



# Neighborhood News



January 2025



## Bridle Trails

### NEP Virtual Kickoff Meeting

Jan. 22, 6:30-8 p.m.

Email for Zoom Link

[Neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:Neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov)

## Neighborhood Enhancement Program is coming to Bridle Trails

The Bridle Trails NEP process is launching this month, with a virtual kick-off meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 22. City staff will provide attendees with a brief overview of the program and schedule, answer questions, and invite community members to share, discuss and submit project ideas for how to improve the neighborhood with the allocated \$445,000. City project managers will be available in breakout rooms for specific project discussion.



Following the kickoff meeting, each household in Bridle Trails will receive a postage-paid NEP Project Request Form in the mail. Residents are encouraged to use this form, or the online project request form on the NEP website, to submit as many NEP project requests as they choose by the Feb. 27 submission deadline.

The Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) is a city-funded, capital improvements program that allows residents to propose and select projects that boost their neighborhood's quality of life and enhance its character. The program rotates through Bellevue's 14 designated NEP Neighborhood Areas, serving two areas each year.

To learn 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).

For more information about NEP, please contact Theresa Cuthill at [tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov)



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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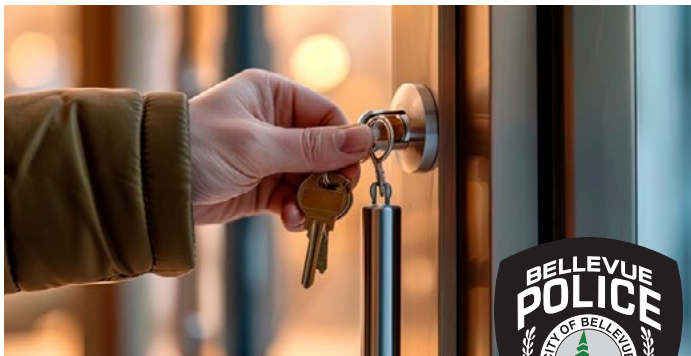
## Provide your input on Eastgate's newest neighborhood park!

Join city staff for the first community meeting for Eastgate's newest neighborhood park on Thursday, Jan. 16, 6:30-8 p.m. at the South Bellevue Community Center. This event will offer community members a space to give feedback and input on plans for the upcoming park.

The Eastgate Neighborhood Area south of I-90 has long been underserved in parks and trails access. To address this need, voters passed the 2022 City of Bellevue Parks and Open Space levy, which generated funds for acquiring, planning and developing a new park in the Eastgate neighborhood.

With these funds, the city acquired two properties on the corner of 147th Avenue SE and SE 39th Street, totaling about a half-acre of land for the proposed park.

We look forward to working with the community to plan and name the new park!



## Why should I lock my doors?

The harder it is for a burglar to enter your home, the less likely it is that a burglary will occur.

No one should experience the feeling of a stranger rummaging through their things, especially when your home is where you should feel the safest. By always keeping your home locked, you are taking a simple but vital step to protecting yourself, your family, your valuables and your privacy. There are many circumstances of people falling victim to a home invasion that could have been prevented by simply locking up.

# SAFETY

**Secure Doors/Windows**  
**Use Outdoor Lighting**  
**Install Security System**  
**Install front-Door Cameras**  
**Secure Your Garage**  
**Know Your Neighbors**

### How do I develop safe habits?

It can be hard to remember to lock your doors, especially if it is not something you regularly do. Consider setting reminders on your phone, adding a sign to the door you see right before leaving or begin locking doors behind you as you walk through them.

### What if I leave and forget to lock my doors, or to close my garage door?

If you forget to lock your doors or are unsure if doors are locked and closed, smart locks are the solution! Bluetooth smart locks let you control your locks and garage doors from your phone.

### Some helpful tips:

- **Secure doors and windows:** Ensure all doors have sturdy deadbolts and all windows are locked. Consider adding window security film for extra reinforcement.
- **Install a security system:** A monitored security system with cameras, alarms and motion sensors can deter intruders and alert you to any suspicious activity.
- **Use outdoor lighting:** Motion-activated lights around your home can illuminate dark areas and deter unwanted visitors.
- **Trim Landscaping:** Keep shrubs and trees well-trimmed to eliminate hiding spots near windows and doors.
- **Create the illusion of occupancy:** Use timers for indoor lights to mimic activity when you're not home or consider smart home devices that can simulate your presence.
- **Reinforce entry points:** Use door jammers or security bars on sliding doors. Reinforce doors with solid core materials.

- **Install peepholes or cameras:** A peephole allows you to see who's at the door without opening it. Doorbell cameras add an extra layer of security.
- **Secure the garage:** Make sure garage doors are locked and that interior doors leading from the garage to your home are secure.
- **Get to know your neighbors:** Building relationships with neighbors can create a community watch effect, where everyone looks out for each other.
- **Remove valuables from view:** Keep valuables out of sight from windows to reduce temptation.
- **Stay informed:** Keep up with local crime trends and adjust your security measures accordingly.

If someone knocks on your door, acknowledge them so that they know someone is home. You do not need to open the door.

Taking these steps can significantly enhance your home's security!



## Manage your medications, don't let them manage you

As the years go by, it's common to start taking medications prescribed by your primary healthcare provider or specialists.

Some medications are on a continuous basis, such as for controlling blood pressure or cholesterol control, cardiac or breathing issues, and many other reasons. Other medications may be prescribed for short-term use, such as antibiotics or muscle relaxants. We may also pick up "over the counter" (OTC) medications for colds, coughs, pain management and maybe better sleep, adding them to the mix.

There are some important things to remember about medications:

- They all have the potential for side effects and for interactions with each other.
- Just because drugs are sold OTC, without a prescription, doesn't necessarily mean they are safe for you.
- Drugs are metabolized and eliminated by the liver and kidneys. Just as we see changes in our body as we age, the liver and kidneys are aging too and may not process drugs as efficiently, leading to a cumulative effect

To manage your medications and not let them manage you, there are some important factors to consider:

- Know each medication you are on, the dose, when it should be taken and what you are taking it for.
- Make sure any provider prescribing a medication for you has a list of everything else you take, including vitamins and supplements.
- Review your medications and dosages at least once a year with your primary healthcare provider. Sometimes dosages need to be adjusted or medications need to be stopped or changed. If your provider doesn't do this automatically, request it.
- Always keep your medications in the original containers with the label on. If you put your medications in a weekly medication box, check each label before you place it in the compartments.
- If you decide to take an OTC medication but are on prescription drugs read the label for contraindications and check with the pharmacist or your doctor's office to learn whether it is safe for you.
- Always take a complete list of your medications with you when you travel.

Be an active partner with your providers in understanding and managing your medications! Report any adverse effects from new medications promptly. And most of all, never be afraid to ask questions of your doctors and pharmacists.



## Sustainable Bellevue Plan Update Townhall and Survey

The Sustainable Bellevue Plan Update is underway. The Sustainable Bellevue Plan ([BellevueWA.gov/environment](https://BellevueWA.gov/environment)) guides citywide climate action, sustainability and environmental stewardship, and provides a path for the city to reach its 2030 sustainability goals. There will be many opportunities throughout the coming year to provide input on the plan update and help us create a sustainable future in Bellevue for generations to come.

Community members are invited to attend the Townhall and Plan Launch Event this January. Note that the Townhall has been rescheduled from its original December date.

**Townhall and Plan Update Launch**  
**Wednesday, Jan. 15 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.**  
**Puesta Del Sol Elementary School**  
**301 151st Place Northeast | Bellevue**

Register for the Townhall: ([bit.ly/ESI-townhall](https://bit.ly/ESI-townhall))

Follow the project for updates: [engagingbellevue.com/esi-update-2024-25](https://engagingbellevue.com/esi-update-2024-25).

**In addition to the Townhall, we are also seeking input through our Phase 1 Community Survey** ([bit.ly/ESI-survey](https://bit.ly/ESI-survey)). The survey is available in six languages, allows community members to provide feedback on climate impacts in Bellevue and the sustainability issues the city should prioritize in the plan update. Your feedback will also help inform the overarching strategies in the updated plan. We look forward to hearing from you!



## Housing Opportunities in Mixed-Use Areas:

Engage on housing density planning:

Bellevue is exploring new ways to encourage housing development with the Housing Opportunities in Mixed-Use Areas (HOMA) Land Use Code Amendment. HOMA focuses on updating the land use code to better support housing development in mixed-use areas and increase consistency with the City's recently updated Comprehensive Plan. The HOMA code amendments will also include an affordable housing program—either mandatory or voluntary—and updated land use districts in select mixed-use areas of Bellevue.

The proposal addresses topics like density, building heights, setbacks, parking and trash and recycling requirements. The HOMA proposal will not include certain areas that have dedicated planning initiatives focused on housing and density, including Wilburton, BelRed or recently completed planning initiatives, like East Main.

The city welcomes community involvement in this process and will be scheduling virtual and in-person information sessions during the winter and spring. More information is on the information page: [BellevueWA.gov/HOMA](https://BellevueWA.gov/HOMA).





## Choose Your Way: Sustainable and affordable transportation for a new you in 2025!

More information and sign-up links can be found on the program's website, [ChooseYourWayBellevue.org](https://ChooseYourWayBellevue.org).

Choose Your Way Bellevue is a program developed by the City of Bellevue that promotes sustainable transportation in the city. Whether you're a daily traveler, a business owner, a property manager or a newcomer to the city, the resources can help you explore eco-friendly, cost-effective ways to travel.

For daily travelers, Choose Your Way Bellevue offers information on transitioning from driving alone to walking, biking, taking transit, vanpooling or carpooling for some or all of your trips.

The program also provides rewards for using sustainable modes of travel, including gift cards to REI, Hulu, Spotify or ORCA cards. Additionally, driving alone can be costly! AAA estimates annual vehicle ownership costs at \$12,297, when accounting for payments, fuel, insurance and maintenance. By opting for sustainable travel, you can significantly cut expenses.

Business owners and property managers can access financial incentives and assistance through Choose Your Way Bellevue programs like mini-grants for transit infrastructure improvements, ORCA card subsidies, and guidance for creating commute programs that encourage sustainable travel. These efforts reduce costs for employers and employees, support the environment, and boost employee satisfaction.

In January, the "New Year, New to Bellevue" travel challenge invites residents and employees who are new to Bellevue within the last year to travel the city by sustainable travel modes. Participants can earn rewards for completing non-drive-alone trips and attend a free Travel Training session designed to build confidence in using transit.

By choosing sustainable transportation, you're putting money back into your pocket, enhancing your health, and contributing to a greener community.

Let this new year be the start of a more sustainable journey in Bellevue!



## City kicks off 2025 Affordable Housing Update

*Hannah Bahnmler – Senior Affordable Housing Planner, Office of Housing*

**Affordable Housing Strategy Information Session**  
Thursday, Jan. 30 | 5:30-8 p.m.

**Bellevue City Hall Council Chambers and Bellevue TV** ([youtube.com/channel/UCW22suSoHWumwarCbu3NkOg](https://youtube.com/channel/UCW22suSoHWumwarCbu3NkOg))

**Register:** [2025-AHS-Kickoff.eventbrite.com](https://2025-AHS-Kickoff.eventbrite.com)

The city's Office of Housing will kick off this planning effort on Thursday, Jan. 30 with an Affordable Housing Strategy Information Session. Attendees will learn more about housing needs in the community, the progress that has been made and how people can get involved. There will be time for questions.

The event will be livestreamed so people can attend in person or watch at home. Registration is not required but is encouraged.

Making sure that people of all backgrounds and at all stages of life have housing that meets their needs consistently rates as a top issue for community members. Since launching its first Affordable Housing Strategy in 2017 the city has helped preserve or create over 1,700 affordable housing units.

There is still work to be done, which is why the City Council launched an update to the Affordable Strategy last fall with a new goal of creating or

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preserving 5700 affordable housing units over the next seven years. With this as the starting point, the city will work with community members, service providers, and developers to understand what strategies and actions to prioritize.

To learn more about the 2025 Affordable Housing Strategy Update and share your story, visit our online engagement hub at [engagingbellevue.com/2025-affordable-housing-strategy](https://engagingbellevue.com/2025-affordable-housing-strategy).

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## **Bellevue is studying pricing to help manage curbside demands**

The City of Bellevue recently launched the Curb Pricing Study, an initiative that is exploring the feasibility of creating a curb pricing program for the city's densest neighborhoods. Curb pricing would include paid on-street parking and charging for curbside loading zones in certain locations around the Downtown, Wilburton, and BelRed neighborhoods. Curb pricing is a standard practice in many other cities around the country and is seen as a best practice to help improve curbside access for drivers hoping to visit a business district.

In 2023, the Bellevue City Council adopted the Curb Management Plan (CMP), a long-range strategy to better manage the city's curbside areas over time. Common curbside uses include on-street parking, loading zones, passenger pickup spots, and curbside dining zones. The

plan includes over two dozen "Curb Practices", strategies to help address challenges in the curbside environment. Exploring curb pricing is identified as a near-term priority within the CMP and is also a stated policy in the city's Comprehensive Plan.

Today, curbside parking areas in the Downtown, BelRed and Wilburton neighborhoods are free of charge. As a result, curbside parking is often overutilized, making it difficult for people driving to find a curbside space at their destination. This results in unintended consequences such as increased congestion, vehicle idling, and lane blockages. The goals of a pricing program would be to set a reasonable price that allows for one to two parking spaces per block available at any given time, which makes the parking experience easier overall.

The Curb Pricing Study will be informed by public feedback. The project team is engaging directly with residents, businesses, and other stakeholders to help gather input for the potential approach. An in person and an online open house will be held in early February where the public can learn more about curb pricing and provide feedback to the project team.

The Transportation Commission will be leading the study throughout 2025. To learn more about the Curb Pricing Study, including details on the open houses, visit the project webpage: [BellevueWA.gov/curbpricingstudy](https://BellevueWA.gov/curbpricingstudy).



## 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/special-meetings](http://BellevueWA.gov/special-meetings)

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

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

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

**Planning Commission** (6:30 p.m., 1E-113)  
 Second and fourth Wednesday of each month  
[BellevueWA.gov/cdplanning-commission](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://BellevueWA.gov/leoff-1-disability-board)

**Parks & Community Services Board**  
 (6 p.m., 1E-113) Third Wednesday of each month  
[BellevueWA.gov/pcs-services-board](http://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](http://BellevueWA.gov/bnoa)

**Special Events Committee** (8:30 a.m., 1E-112)  
 Second Thursday of each month  
[BellevueWA.gov/events](http://BellevueWA.gov/events)

**Youth Link Board** (6 p.m., 1E-120) Second and fourth Wednesday of each month  
[BellevueWA.gov/youth-link-board](http://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](http://BellevueWA.gov/neighborhoods) or call 425-452-6836 or email: [neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov).

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## City Council [BellevueWA.gov/Legistar.com/Calendar.aspx](http://BellevueWA.gov/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 <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 Tuesday only			
December – first and second Tuesday only			

# 2025

