



# MEMORANDUM

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DATE: March 14, 2013  
TO: Transportation Commission  
FROM: Patti Wilma, PCD Planning Manager 425-452-4114  
Jami Carter, IT Parcel and Address Coordinator 452-4310  
SUBJECT: BelRed Implementation – Invitation to participate in street name selection

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this memo is to inform you about an effort to name a unique set of streets planned for the BelRed District (see Attachment 1) and to invite you to participate in the name selection. The BelRed District was planned and rezoned in 2009. As part of an exercise of defining the character of BelRed for Streetscape Guidelines and Standards, naming streets rose to the top as a way to communicate a district's character. Naming unique streets is endorsed by a number of Comprehensive Plan Policies (see Attachment 2).

Steps to name five streets began in the fall of 2012 with public outreach including an article in "It's Your City" and an invitation on the Bellevue website to submit suggested names. The names were to be based on the area's industrial past or recall its natural, agricultural and ethnic heritage. They could also refer to neighborhood landmarks and events, as well as something about the area's future. Since then approximately 100 entries for names have been received.

A Management Brief describing the project and the naming process went Council on September 17, 2012.

The Transportation Code (BCC 14.02.060, see Attachment 3) provides for the naming of rights-of-way went not using the conventional numbered system of streets (east/west) and avenues (north/south). A named right-of-way is then designated as a boulevard, drive or way. The name of the right-of-way must be approved by Council Resolution after recommendation by interested person, community groups, planning commission or the designating official. In this case the designating official, the city engineer, requests that the Transportation Commission help in the name selection.

Staff has short-listed the suggested names to include those that meet the naming criteria. This list will be provided to you at this evening's meeting. In a follow-up visit to the Transportation Commission we will ask for your recommendations to be forwarded to the Council.

The Comprehensive Plan supports naming (or renaming) streets to reinforce Bellevue as "city in a park" (UD-42) and to recognize the heritage of the community (UD-77).

Street names encourage place-making and help grow the character and personality of a district or community. Bellevue Way, Main Street, and Lakemont Boulevard elicit particular memorable images that would not be triggered by a number alone. The BelRed Subarea Vision seeks to establish a sense of place. BelRed, and the neighborhoods within it, will have a character that is different from Downtown Bellevue, Overlake, or other Bellevue neighborhoods. It will build on its industrial past, and recall its natural, agricultural and ethnic heritage, while incorporating new development types that offer a unique experience for residents and employees. Policies encourage developing an outstanding street environment that promotes streets as key urban places a strong consideration of character and aesthetics for all street projects (S-BR- 25).

Initial ideas gathered at a Mobility and Infrastructure Initiative open house linked to BelRed's agricultural and industrial roots, natural features such as streams, and other elements related to the district vision.

#### BELRED STREET TO BE NAMED

The following streets have been determined to meet the definition of boulevard, drive, or way, and the naming of these streets is endorsed by both the Transportation and Fire Departments. Final name recommendations will be reviewed by both departments.

- NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> - This future arterial is a multi-modal lynchpin and key east-west corridor for BelRed, as it will tie together much of the new land use. It will also incorporate a series of environmentally sensitive urban open spaces (S-BR-55). Naming this street will eliminate the confusion that would otherwise result from having two street numbers assigned.
- NE 14<sup>th</sup> and NE 18<sup>th</sup> (two segments each) – These corridors are planned as “Green Streets” (S-BR-39, 56) that will utilize natural drainage systems to the greatest extent possible to improve and reduce the amount storm water at its source and generally be located between stream corridors and trail connections.

#### NEXT STEPS

Staff will forward a shortlist of names to Transportation Commissioners. Each Commissioner selects 10 street names and forwards them to Patti Wilma (pwilma@bellevuewa.gov). Staff will return to the Commission to review the short list. A memo to Council recommending the names for adoption is forwarded to Council. Council adopts names by resolution. Staff will return to the Transportation Commission to gather street name recommendations and forward them to Council for approval by recommendation.

#### ATTACHMENTS

1. BelRed Map
2. Comprehensive Plan Policies
3. Transportation Code 14.02.060

## Attachment 2

### Bel-Red Implementation – Street Names

#### Related Comprehensive Plan Policies

##### UD-42

Design boulevards to be distinctive from other streets and to reinforce the image of Bellevue as a “city in a park.” Both within the right of-way and on adjacent private development utilize features such as gateways, street trees, median plantings, special lighting, separated and wider sidewalks, crosswalks, seating, special signs, street names, landscaping, decorative paving patterns, and public art.

##### UD-77

Recognize the heritage of the community by naming (or renaming) parks, streets, and other public places after major figures and events.

##### Bel-Red Subarea Vision:

A sense of place: Bel-Red, and the neighborhoods within it, will have a character that is different from Downtown Bellevue, Overlake, or other Bellevue neighborhoods. The area will build on its industrial past, and recall its natural, agricultural and ethnic heritage, while incorporating new development types that offer a unique experience for residents and employees. Public art and a distinctive cultural environment will also add to Bel-Red’s character.

##### S-BR-25

Design and develop an outstanding street environment that promotes streets as key urban places, sensitive to their context and providing an interesting and aesthetically rich experience. Apply a street hierarchy with design guidelines and street standards that provides an appropriate combination of the following elements:

- a. Strong consideration of character and aesthetics in the design and implementation of all street projects;
- b. Integration of open space and landscaping, including street trees;
- c. Environmentally sensitive practices, including natural drainage systems where appropriate;
- d. Sidewalk development standards that promote pedestrian functionality and interest, and avoid obstructions;
- e. Ground floor differentiation, including preferred uses, visual and physical access;
- f. Mid-block pedestrian crossings; and
- g. On-street parking, where it contributes to pedestrian convenience and safety.

##### S-BR-39

Promote the development of “green streets” throughout the corridor, with an abundance of street trees and areas of landscaping to improve and reduce the amount of stormwater runoff, be aesthetically pleasing, and provide an attractive pedestrian experience.

##### S-BR-55

Extend and expand NE 16<sup>th</sup> Street as a multi-modal corridor that includes vehicular, high capacity transit, and non-motorized travel modes to serve east-west trip demand across the Bel-Red area, while incorporating significant urban open spaces, and environmentally sensitive design features.

## Chapter 14.02 NAMES AND NUMBERS

### Sections:

- [14.02.010](#) Definitions.
- [14.02.020](#) Numbering of streets.
- [14.02.030](#) Numbering principles.
- [14.02.040](#) Prefixes and suffixes for boulevards.
- [14.02.050](#) Extensions to boulevards.
- [14.02.060](#) Naming new boulevards.
- [14.02.070](#) Naming existing streets.
- [14.02.080](#) Numbering houses required.
- [14.02.090](#) House numbering rules.
- [14.02.100](#) Title of chapter.

### **14.02.010 Definitions.**

The following words or phrases, whenever used in this chapter, shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this section unless, where used, the context shall clearly indicate to the contrary:

A. "Avenue" means a public or private thoroughfare dedicated or improved for general travel and as a means of primary access to the front of residential, business or other property and, except for occasional sinuosities, running in a generally north-south direction.

B. "Boulevard," "drive" or "way" mean a public way dedicated or improved for general travel and as a primary means of access to the front of property, either as a thoroughfare or cul-de-sac, having such sinuosities as not to fit into the regular street or avenue pattern, or a divided or other ornamental way within or adjacent to a park, scenic or landscaped area and not being a portion or extension of a named street or avenue.

C. "Designating official" means the city engineer or other city administrative employee or employees ordered by the city manager to perform the duties of the designating official as herein prescribed.

D. "Place" means the same as a street or avenue but lying between and parallel to streets or avenues as an extra highway to the grid system of 16 streets to a mile; or a public or private way other than an alley, boulevard, drive or way which does not fit into the fixed street and avenue pattern by virtue of running at an acute angle to streets or avenues.

E. "Street" means a public or private thoroughfare dedicated or improved for general travel and as a means of primary access to the front of residential, business or other property and, except for occasional sinuosities, running in a generally east-west direction. (1961 code § 10.08.010.)

#### **14.02.020 Numbering of streets.**

The designating official shall assign numbers to all public or private ways now existing or hereafter established, which have not been named or numbered heretofore; provided, that no name or number shall be assigned to a private road or way unless the same shall be servient to one or more properties other than the tract of which it is a portion and unless an easement appurtenant has been granted by recorded deed. (1961 code § 10.08.020.)

#### **14.02.030 Numbering principles.**

The designating official shall assign a number to such streets, avenues or places by application of the following principles:

A. All streets, avenues (or places) shall be designated by numbers assigned at intervals of one-sixteenth of a mile from the base or meridian lines herein established.

B. The base line for street numbers shall be Main Street, located on the centerline of Sections 31 through 36, inclusive, in Township 25 North, Range 5 E.W.M.

C. Streets and places running generally east-west, north of Main Street shall bear the prefix Northeast (NE) and commencing with the designation "Northeast First Street" shall be assigned consecutively increasing numbers as the intervals increase to the north.

D. Streets and places running generally east-west, south of Main Street shall bear the prefix Southeast (SE) and commencing with the designation "Southeast First Street" shall be assigned consecutively increasing numbers as the intervals increase to the south.

E. The meridian line for avenues and places running generally north-south shall be 100th Avenue, located on the westerly line of Sections 5 through 32, inclusive, of Township 25 North, Range 5 E.W.M.

F. That portion of an avenue or place running generally north-south, lying north of Main Street shall bear the suffix Northeast (NE) while those portions lying south of Main Street shall bear the suffix Southeast (SE).

G. Avenues and places running generally north-south shall be assigned consecutively increasing numbers as the intervals increase to the east of 100th Avenue and consecutively decreasing numbers shall be assigned as the intervals increase to the west of 100th Avenue. (1961 code § 10.08.030.)

#### **14.02.040 Prefixes and suffixes for boulevards.**

Boulevards, drives and ways, whenever feasible, shall be designated with suffixes and prefixes to conform to the provisions of BCC [14.02.030](#) applicable to streets, places and avenues. When the boulevards, drives or ways are running in a predominantly east-west direction, the applicable prefixes will apply, and when the direction of such boulevards, drives or ways are predominantly north-south, the applicable suffix will apply. (1961 code § 10.08.040.)

#### **14.02.050 Extensions to boulevards.**

Extensions of existing boulevards, drives or ways shall bear the name of the existing boulevard, drive or way unless such extension is approximately straight and will fit into the system for designation of a street or avenue in which case the designating official shall designate such extension as a street or avenue unless the city council, by resolution, shall direct the extension to bear the name of the prior existing way. (1961 code § 10.08.050.)

#### **14.02.060 Naming new boulevards.**

New boulevards, drives or ways shall be named or designated by resolutions of the city council after recommendation by interested persons, community groups, planning commission or the designating official. (1961 code § 10.08.060.)

#### **14.02.070 Naming existing streets.**

All existing and named streets, avenues, places, boulevards, drives or ways shall continue to bear the designation heretofore existing under the King County numbering system unless changed by resolution or ordinance of the city council after the council has determined that the prior designation does not conform to the official street designating ordinance, that the public convenience and welfare will be served by such change in designation, or that the change in designation will implement the goals and policies of the city. (Ord. [5098](#) § 1, 1998; 1961 code § 10.08.070.)

#### **14.02.080 Numbering houses required.**

The designating official shall issue house or premises numbers to each new residence or other structure requiring a means of separate and simple identification at the time of issuing a building permit therefor. Such numbers shall be issued for preexisting building or premises upon the request of the owner or legal occupant where no such designating number has been issued, or where the issued number conflicts with the numbering system created by this chapter, and public convenience and welfare would be promoted by such renumbering. (1961 code § 10.08.080)

#### **14.02.090 House numbering rules.**

The numbers assigned by the designating official shall be determined by application of the following rules:

- A. House or premises numbers shall be determined by adding two digits to the block number in which such house or premises is located. The block number shall be obtained by taking the number of the nearest street or avenue to the appropriate base line. Block numbers shall be obtained from streets or avenues only, and no consideration or change in block numbers shall be made by the intersection of a place.
- B. Consecutive numbers shall be assigned on streets or places running east-west, for each 20-foot interval commencing from the nearest avenue intersection to the west of the house or premises.
- C. Consecutive numbers shall be assigned on avenues for places running north-south, for each 20-foot interval from the nearest street intersection with the numbers beginning at the end of the block nearest the base line.

D. The houses or premises located on the south and/or west side of such streets, avenues, places or ways shall receive odd numbers and the premises or houses on the north and/or east side of such ways shall receive even numbers. (1961 code § 10.08.090.)

**14.02.100 Title of chapter.** 

This chapter shall be known as the “official street and house designating ordinance.” (1961 code § 10.08.100.)



