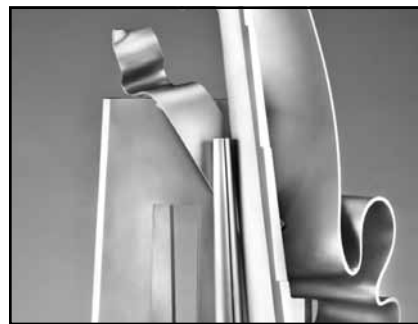




Last 'islands' join Bellevue



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From left, John Richardson of Tamara Hills, Gloria Northcroft of Horizon View, City Manager Steve Sarkozy and Jim Lally of Eastgate at City Hall. With annexation, Bellevue's population nears 130,000.

In the city's last large-scale annexation, the unincorporated neighborhoods of Eastgate, Tamara Hills and Horizon View became part of Bellevue on June 1.

The annexations, unanimously approved by the City Council in May, add 5,400 residents, 1,850 residences and 786 acres to Bellevue. The city's newest residents, who participated in petition drives for annexation, are being welcomed with a series of events in June and July.

"We definitely welcome you to the City of Bellevue," Mayor Conrad Lee told community leaders from all three neighborhoods at the May 21 council meeting. "You heard the benefits you will be getting from us, and I would say we recognize the benefits that we will get from you. It's finally going to be one city."

"I feel glad," said Amy Pierce, an Eastgate resident who wanted to be in the city for increased services, lower taxes and the opportunity to vote for city officials. "I'm on board for the whole thing," the Port of Seattle buyer noted.

Jeannie Price, a retiree who's lived in Tamara Hills since 2000, went doorbelling and found most residents in her neighborhood embraced the idea of annexation.

"I didn't really have to do a lot of convincing," Price said.

Gloria Northcroft, who moved to Horizon View in 2005 after living in the Somerset neighborhood for 25 years, said, "We were very familiar with the fine services the city offers. It's very exciting to be once again in the city of Bellevue."

Annexations have played a huge role Bellevue's growth since it incorporated as a city in 1953, expanding from 4.7 square miles to more than 31 square miles today. The last big annexation came in 2001, when the 523-acre West Lake Sammamish area was added to the city.

Eastgate was on the verge of annexation by Bellevue in 1989, after residents in the area voted to

join the city. The city council decided not to annex because residents voted against taking on their share of the city's bond debt. Until last year, attempts to restart the process had failed.

In March 2011 the council decided to ask residents of Eastgate, Horizon View, Tamara Hills and a fourth unincorporated area south of I-90, Hilltop, if they wanted to join the city. All four areas were bounded on all sides by incorporated Bellevue.

Residents in each of the four areas had expressed interest in annexation, so the city used the direct-petition method, which allowed the council to approve the annexations after first, 10 percent of property owners signed petitions, then, in a second round, at least 50 percent signed them.

Sufficient petitions were submitted by Hilltop property owners in time for that area to be annexed by Aug. 1, if approved by the council.

Welcome events

Bellevue's City Council and staff are offering a warm welcome for new residents over the next couple of months.

The city has been planning for the extension of services to the newly annexed areas since residents launched their initial signature-gathering efforts in mid-2011. Now that Eastgate, Tamara Hills and Horizon View are part of the city, the services start with celebrations.

City Council Reception: On June 18, residents joined the council at City Hall for a reception, followed by the reading of a formal proclamation during the regular council meeting.

Drop-in Meetings: On June 19, 20 and 21, residents with questions, concerns or suggestions were invited to "drop in" at one of three meetings hosted by Neighborhood Outreach staff at the Newport Way Library and South Bellevue Community Center.

Community Celebration: On Thursday, July 26, the City Council and staff will celebrate the annexations with an evening of information and fun for the whole family. From 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the South Bellevue Community Center, residents are invited to enjoy games, activities and classes for both kids and adults; interactive displays and demonstrations of city services; and refreshments, entertainment and a chance to get better acquainted.

For more information, call Neighborhood Outreach staff at 425-452-6836 or email NeighborhoodOutreach@bellevuewa.gov.



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Council Corner



A Grand Vision – the Balance to Achieve It

By John Chelminiak

With the recently completed annexations south of Interstate 90, Bellevue has grown as large as it will physically be. We have no more large areas slated to become part of the city. But our population and work force will continue to grow for decades to come. King County has projected that Bellevue's population will grow by about 34,000 between 2006 and 2031, and that jobs will increase here by 53,000 during that period. That presents both a challenge and an opportunity.

Since 2006, the City Council has been working to plan for that future and to provide the balanced finances needed to achieve it. As I see it, that will be job #1 for the council the rest of this year.

Downtown Bellevue is about half built out. With the Wilburton plan that was adopted in 2008, the Bel-Red plan adopted in 2009 and the recently completed Eastgate study, the city knows where the jobs and population growth will go. Now we need a 20-year plan to put in place the roads, transit, utilities and parks to make this vision a reality.

Our fastest growing residential neighborhood is actually downtown Bellevue. Since 2000, we've added about 10,000 residents downtown, and the average age there has decreased dramatically from 57 to 34. The expected empty nesters did arrive, but downtown has really attracted the younger knowledge workers who want a walkable urban setting with good public transit, plazas and entertainment.

Wilburton is planned to transition from an area of car dealerships to a mix of commercial, residential, and retail with a special "opportunity zone" for a major attraction just east of downtown. Bel-Red has two high intensity development nodes around planned light rail stations at 124th and 130th avenues Northeast. Construction on what could become one of the largest transit-oriented developments in the nation could begin next year.

The Wilburton Connections road projects will begin soon, and that will unlock the area's potential. Northeast Fourth Street will be extended from 116th to 120th Avenue Northeast, and 120th will be widened to the Bel-Red area.

Because the East Link light rail line will be constructed and ready for use in 2023, the council is planning how to make the complementary road improvements that will be needed in the Bel-Red and Wilburton areas.

With development on the way, proper planning and execution now is crucial to ensure that our neighborhoods age gracefully and without fear of large upzoning. But we have to be able to pay for the needed

improvements, as well as other projects needed throughout the city. That's where balanced financing comes in.

Growth does not pay for itself. The growth downtown helped us to keep property taxes lower than any other major city in the state. We are 71 percent below the allowed rate on the city's portion of the property tax. About five years ago we took some incremental steps to use that "banked capacity," and it's helping to fund projects including West Lake Sammamish Parkway improvements, neighborhood sidewalks, and roads projects in Wilburton. Each 1 percent increase means the average homeowner's annual tax bill goes up by about \$7, so it shows that a small increase can go a long way.



Ten20 is one of several apartment and condominium complexes constructed downtown in recent years.

We've also increased the amount of transportation impact fees charged to large new developments. The fee has gone from about \$500 to \$2,000 per trip and is scheduled to go higher in 2013 and 2016. In this way, development will pay for a share of the roads needed to meet new demand, but our impact fees are still more competitive than neighboring jurisdictions.

Finally, we're looking at ways that landowners who benefit from the upzone of their properties in these high growth areas will share the cost of needed improvements.

My goal is to keep taxes and fees below the level of our neighbors so the city remains competitive. But we also need the right amount of revenue to provide for the roads, transit, parks and utilities required to remain a world class city.

Council Roundup

New fire station downtown?

As the residential population downtown continues to grow, so does the need for a new fire station there. At the same time, the city has long considered siting a community center at Ashwood Park, adjacent to the Bellevue Regional Library.

The City Council on June 4 looked into the possibility of locating both a fire station and community center in one building at Ashwood Park. They leaned away from the idea, as councilmembers argued for more consideration of other locations for a fire station.

City staff has been looking for possible sites for a new downtown fire station since 2002, when it was projected that a significant increase in the residential population, in new high-rises at the city's core, would necessitate quicker response than possible from Station 1, at 766 Bellevue Way. A city-owned site would reduce the projected cost of a new station by an estimated \$3 million.

Staff asked the council whether a combined facility merited study. Such a building could house a fire station on the first floor and a community center on the second, above underground parking, on the north side of the park, leaving most of the field open.

Several councilmembers argued against locating a fire station at the park, noting concerns about potential impacts from noise and flashing lights on nearby residences. They asked staff to continue looking for downtown sites for a station.

Feedback: Mike Eisner, Fire Chief, 425-452-6895 or meisner@bellevuewa.gov; Patrick Foran, Parks & Community Services Director, 425-452-5377 or pforan@bellevuewa.gov

Staying with county for animal services ... for now

The council in early June decided to maintain the status quo regarding animal control, voting to sign a three-year agreement for King County to continue providing those services.

The agreement with the county will include up to 25 cities and King County, and will cost Bellevue an estimated \$225,000 over three years.

Over the past several months, councilmembers discussed forming a "subregional" organization with other Eastside cities that could provide animal control services more cheaply. However, they decided against starting a new line of business at this time.

The council asked staff to formulate a subregional option for council review by June 2014, at least 18 months before the new contract with the county is set to expire.

Feedback: Sheida Sahandy, City Manager's Office, 425-452-6168 or ssahandy@bellevuewa.gov

Outreach on 2013-2014 budget starting

The council in May approved outreach for the development of the 2013-2014 budget that includes public hearings in May, July and November, and two open house style forums in early June.

Finance Director Jan Hawn noted that the hearings follow the biennial budget survey done earlier this year as well as the annual performance survey.

The open houses, held June 12 at Crossroads Community Center and June 14 at City Hall, were organized to educate residents and gather input, and were scheduled in response to a request from the council.

For the second time the city will use an "outcomes" approach to assemble the budget, with city services and programs evaluated based on community priorities, or outcomes, rather than city departments.

Feedback: Toni Rezab, Budget Manager, 425-452-7863 or trezab@bellevuewa.gov

Bellevue still AAA-OK

Despite a recession that has battered municipal bond ratings across the country, Bellevue remains one of just two cities in the state to have an AAA bond rating, the City Council learned in March.

Moody's and Standard and Poor's, Wall Street's major bond rating services, both assigned their highest ratings for Bellevue's general obligation bonds, as the city prepared to refund bonds issued for the remodeling of City Hall to take advantage of low interest rates.

"This affirms the financial policies that you work very hard on and the budgeting policies that follow," City Manager Steve Sarkozy told the council. "Those have been looked at with great scrutiny by both agencies, and we've come back with flying colors. Great work by staff, great work by council."

Bellevue's high bond rating, which Seattle also has, allows it to borrow money at lower interest rates.

Feedback: Jan Hawn, Finance Director, 425-452-6846 or jhawn@bellevuewa.gov



Collaborating with ST on East Link savings



A visitor jots down a suggestion at a cost savings open house.

After years of sometimes contentious relations, Bellevue and Sound Transit are working together to reduce costs for the East Link light rail project.

The effort is intended to reduce the city's financial contribution for a downtown light rail tunnel. Since January, Bellevue has worked with

the transit agency, which is building East Link, through a "collaborative design process" to identify cost savings.

The process comes from an agreement negotiated last year between Bellevue and Sound Transit, under which the city will provide \$100 million in low- or no-cost property contributions toward the cost of a tunnel. Another \$60 million in "contingent" contributions by the city is the focus of cost savings efforts; the city's goal is to reduce that contribution to zero.

In addition to cost, the agreement addresses the project's scope, schedule, budget and design modifications to minimize neighborhood impacts. Two open houses at City Hall in April and June, drew more than 350 people to learn about the cost-savings analysis and provide feedback.

In late June the council is expected to recommend further study of three cost-saving options. The Sound Transit Board will then

decide from among the following options:

- Shifting Bellevue Way Southeast to the west and building a street-level light rail line (cost savings potential \$6 to \$10 million);
- changing the alignment on 112th Avenue Southeast (cost savings potential \$9 to \$16 million);
- and reconfiguring or relocating the downtown light rail tunnel station (cost savings potential \$8 million to \$18 million).

Other ideas resulting from additional engineering work on the downtown segment could save several million dollars more.

East Link will run from Seattle, across Lake Washington on Interstate 90, through Bellevue to the Overlake Transit Center in Redmond.

For more information about East Link, including maps and reports, visit the city's website at www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail.htm, or Sound Transit's website at www.projects.soundtransit.org/Projects-Home/East-Link-Project.xml.

Cities work to make solar power easier, cheaper to install

When Don and Ruth Marsh installed solar panels on the roof of their Somerset home in 2010, they cut their annual electric bill by two-thirds. Despite that, Don says solar energy is "not exactly economical" for them due to the high costs of permitting, equipment and installation.

A computer programmer for the University of Washington, Don is enthusiastic about cycling and solar power, but he acknowledges that it will take 20 years of electricity savings to recoup the cost of his solar array.

The City of Bellevue is working to change the equation.

A team of cities including Bellevue is working with the state Department of Commerce and local utilities to make solar panel installation easier and cheaper by establishing consistent standards and processes for all utility types and jurisdictions.

"Anything that can be done that makes it easier for folks is valuable," Don Marsh said of the project, funded through a U.S. Department of Energy grant. Indeed, there are only about 10 residential solar arrays in Bellevue.

Planners in Bellevue's Development Services Department are on a project team with officials from the cities of Edmonds, Ellensburg and Seattle. Known as the Evergreen State Solar Partnership (ESSP), the team was one of 22 nationwide to receive a grant for the DOE's Rooftop Solar Challenge.

The Solar Challenge is part of Energy's SunShot initiative, intended to make solar energy cost competitive with other forms of energy by the end of the decade by reducing the cost of installation by about 75 percent.

With a \$523,800 grant, the ESSP aims to reduce administrative barriers to residential and small commercial solar panel installations by streamlining, standardizing and automating administrative processes. Complex permitting and grid connection increase the cost of solar energy



Who says the sun doesn't shine in Bellevue? The solar array on Don and Ruth Marsh's house generates electricity.

and limit the growth of the industry.

According to the Department of Energy, non-hardware costs, also known as "soft" costs, associated with permitting and interconnection make up as much as 40 percent of the total installed cost of a rooftop photovoltaic solar power system.

In addition to shortening permitting processing turnaround times, the ESSP aims to establish online permitting for solar panel installation. Bellevue, in conjunction with mybuildingpermit.com, just began issuing online permits for some projects that require plan review last fall. The city plans to expand online review to all construction, fire protection, right of way, utility connection and land use actions by May 2013.

The goals of this project also support Bellevue's Environmental Stewardship efforts and build upon its achievements in creating and leveraging partnerships.

The ESSP is expected to issue recommendations for the Department of Energy by the end of the year. For more information about the ESSP project contact Heidi Bedwell, hbedwell@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4862.

Annual repaving program rolls into high gear on major northeast arterials

Major northeast arterials Northeast Eighth Street, 148th Avenue Northeast and 164th Avenue Northeast are slated for new pavement this summer.

Over the next six months, the city will repave more than 21 miles of roadway, including the restoration of 17 different water and sewer repair sites at various locations throughout the city. Workers will also fix or replace curbs, gutters and sidewalks as needed, and install 96 new curb ramps to make it easier for people with disabilities to get around.

Now in its 26th year, Bellevue's overlay program is designed to maintain safe, high-quality streets and save money over the long run. If a street is neglected too long, all of the old asphalt must be removed and replaced. This complete rebuild can cost up to three times

more than a pavement overlay.

The program has an added environmental twist this year, as old street asphalt and roof shingles will be part of the mix. Up to 18 percent of the pavement will be recycled material.

This year's overlay program, which will cost approximately \$5 million, is concentrated on arterial streets in east Bellevue. Projects generally are focused in one area per year because it's less expensive. Here are the estimated timeframes for the paving work and the corridors motorists should avoid this summer:

June: 148th Avenue Northeast: Main Street to Bel-Red Road;

July/August: Northeast Eighth Street: 124th Avenue Northeast through the intersection of 156th Avenue Northeast;

August: 148th Avenue Northeast: Bel-Red Road to SR 520; and

August: 164th Avenue Northeast: Northeast Eighth Street to Southeast 14th Street.

Before work begins in a neighborhood, a flyer will be distributed to affected residents and "No Parking" signs will be set up a couple of days beforehand. On major thoroughfares, electronic message signs will alert drivers to upcoming traffic impacts.

To obtain more detailed information about the program, please refer to: www.bellevuewa.gov/overlay.htm or for weekly traffic update: www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic_advisories.htm. If you have questions or comments, please contact Teresa Becker at 425-452-7942 or Tbecker@bellevuewa.gov.

Sculpture exhibition celebrates transformation

When Bellevue's biennial sculpture exhibition opens on July 13, residents will be treated to art works that celebrate regeneration, with salvaged wood, plastic bottles and other discarded items incorporated into new, eye-catching forms.

"Bellwether 2012: reGeneration" will feature 43 sculptures and installations, at City Hall, Downtown Park and points in between; it will be on display until Oct. 21. An opening celebration will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, July 13, at City Hall, with many of the artists available to discuss their works.

The Bellevue Sculpture Exhibition started 20 years ago with about a dozen sculptures in Downtown Park. Over time more locations were tried, and the number of art works in the show has now more than tripled. In 2010 the Bellevue Arts Commission renamed the exhibition "Bellwether" to emphasize a forward-looking approach.

For several years sustainability has been the exhibition's theme. This year the Arts Commission, which guides the exhibition, was impressed by 2010 census figures showing how much Bellevue's population has changed.

The Commission invited artists to submit works that address the question: "How does a city that has experienced so much change remake or regenerate itself in a sustainable way?" The sculptures and installations in the exhibition that tackle that question offer a broad range of materials and ideas for their answers.

"Flourish" by Barbara DePirro of Seattle, will be an intricate assemblage of plastic bottles, bottle caps and twist ties mounted in a beautiful pattern on two light poles on Bellevue Way, part of the exhibition trail between City Hall and Downtown Park.

In Julia Haack's "Rasta Rastapoulos," to be on display in City Hall, pieces of salvaged wood are painted bright colors and assembled

to resemble a cartoon character from the Seattle artist's childhood.

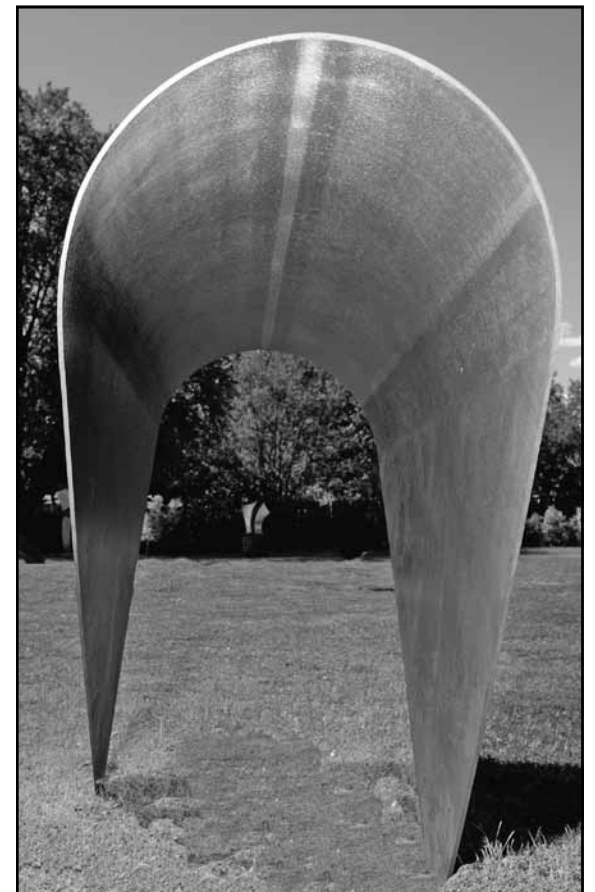
Northwest artists dominate the list of exhibitors, but artists from all over the United States and other countries apply to be part of the show.

This year, visitors can see the show online, and find out more about the art work through cell phone tours. Efforts are underway to add mobile web platform-based information so that visitors can use their cell phone to find out more about the show. The Bellevue Arts Program has a Facebook page and is building a Twitter following.

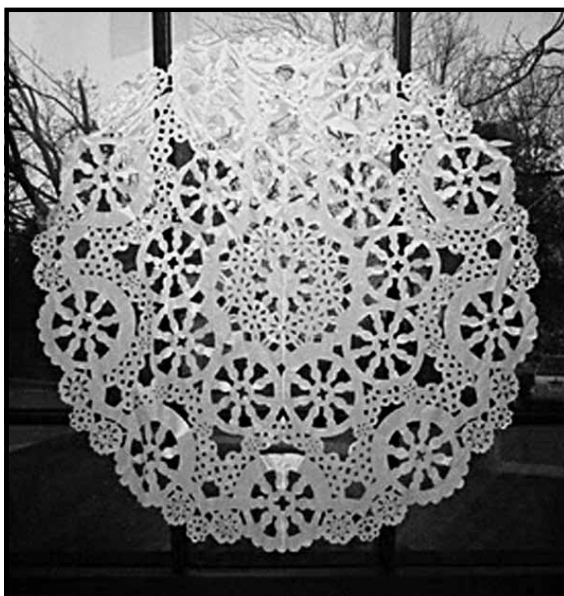
When the exhibition starts, free walking maps and catalogs will be available at City Hall and online at www.bellevuewa.gov/bellwether2012.htm.



"Cozy" by Carol Milne



"Anticline" by John Simms



"Mother" by Jennifer Cecere



"Portal" by Albert Paley



"Flourish" by Barbara DePirro



Terrific free or cheap summer activities

With school out, residents and visitors may be in search of fun, affordable activities. There are many in Bellevue. Here are 10 favorites (in no particular order):

Visit the animals at Kelsey Creek Park: Explore 150 acres of forest, meadows and wetlands and see a barnyard full of animals, including horses, sheep, goats, chickens and more at the park, 410 130th Pl. SE. Public animal viewing is available from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily. Free. For more information, call 425-452-7688.



Kayakers take in the sights on the Mercer Slough.

Canoe or kayak the Mercer Slough: Paddle through the Mercer Slough Nature Park and enjoy spectacular views of great blue herons, bald eagles, jays, beavers, muskrats, turtles and water lilies. Park Ranger-led guided canoe tours are available Saturdays and Sundays (\$14-16). Launch from Enatai Beach Park, 3519 108th Ave. SE. For information and guided tour reservations, call 425-452-2565. For information about canoe or kayak rentals (rates vary), call 1-888-485-2925.

Play at the Crossroads Water Spray Playground: This playground at 16120 NE Eighth St. provides year-round fun for all abilities. It is open all year, spraying water from Memorial Day through Labor Day, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day. The water spray playground features a variety of water

themed landscape and play features such as spitting frogs, spouting orcas and squirting clams. Free. For more information, call 425-452-6885.

Swim at a beach park or the Bellevue Aquatic Center: Bellevue offers six beach parks, complete with picnic, play areas and restrooms. Free. Or go to the Bellevue Aquatic Center at 601 143rd Ave. NE and enjoy one of two indoor pools: the Blue Lagoon, a lap pool with six lanes, a diving tank and 10-foot slide; and Warm Springs, a warm-water pool designed for therapy and rehabilitation. \$5.25-6.25/session. For more information, call 425-452-4444 or visit www.bellevuewa.gov/aquatic_center.htm.

Hike Bellevue's Lake to Lake Trail: Bellevue has more than 90 miles of trails, including the Lake to Lake Trail, which connects Lake Sammamish to Lake Washington. A hike along the approximately 10-mile trail allows visitors to see boggy wetlands, towering forests and historic farms. Exploring the Lake to Lake Trail can be done all at once or in segments. Free. For maps and trail guide information, visit www.myparksandrecreation.com/ParksTrails/Details.aspx?pid=468.

Pick berries at a blueberry farm: Originally established in the 1940s, the Mercer Slough and Larsen Lake blueberry farms help preserve Bellevue's agricultural heritage. The farms provide a pastoral setting for park access and seasonal "U-pick" opportunities. Blueberries are usually available from mid-July to early September. Blueberry picking is only permitted in designated areas during sales stand operating hours. U-pick berries are \$1.50 /lb. For more information, call 425-452-6885 or visit www.bellevuewa.gov/blueberry_farm.htm.

Rock climb at South Bellevue Community Center: The Crag is a 33-foot indoor climbing wall at SBCC (14509 SE Newport Way) sculpted to look and feel like granite. It has three belay ropes with at least five climbing routes of varying degrees of difficulty per rope, and a or horizontal traverse wall. An array of classes, supervised drop-in sessions and camps are available for people of all ages and skill levels. Give it a try with the new "Single Climb" option, as low as \$3/person. For more information, call 425-452-4240 or visit www.bellevuewa.gov/sbcc_crag.htm.

Explore the Bellevue Botanical Garden: The 53-acre Botanical Garden (12001 Main St.) features cultivated display gardens, natural wetlands and a woodland trail. On Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m., docents offer guided plant identification tours. Free. For more information, call 425-452-2749.

New website to promote commerce with China

In an effort to help local businesses find customers in China and East Asia and to attract more investment to Bellevue and the region, the city has launched a bilingual e-zine, an electronic magazine, focused on stories of high-tech success here.

The site, www.BellevueCN.com, features companies with ties to technology and trade. It will also include interviews with leaders in government and business who promote trade between Washington and Asia.

"Chinese companies are looking at Bellevue as a location for their offices in the U.S.," Mayor Conrad Lee said during a June 6 business reception at City Hall to celebrate BellevueCN's launch. "This website helps reinforce our argument for why that's a good idea."

Speakers at the reception at City Hall included officials from Microsoft and Baidu, China's leading search engine.

The website is interactive, with companies invited to post their profiles on it, in English and Chinese, at no cost. The content will be broadcast

through social media and news channels on the west coast and in Asia. Other languages may be added in the future.

The first feature story is an interview with Gary Locke, the former King County Executive and Washington governor who is the U.S. ambassador to China.

BellevueCN.com was developed by the City of Bellevue in partnership with iSoftStone, a China-based IT services provider, and the Trade Development Alliance of Greater Seattle.

The University of Washington Department of Digital Media Communications drew up key words to ensure the site will appear in searches performed with Baidu.

Sponsors include Microsoft CHIME (Chinese Microsoft Employees), Washington Technology Industry Association, Washington State China Relations Council, State of Washington, Port of Seattle, Hong Kong Association of Washington and Baetz/Lamka/Clark.

New suspension bridge at Botanical Garden

The Bellevue Botanical Garden's newest feature - a pedestrian suspension bridge - gives visitors an intimate view of the plants, wildlife and forest canopy of a wooded ravine.

The "Ravine Experience," for which a ribbon-cutting took place on Mother's Day, includes a 150-foot long, 5-foot wide bridge and a one-third mile long nature trail that completes the Garden's Ravine Trail Loop.

The project was completed this spring with funding from the 2008 Parks and Natural Areas Levy and \$506,000 from The PJA Foundation, which promotes horticulture. The Ravine Experience occupies a section of property acquired with the help of a 2005 King County Conservation Futures grant.

The bridge was designed by Sahale LLC and Michael Roberts; Seattle Bridge and JEM construction built the bridge.

The Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St., is owned by the City of Bellevue and managed through a partnership with Bellevue Botanical Garden Society.

The Botanical Garden Society is leading a fundraising campaign for garden improvements, including the ravine and a planned visitor center. With money from the Parks Levy factored in, the BBG Society has raised \$8 million toward a target of \$11 million.

The Bellevue Botanical Garden celebrated its 20th anniversary on June 23. Visitors helped celebrate with guided garden tours, a traditional Japanese tea ceremony, poetry readings, flower arranging demonstrations and refreshments. Garden docents at the historic Sharp Cabin hosted children's activities.

For more information, call 425-452-2750 or visit www.bellevuebotanical.org.



Visitors walk the new bridge.

Lake Hills arterial makeover now complete

A key arterial in the Lake Hills neighborhood – 145th Place Southeast – is now safer, greener and easier to navigate for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists with the completion of a major road project.

Over the last year the city has added bike lanes, sidewalks and medians, along with a center turn lane to the street between Southeast 16th and Southeast 24th streets. Southeast 22nd Street was also improved between 145th Place Southeast and 156th Avenue Southeast.

For increased pedestrian safety, there are two new mid-block pedestrian crossings with lighted signs. It's also the first transportation project in the city to incorporate both rain gardens and a pervious concrete sidewalk, which lets rain filter through to the ground below.

The \$6.8 million makeover will be the largest transportation project completed this year in Bellevue. A neighborhood celebration to mark the conclusion of work will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, July 26.

In 2007 the city completed the first key improvements to 145th Place, from Southeast Eighth to Southeast 16th Street.



Workers install a rain garden and pervious sidewalk as part of the 145th Place Southeast makeover.

Workshop to break down language barriers set for June 28

In Bellevue's diverse community, everyday communication can be a challenge for neighbors who hail from far corners of the world. Residents can overcome language differences by improving the way they listen and speak.

The city is offering a free workshop to provide everyday tips and strategies for communicating with limited-English speakers on Thursday, June 28, 7 p.m. at City Hall, 450 110th Ave. NE.

Led by Marci Williams, English as a Second Language (ESL) coordinator for Hopelink's adult education program, the workshop will

include tips for speaking, listening, writing and understanding, as well as some exploration of cultural cautions and taboos.

The program is designed for people who want to be culturally sensitive in today's world and communicate respect as well as those who speak another language and want to help foster understanding and communication.

This workshop is part of the neighborhood forum educational series, sponsored by Neighborhood Outreach. For more information, contact Julie Ellenhorn, 425-452-6836.

City honors volunteers

Hon Cheung Fung was named City Volunteer of the Year in April for excellent service to Bellevue's environmental programs. Bellevue High School student Chirag Ved was named Youth Volunteer of the Year for launching Linking Opportunity, an online nexus to help local teens volunteer.

Dean and Marlene Snyder, who volunteer at Bellevue's community police station at Factoria, received the Governor's Outstanding Volunteer Service Award at an April 23 ceremony at the Governor's Mansion in Olympia.

Community Volunteer of the Year Tracy Maury Meloy, who helps students in Bellevue schools through Eastside Pathways, was honored

on May 7.

In 2011, about 6,000 people volunteered in dozens of city programs, serving more than 125,000 hours at an estimated value of nearly \$3 million. Even more volunteers serve hundreds of local organizations that benefit Bellevue residents.

"Their contribution," says City Manager Steve Sarkozy, "makes a very real and lasting impact to the community. The City of Bellevue is committed to encouraging and enhancing civic engagement wherever possible."

The Snyders, a husband and wife team, volunteer at the police substation at the Factoria Mall, answering phone calls and assisting citizens

who come to the station seeking help with police-related issues.

Police Chief Linda Pillo said, "On behalf of the police department, Dean and Marlene's community service efforts have touched so many lives in a positive way. Their volunteerism is appreciated."

Bellevue's volunteer program (www.bellevuewa.gov/volunteer.htm) has listings of dozens of volunteer opportunities, as well as a guide to volunteering opportunities for local nonprofits as well. Or contact the city's volunteer program coordinator at volunteer@bellevuewa.gov.



Deputy Mayor Jennifer Robertson (third from right) and officials from Atkinson Construction and the state Department of Transportation celebrate the opening of a new Interstate 405 off-ramp at a May 22 ribbon-cutting. The ramp, which bypasses the 124th Avenue Northeast exit from SR 520, is one of the "braided" ramps that make getting on and off I-405 in downtown Bellevue faster and safer. This braids project, which started construction three years ago, was completed seven months ahead of schedule.



www.bellevuewa.gov/social-media.htm



EBCC talks off-leash dog areas

By Steve Kasner, East Bellevue Community Council Chair

The East Bellevue Community Council has discussed a wide range of issues at its meetings this year.

To give readers an idea of what we're talking about in our monthly meetings at the Lake Hills Clubhouse, I offer this summary of the action. The EBCC minutes, which offer a complete record, are available at www.bellevuewa.gov/ebcc-minutes-2012.htm.

The EBCC wants to continue to be a positive presence in Bellevue. If there are issues that residents in our jurisdiction want considered in a thoughtful and respectful manner, we would be honored to spend the time and effort to find solutions that work for all of Bellevue.

May

Bellevue Airfield Park, Robinswood Park and off-leash dog areas: Balancing the needs of dogs and their owners and how we interact as a community.

The Parks & Community Services Department is still seeking feedback on the best ways to serve all user groups.

April

Graffiti - How bad is it and what can we do about it? Bellevue relies on all of us to report the graffiti we see as we move throughout the city. Graffiti on public property is cleaned as soon as possible; on private property it is the owner's responsibility to make sure that it is removed. To report graffiti call the Service First desk at 425-452-6800.

March

Human services update including school district challenges: More than 70 children in Bellevue public schools have no permanent place to live.

Many other families are on the free and reduced lunch program. The school district has programs to support these students.

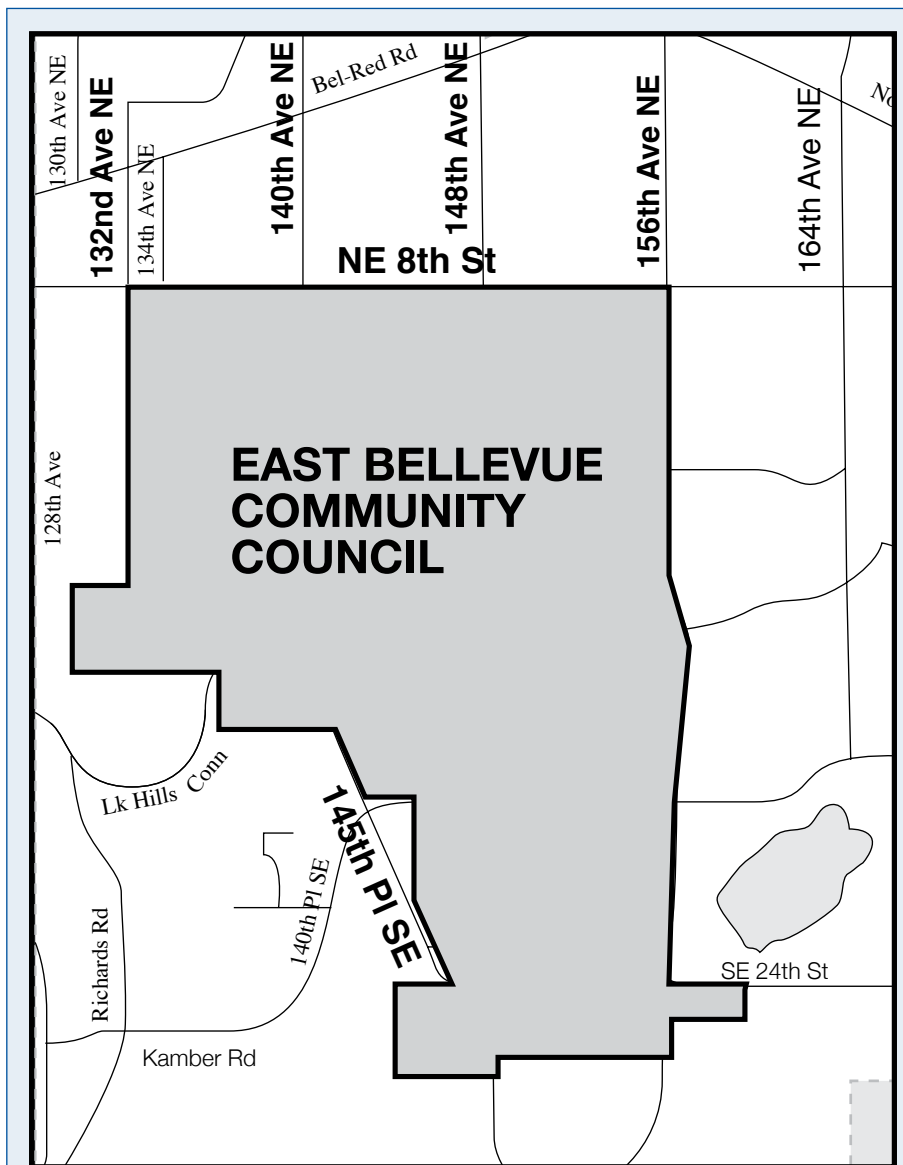
February

Legislative bill eliminating community councils defeated: The State Senate continues to see the value of community councils. In 1969 communities were given the right to form community councils upon annexation and ask for reauthorization every four years.

January

Conditional use permit for Bellevue Boys & Girls Club Teen Center: The Club will open a new teen center this year in the former Lake Hills Library site to serve families of East Bellevue.

This year-round facility will give children one more place to be safe and have a great time.



For more information about the East Bellevue Community Council, call Deputy City Clerk Michelle Murphy, 425-452-6466, or contact Steven Kasner, Chairman for the EBCC.

East Bellevue Community Council meets the first Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.

Members

Gerald Hughes, Ross Gooding, Steven Kasner, Ken Seal, William Capron

We welcome comments about the East Bellevue area. You can share your views with the Community Council via e-mail at EBCC@bellevuewa.gov. To find out more about the agendas and decisions of EBCC go to the website, www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm.

Traffic lights on 148th Avenue get smart

By Steve Kasner, East Bellevue Community Council Chair

Traffic will flow faster along 148th Avenue after Intelligent Traffic Systems software and hardware are installed this fall. The traffic lights will get smarter in a way, reducing wait times by sensing and responding immediately to variations in traffic.

The city is in the middle of a five-year plan to upgrade the computer system that controls the traffic signals throughout Bellevue. In September the software will be installed along 148th.

In addition, there is capital improvement money to replace the signal at Main Street in 2013. We will all benefit from improved traffic flow in these key East Bellevue corridors.

145th Place Makeover Complete

The makeover of 145th Place Southeast between Southeast 16th and Southeast 24th streets is nearly complete. Now the arterial features bike lanes, sidewalks, medians and a center turn lane. Improvements to Southeast 22nd Street, including a sidewalk, are also almost done.

The paving is done and the projects should finish in June or July, depending on the weather. This project - which follows a previous makeover for 145th Place between Southeast Eighth and Southeast 16th streets - was requested by the neighborhoods to improve safety and aesthetics on a key arterial that enters Bellevue College. A grand opening is scheduled for July.

Kmart building no longer vacant

The former Kmart building at Kelsey Creek Center is now occupied by LA Fitness, which opened its doors in April. The beautiful facility includes a swimming pool, racquetball courts, shiny new fitness machines and, of course, free weights. I have even skipped using my car when I have gone to work out on occasion.

By the end of June, Walmart will open a grocery store at Kelsey Creek Center, which will give our residents another choice for their shopping dollars. Join your neighbors at one of the stores on the site or at the

outdoor tables among the creative landscapes. More stores are expected to come to the shopping complex through the summer and fall.

Landscape enhancements to Lake Hills Boulevard

The western half of the street, between 143rd and 148th avenues Southeast, will be renovated. The existing birch trees within this area are in a state of decline and will be removed. Landscape beds will be reconstructed and an irrigation system will be updated. New trees and shrubs will be installed.

West Lake Hills better today?

In 2002 the West Lake Hills Citizen Advisory Committee issued the following recommendations to maintain the quality and character of the neighborhood:

- Revitalize neighborhood shopping centers. Strongly encourage improvements in appearance, functionality and community integration.
- Improve the safety and appearance of arterials.
- Develop strategies for maintaining and improving the value, appearance and quality of neighborhoods.
- Preserve and protect the area's parks and open space assets, and acquire properties whenever possible to enhance local parks, trails, and green spaces.
- Develop a stronger sense of community in Lake Hills neighborhoods.

Ten years later, how did we do? The report also acknowledged that much more work is needed to successfully implement these suggestions.

I believe that all neighborhoods would benefit from taking objective looks at their local community. One of the key questions moving forward is what is a strong sense of community and is it important to make our city a better place?

If you are interested in these issues and want to be part of the discussion, please contact me at EBCC@bellevuewa.gov.

Citywide Projects Update

Throughout the city, there are many projects in various stages of development. This update includes all projects with an estimated budget of \$100,000 or more, sorted by neighborhood. If you have questions, please contact the project manager.

Bridle Trails

Contact

Bridle Trails Park Levy Projects: Developing two parks in the Bridle Trails neighborhood. Master planning began spring 2012. \$2.5 million	Scott VanderHyden, 425-452-4169 Svanderhyden@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/bridle_trails_levy.htm
SR 520 Bridge Replacement & HOV Project: Rebuilding the floating bridge and replacing highway and interchanges between I-5 and Medina. For 520 closures, refer to WSDOT webpage. Construction \$6.5 billion	Rick Logwood, 425-452-6858 Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/sr520_bridge_intro.htm wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR520Bridge
Eastside Transit & HOV Project: Completing and improving the 8.8 mile HOV system from Evergreen Point Road to the SR 202 interchange to improve access. Construction complete 2013. \$306 million	Rick Logwood, 425-452-6858 Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR520Bridge/MedinaTo202/
Pikes Peak 4.5 Million Gallon (MG) Reservoir: Replacing 1.0 MG reservoir with a new 4.5 MG one in Bridle Trails State Park. Est. construction 2013. \$8 million	Jay Hummel, 425-452-4160 Jhummel@bellevuewa.gov

Crossroads

Contact

Bellevue Youth Theatre Expansion: Constructing a new 12,000 square-foot multi-functional theater in Crossroads Community Park. Construction dates—depending on funding. \$8 million	Pam Fehrman, 425-452-4326 Pfehrman@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/youth_theatre_expansion.htm
156th Avenue NE Pedestrian Crossing Signal: Installing a full traffic signal at the existing marked crosswalk north of the Crossroads Mall.	Kam Szabo, 425-452-4346 Kszabo@bellevuewa.gov
Valley Creek - NE 21st Street Flood Control: Reducing flooding with a range of hydraulic improvements, including restoring the stream channel and replacing the NE 21st Street culvert. Construction summer 2013. \$500,000	Bruce Jensen, 425-452-7240 Bjensen@bellevuewa.gov
Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2012 Ph 1: Repairing existing sewer system. Multiple and various locations. \$585,000. Complete summer 2012	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

Eastgate/Cougar Mountain

Contact

Horizon View #3 Water Pump Station Rehabilitation: Installing new pumps and a standby generator. Complete spring 2014. \$1.2 million	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov
Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area, Phase 2: Building two picnic shelters, restroom, pathways, and parking lot. Construction complete. \$1.8 million	Ken Kroeger, 425-452-4624 Kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov
Newport Reservoir Water Pump Station Rehabilitation: Installing new pumps and adding a standby generator. Complete spring 2013. Design \$1.4 million	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov
Regional Detention Pond (Lakemont Boulevard SE near I-90): Improving storm drainage runoff water quality before it's released into Lewis Creek. Complete fall 2012. Status: Design \$700,000	Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

Factoria

Contact

130th Avenue SE: Adding a sidewalk on the east side of 130th Avenue SE, between SE 45th Lane and SE 46th Street. Construction complete spring 2012. \$119,000	Vangie Garcia, 425-452-6103 Vgarcia@bellevuewa.gov
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Newport Hills

Contact

SE 56th Street Sidewalk & Landscaping: Installing a six-foot-wide sidewalk with planter strip east of 119th Avenue SE. Construction complete spring 2012. \$120,000	Vangie Garcia, 425-452-6103, vgarcia@bellevuewa.gov Melissa Brown, 425-452-4100, mlbrown@bellevuewa.gov
119th Avenue SE Urban Boulevards Enhancements: Adding gateway signage, landscaping features and public art. Design complete 2012. \$180,000	Patti Wilma, 425-452-4114 pwilma@bellevuewa.gov
Coal Creek Culvert: Replacing deteriorating metal culvert beneath Coal Creek Parkway. Enhances fish passage upstream and provides a safe trail connection for hikers. Construction complete 2012. \$6.5 million	Bruce Jensen, 425-452-7240 Bjensen@bellevuewa.gov

Northeast Bellevue

Contact

NE 16th Place Storm water Infrastructure Rehabilitation: Constructing a new 15-inch diameter pipeline. Construction early summer 2012. \$120,000	Vanaja Rajah, 425-452-4881 Vrajah@bellevuewa.gov
Northup Way at 156th, 160th, and 164th Avenues NE: Upgrading traffic signals to improve pedestrian safety at these intersections. Relocating crosswalk at 160th Avenue NE. Construction summer 2012. \$400,000	Chris Masek, 425-452-4619 Cmasek@bellevuewa.gov

Northwest Bellevue

Contact

Bellevue Way NE Urban Boulevards Upgrades: Enhancing intersection and traffic signal at NE 24th Street and Bellevue Way. Pre-Construction Complete 2012. \$180,000	Patti Wilma, 425-452-4114 pwilma@bellevuewa.gov
112th Avenue NE south of NE 24th Street: Adding a sidewalk on the west side of 112th Avenue NE. Complete fall 2012. \$100,000	Karen Gonzalez, 425-452-4598 Kgonzalez@bellevuewa.gov
Northup Way Corridor Improvements: Adding a bike facility and improving sidewalks between NE 24th Street and 108th Avenue NE. At 108th Avenue NE, a new regional pedestrian/bike path will be built. (WSDOT is co-lead). Construction 2013. \$13.5 million	Steve Costa, 425-452-2845 Scosta@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/northup-corridor-pedbike.htm
Bellevue Way & NE 24th Street Traffic Signal Upgrade: Replacing the existing span wire signal, updating the curb ramps, and overlaying the intersection. Construction fall 2012. \$700,000	Chris Masek, 425-452-4619 Cmasek@bellevuewa.gov
Yarrow Tributary Culvert: Restoring fish passage to the West Tributary of Yarrow Creek. Construction 2013. \$300,000	Bruce Jensen, 425-452-7240 Bjensen@bellevuewa.gov
Sanitary sewer Repairs 2012 Ph. 1: Repairing existing sanitary sewer system. Multiple and various locations. Complete summer 2012. \$585,000	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

Sammamish/East Lake Hills

Contact



164th Avenue NE Water Service Saddle: Replacing water service lines prior to 2012 pavement overlay project. Construction complete summer 2012. \$350,000.	Vanaja Rajah, 425-452-4881 Vrajah@bellevuewa.gov
West Lake Sammamish Parkway, Phase I: I-90 to SE 34th Street: Designing Segment 1 (of 5) to include an improved multi-use trail, retaining walls, landscaping, and improved roadway drainage. Construction fall 2012. \$6.56 million. Puget Sound Energy will relocate utilities July–Sept. Expect delays.	Paul Krawczyk, 425-452-7905 Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/west_lk_samm_parkway.htm
Bellevue Airfield Park: Constructing sports fields, trails, picnic facilities and storm water improvements over an existing landfill. Design starts late summer 2012. \$10 million	Pam Fehrman, 425-452-4326 Pfehrman@bellevuewa.gov
Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2012 Phase 1: Repairing existing sanitary sewer system. Multiple and various locations. Complete summer 2012. \$585,000	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

Somerset

Contact

Rockery repair: at 5010 136th Pl SE. Repairing rockery on city property. Construction summer 2012.	Daniel E. Ross 425-452-4362, DRoss@bellevuewa.gov
Storm Drainage Trenchless: Repairing several easements and adjacent streets. Construction summer 2012, \$350,000	Vanaja Rajah, 425-452-4881, Vrajah@bellevuewa.gov
Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2012 Ph. 1: Repairing existing sanitary sewer system. Multiple and various locations. Complete summer 2012. \$585,000	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

Sunset

Contact

Mountains to Sound Greenway (MTSG) Feasibility Study: Selecting a preferred alternative where to align the MTSG Trail between Factoria Boulevard and Lakemont Avenue SE. Developing a MTSG Report. \$198,000	Chris Masek, 425-452-4619 Cmasek@bellevuewa.gov
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West Bellevue

Contact

102nd Avenue NE Mid-block Crosswalk, north of NE 8th Street: Enhancing mid-block crosswalk island. Construction complete June 2012. \$500,000	Chris Masek, 425-452-4619 Cmasek@bellevuewa.gov
Downtown Transportation Plan: Evaluating transportation alternatives for new roadway capacity, improving non-motorized and transit facilities to ensure mobility through 2030. Planning complete Dec. 2012. \$175,000	Kevin McDonald, 425-452-4558, Kmcdonald@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/downtown-transportation-plan-update.htm
Enatai Beach Parking Play Area: Construction of a new children's playground. Construction completed June 2012.	Ken Kroeger, 425-452-4624, kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov
I-90 Two-Way Transit/High Occupancy Vehicle Project, Stage 2: With Sound Transit and WSDOT, improving eastbound I-90 from Mercer Island, HOV access at Bellevue Way, and HOV lanes. Construction complete fall 2012. \$187 million	Rick Logwood, 425-452-6858 Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/I-90_hov_intro.htm
Sewer Lake Line Replacement at Meydenbauer Bay: Installing new 1,200 lineal feet of sewer line on shore between Meydenbauer Beach Park and SE Bellevue Place. Construction starts fall 2013. \$2 million	Jay Hummel, 425-452-4160 Jhummel@bellevuewa.gov
Sewer Lake Line Condition Assessment, Ph. I - Lake Washington: Studying location and condition of about 13 miles of buried sewer pipe from Yarrow Point to Renton. Phase 1 Study complete end of 2012. \$450,000	Jay Hummel, 425-452-4160 Jhummel@bellevuewa.gov
Central Business District Sanitary Sewer Improvements: Improving capacity and repairing defects in downtown. Construction complete fall 2012. \$425,000	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov
Exposed Sanitary Sewer Lake Lines: Studying the condition of sewer lines and covering exposed lines with rock. Construction starts fall 2012. \$200,000	Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

West Lake Hills

Contact

145th Place SE: SE 16th Street to SE 24th Street & SE 22nd Street: 145th Place SE to 156th Avenue SE, Ph. II: Construction complete by the end of June 2012. \$3.6 million	Marina Arakelyan, 425-452-4632 Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/145th-improvements.htm
Sanitary sewer Repairs 2012 Ph. 1: Repairing existing sanitary sewer system. Multiple and various locations. Complete summer 2012. \$585,000	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov
Lake Hills Boulevard Landscaping: Replacing existing birch trees with landscaping beds, shrubs, and trees, with an irrigation system. Complete fall 2012. \$116,000	Melissa Brown, 425-452-4100 Mbrown@bellevuewa.gov

Wilburton

Contact

Sanitary sewer Repairs 2012 Ph 1: Repair existing sewer system. Multiple and various locations. Complete summer 2012. \$585,000.	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov
Bellevue Botanical Garden - Visitor Center Expansion: Constructing a new 8,500 square foot visitor center with an outdoor covered orientation space, gift shop, meeting areas, classrooms, and restrooms. Construction dates depend on fundraising. \$9 million	Ken Kroeger, 425-452-4624 kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/bbg_master_plan_update.htm
NE 4th Street Extension - 116th Avenue NE to 120th Avenue NE: Extending NE 4th Street with five lanes, bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides, landscaping, storm drainage, street lighting, and a new traffic signal at 120th Avenue NE. Project will be in two phases. Phase 1 construction spring 2013. \$38.4 million	Marina Arakelyan, 425-452-4632 Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/ne-fourth-street-extension.htm
NE 5th Street Neighborhood Traffic Assessment: Constructing a temporary one-lane zone (near the BSD maintenance facility) to prevent cut-through traffic in the neighborhood. Construction: fall 2012. \$TBD	Vangie Garcia, 425-452-6103 Vgarcia@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/NE-5th-traffic.htm
NE 6th Street Extension: I-405 to 120th Avenue NE: Extending NE 6th as an HOV/transit only facility from the I-405 interchange east over 116th Avenue NE to 120th Avenue NE, with four lanes a non-motorized path. Conceptual Design Report complete this summer. Design: TBD. \$1 million (Pre-design only)	Nancy LaCombe, 425-452-4382 Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/ne-sixth-extension.htm
120th Avenue NE Improvements - 300 Block to 700 Block, Stage 1: Widening to five lanes with center-turn lane, bike lanes, curb, gutter, and sidewalk, and adding a traffic signal at NE 6th Street. Construction fall 2012. \$7.5 million	Steve Costa, 425-452-2845 Scosta@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/120th-widening.htm
120th Avenue NE Improvements, Stage 2: Widening the roadway to five lanes with bike lanes, landscaping, and sidewalks from NE 700 Block to NE 12th Street, with utility work. Design complete December 2012. \$20 million (Design, Right-of-way, and Construction)	Paul Krawczyk, 425-452-7905 Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/120th-widening-phase-2.htm
120th Avenue NE Improvements, Stage 3: Widening the roadway to four or five lanes with bike lanes, landscaping, and sidewalks from NE 12th Street to Northup Way, with utility work. 90% design 2013. \$1 million	Paul Krawczyk, 425-452-7905 Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/120th-widening-phase-2.htm

NE 15th Multi-Modal Corridor - 116th Avenue NE: NE 12th Street to 124th Avenue NE, Segment 1: Designing four lanes, left-turn lanes at designated intersections, sidewalk on both sides, bicycle facilities, street lighting, and storm drainage and detention. 30% engineering spring 2012. \$5.4 million (Design only)	Rick Logwood, 425-452-6858 Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/NE-15th-Street-construction.htm
124th Avenue NE: Proposed NE 15th/NE 16th Street Extension to Northup Way: Widening 124th Avenue NE between the planned NE 15th/NE 16th Street and Northup Way to five lanes. 60% design spring 2013 \$1.8 million (Design only)	Marina Arakelyan, 425-452-4632 Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov
Kelsey Creek at Glendale Golf Course Fish Passage and Stream Channel: Improving the Kelsey Creek stream channel through the private golf course. Construction complete summer 2012. \$700,000	Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

Woodridge

Contact

East Creek/Richards Creek Fish Passage Improvement & Stream Modification: Providing stable streambed control and channel and bank modifications. Construction summer 2013. Design \$420,000	Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 Asantos@bellevuewa.gov
Sunset Creek/Richards Creek Flood Control & Habitat Improvement Project: Improving habitat along the stream channel to providing a healthier aquatic environment. Construction summer 2013. \$650,000	Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

Various Locations

Contact

East Link Light Rail: Working collaboratively with Sound Transit to do the engineering design of the alignment from I-90 through the Bel-Red Corridor. Cost savings ideas presented to City Council July 2012. Construction starts in 2014. \$2.8 billion	Bernard van de Kamp, 425-452-6459 Bvandekamp@bellevuewa.gov bellevuewa.gov/light-rail.htm www.soundtransit.org/eastlink
Bellevue Transit Master Plan: Developing the city's next generation transit plan, which will be a comprehensive 20-year look ahead to the type of transit system that will be required to meet Bellevue's transit needs through 2030. Budget TBD. Planning complete spring 2013.	Franz Loewenherz, 425-452-4077 Floewenherz@bellevuewa.gov
AC Water Main Replacement 2012, Phase 1, 2 & 3: Replacing approximately 3.4 miles of aging asbestos cement (AC) water main with ductile iron pipe. Ph. 1 spring 2012; Ph 2 fall 2012. Ph. winter 2013. \$4.3 million	Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 Asantos@bellevuewa.gov
PRV & Commercial Meter Vault Modifications 2012: Upgrading a control valve vault, a PRV vault, and two commercial water meter vaults to provide adequate maintenance access. Construction in summer/fall 2012. \$200,000.	Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 Asantos@bellevuewa.gov
PRV Replacement 2013: Replacing three aging pressure reducing valve stations to regulate water pressure throughout three neighborhoods. Construction fall 2013. \$290,000	Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

Salmon-safe car wash fundraisers

In the summer, groups often launch car washes to raise money, but there's a better way - selling coupons to environmentally friendly commercial car washes.

Tickets can be purchased at a discounted rate from either Brown Bear (www.brownbear.com/charity/) or the Puget Sound Carwash Association (www.charitycarwash.org).

The big problem with car washes in parking lots is that everything that flows down a storm drain in Bellevue goes directly to streams, lakes and wetlands. Soap, even biodegradable soap, makes it difficult for fish to breath and kills beneficial stream bugs. Dirty car wash water also carries fine sediment, grease and heavy metals that pollute our waterways.

Instead, sell car wash tickets and you can:

- Sell tickets any time of year;
- Not worry about bad weather on the day of your event;
- Raise your potential earnings;
- Have your group's name printed on the tickets; and
- Keep soap, dirt and heavy metals out of local streams.

Imagine all the opportunities your group could have selling tickets at school events, sporting events, church, a busy grocery store and to friends and family.

Bigger sewer pipes for downtown



To serve the population growth downtown, four sewer projects are planned for late summer and early fall. Sewer pipes will be repaired or replaced with larger ones.

Motorists can avoid the locations below when construction is underway:

- Northeast Eighth Street and Bellevue Way: Construction is planned to start the evening of Friday, Aug. 17, and continue 24 hours a day through the early morning of Aug. 20.
- Northeast Eighth Street and 106th Avenue Northeast: Construction is planned to start the evening of Friday, Aug. 24 and continue 24 hours a day through the early morning of Monday, Aug. 27, followed by several evenings of paving and striping.
- Main Street between 106th and 107th avenues Northeast: Construction is planned to begin mid to late September. Work will occur Monday through Friday during the day and is expected to last one to two weeks.
- Northeast Second Street and 112th Avenue Northeast: Repairs to existing pipe are planned to begin late September or early October. Work will occur Monday through Friday during the day and last for two to three weeks.

Several smaller sewer projects may also occur in the downtown area this summer. Residents and businesses can expect construction noise and traffic impacts, which will include road and lane closures and detours around work sites.

Flashing yellow arrows cut delays

The flashing yellow left-turn arrows installed at 31 intersections around Bellevue reduce delays for travelers, but if you're still stumped about how they work, here are some answers:

Q: What do I do when I have a left-turn flashing yellow arrow?

A: At the flashing yellow arrow, drivers may proceed with their left turn after yielding to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.

Q: What if it's just a solid yellow arrow?

A: Drivers prepare to stop.

Q: What if it's a solid red arrow?

A: At a solid red arrow, drivers turning left must stop and wait.

Flashing yellow arrows allow traffic engineers to reduce delay at many left-turn locations, and are part of an upgrade of the city's traffic signal system that uses "traffic adaptive" technology. The city's new signal system continually monitors vehicle flow in every lane approaching each intersection and automatically adjusts signal timing to match traffic flows.

For more information about the flashing yellow arrows or the traffic signal upgrades, please contact Mark Poch, Traffic Engineering Manager at 425-452-6137 or mpoch@bellevuewa.gov.

Community Calendar

Symetra Bellevue Family 4th Celebration

July 4, 2 - 10:40 p.m.
Bellevue Downtown Park
10201 NE Fourth St.
The Eastside's largest Independence Day celebration with family activities, fireworks and music performed by the Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra. 425-453-1223 or www.bellevuedowntown.org

Outdoor Movies in the Park

July 10-Aug. 28, Tuesdays at dusk
Bellevue Downtown Park
10201 NE Fourth St.
Free* on a 40-foot screen, with free popcorn, too.
July 10 - Puss in Boots (PG)
July 17 - Happy Feet 2 (PG)
July 24 - Zookeeper (PG)
July 31 - Adventures of TinTin (PG)
Aug 7 - Soul Surfer (PG)
Aug 14 - Big Miracle (PG)
Aug 21 - Dolphin Tale (PG)
Aug 28 - We Bought a Zoo (PG)
*Subject to change without notice
Donations accepted for a different charity each week. In case of rain, movies will be at South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way.
425-452-4240 or
www.inome.com/summermovies

Live at Lunch Concert Series

July 10-September 13
Tuesdays through Thursdays,
noon - 1:30 p.m. Free live music at various downtown sites.
425-453-1223 or
www.bellevuedowntown.org

Starlight Circus Show

July 19, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Robinswood Barn
2430 148th Ave. SE
Bellevue Friends of the Library and Bellevue Parks present Professor Zaniac, who reaches into his dreams to present a show that inspires kids to read. Free.
425-452-7688 or
KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov

Weowna Park Hike

July 27, 10 a.m. - noon
Weowna Park
168th Avenue SE and 19th Street
Park Rangers lead the hike, which is three to five miles. Free. No preregistration required, but parking is limited. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. 425-452-4195

Arts and Crafts Fairs

July 27-29 (Friday and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.) Three art fairs all weekend throughout downtown.

Bellevue Arts Museum ARTSfair:
www.bellevuearts.org or 425-519-0770

6th Street Fair:

www.bellevuedowntown.org or 425-453-1223

Bellevue Festival of the Arts:

www.bellevuefest.org or 206-354-8434

Incredible Inflatable Fun

Aug. 1, Aug. 8 and Aug. 15, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Crossroads Community Park
International Plaza
16000 NE 10th St.
Enjoy bouncy fun for all ages. Fun Rents Inflatables. Ages 3+.
Free admission, \$1-\$2/activity. Cash only.
nwac@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106



People stop at a booth at the Bellevue Arts Museum ARTSfair.

National Night Out Against Crime

Aug. 7, noon - 6 p.m.
Crossroads Farmer's Market at Crossroads Shopping Center
Parking Lot
15600 NE 8th Street
A free community event with games and prizes for the kids. Meet your local police officers and neighbors and learn how to organize your neighborhood to prevent crime.
425-452-2891

Music in the Garden

Aug. 4, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.
Pack a picnic dinner and a blanket for a special night of music in the Garden. No alcoholic beverages and no pets, please. All ages welcome. Free; donations encouraged.
425-451-3755
bbsoffice@bellevuebotanical.org

Celebrate Summer Dance

Aug. 14, 2 - 4 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center
4063 148th Ave. NE
"Sounds of Swing" plays favorites of the swing era. \$3.
425-425-7681

Alice in Wonderland

Aug. 9-12 at 7 p.m. and Aug. 11 - 12 at 2 p.m.
Meydenbauer Theatre
11000 NE Sixth St.
The Bellevue Youth Theatre presents the delightful journey featuring the White Rabbit and the Mad Hatter. Suitable for all ages. \$10-\$12.
byt@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7155

Lewis Creek Park Hike

Aug. 18, 10 a.m. - noon
Lewis Creek Visitor Center
5808 Lakemont Blvd.
Ranger-led hike from Lewis Creek Park to Lakemont Community Park. Free. No preregistration required, but parking is limited. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes.
425-452-4195

Eastside Fuchsia Society Plant Show and Sale

Aug. 18 and 19, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.
Featuring a great selection of plants from Eastside gardeners.
425-452-2750 or
www.bellevuebotanical.org

End of Summer Picnic

Aug. 22, 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center
4063 148th Ave. NE
Lunch will be served indoors and there will be plenty of outdoor and indoor fun, including a cupcake walk, croquet, crafts and bingo. \$3. Preregistration is required by Aug. 13. 425-425-7681

Art in the Garden

Aug. 25 - 26, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.
Sculptures and garden art by 25 outstanding Northwest artists will grace the gardens. Free.
425-451-3755 or
bbsoffice@bellevuebotanical.org

SEASONAL

Beach Park Lifeguards

Meydenbauer and Newcastle
June 23 through Sept. 3: noon - 7 p.m.
Chism, Clyde, Enatai, *Chesterfield
June 30 through Aug. 26: noon - 7 p.m.
(*Chesterfield will be guarded from 2 to 5 p.m. only, and will not open on days of inclement weather.)
425-452-4444

Canoe the Slough

Saturdays and Sundays through September, 8:45 a.m. - noon
Enatai Beach Park
3519 108th Ave. SE
Park Rangers lead a three-hour canoe trip from Enatai Beach Park. Ages 5 and up only. One adult must be present for every two children. \$14-\$16
Preregistration is required.
425-452-2565

Ranger Hikes, Discussions and Movies

Times and locations vary. Explore local wildlife and natural history with ranger-led tours, discussions and nature movie events.
Lewis Creek Park, 425-452-4195;
Mercer Slough Nature Park, 425-452-2565;
Lake Hills Greenbelt, 425-452-7225

Day Camps & Recreation Programs

Register now for summer and fall recreation programs and day camps.
425-452-6885 or www.myparksandrecreation.com

Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm and Bill Pace Fruit & Produce

2380 Bellevue Way SE
Open through December
9 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily
425-467-0501

Larsen Lake Blueberry Farm

700 148th Ave. SE
Open through October
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tues - Sun
Lake Hills Greenbelt
425-260-2266

Cha Family Farm Fresh Produce Stand

15550 156th Ave SE
Open through October
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Tuesday through Sunday
425-260-2266

Picnic Shelter Reservations

Hosting a special occasion or casual summer gathering at a Bellevue park? Picnic shelters are available for reservation.
425-452-6914

City Contact Information

Bellevue City Hall

450 110th Ave. NE/P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012

Service First (general information): 452-6800

City of Bellevue website: www.bellevuewa.gov

City Council Office: 452-7810

City Council Meetings

1st and 3rd Mondays each month: study session 6-8 p.m., regular session 8-10 p.m.

2nd and 4th Mondays each month: extended study session 6-10 p.m.

East Bellevue Community Council Meetings

East Bellevue Community Council: 1st Tuesday each month, 6:30 p.m.

Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.

Board & Commission Meetings

Call 452-6466 for meeting locations/agendas

Arts: 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m.

Civil Service: 2nd Tuesday, 4 p.m., Jan., Mar., July, Oct.

Environmental Services: 1st Thursday, 7 p.m.

Human Services: 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Library Board: 3rd Tuesday, 5 p.m.

Network On Aging: 1st Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

Parks & Community Services Board: 2nd Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Planning: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Transportation: 2nd Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

Youth Link Board: 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.

City Offices (all city phone numbers use the 425 area code)

City Clerk's Office and Public Records: 452-6464

City Manager: 452-7228

Community Centers

Crossroads: 452-4874

Highland: 452-7686

North Bellevue: 452-7681

South Bellevue: 452-4240

East Bellevue Community Council: 452-6466

Crossroads Mini City Hall: 452-2800

Development Services: 452-6800

New permit applications: 452-4898

Inspection requests, application and inspection status, pay fees: 452-6875

Simple permits, inspection requests: MyBuildingPermit.com

Application and inspection status: MyBuildingPermit.com

Code Compliance: 452-4570

East Bellevue Community Council: 1st Tuesday each month, 6:30 p.m.

Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.

Fire & Emergency Medical

Emergency Only: 911

Business and Information: 452-6892

Inspection/Fire prevention: 452-6872

Human Resources: 452-6838

Job Line: 452-7822 or www.bellevuewa.gov

Information Technology: 452-4626

Marina Hotline: 452-4883

Neighborhood Mediation Program: 452-4091

Neighborhood Outreach: 452-6836

Parks & Community Services

Aging Services: 452-4200

Parks Information: 452-6881

Recreation Registration: 452-6885

Youth Sports: 452-6887

Ballfields: 452-6914

Picnics/Rentals: 452-6914

Park Maintenance: 452-6855

Human Services: 452-6884

Cultural Diversity: 452-7886

Probation: 452-6956

Recreation & Special Services Division: 452-6885

Planning & Community Development: 452-7892

Police

Crossroads Station: 452-2891

Factoria Station: 452-2880

Emergency Only: 911

Complaints and Information: 452-6917

Crime Prevention: Commercial 452-2979; Residential 452-6915

Traffic Safety/Enforcement: 452-7658

Transportation

Administration/Information: 452-6856

Utilities

Administration/Information: 452-2977

Billing/Customer Service: 452-6973

Water, Sewer, Street, & Surface Water Maintenance and Emergency: 452-7840

Volunteering: 452-5375

Other Numbers (Not city government)

King County Animal Control: 206-296-PETS

Allied Waste/Rabanco: 425-452-4762 (recycling, yard debris, garbage)

Metro Transit/Sound Transit: 206-553-3000

www.facebook.com/bellevuewashington

Bellevue City Council



Conrad Lee
Mayor



Jennifer Robertson
Deputy Mayor



Claudia Balducci



John Chelminiak



Don Davidson



John Stokes



Kevin Wallace

City promotes block parties



The Claridge neighborhood collected donations at their picnic.

Recognizing that block parties are one of the best ways neighbors get to know each other, the city is offering assistance with organization and resources this summer.

In a separate promotion, some neighborhood groups will be given guided tours of the city's sculpture exhibition opening in July.

Bellevue's Neighborhood Outreach team helps organize block parties and offers the guided tours as part of its Neighbor Link program, intended to bring neighbors and families together in a spirit of community service and celebration.

Help with block parties

There are many creative ways to plan a block party or - even better - combine it with a service project, and Neighborhood Outreach is happy to help. Staff can design and print flyers and an outdoor party banner.

Residents are encouraged to combine a food drive or other community service project with their block party. Block parties must take place between June 1 and Sept. 15 to qualify.

Guided Sculpture Exhibition tours

Bellevue's popular biennial sculpture exhibition, featuring sculptures and installations at City Hall and Downtown Park and points in between, will open on July 13. The exhibition, "Bellwether 2012: reGeneration," will feature works that reflect Bellevue's emergence as a multicultural community with a dynamic, high-rise downtown.

Tours led by city arts specialist Mary Pat Byrne are being offered to a limited number of neighborhood groups. The 90-minute tours, on weekdays between July 15 and Oct. 1, are available morning, mid-day or at 5 p.m. for groups of six to 12 neighbors. Prior to each tour, the neighborhood group will be invited to a complimentary coffee at Vovito Caffè and Gelato.

Advance reservations are required, and tours will fill quickly. For more information or to make your reservation for a Neighbor Link block party or art tour, contact Julie Ellenhorn in Neighborhood Outreach, 425-452-6836 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.

Bellevue

IT'S YOUR CITY

It's Your City is published for people who live or work in Bellevue. If you have questions or comments about this publication or city services, call 425-452-4448; or write: Editor, *It's Your City*, City of Bellevue, P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012;

or send email to ciosso@bellevuewa.gov

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