

BELLEVUE
NEIGHBORHOOD
TRAFFIC
SAFETY
SERVICES



Traffic and parking issues on residential streets can greatly affect neighborhood livability. When problems become a daily occurrence, our sense of community and personal well-being is compromised. When streets are safe and pleasant, our quality of life is enhanced.

Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services staff is committed to working with residents to protect and preserve neighborhood livability by:

- » **minimizing cut-through traffic**
- » **discouraging excessive vehicle speeds**
- » **encouraging walking and biking**
- » **reducing overflow parking**

This brochure provides a list of traffic safety services and how residents can get started in the process.

City of Bellevue
Department of Transportation
Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services
450 110th Avenue NE
Bellevue, WA 98009

425-452-4560

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





We encourage citizens to share with staff traffic safety concerns in their neighborhood. It is simple and easy.

- 1** Citizens submit a “Request for Action” describing the concern in detail.
- 2** Staff evaluate the concern through field visits, traffic data analysis, and citizen feedback.
- 3** A “Traffic Action Plan” listing recommendations to address traffic safety concerns is developed and shared with the neighborhood.
- 4** Together, citizens work with staff on implementing the “Traffic Action Plan” for their neighborhood.
- 5** The effectiveness of the plan is evaluated through additional follow-up studies and citizen input.

Traffic Safety Goals



Manage Traffic Volume

Reduce the number of cut-through vehicles on a residential street



Reduce Excessive Vehicle Speeds

Slow down motorists choosing to drive faster than the posted speed limit



Improve Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety

Create a more inviting place to walk and bike



Enhance Neighborhood Identity

Heighten awareness of your neighborhood



Educate the Community

Create awareness around traffic safety



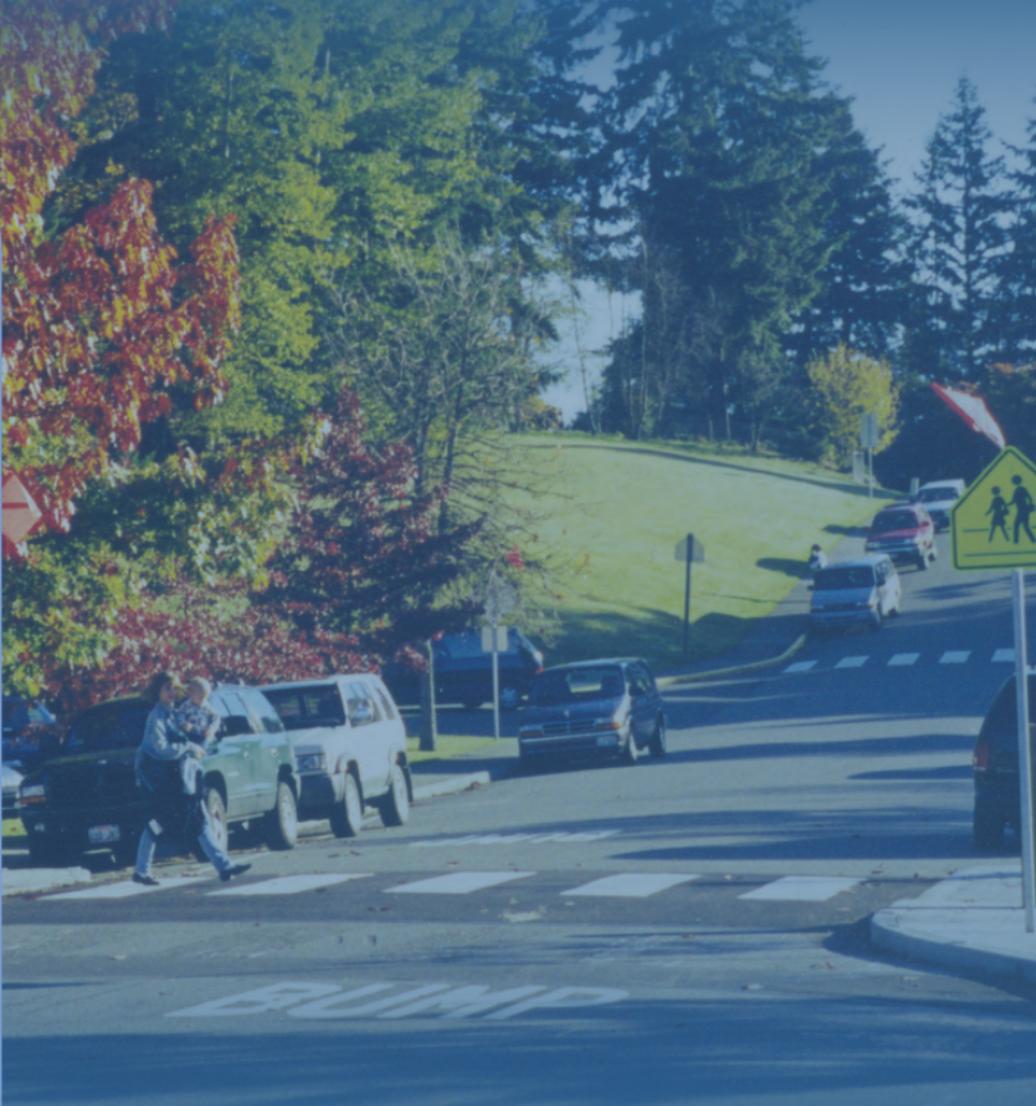
Manage Neighborhood Parking

Address parking from businesses and schools that spillover into neighborhoods



Heighten School Zone Awareness

Increase awareness and traffic safety in and around elementary schools



How are traffic safety concerns evaluated?

Staff travel to the site and review traffic conditions. They may also conduct speed and volume counts and/or look at previous traffic studies as well as reported accidents. This information, along with the citizen's observations, will assist in developing a report. This report lists traffic analysis findings and recommendations for moving forward.

Traffic Safety Components

Residents are often the first to know of traffic safety concerns in their neighborhood. As a resident, you are the eyes and ears for us providing information on traffic conditions. Whether you want to discourage excessive vehicle speeds, minimize cut-through traffic, reduce overflow parking and/or encourage walking and biking, we need you to play an active role in identifying the problems and working with staff to develop and implement a Traffic Action Plan.

The key to achieving our traffic safety goals is a strong resident-staff partnership.

Education, Encouragement, and Enforcement

- City-sponsored information such as project newsletters and education efforts.
- Citizen-led efforts requiring a commitment of resident time to implement solutions—such as borrowing the radar dolly.
- Police enforcement of traffic and parking regulations.

Modifying Streetscape

- Physically changing the street environment through traffic safety projects that may include signing, parking restrictions, and pavement markings or traffic calming elements such as speed humps, raised crosswalks, and traffic circles.

Parking

- Reduce spillover parking by restricting the use of on-street parking in neighborhoods adjacent to businesses, schools, and other public facilities.



A partnership between citizens and City staff working together to make neighborhoods more pleasant by improving traffic safety.





Frequently Asked Questions

I think a stop sign would solve speeding issues. Will the city install one in my neighborhood?

Not likely. When stop signs are used as speed breakers, there is a high incidence of drivers intentionally running the stop sign. They are only installed where warranted.

What about children at play signs?

“Children at Play” signs do not increase a driver’s attention to the point of reducing vehicle speeds or reducing pedestrian accidents. In fact, placement of these signs can increase the potential for accidents by conveying to children and parents a false sense of a protected area. Instead we encourage parents and children to find alternative places to play away from traffic, such as backyards, parks, and playgrounds.

I would like to see more police enforcing the speed limit and issuing tickets. Can I request enforcement on my street?

Yes. Please call 425-577-5656 or fill out the form on: www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic_service_request.htm

Can the speed limit be lowered?

Bellevue does not post speed limits below 25 mph. The only exception to this is elementary school zones where 20 mph is posted. Advisory speed limits below 25 mph (yellow and black signs) may be established near curves, grades, or other conditions to alert drivers to reduce their speed.

How do I contact the city about a traffic safety concern?

Simple. Just fill out the form on www.bellevuewa.gov/rfa.htm or call 425-452-4560.