

Neighborhood News

City of Bellevue

News for and about Bellevue Neighborhoods

May 2012

Bellwether walking tours offered for six neighborhoods

Private, guided tours of Bellevue's popular biannual sculpture exhibit, *Bellwether*, are being offered this summer to a limited number of neighborhood groups.

City Arts Specialist Mary Pat Byrne will conduct the tours of the Bellwether exhibit on weekdays between July 15 and October 1 for the first six neighborhood groups to sign up. Tours are available weekdays – morning, mid-day or at 5 p.m. for groups of 6-10 neighbors. Prior to each 90-minute tour, each neighborhood group also will be invited to enjoy complementary coffee hosted at Vovito Caffè and Gelato in The Bravern, across NE 6th Street from City Hall. For more

information or to make your reservation, contact Julie Ellenhorn in Neighborhood Outreach, 425-452-6836 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.



A "bellwether" is an early sign of what's to come. The Bellwether sculpture exhibition creates an art path through the center of downtown Bellevue. The 2012 theme of "ReGeneration" reflects on Bellevue's emergence as a multicultural community with a dynamic, high-rise downtown.



Here's a chance to learn about city planning

The City of Bellevue and the state Department of Commerce are hosting a Regional Short Course on Local Planning – and you are invited to attend. The course is designed as a three-hour workshop that covers the legal basis of planning in Washington State, explains why and how communities engage in comprehensive planning, and discusses the role of boards and commissions.

Scheduled at City Hall from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 23, the course will be presented by professional planners and attorneys to audiences made up of local elected officials, boards and commissions, professional staff and interested citizens. Members of neighborhood associations and community clubs are specifically invited. If you would like to attend, please e-mail Comprehensive Planning Manager Paul Inghram, AICP, at pinghram@bellevuewa.gov.

City program helps neighbors resolve conflicts

The City of Bellevue Neighborhood Mediation program is always available to help residents resolve neighborhood disputes. Whether it's a barking dog, an un-mowed lawn, a property line dispute, a noise complaint or a parent/teen issue, Mediation staff and trained volunteers can help neighbors find a solution.

Facilitative mediation helps to de-escalate hostilities, encourages parties to identify their underlying interests and helps people create mutually beneficial agreements. If you are experiencing a neighbor-to-neighbor dispute, Mediation can help you work through it. Services are free and confidential. Mediation staff offer presentations about their services, as well as conflict resolution training for

neighborhood groups. For more information, contact Neighborhood Mediation at 425-452-4091 or visit the website at www.bellevuewa.gov/mediation.htm.

Council action on annexations scheduled this month

South Bellevue annexations are scheduled for consideration in two City Council meetings this month.

On May 7, the Council will review and discuss the proposed interlocal agreement with King County (regarding transition of authority & responsibility within the annexation area) and separate pre-annexation agreements with the Hilltop neighborhood.

On May 21, the City Council meeting will include:

- A public hearing on the annexation of Horizon View;
- Consideration of an ordinance to accept the annexation of Horizon View;
- Consideration of an ordinance to accept the annexation of Eastgate and Tamara Hills;
- Authorization of the City Manager to sign the interlocal agreement discussed on May 7; and
- Likely discussion and direction to Hilltop regarding an annexation petition drive.

If the City Council adopts the ordinances lined up for its consideration on May 21, the annexation will become effective on a specific date – most likely June 1 – and the City will begin serving the Eastgate, Tamara Hills and Horizon View areas immediately. Both Council meetings are scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers, and both will be broadcast live on BTV Channel 21.

Fire Department offers free glucose, blood pressure checks

Bellevue firefighters will be fighting for a healthier community during Heart Week, May 5-12.



Screenings for high blood pressure and high blood glucose – potential indicators of heart disease and diabetes – will be conducted by firefighters at community centers, shopping centers and other locations. For a complete schedule of the screenings, see http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Fire/Heart_Week_Schedule.pdf.

Neighborhood ‘bounty’ – a new idea for community-building

Who would place a bounty on their neighbors? Actually, the board of the Whispering Heights and Collingwood Community Association has done it!

In an effort to encourage closer neighborhood connections, the board is offering a “bounty” (some would call it an incentive) for residents willing to gather their neighbors in local block parties. For every block party held, the board will reimburse the host for the cost of refreshments up to \$50. It’s another good idea from WHCCA!

Plan now for your Neighbor Link block party or project

One of the best ways to get to know your neighbors is by hosting a neighborhood block party or picnic, or – even better – combining your event with a public service project. There are many creative ways to plan your own event and Outreach is happy to help with ideas and resources. Staff can support your event with design and printing of flyers and an outdoor party banner. When you add a food drive or other community

service project, you’ll also receive Seattle Mariners tickets to give away at your event! For information contact Julie Ellenhorn at 425-452-6836 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.



May 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.)

- 5/1 Arts Commission** (4:00, 1E-109) Preliminary agenda: visit from the Youth Link Action Team, utility box wraps project, update from 4Culture on a local public art project, Commission elections http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm
- 5/1 East Bellevue Community Council** (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Update on status of the Airfield Park Master Plan http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm
- 5/3 Bellevue Network on Aging** (8:30-10:30 a.m., 1E-120) Personal Safety Nets presentation, committee reports http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm
- 5/3 Environmental Services Commission** (1E-111) 5:00 Open house, 6:30 public comments on Capital Investment Program (CIP); financial policies; budget proposals http://www.bellevuewa.gov/enviro_serv_comm.htm
- 5/7 City Council** (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Eastgate/Tamara Hills/South Bellevue Annexation Interlocal Agreement update, Hilltop Annexation update (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) National Public Gardens Day Proclamation, Older Americans Month Proclamation, update on East Link work plan to evaluate potential public uses along 112th Avenue SE, advancing downtown Fire Station at Ashwood Park in conjunction with park renovation and civic building, Consent Calendar, action on Kimberlee Park PUD http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm
- 5/8 Parks & Community Services Board** (6:00, Council Conference Room) Agenda to be determined http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm
- 5/9 Planning Commission** (6:30, Council Conference Room) Public hearing on Comprehensive Plan Amendment applications http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm
- 5/10 Open House on 124th Avenue NE proposed improvements** (4:30-6:30, City Hall Concourse) Review and comment on proposal to widen 124th Avenue NE from Northup to the future NE 15th, including sidewalk or pathway, landscaping, signals, lighting and other elements consistent with the Bel-Red Corridor Plan
- 5/10 Transportation Commission** (6:30, Council Conference Room) Election of the new Chair and Vice Chair; Downtown Plan update; CIP Plan update http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm
- 5/14 City Council** (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Animal control http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm
- 5/15 Human Services Commission** (6:30, 1E-113) Preliminary Human Services Application review: Goal 1 – Qualitative Data http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm
- 5/21 City Council** (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Agenda to be determined (8:00 regular meeting) Consent Calendar, second public hearing on Hilltop pre-annexation zoning, required public hearing on Utility Easement Relinquishment, ordinances to accept annexation of Eastgate, Tamara Hills and Horizon View, action on new 10 percent Notice of Intent to Annex Hilltop Area, action on Animal Control http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm
- 5/22 Human Services Commission** (6:30, 1E-113) Preliminary Application Review – Goals 1 & 2 http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm
- 5/23 Planning Commission** (6:30, Council Conference Room) Short Course on Local Planning (see above article) http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm
- 5/28 Memorial Day** – All City offices closed
- 5/29 City Council** (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Briefing on updated East Link cost savings concepts; regional issues http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm