



Neighborhood News



July 2024

Bellevue Family 4th Celebration

The Bellevue Family 4th Celebration is a free public event, attracting more than 50,000 visitors to Downtown Park. The City of Bellevue and Bellevue Downtown Association have co-produced the Bellevue Family 4th for the



past 32 years. The event features live music, family entertainment, children's areas and food vendors. The event concludes with the Eastside's largest fireworks display synchronized to music performed by the Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Live music will be performed at the Amazon Entertainment Plaza

- 5 p.m. Performance by Aaron Crawford (Country)
- 7 p.m. Performance by Soulfunktion (Disco, Funk & Pop Cover Band)
- 9:20 p.m. Pre-fireworks set by Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra
- 10 p.m. National Anthem by Bellevue Chamber Chorus
- 10:25 p.m. Post-fireworks set by Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra



Bring your water bottle!

Visitors are encouraged to bring refillable water bottles to the event. Two water refill stations will be located throughout the park.

Celebrate safely this Fourth of July!

Whether you celebrate Independence Day at the city's annual Bellevue Family 4th, out with friends and family or you're just out on the road, make sure you arrive home safely! Unfortunately, we often see an increase in crashes involving alcohol, cannabis, or substance-related impaired driving on and around the holiday. Most Washington drivers never drive impaired, but last year, 56% of all fatal crashes in the state involved impairment.

The Bellevue Police Department has DUI emphasis patrols throughout the summer, including on July 4th, as part of King County Target Zero Task Force's "100 Safe Days of Summer". Some tips for keeping our community safe, on the Fourth and all year long, include:

- Planning ahead for a ride home if you plan to drink. Even a small amount of alcohol can impair your driving.

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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-new

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- If you're hosting a Fourth of July gathering, make sure to include non-alcoholic beverages for those who are driving.
- Talking to your friends if they seem like they are planning to drive impaired. Help them find another way to get home safely, including taking transit, ordering a rideshare, or carpooling. Sound Transit and King County Metro both offer later services on July 4.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, safely call 911 to report it.

Bellevue's Vision Zero initiative aims to eliminate traffic deaths and serious-injury collisions on city streets by 2030, and preventing impaired driving is one way we can help keep our community safe and reduce traffic crashes. To learn more about Vision Zero and how we're working towards this goal, visit BellevueWA.gov/visionzero.

Fireworks regulations and reminders

In our community, personal fireworks are illegal, and for good reason—they pose significant risks to both people and property, not to mention the havoc our vets and furry friends experience. Instead of taking these risks, we encourage you to attend one of the many fantastic public fireworks displays in the area. These shows are conducted by professionals who are trained to handle fireworks safely, ensuring a spectacular and safe experience for everyone.

If you encounter the use of illegal fireworks, please report it through the MyBellevue app, rather than calling 9-1-1. This helps keep our emergency lines open for true emergencies.

Let's celebrate responsibly this year by supporting our community's events and making safety a priority.

Have a fantastic and safe Fourth of July!



2024 Neighborhood Walks

Neighborhood Walks give residents an opportunity to meet neighbors and visit with the city's department directors in an informal setting, during walks in Bellevue's unique neighborhoods. City staff look forward to enjoying your neighborhood and visiting with you! You can walk the route or come to visit at the starting point.

This year's walks are scheduled for the following neighborhood areas:

West Lake Sammamish/Lake Hills Area

Monday, July 15, 6:30-8:15 p.m.

Starting point:

Southeast end of Lake Hills Community Park
1200 164th Ave SE, Bellevue

Factoria Area

Wednesday, July 17, 6:30-8:15 p.m.

Starting point:

South end of Factoria MarketPlace
12508 SE 41st Place, Bellevue

West Bellevue Area

Thursday, July 18, 6:30-8:15 p.m.

Starting point: South end of Surrey Downs Park
11177 SE 4th St, Bellevue

Have questions about Neighborhood Walks?

Email NeighborhoodOutreach@bellevuewa.gov



Bellevue Essentials applications are being accepted through July 21

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. The 12 weeks of Bellevue Essentials will help you to understand Bellevue city services, public policy and ways to get involved in the community.



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. For alternate formats, interpreters or reasonable accommodations, please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-7855 or email NeighborhoodOutreach@bellevuewa.gov. For complaints regarding accommodations, contact Bellevue's ADA/Title VI administrator at 425-452-6168. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, dial 711.



Attention West Lake Sammamish area residents: Your vote matters!

Submit your ballot for your top three Neighborhood Enhancement Program Project Choices. Deadline is July 25.

Tell us which projects you'd like to see funded with the \$219,000 in available funds the city has allocated for your neighborhood area. Simply return the postage paid ballot included in the



voter's pamphlet that each West Lake Sammamish neighborhood household received in June.

Voting is by mail only and limited to one ballot per household address, allowing you the opportunity to rate, in priority order, which three projects you feel are most deserving to be funded. Projects will be assigned points; three for first choice, two for second, and one for third. Responses will be tabulated with the highest-scoring projects receiving funding.

Project specifics and a map showing the project locations for the six West Lake Sammamish NEP projects can be found on the City of Bellevue's NEP website in the West Lake Sammamish Neighborhood Area section at BellevueWA.gov/nep

Ballots must be postmarked by **Thursday, July 25, 2024**, to be included in the voting process. Remember to include your address, and for those in multiple housing units, your apartment/condo number must be included as well, for your vote to be counted.

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. In 2024, NEP is available in the West Lake Sammamish and Northeast Bellevue neighborhood areas.

Please contact Theresa Cuthill at tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov with questions. Detailed program information can be found at BellevueWA.gov/nep

Join us for the Electric Vehicle Roadmap Open House July 22

By now, you've probably heard that the City of Bellevue is charged up about the electric vehicle future!

But what will the EV transition look like for our community? The city is planning for increasing numbers of electric vehicles over the coming years with our Electric Vehicle Roadmap, a plan to improve access to EV charging infrastructure for all residents.

We're taking our EV Roadmap on the road! Join the city's sustainability team at Crossroads Park on Monday, July 22, 4:30-7:30 p.m. for an opportunity to learn more about the EV Roadmap and offer your input on the draft strategies. The event will feature EV drivers with their vehicles, EV-themed family-friendly activities, popsicles and light refreshments, and more ways to engage with the electrified future.

This event is free for all, and Bellevue community members of all ages are welcome. You do not need to own an EV or plan to purchase one to attend. Learn more and register at: [ev-roadmap-open-house.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ev-roadmap-open-house). We're excited to see you there!

You are welcome here!

New program offers a temporary home for Bellevue community living in cars

In May, the city launched a program to provide a safe place for people living in their cars a place to park and access essential services. The safe parking program site is located in the Wilburton neighborhood at the city-owned Lincoln Center, the former site of the PorchLight men's shelter. On-site amenities include restrooms and showers, a kitchen, laundry facilities and Wi-Fi, plus support from staff to help residents find more permanent housing and overcome barriers to exiting homelessness.

The city contracts with 4 Tomorrow to run the program. 4 Tomorrow is a local nonprofit with a successful history of partnering with the city to support families in the Bellevue School District and individuals experiencing homelessness.



The program currently prioritizes access for families with children and will host up to 20 vehicles that serve as residences on site at a time.

As of early May, 15 families, made up of 20 adults and 30 children, are participating in the program. The program is already having measurable positive impacts; two families working with 4 Tomorrow's case management staff have already moved into stable housing.

Community members curious to learn more about the program, or who would like to refer someone to the program, can contact homelessness outreach program manager Nico Quijano at 425-229-5819, nquijano@bellevuewa.gov. Those interested in volunteering or donating to the program are encouraged to visit [4Tomorrow.today](https://www.4tomorrow.today).

Photo caption: More than 50 invited guests at an opening celebration signed a banner saying, "You are welcome here!" welcoming new residents to the program.

Prioritizing wellness in senior years

Approximately 80% of older adults in King County have at least one chronic medical condition and about 60% suffer from two or more conditions.

Sixty-eight percent of all adults with a mental health condition have at least one other medical condition. As we age, it becomes more important to focus on optimizing wellness in all aspects of our being.



Research has shown there are eight dimensions that contribute to wellness. Striving toward a balance between these dimensions can provide optimal wellness that can support disease prevention, sound mental health, and minimize reliance on medications.

Keep track of your physical wellness by periodically assessing how you are doing on these wellness factors:

Physical wellness: Keep up with your health checkups, eat nutritious meals as often as possible, get some exercise most days of the week and get at least 7- 8 hours of sleep.

Emotional wellness: Give enough time for yourself, loving yourself and surrounding yourself with positive people, have a network of people you can reach out to for help and balancing your own needs with the needs of others.

Spiritual wellness: Does your spirituality help you feel grateful for things and opportunities? Do you seek out meaning in your life? Does your faith help to get you through tough times?

Social wellness: When you feel down, do you reach out to others for support? Do you feel comfortable meeting new people? Do you have a sense of belonging in your community?

Occupational wellness: In our senior years it is important to keep ourselves engaged in lifelong learning by engaging in challenging activities and pursuits like reading and trying new skills.

Environmental wellness: Do you take time to appreciate nature and your surroundings? Recycle products and turn off lights and faucets?

Financial wellness: Do you understand how to build credit and use credit cards wisely,

and can you stick to a budget each month? Do you feel good about your current and future financial situation?

The City of Bellevue has a resource guide to help you achieve optimal health and stay healthy without relying on external factors such as drugs and alcohol to feel good at [BellevueWA.gov/sites/default/files/media/pdf_document/2023/BNOA-Resource-Guide.pdf](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/sites/default/files/media/pdf_document/2023/BNOA-Resource-Guide.pdf) or for more information, contact the Bellevue Network on Aging at [BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/network-on-aging](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/network-on-aging)

Bellevue Police Foundation Golf Tournament and Banquet

Would you like to support public safety and have fun at the same time? Register now for the Bellevue Police Foundation's third Annual Golf Tournament and Banquet to be held on Tuesday, Aug. 20 at the beautiful Golf Club at Newcastle. Proceeds will fund innovative community outreach programs, specialized equipment and advanced training for Bellevue Police.

This year's event starts at 1:30 p.m. Police will be available to check your ball speed with a radar gun. Play will be followed immediately by a delicious awards banquet overlooking the Puget Sound and Olympic Mountains. Players and others will be able to bid on items with our first ever silent auction.

Not a golfer? The banquet and silent auction are open to you, too!

Register online at bellevuepolicefoundation.org/events/golf-tournament/

We look forward to seeing you on the course!





New grant program from city's Arts and Culture Program

Starting in July, the city will offer two new grants to support existing art and bring more art and cultural facilities to Bellevue.

Art and Cultural Capital Project and Facility Maintenance grants aim to fund capital projects by arts and cultural organizations in Bellevue. Capital projects grants can support acquiring property, building new facilities, acquiring specialized equipment and other major building renovations. Facility maintenance grants can support preventative maintenance and repairs to help preserve existing arts and cultural facilities. The total 2025-26 grant cycle's budget is \$1.8 million.

Applying nonprofits must have a 501 (c) 3 designation, have two years of operation, and provide publicly accessible programming. Applications will be open in early July and are due Monday, Aug. 12. Please visit BellevueWA.gov/ArtsGrants for more information.



Survey on Meydenbauer Bay Park

Meydenbauer Bay Park is one of Bellevue's most popular and iconic destinations. Per the park's master plan, the city is now planning to expand the park's connection with downtown.

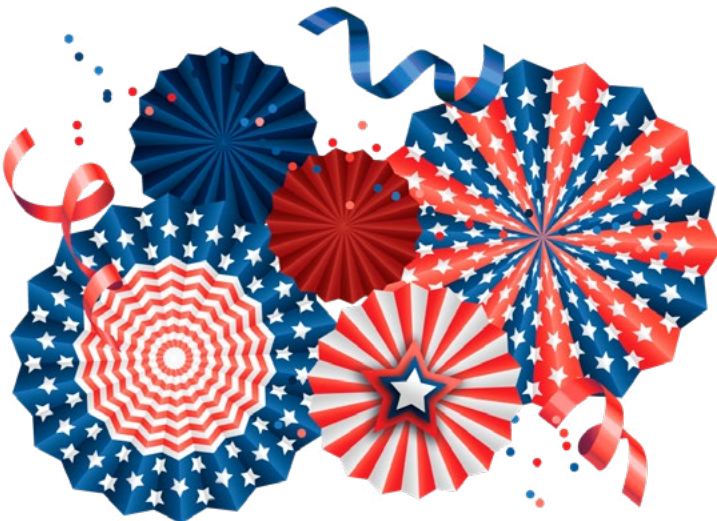
The community has been weighing in on priorities for the park, which have informed the potential designs for the park's expansion. Share your feedback in the online survey, open , until Monday, July 15 at EngagingBellevue.com/meydenbauer-bay-park-expansion.

Recreational vehicle storage guidelines

Until the warm weather rolls in for good, many of us keep our outdoor toys like boats, motorhomes, and travel/utility trailers – collectively known as recreational vehicles (RVs) - in storage. Bringing them out for use sometimes results in neighborhood concerns about RV storage on residential property.

Did you know that the City of Bellevue has land use codes for parking and storing RVs?

RVs can be stored on residential properties if they are outside property line setbacks, under a certain length, and properly screened from view when required. Proper storage examples include housing RVs within a garage or carport with proper screening, parking them on concrete, asphalt or other impervious surfaces along the side or rear of a home (outside of property line setbacks) and screened by a solid board fence or dense vegetation at least six feet high.



One RV may be stored in a front driveway if there is no reasonable access to the side or rear of the home, but it must meet additional screening requirements. For residents needing to temporarily prepare for use or storage, the loading and unloading of RVs is exempt from these requirements if completed within three days and limit to once every two weeks.

For more information on RV storage, including detailed examples, visit BellevueWA.gov/rv-boat-storage. For additional questions or concerns, contact the Code Compliance team at 425-452-2047 or codecompliance@bellevuewa.gov.

Exciting Eastrail updates!

On May 31, King County parks announced the start of the conversion of the iconic Wilburton Trestle from a railroad bridge to part of Eastrail. The renovated trestle is scheduled to open to the public in 2026. Another Eastrail milestone happened on June 23, as the NE 8th Street bridge opened with a public celebration. It provides a connection for people walking and rolling from Wilburton and south Bellevue north along Eastrail, as well as to Sound Transit's Wilburton light rail station.

Eastrail is converting a former rail line into a multi-use path, and once completed, will be 42 miles long and connect Bellevue to Renton, Kirkland, Woodinville, Snohomish and Redmond. For more information, visit KingCounty.gov/Eastrail.

Updates on RapidRide K Line

King County Metro (Metro) and the cities of Kirkland and Bellevue continue to plan for the RapidRide K Line which will expand bus rapid transit on the Eastside. Planned for service in 2030, the RapidRide K Line will provide fast, reliable and frequent transit service between Totem Lake in Kirkland and the Eastgate Park-and-Ride with stops at key hubs such as Bellevue College and downtown Bellevue.

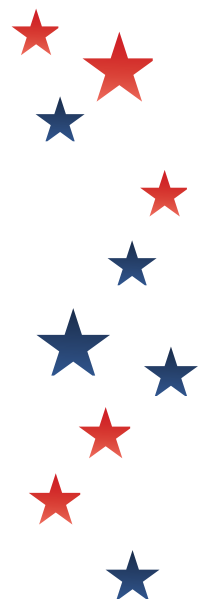
Building on the initial phase of outreach conducted in 2019, King County Metro invites community members to respond to a survey between June 27-July 24 to provide your input on proposed K Line routes and station locations.

To take the survey and view map, visit KingCounty.gov/rapidride/k-line

New intersection artwork unveiled at Downtown Park

A new creative pavement treatment was unveiled June 1 at the south end of Downtown Park in celebration of Pride Month. This new piece of art, titled "The Love Between" and designed by local artist Esmeralda Vasquez, serves as a reminder that Bellevue is a place where people of all backgrounds can live, work and thrive without fear of discrimination. It is also part of the city's ongoing efforts to create an environment where everyone feels respected, valued and celebrated.

You can visit the new vibrant artwork at the intersection of Northeast First Street and 102nd Avenue Northeast. To learn more, visit BellevueWA.gov/thelovebetween.



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 | | | |