

Live Music and Dance ✨ City Hall Showcase ✨ Community Workshops



Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at City Hall



**WELCOMING
WEEK**

amazon

Welcome to Experience Bellevue! We're so glad you're here. Today is all about you, the community and all the programs, services, and resources that help make Bellevue a wonderful place to live, work, and connect.

As you explore Bellevue City Hall and Plaza, you'll find hands-on activities, performances, food and opportunities to meet the people and organizations shaping Bellevue's future. Take your time, join in, ask questions, and discover something new happening in your city.

Experience Bellevue! is the flagship event of Bellevue's 2026 Welcoming Week, and we're excited to celebrate with you. Thanks for being part of it!



Featured Program: Voices of Bellevue

1:30–3 p.m. in City Council Chambers

Don't miss this storytelling event featuring six stories from Bellevue community members who will share their experiences of finding belonging through community connections, appreciating welcoming organizations, welcoming neighbors and finding friendship. Bellevue Mayor Mo Malakoutian will also join the program, contributing a story that reflects the importance of belonging and connection. We hope these stories leave you feeling inspired and challenged to share your own story with a new friend.

All Day Activities

Guest Services (next to elevator lobby and Plaza)

Get to Know City Hall (Concourse)

Scavenger Hunt (Fireplace)

Roam City Hall and the plaza with a fun, family-friendly scavenger hunt. Once you've completed your sheet, redeem it for a prize at the Guest Services table!

Drop-In Workshops

- Henna Design Studio (1E-105 and 1E-106)
- Community Art: The True Butterfly Effect (1E-109)
- Epic Earthworms (1E-111)

KidsQuest Fun Zone (1E-112)

Bellevue Fire Truck Showcase

(On 110th Avenue NE, next to Plaza)

Bellevue Police Showcase (Visitor Parking)

- Drone demonstration
- Fluffy the Robot Dog
- Police motorcycles

Food Vendors (City Hall Plaza)

- Cafecito
- Spice Waala
- Tres Sandwich

Schedule

Start Times	End Times	Activity
10 a.m.	12 p.m.	Guest Refreshments (Concourse East)
10 a.m.	10:50 a.m.	Performance: Nahui Ollin Tezcatlipocatl (Plaza Stage)
10 a.m.	11 a.m.	Workshop: American Mahjong (1E-120)
10:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	Get to Know City Hall Tours: (Meeting Location: Permitting Center) 1. Emergency Operations 2. Transportation Management Centers
11 a.m.	12 p.m.	Workshops: ▪ Line Dancing (Plaza Stage) ▪ Family Tai Chi (1E-108) ▪ The World of Manga Creation (1E-119)
11:30 a.m.	12:30 p.m.	Get to Know City Hall Tours: (Meeting Location: Permitting Center) 1. Emergency Operations 2. Transportation Management Centers Workshop: American Mahjong (1E-120)
12:10 p.m.	1 p.m.	Performance: K-Pop Dance by Coffee Dance Studio (Plaza Stage)
12 p.m.	1 p.m.	Workshop: Youth Tai Chi (1E-108)
12:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	Get to Know City Hall Tours: (Meeting Location: Permitting Center) 1. Emergency Operations 2. Transportation Management Centers
1 p.m.	2 p.m.	Workshops: ▪ Tai Chi for Wellness (Outdoor Courtyard) ▪ The World of Manga Creation (1E-119) ▪ American Mahjong (1E-120) ▪ Market Bonito Headdress with Flowers (1E-121)
1:30 p.m.	3 p.m.	Featured Program: Voices of Bellevue (City Council Chambers)
1:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	Get to Know City Hall Tours: (Meeting Location: Permitting Center) 1. Emergency Operations 2. Transportation Management Centers Workshop: Salsa Dancing (Plaza Stage)
2 p.m.	3 p.m.	Workshop: Tai Chi for Active Seniors (Outdoor Courtyard)
2:30 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	Workshop: American Mahjong (1E-120)
3 p.m.	4 p.m.	Workshop: Market Bonito Headdress with Flowers (1E-121) Performance: Brass Band Northwest (Plaza Stage)
4 p.m.		Event Concludes



Choose Your Experience

Get to know City Hall

Fire Truck Showcase

Get an up-close look at a Bellevue fire truck, complete with the tools and equipment firefighters use every day. Step inside, explore its features, and learn how this remarkable vehicle helps keep our community safe.

Police Showcase

Get an up-close look at the tools and tech behind public safety with Bellevue Police's interactive showcase. Check out the impressive police motorcycles, meet Fluffy—the department's friendly robot dog—and watch live demonstrations of Bellevue Police's drone program in action.

Emergency Management Tours

Explore how the city prepares for and responds to emergencies with an inside look at the Emergency Operations Center. Participants will learn how teams coordinate information, resources, and communication during critical events. This guided tour offers a behind the scenes understanding of the systems that help keep the community safe.

Transportation Management Center Tours

Discover how the city keeps traffic moving smoothly with a tour of the Transportation Management Center. Attendees will see real-time monitoring tools, traffic signal systems, and data-driven strategies used to manage transportation networks. The experience provides a unique glimpse into the technology and teamwork that support safe and efficient travel for everyone.

Bites of the day

Creature Coffee

We are bringing in professional baristas and mobile coffee carts to city hall - enjoy free lattes, chai, matcha, and more from 10 a.m. to noon. Be sure to stop by early—your complimentary beverage and a free pastry is available while supplies last.

Cafecito Mexican Bakery

The Eastside's first authentic Mexican bakery, offering fresh-baked pastries, aguas frescas, and a warm taste of Mexican culture.

Spice Waala

Enjoy flavorful kathi rolls, crispy samosas, chaat, mango lassi, and other Indian street food favorites.

Tres Sandwich

Serving fluffy Japanese sandos with favorites like egg salad, miso katsu, teriyaki chicken, strawberry cream, and matcha red bean.

KidsQuest Fun Zone

Stop by the KidsQuest Fun Zone—a playful, family-friendly space designed for creativity, curiosity and fun. Kids of all ages can explore hands-on activities, games, crafts and imaginative play. Cozy corners are available for quieter moments as well. The Fun Zone is open for drop-in fun throughout the entire day.

Belonging in Bellevue

Brass Band Northwest

As a 30-piece, British-style brass band, Brass Band Northwest combines the breadth of a full symphony orchestra with the incisive rhythm of a jazz band. From the Beach Boys to K-pop hits, there's something for everyone to enjoy!

K-pop dance by Coffee Dance Studio

The Coffee Dance Studio performance team features energetic K-pop dance infused with elements of hip-hop, jazz and other dance genres. With members from diverse backgrounds and generations, the team showcases the power of dance and celebrates individuality through positive energy.

Nahui Ollin Tezcatlipocatl

Nahui Ollin Tezcatlipocatl is a Bellevue-based Aztec dance group dedicated to preserving and sharing traditional Mexica/Aztec dance, music, ceremony, and cultural heritage through community performances and education.

Community Workshops

Experience Bellevue! workshops are family-friendly and open while space and supplies last.

Introduction to American Mahjong

Have you been hearing about American Mahjong and wondering what it's all about? This introductory workshop provides an overview of the game, the tiles, and the unique features that make Mahjong such a popular social activity. Whether you're simply curious or considering taking a beginner class, this workshop is a great place to start.

Bonito Market Headdresses with Flowers

Join us for a hands-on workshop where participants will learn to create traditional flower crowns and headdresses. We'll explore their cultural significance as symbols of connection to our ancestors and the generations who came before us, especially during Día de Muertos. Everyone will leave with a unique piece that celebrates heritage, identity, and personal expression.

Epic Earthworms

Explore the fascinating world of earthworms through hands-on discovery with live nightcrawlers and red worms. This family-friendly activity includes close-up observation of live worms, a worm-themed craft and game. Stop by any time during the event for a fun and engaging look at these important soil creatures.

Family Tai Chi

This playful, beginner-friendly workshop for families with children, featuring parent-child Tai Chi activities, animal-inspired movement games, partner balance challenges, and simple Tai Chi techniques learned together. Participants will receive a short introduction that includes a live demonstration, guided practice, and time to connect with other families.

Henna Design Studio

Professional henna artists will be available throughout the event, offering free small, custom henna designs. Guests can choose from a selection of patterns—such as florals, geometric shapes, or traditional motifs—each applied quickly and safely using high quality, natural henna. The artists will be stationed at the drop-in rooms welcoming walk ups and offering a fun, creative experience for everyone.

Line Dancing

If you love to move to music, come try line dancing, a fun, upbeat way to enjoy popular songs, energize, and meet your neighbors. An instructor will guide you step by step, making it easy for everyone to join in. The session begins with beginner-friendly steps and gradually introduces more complexity as participants become comfortable with the movements.

Salsa Dancing

Join your neighbors and give Latin dancing a whirl inside Bellevue City Hall with free salsa lessons by instructors from Salsaymotion Dance Academy. Whether you're trying dance for the first time or looking for a fresh way to move your body, this class offers a welcoming space to learn and build confidence on the dance floor.

Tai Chi for Wellness

A calming, beginner-friendly session for adults focusing on office stress relief, shoulder and neck relaxation, breathing and mindfulness practices, and an introduction to simple Chen-style Tai Chi movements. There will be a brief overview with a live instructor demonstration, guided interactive practice, and time for Q&A.

Tai Chi for Active Seniors

This gentle, beginner-friendly session features safe standing Tai Chi exercises, balance improvement and fall prevention movements, joint friendly mobility work, and calming breathing and relaxation practices. It will include a live instructor demonstration, guided interactive practice, and time for participants' questions.

The World of Manga Creation

Dive into the world of manga creation with artist Arisa Nakamura! In this beginner-friendly workshop, you'll learn the fundamental techniques behind manga art, including manpu (emotion symbols), fukidashi (speech balloons), expressive facial features, and the essentials of designing compelling characters. You'll also get hands-on experience using drawing tools to bring your own manga characters to life.

Youth Tai Chi

Youth Tai Chi is a beginner-friendly workshop for ages 10–18, featuring Tai Chi fundamentals, fun balance and coordination challenges, focus and mindfulness exercises, and a demonstration of Chen-style techniques. There will be a short introduction featuring a live demo, guided practice plus space for Q&A.

The True Butterfly Effect

The True Butterfly Effect is an interactive public art experience that invites community members of all ages to make art on their own butterfly, which then becomes part of a growing series of collective public art installations, transforming individual contributions into vibrant community butterfly gardens. Rooted in the butterfly effect—the idea that small actions can create meaningful ripple effects—the activity encourages creativity, connection, and a sense of belonging. Join us in creating butterflies, connecting with community, and bringing joy and vibrancy to our shared public spaces!

Community Resources

Bellevue Library

Discover all that the Bellevue Library has to offer! Stop by their information table to learn about free community programs, reading resources for all ages, digital tools, events, and more. Whether you're looking for a great book, lifelong learning opportunities, or ways to connect with the community, the Bellevue Library team will be happy to help.

Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue

For nearly 75 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue has been a trusted partner for young people and families. From early learning and after school care to workforce development for teens, athletic programs and summer opportunities, Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue provides safe spaces, caring staff, and leadership opportunities for every kid who walks through our doors. Stop by our table to learn more about our programs for youth aged 3-18 and supporting our mission.

Visit Bellevue

Visit Bellevue showcases the best of Bellevue from dining and shopping to arts, culture, and outdoor experiences. Visit Bellevue helps guests discover what makes the city unique. Stop by to learn more about local attractions, upcoming events, and resources.

Event Essentials

Guest Services

Visit Guest Services for all your event essentials. Whether you need directions, information, accessibility support, or help finding your next activity, our team is here to make your Experience Bellevue! visit smooth and enjoyable, and stress-free. We're happy to help!

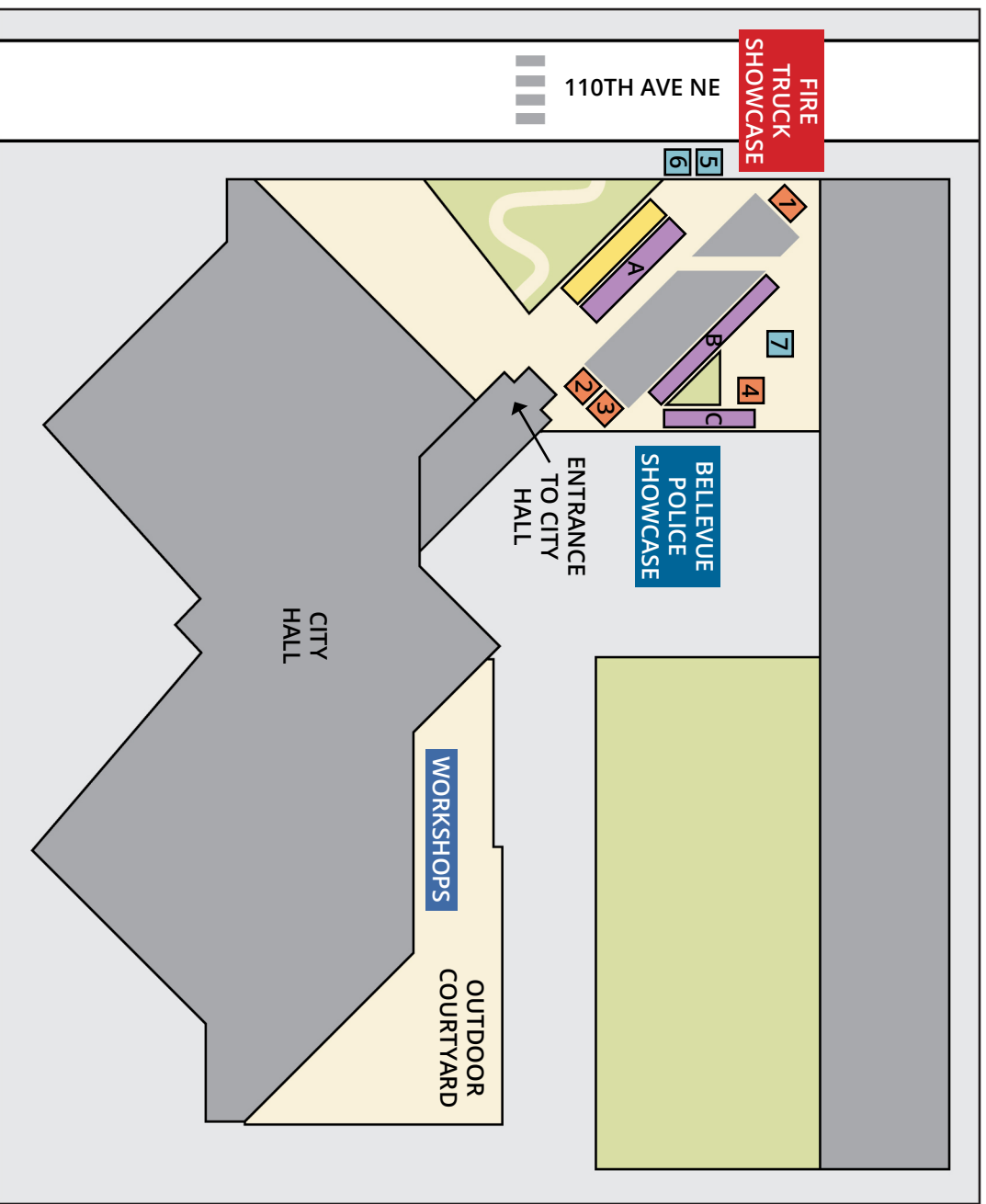
Guest Services is also the spot for lost and found items, reconnecting with separated friends or family members and first aid.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located on the first and second floors of City Hall near the elevator lobbies, and across from the outdoor courtyard. Signs and volunteers will help guide you.

Safety and Security

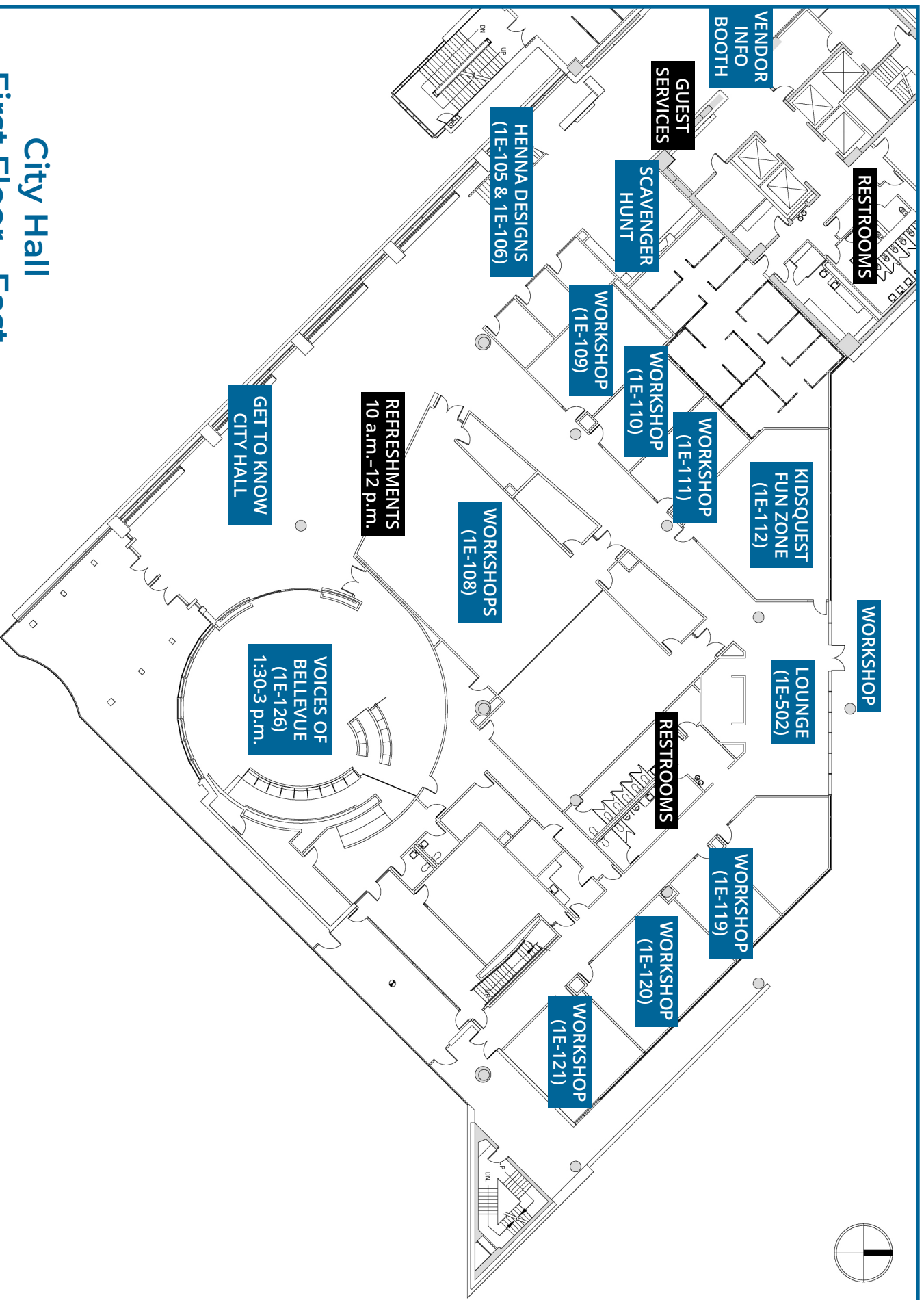
City staff, security personnel as well as Bellevue Police and Fire are onsite throughout the event to assist you. If you need help, have questions, or notice something that needs attention, please go to Guest Services or find an Experience Bellevue volunteer.



City Hall Plaza

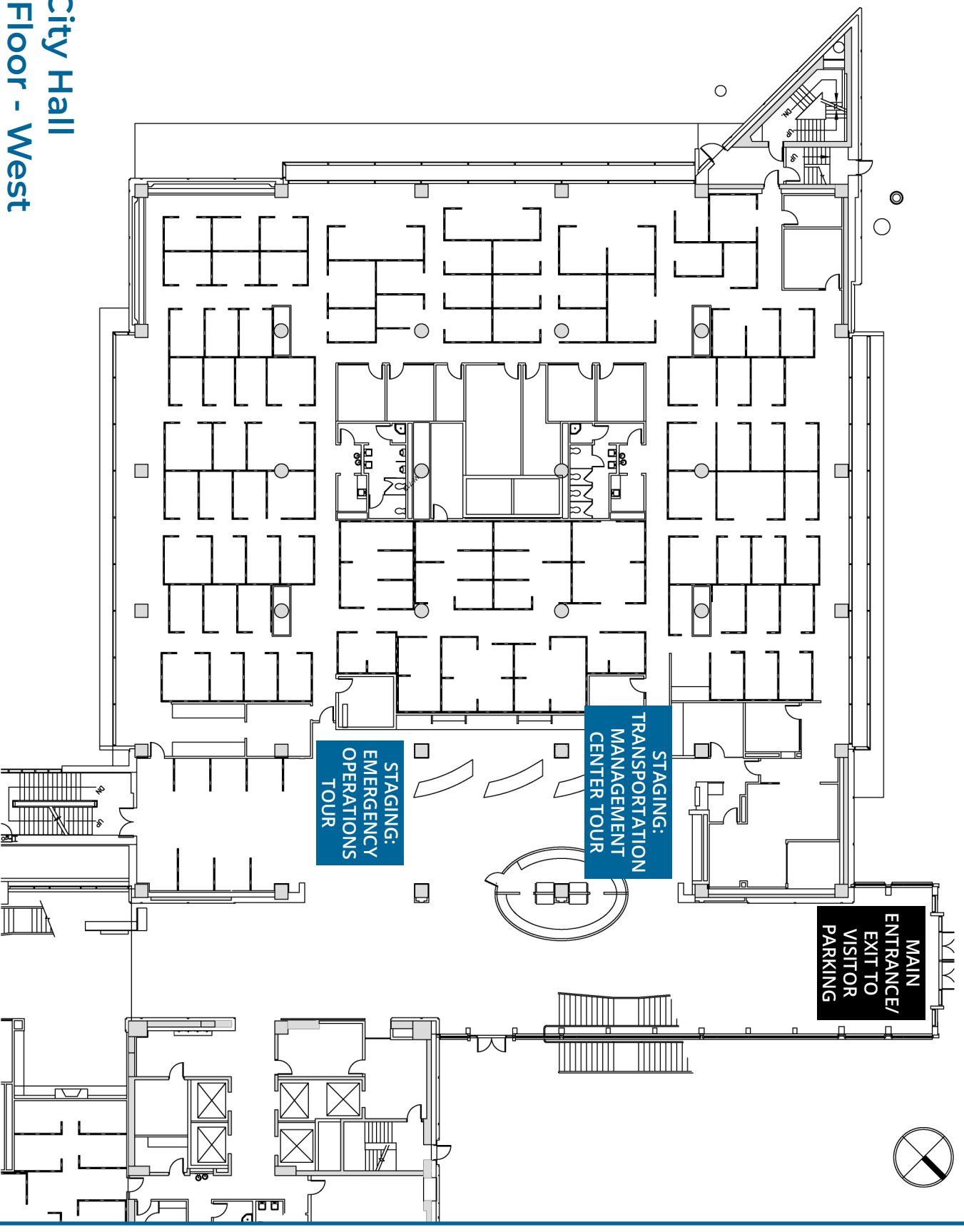
City Hall

First Floor - East



City Hall

First Floor - West



All relative City of Bellevue Codes & Ordinances will be in effect and enforced at all City of Bellevue facilities. There are regulations governing sound and noise levels, pets, animals, parking, vehicle access, etc.

