



City of Bellevue

BELLEVEUE IT'S YOUR CITY

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Peamouth minnows

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Mayor John Chelminiak and Deputy Mayor Lynne Robinson

Chelminiak elected mayor, Robinson is deputy mayor

By Brad Harwood, Deputy Communications Officer

During the first meeting of 2018, on Jan. 2, the City Council elected John Chelminiak as Bellevue's new mayor. Soon after in a separate vote, Lynne Robinson was selected by her colleagues to be deputy mayor. Each will serve a two-year term, running through the end of 2019.

Mayor Chelminiak was first elected to the council in 2004 and has been a champion for human services, economic competitiveness and growth management. He previously served as deputy mayor in 2006 - 2007 and 2016 - 2017. All seven councilmembers voted for Chelminiak.

"I'll strive to be fair and build consensus," the new mayor said after the election. "I will study, review and act on those issues that face the city. I promise to do that with respect for my fellow councilmembers and respect for the citizens who come to visit us."

"There is some power behind being the mayor," he added. "But in our form of government, it's the council that drives the business of the elected leadership. I will always remember that. The theme for the council is seven strong - seven leaders, taking their community forward, working together, putting differences aside."

Mayor Chelminiak represents the council on the Bellevue Convention Center Authority Board, the Puget Sound Regional Council and the coordinating board of All Home. He and his wife, Lynn, reside in the Vuecrest neighborhood.

Deputy Mayor Robinson joined the council in 2014 and was reelected to a new term last fall. Her prior public service includes time on the Parks & Community Services Board, which she chaired from 2011 to 2013. She has also chaired the Bellevue Network on Aging.

She is the council liaison to the Human Services Commission and she represents the council on the Eastside Human Services Forum Executive Board and the King County Cities Climate Collaboration. She has lived in the Woodridge neighborhood with her husband, Dan Watson, since 1997.

The city's seven councilmembers are elected citywide to staggered four-year terms and select a mayor and deputy mayor internally every two years. The mayor presides over council meetings and study sessions, helps set the meeting agenda, represents the city at public events, and acts as the primary spokesperson for the council.

Both Chelminiak and Robinson expressed appreciation to Councilmember John Stokes for his leadership as mayor over the last two years. "We accomplished a lot," Robinson said.



City of Bellevue

BELLEVEUE IT'S YOUR CITY

New look for It's Your City

As you've probably noticed, your city newsletter looks a little different. After more than 10 years, the It's Your City design needed a refresh. With the February edition, you'll find a cleaner, more colorful look with new headings for special sections.

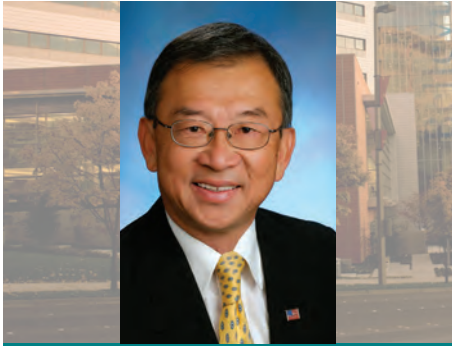
Our aim with the redesign is to deliver a more modern look for the newsletter that better reflects Bellevue, now a very diverse, high-tech hub that

continues to grow while retaining the woody charm of peaceful neighborhoods with dozens of parks and trails. The It's Your City's redesign echoes that of the city website, which was overhauled last year.

We welcome your feedback about It's Your City. Please email your suggestions and comments to communications@bellevuewa.gov.

COUNCIL CORNER

Continuing Our Vision



By Councilmember
Conrad Lee

Three years ago, the City Council adopted our vision of “Bellevue welcomes the world, our diversity is our strength.” This is more than a slogan. This vision comes with specific recommended actions that are helping to move the city forward in economic development, public safety and civic engagement.

Bellevue is now a global powerhouse, and a major economic and technology hub where businesses thrive. The Global Innovation Exchange (GIX), an innovation-focused graduate school in partnership with the University of Washington and China’s Tsinghua University, has opened in the Spring District. In the past year, four of China’s largest technology firms - Tencent, Alibaba, Baidu and Huawei - came to the city with plans to grow. Bellevue is open for business and we are welcoming great new businesses that are contributing to our strong local economy.

Our efforts go beyond welcoming large businesses. The city has also promoted small business and entrepreneurship on the Eastside through StartUp 425, providing workshops where over 300

early stage entrepreneurs have received coaching for success. In addition to supporting business in Bellevue, we are also expanding ways to do business with Bellevue. This past winter, the city hosted the first reverse vendor fair, sharing opportunities of city procurement and contracting with a broader network of small business, and women and minority businesses.

We also care about keeping Bellevue a safe city for all. To foster good communication, the Bellevue Police Department assigned sector captains to our neighborhoods, providing an easy point of contact for community concerns. Additionally, the police department created seven new community advisory boards to provide ongoing feedback, including African American,

Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino, LGBTQ and faith-based groups. The Bellevue Fire Department has emphasized emergency preparedness, providing new “CERT Lite” (community emergency response team) trainings throughout the city, including communities with disabilities.

Most importantly, it is the people who are engaged in learning, sharing and working together that are making a difference. We are hearing from a broader range of neighborhood and community voices on the issues that matter to them. Bellevue Essentials is creating opportunities for new leaders to learn about the city and get involved.

Cultural programming, like Cultural Conversations, provides safe places where we can connect, learn from one another, and be inspired to build greater connections with each other to accomplish greater things. And whether it is at the Chinese International Engagement Conference or Bellevue Youth Link’s Unity Through Diversity Conference, our young people also are leading the way! They provide real examples on how to tell our truths, move beyond first impressions and become engaged.

This is just scratching the surface. Our vision, “Bellevue welcomes the world, our diversity is our strength” is a call to action. We will continue to create and encourage opportunities to engage together on actions that make Bellevue strong, safe and welcoming. Only working together can we succeed.



Ngina Shulman shares her story at the Cultural Conversations event at City Hall in early February.

COUNCIL ROUNDUP

By Brad Harwood, Deputy
Communications Officer

Mid-biennium budget approved

On Nov. 29, the City Council approved the Bellevue’s mid-biennium budget. The budget process, mandated by state law, provides an opportunity for modifications and technical corrections to the amended 2017-18 Operating Budget and 2017-23 Capital Investment Program plan. Parts of the budget package included:

- **2018 Development Services fee ordinance** – The fee update for permit review and inspection services was informed by a comprehensive study aimed at reviewing the city’s financial practices and maintaining customer service levels. The increases, ranging from 3.6 to 7.2 percent, went into effect on Jan. 1.

- **2018 Property Tax Levy ordinance** – Raised property taxes by the statutorily available 1 percent in 2018. The increase will cost a Bellevue homeowner about \$6 for the year for a home with a median assessed property value of \$791,000 and approximately \$7.60 for a homeowner with a home assessed at \$1 million. Councilmember Conrad Lee voted “no.”
- **Modified 2017-18 Biennial Budget and 2017-23 Capital Investment Program Plan ordinance** – Includes a series of updates and technical corrections. As per council direction, the ordinance also creates a new Arts and Culture fund, from existing money and not from new revenue, which will be governed by the council’s previously adopted investment guidelines.

The adoption marked the end of a process which began on Oct.



Kevin Wallace, third from left, poses with his fellow councilmembers before stepping down.

23. The council discussed the mid-biennium budget update at three study sessions and a public hearing was held on Nov. 20.

Departing Councilmember Wallace commended

On Dec. 11, the council bid a warm farewell to Councilmember Kevin Wallace, who chose not to seek re-election last fall after two terms. His colleagues praised Wallace for his sharp mind, diligent advocacy on behalf of Bellevue residents and ability to work well with various stakeholders.

Wallace was elected in 2009 and served as deputy mayor in 2014 and 2015. Among his achievements, Wallace helped the city negotiate a mutually beneficial agreement with Sound Transit, weather the Great Recession and secure a \$99.6 million federal transportation loan.

Jared Nieuwenhuis, elected in November to Wallace’s seat, was sworn in at the same meeting. Janice Zahn, also elected last fall to the seat temporarily held by Ernie Simas, was sworn in on Dec. 4.

Meydenbauer Bay Park construction hits half-way mark

By Christina Faine, Parks & Community Services Public Information Officer

Thirty years after city leaders first envisioned a big park along the shores of Lake Washington within walking distance of downtown, Meydenbauer Bay Park is now half finished.

Construction started last May for the 10-acre park, which will considerably expand the old Meydenbauer Beach Park. The new park will feature a large public swimming beach, pedestrian pier, historic whaling building and new beach house.

Eight of the nine homes, acquired by the city to make way for the park, have been demolished. Also gone are big rocks and concrete that made the park's shore a hard place for plants and animals. Spawning salmon have already been spotted near the shoreline in the area with new gravel.

The new beach house, which will include a rooftop viewing deck, is now taking shape. Two viewing platforms are complete.

For the park's distinctive curvilinear pedestrian pier, pilings and a trestle structure are now complete. Crews will complete the pier this spring by barging in



View of the curvilinear pedestrian pier under construction, with a portion of the beach house to the right.

floating sections and attaching them to the pilings.

The new park, located at 9899 Lake Washington Blvd., will increase public waterfront access and improve the connection between Bellevue's bustling

downtown and its scenic Lake Washington waterfront.

The current phase of construction is taking place primarily west and northwest of 99th Avenue Northeast to connect with and expand the existing park between

Lake Washington Boulevard and the Meydenbauer Bay shoreline. Meydenbauer Beach Park is closed during the project, but the Bellevue Marina remains open.

Construction is expected to be completed in late 2018.

Interim rules remain for siting homeless shelter

By Brad Harwood, Deputy Communications Officer

While the City Council considers where to site a permanent men's homeless shelter, interim regulations in the Land Use Code that govern permanent shelters in Bellevue will remain in place.

Last August, the council adopted the interim regulations, which established a land use classification for homeless shelters and identified land use districts where shelters would be permitted. On Jan. 22, following a public hearing, the council agreed to extend the regulations another six months while it continues to consider a shelter's location and permanent regulations that would apply to it.

The council in November adopted ordinances related to parking enforcement, wastewater disposal and camping in public spaces in response to concerns voiced by councilmembers and community

members related to homelessness. All three ordinances went into effect on Dec. 26.

The new parking regulation continues a long-standing prohibition on parking in the same public place for more than 24 hours but adds a requirement that vehicles be moved to a different block. The city code revision closes a loophole that allowed drivers to move their vehicles a few inches to avoid a ticket. City code enforcement is complaint-based.

A second ordinance upgrades the improper disposal of wastewater to a criminal infraction. The third ordinance extends the prohibition of public camping to all city-owned property and public easements. Previously, the ban only covered city-owned parks. The new ordinance still allows for certain city-permitted events involving overnight camping at city parks.

Levy projects for 2018 will connect neighborhoods

By Transportation Department staff



The levy funded the first school zone flashing beacon around a high school, this one located on 108th Avenue Southeast near Bellevue High School.

If 2017 was mainly a drawing board year for the Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy, 2018 is shaping up as a build 'em year, with nearly two dozen projects queued up for construction.

Projects to look forward to this year, some of which are being designed with community partners, include:

- **Safety projects for Wilburton Elementary School:** The city and the Bellevue School District are coordinating to build new sidewalks around the future Wilburton Elementary School, slated to open in the fall at 12300 Main Street.
- **Neighborhood congestion reduction:** An Eastgate area traffic study is being conducted

to evaluate long-term congestion relief projects. And design work is underway for a travel time reduction project on 150th Avenue Southeast.

- **Bicycle and pedestrian projects on Eastgate Way:** Several projects will improve connections to the Eastgate Park and Ride, Bellevue College and nearby businesses. Enhancements will include separated bike lanes from Richards Road to Southeast 35th Place, a pedestrian path from Richards Road to the sidewalk west of 139th Avenue Southeast and bicycle lanes from Southeast 35th Place to the Interstate 90 trail entrance.

The levy addresses a backlog of projects such as bike lanes; crosswalks; sidewalks and paths;

and upgrades to existing trails, sidewalks and other facilities. Funding also supports technology to improve safety, traffic flow and traveler information, and prepares the city for emerging trends such as driverless vehicles. Projects to reduce vehicle congestion within, near and between neighborhoods are levy-funded as well.

The 20-year levy generates approximately \$7.4 million per year through a property tax of 15 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. Planning already is underway for the next wave of projects.

More information about all levy projects can be found at <https://bellevuewa.gov/transportationlevy>.

Panel contemplates Rev. King's legacy on the Eastside

By Claude Iosso, Digital Communications

When a panel of black community leaders from the Eastside were asked how the struggle for racial equality and justice has changed since the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was marching, one of the panelists asked, "It's changed?"

Linda Whitehead, a retired educational administrator also on the panel, asserted that bias still influences hiring decisions at institutions and businesses in the area, to the detriment of people of color.

Helena Stephens, manager of Family, Youth and Teen Services for the City of Bellevue acknowledged that people of color have more opportunities today in government, the corporate world and entertainment than they did when segregation was legal, but she said, "I don't think (the struggle for equality) has changed enough."

The City of Bellevue invited Whitehead, Stephens and three

other leaders in the Eastside's black community to discuss King's legacy here at an MLK Day event on Jan. 10 at City Hall. About 125 people, including Mayor John Chelminiak and Deputy Mayor Lynne Robinson, attended the discussion in the council chamber.

"We have to disrupt inequity," said Shomari Jones, director of equity and graduation success for the Bellevue School District. He noted that in his work people struggle with discussions about race more than any other topic.

Patrice Conner, a broker with Marketplace Sotheby's International Realty in Redmond, said people in the community see so few blacks in their daily lives that she must continually distinguish herself from stereotypes on television.

James Whitfield, executive director of Leadership Eastside, stressed the importance of making connections with people different from us, noting he is



Mayor John Chelminiak speaks in front of the MLK Day panel.

prepared to take a racist to lunch to open a dialogue.

To combat systemic racism, Stephens added, people can make a difference just by striving to be aware of their biases, listening for the voice in the back of their mind, asking, "Does this

person fit into my community or place of work?"

All of the panelists offered insights into what it's like for people of color living on the Eastside. You can view the entire discussion at <https://youtube/f0SxQRd6hyU>.

Bellevue's high cost of living concerns many

By Christina Faine, Parks & Community Services Public Information Officer

The high cost of living in Bellevue – including expenses for housing, child care, services and transportation – is a top concern for residents, according to the latest Human Services Needs Update. In the phone/online survey for the report, 77 percent of Bellevue residents rated affordable housing as a major or moderate problem.

The needs assessment is updated every two years to document human services needs and critical trends in the community. Understanding what people need – and how these needs change over time – is a key part of the city's commitment to helping everyone reach their full potential.

The city generally does not provide direct services to residents, but funds local nonprofits who do. The 2017-18 update helps guide the human services grants the city will issue as part of its 2019-20 budget.

To update the assessment, the city last year conducted a phone/online

survey of nearly 500 residents, human services provider surveys and a consumer survey and held 30 community conversations.

Several initiatives underway address concerns identified in the assessment.

Funds from King County's Best Start for Kids Levy were allocated to Eastside agencies for a school-based health clinic and to help families prevent homelessness. The county's Mental Illness and Drug Dependency sales tax helps to fund mental health counselors at LifeWire, a nonprofit helping survivors of domestic violence.

In June 2017, the City Council approved an Affordable Housing Strategy to bring more affordable housing to Bellevue. The strategy could create up to 2,500 affordable homes over the next 10 years.

The entire 2017-18 Human Services Needs Update is accessible at <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/community-services/human-services/human-services-needs-update>.

Find innovation, inspiration and connection at Neighborhoods Conference



The Neighborhoods Conference will feature Marc Berejka, director of government and community affairs at REI Co-op.

By Julie Ellenhorn, Neighborhood Outreach

Bellevue's second biannual Neighborhoods Conference - Saturday, April 21, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. - at City Hall will offer you an opportunity to learn how technology and innovation are improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods and community.

The conference will kick off with some inspiration from keynote speaker Marc Berejka, director of government and community affairs at REI Co-op. Berejka leads REI's advocacy and oversees the company's community grants program, which annually distributes several million dollars to hundreds of local, regional and national organizations that help sustain and promote the outdoors.

In 2020, REI will open its new corporate headquarters in the Spring District, deepening its involvement and commitment to the Bellevue community. Berejka will speak to the importance of community building and civic engagement.

The conference will feature 18 one-hour workshops grouped into four themes:

- **Our Stories** – Our Community;
- **Rooted at Home** – Environment and Conservation;
- **On the Move** – Innovations in Transportation;
- **Looking Forward** – Urban Growth;

The conference will provide opportunities to connect with other engaged residents through workshops, hands-on activities and networking opportunities.

Attendees can choose a single workshop track or can mix and match from different themes throughout the day.

A brochure with registration materials and descriptions of all workshops will be available March 1. The conference registration fee is \$35 (early bird registration through April 7) and \$50 after April 7, if space is still available. The fee includes a zero-waste continental breakfast and lunch. Scholarships are available on request. Workshop spaces will be assigned in the order registrations are received, and space is limited.

Contact Julie Ellenhorn, 425-452-5372 or neighborhoodsconference@bellevuewa.gov for more information or to sign up for a conference registration packet.

For city's Smart Mobility Plan, the future is now

By David Grant, Transportation Public Information Officer

City leaders want Bellevue to be a national leader in advanced transportation technologies such as autonomous vehicles. That's just one of several ambitious goals in the city's Smart Mobility Plan, formerly known as the Intelligent Transportation System Master Plan. Bellevue is in the process of updating the 2004 plan.

The vision is to use innovation and partnerships to implement emerging technologies that enhance the safety, sustainability, efficiency and accessibility of Bellevue's transportation system. The plan is grouped into six initiatives, each of which has several projects:

- **Traffic management:** The focus is on data-driven processes that improve the efficiency of the transportation system. An example is a snow removal and de-icing monitoring system and map that can provide real-time information to the public during storms.
- **Real-time traveler information:** With many travelers now relying on mobile applications, the city wants to enhance the delivery of traffic data to help them get around town. Working with third-party data providers such as Google to share information about roadway conditions is one of several project ideas.
- **Data management:** One example of how information could be used to improve safety and mobility is for the city to share its transportation data on its open data portal, so other agencies and private companies can create new third-party applications.
- **Electric vehicles:** Bellevue wants to support the trend by expanding the number of charging stations and by converting its own city fleet from gasoline-powered to electric-powered vehicles. Also, the city is working with King County Metro to increase the number of charging stations for buses.
- **Autonomous and connected vehicles:** Another example of how Bellevue is encouraging partnerships is its pursuit of an autonomous shuttle pilot project, working with manufacturers and key employers to explore autonomous shuttle connections between employment and transportation centers.
- **Shared mobility:** Van pools provide an alternative to single-occupancy vehicles, but the city wants to make the program more flexible, make the vans electric and eventually autonomous. Implementation already has started on new concepts such as a shared mobility hub with interactive kiosks.

The Smart Mobility Plan update is expected to be finalized in April.

More choices on the way for Bellevue bicyclists

By David Grant, Transportation Public Information Officer

Bicycling in Bellevue can be a challenge, but several new projects coming on line this year should improve options and connectivity for people who want to ride more. Here's a rundown.

Downtown Demonstration Bikeway

As part of an effort to make bicycling safer and more comfortable downtown, the city will install a demonstration bikeway project on 108th Avenue Northeast, from Main Street to Northeast 12th Street. Following public outreach in late 2017, with a survey that generated more than 1,200 mostly supportive responses, the city's Transportation Commission in January recommended moving forward. The City Council voiced support for the project in early February.

The bikeway will include bike lanes on both sides of the street, with barriers separating the lanes from vehicle traffic in some locations. Currently, there are no north-south or east-west bike lanes downtown. The demonstration project is expected to be in place from mid-2018 through early 2019.



Rendering shows how the demonstration bikeway project on 108th Avenue Northeast could look.

New trail on Eastside Rail Corridor

King County has removed the rails on two county-owned sections of the former BNSF railroad line in Bellevue and an interim gravel trail is expected to be completed in the coming weeks.

On the south end, the trail runs from Newcastle Beach Park in Bellevue four miles south to Gene Coulon Park in Renton. On the north end, the trail runs from 120th Avenue Northeast in the Spring District 1.6 miles north to 108th Avenue Northeast, where

it hooks up with an already-built segment in Kirkland.

Other segments of the Eastside Rail Corridor through Bellevue are expected to be completed in phases. The full trail through Bellevue is anticipated to open in 2023.

Citywide bike share system

The Transportation Commission in January also discussed the possibility of establishing a pilot permit system for regulating private bike share companies that want to operate in Bellevue. A recommendation by the

commission on how to proceed is expected in March. The pilot bike share permit system could be in place later this year. No public funds would be used to set up or operate the system.

Bike share systems typically are used for short distances and provide a convenient, low-cost transportation option. Using a mobile app, customers locate a bicycle in one location, then ride it to another.

More information about bicycle projects in Bellevue is available at <http://transportation.bellevuewa.gov>.

Framework plan adopted for Grand Connection

By Bradley Calvert, Community Development Manager

The Grand Connection took another step forward in December, with the City Council adopting a framework plan that sets forth the foundation for elements such as paving strategies, public space improvements, weather protection and other defining features of the non-motorized corridor planned for downtown.

Now planners will craft design guidelines for the corridor

and amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Code. These changes will be another significant step forward in facilitating the vision for the Grand Connection.

The Grand Connection will connect many of Bellevue's civic assets – including Meydenbauer Bay Park, Downtown Park, a revitalized Wilburton commercial area and the Eastside Rail Corridor.

As part of the visioning process for the Grand Connection, possible designs for a crossing

over Interstate 405 are expected to be presented to the council this spring. You can view the designs under consideration and submit comments at www.bellevuegrandconnection.com.

Wilburton commercial area plan

In December, staff also updated the council on the companion planning effort of the Wilburton commercial area. Historically known as "auto row," the area is being considered for land use, transportation and urban

design changes that support its connection with downtown, BelRed and investments such as East Link light rail, the Eastside Rail Corridor and the Grand Connection.

The city released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Wilburton commercial area plan earlier this month. You are invited to comment on the draft EIS, with the comment period closing March 19. Look for the Grand Connection project on <https://planning.bellevuewa.gov/planning>.



Something fishy going on in Kelsey Creek

By Michael May, Utilities Public Information Officer

Every spring, hundreds of peamouth minnows, a foot-long fish native to Lake Washington, spawn in Kelsey Creek. Each spawning event is usually only 24 to 48 hours from start to finish.

Be there at the right time and you may see a great blue heron swallow peamouth whole! The best way to witness this wonderful sign of spring is to become a Peamouth Patrol volunteer.

This year's workshop will be on Wednesday, March 28, 6:30-

7:30 p.m. in the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center's Community Room. RSVP to attend by emailing streamteam@bellevuewa.gov.

Volunteers are asked to check the stream for fish for 15 minutes, twice a week. In return, volunteers receive a text and email when the fish arrive, so they are always the first to know.

Learn more about Peamouth minnows at <https://bellevuewa.gov/peamouth> or contact Laurie Devereaux (425-452-5200 or ldevereaux@bellevuewa.gov).



Bellevue, the listening city

By Marcia McReynolds, Mediation Co-Manager

Imagine living in a place where the people tend to listen, where each of us seeks to understand one another, and trust we will be heard. This is what many of the participants in a recent "Art of Listening" workshop series are hoping to foster in Bellevue.

Participants understood the power of listening and the benefits it would provide our entire community.

"Thank you for this workshop," wrote Conan Yang. "It's a mind-blowingly helpful, emotional, life-changing experience." Other attendees noted on comment cards, "We need more of these workshops" and "now's the time to be intentional to help our residents in tools to communicate and connect with each other!"

The Bellevue Mediation program, your conflict resolution center, is doing what it can to help make Bellevue a "listening city." Every day, our trained volunteer conciliators listen to people in conflict, coaching them to resolve their conflicts, in part by listening openly to others.

This year, we are offering workshops, in partnership with King County Library System, teaching residents the art of listening. When we truly listen and are listened to, even in the face of conflict, we feel understood and become calmer. We learn new things, issues are more easily resolved, respect is enhanced, stress is reduced and trust is established. We end up feeling better about ourselves, each other and the world.

How do we improve our listening?

The first step is to learn to be present to another person, putting aside our agenda, opinion and story to allow another to speak fully.

The second step is to allow for silence in a conversation, for it is in witnessed silence that others are able to hear themselves "think out loud."

The third step is to let another person know what you have heard them say, again, without voicing your opinion, just letting their story be retold without your interpretation. To address emotion, we simply name it; "You seem sad/mad/frustrated/ ___ about this" is often all we need to say.

Our focused presence is what others need. And what is so sorely needed in the world.

There are also resources for your learning at <https://planning.bellevuewa.gov/community-development/conflict-assistance>. The mediation program is scheduling more four-week sessions as well as working with the community to create "listening salons," where people can drop in to both be heard and practice conscious listening. We also invite you to call us to arrange a two-hour workshop on listening or to ask questions about listening and our services. And please suggest your own ideas for improving the quality of listening in our community.

Good listening can make or break relationships and business partnerships; it can foster peace in the neighborhood, the country, the world.

Utility bill help for qualified customers

By Michael May, Utilities Public Information Officer

The City of Bellevue offers low-income seniors (62 and older) and low-income persons with permanent disabilities relief on their utility costs for water, wastewater and drainage.

Rate relief can be up to 75 percent off utility costs for seniors and persons with permanent disabilities who meet specific residency and income guidelines. The form of relief and household income guidelines depend on how utility costs are paid:

- **If you pay a Bellevue utility bill directly**, you may qualify for a rate reduction on your 2018 utility bills if your 2017 household income was \$32,120 or less for one person or \$36,740 or less for two persons.
- **If your utility costs have been paid through rent or other third party**, you may qualify for a rate rebate check on 2017 utility costs if your 2016 household income was \$31,400 or less for one person or \$35,910 or less for two persons.

Additional requirements apply. Find complete program guidelines and application materials at <https://bellevuewa.gov/utilityrelief> or by calling Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-5285.

Calling guide now in multiple languages

By Julie Ellenhorn, Neighborhood Outreach

To better serve our diverse population, the city has translated the "Bellevue by the Numbers" calling guide into Russian, Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean.

The guide, with contact information for hundreds of Eastside organizations and resources, is available at City Hall (Service First), Mini City Hall at Crossroads and at the Crossroads, North Bellevue and South Bellevue community centers.

"By the Numbers" has been available to residents in English for over 10 years and in Spanish over the last few years. Residents find the alphabetical guide a handy reference for services provided by the city and local nonprofit organizations. The guide has listings for categories such as education, health and medical, housing, immigrant assistance, permits, community services and public transportation.

Today in Bellevue, 42 percent of families speak a language other than English at home, so the city translated the calling guide into

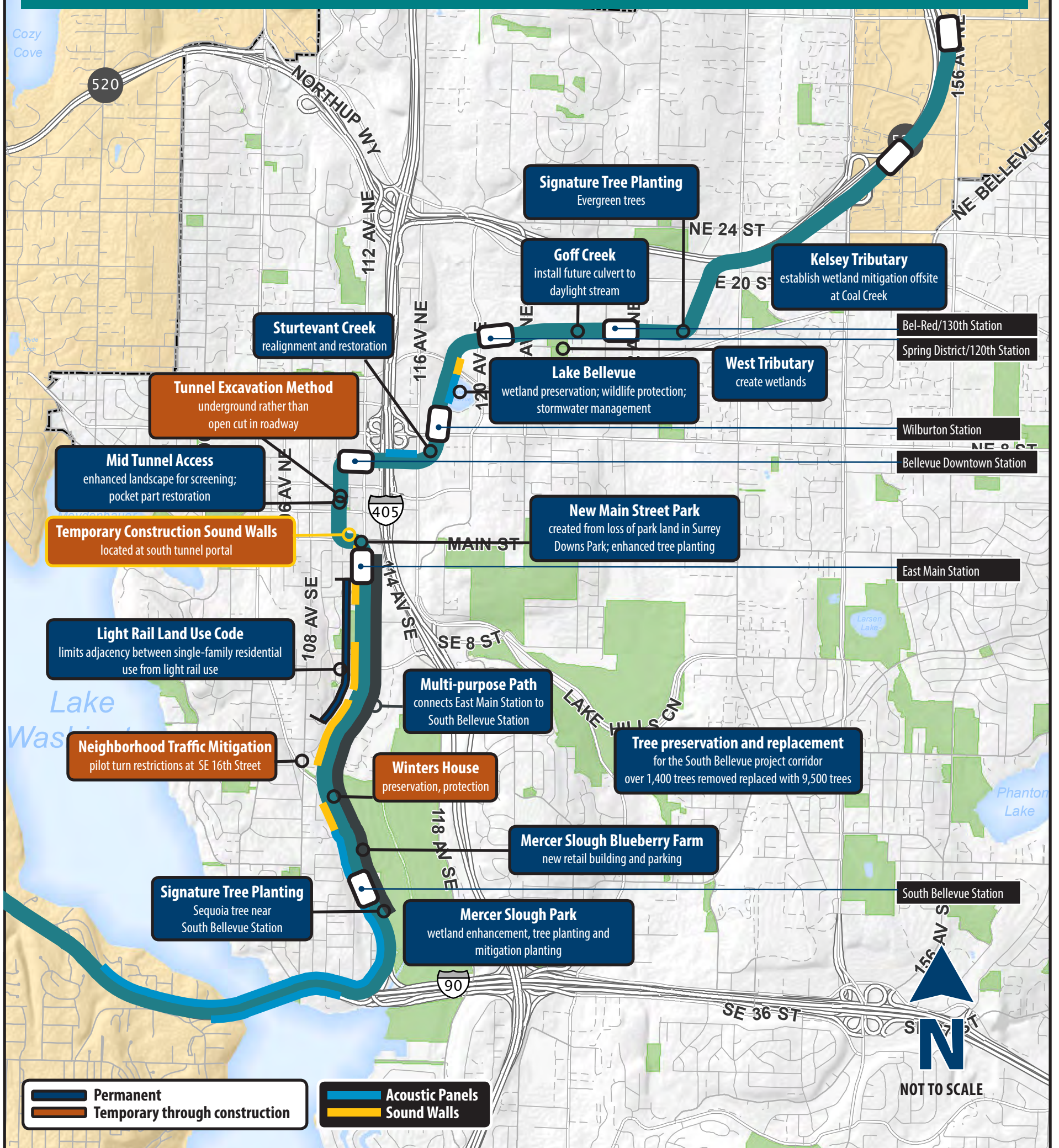


the five other most commonly spoken languages in Bellevue.

The guide will help limited-English speakers easily locate available services and resources. Each edition also includes information to access language line interpreters, who can provide no-cost help with translation for residents who want to contact services found in the guide.

"By the Numbers" is also available on request by calling 425-452-2800 or online at <https://bellevuewa.gov/resident-resources>.

EAST LINK LIGHT RAIL PROJECT MITIGATION



East Link Mitigation: To protect Bellevue neighborhoods, the City Council required Sound Transit to mitigate impacts from both construction and operation of the light rail line. See <https://bellevuewa.gov/elmitigation>.

Neighborhood Forum on “fake news,” conspiracy theories and disinformation

By Julie Ellenhorn, Neighborhood Outreach

As residents continue to navigate the growing volume of online news sources and the use of social media tools, it has become vital to acquire skills that help identify what is reliable information and what is disinformation.

Neighborhood Outreach, in partnership with the Newport Way Library, will host a Bellevue Neighborhoods Forum to explore

“fake news,” conspiracy theories and disinformation. The forum will be on Wednesday, March 28, 7 p.m. in the council chamber at City Hall, 450 110th Ave. NE, with a facilitated question and answer period following.

Kate Starbird, assistant professor with the University of Washington’s Department of Human Centered Design and Engineering, will discuss how the emergence of “fake news” and conspiracy theories can reshape our understanding of national

and local events. Recent public attention and debate around “fake news” has highlighted the growing challenge of determining what is reliable information in online spaces.

According to Professor Starbird, this is a complex problem at the intersection of technology, human thinking and social behavior. She asserts that the abundance of new channels for information make us increasingly vulnerable to absorbing and spreading misinformation.

Professor Starbird will explore with us what she has learned about how online rumors spread – and how online rumors are corrected – during natural disasters and man-made crises. Recently, she has begun exploring the propagation of disinformation through online spaces.

The forum is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Julie Ellenhorn, Neighborhood Outreach, 425-452-5372, jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.

EAST BELLEVUE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

It is our city; let's participate in its future

By Steve Kasner, East Bellevue Community Council

Whether you have lived here for a short time or a very long time, you probably have had some ideas about what Bellevue should look like. With the city poised to begin updating its neighborhood area plans this year, you will soon have a chance to share your vision.

These neighborhood area plans, a part of the city's comprehensive plan, will guide how our city grows over the next couple of decades. I believe that many elected leaders and city staff care what you think, and there will be numerous opportunities for you to give input when the neighborhood planning gets underway, possibly this spring.

There are 14 neighborhood areas in Bellevue. I hope the process includes working with the residents of each area regarding what their current neighborhood plan says, what needs to be changed and, more



Lake Hills Village has new restaurants and stores.

importantly, what is missing.

The last year saw many significant projects moving forward for consideration in our community. New voices joined in the discussions about the siting of a homeless shelter, Puget Sound Energy projects and the city's vision for its parks system.

The new year will offer new opportunities to work together on these issues. Claudia Balducci, former mayor and currently a member of the King County Council, has begun to meet with advocates on all sides of the shelter debate to create a better understanding of the issues, so that discussions can be more productive.

Mayor John Chelminiak, elected by the City Council in January, is talking about alignment as we work on issues important to all of

Free gardening classes

By Michael May, Utilities Public Information Officer

Cascade Water Alliance, which the City of Bellevue is a member, is offering free gardening classes to help you have beautiful, healthy landscapes while using water efficiently.

Taught by a team of expert gardening professionals, the following will be offered in Bellevue. Registration is required.

Designing the Northwest Garden

Saturday, **March 3**, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden, 15500 SE 16th St.

Register: www.design2.brownpapertickets.com

Growing Food in Containers

Saturday, **March 10**, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden, 15500 SE 16th St.

Register: www.container.brownpapertickets.com

How to Win the War on Weeds

Saturday, **March 17**, 10-11:30 a.m.

Bellevue Nursery, 842 104th Ave. SE

Register: www.weedwars.brownpapertickets.com

EAST BELLEVUE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

For more information about the EBCC, call Deputy City Clerk Karin Roberts, 425-452-6806.

The EBCC meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.

Members: Hassan Dhananjaya, Ross Gooding, Betsi Hummer, Steven Kasner, Stephanie Walter

We welcome comments about the East Bellevue area. You can share your views with the EBCC via email at EBCC@bellevuewa.gov. To find out more about the agendas and decisions of EBCC, <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/east-bellevue-community-council>.

us. Our council also has two new members – Janice Zahn and Jared Nieuwenhuis – who will bring fresh perspectives. On the EBCC, we have two new members as well – Stephanie Walter, elected in November to the seat vacated by Bill Capron, and Hassan Dhananjaya, appointed to the seat vacated by Gerald Hughes in January.

There are some very exciting things going on in East Bellevue. Lake Hills Village continues to grow with new restaurants and other stores. On March 1, the LHNA will have a community meeting featuring many of the organizations that meet the needs of Lake Hills residents.

Thank you to the citizens of East Bellevue, who voted overwhelming to continue the EBCC with over 80 percent voting yes. We appreciate your acknowledgement of our service to this community.

I encourage you to attend one of our meetings (the first Tuesday of each month) where we discuss issues important to all of us. Over the next few months we will get an update on the enforcement of the single room rental ordinance, we will participate in the update to the Lake Hills neighborhood area plan if it takes place then, and, finally, we'll study Bellevue's operating and capital budgets to understand their impact.



Natives and More - Great Plants for the Pacific NW

Thursday, **March 22**, 7-8:30 p.m.

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Register: www.natives.brownpapertickets.com

Sustainable Veggie Gardening

Thursday, **March 22**, 7-8:30 p.m.

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Register: www.veggies1.brownpapertickets.com

Visit www.cascadewater.org/classes.php for other classes offered throughout the Cascade Water Alliance service area, or call 425-453-0930 for more information, to register, and a list of classes.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Throughout the city, there are many projects in various stages of development. This update includes all projects with an estimated budget of \$1 million or more, sorted by neighborhood. If you have questions, please contact the project manager.

BelRed

Mid Lakes Pump Station Capacity Improvements

Replacing pump station in BelRed area. In design. Construction: TBD. \$4 million (est.)

Vanaja S. Rajah, vrajah@bellevuewa.gov

New Water Inlet Station

Installing water inlet station for additional capacity for growth in Downtown, Bel-Red and Wilburton areas and improved water supply. Design 2017-2019; Construction 2019. \$5.2 million.

Jay Hummel, jhummel@bellevuewa.gov

NE Spring Blvd: 116th to 120th Ave NE (Zone 1)

Widening NE 12th St to five lanes from 116th Ave NE to a new street connection west of the Eastside Rail Corridor (Zone 1A). From ERC to 120th: new four-lane roadway, a multipurpose path along the north side, and two bridges over the East Link light rail alignment (Zone 1B). Zone 1B is complete, Zone 1A construction 2018 (est.). \$33.4 million.

Steve Costa, scosta@bellevuewa.gov



The first section of Northeast Spring Boulevard, with overpass for East Link, is complete.

NE Spring Blvd: 120th to 124th Ave NE (Zone 2)

Design complete for a new four-lane roadway with turn pockets or center medians, outside lanes for shared non-motorized use, landscaping, sidewalks and on-street parking. Construction 2018 subject to right of way negotiations. \$3.4 million.

Steve Costa, scosta@bellevuewa.gov

NE Spring Blvd: 130th to 132nd Ave NE (Zone 4 EB)

Design and construct an eastbound lane, a bike lane, landscaping, and a sidewalk south of the future 130th light rail station. Construction 2020 (est.). \$17 million (est.)

Gregory Lucas, glucas@bellevuewa.gov

124th Ave NE: Ichigo Way to Northup Way

Widening 124th Ave NE to five lanes. 90% design complete. Construction 2021 pending right of way acquisition. \$31 million (est.)

Marina Arakelyan, marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov

124th Ave NE: NE Spring Blvd to Ichigo Way

Widening 124th Ave NE to five lanes. Design complete. Construction Fall 2018 pending right-of-way acquisition. \$29 million (est.)

Marina Arakelyan, marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov

124th Ave NE: NE 12th St to NE Spring Blvd

Widening 124th Ave NE to five lanes. Complete design fall 2019. Construction 2020 pending right of way acquisition. \$20.1 million (est.)

Marina Arakelyan, marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov

130th Ave NE: BelRed Rd to NE 20th St

Redeveloping 130th Ave to include bike lanes, on-street parking, sidewalks, and landscaping. Construction 2020 (est.) \$25 million (est.)

Gregory Lucas, glucas@bellevuewa.gov

Downtown

Downtown Park - NE Corner

Design and permitting to improve pedestrian access and public art at the northeast corner of the NE 4th St and Bellevue Way intersection. \$5 million.

Ken Kroeger, kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov

Meydenbauer Basin NE 8th & 100th

Designing and constructing stormwater conveyance improvements on 100th Ave NE and NE 8th St to reduce/eliminate local flooding. Construction 2018. \$4.0 million

James B. Nicolls, jbnicolls@bellevuewa.gov

Eastgate

Bellevue Airfield Park

Design and permitting Phase 1. New park's master plan is to include a sports field, trails, playground, parking and landfill infrastructure. Phase 1 design. \$1.6 million.

Pam Fehrman, pfehrman@bellevuewa.gov

Horizon View #1 Reservoir and Water Booster Pump Station

Installing new reservoir and pump station. Construction underway. \$3.2 million.

James B. Nicolls, jbnicolls@bellevuewa.gov

Cougar Mountain #3 Pump Station Rehabilitation or Replacement:

Construction 2018. \$2.0 million

James B. Nicolls, jbnicolls@bellevuewa.gov

SE Newport Way Improvements: 150th Ave SE to Somerset Blvd

In design for a 10-foot wide multipurpose path on the north side and a 5-foot bike lane on the south side of Newport Way. \$8.1 million.

Paul Krawczyk, pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov

150th Ave SE at SE 37th St and at SE Newport Way

In design to add turn lanes at these two locations on 150th Ave. SE to provide congestion relief and add a sidewalk on the west side of 150th. Funded for 60% design only.

Paul Krawczyk, pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov or

Jun An, jan@bellevuewa.gov

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail – 132nd Ave SE to 150th Ave SE

Designing new 12-foot-wide trail including crosswalks, landscaping, lighting, and urban design. Design complete winter 2018. \$1.2 million for design only.

Chris Masek, cmasek@bellevuewa.gov

Factoria

Factoria Blvd Storm Conveyance Improvements

Improving storm water conveyance system along Factoria Blvd between SE 38th St and Richards Creek inlet. \$3 million (est.). In design. Construction 2019.

Birol Shaha, bshaha@bellevuewa.gov



New trail will be on the north side of SE 36th Street.

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail - I-405 to 132nd Ave SE

Construct a 12-foot-wide multi-use trail including bridge over Factoria Blvd SE. Includes improvements to the I-90 off-ramp to Factoria Blvd. Construction Fall 2018. \$14 million.

Chris Masek, cmasek@bellevuewa.gov

Newport

Lower Coal Creek Flood Hazard Reduction Project

Replacing five culverts and two outfalls in Newport Shores. One culvert completed. Two culverts in design with construction scheduled in 2018. Two culvert construction cost: \$3.4 million (est.)

Debbie Harris, dharris@bellevuewa.gov



Drivers heading westbound on SE Newport Way from 150th Ave. SE.

Newport Shores Sewer Overflow Storage Project

Construction of an offline wastewater storage facility adjacent to Bagley Pump Station and retrofit Newport lift station with new pumps to alleviate sewer capacity issues in the Newport Shores sewer basin. \$2.8 million (est.) Construction 2019.

Birol Shaha, bshaha@bellevuewa.gov

Lake Hills

158th Pl SE Sidewalk - Lake Hills Blvd to SE 5th St

Add a six-foot sidewalk on the east side of 158th Pl SE between Lake Hills Blvd and SE 5th St. Construction Summer 2018. \$1.8 million (est.)

Mike Rodni, mrodni@bellevuewa.gov

Northwest Bellevue

Meydenbauer Bay Park - Phase 1

Implementing master plan. Expanding park west of 99th Ave NE. Construction began in May 2017, complete by the end of 2018. \$17 million.

Scott VanderHyden, svanderhyden@bellevuewa.gov

Vuecrest Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation

Rehabilitating the existing sewer system. Construction 2018. \$1.1 million (est.)

Stephen Noeske, snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

Vuecrest Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Replacement

Replacing sections of existing sewer system and a section of asbestos-concrete water main. Construction underway through Spring 2018. \$1.3 million (est.)

Stephen Noeske, snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

West Bellevue

Surrey Downs Park Development

Permitting, bid and construction. \$6 million. Based on Sound Transit schedule, construction will begin April 2018.

Pam Fehrman, pfehrman@bellevuewa.gov

Bellevue Way SE Southbound HOV Lane

Extending a southbound inside high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane from the Bellevue Way/112th Ave SE "Y" and Bellevue Way/108th intersection to the South Bellevue P & R main entrance. Completing 30% design winter 2018. \$4.4 million for design only. Open house April 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Enatai Elementary School, 10700 SE 25th St.

Marina Arakelyan, marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov

West Lake Sammamish

West Lake Sammamish Parkway (Phase 2)

SE 200 Block to NE 800 Block. In design for a 10-foot wide multipurpose path on the west side and a four-foot shoulder on the east side of WLSP. \$8.1 million.

Paul Krawczyk, pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov

Wilburton

NE 8th Street Culvert Replacement at Kelsey Creek

Replacing existing culverts with a new fish passable culvert. Design 2017; Construction 2018. \$3.2 million.

James B. Nicolls, jbnicolls@bellevuewa.gov

Wilburton Area Sidewalk Projects

This Neighborhood Levy project will provide sidewalks on 118th Ave SE, 128th Ave SE/NE, and NE 2nd St. Construction May 2018 to summer 2018. \$2.0 million (est.)

Jun An, jan@bellevuewa.gov

Various Locations

East Link Light Rail

Expect traffic control on Bellevue Way SE and 112th Avenue SE as aerial guideway construction begins. Northern portion 110th Ave. NE at NE 6th Street closed through July 2018. Current News: <https://transportation.bellevuewa.gov/projects/east-link-light-rail/>. Sound Transit Construction Alerts: <https://soundtransit.org/subscribe>. 24-Hour Construction Hotline 1-888-298-2395.

Marie Jensen, mjensen@bellevuewa.gov

2018 Overlay Program

The 2018 pavement projects will be in east and south Bellevue. Construction early 2018.

Teresa Becker, tbecker@bellevuewa.gov

Sanitary Sewer Repairs 2017

Repairing existing sewer system in advance of street paving projects throughout the city: Crossroads, Eastgate, Lake Hills, West Bellevue and West Lake Sammamish. Construction underway through spring 2018. \$1.2 million (est.)

Stephen Noeske, snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

Wastewater Pump Replacement

Replacing aging pumps at eight wastewater pump stations: Grange, Killarney, Meydenbauer, Bagley, Pleasure Point, Yarrow Point, and lift stations along LK Washington Blvd. Construction: 2018-19; \$1.8 million (est.)

Birol Shaha, bshaha@bellevuewa.gov



158th Place SE looking north where sidewalks will be added on east side.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Positive Discipline for the Younger Years

Feb. 28, 6:30-8 p.m.

Tools and strategies for parenting 1- through 5-year-olds.

Northwest Arts Center
9825 NE 24th St.

18 years or older. Free

Preregistration required. NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

Summer Day Camp Registration

March 2— Resident registration begins

March 10—Non-resident registration begins

425-452-6885 or bellevuewa.gov

Slippery, Slithery Ssssnakes Storytime

March 2, 11 a.m.-noon or 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Presented by Bellevue Master Naturalists

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center
5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE

Preregistration required.
425-452-4195

Lewis Creek Ranger Hike

March 3, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center
5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Free 425-452-4195

Family-Friendly Ranger Walk

March 4, 2-3 p.m.

Mercer Slough, rain or shine
425-452-2565

March Mania Plant Sale

March 10, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.

Featuring unique specialty plants and spring ephemerals. Indoor location and kids activities.

www.northwestperennialalliance.org

“The Last Unicorn”

March 16, 17, 23 and 24 at 7 p.m.;

March 18, 24 and 25 at 2 p.m.

Bellevue Youth Theatre
16051 NE 10th St.

\$12-15 per ticket.

425-452-7155 or byt@bellevuewa.gov

“Winnie the Pooh”

March 30, 31, April 6 and 7 at 7 p.m.;

March 31, April 7, 8 at 2 p.m.

Bellevue Youth Theatre
16051 NE 10th St.

Join us in Hundred Acre Wood to visit the beloved little bear who loves honey. \$12-15 per ticket.

425-452-7155 or byt@bellevuewa.gov

Bellevue Way Southbound HOV Lane Open House

April 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Enatai Elementary,
10700 SE 25th St.

Lewis Creek Ranger Hike

April 7, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center
5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE

Preregistration required.

425-452-4195.

Mercer Slough Ranger Walk

April 8, 2-3 p.m., rain or shine

Mercer Slough

1625 118th Ave. SE

Preregistration required.

425-452-2565

Bellevue Neighborhoods Conference

April 21, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

City Hall

Kelsey Creek Sheep Shearing

April 28, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Kelsey Creek Farm

410 130th Pl. SE

Sheep shearing, spinning demonstrations, children's activities, tractor-pulled wagon rides, pony rides and food. Free admission. Costs vary for food and activities. No ATM on site, no charge cards accepted.

425-452-7688 or

kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov

Mother's Day Social

May 13, 1-4 p.m.

Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.

Free and open to all. Donations welcome.

425-452-2750 or www.bellevuebotanical.org



Mercer Slough Nature Park features 320- acres of wetland habitat. Guided canoe tours start in May.

Garden Workshops and Lectures

March 1: Grow Your Own Plant Starts, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

March 3: Hydrangea How To, 10 a.m.-noon.

March 3: Native Bees and Bee Hotels, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

March 15: Garden d'Lights orientation, 10 a.m.-noon

March 21: Tapestry Garden: The Art of Weaving Plants and Place by Marietta O'Byrne, 7 p.m.

March 24: Top Ten: Spring Bulbs of Merit, 10 a.m.-noon
Workshops provided in conjunction with various partners. Prices vary.

www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html

Transportation Facilities Open House

March 20, 5-7 p.m.

City Hall, 1E-108

March 22, 5-7:30 p.m.

South Bellevue Community Center, Room B

March 23, 12:30-3 p.m.

Crossroads Mini City Hall, Crossroads Shopping Center

Frog Hop

March 23, 7-8:30 p.m.

Lewis Creek Ranger-led Evening Hike, Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center

5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE

Preregistration required.

425-452-4195

“The Wizard of Oz”

April 20, 21, 27, 28, May 4, 5, 10,

11, 12 at 7 p.m.;

April 21, 22, 28, 29,

May 5, 6, 12 at 2 p.m.;

Bellevue Youth Theatre

16051 NE 10th St.

Cost: \$12-15 per ticket.

425-452-7155 or byt@bellevuewa.gov

Arbor Day-Earth Day

April 21, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Group volunteer projects, 9-11 a.m.;

Family festival begins at 11 a.m.

Lewis Creek Park

5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE

Volunteer registration required by March 17

425-452-4195 or parks_stewardship@bellevuewa.gov

Larsen Lake Blueberry Farm and Cha Family Farms

Lake Hills Greenbelt, two

locations:

700 148 Ave. SE and 156th Ave SE/ SE 16th St.

Hours vary

425-499-5322

2018 Picnic Shelter Reservations

Planning a special occasion or casual summer gathering at one of Bellevue's beautiful parks? Picnic shelters are now available for reservation. For more information, call 425-452-6914

Weekly Ranger Walk

Every Saturday (no hike April 21) Preregistration required for groups of eight or more. 425-452-6993

CITY CONTACT INFO

City Hall

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

Service First (general information): 425-452-6800

City of Bellevue website: bellevuewa.gov

City Council Office: 425-452-7810

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.

Board & Commission Meetings

Call 425-452-6466 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, 6:30 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: 2nd and 4th 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

City Clerk's Office and Public Records: 425-452-6464

City Manager: 425-452-7228

Crossroads Mini City Hall: 425-452-2800

Development Services: 425-452-6800

New permit applications: 425-452-4898

Inspection requests, application and status, pay fees: 425-452-6875

Simple permits, inspection requests: MyBuildingPermit.com

Application and inspection status: MyBuildingPermit.com

Code Compliance: 425-452-4570

Diversity Program: 425-452-7886

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

Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.: 425-452-6466

Fire Emergency Only: 911

Fire Non-Emergency

Business and Information: 425-452-6892

Inspection: 425-452-4254

Fire prevention: 425-452-6872

Human Resources: 425-452-6838

Information Technology: 425-452-4626

Neighborhood Mediation Program: 425-452-4091

Neighborhood Outreach: 425-452-6836

Parks & Community Services

Aging Services: 425-452-4200

Recreation Program Registration/Parks Info: 425-452-6885

Youth Sports: 425-452-6885

Ballfield Rental: 425-452-6914

Picnics/Facility Rentals: 425-452-6914

Park Maintenance: 425-452-6855

Human Services: 425-452-6884

Probation: 425-452-6956

Community Centers:

Crossroads Community Center: 425-452-4874

Highland Community Center: 425-452-7686

North Bellevue Community Center: 425-452-7681

South Bellevue Community Center: 425-452-4240

Marina Hotline: 425-452-4883

Planning & Community Development: 425-452-7892

Police Emergency Only: 911

Police Non-Emergency

Crossroads Station: 425-452-2891

Factoria Station: 425-452-2880

Complaints and Information: 425-452-6917

Crime Prevention: Commercial 425-452-2979; Residential 425-452-6915

Traffic Enforcement: 425-452-6940

Transportation

Administration/Information: 425-452-6856

Utilities

Administration/Information: 425-452-6932

Billing/Customer Service: 425-452-6973

Water, Sewer, Street, &

Surface Water Maintenance & Emergency: 425-452-7840

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

It's Your City is published for people who live or work in Bellevue. For questions or comments about this publication, contact Claude Iosso, 425-452-4448 or ciosso@bellevuewa.gov

CITY COUNCIL



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Police volunteer saves abandoned bikes

By Seth Tyler, Police Public Information Officer

On a recent rainy weekday, Bellevue Police volunteer Don Erickson climbs into his Ford Ranger pickup and heads out on a search for two bicycles abandoned in some bushes next to Highland Middle School. The retired Boeing engineer has gone on many such missions over 21 years helping the police.

"Bikes can be anywhere," Erickson says. "One time, we had one in the bottom of a canyon. I had to make a hook on the end of a rope and throw it down there to get it, just like fishing!"

A Bellevue resident since 1960, Don has been retrieving abandoned bicycles and delivering them to the police evidence room over much of his time with the department. The serial numbers are checked against a database of stolen bikes, and then held for 30 days. If nobody claims them, the bikes are picked up by a charity called the "Village Bicycle Project," which repairs them and sends them to Africa.

In just the past year, 45 bikes picked up by Erickson have been sent to villages in Ghana and Sierra Leone, where they are put to daily use by villagers.

On this day, Don finds the two bikes he is looking for – a couple of black BMX-style bikes. "These are really good bikes for doing tricks on," he observes.



Volunteer Don Erickson helps police identify abandoned bikes.

The Bellevue police's award-winning volunteer program provides a number of critical services. Volunteers staff community substations in the Crossroads and Factoria neighborhoods and provide disabled parking enforcement and other supporting functions. Individuals, who are interested in volunteer opportunities with the police, can learn more at <https://police.bellevuewa.gov>.

Editor: Claude Iosso

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Chief Communications Officer: Lenka Wright

Graphics: Ted Van Dyken