



City of Bellevue

# Comprehensive Plan Update Public Meeting Discussion Guide

January 29, 2013



**Welcome** to this discussion about the future of Bellevue.

Tonight, the city's board and commission members, the East Bellevue Community Council, and city staff want to hear your thoughts about how Bellevue should grow and adapt to change over the next twenty or more years. Your input today will help the city define the scope of the update to the Bellevue Comprehensive Plan.

This discussion guide contains questions about your vision for the future of Bellevue. It also includes some information about trends that affect the city. Though not all-inclusive, this information is meant to help stimulate thinking about what the city could be like in 10, 20, or more years.

Forming our Future  
*Updating the Bellevue Comprehensive Plan*

## What is the Comprehensive Plan?

The Comprehensive Plan is Bellevue’s vision for the future – the city plan for people, places to live and recreate, ways to get around, jobs and a strong local economy, schools and colleges, and a healthy environment. It sets policy that directs city actions and decisions, and guides capital investments. The plan anticipates future population and job growth and plans for how to meet those demands.

The Comprehensive Plan had its last major update in 2004. Your experience living or working in Bellevue gives you insight into the emerging needs of the Bellevue community. As we undertake this update, your participation and contribution is critical to making sure that the plan anticipates the changing needs of the community and provides policy direction to meet those needs.

## Comment and Discussion

Please take a few minutes to review this discussion guide and the questions on the following page. As a small group, take 10-20 minutes to tell us your vision for the future of Bellevue.

After discussing these questions, please feel free to review the materials available, talk to board, commission and East Bellevue Community Council members, and ask staff questions.

## General schedule for the Comprehensive Plan Update

	2012	2013	2014
	Review of existing Comp Plan		
	Data collection		
	Council initiation		
	Scoping		
		Analysis and development	
We're here		Draft and review potential amendments	
			Public Hearing
			Council adoption
	Community outreach		



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## Discussion Questions

- 1. What is your vision for how Bellevue will be a great community 10 years from now? 20 years? 50 years?*
- 2. What is your vision of Bellevue's natural environment 10 years from now? 20 years? 50 years?*
- 3. What is your vision for how Bellevue will be a great place for business 10 years from now? 20 years? 50 years?*
- 4. What is your vision for how Bellevue will be a great place for your family, or your children or grandchildren—10 years from now? 20 years? 50 years?*

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*Additional questions:*

*What emerging or future issues not addressed above do you think the Comprehensive Plan should address?*

*If you are familiar with the Comprehensive Plan, are there other topics or updates that need to be addressed?*

## Community

*What is your vision for how Bellevue will be a great community 10 years from now? 20 years? 50 years?*

The Bellevue community is a collection of strong, vital neighborhoods and a growing, diverse population.

From Enatai to Crossroads, from Downtown to Somerset, Bellevue is a collage of neighborhoods and community associations. In the city's 2012 community survey, 93% of Bellevue residents described their neighborhood as a good or excellent place to live. These neighborhoods are served by nearly 100 parks and recreational facilities, four community centers and four libraries, in addition to the shopping, services, cultural activities and nightlife offered Downtown and at other gathering places.

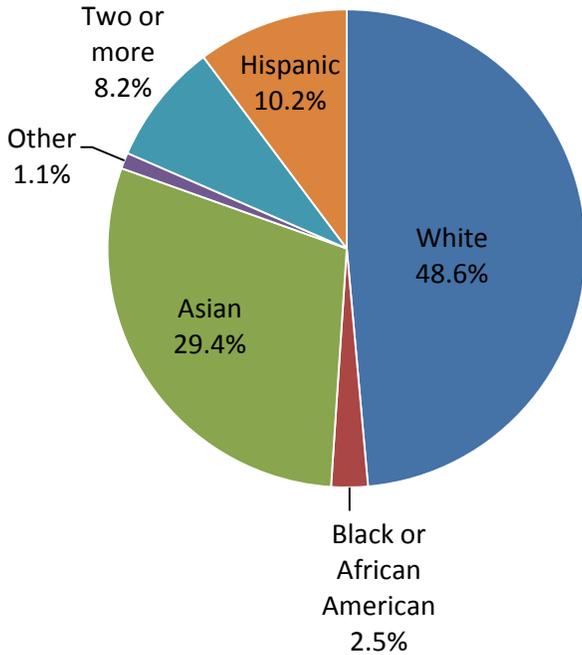
Bellevue has been home to early pioneers, farmers, and suburban families. While the community has always included a mix of ethnicities, the city is now one of the state's most diverse. More than half of the children in Bellevue are minorities and 81 languages are spoken in homes throughout the city.

Many Bellevue citizens have prospered and the city has a high percentage of residents who have earned college and graduate degrees. Yet there are also families and individuals in Bellevue who have been hit hard by the recession; who have dealt with layoffs and foreclosure; and who count on human services to get by.

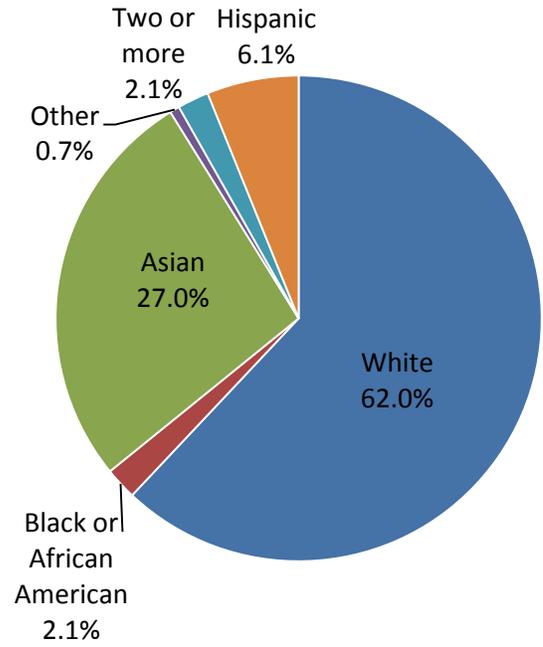
Twenty years ago, 69% of Bellevue's residents lived in single family residences. The almost exclusive mode of transportation then was the car -- after all, the city had been designed for automobile travel. Yet these days, only 69% drive alone to work. And since 1990, 62% of new residential construction has been apartments and condominiums. Looking forward, multi-family housing is expected to increase, along with transit use, walking and bicycling.

**A few interesting community facts...**

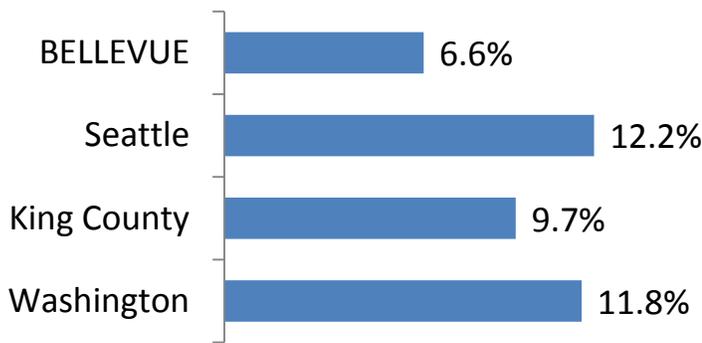
**Race/ethnicity of Bellevue's Population Under 18 years**



**Race/ethnicity of Bellevue's Population 18 years and over**

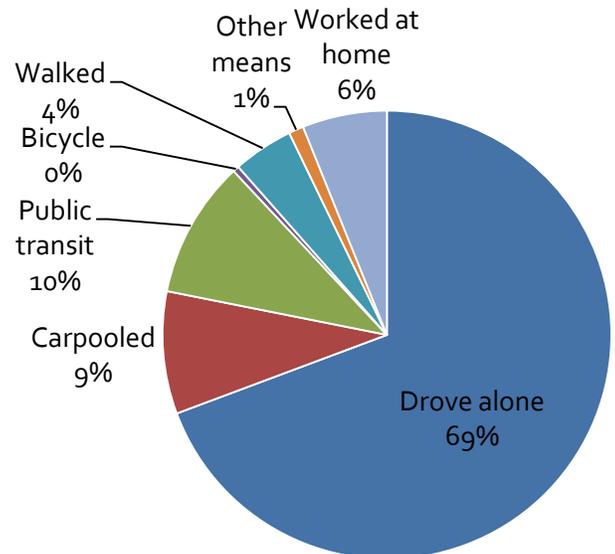


**Percent of individuals in poverty**



**The 2009 poverty threshold for a household of four was \$21,954**

**Percent of workers that drove alone to work**



## Environment

***What is your vision of Bellevue's natural environment 10 years from now? 20 years? 50 years?***

Located between the shores of Lake Washington and Lake Sammamish, the city provides a key habitat corridor between the Puget Sound waterways and the Cascade mountain range. Bellevue's natural environment is unique and particularly treasured for being woven into the fabric of a vibrant metropolitan city – fish bearing streams flow through residential and commercial areas; wetlands and open space areas, like Mercer Slough, exist a short distance from gleaming skyscrapers, inviting shops, and diverse cultural attractions.

The community's continued attractiveness as a place to “live, work and play” depends on maintaining and nurturing this complex interaction between nature and the urban fabric. The benefits of environmental stewardship are many:

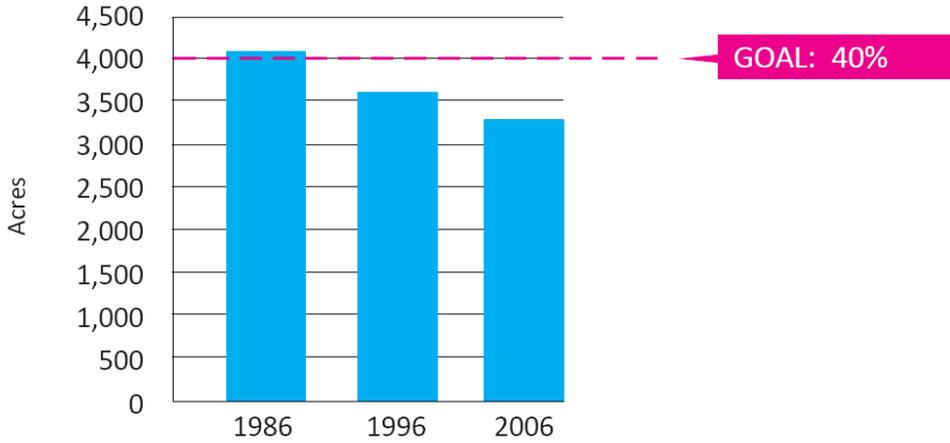
- Human health and happiness
- Attractiveness for economic development
- Biodiversity and ecosystem health
- Economic savings from reduced resource use
- A more livable community

Integrated within an evolving urban community, Bellevue's natural environment will face challenges and pressures, such as:

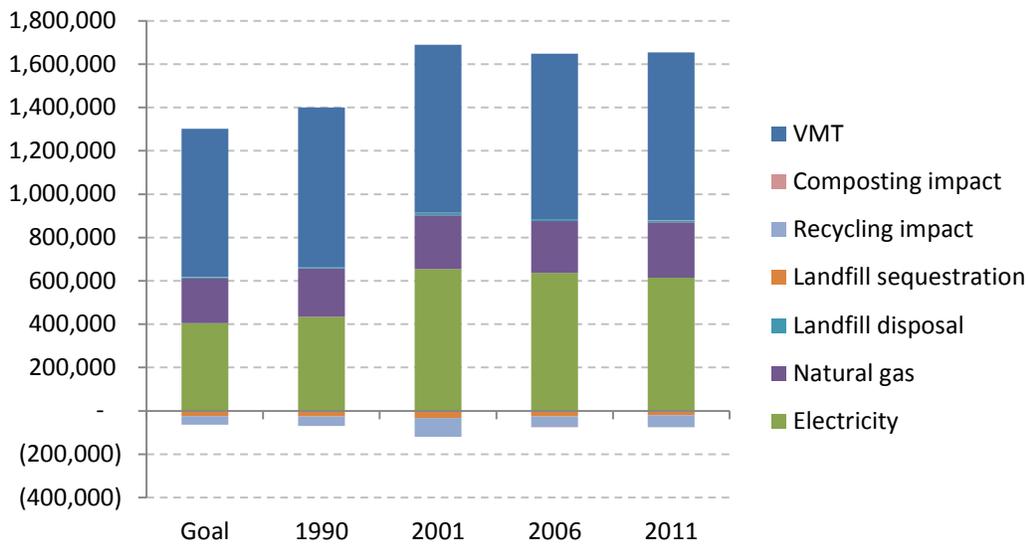
- A significant loss of tree canopy
- Increases in impervious surfaces
- Polluted runoff into streams, lakes and ultimately the Puget Sound
- Decreases in salmon populations
- Impacts of increased greenhouse gas emissions

***A few interesting environment facts...***

## Bellevue Tree Canopy



## Community GHG Emission Trends



## **Business**

***What is your vision for how Bellevue will be a great place for business 10 years from now? 20 years? 50 years?***

In the last several decades, Bellevue has grown from its roots as a suburban community with a relatively small local employment base, to its current status as a metropolitan city, the second largest employment center in King County and one of the chief urban centers in the region.

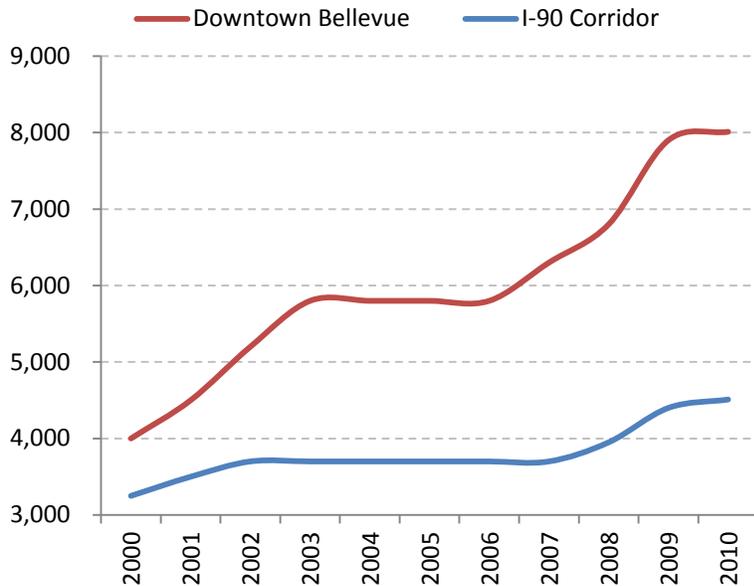
- Bellevue has a particularly strong and growing employment base in “new economy” industries such as engineering, information technology and digital media.
- Major technology companies seeking to recruit and retain highly-educated knowledge workers have relocated significant operations from suburban locations into Bellevue’s Downtown, citing access to transit and amenities.
- As development has trended toward urban centers, the amount of rentable office space in Bellevue’s Downtown doubled between 2000 and 2010.
- Bellevue’s medical district expanded with the growth of Overlake Hospital and the addition of Group Health and Seattle Children’s Hospital.
- Nationally recognized as a great place to live and to start a business, Bellevue increasingly is becoming home to a workforce that is both highly-trained and diverse.
- The city's ethnic diversity and strong worldwide trade activity are a good fit with an increasingly global economy.

This strong local economy has been a tremendous asset for Bellevue. It has provided economic opportunity for residents and created dynamic commercial areas, including an attractive, connected Downtown. Bellevue’s economic development has also created a solid tax base for this community helping keep taxes lower and service levels higher than they otherwise would be.

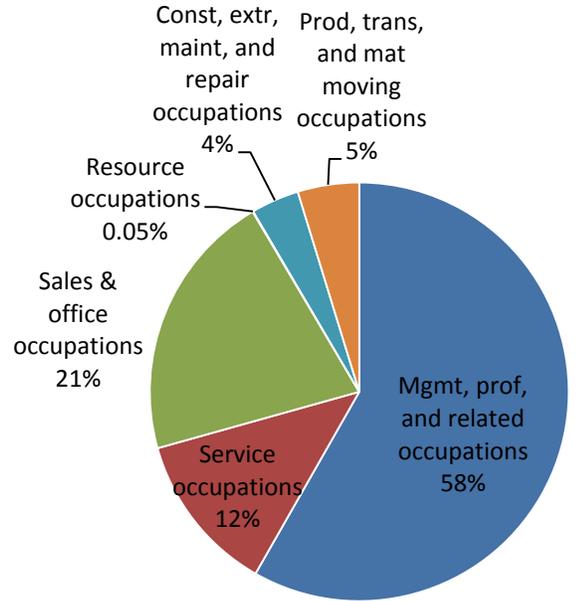
Future business growth is expected to be focused in Bellevue’s burgeoning Downtown and the redeveloping Eastgate/Factoria and Wilburton commercial areas as well as dramatic new neighborhoods in Bel-Red.

**A few interesting business facts...**

**Leasable Bellevue Office Space**

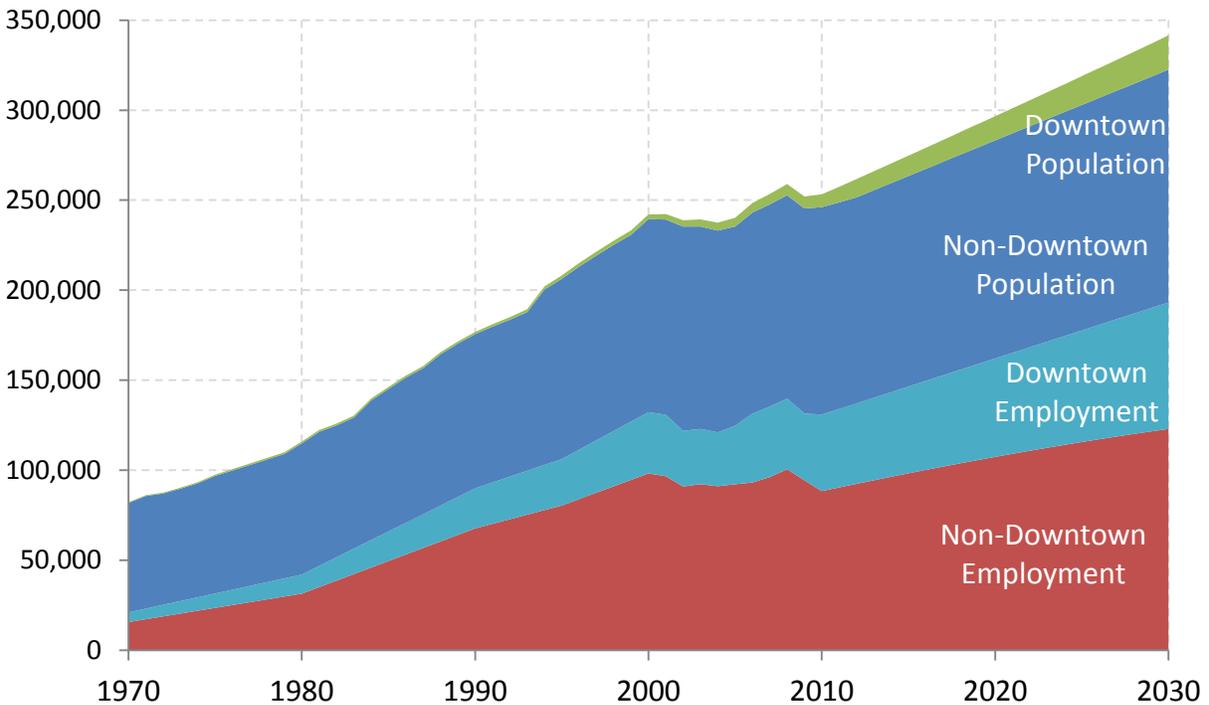


**Occupations of Bellevue Residents**



Source: Jones Lang LaSalle

**Employment and Population 1970-2030**



## Family

*What is your vision for how Bellevue will be a great place for your family, or your children or grandchildren—10 years from now? 20 years? 50 years?*

Bellevue has earned a reputation as a great place for families, even as the classic definition of family has evolved to include a range of types of households, from single parents to empty nesters.

People choose to live in Bellevue, raise families here, and stay here because it is a safe community, close to jobs, with great schools and amenities; and because it is responsive to the needs of its residents. Bellevue's family-support networks include community associations, non-profit service providers, and faith communities.

Bellevue's schools and colleges provide life-long learning opportunities. The reputation of the Bellevue School District for academic excellence stands out. Meanwhile, the community gains an increasingly diverse school-age population. Our student population represents the future in Bellevue's evolving blend of families and households.

In addition to education, many other factors contribute to the quality of family life in Bellevue. Although housing affordability continues to be barrier for many, housing choice in Bellevue has expanded over the years, allowing families to select from a variety of different styles of neighborhoods with strong identities and active neighborhood organizations.

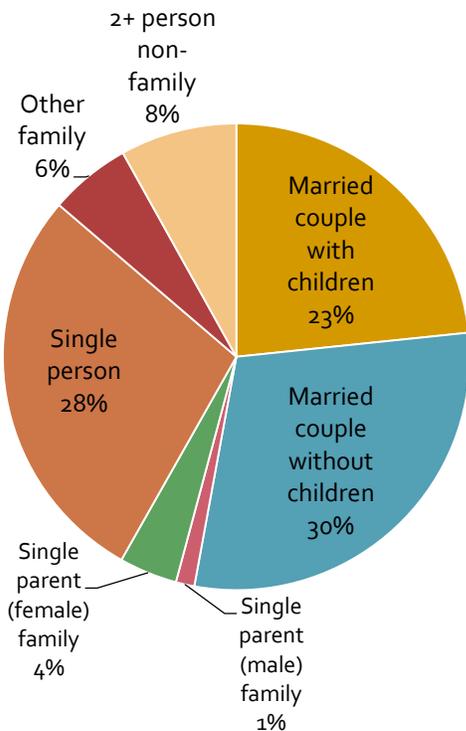
Bellevue has an established network of arts, cultural venues, and other community events and is known for abundant and diverse outdoor recreation opportunities. Finally, Bellevue's hospitals and medical facilities assure our community of local access to a full range of health services.

Growing transportation choices provide mobility for everyone whether or not they drive a car.

**A few interesting facts about Bellevue families...**

### Household Types 2010

(U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census)



### Distribution of Household Income 2005-2009

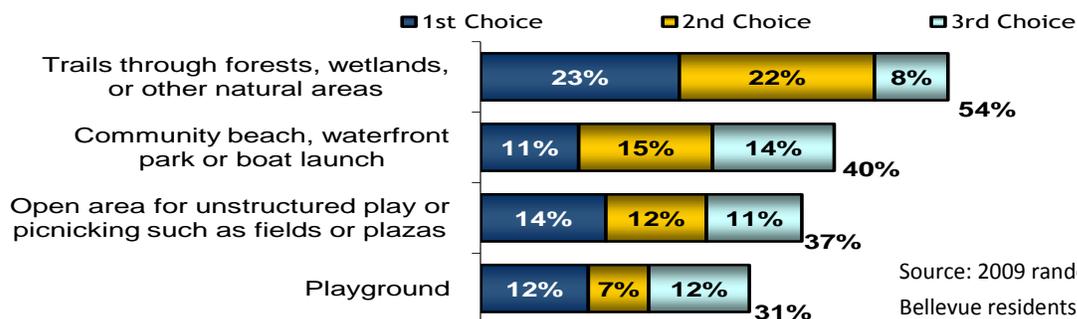
(U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey)



October Enrollment	% Free & Reduced Lunch	African American	Asian Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Native American	Multi-racial	White	Other first language %
18,048 ('11)	22.8	3.1	30.4	10.3	n/a	7.1	48.8	30.4
18,351 ('12)	21.6	3.2	32.1	10.9	n/a	6.6	47.0	32.1

**School Demographics – Bellevue School District** (source: BSD)

### Resident Priorities for Additional Parks and Rec. Facilities



Source: 2009 random sample survey of Bellevue residents

### **Title VI Notice to Public**

It is the City of Bellevue's policy to assure that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin or sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefit of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated may file a complaint with the title VI Coordinator. For Title VI complaint forms and advice, please contact the title VI Coordinator at 425-452-4270.

### **Scoping of Environmental Issues**

This project is informed in part by environmental analyses, using a process referred to as "SEPA/GMA Integration" by the State Environmental Policy Act. To make sure environmental considerations are an integral part of the development and evaluation of alternatives, the CPU will be identifying, or "scoping" environmental issues throughout the planning process. The January 29, 2013, event will provide additional opportunity to identify environmental issues. A formal SEPA determination will occur at a later stage in the planning process.

2014 종합 도시 근처 계획 업데이트-  
더 자세한 사항은 425 452-6800 고객센터로 연락하십시오.

Kế Hoạch Toàn Bộ Cập Nhật Cho Năm 2014  
Nếu cần thêm tin tức, xin liên lạc Khu Tiếp Khách Hàng  
425 452-6800

### **Ajuste del Plan Comprensivo para el 2014**

**Para más información contacte Servicio al Cliente al 425 452-6800.**

Обновлённая информация о Генеральном плане на 2014 год.

Для получения более подробной информации обращайтесь в службу по работе с клиентами по телефону: 425 452-6800.

2014年市政城市發展規劃計劃更新

*The 2014 Comprehensive Plan Update. For more information call Service First 425 452-6800.*

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