

Public Comment on

# Crossroads Neighborhood Area Plan Update

Permit # 24-123941 AC

Comments submitted to city staff or the Planning Commission  
outside of an Engagement event or activity.

October 1, 2024 to January 8, 2025

*Note: Notice of Application published January 9, 2025*

**From:** [Hfkimball](#)  
**To:** [Brod, Brooke](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Great Neighborhoods Crossroads Update  
**Date:** Thursday, October 3, 2024 2:17:56 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Hi Brooke,

We publicized the event at today's Bellevue Network on Aging meeting, several of us are signed up.

After our meeting at Crossroads mini-City Hall, I had a few more thoughts occur about what makes a neighborhood great, its places locations to linger, its parks conducive to thoughtful oontemplation.....

More outdoor dining/drinking spaces  
Age Friendly features  
Pedestrian safety  
Sidewalk completions  
Roundabouts that don't leave walkers in the middle of the road  
More benches  
Good lighting, rapid response lighting replacement/maintenance

Thanks,  
Hannah Kimball

On Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 12:19:21 PM PDT, Brod, Brooke <[bbrod@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bbrod@bellevuewa.gov)> wrote:

Hello,

Thank you again for volunteering to be a "community messenger" for neighborhood area planning in Crossroads. We officially launched a few weeks ago with council and are gearing up for first public event next week. Word-of-mouth is one of the best ways to let people know about important happenings and get them involved, so we hope you'll let your friends and neighbors know about our **Virtual Kickoff**

**[Virtual Kickoff Meeting Scheduled for Thursday, October 10 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.](#)**

We hope you will join us for our first big event for this process. During the Kickoff, we'll provide an overview of the project timeline and scope, answer questions, and do some neighborhood breakouts to start talking about the future of Newport. You can register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/great-neighborhoods-crossroads-newport-kickoff-tickets-1020600783417>. Please share this link widely. I've attached a blurb and an image you can use in any social media or newsletter.

We will also be presenting to the Planning Commission next Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be for information only; we'll be reviewing the same information we shared with council and answering any questions they may have. If you want to tune in and/or provide comment you can visit the planning commission website for more information.

We also want to encourage you to **invite us to lead a discussion for your HOA or neighborhood group**. We can be part of a formal meeting agenda or schedule something separate. These do not need to be big meetings; we're happy to meet with small groups (8-12) people. We can meet in a community room in your building, a nearby coffee shop, or help find a place to host a conversation. Our calendar is already starting to fill up, so please reach out right away so we can get something on the calendar – anytime in October or November works!

If you have any questions or other ideas for connecting with people in Crossroads, please reach out.

Thank you for your interest and support.



**Brooke Brod** *(she|her)*

Community Engagement Lead

Community Development Dept.

[bbrod@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bbrod@bellevuewa.gov) | (425) 452-6930 |

[www.engagingbellevue.com](http://www.engagingbellevue.com)

**From:** [Deuling, Teun](#)  
**To:** [PATRICK MURPHY](#)  
**Cc:** [Brod, Brooke](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Crossroads Community Input - Patrick Murphy  
**Date:** Monday, October 21, 2024 2:07:00 PM

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Hi Patrick,

Thank you for sharing your inputs and for attending our meeting on Tuesday. We appreciate all the feedback you shared then and over email.

Brooke also sent out an email to the full group on Thursday with more detailed responses to some of the items that came up during our conversation.

We're looking forward for you and others to continue providing feedback, for instance at our online engagement hub – [www.engagingbellevue.com/great-neighborhoods-crossroads](http://www.engagingbellevue.com/great-neighborhoods-crossroads). There you'll find the following engagement opportunities:

- Tell us about a place you love or an opportunity for improvement. Put a pin in our neighborhood map and let us know about the places that make Crossroads unique and the places that could be better.
- Share your stories about your neighborhood. You have all lived in the area for a long time and know a lot about the history of your neighborhood. We would love to capture your stories and memories in words and pictures.

As mentioned at last week's conversation, please save the date for our in-person Ideas Fair – Thursday, November 14 (5:30 – 8 p.m.) at the Crossroads Community Center.

This is a drop-in event where people can come at any time and visit a variety of stations to explore data, share a vision, and provide input. Family-friendly and kids are encouraged to attend. Registration is not required but helps us to better prepare for the event: <https://Crossroads-Idea-Fair.eventbrite.com>

If you have any questions or want to share additional comments, please feel free to reach out to Brooke and me.

Thanks,  
Teun

Teun Deuling, AICP  
Senior Planner, Community Development Department

City of Bellevue  
Phone: 425-229-6534  
450 110th Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA 98004  
Email: [tdeuling@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:tdeuling@bellevuewa.gov)

-----Original Message-----

From: PATRICK MURPHY <[murphy1324@msn.com](mailto:murphy1324@msn.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 6:38 PM  
To: Deuling, Teun <[TDeuling@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:TDeuling@bellevuewa.gov)>  
Subject: Crossroads Community Input - Patrick Murphy

[You don't often get email from [murphy1324@msn.com](mailto:murphy1324@msn.com). Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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Dear Teun,

Thank you for last evening.

Per our collective group of neighbors whom attended representing over 200+ years of living in Bellevue.

We sincerely believe these matters are important for planning.

- 1) More green spaces not less
- 2) Protect and strengthen neighborhood that has strong single family identity and community engagement.
- 3) Crossroads area needs more cultural options including, music, arts, dining and festivals to bring community together.
- 4) Traffic safety and personal safety improvements because it appears in decline.
- 5) Consider indoor pickleball facilities like Robinswood Tennis Center.
- 6) Athletic fields and more parks
- 7) Zoning should not favor conglomerate developers whom have no local equity in quality of life, for those entities it is return on investment to develop towers of people whom are crammed in them at exorbitant monthly levels.
- 8) Courtyards and mixed use developments bring people together.
- 9) Climate and Sustainability should be at the core. This includes keeping Bellevue green because that helps people with mental health and physical health and being in the outdoors.
- 10) A place that people feel safe.

We would welcome any further chances to share our needs and views.

Kindly and Respectfully

Patrick Murphy  
Senior Executive Account Manager  
Siemens Industry Sales  
15900 SE Eastgate Way  
Suite 200  
Bellevue, WA 98008  
Email: pm.murphy@siemens.com  
Cell: 206-321-3484  
(Please note these are the new offices and new location)

**From:** [timwdavies@gmail.com](mailto:timwdavies@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Brod, Brooke](#); [Deuling, Teun](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Thank for the Neighborhood Conversation  
**Date:** Friday, October 18, 2024 3:59:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Brooke and Teun,

Thank you for facilitating a vigorous discussion on Tuesday! I enjoyed the conversation and I think the neighbors heard a lot of good information.

I know the meeting probably didn't meet all of your expectations around vision gathering. I did give you a heads up about the major concerns that I hear from neighbors in advance, so I wasn't surprised about the direction that it took. Rockwood has been a very stable and desirable neighborhood for a long time with quiet cul-de-sacs, walkable streets, and wooded properties all in heart of Bellevue. The rapid changes being brought on by increasing density, demands for affordable housing, development pressures and new codes have a huge potential for impacting this neighborhood.

I think you handled the meeting well, allowing the neighbors to express concerns and then redirecting towards a more positive themes around how we would like to see the neighborhood zone evolve. The information you provided below will allow us to follow up on our key concerns.

I would be interested in a summary of the notes you took that were relevant to future development. Here are a few things I heard:

#### Brand

- Active
- Diverse
- Accessible Parks
- Well positioned in the heart of Bellevue (Great location!)

#### Improvements

- More community gathering places. (Small Market stage in Crossroads Mall is only performance center in the area)
- More "cool" venues. Where to gather for music?
- Share future plan for "Arts District".
  - What development will be permitted? There are many old spaces ripe for redevelopment. There needs to be more development around the Bel-Red light rail station. How to create more activity there? With old low rise commercial buildings and low street activity, could become a crime concern or homeless destination.
- Consider a pickleball facility somewhere?
- Consider redevelopment of Highland park. Currently is underutilized given local demand for

open space.

- Consider additional uses for the Highland Community center beyond the disabled population.
- Keep the par 3 golf course!
- Retain beautiful wooded area south of the golf course.
- Consider redevelopment of Crossroads mall. The food court is a great gathering place but parts of the mall are vacant.
- Crossroads park has been a wonderful addition and has become a community gathering place.
- Concerns about safety near the mall was expressed. Develop safer spaces? Less concealed areas.
- Need better walkability in the area. Sidewalks on Bell Red, Northup are particularly bad.
- Odle middle school ball field redevelopment has been a huge success. Many neighbors and apartment dwellers use it as a park. Also, lots of youth sports. If the school closes, would Bellevue consider purchasing as an area park?
- We love the Rockwood/Crossroads Neighborhood area and see great potential with thoughtful future development.

Thanks again and see you for the community session in mid-November!

Tim

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**From:** Brod, Brooke <BBrod@bellevuewa.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 17, 2024 1:02 PM

**To:** Tim Davies <timwdavies@gmail.com>; balasba999@hotmail.com; hanktwang@gmail.com; jimpetersonnh3jcp@comcast.net; jacquiorgovan@hotmail.com; hope\_han@hotmail.com; murali3m@gmail.com; johnkaplan@gmail.com; murphy1324@msn.com

**Cc:** Deuling, Teun <TDeuling@bellevuewa.gov>

**Subject:** Thank for the Neighborhood Conversation

Hello Rockwood Neighbors,

Thank you so much for taking the time to share your thoughts about your neighborhood what you want to see in the future. We appreciate all the feedback you shared. In regards to some of the questions and concerns you raised here is a bit more information:

- **Middle Housing Code Updates.** Kirsten Mandt from Development Services will be leading this effort. People can reach out to her with questions at [kmandt@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:kmandt@bellevuewa.gov). I haven't heard anything yet about planned engagement events, but I think the will be doing something this fall.
- **Traffic Enforcement.** Bellevue residents can request extra traffic patrols for speeding or parking issues. Here is the link to the request form - [Bellevue Police Traffic Service Request \(cognitofirms.com\)](https://cognitofirms.com)

I also want to invite you all to continue to provide us with feedback at our online engagement hub – [www.engagingbellevue.com/great-neighborhoods-crossroads](http://www.engagingbellevue.com/great-neighborhoods-crossroads). We would especially love it if you would.

- **Tell us about a place your love or an opportunity for improvement.** Put a pin in our [neighborhood map](#) and let us know about the places that make Crossroads unique and the places that could be better.
- **Share your stories about your neighborhood.** You have all lived in the area for a long time and know a lot about the history of your neighborhood. We would love to capture [your stories](#) and memories in words and pictures.

Finally, please save the date for our in-person **Ideas Fair** – Thurs, Nov 14 | 5:30 – 8 p.m. | Crossroads Community Center. This is a drop-in event where people can come at any time and visit a variety of stations to explore data, share a vision, and provide input. Family-friendly and kids are encouraged to attend. Registration is not required, but helps me know how much snacks to purchase!

<https://Crossroads-Idea-Fair.eventbrite.com>

If you have any questions or want to share any comments, please feel free to reach out to Tuen and I.



**Brooke Brod** (*she|her*)  
Community Engagement Lead  
Community Development Dept.

[bbrod@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bbrod@bellevuewa.gov) | (425) 452-6930 | [www.engagingbellevue.com](http://www.engagingbellevue.com)



**From:** [John](#)  
**To:** [Deuling, Teun](#)  
**Subject:** The Future of my Neighborhood  
**Date:** Monday, December 2, 2024 7:51:28 AM

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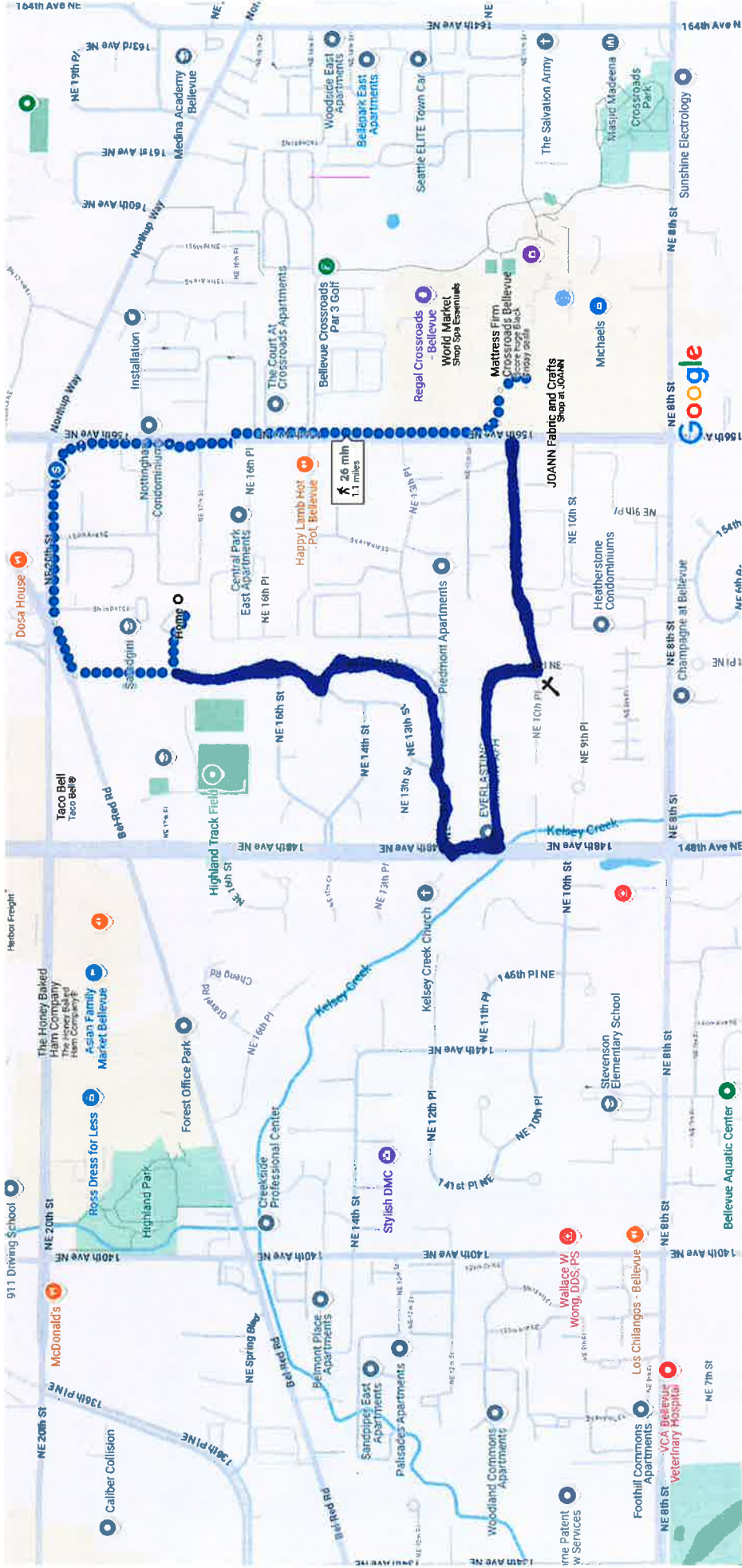
My name is John Berger and my family has lived on 13th pl. here in Bellevue for better than 50 years. I didn't attend your meeting at the Hilberts house the other night because, frankly, I'm so disgusted with the mismanagement of the area that I have seen over the years (especially since Covid) that I am now turning my thoughts to moving very far away. Let me give you just one example - 148th. When they expanded 148th from 2 lanes to 4, the city made the community a promise that it would be kept well maintained and attractive. There were also commitments made to preserve certain natural features in the landscape. This has not been the case, especially since Covid. We used to have our street cleaned about once a month along with 148th, now it only happens if multiple neighbors call and beg for the service. When they do clean 148th, there isn't any coordination between them and the subcontractors that are supposed to clean the walkways, so that as soon as the wind blows it cancels their efforts out. Speaking of these subcontractors, the quality of their work is deplorable. They used to pick up all the debris regularly. That is no longer the case. Now they simply push the majority into the beds, choking off the nice plantings and eventually killing them. At witch point they are just left in the ground as an eyesore. I live next to a street drain and in 50 years it never flooded, until this year. I have flooded 4 times this year and every time it has been with debris pushed down from 148th. I clean my drainage. I maintain my entire streets drainage and I have no problem with that because I like my neighbors and neighborhood, but when I have my possessions ruined from flooding directly caused by the city's negligence, it absolutely infuriates me! In case you didn't pick up on it, one of the other many issues is that none of the plants that have died (or been killed) are being replaced. There is also the problem with English Ivy. This is an invasive species that the city planted in the center medians when they expanded the avenue. Since then it has infiltrated into every property, backyard and greenbelt for most of the avenues length! In the three decades that this has been a problem, the city has made absolutely no effort to provide eradication or collaring teams, or any kind of assistance to the homeowners who are left with the responsibility of dealing with this issue. The cities policy is to ignore it. If you don't believe me you can see for yourself. Just north of 16th on the west side of 148th there is a ivy choked tree on city property that has fallen over, taken out part of a fence, and is currently hanging over the sidewalk endangering public safety and the city has done nothing. This may be because they no longer do the regular tree maintenance that they used to do. This inaction largely contributes to the enormous amount of debris we have every time the wind blows. Speaking of debris, I want to address one of the Most Infuriating issues, and that is the fact that not one of these agencies or contractors is obligated to pick up trash! There are old signs, car parts and other assorted garbage that has been in our planter beds for over a year! No one has any accountability. We were promised that the large Redwood between 15th ct. and 16th would be protected. It is not. The base is being so aggressively choked off that it is forcing the tree to grow in an unnatural square shape. The sidewalk that butts up to it is so damaged it's almost impassable for anyone with impairment, and has been for years! You have now decided to adopt the same soft approach policies for

dealing with the homeless camping in public spaces that failed in Seattle and Burien making removing them from our parks a long and arduous process, when the police used to be able to do it in minutes. Because the city decided to make the expansion to 405 a private highway for the rich (that the majority of people can't afford), 148th has to accommodate way more traffic than was ever initially considered. If I want to leave my house around 2:00pm, it can take a half hour just to get to the U-turn! This is ridiculous! These are all examples of the failings of the city for the management of just one small piece of roadway, how can I possibly be expected to have any faith that you will do a better job with more responsibility! If you want to impress me, first make the city honor the commitments that they have already made!

Sincerely, John Berger

Improve walkability onto side street

Home (1822 152nd Ave NE #211) to The French Bakery Crossroads Bellevue, 15600 NE 8th St K-4, Bellevue, WA 98008



Help improve Google Maps



No thanks Show question

26 min

1.1 miles



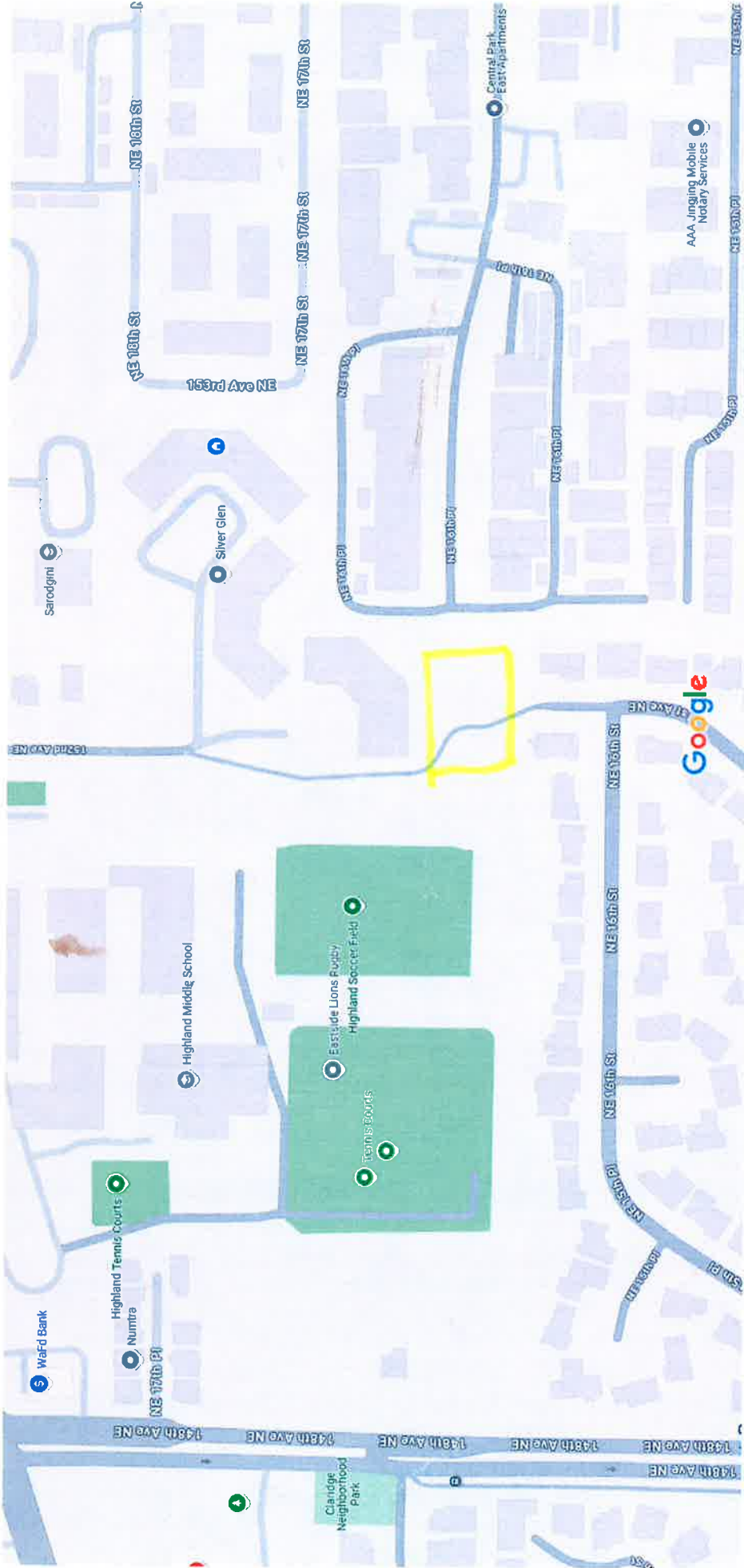
via 156th Ave NE

Mostly flat


Map data ©2024 Google 500 ft

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Pocket Park between Silver Glen and Chevy Chase



Map data ©2024 Google 50 ft

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**From:** [Hfkimball](#)  
**To:** [Brod, Brooke](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Reminder: Give Feedback on Future of Crossroads  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 11, 2024 10:04:15 AM

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Good morning Brooke,

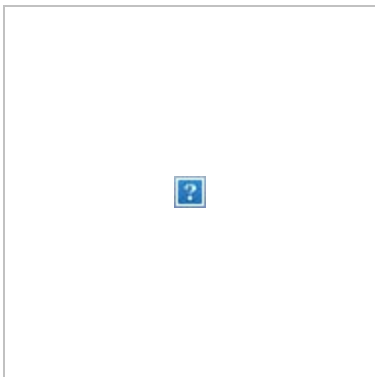
While not a troglodyte, I couldn't figure out how to place a pin in the map, so after reading this e-mail, maybe you can put the pin in for me.

At the west entry to Crossroads mall, cars turn off of 156th and pull up to stop signs, they are facing the mall's main entryway, and can turn either left or right. At the main entry is a curb cutout, ostensibly for deliveries. All manner of drivers and vehicles use that convenient pull out for different reasons and extended periods of time. Sometimes people double-park. It's dangerous and irritating for drivers entering from 156th and trying to turn, and also for pedestrians. I suggest this function be relocated to the back (east side) of the mall so that traffic flow, pedestrian safety, and frayed nerves are all dramatically improved.

Thanks,  
Hannah Kimball

On Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 06:59:59 PM PST, Brooke <[bbrod@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bbrod@bellevuewa.gov)> wrote:

## Great Neighborhoods Discover Phase Wraps Up

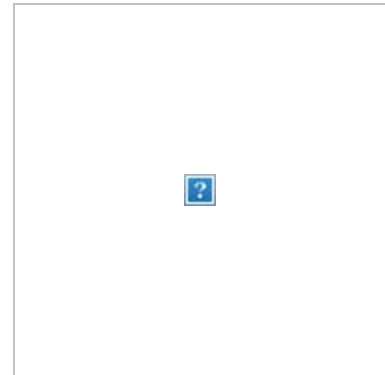


Thank you to the over 300 people who participated in this first phase of engagement on the Crossroads neighborhood area plan. The planning team connected with people from across the community in presentations, tabling events, and at our November Ideas Fair. You can download [slides](#) and [boards](#) from the events at our documents library on [www.engagingbellevue.com](http://www.engagingbellevue.com).

## There's still time to participate!

We still want to hear from you. If you got our survey in the mail, make sure to send it in. You can also respond [online](#).

We also want to know about the places you love and the places that could use a little love! Drop a pin in our [neighborhood map](#) to tell us how you feel about specific places in Crossroads



[Take the Survey](#)

[Place a Pin on the Map](#)

## Land Use and Sustainability Planning Initiatives

Make sure your voice is heard on these other important projects the city is working on.

**Housing Opportunities in Mixed Use Areas.** This effort will update the land use code to promote housing by allowing additional density in mixed-use areas. Attend an [information session](#) on December 16.

**Environmental Stewardship Plan Update.** The city is updating its sustainability plan. Take the [survey](#) to share your input on what the city should prioritize.

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