to provide balance between minimizing excessive noise exposure for the community and supporting development.

Other changes to the code include required public notice when projects are authorized for construction noise outside the newly expanded hours. There are additional changes to the code and additional details are available at BellevueWA.gov/noise-code-amendment.

City staff respond to noise complaints. Community members may report complaints by calling the Bellevue Police Department non-emergency phone number, 425-577-5656, or through the MyBellevue customer assistance portal.



2024 Experience Bellevue!

Over 600 people registered for 20 walking tours, bus tours, Welcome to City Hall and events to learn about the community, and enjoyed the Spring District Family Festival.



HONORING JUNETEENTH

Living Voices presents "Our Revolution"

Thursday, June 13 | 6-7:30 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall - Council Chambers

In honor of Juneteenth, the City of Bellevue invites you to experience the American Revolution, the founding of the United States and the concept of "all men are created equal" from the unique point of view of a free Black colonist.

This free performance from Living Voices will combine a dynamic solo performance with archival film to transform history into a moving, personal journey that illuminates issues of social justice and their relevance today.

Register at [COB-honoring-juneteenth.eventbrite.com](https://cob-honoring-juneteenth.eventbrite.com)

For more information, contact diversity@bellevuewa.gov



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City of Bellevue
Diversity Advantage

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/special-meetings

Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network
 (6 p.m., Bellevue City Hall) Last Tuesday of each month
BellevueWA.gov/city-government/bdan

Arts Commission (4:30 p.m., 1E-113)
 First Wednesday of each month
BellevueWA.gov/arts-commission

Environmental Services Commission
 (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) First Thursday of each month
BellevueWA.gov/environmental-commission

Planning Commission (6:30 p.m., 1E-113)
 Second and fourth Wednesday of each month
BellevueWA.gov/cdplanning-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 Monday of each month
BellevueWA.gov/human-services-commission

LEOFF 1 Disability Board (6 p.m., Room 1E-118)
 First Wednesday of each month
BellevueWA.gov/leoff-1-disability-board

Library Board (5p.m., Lake Hills, Bellevue or Newport Way Library) Second Wednesday of each month.
BellevueWA.gov/library-board

Parks & Community Services Board
 (6 p.m., 1E-113) Third Wednesday of each month
BellevueWA.gov/pcs-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/events

Youth Link Board (6 p.m., 1E-120) Second and fourth Wednesday of each month
BellevueWA.gov/youth-link-board

Bellevue's Neighborhood Services Division offers a variety of programs and partnerships for residents and community members.

To learn more about involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, please visit our website at: BellevueWA.gov/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 Tuesdays of each Month, except August and December	6 p.m. Regular Meeting	Council Chamber Bellevue TV channel 21 and BT 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 Tuesday only			
December – first and second Tuesday only			