

June 2016

news for and about Bellevue neighborhoods

**City Explores Possible Ballot Measures for Key Infrastructure Projects** 

# JUNE OPEN HOUSES 5-7 p.m.

Join us to learn more about two potential measures to fund neighborhood safety and connectivity and new, remodeled or improved fire facilities.

- Tuesday, June 28th Bellevue Youth Theatre Crossroads
- Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> South Bellevue Community

  Center, Community Rooms A & B
- Thursday, June 30th City Hall, Room 1E-108





The City Council is considering two measures which would appear on the November 2016 ballot. These measures would fund neighborhood safety and connectivity and new, remodeled, or improved fire facilities.

Residents will have the opportunity to learn more and weigh in at three open houses this month. The council strongly encourages residents to attend one of the open houses. The city will also be releasing an online survey to receive the comments from those who cannot attend the public meetings. Residents are encouraged to check Bellevue's official Facebook (Facebook. com/BellevueWashington) and Twitter (@ BellevueWA) pages for updates.



# **Applications Available for Bellevue Essentials 2016 Class**

#### **Orientation Meeting**

#### Thursday, June 9, 6pm Bellevue City Hall Room 1E-108

Are you interested in learning about the structure and inner workings of city government? The City is recruiting members for the 2016 class of Bellevue Essentials, a program for emerging neighborhood and community leaders.

Class members will build familiarity with government process and decision-making, while networking with a like-minded group of exceptional individuals looking to expand their knowledge and skill sets.

The nine-week introduction to civic engagement in Bellevue begins on September 21, with eight weekly Wednesday evening sessions and a Saturday, October 1, tour day. Class size is limited to 35 participants.

Class topics include history, demographics, public process, neighborhoods, parks and community services, planning, development services, budget, transportation, environmental stewardship, utilities, affordable housing, transportation



and economic development and public safety. A variety of learning tools, such as speakers, panels, interactive exercises and site visits are used.

Classes are open to anyone who lives or works in Bellevue, and those committed to being engaged in their neighborhoods are encouraged to apply.

Class tuition is \$95 per participant and financial assistance is available. For more information, please attend the June 9 meeting or to request a brochure and a simple one-page application, visit http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bellevue-essentials.htm or contact Julie Ellenhorn, Neighborhood Outreach, 425-452-5372 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov



Over 75 residents gathered on Saturday, May 21st at City Hall for the first ever Bellevue Neighborhoods conference – Better Together.

Inspired by keynote speaker, Becky
Henchman, author of local blog, "Eat,
Play, Thaw" residents began the morning
reflecting on expanding their neighborhood
connections. Sixteen workshops followed
throughout the day where participants
gained knowledge on topics ranging from
neighborhood safety to diversity, conflict
resolution to communication. A great time
was shared by all: "This was an awesome
opportunity to be in City Hall, see/meet
city employees, socialize with neighbors, and



thank you to all who put this together! I look forward to future conferences!" This is just one of the many positive comments from conference participants.







# City to Host Feet First Event on Walkability

Tuesday, June 7, 9am-4pm.

#### 4:30pm"WALKshop" tour of the future Grand Connection route.

Feet First, an organization that promotes walkable communities, will hold its 2016 Walkable Washington Symposium & Awards at City Hall this month.

This year's program will include a "sneak peek" at Bellevue's ambitious new initiative, the Grand Connection, an effort to develop a landmark pedestrian route through downtown, from the Meydenbauer Bay waterfront to the Eastside Rail Corridor (ERC), east of Interstate 405. The ERC is a planned, north-south pedestrian and bicycle trail.

The program will be 9-4pm on June 7, followed at 4:30 by a "WALKshop" tour of the future Grand Connection route. More

information and ticket purchasing options are available on the Feet First website.

Other highlights of the event include welcome remarks by Mayor John Stokes, sessions on design-engineering, advocacy-encouragement and vision-planning, a poster exhibition and awards presentation. The keynote speaker is Dr. Eric Scharnhorst, designer of Walk Score, a walkability index.

Feet First promotes the event as a gathering of leaders, planners, engineers, educators and advocates from across the state. It's an opportunity to share insights on projects designed to create public spaces that stimulate connectivity and well-being through walking, access to transit and a vibrant local economy.

# **Affordable Housing Community Education Forum**

## Thursday, June 23, 5:30-8pm. | Bellevue City Hall Council Chambers



Come join the Affordable Housing Community Education Forum this month at city hall. The event will feature a panel of representatives from the human service provider

community, the business community, the Bellevue School District, and both the nonand for-profit development communities, who will address the need for affordable housing in Bellevue, challenges to providing it, and field questions about affordable housing from the audience.

Representatives from several human service providers will be in the City Hall concourse area, both before and after the panel presentation, to discuss the resources and services they provide. We will also have a video booth for attendees to offer their thoughts about, and experiences with, affordable housing in Bellevue, and a station with information about the list of potential actions for attendees to offer their ideas and concerns.



# Did You Know Bellevue is Competing to Win \$5 Million?

Bellevue is currently tied for fourth place among 50 cities vying for a \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize by reducing energy use and raising awareness about conservation over a two-year period

#### Take the Pledge to be Energy Smart

Help Bellevue win the prize by taking the pledge to be Energy Smart: http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/energysmart.htm and reduce your energy use in easy ways.

Turning down thermostats at bedtime, turning off electronics and washing clothes in cold water could save residents 16 to 20 percent annually on their energy bill (\$333 to \$417). If all Bellevue households take this pledge, the city has the potential to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 59,000 metric tons.

Residents signing the pledge will be entered to win energy-saving devices, such as smart power strips, LED lightbulb kits and solar mobile phone chargers.

The Eastside Energy Corps, a team of students from middle schools and high schools around Bellevue, is supporting the competition by spreading the word about Energy Smart in their schools and energizing other young people about how saving energy helps our environment.

## Bellevue challenges Bellingham on energy reduction

Bellevue and Bellingham are neck-and-neck in a national contest to be the greenest midsized city in the country. Now the two cities are engaged in a friendly battle to see which can cut more energy usage in their homes, schools and city buildings, regardless of where they finish in the national competition. "The \$5 million prize is certainly a strong incentive, but it's the title of being the most green that we're after," said Bellevue Mayor John Stokes. "Bellevue strives to be an innovative city, especially when it comes to saving money through energy efficiency. We're really looking forward to this friendly competition with our Bellingham neighbors!"

"I am excited that Washington cities are so committed to developing a cleaner, more efficient energy future for our state," said Bellingham Mayor Kelli Linville.

"Bellingham is happy to accept the challenge from Bellevue, and we will be even happier to accept their congratulations when we win the Georgetown prize. Earlier this year, I declared 2016 to be 'Energy Year' in Bellingham, and we will be putting forward our best effort."

The mayor of the city that comes in second in the Bellevue-Bellingham competition will send a basket of local food items to the mayor of the winning city.

The Georgetown prize was established to spur energy-saving innovations with competition. Bellingham and Bellevue are semifinalists after they submitted detailed, long-term plans for cutting energy consumption in their communities.

Energy use in all of the semifinalist cities over 2015 and 2016 is being measured. The winner will be announced in the summer of 2017, based not only on the amount of energy reduced, but also on the number of people participating in the campaign and the innovation and replicability of the city's programs. That city will use the \$5 million for energy efficiency projects.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Ewing, Environmental Stewardship Program Manager at jewing@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6129.





## **June Meetings**

(All meetings are in City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. You may confirm with Neighborhood Outreach the day before or day of the meeting. Or consult the City web pages listed below to download agendas.)

**6/01 Planning Commission Public Hearing** (6:00, 1E-113) Threshold Determination, 2016 Annual Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning\_commission.htm

**6/02 Bellevue Network on Aging** (8:30-10:30a.m., 1E-113) Elder Adult Fraud Fighting. Dennis Rockwood AARP presenting http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network\_on\_aging.htm

**6/02 Environmental Services Commission** (6:30, 1E-113) Bellevue Service Center tour, Budget proposal recommendations to Results Team

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/environ\_serv\_comm.htm

**6/06 City Council** (6:00 Study Session, Council Conference Room1E-113) Marijuana Regulation Response, Long Range Financial Plan, Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Discussion (8:00 Regular Session, Council Chambers) Code Adoption; Public Hearing - Budget Process http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council\_overview.htm

**6/07 East Bellevue Community Council** (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Courtesy hearings on a Land Use Code Amendment, Design Review Application, and Administrative Conditional Use Permit <a href="http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC\_Homepage.htm">http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC\_Homepage.htm</a>

**6/07 Arts Commission** (4:30, 1E-108) Update the City's strategic vision and core initiatives for art and culture, Public comment on updated draft (https://www.bellevuewa.gov/cultural\_compass.htm)

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts\_comm.htm

**6/07 Human Services Commission** (6:00, 1E-113) Human Services Funding, Round 2, Application Review with Staff reviews of Goals 1 & 2.

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human\_serv\_comm.htm

**6/08 Planning Commission** (5:00-7:30, 1E-113) Proposed Eastgate Land Use Code Amendments http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning\_commission.htm

**6/09 Special Events Committee** (8:30 -10:30 a.m. 1E-112) Review May 22 Spirit of Bellevue 12k Event, Preview of June events including Strawberry Festival. Update on upcoming events including Ukrainian Festival and Flavors of India http://bellevuewa.gov/special\_events\_committee.htm

**6/09 Transportation Commission** (6:30, 1E-113) Multimodal level-of-service, (Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond (BKR) Update, Transportation Management Program Code, Low Impact Development, BelRed Lookback http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans\_comm.htm

6/13 City Council (6:00 Extended Study Session, Council Conference Room 1E-113) Water Quality, Rates; Operations and Maintenance Satellite Facility (OMSF) Feasibility Study http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council\_overview.htm

**6/14 Parks & Community Services Board** (6:00, 1E-113) Board elections, Diversity Advantage Plan Update and Review of Draft ADA Self-Assessment and Transition Plan http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks\_board.htm

**6/15 East Main CAC** (4:00 1E-113) Review comments received on the draft East Main Station Area Plan; finalize document for City Council

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-station-areas.htm

6/20 City Council (6:00 Study Session, Council Conference Room 1E-113) Downtown Livability Update; Smart Cities Overview, Council Threshold Review; Traffic and School Impact Fee Deferral (8:00 Regular Session, Council Chambers) Code Updates; Public Hearing – Response to Recreational Marijuana Regulations http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council\_overview.htm

**6/21 Human Services Commission** (6:00, 1E-113) Human Service Funding-Round 2 Application Review with staff reviews of Goal 3, 4, 5.

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human serv comm.htm

**6/22 Planning Commission Public Hearing** (6:30, Bellevue Community College N. N201) Proposed Land Use Code Amendments

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning\_commission.htm

**6/28 Human Services Commission** (6:30, 1E-108) Joint Eastside Human Services Commission/Board meeting (Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond and Issaquah)

 $http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human\_serv\_comm.htm$ 

**6/28 Transportation & Fire Facilities Open House** (5:00, Bellevue Youth Theatre)

The City Council is considering asking residents to approve additional money to pay for neighborhood safety and connectivity and new, remodeled, or improved fire facilities. Come learn more and provide feedback at the first of three open houses held across Bellevue.

**6/29 Transportation & Fire Facilities Open House** (5:00, South Bellevue Community Center, Rooms A&B) The City Council is considering asking residents to approve additional money to pay for neighborhood safety and connectivity and new, remodeled, or improved fire facilities. Come learn more and provide feedback at the second of three open houses held across Bellevue.

**6/30 Transportation & Fire Facilities Open House** (5:00, City Hall, Room 1E-108)

The council is considering asking residents to approve additional money to pay for neighborhood safety and connectivity and new, remodeled, or improved fire facilities. Come learn more and provide feedback at the last of three open houses held across Bellevue.

**6/30 Human Services Commission** (6:00, 1E-113) Human Services Funding-Round 2 – Application Review with staff views on CDBG applications, preliminary Human Services and funding recommendations

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human\_serv\_comm.htm

Bellevue's Neighborhood Outreach Office offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, call 425-452-6836.