

CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Extended Study Session

September 12, 2005
6:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Marshall, Deputy Mayor Noble, and Councilmembers Chelminiak, Davidson, Degginger and Lee¹

ABSENT: Councilmember Balducci

1. Executive Session

At 6:00 p.m., Deputy Mayor Noble opened the meeting and declared recess to Executive Session for approximately 45 minutes to discuss one item of property acquisition. Executive Session concluded at 6:52 p.m.

The Study Session resumed at 6:57 p.m. with Mayor Marshall presiding.

2. Oral Communications

- (a) Lisa Gano and her daughter Rachel spoke regarding Odle Middle School and its exchange program with a sister school in Biwa, Japan. Ms. Gano asked if a member of the Council could attend an event this Friday to welcome the school delegation from Japan. She noted that 32 languages are spoken at Odle School.

Mayor Marshall explained that she will be out of town and noted other Councilmembers' commitments. However, Mrs. Marshall will try to find a City representative to attend. She suggested contacting the Bellevue Reporter to cover the event as well.

- (b) Steve Gilbert, Bellevue Chamber of Commerce, noted he provides staff support to Bellevue Economic Partnership committees and introduced Sue DeFlorio, Chamber Board of Directors and Co-Chair of the BEP Retention Committee. Ms. DeFlorio explained that Bellevue's Harley-Davidson business has been looking for more than a year for a new location in Bellevue. She noted site requirements imposed by Harley-Davidson's corporate entity. Mr. Gilbert thanked City staff for their assistance to date.

¹ Councilmember Lee arrived at 6:12 p.m.

Mr. Sarkozy acknowledged zoning issues associated with this type of business and said the City is trying to be as flexible as possible in helping to identify an alternate site.

3. Study Session

(a) Council Business and New Initiatives

[No discussion.]

(b) City Manager's Report

(1) Government Finance Officers Association Budget Presentation Award

City Manager Steve Sarkozy asked staff to announce two recent awards.

Finance Director Jan Hawn said the City recently received the Government Finance Officers Association *Budget Presentation Award* for its 2005-2006 budget. This is the 18th consecutive time the City has received the award.

(2) ICMA Certificate of Distinction Award

Ms. Hawn announced that the City received the International City and County Management Association *Certificate of Distinction Award* for its sustained leadership in performance reporting and management. This is the highest of two levels of recognition from ICMA. Ms. Hawn thanked Rich Siegel, Performance and Outreach Coordinator, for his hard work in this area.

(3) Coal Creek Stabilization Program

Mr. Sarkozy recalled a legal dispute earlier this year with King County, Newport Shores Yacht Club, and homeowners in the Newport Shores area. For many decades, coal mine tailings have been washing into Lake Washington. The parties participated in mediation and developed a plan to resolve the issue.

Wes Jorgenson, Utilities Assistant Director, provided an update on the Coal Creek Stabilization Program, which requires the City to complete six projects. King County is contributing \$2 million toward the program as well as \$250,000 toward the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). In addition, King County agreed to transfer the Surrey Downs property and Coal Creek Park to the City. The settlement provides funds for future dredging of the marina and the construction of a flood control berm.

Mr. Jorgenson said Phase 1 for two of the projects (Overbank Storm Water Outfalls-Bellevue and Middle Reach Stabilization) has been completed. He provided photos showing "before" and "after" views of the creek as well as a black bear that has been seen in the area.

Mr. Jorgenson summarized that projects are on schedule and on target in terms of the budget. He said this program provides an opportunity to restore a healthy stream habitat for Coal Creek. The creek is 7 miles long, and 4.5 miles are accessible by salmon. He thanked Council for its support of the program.

Responding to Mr. Degginger, Mr. Jorgenson said salmon are prevented from moving farther upstream by a natural bedrock barrier.

(c) 2004 Annual Performance Measures Report

Rich Siegel, Performance and Outreach Coordinator, provided an update regarding 2004 annual performance measures. In May 2005, staff invited 60 citizens to City Hall to find out what citizens want in terms of performance reporting. The group discussed the City's 16 "vital signs" and suggested additional measures as well. The majority of vital signs were helpful to residents. However, some were determined to be more helpful to management than to citizens. Some of the vital signs required an explanation before citizens understood their importance. Participants suggested the following new vital signs for consideration:

- Traffic times in key corridors,
- Bellevue amenities – shopping, places of worship, libraries, schools,
- Responsiveness of local government,
- Level of community and social services support,
- Taste, smell and appearance of city's drinking water.

Mr. Siegel reported that residents would rather not receive performance reporting information in utility billing inserts. They feel the most reliable way to communicate the information is a summary report published in *It's Your City*.

Mr. Siegel reviewed the 16 vital signs, beginning with those identified as most important by residents. In the 2004 survey, 89 percent of citizens were somewhat to very satisfied with parks and recreation in Bellevue. Police response time to emergencies averaged 2.1 minutes in 2004, compared to a target of 4.2 minutes. Violent and property crimes committed were 43.5 per 1,000 population, compared to a target of 44. For 2004, 82 percent of residents reported they were getting their money's worth from the City. The most frequently mentioned comments were good parks and recreation facilities, overall good services, many services for the taxes paid, good Police and Fire Department services, and general satisfaction with the community. Bellevue's bond rating by Moody's Investors Service continues to be Aaa, which is the highest bond rating possible.

Continuing with performance measures, Mr. Siegel said 92 percent of residents rated their neighborhood as good or excellent. Regarding satisfaction with street cleaning, 97 percent feel streets are fairly clean to very clean. In 2004, 88 percent of fires were confined to the room of origin, compared to a target of 85 percent. There were no violations of state or federal drinking water standards in 2004. The cardiac arrest survival rate was 46 percent in 2004, compared to a target of 35 percent. Overall, 97 percent of survey respondents rated Bellevue as a good or excellent place to live. Additional positive comments about the community referenced low

crime, good housing, good schools, convenient location and access to freeways, diverse and friendly community, and transportation improvements. Negative comments mentioned roads and traffic signals and too much traffic, and 35 percent of respondents replied “don’t know” to the question asking what is negative about the community.

Mr. Siegel said the first regional consortium of ICMA performance measurement cities in the nation was launched this year with the following members: Bellevue, Kirkland, Lynnwood, Mercer Island, Renton, Sammamish, Shoreline, University Place, and Vancouver. Additional information is available at www.cityofbellevue.org/perform.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Mr. Siegel said a limited number of respondents noted a need for road improvements or expressed an interest in having more traffic signals in their neighborhoods.

Responding to Dr. Davidson, Mr. Sarkozy noted the ballot initiative regarding performance audits to be presented for vote in November. Bellevue’s approach to performance measuring is directed by the City Council and part of an overall strategy involving citizen surveys, benchmarking against national standards, and accreditation of all operating departments.

Mr. Chelminiak praised the performance measure report. He suggested adding more overall community measures as well. Mr. Siegel noted a conference beginning September 13 at Meydenbauer Center entitled: Driving Change and Getting Results – Exploring Approaches to Performance Measures and Community Indicators in the Cascadia Region.

Mr. Siegel said the citizen engagement process was videotaped and is available for viewing.

(d) GovMax Budget Development System

Toni Cramer, Chief Information Officer, provided a brief presentation regarding the GovMax Budget Development System to be implemented for Bellevue. She explained that the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)/JDE System is a transaction-based system that meets most of the City’s needs for financial functions. However, the ERP system tracks and monitors budgets but is not designed for budget planning. The GovMax Budget Development System was developed by government (Sarasota County, Florida) for governmental use. Staff proposes entering into an agreement with Sarasota County to implement the GovMax system for Bellevue.

Jonathan Swift, Budget Manager, said the GovMax System received an ICMA Award of Excellence in 2005 and is used by several jurisdictions throughout the country. A budget development system is a planning tool that combines process, financial, and management information; integrates operating budget, capital budget, and performance measures; and allows for distributed entry and centralized reporting. It integrates financial and planning information into one system, reducing the need for redundant entries and time spent on error checking. The system strengthens budget analysis by automating relationships between components.

Responding to Councilmember Degginger, Mr. Swift said the system allows a user to sort information in many different ways and aids in strategic and policy planning.

Responding to Councilmembers, Mr. Swift said staff will be able to run various budget scenarios for comparison and analysis by Council.

Responding to Mr. Chelminiak, Mr. Swift said the system is both a budget development and monitoring tool. One of the 10 cities using the system is using the monitoring component but Bellevue staff have not reviewed this function. Staff prefers to continue using the ERP/JDE system for budget monitoring.

Responding to Mr. Degginger, Ms. Cramer said software packages are typically selected based on the ability to meet a list of needs. Additional functional options are identified through the software installation and implementation process. In further response, Ms. Cramer said the ERP system is not designed to accommodate B&O tax functionality or point-of-sale transactions.

Mr. Sarkozy said staff was aware of the capabilities not available from the ERP system at the time of purchase. He noted a number of cities are using separate budget development systems and he feels the GovMax system will serve Bellevue's needs.

Responding to Mr. Lee, Mr. Swift said the GovMax system provides extensive capabilities and flexibility. He named some of the counties and cities using the system, which has been in use for approximately four years.

Deputy Mayor Noble expressed support for the system, its reasonable cost, and its ability to manipulate data and generate reports to facilitate budget development and analysis.

Responding to Mr. Chelminiak, Ms. Cramer said comparable systems are more expensive including one with a cost of nearly \$750,000.

Mayor Marshall asked staff to provide examples to illustrate the GovMax system's capabilities. She asked staff to bring this issue back to Council on September 26 as three Councilmembers will be traveling and absent from the meeting on September 19.

(e) Revisions to Criminal and Penal Codes

Lori Riordan, City Attorney, introduced Jeff Torrey, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, and noted staff's proposal to replace the current City criminal and penal codes with comparable statutes from the Revised Code of Washington.

Mr. Torrey said the City's last major revision to the criminal code occurred in 1985. Since that time, many cities have adopted the Revised Code of Washington as their criminal code. Police officers are trained in the RCWs at the Washington State Patrol Academy. Bellevue Police have mutual aid agreements with other law enforcement agencies and adoption of the RCWs provides a greater degree of uniformity in criminal enforcement.

Mayor Marshall noted consensus to proceed with Council action on the proposed ordinance on September 19.

(f) Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center and South Bellevue Community Center Project Updates

Parks and Community Services Director Patrick Foran introduced Cheryl Rawlings, Site Director for Boys and Girls Club of Bellevue, and Shelley Brittingham, the new South Bellevue Community Center Director.

Glenn Kost, Planning and Design Manager, introduced Ken Kroeger, Project Manager for the South Bellevue Community Center and Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center projects.

Mr. Kost provided an update on the South Bellevue Community Center, a 33,800 square foot full-service, multi-generational facility. Key features include a double gymnasium, classrooms and meeting rooms, a social hall, indoor climbing wall, and fitness facilities. Total project costs are \$12 million. The upper floor contains the multipurpose room/social hall, classrooms and meeting rooms. The lower level is the fitness floor with a gymnasium, fitness and aerobic rooms, locker facilities, and a 32-foot climbing wall.

Mr. Kost displayed and described slides of the center's construction since August 2004. Playground equipment has been installed and finishing touches are being completed in the building. Public art designed and constructed by John Young will be installed before the building's opening in December. The outdoor challenge course is approximately fifty percent complete.

Ms. Rawlings reviewed Boys and Girls Club programs to be offered at the center including Project Learn after-school program, preschool three days a week, youth basketball, youth and teen athletics, extended day drop-in, summer camps, and holiday and schools-out day camps.

Ms. Brittingham reviewed City programs to be provided at the center including fitness and wellness activities for the whole family, programs for older adults, Child Watch and preschool classes, special events, challenge course and climbing wall, and rental opportunities for family and community celebrations. In addition to Ms. Brittingham and Ms. Rawlings, center staff are Dot Long, Program Coordinator; Shawn Fenn, Management Assistant; and Joan Perugini, Fitness and Wellness Coordinator. The Boys and Girls Club plans to hire an athletic director as well.

Marketing and outreach efforts have targeted local schools, Boys and Girls Club families, faith groups, neighborhood associations, businesses, and sports groups. Ms. Brittingham said the seamless service model for the center provides customer service and reception coordination, one class registration process for both City and Boys and Girls Club programs, shared staff training, shared equipment and supplies, complementary program development and delivery, and cross-marketing.

The grand opening of the South Bellevue Community Center is scheduled for Saturday, December 3, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Boys and Girls Club programs will start in December, and City classes and programs will begin in January.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Ms. Brittingham said fees will apply to classes and drop-in use of fitness facilities. Staff researched both public and private programs to help determine appropriate fees. Mr. Lee would like the programs to be affordable for all Bellevue residents. Ms. Brittingham said scholarships will be available as well. Mr. Foran said the business model is targeted toward families and older adults with an overall educational emphasis.

Mayor Marshall asked staff to invite Gail Stickle and others who were instrumental in advocating for this center for so many years to the grand opening. Mr. Degginger suggested inviting former and current Youth Link Board members as well.

Mr. Foran introduced Bryce Seidl, CEO, and Darla Norris, Financial Manager, from Pacific Science Center. The purpose of tonight's update is to discuss permitting and construction documents needed to proceed with development of the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center. Mr. Foran welcomed Jim Hutchinson from Puget Sound Energy, a major supporter of this project.

Mr. Kost recalled Council approval last June of a revised Memorandum of Understanding with Pacific Science Center, followed by approval in November of a contract with the project architect/landscape designer (Jones & Jones). Design development has been completed and the project team is ready to apply for environmental permits. The Environmental Education Center will have eight buildings totaling approximately 12,000 square feet which are joined by a series of boardwalks and overlooks. The site has a steep slope and is heavily wooded. Construction is intended to minimize site disruption and to take advantage of views of the slough and beyond to downtown Bellevue.

Phase 1 will construct five buildings (Classroom 1, Wetlab 1, a multi-purpose facility, renovation of the Sullivan House, and restrooms) and the majority of the site work including boardwalks and parking facilities. The multi-purpose building is the largest at 2,300 square feet and will be used for meetings, community activities, interpretative displays, and an interim visitor center. A 900-square-foot visitor center and a second classroom building will be constructed in Phase 2. Each classroom building will have two classrooms, and Pacific Science Center will be the primary user of these facilities. The two wetlab buildings to be constructed will provide 2,000 square feet of space and green roofs. Pacific Science Center will provide lab programs. The 1,300-square-foot Sullivan House will be remodeled in Phase 1 to house staff offices, work space, and an outdoor play area. Additional features include a tree house and forest overlook.

Mr. Foran reviewed available funding for the project:

- City of Bellevue Challenge Grant \$1.0 million
- HUD Grants \$3.0 million
- Pacific Science Center fundraising \$0.2 million
- Puget Sound Energy contribution \$0.5 million
- Project Total \$4.7 million

Mr. Foran said additional funding could be needed. The project originated more than seven years ago and has not received inflation adjustments in the Capital Investment Program (CIP) budget.

Mr. Seidl described the project as imaginative and relevant to the types of educational programs that Pacific Science Center wants to develop and offer. PSC staff are excited about the project and have enjoyed working with City staff and Puget Sound Energy.

Mr. Foran reviewed the project schedule:

- Construction plans – through Spring 2006
- Community Open House – Fall 2005
- Permit processing – Fall 2005 through Summer 2006
- Construction – Summer 2006 through Fall 2007.

The project must be completed in 2007 to meet requirements associated with HUD grant funding.

Mayor Marshall commended Pacific Science Center's current programs and looks forward to integrating their efforts with Bellevue's park system. She praised plans to provide leadership opportunities for older children to teach and train younger children.

Mr. Lee supports the project and feels it will attract visitors to Bellevue.

Mr. Seidl grew up appreciating Bellevue's park system and its environmental sensitivity. He commended the selection of Jones & Jones Architects for this project.

Mayor Marshall thanked Pacific Science Center and Puget Sound Energy for their involvement in this project.

(g) Parks and Community Services Programs and Special Events Update

Mr. Foran provided an overall update on Parks and Community Services Department programs and special events. He noted events that celebrate the community's heritage including Kelsey Creek Farm Sheep Shearing Days, Arbor Day, Mountain to Sound Greenway Days, SEAFAIR marathon, Strawberry Festival, 24-Hour Relay Challenge, Magic Season (with Bellevue Downtown Association), and Garden d'Lights (Bellevue Botanical Garden). More than 150,000 citizens participate in these annual events, in addition to the 300,000 that participate in the annual Bellevue Art Fair.

Bellevue Parks Department works with many partners to produce events through a strategy of facilitation, coordination, collaboration, and providing access and opportunities. Mr. Foran reviewed a sample of programs and activities focused on cultural diversity including the Conversations on Race and Culture series, cultural education arts events, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event, Voices of Diversity TV and radio programs, Spanish language hotline, and functioning as a diversity training resource for nonprofit, business, and community groups.

Community partners include Bellevue Chamber of Commerce, Bellevue Community College, Bellevue Downtown Association, Bellevue School District, Crossroads Bellevue Shopping Center, Eastside Asian and Pacific Islanders, Eastside Latino Leadership Forum, Eastside Refugee and Immigrant Coalition, and the Ethnic Heritage Council.

One of the most popular sets of programs offered by the Parks Department are the day camps (environmental, tennis, photography, arts, theatre, programs for disabled citizens, skate boarding, sports, and Police Department programs). This season 2,500 children registered and 187 were on a waiting list. The City's Enterprise Programs include the golf course, Robinswood Tennis Center, Bellevue Aquatic Center, rental facilities, and sportsfield reservations. The City also sponsors women's and men's clubs and Special Olympics participation. Robinswood Tennis Center has been recognized by national awards. It benefits from more than 7,000 volunteer hours annually and serves 88,000 annual attendees.

Mr. Foran said there have been more than 24,000 facility reservations in 2005 to date, which was the total number of reservations in 2004. There have been 22,000 ballfield reservations so far in 2005, which again was the total number of reservations in 2004. The sportsfields serve 56 different leagues. The Parks Department has ongoing environmental and horticultural programs. Overall, the Parks Department receives more than 100,000 hours of volunteer hours, which provides \$1.5 million worth of labor for the park system.

Mr. Foran reviewed recent awards for the Parks Department and its facilities:

- Bellevue Municipal Golf Course – Best Places to Play Award – Golf Digest
- Robinswood Tennis Center – Public Facility of the Year – Professional Tennis Registry
- Tree City USA and Growth Award – National Arbor Day Foundation
- Diversity Champion recognition – Association of Washington Cities
- Bellevue Municipal Golf Course – Audubon International Certificate of Achievement in Environmental Planning
- Tradition Builder Award to City - Bellevue Downtown Association.

Bellevue is one of four finalists for the National Gold Medal for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management and is currently working to receive accreditation in October 2005 from the National Recreation and Parks Association. Mr. Foran thanked all City departments, corporate partners, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers for their contributions to the Parks and Community Services Department.

Mayor Marshall thanked staff for their hard work.

At 9:26 p.m., Mayor Marshall declared the meeting adjourned.

Myrna L. Basich
City Clerk

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