

## **BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING**

### **MINUTES**

**February 6, 2025. 8:30a -10:30a**

**MEMBERS' PRESENT:** Shana Aucsmith, Abigail Brown, Eleanor Lee, Beth Hanley, Andrea Kline, Bhavana Pahwa , Julie Hart, Anne Rittenhouse, Lisa Corcoran, Lori Reinvik, Adam Clark, Barbara Carey, Kari Marino, Hannah Kimball, Elaine White

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Beverly Heyden.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dan Lassiter -Community Services Supervisor

**GUESTS:** none.

**PRESENTER(S):** Sophia Fall – City of Bellevue Environmental Study Impact Plan.

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Daniel Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

**WELCOME AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order by Anne Rittenhouse.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *January* minutes were approved.

**New Member:** Adam Clark was introduced as the newest member of the BNOA.

**Presentation:**

**Climate Change in Bellevue  
Extreme heat, rain and flooding, drought, stream changes, wildfires and  
smoke.**

**Sustainable Bellevue Plan Overview**

## **Bellevue's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for impacts of climate change.**

- Longterm plan (2020-2050)
- Updated every five years
- Strategies and actions in five focus areas

Climate change, Energy, Mobility and land use, Materials management & waste, Natural systems.

### **The Timeline**

The updated plan launched October 2024;

Phase I: Draft goals and Targets – November 2024 to January 2025

Phase II: Draft Strategies – February to June 2025

Phase III: Draft Plan – July to October 2025

Expected Plan Adoption – November 25, 2025

### **The Vision for Bellevue Environment Impact includes:**

- Carbon neutral emissions
- 100% clean energy
- Walkable access to parks for all
- All cars are electric
- Zero waste
- Prepared for climate change and extreme weather
- Healthy tree canopy and streams
- Frequent and convenient transportation systems
- Reduce water use
- Jobs and homes located near transit
- Efficient high-performance homes
- City leads by example

### **Major Accomplishments**

- Tree code updated
- heat pumps installed (130)
- New climate policies in Comp Plan
- Climate Vulnerability Assessment
- EV Roadmap
- 3,000+ trees planted

- Clean Buildings Incentive Program launched
- Piloted heat and smoke safety kit program
- Supported 600 buildings in improving recycling
- Achieved our 2030 Municipal Operations GHG reduction goal

### **2023 City of Bellevue Emissions were:**

↑ 4.5% from 2022

↓ 7.7% below 2011 baseline

↓ 26% per capita emissions

2023 municipal Operations  
emissions were  
↓ 4% from 2022

↓ 54% below 2011  
baseline

We have exceeded our 50% reduction by 2030 target!

### **What is climate resilience?**

Climate Resilience: The ability of communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems to withstand the impacts of climate change and recover quickly afterwards.

### **What is Climate Vulnerability?**

• Vulnerability to climate change is not equitably distributed. Some communities need more support and resources to be "resilient". Exposure (climate change and stressors) + Sensitivity (People and Ecosystems) + low Adaptive Capacity (Social, Economic, Physical Factors) = Vulnerability.

### **Sensitivity is Socially Determined.**

- Climate impacts interact with other social factors.
- Vulnerable groups include older people, children, low-income communities, immigrant communities, BIPOC communities.

### **Sustainable Bellevue Resilience Work includes:**

- Energy Smart Eastside and Boost
- Heat and smoke kit pilot program
- Solarize Eastside
- Outreach and engagement

## **Resilience plus SBP Plan Update**

- Introducing a climate resilience goal
- Outreach via community partnerships to underrepresented community members
- Working with Utilities, Emergency Management, Human Services, etc.
- Grid capacity study

## **Climate Change**

- Our vision is a carbon neutral Bellevue prepared for the impacts of climate change.
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction goal by 2030: 50%. Currently 7.7% and not considered on track.
- Climate resilient community is a new goal, but markers have not yet been determined.

## **Energy**

The vision is 100% renewable energy powering our buildings, infrastructure, and vehicles.

Renewable Energy – 2030 goal: 80%, 2050 goal: 100%. Currently 54%

Energy use reduction: 20230 goals: 15%, 2050 goal: 30%. Currently 3%

## **Mobility & Land Use**

**Our vision is a Bellevue with convenient, accessible and electrified transportation systems.**

- Workers Commuting Sustainable. 2030 goal: 45%. 2050 goal: 60%. Currently 35%.
- Registered Electric Vehicles. 2030 goal: 35%. 2050 goal: 100%. Currently 8%.
- Residents commuting sustainably. 2030 goal: 55%. 2050 goal; 65%. Currently 46%.

## **Mobility and Land Use**

Jobs within ¼ mile of frequent transit stop. 2030 goal: 75%. 2050 goal: 85%.  
Currently 76%.

Housing within ¼ mile of frequent transit stop. 2030 goal: 50%. 2050 goal: 65%.  
Currently 44%.

Per capita VMT reduction. 2030 goal:30%. 2050 goal: 50%. Currently 25%.

## **Materials Management & Waste**

Our vision is 100% zero waste Bellevue.

Waste reduction. 2030 goal: 50%. 2050 goal: 100%. Currently: 47%

## **Natural Systems**

Our vision is a city in a park with robust tree canopy in every neighborhood, healthy streams and forests, and walkable access to parks.

- Residents within 1/3 mile of a park, trail, or open space. 2030 goal: 80%. 2050 goal: 100%. Currently 73%.
- Citywide tree canopy. Goal completed.
- Healthy streams. 2030 goal: 40%. 2050 goal: 50%. Currently 30%.
- Water use reduction. 2030 goal: 5%. 2050 goal: 10%. Currently -19%.

## **What are the planned next steps?**

1. Continuing phase I outreach.
2. Engaging stakeholders, community members, and City staff throughout Phases 1 and II.
3. Returning to the Bellevue Network on Aging in Phase II to review draft strategies and actions.

Sophia asked the BNOA:

What priorities are not currently captured by our focus area goals? Do these goals feel aligned with our vision?

What resilience issues do you want to see the city prioritize in this plan update:

BNOA members mentioned the heat protection kits that were provided and requested some input allowed on what was put together.

The question was posed to consider how heat pumps can be provided or used in Mult-family units.

If tree canopy increases, doesn't that increase fire risk and reduce ability for housing density? A: EMO has a program to help make property safe.

The group had a lively discussion about the 100% electric vehicle goal by 2050 and expressed concerns about the idea. A: No formal plan is in place currently.

Q: Will Bellevue have some program for waterwise grants for homes that do not include lawn watering? A. Yes.

### **Human Services Report – Christy Stangland**

Christy briefly reviewed the COB home repair program that has been approved, with contracts being organized.

Some federal funding is back and forth on the chopping block.

Affordable Housing services under city council for ARCH and housing stability program were brought up at council for new immigrant's sites. Christy talked of the new affordable housing department with Linda Obei taking the lead.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Members were asked to read the committee reports before the meeting for discussion.

### **Advocacy Committee- Abigail**

Abigail reported that notes on a legislative agenda formation had been sent to the members. The senior lobby will be taking place in February and will likely provide direction for the BNOA legislative agenda. Input is appreciated by all members.

## **Outreach Committee Report – Shana**

Shana reported that BNOA was not able to partake of the MLK Health Fair at Crossroads but will put it on the list for next year.

A request to the BNOA group for potential news articles for the Neighborhood News was asked by Shana. Please send her ideas.

The BNOA was asked how many fairs they wanted to commit to for 2025 and six was the decision. Three for Crossroads and three for Bellevue Farmers Market.

## **Housing and Transportation – Anne**

The recent minutes sent to all members cover all pertinent information. No questions were posed by members.

## **Other Business**

The Advanced Directive Seminar sponsored by BNOA and supported at NBCC will occur on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Members will be asked to help set up and take down the room. A PSA from Bellevue College would be a good advertisement and a media push from Bellevue Parks.

DOL will be attending the April presentation. Please send questions in advance to Anne so she can forward to the speaker.

The Ad hoc group organizes follow-up activity and prepare for the next City of Bellevue older adult discussion will meet after the monthly BNOA meeting. Current members: Hannah, Elaine, Abigail.

An information repository has been developed in the city and Dan will work with the records dept, IT and BNOA to learn how each member can use it. April will be the month that a representative will come to speak at BNOA on the subject.

***The meeting was adjourned at 10:30***