



Neighborhood News

August 2026



"Rent Free" by artists Rabi and Christopher Derek Bruno

Murals highlight creativity in BelRed Arts District

By Marisol Morales
Marketing and Content Specialist

The city invites the community to discover the local artistic creativity of the BelRed Arts District by visiting its unique murals and connecting with local artists.

"Rent Free" – Rabi and Christopher Derek Bruno

This completed "Rent Free" artwork spans 10,000 square feet and was created with more than a ton of paint. As the district's largest public

project to date, the pieces explore themes of co-existence between people and nature as ongoing negotiation, rather than perfect harmony.

"Into the Magic Land" – Andy Arkley

Seattle-based visual artist Andy Arkley installed a temporary, suspended interactive inflatable art sculpture during the BelRed Arts District World Cup Soccer Party in late June. "Into the Magic Land," located near the BelRed Light Rail Station, strives to foster inclusion, positivity and elation.



"Into the Magic Land" by Andy Arkley

The city's public art collection currently includes more than 140 fixed and portable pieces throughout the city. To learn more, visit BellevueWA.gov/public-art-collection.



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Stay cool and connected in August

By Bellevue Network on Aging

August on the Eastside often brings warmer days and potential wildfire smoke. For older adults especially, these conditions can make it harder to stay active and connected.



Discover your city at Experience Bellevue!

**Spend a day celebrating with us
at City Hall**

By David Isaak

Neighborhood Outreach Manager

On Saturday, Sept. 19, the city will host its biennial Experience Bellevue! We welcome the community to a celebration of Bellevue's diversity at City Hall, with a host of activities and opportunities designed to encourage neighbors to connect, explore and learn about our city.

The day will kick off at 10 a.m. with live music, free breakfast and espresso and a range of activities and tours.

Highlights include:

- Salsa dancing, brass bands and K-pop on City Hall Plaza
- KidsQuest “Kid Zone”
- “Voices of Bellevue” community storytelling event
- Scavenger hunt and prizes
- Utility vehicles and a fire engine
- Tai Chi, art classes and Mahjong classes
- Local food vendors
- Photos with Bellevue Police officers
- Discovery Tours
- And much, much more!

All workshops, performances and tours are **free** to the public. Space is limited for selected tours and workshops. Registration opens Monday, Aug. 3 at BellevueWA.gov/experience-bellevue.

Come join us to make connections, welcome newcomers and celebrate our city!

Heat and air quality affect older bodies differently. Changes in circulation, breathing, and medications can increase vulnerability to dehydration, dizziness, and shortness of breath.

Despite the weather, movement and social contact are essential for strength, mood, and independence. Stay hydrated by carrying a water bottle and taking advantage of cooler temperatures in the morning, late afternoon and early evening.

To escape the heat and create connections, Bellevue's community centers provide many opportunities for fitness, socializing, crafts, and other activities in an air-conditioned environment. At the North Bellevue Community Center, you can even dance to live Big Band music and enjoy a low-cost lunch. Check out all the Bellevue Community Centers at BellevueWA.gov/community-centers.

The city isn't the only place to find opportunities to cool off. Three King County library branches in Bellevue offer cool indoor spaces. Check out activities the libraries have to offer at [kcls.org](https://www.kcls.org).

To keep August manageable, check the weather forecast and air quality before going out, stay hydrated by drinking water throughout the day and take advantage of cool spaces for activities.





Help shape 2027-28 budget and transportation investments

By Emily Inlow-Hood
Deputy Communications Officer

The City of Bellevue is preparing its preliminary 2027-28 budget to present to the public and City Council this September. There are several opportunities to learn more about the budget process and share your priorities.

The city will host a “Budget 101” informational meeting on Thursday, Aug. 13 to help the community learn about the budget process and ways to engage. The city will host another information session on Wednesday, Sept. 30 on the proposed 2027-28 budget.

Registration is encouraged but not required for all sessions. Both presentations will have recordings available after the meeting.

The full schedule of information sessions, public hearings, online surveys, including a survey on the city’s transportation needs, can be found at BellevueWA.gov/budget-process.

KBB volunteers tackle a busy summer

By Evan Reed
Keep Bellevue Beautiful Coordinator

Keep Bellevue Beautiful is off to a strong summer, thanks to the incredible support of our volunteers!

A special thank you to the team from **Hyatt Regency Bellevue**, who recently joined us for our Downtown Signature Streets Cleanup. Their crew spent the morning removing litter throughout downtown, helping to keep one of Bellevue’s busiest neighborhoods clean and welcoming.

Signature Streets is Keep Bellevue Beautiful’s every-other-week volunteer cleanup program. Throughout 2026, we’re visiting every Bellevue neighborhood at least once, with cleanup locations selected using service request data and input from neighborhood associations to focus on areas with the greatest need.

So far in 2026, Signature Streets volunteers have:

- Conducted **14** community cleanup events
- Removed **302** bags of litter
- Welcomed **171** registered volunteers
- Covered more than **47.5 miles** on foot

These impressive statistics don’t even include the work from our Adopt-A-Street volunteers, who continue hosting cleanups across Bellevue on their own schedules all year long.

Join us at one of our upcoming Signature Streets cleanups, held rain or shine from **9–11 a.m.**

- **Saturday, Aug. 8** – Northeast Bellevue
- **Saturday, Aug. 22** – Wilburton
- **Saturday, Sept. 5** – BelRed
- **Saturday, Sept. 12** – Eastgate

We’ll provide grabbers, gloves, bags, safety vests, and coffee. Just dress for the weather and come ready to help.

Looking for volunteer hours? Spend just two hours helping keep Bellevue beautiful while earning volunteer service hours and making a real difference in your community.

Visit the BellevueWA.gov/keep-bellevue-beautiful or specific cleanup locations and to sign up.





Last chance to join a Community Walking Audit

By Jennifer Cook

Transportation Public Information Officer

Help shape safer walking, rolling, biking, driving and transit in BelRed by joining our last Community Walking Audit of the summer. The walking audit lasts about two hours and is limited to 30 participants. RSVP today (eventbrite.com/cc/2026-community-walking-audits-4832152).

Your feedback will help guide future road-safety improvements.

Saturday, Aug. 22, 10 a.m.-noon – Northrup Way/Northeast 20th Street, 140th Avenue Northeast/148th Avenue Northeast

If you can't attend an audit, you can still share your input through a short online questionnaire. RSVP or and submit a questionnaire at BellevueWA.gov/road-safety-assessments.



Bridge resurfacing begins this month

By Jennifer Cook

Transportation Public Information Officer

The city's Bridge Preservation Program has identified four bridges in need of resurfacing this

year. Between Aug. 17-Sept. 11, crews will remove and replace the surface on the following bridges:

- NE 12th Street just east of NE Spring Boulevard, over the train tracks (day/night weekend work)
- NE 12th Street just west of 124th Avenue NE (day/night weekend work)
- 120th Avenue NE just north of NE Spring Boulevard (day work)
- Lakemont just south of I-90 (night work)

Most work will occur overnight and detours will be in place. For more details, visit the city's Bridge Preservation Program webpage (BellevueWA.gov/pavement).

Help shape Bellevue's newest park

By Christina Faine

Parks & Community Services Public Information Officer

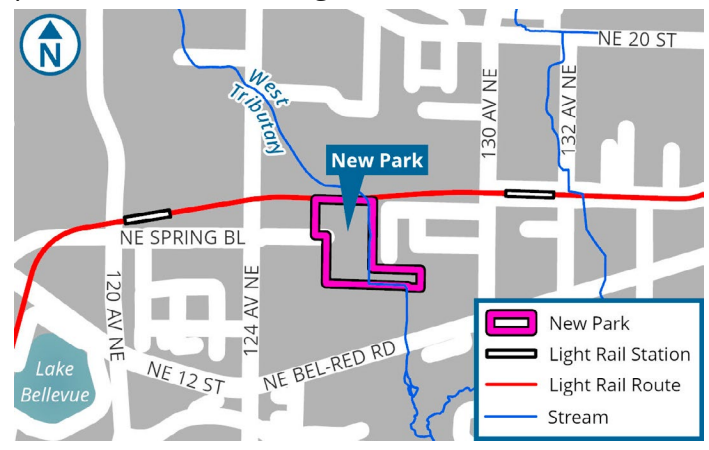
Did you know that a new park is coming to the BelRed neighborhood? Join us for the second in-person community

meeting on Thursday, Aug. 27, 6:30-8 p.m. at Crossroads Community Center to learn more and provide feedback on the design options. An online meeting will be held the following week on Thursday, Sept. 3 from 6:30-8 p.m.



**Bellevue
Parks and
Open Space
LEVY**

Located at 12520 Spring Blvd, the property is in one of the most underserved areas in the city for parks and trail access. In 2022, voters approved the City of Bellevue 2022 Parks and Open Space levy to fund planning and developing for a new park in the BelRed neighborhood.





Bellevue College land use code update underway

*By Amanda Rich Anderson
Public Information Officer, Development Services*

Did you know that when Bellevue College first opened in 1966 it was initially operating from Newport High School? In 1969 the institution relocated to its permanent campus and has continue to grow and evolve beyond the traditional suburban commuter community college into the major regional center for higher education we know today.

The college campus is currently zoned for residential development which constrains the college's ability to expand academic facilities, student housing and other campus infrastructure.

The city's 2044 Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Map identify the Bellevue College area for a new land use designation to better support future academic, housing and community-oriented needs.

To align with these efforts, and to support the college's Campus Master Plan, the city is proposing a land use code amendment to establish a new "institutional" land use district specifically for the college.

The land use code amendment will create development standards tailored to an educational campus while ensuring compatibility with surrounding residential neighborhoods.

The proposed rezone will only apply to property currently owned by Bellevue College with nearby privately owned property in surrounding neighborhoods remaining under their current zoning.

Community input will play an important role as this proposal moves forward. A survey is available

now at BellevueWA.gov/bc-luca-survey and will close at the end of August, offering community members, property owners and local businesses an early opportunity to share feedback with the planning team. Additional engagement opportunities will be announced as the project progresses, and the city will continue working closely with Bellevue College to ensure that neighbors can stay informed and involved. More details are available on the project webpage at BellevueWA.gov/bellevue-college-luca.

Save the Date: Residential Permitting Expo on Saturday, Oct. 17

*By Amanda Rich Anderson
Public Information Officer, Development Services*

Mark your calendar for the Residential Permitting Expo on Saturday, Oct. 17!

This free, family-friendly event gives property owners, builders, developers and community members a chance to meet city experts, ask questions and get practical advice on projects, permits, processes and more.

Staff from across Development Services and other departments will be on hand to share resources and answer questions about common residential projects, including tree regulations, home additions and remodels, accessory dwelling units and more.

Whether you're planning ahead or exploring options, the expo is designed to make the permitting process clearer and easier to navigate.

More details will be available soon! Learn more about the Development Services Department at BellevueWA.gov/development-services.





Save the Date – Lake Hills NEP Open House, Sept. 24

By David Isaak

Neighborhood Outreach Manager

Discover the unique projects proposed for the Lake Hills Neighborhood Enhancement Program! Join neighbors and city staff to preview the projects and better understand what you will be voting on.

When: September 24, 6:30–8 p.m.

Where: Bellevue College, L Building Lobby

We hope to see you there!

Neighborhood area planning comes to Lake Hills and West Lake Sammamish!

By Zack Luckin

Community Development Senior Planner

In late July, the City Council launched the fourth round of Great Neighborhoods in Lake Hills and West Lake Sammamish. Each year since 2018, the program has updated two neighborhood area plans to ensure that policies reflect changing needs and conditions at the local level.

Neighborhood area plans are part of the city's overall Comprehensive Plan, which outlines citywide policies on issues like housing, transportation, parks, environmental sustainability, and more. Neighborhood plans bring these topics to life in a local way, informing future growth by providing guidance about the kinds of improvements people want to see in their neighborhood.

The Great Neighborhoods program strengthens neighborhood identity, enhances public spaces through urban design, identifies opportunities

to improve neighborhood identity and supports community gathering spaces.

Community members who live, work, play or study in Lake Hills and West Lake Sammamish are encouraged to get involved. Sign up to get invitations to events and updates at BellevueWA.gov/great-neighborhoods.

During the month of August, community members can look for the Great Neighborhoods team at events in Lake Hills and West Lake Sammamish. If people would like to invite the team to present to a neighborhood group or attend an event, they can reach out to greatneighborhoods@bellevuewa.gov.

Community members who are interested in learning more can visit the Great Neighborhoods web page (BellevueWA.gov/great-neighborhoods).



From City Hall to Downtown Park: BCS volunteers shine this summer

By Tesslyn Matthes

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

How do you spend your weekends? At the Bellevue Fire Department, our Bellevue Communications Support (BCS) volunteer team can often be found at City Hall, working hard to test and strengthen emergency radio capabilities.

BCS has been supporting national exercises and city events to ensure they maintain operational

readiness and are prepared to support emergency communications in a disaster.

In late June, BCS participated in a nationwide, 24-hour field day radio exercise. During this time, the team logged nearly 300 contacts and maintained operations for 24 consecutive hours.

The following weekend, volunteers supported the Bellevue Family Fourth celebration at Downtown Park. Working in coordinated teams, they monitored activity throughout the event and assisted with lost child incidents to help keep families safe.

The city would like to thank these volunteers for sacrificing their holidays and weekends to help make Bellevue safer and better prepared. We would also like to say a special thank you to volunteer leaders John Dean and Scott Blomquist who spear-headed these efforts and went above and beyond to serve the greater Bellevue community!

For more information on how to become part of the Bellevue Communications Support Volunteer Team, and for other volunteer opportunities visit, BellevueWA.gov/emergency-management-volunteering.



Applications for the Bellevue Youth Climate Action Fund Launching in August

By Jake Sykes

Community Development Sustainability Coordinator

Have an idea to reduce waste, improve energy efficiency, promote clean transportation, protect natural resources, or engage your community in climate solutions? The Youth Climate Action Fund has the money to bring your vision to life!

The city will begin accepting applications for the Bellevue Youth Climate Action Fund in late August.

This program will help young people turn their climate ideas into formal action by providing financing, resources and support.

Funded through Bloomberg Philanthropies' Youth Climate Action Fund, the city's program will award microgrants up to **\$5,000** to youth-led projects that advance local climate action. Young people between the ages of **15 to 24 years** are invited to submit ideas that support a more sustainable and resilient future.

In June, the city hosted an informational webinar covering the program, funding eligibility and types of projects. Catch up on the details at BellevueWA.gov/youth-climate-fund.

For more information and questions, contact ycaf@bellevuewa.gov.



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			