



DATE: February 13, 2013

TO: Chairman Carlson and Members of the Planning Commission

FROM: Paul Inghram, AICP, Comprehensive Planning Manager, PCD 452-4070
pinghram@bellevuewa.gov

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Plan Update

Over the last few weeks the city has held some key outreach activities regarding the update of the Comprehensive Plan. At the February 13 study session, staff will review the comments from those events, discuss outreach objectives, and review the existing Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan. No action is requested at this time.

In October 2012 the City Council initiated the major update of the Comprehensive Plan with a schedule to complete the update by the end of 2014.

The Comprehensive Plan is the holder of the community's vision for the future of Bellevue, it sets policy that directs city actions and decisions, and it guides city investments in infrastructure. The plan addresses a wide range of topics, including land use, housing, transportation, parks, economic development and human services. The plan consists of four key components:

- The Community Vision statement illustrates the city we hope to become
- "Elements" of the plan include goals and policies that direct city actions
- Subarea Plans for each of fourteen geographic areas in the city
- Transportation Facility Plans that contain potential transportation projects

The Comprehensive Plan provides the overall policy structure that helps ensure consistency between the city's various functional plans as well as coordinating them with the city's plans for growth. The Comprehensive Plan tends to include broad, citywide policies that frame fundamental management of land uses and city resources.

On January 24 the city held a Joint Boards & Commissions Forum to discuss the scope of the Comprehensive Plan update. The forum was an opportunity for the city's boards and commissions to come together and share their ideas for the future of the city.

Additionally, the East Bellevue Community Council hosted a public event at the Crossroads Community Center to hear from the public their ideas about the city and its future. The event was well attended, with about 39 participants that spent considerable time engaged with each other, Community Council members, board and commission members and staff. The city will prepare a summary of both events. Additional outreach activities are being planned.

In coming weeks staff will return to the City Council with information about the scoping process, a summary of commission, public and stakeholder comments, and ask for Council direction on the scope of the update. At that time Council will also be asked for direction on project principles and a more detailed outreach plan following this early engagement with the public.