



BELLEVUE  
**PEDESTRIAN  
& BICYCLE**  
IMPLEMENTATION INITIATIVE

## **Citywide Bike Share Pilot Permit**

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***Transportation Commission***

***March 8, 2018***

# Meeting Purpose

- 1. Staff seeks Commission endorsement of the citywide bike share pilot permit framework.**
- 2. In accordance with its Bylaws approved on 12/14/17, the Commission must also authorize a person to present this endorsement to Council.**

# Agenda



- **Bike Share Background**
- **Pilot Permit Goals**
- **Pilot Permit Strategies**
- **Timeline**
- **Commission Q&A**

# Bike Share Background: Bellevue



- **October 2008** – Planning Comm. approved CPA recommendation
- **February 2009** – Council adopted Ped/Bike Transportation Plan
- **February 2015** – Council initiated Ped/Bike Implementation Initiative
- **April 2015** – TC approval of PBII Scope of Work
- **June 2015** – TC input into Comprehensive Plan Update
- **March 2017** – Council study session briefing on PBII status
- **September 2017** – Eastside Bike Share Vendor Fair
- **November 2017** – TC check-in with bike share survey results
- **January 2018** – TC discussion of bike share pilot permit goals

# Bike Share Background: Region



- **July 2012** – Non-profit Puget Sound Bike Share formed
- **October 2014** – Pronto Cycle Share launched in central Seattle
- **July 2015** – State allocated \$5.5M for Eastside bike share
- **March 2016** – City of Seattle purchased Pronto Cycle Share
- **March 2017** – Pronto service ceased operation
- **July 2017** – Seattle issued bike share pilot permit
- **January 2018** – Bothell issued business license to LimeBike
- **March 2018** – Redmond Council considering approval of permit
- **May 2018** – Redmond and Kirkland targeting bike share launch

# 1/25 TC Meeting: Key Messages



- **Be Uniquely Bellevue**
- **Be Innovative**
- **Start Small**
- **Start Focused**
- **Minimize Clutter**
- **Protect Private Property**
- **Address Safety Concerns**
- **Ensure Cost Recovery**

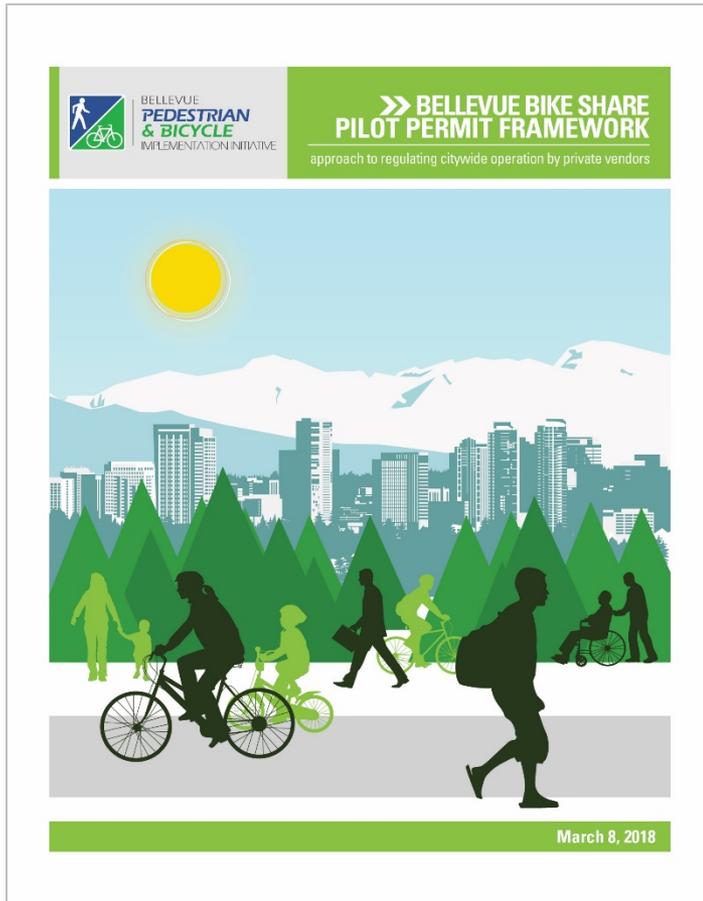
# BDA Recommendation



*“The Bellevue Downtown Association has endorsed a position supporting the permitted use of free-floating bike share within the City of Bellevue. The position includes the following recommendations:”*

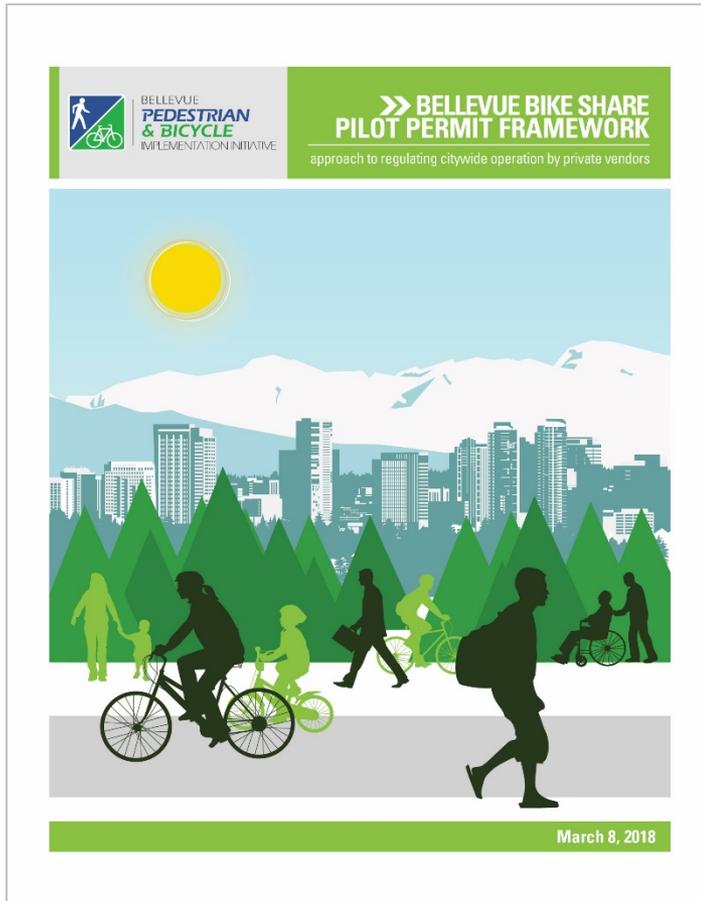
- 1. Bike share must be safe** – Helmets, hazards, traffic laws
- 2. Mitigate impacts** – Bike share parking, access, aesthetics
- 3. Permitting fees** – Reinvestment into ped/bike facilities
- 4. Implement a pilot period** – Evaluation, limited duration, limited fleet size
- 5. Enforcement** – Processes to monitor and resolve issues, non-compliance penalties

# Pilot Permit Goals



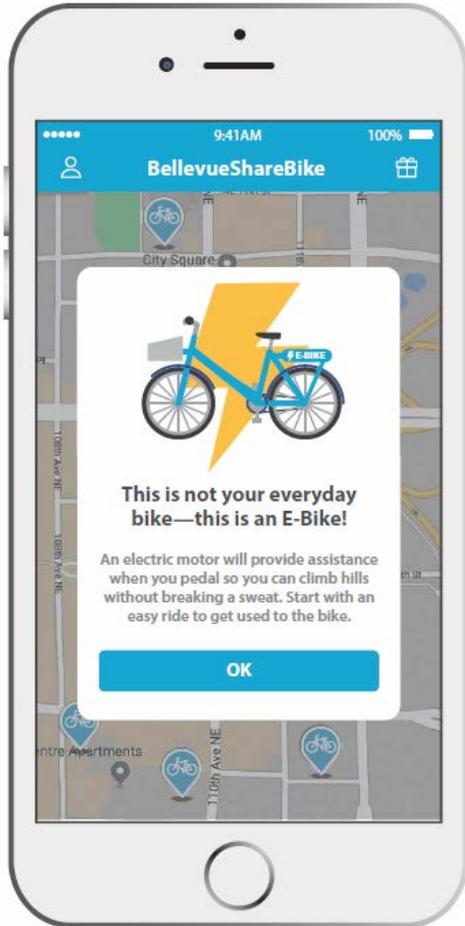
- **Pilot**
- **Quality**
- **Safety**
- **Parking**
- **Operations**
- **Evaluation**
- **Enforcement**
- **Cost Recovery**
- **Equity**

# Proposed Pilot Permit Strategies



- **Electric-assist bikes only**
- **Modest fleet size at launch**
- **Citywide service, targeted distribution by geographic area**
- **Bike share hubs**
- **Defined “No Parking” areas**
- **System growth based on operator compliance**

# Electric-Assist Bikes Only



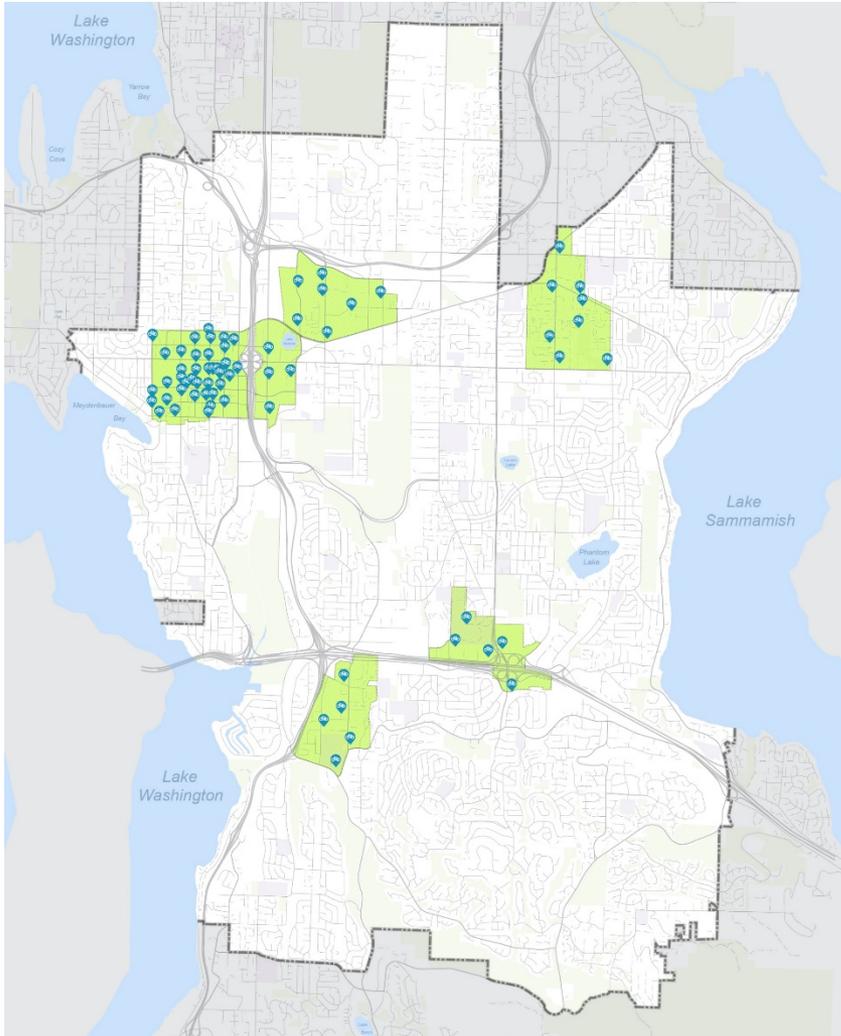
- **Make bike share accessible to a wider variety of users**
- **Address local topographic barriers to biking**
- **Provide consistency in service offering**
- **Promote the best available technologies**

# Modest Fleet Size at Launch



- **400 bikes at launch**
- **Based on bicycle density in three geographies:**
  - Activity Centers
  - FTN Bus Stops
  - Neighborhoods
- **Permitted bikes per operator dependent on number of operators**

# Geographic Areas: Activity Centers



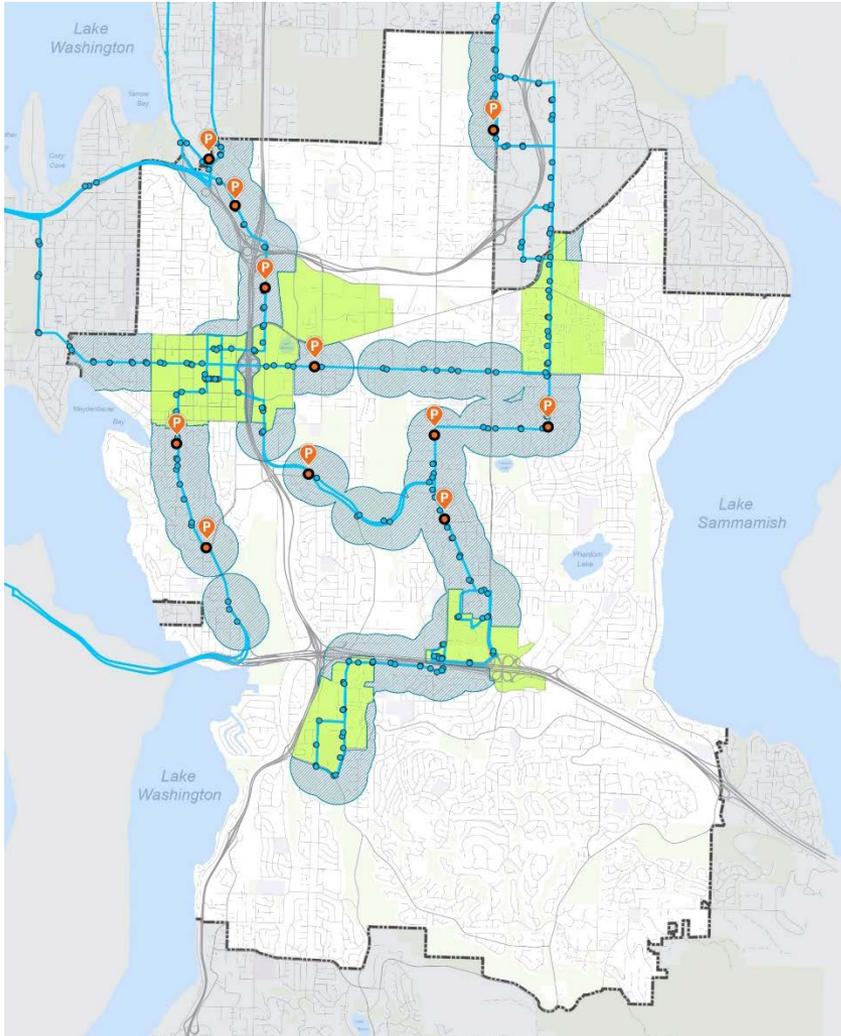
## **300 bikes distributed across:** *Primary Center*

- Downtown

## *Secondary Centers*

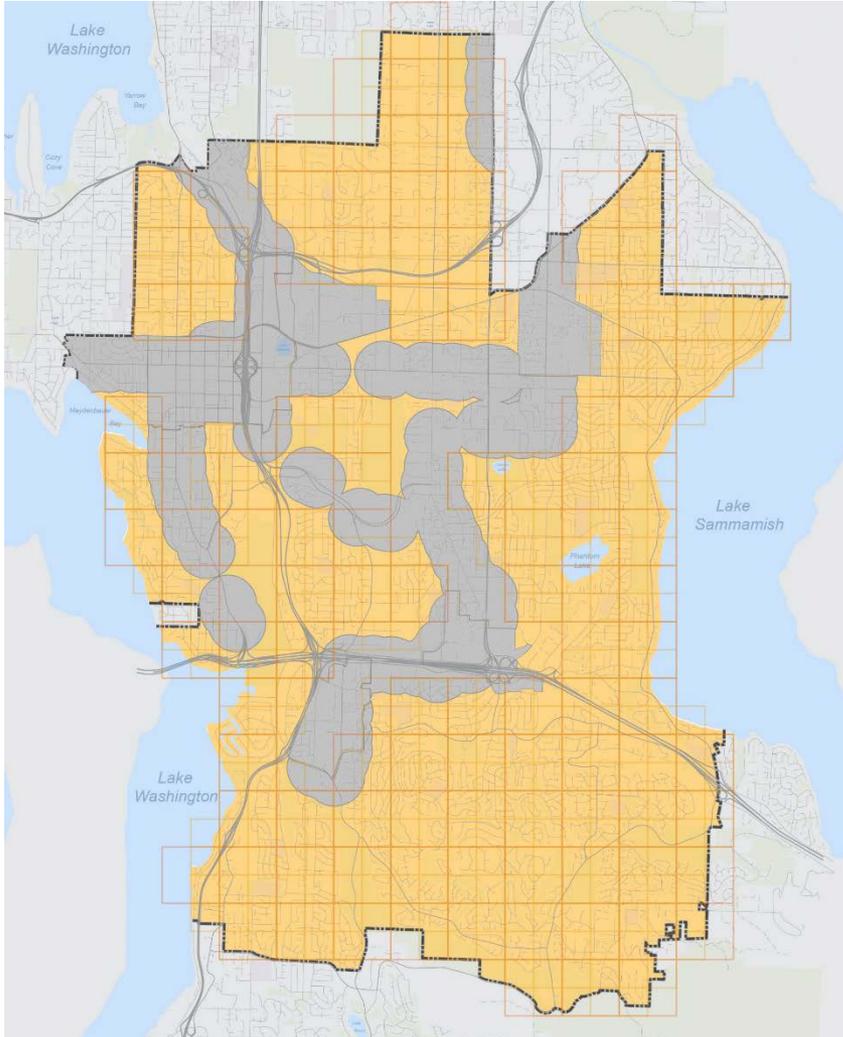
- BelRed
- Crossroads
- Eastgate
- Factoria
- Wilburton/Hospital

# Geographic Areas: FTN Bus Stops



- 40 bikes distributed within ¼-mile of stops with frequent bus service
- Improves access to transit by bicycle
- Supports first-/last-mile connections
- Enhances the multimodal transportation system

# Geographic Areas: Neighborhoods

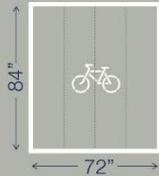


- **60 bikes distributed across all other areas**
- **Provides access to bike share while managing neighborhood impacts**
- **Supports first-/last-mile connections to transit**

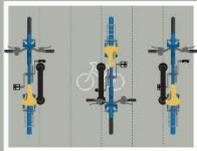
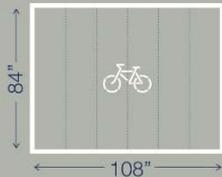
# Bike Share Hubs

## Square Areas

4 Bicycles



6 Bicycles



## Angled Areas

4 Bicycles

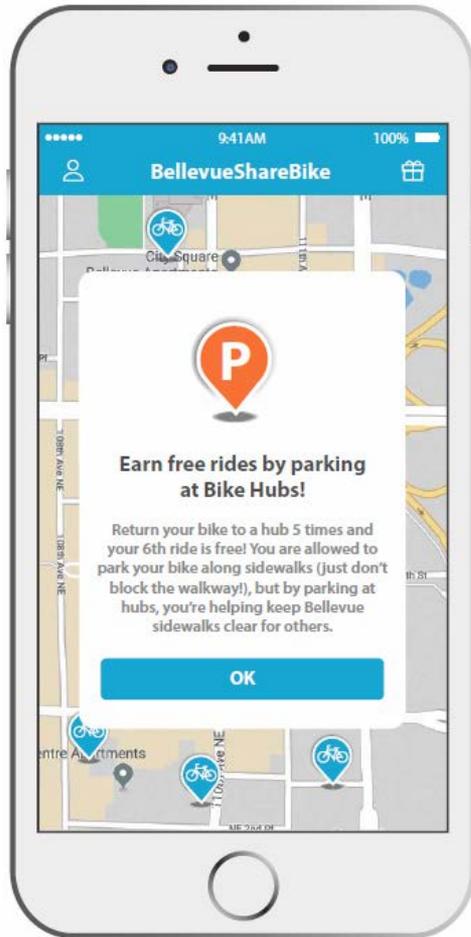


6 Bicycles



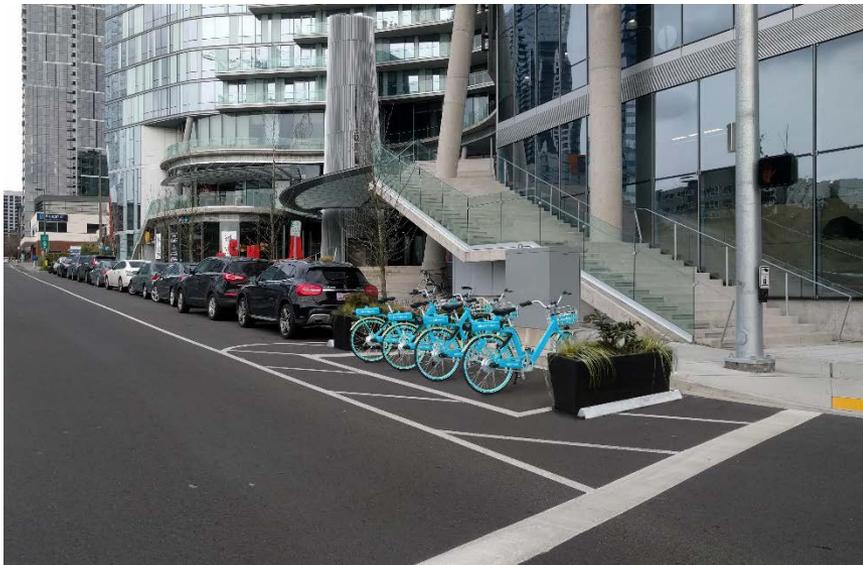
- Low-cost installation
- Context-sensitive template
- Design can include bike racks where possible

# Bike Share Hubs



- Depicted on map in mobile application
- Ensures reliable availability
- Incentives to users to help manage public realm

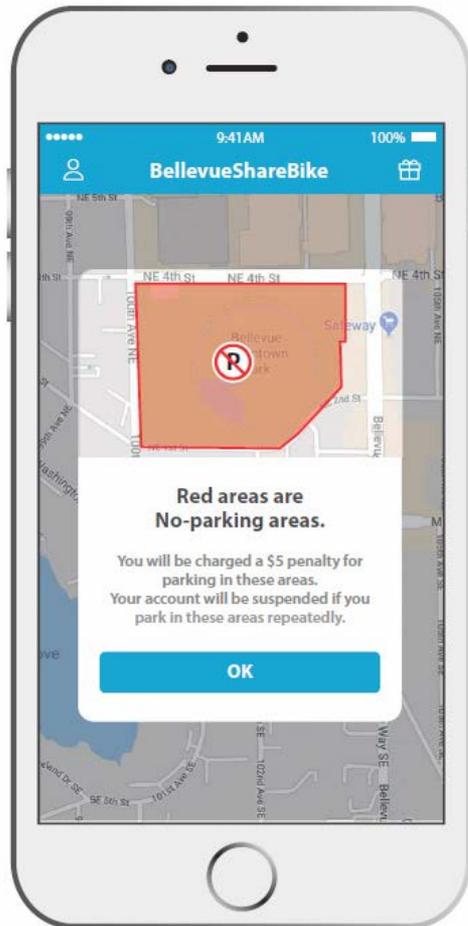
# Bike Share Hubs: Public



# Bike Share Hubs: Private

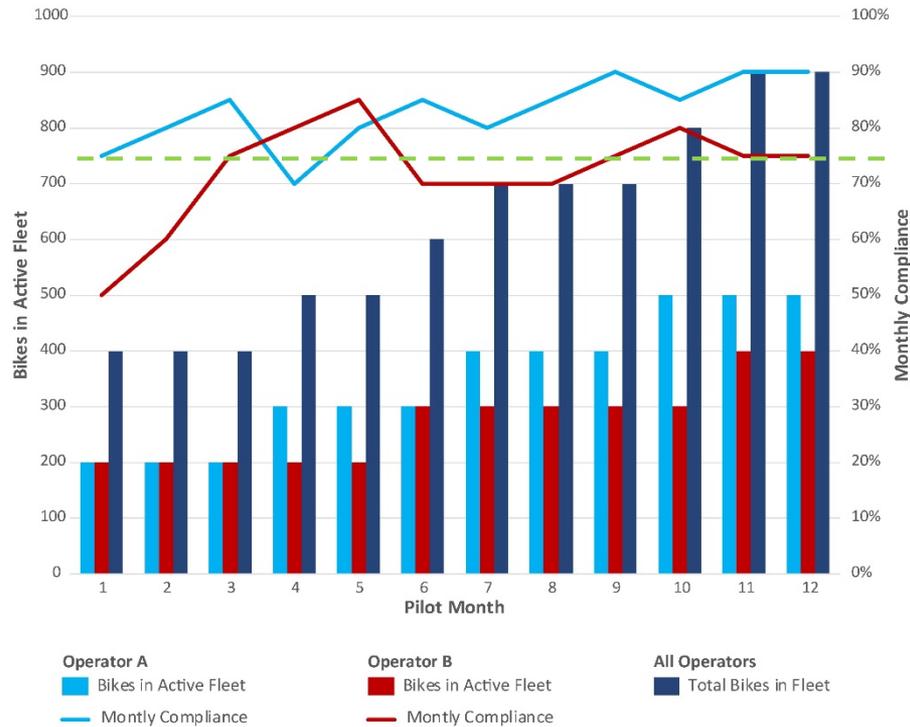


# No Parking Areas



- Established by geofencing
- Depicted on map in mobile application
- Warning to user prior to ending trip
- Fee penalty to user
- Operator notified automatically

# Compliance-Based Growth



- Average nightly fleet reallocation to Activity Centers
- Average nightly rebalancing to at/near bike share hubs
- Phase increases based on compliance above set threshold over rolling 3-month period

# Neighborhood Hub Expansion



- Engage community to locate bike share hubs in neighborhoods
- Manage orderly parking in areas lacking wide sidewalks and public plazas
- Improve reliable access to bike share in residential areas

# Safety



## Keep it Neighborly CLEAR THE WALKWAY!

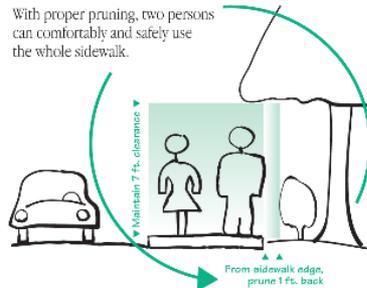
Help keep the sidewalk clear of vehicles, trash cans, and recycling bins for you and your neighbors:

- ◆ Blocked sidewalks increase the likelihood of accidents, especially when vehicles and other obstructions force children, seniors, and less mobile residents into the street.
- ◆ Even partially obstructed sidewalks increase the likelihood of accidents. Vehicles jutting out of driveways limit sight distances and decrease room to squeeze by.
- ◆ Sidewalks can crack from the weight of parked vehicles, leading to expensive repairs. Also, oil leaks make for slippery sidewalks!

Help your neighbors and the City - don't park on the sidewalk. It's the law (RCW 46.61.570).

For information about keeping your sidewalk clear, call the Bellevue Transportation Department at (425) 452-6856.

To report parking violations, call the Bellevue Police Department at (425) 452-6917.



## Keep it Neighborly CLEAR THE WALKWAY!

In our northwest climate, trees and shrubs grow quickly. Overgrown plants and low hanging branches can lead to head and eye injuries, or can force pedestrians to sidestep into oncoming traffic. To improve the safety of your sidewalk, be sure to:

- ◆ Prune trees to a seven foot vertical clearance.
- ◆ Prune one foot back from the edge of the sidewalk. The extra space allows your neighbors to use all of the sidewalk space more effectively and safely.
- ◆ Sweep away fallen leaves and other debris.
- ◆ Trim vegetation obstructing driveways or intersections to increase visibility of pedestrians and street signs.

Be neighborly - keep your sidewalk clear (BCC 14.06.010).

For more information, call the City of Bellevue Transportation Department at (425) 452-6856.

For technical information on how to properly prune, contact Bellevue's Parks and Community Services Department, Resource Management Division at (425) 452-6855.

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## Education:

- Video – Safe bicycling practices
- Update 'Keep It Neighborly'
- Require operators to notify users of local helmet law and promote helmet use

## Encouragement & Enforcement:

- Work with Police is ongoing to determine the role of the Bike Patrol and other officers
- Legal has provided guidance to manage City liability

# Cost Recovery

***“No cost to taxpayers should be the goal.”***

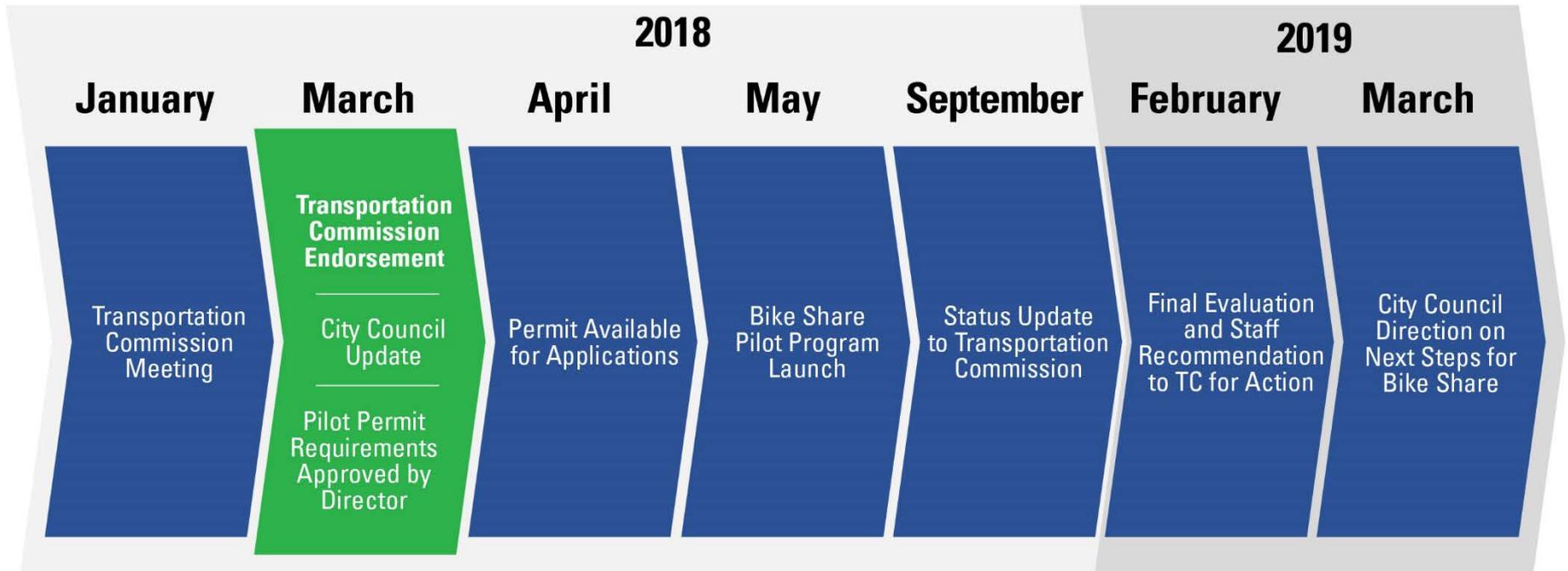
***“No public money to bike share programs! This should be a private business only!! Let it succeed or fail as a private business. No taxpayer dollars to bike share!”***

***“If this is private-based, the public needs to be reassured there is no cost to the taxpayer if this fails.”***

## **Costs to be recovered include:**

- **Permit application and review**
- **Data collection and analysis**
- **Bike share hubs (parking)**
- **Administrative oversight**

# Draft Timeline



# Commission Q&A

## What authority does the Transportation Department have to permit bike share in Bellevue?

- The Transportation Department Director has the authority to approve ROW use permits and “may impose such conditions thereon as are reasonably necessary to protect the public health, welfare and safety and to mitigate any impacts resulting from the use.” (BCC 14.30.090)
- The ROW use permit will allow private companies to make bicycles available for shared use to individuals on a short-term basis, subject to requirements that address issues and concerns previously identified by the Commission and community stakeholders, including safety, parking, and fleet size.

# Commission Q&A

## What type of ROW Use Permit will be required of private companies interested in operating bike share in Bellevue?

- Private companies will be required to apply for a Type D permit.
- Type D permits (BCC 14.30.080) include but are not limited to: a. Air rights; b. Bus shelters/stops; c. Construction site/haul roads; d. Loading zones; e. Mobile peddling; f. Newspaper sale; g. Recycle facilities; h. Sales structures; i. Sidewalk cafes; j. Special and unique structures; fountains, clocks, flagpoles, awnings, marquees, benches, kiosks, signs, mailboxes, banners, street furniture, decorations; k. Underground rights; l. Utility facilities; m. Waste facilities.

# Commission Q&A

## What are the liability considerations associated with permitting bike share in Bellevue?

- The ROW Use permit requires that bike share companies sign an Indemnity Agreement to indemnify and hold harmless the City (its officers, officials, employees, contractors, agents, and invitees) from any claims/damages that may arise as a result of the bike share company's use of the ROW authorized by the permit. – NOTE this indemnification would include commissioners.
- If the City were named in a lawsuit involving a bike share bike, and depending on the specific facts, we could tender defense of the case to the bike share company under this Indemnity Agreement.
- We also require that the bike share companies procure insurance to provide coverage for such claims.

# Commission Q&A

## Does the ROW use permit authorize use of private property?

- No, the ROW use permit is only valid and applicable to uses within the City of Bellevue right-of-way.
- Any other permissions or approvals to use private property shall be the responsibility of the permittee to secure.
- Permit conditions specify that operators are responsible for managing their fleet, and standards will ensure they are responsive to parking issues, complaints, and relocation requests.
- Data collected from the operators will facilitate city oversight of operator compliance, and non-compliance will result in defined enforcement actions including fleet reductions, fines, and suspension or revocation of the operator's permit depending on the severity and frequency of infractions.

# Commission Action

- 1. Staff seeks Commission endorsement of the citywide bike share pilot permit framework.**
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# For More Information



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