



Neighborhood News



City of Bellevue

News for and about Bellevue Neighborhoods

April 2013

Join the Conversation on Community Safety

After the Newtown tragedy, Bellevue residents are invited to join the national conversation on community and school safety. An expert panel of school, police and mental health professionals will guide discussion and share their expertise on the web of support available in our schools and community. This event is being done through the collaboration of Youth Eastside Services, Bellevue Public Schools, Bellevue Police and Bellevue College.

What: Bellevue Neighborhood Forum - *Keeping Kids Safe in our Community*

When: Thursday, April 18, 7pm

Where: Bellevue College, Carlson Theater

The Bellevue Neighborhood Forum is sponsored by the Neighborhood Outreach Team and eight Bellevue neighborhoods: Bellecrest, Conifer Crest, Horizon Crest, Horizon Heights, Newport Hills, Somerset, Sunset, Woodridge. For more information about the event, please visit our website at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood-special-events.htm> or contact Julie Ellenhorn at 425-452-5372 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.

Expo to Highlight Current City Programs & Projects

Come learn what major City projects and initiatives are currently underway in 2013 at the Bellevue's Spring Forward Expo on **Wednesday, April 24, 2013, 4-7pm in the City Hall's concourse.**

Here is just a short list of what projects will be highlighted:

- 120th Avenue NE project , Stage 1, 2, and 3
- A new NE 15th Street between 116th and 124th Avenues NE
- Lakemont Boulevard & Cougar Mountain Way/SE 63rd Intersection
- 2013 Pavement Overlay Program
- New annexation projects in the Eastgate area
- Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan Update
- Downtown Livability Plan
- East Link Light Rail Stations.
- New Neighborhood Outreach programs and events



For more information, please visit <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/spring-forward-expo.htm> or contact Tresa Berg at 425-452-4638 or Tberg@bellevuewa.gov

Eastlink Cost Savings Open House

Sound Transit and the City of Bellevue invite you to review and comment on proposed East Link Cost Saving Ideas on **Wednesday, April 3 (4-7pm, Bellevue City Hall 450 110th Ave NE)**

After considering the Addendum and input from the community, stakeholders and agencies, the Sound Transit Board of Directors in collaboration with the Bellevue City Council is anticipated to decide this spring whether or not to revise the adopted project by including any of the Cost Saving Ideas.



Downtown Walking Tours



Join City staff for guided walking tours in April or May as part of the ongoing Downtown Livability Initiative. Staff will be seeking input as the Land Use Code for Downtown is updated. These tours will explore the evolution of Downtown as a place for jobs, residents and visitors – highlighting some of the emerging Downtown neighborhoods, public gathering spaces, and future development opportunities.

Tours are open to the public on **Saturday, April 27, 9am** or **Wednesday, May 1, 9am**. They last 2.5 hours and include a stop for coffee and conversation. Walkers may choose from a north or south walking route on either day. Meet at City Hall Plaza, 450 110th Ave NE, outside entrance, rain or shine. Please RSVP to Julie Ellenhorn, jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5372.

To learn more about the Downtown Livability Initiative and how you can be part of the effort to make downtown a great place to live, work and play, visit the project website at www.bellevuewa.gov/downtown-livability.htm

Groundbreaking for Two Important City Facilities

This month, the City celebrates the start of construction for a new Bellevue Youth Theatre and a new Visitor and Education Center at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. These two important facilities will enhance recreational and educational experience for both residents and visitors of Bellevue.

The Ground-breaking ceremony for the Bellevue Botanical Garden's Visitor and Education Center is scheduled on **April 23 at 3:30 pm at the Bellevue Botanical Garden Shorts Visitor Center**. Ground-breaking will also take place for Bellevue Youth Theatre on **April 2 at 3:30 at the Crossroads Community Center**. At the theater's ceremony, guests will see a special performance by the Bellevue Youth Theatre Glee Club, building renderings and floor plans and a computer-animated video that shows the future building both inside and out. Please visit the Youth Theatre project site to learn more about the project at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/youth_theatre_expansion.htm or contact Pam Fehrman 425-452-4326 pfehrman@bellevuewa.gov. Information about the Bellevue Botanical Garden's Visitor and Education Center can be found here http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bbg_visitor_center_project.htm or by contacting Ken Kroeger 425-452-4624 or kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov

Celebrate Arbor-Earth Day with Your Neighbors

This month marks the 25th anniversary of Bellevue Arbor Day-Earth Day. Residents are encouraged to join their friends and neighbors (more than 400 volunteers!) to work on a variety of environmental projects such as planting trees, restoring trails, removing invasive plants and otherwise improving Bellevue's parks and open spaces throughout the city and to celebrate with a community festival on April 20.



The event will be held rain or shine and here is the schedule on **Saturday, April 20:**

8:30 -11 Am.: Volunteers start at **Lewis Creek Park, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE**. Please dress for the weather and bring appropriate tools, based on project assignment. Volunteers will receive a complimentary lunch provided by Whole Foods Market and a free T-shirt.

Individuals and groups are welcome, and preregistration is required. Registration is first-come, first served with limited projects available. To register, email Alexandra DySard at ADySard@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4195.

11am - 1pm: A family community festival and official tree planting ceremony will be held at Lewis Creek Park, recognizing the city's 24th year of receiving the Tree City USA designation by the US Arbor Day Foundation.



For those who can't make it to the event, there are plenty of other ways to celebrate Arbor-Earth Day with your neighbors:

Plan a neighborhood tree planting party: Tree planting is an act of optimism and kindness, and a commitment to environmental stewardship. Think about how planting new trees might improve the look of your property and your neighborhood. Take a trip to your local nursery together to see what's available and to get new ideas.

Do a neighborhood beautification or clean-up project: Working together to improve the appearance and the vitality of your neighborhood in is a great way to demonstrate your commitment to the place you call home. Doing a project can also strengthen community relationships and boost community pride. The City offers matching grants and other assistance to help neighborhoods with their projects:

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood_match_requirements.htm

Reuse and recycle: Arbor-Earth Day provides another perfect opportunity to get acquainted with reusing and recycling. This can help to conserve resources and protect the environment for future generations. You can get more information about reuse and recycle resources at the city's website:

http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/getting_rid_of_stuff.htm. You can also attend the Recycling Collection Day event on Saturday, April 20 (9am-3pm) at the First Presbyterian Church (1717 Bellevue Way NE). For more information, please call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-6932

Engage in conversations about environmental concerns: There are various resources in our community to learn more about environmental issues we are facing. Take advantage of these resources and opportunities such as the upcoming Bellevue Neighborhood Forum & Resource Fair on the topic of *Climate Change and Our Community* (May 14, 6:30 pm, Bellevue City Hall Council Chambers). Keynote speaker Joel Magnuson who is the author of **'The Approaching Great Transformation: Toward a Livable Post-Carbon Economy'** will speak about a movement toward an alternative economic future, called "Mindful Economics." Joel will help us understand global warming and the environmental crisis and help us re-think and re-organize at a community level. A community resource fair will highlight ways to make a difference in your own neighborhood and household, and will include local volunteer opportunities. For more information contact Julie Ellenhorn at 425-452-5372 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.

Construction Begins on Coal Creek Parkway This Month



In late April, The City will begin a culvert replacement project over Coal Creek. The new 39-foot wide bridge will keep Coal Creek Parkway safe by replacing a 45-year-old, deteriorating culvert. The project will also reduce flooding, provide a pedestrian pathway under the bridge that connects to the Coal Creek Trail, and improve salmon habitat.

Phase 1 construction will start with single lane closures during off-peak travel hours. By early May, Coal Creek Parkway will be reduced to one lane in each direction 24 hours a day between Forest Drive and SE 60th Street through November 2013. Traffic delays and congestion are expected, especially during morning and evening commutes, and drivers are encouraged to use alternate routes. Phase 2 construction, from mid-April through September 2014, will also reduce this section of Coal Creek Parkway to one lane in each direction.

For more information, go to the project website at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/coalcreekbridge.htm> or call 425-452-6977 or email utilities@bellevuewa.gov.

Interest-free Loans To Help Improve Your Home

Bellevue homeowners with low to moderate incomes can receive up to \$35,000 in zero-interest loans and grants from Bellevue's Home Repair Program for home repair projects including weatherization projects, or roof, plumbing, electrical or other repairs. These loans don't have to be repaid until the house is sold and no monthly payment is required. To be eligible for assistance, you must have owned and lived in the house for which you are requesting assistance for at least a year, the house must be within the Bellevue city limits and you must meet the program's income requirements.



To determine eligibility, count the number of household members residing in the house (household size) and check the maximum allowable income on the city website at http://bellevuewa.gov/homerepair_assistance_eligibility.htm For more information about Bellevue's Home Repair Program, call the Parks & Community Services Department at 425-452-6884 (TDD: 411)

April Meetings

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

4/1 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) East Link broad overview discussion (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Proclamation of Bellevue's 60th Birthday, Management Brief regarding Giving Campaign Award, Consent Calendar, Ordinances authorizing issuing of bonds to implement Capital Investment Program (CIP), adoption of the incremental sales tax credit against the state sales tax collections, and Auto Sales in Office Limited-Business (OLB) district. http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

4/2 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) public hearings on the conditional use application submitted for Sammamish High School and two Land Use Code amendments specific to East Link/Light Rail http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

4/2 Human Services Commission & Parks & Community Services Board (6:30, 1E-113) Agenda to be determined http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

4/2 Arts Commission (4:30, 1E-109) http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

4/3 Cost Savings Open House (4:00-7:00, Bellevue City Hall) Opportunities to review and comment on the proposed East Link Cost Savings Ideas before a final decision is made
<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-involvement.htm>

4/4 Environmental Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Budget Monitoring Year End 2012, CIP accomplishments http://www.bellevuewa.gov/enviro_serv_comm.htm

4/4 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30am, Bellevue Arts Museum, Auditorium) Let's Loop Seattle, assistive hearing technology presentation, Committee Reports http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

4/8 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Human Services Needs update, East Link cost savings/environmental discussion http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

4/9 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, 1E-112) Agenda to be determined
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

4/10 Planning Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) Comprehensive Plan update study session, http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

4/11 Transportation Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Downtown Transportation Plan Update, Transit Plan update, East Link project update http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

4/15 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) East Link cost savings/ Transportation Facilities Plan (TFP) findings discussion (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) City Manager's Report on Community Survey Results and Bel-Red Street Names, Consent Calendar, Public Hearing on Medical Marijuana http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

4/16 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Mid-Biennium Funding Report
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

4/22 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) East Link cost savings discussion, Regional Issues, First update on Comprehensive Plan
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

4/24 Planning Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) Comprehensive Plan update study session, Medical Cannabis Collective Gardens Regulations study session
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

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