



Neighborhood News

May 2026

Provide feedback to help guide the future of Eastgate and Factoria

By Justin Panganiban, Senior Planner/Urban Designer

Bellevue's Great Neighborhoods team is seeking your input on draft policies for the Eastgate and Factoria Neighborhood Area Plans before we review them with the Planning Commission in June. Your feedback shapes the policies that will guide how the city invests in programs, facilities and partnerships to achieve the community's vision for growth over the next 10-20 years. There are several ways to participate and provide comments.

Eastgate and Factoria Draft Policy Open House

Thursday, May 7, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center
14509 SE Newport Way, Bellevue, WA 98006
Register at
GN-Eastgate-Factoria-Policy.eventbrite.com

Visit Engaging Bellevue to take an online questionnaire.

The questionnaire will close on Monday, May 25.

Eastgate: EngagingBellevue.com/greatneighborhoods-eastgate
Factoria: EngagingBellevue.com/greatneighborhoods-factoria



Construction to close portion of Lake Hills Blvd for two months

By Michaelene Fowler, Utilities Public Information Officer

Construction to replace an aging culvert on Lake Hills Boulevard at Kelsey Creek began in April, with intermittent lane closures to be followed by a two-month full closure starting in early June. Travelers should plan ahead and expect travel delays.

April-May: Intermittent lane closures on Lake Hills Boulevard between 151st and 154th avenues Southeast, with flaggers directing traffic through the work zone during active construction.

June-July: Full closure on Lake Hills Boulevard between 151st and 154th avenues Southeast for approximately two months. Clearly marked detour routes will be in place to guide drivers around the closure.

This work is part of a larger effort to replace aging infrastructure and reduce long-term flood risk in the area. For updates, schedules and detour maps, visit BellevueWa.gov/kelsey-creek-culvert.



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اطلاعات		Thông Tin
सूचना	425-452-6800	資料

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Help shape a future park in BelRed

By Michaelene Fowler, Public Information Officer

The city is planning a new neighborhood park in BelRed and is inviting the community to hear a planning presentation and share thoughts.

Join us on **Thursday, May 7, 6-7:30 p.m.** at **Highland Community Center** to learn about the upcoming planning process and share ideas and priorities for the future park. City staff will be on hand to listen, answer questions and gather input.

Community members, neighborhood groups, and local organizations are encouraged to spread the word. For more information visit BellevueWA.gov/belredpark.



Expanding Access to Cross-Cultural Experiences

By Emily Inlow-Hood, Deputy Communications Officer

The City of Bellevue and the Bellevue School District are working together to bring the city's Cross-Cultural Center Without Walls programming directly into the Bellevue School District's Welcome Center. In 2026, organizations funded through the city's cross-cultural program will have dedicated space within the Welcome Center to connect with Bellevue families, share resources and host intercultural experiences. This collaboration strengthens a shared commitment to building a more connected, inclusive Bellevue, one where people from all cultures and backgrounds can learn from one another, build relationships, and feel a deep sense of belonging.

For several years, the city has explored ways to create a facility that supports cross-cultural learning and relationship-building. While a new, stand-alone center remains a long-term vision, the city launched Cross-Cultural Center Without Walls to bring programming to community spaces across Bellevue. The program funds local organizations to host events, workshops and shared experiences designed to foster active intercultural engagement and exchange.

By housing this work at the BSD Welcome Center, the city and district are creating a direct bridge between funded organizations and the children and families who will benefit most from these programs and services.

The BSD Welcome Center serves as a hub for new and returning families, multilingual communities, and students navigating transitions into the district. With the addition of cross-cultural programming, the Welcome Center will become an even more vibrant gathering place—one where families can access resources, participate in cultural learning opportunities, and build meaningful connections with community partners.

Learn more about the program and upcoming events: BellevueWA.gov/cross-cultural.

Cultural Conversations — Sharing Our Story

By Cara Iwasaki, Cultural Conversations Coordinator

The current season of Cultural Conversations will culminate on May 14 with *Sharing Our Story: From Welcoming to Belonging*. Join us for an evening of connection, learning and dialogue where we'll explore the relationship between welcoming and belonging, and collaborate to build meaningful connections across our stories.

Through experiences of migration and immigration, discover a throughline of courage and hope that make up the larger story of who we are, where we come from and what this means for our community.

May 14, 6:30-8 p.m. at Crossroads Community Center

Light refreshments provided. RSVP requested at Eventbrite SharingOurStory/eventbrite.com or ciwasaki@bellevuewa.gov

Cultural Conversations aims to foster cross-cultural understanding and connection by creating space for conversations across differences. Each event is centered in mutual understanding, curiosity and empathy.

To be more involved with Cultural Conversations, contact ciwasaki@bellevuewa.gov.

Throw a Block Party this summer!

By David Isaak, Neighborhood Outreach Manager

Looking for a fun way to connect with your neighbors this summer? Consider hosting a block party. Build community, meet new faces and enjoy the warm weather with your neighbors.

If you're thinking about organizing a summer block party, we encourage you to start planning now by registering at BellevueWA.gov/block-party. The earlier you get your event on the calendar, the easier it is! Our Neighborhood Liaisons are happy to assist with promotion, whether that's flyers, a banner or a graphic.

Gather your neighbors, pick a date, and let's make your block party happen!

The Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center is coming to you!

By Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center Staff

Have a neighbor dispute or conflict? Facing eviction? For 30 years, the Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center has helped residents strengthen their problem-solving capacity and build healthy communities. Services start with conversations and are free, voluntary, impartial and confidential.

We want to understand your situation and listen without judgment to help you sort through options and develop a plan of action. If more options are needed, we will help with referrals so you can learn more about city services, financial assistance options, and legal information.

If approaching others involved in the conflict is difficult, we help by reaching out to the other side

directly. When appropriate, we work with both sides to negotiate a lasting solution that everyone involved can live with.

The Conflict Resolution Center is coming to you!

Conflict Resolution Center staff will be available for individual, in-person consultations at the following locations:

May:

Community Court Resource Center

- Bellevue Downtown Public Library
Every other Thursday, May 15-28,
1:30-3:30 p.m.

- Bellevue LifeSpring HUB
Highland Middle School
First Thursday of the month, starting
May 7, noon-4 p.m.

To learn more and sign up, contact our us or LifeSpring at info@bellevuelifespring.org.

June:

Mini City Hall

- Crossroads Mall
Wednesdays, noon-2 p.m.

Need support now? Contact us at 425-452-4091 or bcrc@bellevuewa.gov. You can also fill out our webform at BellevueWA.gov/resolve.

Applications closing soon for Jubilee in the Community

Application period closes May 29

By Evan Reed, Keep Bellevue Beautiful Coordinator

In partnership with Jubilee Reach, Jubilee in the Community connects Bellevue residents with volunteers to support outdoor property maintenance, including yard cleanups, landscaping and minor exterior improvements. Applications for this year's program are due by May 29. For more information or to apply, visit BellevueWA.gov/jubilee. For application assistance, contact **Evan Reed** at **425-542-5372** or ereed@bellevuewa.gov.

Spring projects at home? A little planning goes a long way

By Amanda Anderson, Public Information Officer

As the days get longer and the weather warms up, many neighbors are turning their attention to spring projects – both inside and outside the home. Whether you're planning a small update or a larger improvement, a little planning can go a long way in helping your project run smoothly.

Plan ahead before you start

From building and replacing decks and roofs to landscaping overhauls and heating and cooling upgrades, many home improvement projects require permits. Permits help ensure work is done correctly the first time – helping you avoid costly fixes later. If you're not sure whether your project requires a permit, it's worth checking early. Starting work without a permit can lead to delays, added expense or even the need to redo completed work.

We're here to help

The city offers support to help you get started. Review information on our website at BellevueWA.gov/development-services to find information on permit requirements. Our Virtual Permit Center can connect you with staff for a free consultation to get answers to general permitting questions. It's a simple and easy way to get clarity and move forward with confidence. Learn more at BellevueWA.gov/virtual-permit-center.

A quick note about common concerns

This time of year, the city's Code Compliance team receives more questions and complaints related to residential properties. These include things like work happening without permits or concerns about property maintenance. Taking a little time to plan ahead – and make sure your project meets code and permitting requirements – can help avoid complaints.

Being a good neighbor

Spring also brings yard work and outdoor activities. While the city does not regulate activities like lawn mowers or the use of gas-powered leaf blowers, we encourage everyone to be mindful of neighbors. Simple considerations – like timing and duration – can go a long way in keeping neighborhoods enjoyable for everyone.



Participate in our Community Walking Audits

By Jennifer Cook, Public Information Officer

As part of its Vision Zero work, the city is inviting Bellevue community members to participate in three Road Safety Assessment Community Walking Audits. These audits help make walking, rolling and cycling safer on routes that are part of the city's "high injury network," which is a relatively small number of city streets where most fatal and serious-injury collisions occur.

Road safety assessments are proven tools that identify safety issues, particularly for people walking, biking and rolling. They are a key strategy of Bellevue's Vision Zero initiative to eliminate traffic deaths and serious-injury collisions on city streets by 2030.

Results of the assessments will be used to inform potential road safety improvements through city transportation projects.

The upcoming Community Walking Audits include the following roadways:

- **June 6:** 116th Avenue Northeast and Northeast Eighth Street (Wilburton)
- **July 25:** Northeast 12th Street/Bel-Red Road and 120th Avenue Northeast (BelRed and Wilburton)
- **August 22:** Northup Way/Northeast 20th Street, 140th Avenue Northeast and 148th Avenue Northeast (BelRed)

Those interested in helping can respond to a short online questionnaire and sign up to take part in an upcoming community walking audit. Both can be accessed from the project webpage at BellevueWA.gov/road-safety-assessments.

Climate Action Needs Climate Leaders – Join the Initiative!

By Jake Sykes, Sustainability Coordinator

Sustainable Bellevue Launches Climate Leaders Initiative

The Sustainable Bellevue Team is launching the second iteration of its Climate Leaders Initiative. The Climate Leaders Initiative will build on the success of the 2023-2024 Bellevue Climate Leaders program, supporting implementation of the 2026-2030 Sustainable Bellevue Plan.

Climate Leaders will work to raise awareness of climate change drivers and impacts, mobilize residents to take sustainable climate action, and partner with the city to promote programs and opportunities. Climate Leaders will also be taught effective strategies on organizing community-driven climate solutions.

Participation will provide training and education around climate literacy, effective engagement strategies and asset-based community development. You will be supported by the city to help lead the change your community wants to see.

For more information, visit BellevueWA.gov/climate-leaders-initiative

Heat Pump Rebates Now Available for Rental Properties

By Kurt Hellmann, Community Engagement Specialist

Energy Smart Eastside is expanding access to clean heating and cooling with new rebates designed specifically for rental properties across Bellevue and the Eastside.



Property owners can now receive enhanced incentives to upgrade from gas furnaces and electric resistance systems to energy-efficient heat pumps. Switching systems can improve comfort for tenants, lower energy costs and reduce carbon emissions.

Instant \$1,000 rebates are available for eligible rental properties, including existing single-family homes and manufactured homes with up to four units. Properties with income-qualified tenants may be eligible for an additional \$5,000 bonus rebate – bringing the total savings up to \$6,000.

To learn more about eligibility, available rebates, and how to get started, to connect with an energy advisor visit energysmarteastside.org.



Get ready for ChargeReady

Sustainable Bellevue launches EV charging technical support

By Jake Sykes, Sustainability Coordinator

Want electric vehicle charging at your building? If you're a Bellevue resident living at a building that doesn't offer EV charging, ChargeReady Bellevue can help your property take the first step.

We provide no-cost technical assessments to help buildings understand what it takes to install charging, explore their options, and identify available funding. Encourage your property manager to get ChargeReady today by visiting BellevueWA.gov/chargeready. For questions, contact ChargeReady@bellevuewa.gov.

June 11 Downtown Bellevue Neighborhood Enhancement Program, Lake Hills project scoping phase begins

By Theresa Cuthill, NEP Coordinator

Downtown NEP

Join us at City Hall on June 11 at 6:30 p.m. for the Neighborhood Enhancement Program's open house previewing projects included on this year's Downtown ballot. You'll receive a brief overview of the program's process and learn about the projects that are up for funding from the \$975,000 allocation. Printed invitations will arrive in Downtown area mailboxes in early June. RSVP to NeighborhoodOutreach@bellevuewa.gov.

Lake Hills NEP

City staff are currently reviewing submitted project ideas for Lake Hills NEP's \$622,000 allocation and will present eligible proposals in June.

The Neighborhood Enhancement Program allows residents to propose and select modest, capital projects to enhance their neighborhoods. It rotates through the city's 14 neighborhood areas over the course of seven years, serving two each year.

For more information, contact David Isaak at disaak@bellevuewa.gov or visit BellevueWA.gov/nep.

Keep Bellevue Beautiful drives citywide cleanups and partnerships

By Evan Reed, Keep Bellevue Beautiful Coordinator

The city's Keep Bellevue Beautiful (KBB) program continues scaling its impact this year, bringing residents, neighborhood groups and community partners together to keep our city clean, safe and vibrant. Since January, KBB has:

- Supported more than **100 cleanups citywide**
- Removed over **212 bags of litter**
- Cleaned more than **26 miles**
- Removed an estimated **2.65 tons of waste** from city streets, parks and public spaces

Much of this momentum is driven by KBB's **Adopt-A-Street** program, in which residents lead efforts

to care for their neighborhoods. Participation continues to grow, with new orientations underway and total adopters on track to exceed last year's participation rates.

In 2026, Adopt-A-Street has already completed **100 cleanups, removed 275 bags of litter and had at least one cleanup completed by our 22 adopter groups.**



KBB 26 for '26 Community Spotlight

Two incredible community members, Nathalie Dreher (left), who leads the Adopt-A-Street group Force Suisse, and Diane Masin, (right), who recently joined these efforts, have been a driving force in keeping our streets clean, simply by showing up and leading cleanups throughout the city.

Since 2024, Nathalie's Adopt-A-Street group, Force Suisse, has completed over 75 cleanups and removed more than 1,100 bags of litter from Bellevue's public spaces. And in recent months, Diane has joined cleanups in multiple locations and contributed to the continued improvement of neighborhoods across Bellevue and the Eastside.

Nathalie and Diane's work, coupled with the efforts of many dedicated volunteers across the city, reflects the core strength of our trash cleanups: steady, repeated efforts that lead to visible, lasting change. Interested? Join the next one! cleansomerset.eventbrite.com. See a street that could use some attention? Report issues in the MyBellevue app at BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/finance/mybellevue.

For more information on upcoming cleanups or how to get involved, contact Evan Reed at ered@bellevuewa.gov or 425-542-5372 or visit BellevueWA.gov/keep-bellevue-beautiful.



Apply for the 2026 Bellevue Essentials cohort

Bellevue Essentials, the city's nationally recognized 10-week civic engagement course, is accepting applications until July 13. The fall session runs Sept. 16-Nov. 18, on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-8:30 p.m., with two Thursday evenings and two Saturday afternoons.

Applicants must complete a short application and three essay questions. Selection is primarily based on responses to essay questions. Acceptance to the Bellevue Essentials program is highly competitive, as space is limited.

Applications can be completed online at BellevueWA.gov/bellevue-essentials. Paper applications can be returned to City Hall or mailed to Sarina Miller, Neighborhood Outreach, City of Bellevue, 450 110th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA, 98004.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Monday, July 13. Tuition is \$150.00 and due upon acceptance into the program. A tuition waiver is available if needed.

Join us for an information session!

To learn more, attend an information session, which includes tips for submitting your application. Attendance is beneficial but not required.

- Wednesday, May 20, noon-12:30 p.m.
(Virtual – link will be sent after registration)
- Thursday, June 18, 6-6:30 p.m.
(at Crossroads Community Center)
- Monday, June 29, 6-6:30 p.m.
(at Bellevue City Hall)

Register for information sessions at <https://BE2026InfoSessions.eventbrite.com>. For questions or accommodations, contact Sarina Miller at 425-452-4295 or samiller@bellevuewa.gov.

The art of having somewhere to be

The benefits of scheduling regular activities and tips to start

By Bellevue Network on Aging

Think about the last time you had something looked forward to on your calendar. Not an errand or a doctor's visit, but something that got you out the door because someone was expecting you. A weekly card game or a volunteer shift.

For many older adults, these anchors quietly disappear after retirement, moving or losses. Their calendars thin out and their weeks lose shape.

It turns out that people's brains and wellbeing do better when their day has purpose. A University of Pittsburgh study found that seniors who maintain regular daily activities are happier and perform better on cognitive tests than those whose days are less predictable.

Group activities contribute to feeling needed, specifically because other people are counting on you. That sense of responsibility is harder to replicate on your own.

For Bellevue residents looking for a good reason to get out regularly, the city has many options. The city welcomes volunteers through its Parks, Utilities, Fire and Community Development Departments. City community centers rely on volunteers to help with older adult programming and community meals.

- North Bellevue Community Center offers Thursday Pinochle at no cost, a Friday Chorus with no auditions required, and a free Coffee & Coloring morning
- Crossroads Community Center hosts Elder Play & Connect - monthly board games, good company and no registration is required.

These aren't just programs. They're standing appointments waiting to be claimed. Visit BellevueWA.gov/parks for a full program listing, or BellevueWA.gov/volunteering to explore volunteer opportunities.



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

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/planning-commission

Transportation Commission

(6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second Thursday of each month with fourth Thursday as needed.

BellevueWA.gov/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

Parks & Community Services Board

(6 p.m., 1E-113) Third Wednesday of each month

BellevueWA.gov/park-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

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.

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 BTV YouTube channel YouTube.com/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			