

Fall/Winter 2022

Page 3



Parks levy

Page 4



Road safety assessments

Page 5



New park

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Visitors (including artists) view new artworks unveiled at City Hall as part of the Bellwether arts festival, an annual highlight for the arts program, which is part of the Cultural and Economic Development division.

## Economic Development expands to support city's growth

By **JESSE CANEDO**  
Chief Economic Development Officer

"Bellevue welcomes the world. Our diversity is our strength." The City Council's introduction to the long-term vision for Bellevue is reflected in a new effort to make the city's economy more resilient and diverse.

For years the city has successfully welcomed and retained businesses large and small. Now, guided by the city's 2020 Economic Development plan, the Cultural and Economic Development division has

expanded, building a foundation for broad-based community prosperity here by supporting innovation and growth among artists, businesses, entrepreneurs and residents.

CED staff engage with more business owners, workers and community organizations than ever before. In 2020 and 2021, Bellevue supported 112 businesses with emergency relief grants.

So far this year, staff have met with over 170 businesses, helping them with marketing,

business planning, permitting and licensing, site selection and workforce development. CED, a part of the Community Development Department, is providing additional direct services for small businesses.

The division is also developing a public-private partnership framework, helping City Hall be a more consistent partner with groups such as the Old Bellevue Merchants Association and the Bellevue Downtown Association.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
*Continued on page 5*

## Preliminary 2023-24 operating budget introduced

Invests in public safety, environmental stewardship and human services

By **MICHELLE DEGRAND**  
Deputy Communications Officer

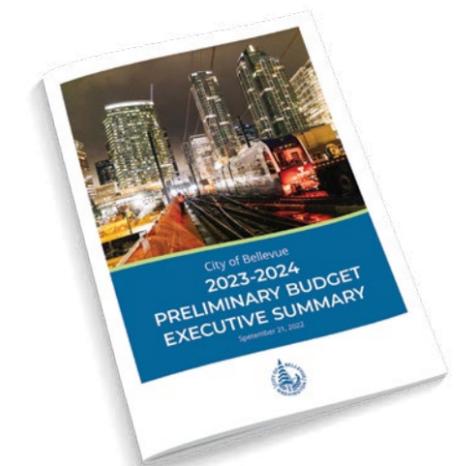
The City Council is considering a 2023-2024 operating budget and 2023-2029 Capital Investment Program (CIP) budget, with a public hearing set for Monday, Nov. 7.

On Sept. 26, City Manager Brad Miyake submitted a preliminary budget, proposing continued spending for council priorities including environmental stewardship, public safety, affordable housing and equity.

While introducing his preliminary budget, Miyake noted that it

was among the most complex he's worked on in his 20 years with the city, given high inflation levels, rising interest rates, future economic impacts, Bellevue's growth demands and an ongoing structural deficit.

The preliminary budget totals \$2.2 billion. Key investments include public safety initiatives and personnel, along with continued spending for critical human services and business support, affordable housing, homelessness, environmental



stewardship, clean streets and equity and inclusion.

**BUDGET**  
*Continued on page 11*

## Adding affordable housing to meet growing need



By **LYNNE ROBINSON**  
Mayor

Housing that is affordable to our diverse population is essential for the quality of life in Bellevue. Fewer car trips mean lower greenhouse gas emissions,

decreased traffic congestion and improved health. It also means people can downsize and stay, new grads can return for a first job, and our teachers, first responders and service workers can be a part of our community.

Pre-pandemic, downtown Bellevue employed about 100,000 workers, but only 10% lived in Bellevue. That means 90,000 workers were commuting in and out of Bellevue every day, affecting our environment, traffic congestion and quality of life.

Recognizing the need for affordable housing options in Bellevue, the City Council in 2017 adopted an Affordable Housing Strategy. Since that time, the need for more affordable housing has only intensified as median home

prices and rental costs have soared, far outpacing modest increases in area median income.

And of course, homelessness has gotten worse. In Bellevue's 2021/2022 Human Services Needs Update survey, respondents rating homelessness as a major or moderate problem grew from 35% in 2017 to 42% in 2019, then to 74% in 2021.

The challenge is daunting, but we are making a difference as we implement our affordable housing strategy.

- Since 2017, we have doubled our affordable housing stock by creating or preserving 2,000 new affordable units, and this is just the beginning. We have 900 more in the immediate pipeline.
- Our multifamily property tax exemption, an incentive for developers to include affordable units in their properties, is generating even more affordable housing around Bellevue.

While the city does not provide affordable housing directly, we can help facilitate its

creation through regulations, funding and incentives that support those who do. Highlights so far include:

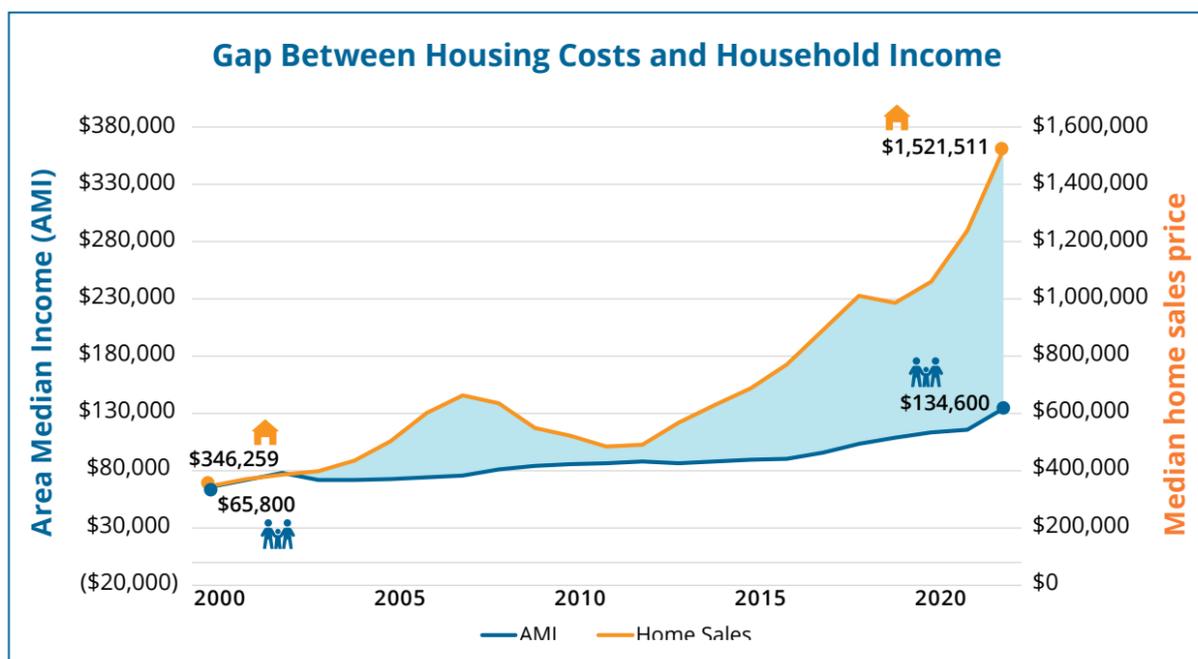
- After expanding the multifamily property tax exemption in 2021 to the entire city, the list of projects in the pipeline with the exemption has grown significantly.
- The AHS C-1 program allows religious organizations to build multifamily affordable housing on qualifying properties. Recently, several Bellevue religious organizations have reached out to city staff, requesting details about the program.
- Incentive zoning has been added for many areas of Bellevue, including BelRed and East Main.
- An affordable housing fund has been created that has been used, in partnership with the King County Housing Authority, to preserve older apartments and condos and retain them as permanent affordable housing.

As Bellevue updates its long-range Comprehensive Plan, affordable housing is a major topic. Bellevue is committed to building at least 35,000 new housing units by 2044. The decisions we make in the Comprehensive Plan today will determine where that housing goes and how we make it affordable to a broad spectrum of incomes.

Over the next two years, you can learn more about the Comprehensive Plan and provide input at [BellevueWA.gov/comprehensive-plan](https://BellevueWA.gov/comprehensive-plan).

Later this year, the council will discuss more Affordable Housing Strategy recommendations, including commercial linkage fees and mandatory inclusionary housing.

We have far more work to do as we prioritize the Affordable Housing Strategy and its recommendations. We hope you will weigh in on affordable housing in Bellevue. Learn more at [BellevueWA.gov/affordable-housing](https://BellevueWA.gov/affordable-housing). We want to hear from you!



## COUNCIL ROUNDUP

By **MICHELLE DEGRAND**  
Deputy Communications Officer

### Rock 'n' Roll running event spending headlines economic update

The St. Jude Rock 'n' Roll Washington half marathon event held for the first time in Bellevue over Labor Day weekend generated \$4.8 million in direct spending by event participants, with roughly 6,000 people from outside of our region coming to town, pushing hotel occupancy to twice its usual level on the holiday weekend.

The economic numbers from the Rock 'n' Roll event were highlighted in the quarterly economic development report to the City Council on Sept. 19. The report focused on tourism, workforce and office market dynamics.

The city experienced a continued recovery of hotel occupancy levels through mid-June, primarily from leisure travel, since business travel has not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels. The city is continuing to work with partners on developing a tourism promotion area to further aid this sector's recovery and future growth.

The city is helping local businesses as they continue to adapt to changing office market dynamics. Currently about 45% of local area

workers are coming into the office at some point during the week. Employees are looking for more amenities and social spaces within business districts.

Strategies for drawing people back to the office include supporting mixed-use areas that incorporate residential developments in business districts to reduce commutes and help businesses maintain a high level of foot traffic during the business day and into the evening.

### Police implementing use-of-force recommendations

On Oct. 4, Police Chief Wendell Shirley reported that his department has implemented, assessed or responded to all 47 recommendations that were issued by a third-party agency in 2020 regarding the police department's use-of-force policy. The review was conducted after the city council pledged to assess Bellevue's use-of-force practices following national protests in the summer of 2020.

Many of the recommendations from the Office of Independent Review were already part of the department's standard operating practices and are now written into its formal policies.

In addition to the pledge update, the council learned about a new police data website and a recent anti-crime initiative to address a rise in property crimes throughout the region.

# Parks and open space levy on November ballot



Coal Creek Natural Area is a part of Bellevue's network of parks, trails and open spaces.

A new funding measure will go before voters to increase investments in Bellevue's parks and open space system. After considering public input and an updated Parks and Open Space System Plan, the City Council approved the measure for the Nov. 8 ballot.

## Levy Summary

The ballot proposition includes funding to enhance and maintain Bellevue's parks and open space system. If approved, the package would accomplish the following:

- Preserve open space, greenways and wildlife corridors
- Develop trails, community parks and neighborhood parks
- Invest in emerging sports opportunities, off-leash areas and recreation
- Plan major community facilities like aquatics and a cross-cultural center
- Restore and develop waterfront parks and protect water quality in Bellevue's lakes and streams
- Acquire and develop parks and open space in the Bel-Red and Wilburton areas
- Maintain improvements consistent with Bellevue Parks' standards

## Project Summary

If approved, this measure would cost an owner of a \$1 million home approximately \$200 per year for the next nine years, or 20 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. The measure is anticipated to provide the following estimated funding for projects:

- **Open Space, Greenways, Wildlife Corridors and Trails (\$20 million)**  
Dedicate resources to acquire land that complements the existing parks system, increases public access to lake shores, preserves open space, protects water quality and increases trail connectivity.
- **Community Parks (\$5 million)**  
Expand opportunities at community parks; allow visitors to experience botanical displays and educational programs such as development of the Bellevue Botanical Garden Wetland Sun Terrace.
- **Neighborhood Park Development (\$20 million)**  
Acquire, plan and develop neighborhood parks with amenities like play equipment, open space and trail connections at locations such as Eastgate, Factoria and Ashwood Park.
- **Recreation and Community Facilities (\$10 million)**  
Plan community facilities such as those that support aquatics and a cross-cultural center.
- **Waterfront Restoration and Development (\$10 million)**  
Continue phased development of waterfront access including Meydenbauer Bay Park. Protect water quality of Bellevue's lake and streams through restoration and refurbishment of waterfront parks.
- **Bel-Red and Wilburton Park Acquisition and Development (\$10 million)**  
Acquire and develop parks within population growth centers in Bel-Red and Wilburton.
- **Emerging Sports and Off-Leash Areas (\$10 million)**  
Invest in park enhancements to support emerging sports like pickleball and cricket; improve access for off-leash dogs throughout the park system.
- **Maintenance and Operations (\$4 million annually)**  
Protect open space and park facilities investments with funding for annual operations and maintenance.

## Additional Information

If you have questions about the Bellevue Levy for Parks and Open Space, visit [BellevueWA.gov/2022Levy](https://BellevueWA.gov/2022Levy), email [ilumad@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ilumad@bellevuewa.gov) or call 425-452-2934.

## East Link opening pushed back to mid-2024 at the earliest

### Problems with supports for I-90 bridge segment delay project

#### Information from Sound Transit

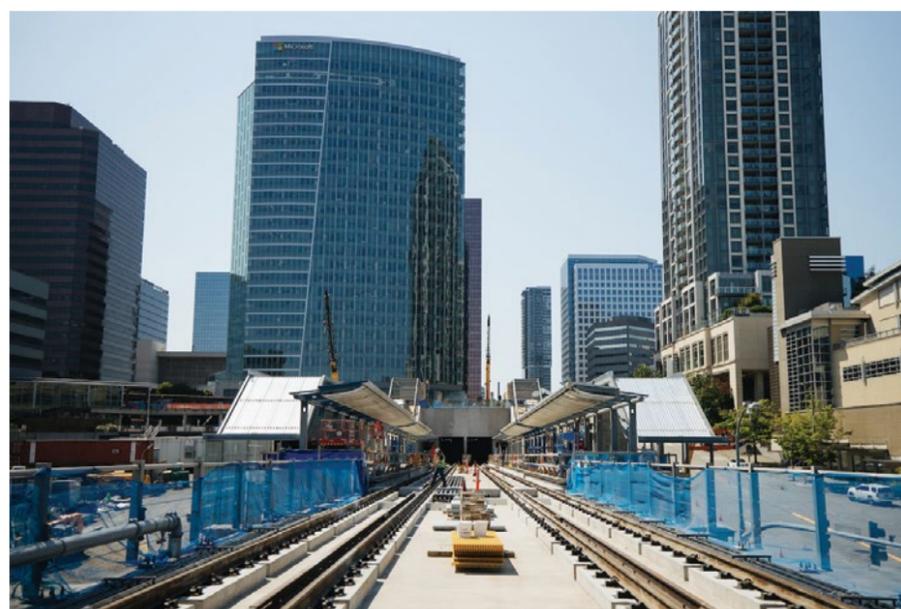
Problems with the supports for the East Link track at both ends of the Interstate 90 floating bridge will delay opening of Sound Transit's Eastside light rail line by at least a year, to mid-2024 at the earliest. Sound Transit reported the delay with East Link and other light rail extensions in August.

"While we are on a path to fully resolve impacts of COVID-19, the concrete delivery strike and our construction challenges, we have more work to do before we can reliably establish opening dates," said Brooke Belman, interim chief executive officer for Sound Transit. "We will work tirelessly

with our contractors to complete these extensions as rapidly as possible without compromising on safety or quality."

The 14-mile-long East Link line will run from Seattle's International District across I-90 to Mercer Island and South Bellevue, and through downtown Bellevue and the BelRed area to Redmond. To be called the "2 line," East Link will include 10 stations, six of them in Bellevue – South Bellevue, East Main, Bellevue Downtown, Wilburton, Spring District/120th and Bel-Red/130th.

While Sound Transit's contractors replace parts of the supports for the track at the I-90 bridge, the agency is also putting the final touches on the 10 East Link stations. The South Bellevue station parking garage is already open. The City Hall plaza next to the Bellevue Downtown station is expected to open this fall.



A crew for Sound Transit works on the light rail track coming out of the Bellevue Downtown station.

More information about East Link, including the construction challenges and fixes and the process to identify new opening timelines can be found at [SoundTransit.org/system-expansion/east-link-extension](https://SoundTransit.org/system-expansion/east-link-extension).

You can also sign up to receive construction updates and find contact information for Sound Transit staff at that webpage.

# When sheltering in place makes sense

By HEATHER WONG  
Interim Fire Public Information Officer



When your smoke alarm sounds, unless it's the dinner getting overcooked, your reflex is to "get out and stay out." It is the best course of action for many of us, but not all.

People who use wheelchairs or have limited mobility due to age or injury, as well as those without access to an escape route, may ultimately be safer staying in their home when the smoke alarm goes off.

Sheltering in place in an emergency may seem counterintuitive, the very idea making you apprehensive, but sprinklers and early alert systems, along with speedy firefighter response, can make staying in your home safer than trying to navigate a tricky route to a safe spot outside. Additionally, in high-rise apartment buildings, stairwells free of slower traffic allow firefighters to bring tools and hoses up and possible fire victims down more quickly.

Residents who want the option of sheltering in place during an emergency should make a plan. It can be a simple one.

Whether you live in a one-story rambler or on the 10th floor of a downtown high-rise, it's important to create an emergency plan that accounts for all occupants in your home. Decide ahead of time where in your home or building you will shelter. Choose a room with a window that opens and a door that securely closes. This is critically important, as a closed door can help prevent the spread of fire and smoke from entering a room.

Talk with everyone in your residence. Make sure they understand your plan for sheltering in place. Then practice!

If you are faced with an emergency that requires sheltering in place, call 911, let the dispatcher know the nature of the emergency, tell them you are not in immediate danger and you plan to shelter in place. Advise dispatch of your exact location in your residence and stay in the location you reported to wait for assistance.

If at any time conditions change and you face imminent danger, do everything you can to remove yourself from the situation immediately. If you change location, update 911 as soon as you are safe.

# With innovations, Bellevue earns Government Experience Award

By CLAUDE IOSSO  
It's Your City Editor

The City of Bellevue has earned a national Government Experience Award for innovations that have made it easier for residents to volunteer, find vital information on the city website in their native language and to participate in meetings virtually or in-person.

"It's an honor to have our work providing accessible, easy-to-use, digital government services recognized by the Center for Digital Government," said Sabra Schneider, Bellevue's chief information officer. "Partnering with the community to deliver seamless, innovative digital experiences continues to be a high priority for the city."

The Center for Digital Government on Sept. 15 announced the winners of its sixth annual Government Experience Awards, which recognize states, cities and counties radically improving the experience of government services. Bellevue placed fourth in the overall city category.

"The government experience continues to be a major priority for state and local government agencies as they seek to rapidly meet new citizen and employee expectations," said Dustin Haisler, chief innovation officer for the Center of Digital Government. "It's very inspiring to see agencies taking a human-centric approach to service delivery."

Other recent innovations at Bellevue include:

- Expansion of translated content on the city website
- Self-serve options for online access to geospatial data and public records
- A chatbot as another avenue for finding information on the city website
- Interactive websites that facilitate resident engagement



# More assessments on tap to make streets near schools safer

By JENNIE CAMPOS  
Transportation Public Information Officer

In November, as part of its Vision Zero transportation safety efforts, Bellevue will launch the fourth in a series of six road safety assessments to help make walking and bicycling safer on routes to and from schools.

This assessment will focus on streets close to Lake Hills Elementary School, Big Picture School, Phantom Lake Elementary School and Tillicum Middle School. Students, parents and neighbors are invited to participate.

Those interested in helping can respond to a short online questionnaire or sign up to participate in a "walking audit." Information on both opportunities can be accessed at [BellevueWA.gov/road-safety-assessments](https://BellevueWA.gov/road-safety-assessments).

The city is coordinating with the Bellevue School District on road safety assessments, which are used to identify safety issues, especially for vulnerable travelers such as pedestrians and bicyclists.

The assessments are part of the city's Vision Zero effort to eliminate traffic deaths and serious-injury collisions on Bellevue streets by 2030. The Transportation Department will use results from the assessments and

walking audits to make safety improvements on the streets.

The first walking audits took place this past January on streets near Sherwood Forest Elementary School and Interlake High School, followed by one in April near Highland Middle School and ones in May

near Sammamish High School, Stevenson Elementary School and Odle Middle School.

In spring 2023, two more walking audits are planned near International High School in February and Newport High School in March or April.



Students attend a walking audit near Sammamish High School, Stevenson Elementary School and Odle Middle School in May this year.



A park ranger shows off the Coal Creek natural area to a Bellevue Essentials class.

## Bellevue Essentials turns 10

By **JULIE ELLENHORN**  
Neighborhood Outreach

In 2013, the city launched Bellevue Essentials, a 10-week civic engagement course about the structure and daily operations of city government. On Dec. 7, with another graduating class on hand at City Hall, the program will celebrate 10 years of engaging residents.

The community is invited to honor the 2022 graduates as well as 300+ alumni, and to celebrate civic engagement, leadership, and volunteerism. Mayor Lynne Robinson will provide welcome remarks and Gary Locke, interim president of Bellevue College and former governor, will be the keynote speaker.

The program will highlight reflections from Bellevue Essentials alumni and conclude with a festive appetizer and dessert reception, sponsored by Amazon, Perkins Coie, Bellden Café, Wallace Properties, Vulcan Real Estate, Microsoft, Matcha Agency, Puget Sound Energy, Kazuki Ramen and Chen Heritage Foundation.

Bellevue Essentials participants experience the day-to-day challenges of running a local government and get a behind-the-scenes look at departments

and services while interfacing with city staff and leadership. Participants must be committed to the future of Bellevue and to serving their community. Each cohort graduates with close relationships with their classmates and the tools and connections to get involved and to strengthen the community.

Since the launch of Bellevue Essentials, civic engagement has flourished in Bellevue.

Today, 55 graduates of Bellevue Essentials are serving or have served on city boards and commissions, providing valuable policy recommendations to the City Council. Dozens of graduates lend their skills to organizing in their neighborhoods.

Bellevue Essentials graduates work with the city in conflict resolution, emergency preparedness, tree preservation, comprehensive planning, diversity issues and more. Numerous graduates have become leaders on boards of community organizations or volunteer in hands-on ways that help the community thrive.

To register for the Bellevue Essentials graduation and celebration, visit (Eventbrite link to come). For more information, contact Julie Ellenhorn ([jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov), 425-452-5372).

CED has supported a reboot and expansion of Visit Bellevue to improve the visitor experience, and is nurturing a nascent Arts District Association in BelRed.

Speaking of the arts, CED now includes Bellevue's integrated arts program. The program, which manages grants for local artists and arts organizations, as well as the annual Bellwether arts event, fits CED's mission, given the economic multiplier the arts and cultural tourism provide for Bellevue.

The city's 2009 BelRed plan identified the eastern end of BelRed for a future "art village." In 2018, CED began a dedicated effort to help a local creative community of artists, art groups and business and property owners turn the neighborhood into a regional destination for creativity. The Economic Development plan outlines the arts district as a pillar for Bellevue's economic diversity and a retention tool for highly mobile tech workers.

For several decades, one of Bellevue's competitive advantages has been our bright, innovative and tenacious residents who are an attractive workforce for national and international employers. In 2021, the council approved staff's recommendation to launch a three-year workforce development pilot program to help ensure residents have access to trainings and other resources that keep them competitive in the changing labor market.

We are working with a variety of groups to provide concierge-style services for job seekers, so they can more successfully navigate the dizzying ecosystem. We are also working with our education partners to help them build additional capacity for future students.

The work of economic development is a long-term collaboration between City Hall and the many organizations and businesses that call Bellevue home. While downtown continues to be the energetic heart of Bellevue and the Eastside, staff is engaged with businesses, residents, visitors and learners citywide, from Northtowne to Eastgate and from Factoria to Crossroads. Together, we're welcoming the world and welcoming economic diversity that supports our residents, workers, learners and visitors. Learn more about Bellevue business resources at [BellevueWA.gov/biz](http://BellevueWA.gov/biz).

## 400 celebrate Newport Hills Woodlawn Park's grand opening

By **CHRISTINA FAINE**  
Parks & Community Services Public Information Officer

Newport Hills Woodlawn Park, the newest addition to Bellevue's extensive park system, located at 11560 SE 60th St., opened on Oct. 15 with a community celebration.

The nearly 14-acre park features forested and loop trails, open lawn, a playground, adult exercise equipment, a picnic shelter and restrooms. A fenced off-leash dog area will open in the spring once the grass is established.

Funding for park planning and development was approved in the 2019-2021 budget cycle.

With funding from the 2008 Parks and Natural Areas Levy and King County Conservation Futures, the city acquired three properties on Southeast 60th

Street for a new neighborhood park in the Newport Hills area.

The city acquired the first property in 2010. Five years later Bellevue acquired the second parcel for the park, a heavily forested five-acres known as the Patterson property adjacent to and north of the first property. In 2019, the city acquired the last parcel, which was 3.5 acres.

In 2019, the community worked with city staff to come up with a preferred vision for the park. After the completion of engineering and permitting, construction started in 2021. Partial funding for the park came from the 2020-2025 King County Parks Levy.



Deputy Mayor Jared Nieuwenhuis, City Council members Jeremy Barksdale, Conrad Lee, Janice Zahn and John Stokes, Park Board members, and about 400 other people were on hand for the opening of Newport Hills Woodlawn Park.



Republic Services workers sort recycling. Photo by Republic Services

## Keep recycling right; strong market for those materials

By ERIN HISLOP  
Utilities Conservation and Outreach

Does recycling work? Are the materials you recycle actually being recycled? How clean, empty and dry does something have to be to retain its recycling value?

The bottom line? In 2022, recycling markets are thriving, accepted materials in your recycling containers are being recycled and Bellevue residents and businesses continue to benefit both the environment and economy by recycling their plastic, paper, cardboard, glass and metal.

Many people remember when China stopped importing some recyclable materials in 2018 because too much trash or contamination was getting mixed in with them. However, since then, people started sorting better, recycling cleaner materials, so recycling markets have rebounded.

In the Pacific Northwest some of the materials that used to be shipped overseas are now being recycled locally too!

Use these tips to continue to recycle right:

- When in doubt, find out! Check Bellevue's recycling guidelines at [BellevueWA.gov/recycle-at-home](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/recycle-at-home).
- Recycling must be empty, clean and dry. Recycling does not have to be dishwasher clean and dry, but it's important to empty liquids to prevent mold. Remember to keep your recycling container lid closed to prevent rain or snow from getting everything wet.

## Energy Smart program makes getting energy-efficient heat pumps easier

By JENNIFER EWING  
Environmental Stewardship Manager

Are you interested in adding cooling to your home or installing a more energy-efficient heating solution that will help reduce your carbon footprint? A heat pump is a great option, able to provide energy-efficient heating and cooling.

Heat pumps are 40% to 60% more efficient than other types of heating. This means you could save 40% to 60% of your heating costs while improving the comfort of your home! Energy Smart Eastside is offering a \$500 program discount.

The Energy Smart Eastside program is a collaboration between the cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Mercer Island and Redmond that educates residents about heat pumps and how to lessen their cost through rebates and discounts.

Learn more about heat pumps by attending a virtual Energy Smart Eastside workshop. Upcoming workshops are:

- Tuesday, Nov. 15, 6-7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 30, noon-1 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 13, 5-6 p.m.

The workshop will cover the different types of heat pumps, how heat pumps work and ways to save money with the \$500 discount, utility rebates and new tax credits available through the Inflation Reduction Act.

With so many heat pump options, it can be overwhelming to know where to start. A preselected, trusted installer will be at the workshop who can provide a free site assessment. After the assessment at your home, the installer can give you a custom recommendation and quote.

Sign up for a workshop at [EnergySmartEastside.org/sign-up](https://www.energy-smart-eastside.org/sign-up). If you have additional questions, you can reach out to Environmental Stewardship manager Jennifer Ewing at [jewing@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jewing@bellevuewa.gov).

## Input still wanted on Lake Washington sewer line plan

By MICHAELENE FOWLER  
Utilities Public Information Officer

The city continues to seek input from residents and affected property owners as it begins drafting a plan for maintaining an aging sewer line along the eastern shore of Lake Washington.

The pipes that constitute the nearly 15-mile-long lake line were installed in the 1950s and '60s, mostly underwater or on land next to the lake. The long-term management plan Bellevue Utilities is developing will include multiple options for the pipes, depending on their location, including simply replacing them where they are or replacing them with underground pipes above the high-water line.

In August and September, stakeholders weighed in on what should be studied in a related environmental impact statement, which will consider potential environmental impacts of the lake line management plan. Residents provided

input to the EIS team through an online open house, during a July 26 virtual public meeting and through email or phone messages.

People will be able to comment on a draft EIS in the first half of 2023.

The objective of the management plan is to determine how to best maintain the aging pipes for continued reliable wastewater services, protection of the lake's ecosystem and enjoyment of a clean lake by the community.

Although the comment period for determining the scope of the EIS is over, Utilities continues to collect feedback on the management plan via an online survey. Details about the plan and a link to the survey are available at [BellevueWA.gov/lake-washington-line](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/lake-washington-line). You can also reach out to project manager Angela Chung ([lkwaline@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:lkwaline@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-452-4320).



The Lake Washington sewer line can be seen underwater.

# Prepare for the rainy season, prevent flooding

By JERRY SHUSTER  
Senior Stormwater Engineer

When the rainy season hits, the city's storm drain system can become overwhelmed, and flooding can occur. It's a good idea to prepare now to protect your home and property from potential flooding.

## Watch out for clogged drains on your street.

Most flooding in Bellevue is caused by storm drains in streets and parking areas getting clogged with leaves and debris, especially during heavy rains. Utilities crews regularly inspect, clean and maintain the city's storm system to minimize the risk of flooding. But with over 20,000 public storm drains in the city, city crews need help from residents to keep them free of debris.

## Is your property in a floodplain?

You may need to take extra precautions. Bellevue's stormwater system includes storm drains, storage ponds, pipes and ditches that discharge to wetlands, streams and lakes. Floodplains, the areas adjacent to streams and lakes, perform a community benefit by storing excess rainfall until the storm subsides. Properties next to wetlands, streams and lakes are most susceptible to flooding.

To find out if your property is in floodplain, call 425-452-6932 or visit [BellevueWA.gov/flood-insurance-maps](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/flood-insurance-maps).

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) offers policies to protect your property. Flood insurance is required for structures in the floodplain that have federally backed mortgages, but anyone in Bellevue can receive flood insurance. Ask an insurance agent for more information about NFIP policies. The city participates in a FEMA flood reduction program, which entitles property owners to a 25% discount on NFIP policies.

## Additional tips to help you protect your property from flooding:

- Utilities staff can help you with flooding or other drainage problems, including finding your water shut-off valve. Call 425-452-7840 any time, day or night.
- Know how to shut off your electric and gas service at main switches and valves if your property floods. Call Puget Sound Energy at 1-888-225-5773.
- For your own safety, never wade or drive through flooded areas.
- If you have a crawlspace or basement that regularly floods or has standing water, you may want to install a sump pump. If you have one already, test it regularly.
- Build responsibly; get the proper permits from the city before clearing or constructing in or next to critical areas such as designated floodplains and wetland areas.
- Slow stormwater flows and prevent erosion and mudslides by preserving trees and other vegetation on steep slopes, especially near streams and lakes.
- Routinely clear leaves, debris and sediment from storm drains, driveways, culverts, drainage ditches, swales and gutters.
- For information on property protection measures or to request a site visit, contact Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-6932 or [utilities@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:utilities@bellevuewa.gov).

# Prepare for winter weather now

By GILLIAN HAGSTROM  
Transportation Public Information Officer

Before winter starts, it's important to be prepared! When the temperatures drop and snow falls, how do you stay up-to-date about road conditions? If you slide into trouble on the ice, are you prepared for an emergency?

Transportation staff have been working on their winter weather response since September. Every year trucks, sand and staff are fully prepared for snow response by the start of November. The city has 15 trucks that can be configured with plows and sanders, and 60 staff, including drivers and dispatchers, ready to respond when winter weather hits. During a snowstorm, transportation staff work 24/7 in 12-hour shifts to clear roads.

Streets are prioritized for plowing based on a snow response map that considers access for emergency services, transit, school buses, traffic volume and other factors. If snowfall is continuous, these major routes may require repeated plowing and sanding before crews are able to clear neighborhood streets.

The following tips and information will help you and your family be ready for snow, ice and extreme cold.

## Who to contact:

- For life-threatening emergencies, call 911.
- To report flooding, blocked or hazardous streets and sidewalks, fallen trees and similar problems, call the city's 24-hour response line at 425-452-7840 or use the MyBellevue app.
- Call Puget Sound Energy at 1-888-225-5773 to report a power outage.



Plow drivers review technique as they prepare for winter.

## How to stay informed:

- Check the city's Twitter (@BellevueWA and @BvueTrans) and Facebook ([Facebook.com/bellevuewashington](https://www.facebook.com/bellevuewashington)) for the latest developments.
- During significant weather events, information is posted on the city's homepage at [BellevueWA.gov](https://www.bellevuewa.gov).
- Street closures are posted at [BellevueWA.gov/traffic-advisories](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic-advisories).
- For highway information, check the state Department of Transportation website ([WSDOT.wa.gov](https://www.wsdot.wa.gov)) and Twitter feed (@WSDOT).
- Sign up for Bellevue-specific alerts at our snow and ice webpage at [BellevueWA.gov/snow-ice](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/snow-ice).
- Sign up for regional alerts from King County at [KingCounty.gov/Alert](https://www.kingcounty.gov/alert).

## Other tips:

- If possible, stay home and avoid driving when conditions limit traction
- If you must drive, consider the conditions—it may take more time to stop and turn. Install snow tires or purchase tire chains.
- Clear your sidewalk of snow to help keep people who are walking and rolling safe.
- Check on neighbors to see if they need help.
- Make an emergency kit and keep it in your vehicle. Suggestions on what to include can be found at [Ready.gov/car](https://www.ready.gov/car).

For more information on the city's winter weather response, driving and home safety tips visit [BellevueWA.gov/snow-ice](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/snow-ice).



## Community engagement is key to development planning

By **AMANDA RICH**  
Development Services Public Information Officer

Bellevue has routinely landed high on “best places to live” lists, with careful planning and feedback from residents helping to ensure development and growth benefit the city.

The Development Services Department plays a key role, making sure development proposals comply with the land use and other city codes and that those codes are updated to reflect changed conditions and city priorities.

Development Services planners welcome public participation.

When it comes to proposed projects, questions and comments from residents, particularly those who live close by a project, are an invaluable resource to city staff, and have an impact on projects. Input during the review process can help result in a better proposal than what was originally submitted.

The Code and Policy division encourages community members to participate in the process of amending the city’s codes by offering opportunities for input at every step. Periodic amendments to the city’s codes keep them current and reflect policy changes from updates to the city’s

Comprehensive Plan and City Council priorities, changes to state law, industry innovations and more.

The city tracks and collects information on development activity in Bellevue and shares that with residents and stakeholders in multiple ways. Learn about projects, proposed code changes and pending land use decisions through the following channels. We welcome your input!

- The Weekly Permit Bulletin ([BellevueWA.gov/permit-bulletin](http://BellevueWA.gov/permit-bulletin)) includes official notices of land use applications, public meetings, decisions, recommendations and public hearings.
- Consult the Code Amendments page ([BellevueWA.gov/code-amendments](http://BellevueWA.gov/code-amendments)) and specific project pages for more information on how to participate
- Development Services also publishes a quarterly list of major projects in downtown and BelRed ([BellevueWA.gov/developmentactivity](http://BellevueWA.gov/developmentactivity)).

Community engagement and input is at the heart of most of the work of Development Services. Learn more at [BellevueWA.gov/development-services](http://BellevueWA.gov/development-services).

## Learn to recycle right and live sustainably in Greener Living classes

By **ERIN HISLOP**  
Utilities Conservation and Outreach

Want to learn how to recycle right, reduce food waste or shop and live more sustainably? Bellevue Utilities can help with free, interactive environmental conservation classes.

Greener Living classes are offered virtually via Zoom this winter, covering topics including:

**Safer Cleaning and Healthy Home:**  
Thursday, Nov. 10, noon-1 p.m.

**Reduce Wasted Food:**  
Monday, Nov. 14, 7-8 p.m.

**Super Sorter:**  
Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7-8 p.m.

**Sustainable Shopping:**  
Thursday, Nov. 17, noon-1 p.m. or  
Thursday, Dec. 1, 7-8 p.m.

Class descriptions, dates and times are available at:  
[BellevueWA.gov/greener-living-classes](http://BellevueWA.gov/greener-living-classes).

Registration is required to attend classes. To register, email [recycle@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:recycle@bellevuewa.gov) or call 206-949-1787.

## Small daily actions make it easy to curb that roadside litter

By **ERIN HISLOP**  
Utilities Conservation and Outreach

Litter is a growing and complex problem, but doing your part is simple. Join the more than 75% of Washingtonians who never litter! Preventing litter from ending up on the ground is more effective and cheaper than paying crews or arranging volunteers to pick it up.

The following small daily actions can make a big difference.

1. Always have a dedicated container for trash in your car. Whether you spring for a fancy litter bag or use a bag you have lying around, a litter bag keeps your car tidier, helps keep the state litter-free and sets a good example for others.
2. Hold onto trash during travels, then dump it in garbage containers at gas stations, rest areas or your destination.

With a car litter bag and a little bit of effort, you can help keep our state healthier and tidier. Visit [LitterFreeWA.org](http://LitterFreeWA.org) for more information.



# Transportation, parks and utilities projects around city completed

These projects, all completed or slated for completion this year, are listed by neighborhood. For more information about projects, please contact the project manager listed.

## BelRed

### SR 520 Bicycle Corridor Safety Improvements

New bike signals, curb ramps, restriping and pavement markings at three intersections along State Route 520 – 108th Avenue Northeast, 120th Avenue Northeast and 148th Avenue Northeast. These improvements increase cyclist safety and visibility to drivers. Completed in early 2022 (\$650,000).

Chris Iverson, [civerson@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:civerson@bellevuewa.gov)

## Bridle Trails

### Pikes Peak Reservoir Replacement

Replace the aging 1-million-gallon steel water reservoir in Bridle Trails State Park with a 1.25-million-gallon prestressed concrete reservoir to address seismic and storage deficiencies. Construction is anticipated to conclude this fall (\$6.5 million).

Jay Hummel, [jhummel@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jhummel@bellevuewa.gov)

## Citywide

### 2021 Citywide Crosswalk Improvements

Project included crosswalk improvements at three locations throughout the city, including 100th Avenue Northeast at Northeast 12th Street, Northeast 24th Street at the SR 520 trail and 156th Avenue Southeast at Southeast Fourth Street. Installed a flashing beacon system at the mid-block crossing at Northeast 24th Street and the SR 520 trail crossing. At 156th Avenue Southeast and Southeast Fourth Street, a flashing beacon, new curb ramps, localized overlay and crosswalk restriping were added. Completed in August (total project approximately \$440,000).

Ellen Webster, [ewebster@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ewebster@bellevuewa.gov)

*photo below*



### City Wide Pavement Preservation

Resurfaced streets—including grinding, fresh asphalt, new pavement markings, upgraded curb ramps and new sidewalks—included portions on Southeast Somerset Lane, Cougar Mountain Drive and Main Street. Deployed microsurfacing pilot project at two locations. Repaving typically occurs between April and October. A map of all 2022 resurfacing projects is available at [BellevueWA.gov/pavement](http://BellevueWA.gov/pavement).

Isack Habte, [ihabte@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ihabte@bellevuewa.gov)

*photo below*



## Citywide - continued

### Water Main Replacement, 2020 Phase 1

Replaced 19,475 feet of aging 6-inch asbestos-cement water main pipe that had reached its useful life. Construction completed in July (\$5.8 million). Paige Young, [pyoung@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:pyoung@bellevuewa.gov)

### 2020 Pipe Defect Dig and Repair

Repaired 21 high-priority sewer and storm pipeline defects that required excavation and replacement of pipelines and structures. Construction completed in August (\$700,000).

Shelby Smith, [sbsmith@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:sbsmith@bellevuewa.gov)

### Water Main Replacement, 2020 Phase 2

Replaced 15,400 feet of aging 6-inch asbestos-cement water main pipe that had reached its useful life. Construction completed in August (\$5.7 million). Paige Young, [pyoung@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:pyoung@bellevuewa.gov)

### 2020 Pipe Defect Trenchless

This project used trenchless construction methods to repair or rehabilitate sewer and storm pipelines at 27 sites across the city. Construction completed in June (\$1.4 million).

Shelby Smith, [sbsmith@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:sbsmith@bellevuewa.gov)

## Eastgate

### Southeast 46th Way Curb Ramp Improvements

New ramps that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act were installed at intersections along Southeast 46th Way between 150th Place Southeast and 164th Avenue Southeast – 44 new sidewalk ramps at 12 intersections. Completed in August (\$600,000). Benjamin Wright, [bmwright@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bmwright@bellevuewa.gov)

### Eastgate Annexation Area Curb Ramp Improvements

Replaced sidewalk corners at intersections with new ramps that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act – 40 new sidewalk ramps at 14 intersections throughout the neighborhood. Completed in July (\$925,000).

Benjamin Wright, [bmwright@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bmwright@bellevuewa.gov)

*photo below*



## Factoria

### Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail: 132nd Avenue Southeast to 142nd Place Southeast

Completed the continuation of a 12-foot-wide paved pedestrian and bicycle path north of Southeast 36th Street, added new retaining walls, lighting, landscaping, pavement restoration, urban design features and signal improvements. Completed this summer (\$9.3 million). Chris Masek, [cmasek@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:cmasek@bellevuewa.gov)

### Southeast 38th Street and Factoria Boulevard Intersection Channelization

Reduced congestion in the Factoria area by reconfiguring the westbound travel lanes on Southeast 38th Street and adding a second westbound left-turn lane. Completed over the summer (\$110,000). Jeremy Chin, [jchin@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jchin@bellevuewa.gov)

### Lake Hills

#### Lake Hills #12 Pump Station Fuel Tank Decommissioning

An underground diesel fuel tank was removed and decommissioned in compliance with local and state regulations. Completed in March (\$600,000). **Prabhat Karna**, [pkarna@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:pkarna@bellevuewa.gov)

#### Crosswalk Improvement Project: Kamber Road Southeast

Installing flashing beacons, signage and pedestrian refuge islands at two new crosswalks: Southeast 24th Street at 140th Place Southeast (Kamber Road) and Southeast 20th Street at 140th Place Southeast (Kamber Road). Installed new curb ramps to improve pedestrian accessibility, repaved roadway and upgraded lighting at both locations. To be completed in November (approximately \$350,000). **Chris Masek**, [cmasek@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:cmasek@bellevuewa.gov)

### Newport

#### Newport Hills Woodlawn Park (Southeast 60th Street)

New 13.7-acre neighborhood park. Improvements include nature trails, an off-leash dog area, a picnic shelter with plaza, a children's play area, adult exercise equipment, a restroom and an open lawn area. Due for completion in the fall (\$3.7 million).

**Scott VanderHyden**, [svanderhyden@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:svanderhyden@bellevuewa.gov)

### Northeast Bellevue

#### Northeast 24th Street at 172nd Avenue Northeast Slope Stabilization Project

Stabilized slope on the north side of Northeast 24th Street, between 171st and 172nd avenues, by constructing a retaining wall. Also added a new bike lane on the north side of Northeast 24th Street, filling in a missing bike lane connection between Bellevue and the City of Redmond. To improve pedestrian safety, a planter strip was added between the roadway and sidewalk. Completed over the summer (\$2.35 million). **Jun An**, [jan@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jan@bellevuewa.gov)

*photo below*



### Northwest Bellevue

#### 112th Avenue Northeast Corridor Improvements

Installed a new traffic signal at Northeast 24th Street, sidewalk panels, flashing beacon, mid-block crossing near Hidden Valley Sports Park and median island. Replaced curb ramps to meet Americans with Disabilities standards, repaved the roadway and added underground conduits to support a future street lighting upgrade project. Completed in the spring (\$2.75 million).

**Chris Masek**, [cmasek@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:cmasek@bellevuewa.gov)

### Somerset

#### Crosswalk Improvement Project: Forest Drive SE

Installed flashing beacons and signage at five crosswalks (Somerset Drive Southeast, Highland Drive Southeast, Southeast 60th Street, 142nd Avenue Southeast and Southeast 63rd Street) and one new crosswalk (152nd Avenue Southeast). Upgraded curb ramps to improve pedestrian accessibility, repaved roadway and upgraded lighting at 152nd Avenue Southeast. Due for completion in November (approximately \$350,000).

**Chris Masek**, [cmasek@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:cmasek@bellevuewa.gov)

### West Lake Sammamish

#### West Lake Sammamish Parkway Sinkhole Lake Restoration

Removed sediment from Lake Sammamish deposited when a 24-inch storm drain failed. Construction completed in June (\$330,000)

**Paige Young**, [pyoung@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:pyoung@bellevuewa.gov)

#### Crosswalk Improvement Project: 160th Avenue Southeast

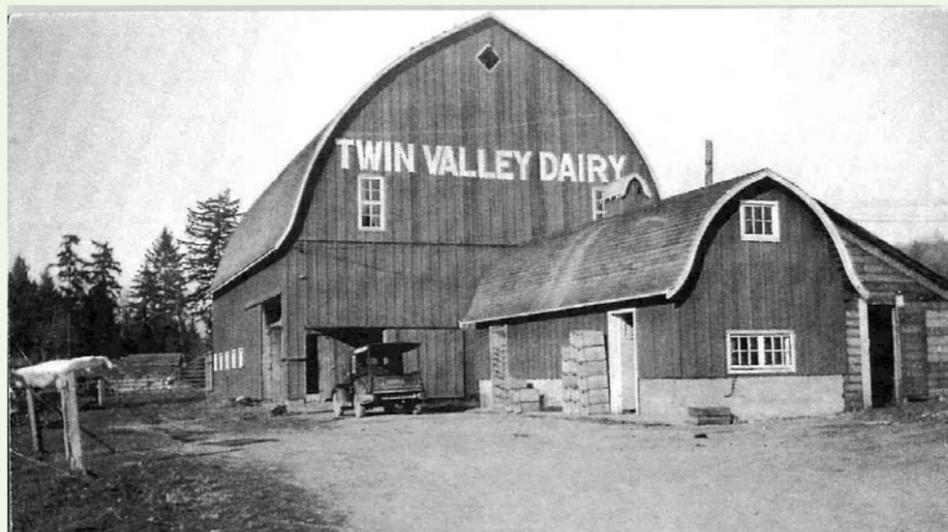
Installed flashing beacons and signage at the crosswalk on 160th Avenue Southeast at 158th Avenue Southeast and relocated one crosswalk on 160th Avenue Southeast at Southeast 33rd Street. Installed new curb ramps and upgraded existing ramps to improve pedestrian accessibility, repaved roadway, and upgraded lighting at both locations. Due for completion in November (approximately \$1 million). **Chris Masek**, [cmasek@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:cmasek@bellevuewa.gov)

#### West Lake Sammamish Parkway Southeast

Improved safety for people walking, biking and driving by making roadway improvements between the Northeast 200 and 800 blocks of West Lake Sammamish Parkway. Built an 8- to 10-foot-wide multipurpose path on the west side. Paved existing 10-foot-wide travel lanes and a 4-foot shoulder on the east side. Installed new lighting, landscaping, irrigation and storm drainage. These improvements were coordinated with two Utilities Department projects that replaced two miles of water main and approximately a third of a mile of pressurized sewer pipe between the Southeast 1900 block and Northeast 800 block. Improved water pressure to certain homes along West Lake Sammamish Parkway. Construction completed over the summer (\$13.1 million).

**Paul Krawczyk**, [pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov)

*photo below*



## Milestone year for Kelsey Creek Farm

This is a milestone year for Bellevue's popular Kelsey Creek Farm. In 1922, 100 years ago, William Duey started the Twin Valley Dairy farm with the property. Fifty years later, in 1972, the city opened Kelsey Creek Farm as public park.

The city purchased the park, where fairs are held each spring and fall and farm education and animal viewing happens year-round, in response to requests from many in the community. Fun fact: When a fire burned down one of the Twin Valley barns in 1933, farm hands built the one now standing using a kit from Sears, Roebuck & Co.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## November



### "The Little Mermaid, Jr." Presented by Bellevue Youth Theatre

**Nov. 18 and 19 at 7 p.m.;**  
**Nov. 19 and 20 at 2 p.m.**

Bellevue Youth Theatre  
16051 NE 10th St.

All ages.  
\$12 per ticket, including livestreaming  
425-452-7155 or [BYT@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:BYT@bellevuewa.gov)



Actors perform in a 2010 version of "The Little Mermaid" at the Bellevue Youth Theatre.

## December



### "The Snow Queen" Presented by Bellevue Youth Theatre

**Dec. 2 and 3 at 7 p.m.;**  
**Dec. 2 and 4 at 2 p.m.**

Bellevue Youth Theatre  
16051 NE 10th St..

All ages.  
\$12 per ticket, including livestreaming  
425-452-7155 or [BYT@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:BYT@bellevuewa.gov)

## December continued

### Holiday Ships Beach Event

**Dec. 17, Meydenbauer Bay Park**  
9899 Lake Washington Blvd NE.

Ship arrives off-shore at 8:40 p.m.

Enjoy the onboard performances from the shore and keep warm with a beach fire!

Free

425-452-4106 or [NWAC@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:NWAC@bellevuewa.gov)



### "Rudolph and Other Holiday Stories"

Presented by Bellevue Youth Theatre

**Dec. 16 and 17 at 7 p.m.;**  
**Dec. 17 and 18 at 2 p.m.**

Bellevue Youth Theatre  
16051 NE 10th St.

All ages.  
\$12 per ticket, including Livestreaming.

425-452-7155 or [BYT@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:BYT@bellevuewa.gov)

## Bellevue Magic Season

### Garden d'Lights

**Nov. 26 to Dec. 31,**  
**4:30-9 p.m. every day except Dec. 25.**

Bellevue Botanical Garden  
12001 Main St.

Over half a million lights amid the natural beauty of the garden.

\$8 admission.

Free for children 10 and under.

Tickets are available online starting Oct. 15.

Free parking at Wilburton Hill Park.

\$5 on-site parking; free for limited mobility with disability parking permit.

425-452-2750 or [GardendLights.org](http://GardendLights.org)

## Bellevue Magic Season continued



### Bellevue Downtown Ice Rink

**Nov. 18-Jan. 8**

Open daily, hours vary

#### Downtown Park

One block south of Bellevue Square at Northeast First Street and 100th Avenue

The region's largest open-air ice rink presented by Symetra.

Admission includes skate rental.

\$14 Monday-Thursday,

\$17 Friday-Sunday, holidays.

[BellevueIceRink.com](http://BellevueIceRink.com)

### Snowflake Lane

**Nov. 25-Dec. 24**

Nightly at 7 p.m. along Bellevue Way between NE Fourth and Eighth streets

The region's most festive holiday scene on the sidewalks between Bellevue Square and Lincoln Square. Nightly parade at 7 p.m.

425-454-8096 or

[BellevueCollection.com/snowflakelane](http://BellevueCollection.com/snowflakelane)



## BUDGET

Continued from page 1

Capital investments include \$41 million in new spending for neighborhood projects, in addition to spending on ongoing infrastructure maintenance and roadway improvements, energy retrofits, an aquatic center, environmental stewardship and infrastructure, the long-range comprehensive plan, growth planning for Wilburton and the Grand Connection and debt paydown, to name a few.

Bellevue refinanced its debt in the last biennium, reducing debt by about \$4 million per year and allowing the city to fund new programs in the CIP. Debt makes up 22% of the CIP at \$178 million.

The report also highlighted continued risks and uncertainty in this budget cycle that could hurt the city's progress toward closing a known gap between revenues and expenditures over the next two years. Bellevue has used a variety of strategies over the past couple of budget cycles to alleviate the impacts. However, these decisions

are likely to become more difficult in future budget decisions if the gap widens. The city's finance group will continue to watch the trends through this biennium and make adjustments as needed.

The budget also proposes a 0.01% Business & Occupation tax increase for businesses grossing more than \$180,000 annually, a 1% council-directed property tax addition and a 1% increase in revenue pulled from the city's banked capacity. The resulting tax impact to owners of a \$1 million home would be an additional \$18 per year in Bellevue property taxes, which make up 10% of a Bellevue homeowner's total property tax bill.

Residents can offer input on the proposed budget, remotely or in-person, at the Nov. 7 public hearing. The preliminary budget and ways to provide comment on it are available at [BellevueWA.gov/budget-public-involvement](http://BellevueWA.gov/budget-public-involvement).

# CITY CONTACTS

**Many city facilities remain closed at this time.**

<b>City Hall</b>	450 110th Ave. NE / P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012
<b>Service First (general information)</b>	425-452-6800
<b>City of Bellevue website</b>	<a href="http://BellevueWA.gov">BellevueWA.gov</a>
<b>City Council Office</b>	425-452-7810

## City Offices

<b>City Clerk's Office and Public Records:</b>	425-452-6464
<b>City Manager:</b>	425-452-7228
<b>Community Development</b>	425-452-7892
<b>Conflict Resolution Center</b>	425-452-4091
<b>Crossroads Mini City Hall</b>	425-452-2800
<b>Development Services</b>	425-452-6800
New permit applications	425-452-4898
Inspection requests, application and status, pay fees	425-452-6875
Simple permits, inspection requests	<a href="http://MyBuildingPermit.com">MyBuildingPermit.com</a>
Application and inspection status	<a href="http://MyBuildingPermit.com">MyBuildingPermit.com</a>
Code Compliance	425-452-2047
<b>Diversity Program</b>	425-452-7886
<b>Fire Emergency Only</b>	911
<b>Fire Non-Emergency</b>	
Business and Information	425-452-6892
Inspection	425-452-4254
Fire prevention	425-452-6872
<b>Human Resources</b>	425-452-6838
<b>Information Technology</b>	425-452-4626
<b>Neighborhood Outreach</b>	425-452-6836
<b>Parks &amp; Community Services</b>	
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
<b>Community Centers</b>	
Crossroads Community Center	425-452-4874
Highland Community Center	425-452-7686
North Bellevue Community Center	425-452-7681
Northwest Arts Center	425-452-4106
South Bellevue Community Center	425-452-4240
<b>Marina</b>	425-452-4883
<b>Police Emergency Only</b>	911
<b>Police Non-Emergency</b>	
Crossroads Station	425-452-2891
Factoria Station	425-452-2880
Complaints and Information	425-452-6917
Crime Prevention: Commercial	425-452-2979
Crime Prevention: Residential	425-452-6915
<b>Transportation</b>	
Administration/Information	425-452-6856
<b>Utilities</b>	
Administration/Information	425-452-6932
Billing/Customer Service	425-452-6973
Water, Sewer and Street Maintenance & Emergency	425-452-7840
<b>Other Numbers (Not city government)</b>	
<b>Regional Animal Services of King County</b>	206-296-PETS
<b>Republic Services (recycling, yard debris, garbage)</b>	425-452-4762
<b>Metro Transit/Sound Transit</b>	206-553-3000

 For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-4448 (voice) or email [ciosso@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ciosso@bellevuewa.gov). For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice) or email [ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov). If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.

**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](mailto:ciosso@bellevuewa.gov).

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# CITY COUNCIL



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Jennifer Robertson COUNCILMEMBER      John Stokes COUNCILMEMBER      Janice Zahn COUNCILMEMBER

## Policies take shape for increasingly busy curb space downtown

By JENNIE CAMPOS  
 Transportation Public Information Officer

The curb space in Bellevue's densest neighborhoods, long used for just parking and vehicle lanes, is a lot busier these days. Ride services (Lyft or Uber), delivery vans, employer shuttles, rental scooters and even on-street dining all compete for curb space in downtown, Wilburton and BelRed.

With input earlier this year from hundreds of people who use that border space between streets and sidewalks, the city is drafting policies and a long-range plan for designating, maintaining and operating curbside areas. Centralizing curbside management, streamlining permitting for curbside uses and improving enforcement are all in the mix. To ensure curb spaces are easily available, the city will also consider equitable pricing strategies.

Currently, curb space in the city is managed ad hoc, and enforcement is light and spread across multiple working groups. At times this has created less-than-ideal traffic conditions, such as double parked vehicles and vehicles blocking bike lanes. Additionally, applying for permits for employer shuttles, on-street dining, food trucks, etc. can be overly burdensome.

A Curb Management Plan will allow for informed decisions on how curb spaces should be managed as the city grows and competition for this urban space increases. The new framework will help the city provide clear feedback to developers, residents and others about the intended use of the curbside.

In early 2022, users weighed in by taking an online questionnaire, participating in focus groups and attending an online "Curb Summit." Stakeholders had the opportunity to comment on proposed comprehensive plan amendments related to curb management at a public hearing held by the Planning Commission Sept. 14.

The comprehensive plan amendments will go before the City Council in November. Residents and other users can also provide input on curb management recommendations at the monthly Transportation Commission meetings through spring 2023.

Next steps include a draft Curb Management Plan for public review in early 2023, followed by Transportation Commission plan refinements and a final CMP presented for council consideration in spring 2023.

Visit [BellevueWA.gov/curb-management-plan](http://BellevueWA.gov/curb-management-plan) for the latest updates.