

City of

Bellevue



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DATE: October 2, 2013

TO: Bellevue Transportation Commission

FROM: Kevin McDonald, AICP, Senior Transportation Planner, 452-4558
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SUBJECT: 2014 Comprehensive Plan Update - Transportation Element

INTRODUCTION

On October 10, 2013, staff will review Transportation Element policy topic areas that have emerged through community outreach and staff analysis, and will discuss the planning to develop a multimodal mobility policy for consideration in the Comprehensive Plan Update. Staff will seek Commission comments and input on these topics, although no formal action is requested of the Commission at this meeting.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

The update of the plan occurs about every ten years. The 2014 update will incorporate changes that have occurred since the plan was last updated in 2004 and will include new policy to address the emerging needs and aspirations of the community. Community engagement is a critical part of the update process. The Bellevue City Council adopted a community engagement plan that outlines objectives for including the public in policy development. Those objectives include using multiple styles of engagement involving the community – including boards and commissions - throughout the process. The “Best Ideas Campaign” was a new technique to reach a broad audience.

Bellevue’s Best Ideas

For the Bellevue’s Best Ideas Campaign, the City conducted an on-line solicitation for the community’s “best ideas” for the following topic areas:

- Arts and Culture
- Community Health
- Diverse Community
- Economic Development
- Environmental Stewardship
- Housing
- Improved Mobility
- Parks and Recreation

- Partnerships and Collaboration
- Quality Neighborhoods

Best Ideas gave people a great degree of latitude in coming up with ideas, while encouraging ideas that align with planning topics that were emphasized during early outreach.

Bellevue’s Best Ideas is not a scientific survey and may have had a larger degree of participation from some groups in the community than others. That said, the city worked to encourage broad participation. The campaign ran from late April to July 4, 2013. Press releases and city announcements advertised the campaign. Bellevue’s Best Ideas was featured on the front page of the Bellevue Reporter, noted in online Web sites, reported in *It’s Your City*, appeared in several neighborhood newsletters, and was discussed at City Council and Planning Commission meetings. City staff actively engaged the public to encourage participation at several events:

- Spring Forward Expo Open House – April 24
- Lake Hill Library – June 5
- Downtown Park at lunch time – June 7
- Downtown Library – June 12
- Pedestrian Corridor at lunch time – June 14
- Crossroad Mall at lunch time – June 21
- Microsoft Store at Bellevue Square – June 21

The Results

Bellevue’s Best Ideas was a successful pilot of a new outreach technique. Bellevue’s Best Ideas resulted in 126 unique ideas, 164 comments on ideas, and 1770 votes from 346 individuals. The “Quality Neighborhoods”, “Improved Mobility” and “Economic Development” categories received the most activity.

A complete list of the “Best Ideas”, plus the related comments and vote totals are in Attachment 1.

Some of the popular ideas submitted and recurring themes include:

Arts and Culture

- **Performing Arts Center** – This idea received 41 positive votes (2 negative), stating, “Downtown Bellevue needs a large-scale performing arts center!” A similar idea received 28 votes. A comment expressed that having access to the arts is part of what makes for a healthy community. Comments reiterated the need and suggested that the proposed “Tateuchi Center will make Bellevue complete.” Some noted the challenge of attending performances in Seattle and look forward to having local offerings.
- **Downtown Children’s Museum** – There were 35 votes in favor of this idea for a museum oriented toward families and children (2 opposed). Comments noted the need for a fun, active, learning opportunity.

Community Health

- **Ensure Crucial Early Intervention for Children!** – Twenty-six people supported this (2 opposed) that seeks more support for early intervention and special education of our children with special needs.

Diverse Community

- **Bring SIFF to Bellevue Theaters** – Seattle International Film Festival is a world renowned festival with over 400 movies shown in Seattle, Renton and Kirkland. Twenty-five people supported bringing it to Bellevue. Another idea suggests having outdoor movies in Downtown Park.

Economic Development

- **Fiber-Optic, 1-gigabit per second speeds** – This idea seeks to enhance the Internet infrastructure available in the city noting how it will help existing and attract new businesses. Thirty-six people favored the idea. A similar idea suggests that we should have citywide WiFi and another notes the expense of Comcast internet service. Another idea calls for “ubiquitous connectivity.”

Environmental Stewardship

- **Promote water conservation, rain collection systems** – This idea seeks to work with Cascade Water Alliance to promote rain barrels. It received support from 21 users.

Housing

- Two ideas submitted for housing suggest doing more to support affordable housing, including requiring it in mixed-use projects and letting a broader range of contractors into the market. Interestingly, the ideas received a mix of votes and comments for and opposed to the ideas. An idea to include senior housing at the Newport Hills Shopping Center received three positive votes.

Improved Mobility

- **Alternative Transportation Options** – This idea stated, “As a cyclist/pedestrian/bus-ride, I feel very much like a second-class citizen in Bellevue.” It advocates for changes to street design to encourage more people to walk and bike. Thirty-five voted in support, although 9 were opposed, showing a mix of opinions on the topic. Several similar ideas were also posted and received similar voting that suggest doing more for accommodating bicycle riders, increasing pedestrian access, creating a “Green Line” trail. A counter proposal to “keep the focus on cars” received 9 positive votes, but 34 negative votes.

Parks and Recreation

- **Improve BNSF trail for recreational use** – Creating a world class trail in the old BNSF rail road right-of-way (now known as the Eastside Rail Corridor) was seen in this idea as a way to connect Bellevue to the region as part of a major trail system. It received 21 supportive votes.

Partnerships and Collaboration

- **Gates & fences** – This idea seeks the addition of gates and pathways that would allow people better connections within their neighborhoods, rather than some of the existing pedestrian barriers between developments. They stated that increased pedestrian access would help prevent crime, rather than reduce it. It received 14 votes in favor and 3 opposed.

Quality Neighborhoods

- **Invest in “Third Places”** – One of the ideas that received the most attention, it advocates for creating more places where neighbors can connect, citing Crossroads Mall as an example. Forty people voted in favor, while 8 opposed (one commented that they voted “disagree” by mistake).

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT POLICY ANALYSIS

Staff review

An interdepartmental staff team is reviewing the Comprehensive Plan Update from a topical or functional perspective, and is coordinating efforts with each board and commission that has responsibility to implement the Comprehensive Plan. With respect to the Transportation Element, an initial staff overview identified some policy gaps and needed updates as follows:

- There is a significant amount of outdated language, especially with respect to policies that refer to “high capacity transit”. These policies were adopted at a time when Bellevue needed to advocate for some type of high capacity transit to serve the city. That advocacy effort bore fruit in the ST2 vote and the planning for the East Link light rail corridor. *See further discussion of transit policies below.*
- Policy development is now needed ahead of a potential Sound Transit 3 (ST3) vote that could take place as early as November 2016. Policy may address potential corridors and activity centers to be served. Work on the Transit Master Plan will inform the potential ST3 policies.
- Additional policies and narrative are needed to support the Environmental Sustainability Initiative as it relates to mobility options and climate change – one specific topic is transportation sources of greenhouse gas emissions.

- Additional policies and narrative to advance the connection between mobility options and public health - note that this is also a land use issue in that the spatial arrangement, mix and intensity of land uses affects the available mobility options.
- Transit Master Plan will provide policy input. One current suggestion is to eliminate the Regional Transit category embedded in the Transit section, ie) all transit in Bellevue is regional in nature in that every route that serves Bellevue also serves other jurisdictions, so a set of policies grouped under “Regional Transit” adds little value.
- Policy direction regarding multimodal mobility metrics is needed for concurrency and long-range planning purposes to expand documenting, reporting and analysis to consider a full range of mobility options in a comprehensive manner. *See further discussion of multimodal planning and concurrency policies below.*
- Advance and integrate the concept and term “mobility options” throughout the Transportation Element to define, measure, and implement transportation infrastructure and programs. “Mobility options” would replace “alternative transportation”. Note that this terminology has been introduced in the context of the Downtown Transportation Plan.
- Address the evolving land use vision – Land use plan changes that affect transportation policy include the adopted Bel-Red Subarea Plan, the Wilburton Subarea Plan and the Eastgate/I-90 Subarea Plan, plus the Downtown Transportation Plan and Downtown Livability Initiative that are currently under development.
- Incorporate an evolving mobility vision – Providing mobility options conveys multiple public benefits such as: improved community health and safety; vibrant and sustainable neighborhoods; vigorous economy; reduced traffic volume; decreased air, water, and noise pollution; and reduced transportation-source greenhouse gas emissions.
- Introduce the concept of “pedestrian priority” streets outside of Downtown, where roadway design and operation favor pedestrian mobility, ie) 130th Avenue NE in Bel-Red which is described as a pedestrian-oriented retail street in the Bel-Red Subarea Plan. Identify a suite of design, enhancement and operational strategies (together with land use and urban design features) that would be implemented in the context of candidate roadway segments in smaller business districts across the city.
- Adhere to the rule of “one topic-one policy”. There are many policies with numbered or bulleted components. Some of these itemized components could be included in a “narrative” section or extracted as stand-alone policies.
- There is considerable policy overlap/redundancy that could be eliminated, reducing the number of policies and providing clear direction.

Transit Section Policies – preliminary ideas from the Transit Master Plan

The Transportation Element policies will be updated and consolidated to account for changed circumstances and in anticipation of new mobility strategies and investments. New mobility

strategies include those being advanced through the Transit Master Plan. The Transit Master Plan (TMP) has identified the following notable changes in Bellevue and the region that will inform both the TMP process and transit policies in the Transportation Element:

- Regional Policy Changes – A new policy framework outlined in King County Metro’s Strategic Plan for Public Transportation (2011-2021) emphasizes that service reduction and service expansion decisions will be made based on productivity, social equity, and geographic value.
- Financial Uncertainties – The TMP developed a transit service vision for Bellevue that uses the region’s limited resources efficiently and effectively.
- East Link – The 2003 Bellevue Transit Plan did not take into account East Link and the Transportation Element policies in that regard are outdated. Policy will consider local transit connections to light rail stations to maximize access and connections. A vote on a ST3 high capacity transit package is anticipated as early as 2016 and Bellevue policy is needed to advocate for future transit investments.
- Demographic Changes – Population and employment trends in Bellevue contribute to increased demand for mobility options including public transit services.

Multimodal Planning and Concurrency Policy

Through this topic we will explore a range of options that could better integrate multiple modes of travel (mobility options) into the City’s concurrency methodology and long range mobility planning. This component of the Comprehensive Plan Update work would develop a range of policy choices based on best practices and applicability to Bellevue. Consideration will be given to establishing context-appropriate standards for mobility management areas based on their character and available or intended mobility options. New policy may provide direction to implement a multi-modal level of service and concurrency strategy and long-range planning standards and metrics through a future work plan and budget.

Issue

For concurrency purposes, Bellevue uses a level of service (LOS) standard based on the ratio of vehicle volume to vehicle capacity (v/c) at signalized “system” intersections, and includes an area-wide (MMA) standard. For long range transportation planning, the City uses travel demand modeling and traffic operational modeling to forecast intersection and area-wide LOS based on the average delay of vehicles at intersections. Both methods provide a quantitative analysis for motorized vehicles only. Throughout the City, and significantly in existing mixed-use urban neighborhoods such as Downtown, Crossroads and Factoria, and in evolving neighborhoods such as Bel-Red and Wilburton, mobility is characterized by high volumes of pedestrians, transit riders, and bicyclists, yet the quantitative metrics upon which transportation investments and planning decisions are made are related solely to vehicle capacity and delay.

Scope of Work

This effort will evaluate level of service methodology with respect to the range of mobility options that serve Bellevue, and to compare methodologies and strategies used by other cities and the outcomes achieved. The expected outcome is a range of policy alternatives that provide pathways and choices for future changes in metrics for concurrency and long range transportation planning.

The scope of the work includes:

- Identifying the state of the art in assessing urban mobility and concurrency consistent with the Washington Growth Management Act.
- Identifying and evaluating other cities' approaches to concurrency and identifying "best practices" that integrate multiple mobility options for urban centers.
- Identifying and evaluating long-range (20+ year planning horizon) transportation planning methodologies and metrics used by other cities to forecast, plan for, and implement projects to accommodate multiple mobility options.
- Reviewing and critiquing Bellevue's current Transportation Element and concurrency policies with respect to planning for and accommodating multiple mobility options.
- Identifying a range of potential strategies that Bellevue might use to update concurrency policy, long-range transportation planning methodology and other Comprehensive Plan strategies related to multimodal mobility.

NEXT STEPS

The following work related to the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan Update will be brought to the Commission for consideration in the coming months:

- Policy language recommendations.
- Preliminary recommendations regarding multimodal planning and concurrency policies.
- Consolidation of the several geographically-specific transportation facility plans, which will eliminate redundancy and remove projects completed or superseded.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Bellevue's Best Ideas Results

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Arts and Culture					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
43	41	2	Performing Arts	<p>Downtown Bellevue needs a large-scale performing arts center! We have the density, population, and most importantly, the need; we also now have a plethora of amenities to attract quality artists and programs to come to our city. Part of being a healthy community is having access to the arts, I hope this is something the City of Bellevue will make a top priority and support as we continue to grow.</p>	Downtown
				Actually the website has changed. http://www.tateuchicenter.org/	
				Permits have already been issued for a world-class performing arts center in downtown Bellevue. 2,000 seat concert hall. Great artists. Broadway. Seattle Symphony & PNB. The best thing for Bellevue quality-of-life since indoor plumbing!!! They need more money. <u>Get on Board, Bellevue!!!</u>	
				We have one in the works. http://www.pac-eastside.org/	
				Definitely a worthwhile, needed institution for Bellevue.	
				Locating a 2000 seat Performing Arts Center in the heart of downtown Bellevue is a fantastic idea! We should wholeheartedly support the building of the Tateuchi Center. It will be a great addition to our growing community.	
				The Tateuchi Center will make Bellevue complete. With a growing population, having the Performing Arts available will enrich our busy, hectic lives. Please, please make this a priority!	
				The greater East side is amazing community but lacks a truly outstanding performance art center. It's time we do not depend on Seattle for this	
				With transportation challenges in Seattle continuing to grow, it would be fantastic to be able to attend symphony, ballet and performing cultural events in our own Eastside backyard. Building the Tateuchi Center is the perfect solution.	
				Tateuchi Center will be a tremendous asset to the city of Bellevue and the entire Eastside. It's completely designed and ready to build but it will need the full support of the city and county to make it a reality. I hope the city makes Tateuchi Center it's highest priority as a civic project.	
				Tateuchi Center is in the works. 2,000 seat concert hall and a Cabaret (jazz club) right next door to the Hyatt. World-class performers and regional treasures right here in Bellevue. It's completely designed and ready to go. Urge the City to get on board and treat it like what it is: a MAJOR community improvement that will serve all of our amazing & diverse neighbors.	
				Bellevue will not be a "real" city without a large performing arts venue. The current venues cannot accommodate Broadway shows, Seattle Opera, PNB, etc. Getting across the Lake to those performances in Seattle is not pleasant due to traffic glut.	
				It would be a fantastic idea to locate a performing arts center in the heart of downtown Bellevue. The community would have access to the finest theatre, ballet, concerts, educational lectures, and other cultural events conveniently located on the Eastside. I imagine a vibrant, growing city like Bellevue will greatly benefit from a performing arts center like the one already planned and named, the Tateuchi Center.	
36	34	2	Downtown Children's Museum	<p>As downtown Bellevue continues to grow, there is a need to focus on expanding offerings for children and families. Educational and cultural centers and museums help turn a standard business-and-retail town into a first rate city. Designing Bellevue to become a world class place to live and visit means we need a wide range of museums, including a children's museum that out of town visitors can walk to, schools can collaborate with, and local young families can visit often.</p>	Bellevue
				Having an amenity in Downtown that is offered specifically to children and families is much needed in Bellevue, and a fun, active, learning opportunity like a children's museum is a wonderful idea!!! I really hope this idea gains community support - it would make for such a nice cultural center when combined with Tateuchi and BAM.	
19	19	0	Tell the Bellevue Story - History Museum / Heritage Center	<p>As the State's 5th largest city and with growing tourism interest, Bellevue needs to plan for a permanent Heritage Center - a place to share the Bellevue and Eastside story. Cultural amenities are strong economic and tourism drivers. By making connections to the past, history museums enhance community identity, providing a sense of place and belonging. In addition to offering public and educational programming, a Heritage Center could serve as a much needed community gathering and meeting space.</p>	Bellevue

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Arts and Culture cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
17	11	6	International festivals	We need more international festivals in the City to showcase our diversity. Redmond has Ananda Mela, the Indian festival which is pretty well known in the area. Bellevue has such large Chinese and Indian populations, I think the City should have festivals to celebrate cultures and diversity.	
				There is already an annual cultural festival at Crossroads but I think it should be better publicized.	
				I think that there should be more festivals that are friendly to everybody, not just "international" folks.	
15	15	0	Create a town hall - speakers' forum space	Other than shopping or going out to eat, there are fewer social options in the community. We should have a not-for-profit town hall forum, similar to Seattle's, where literary and other subjects could be presented and discussed.	Lake Hills
				What about the Bellevue Convention Center? I never go there but could it be used to have community forums?	
				This is in the plans for Tateuchi Center. Great speakers, exchanging ideas, maybe even TedX talks!	
13	12	1	Protect Bel-Red Small Businesses	With a large portion of arts-related businesses that provide incredible dance, music and arts instruction to our children, we can't afford to lose this valuable community asset. Relying on these businesses to purchase their property in order to stay in Bellevue will leave Bellevue devoid of an important layer of culture. Create a path to ownership plan (with incentives and tax forgiveness) that keeps small businesses in Bel-Red.	Newport Hills
				Yes, we don't need to attract more chain stores. Let's have some neighborhood character and make the place fertile ground for small businesses.	
11	11	0	Host Shakespeare in the Park at Downtown Bellevue Park	Downtown Park is woefully underused! We had Shakespeare in the Park for 1 year, and never again. Ask GreenStage or WoodenO Theater to perform their annual Free Shakespeare in the Park there.	Downtown Bellevue
10	3	7	Travel subsidy/validation	Getting into the city from the West Side can be a hassle. It could increase the likelihood that people would want to go into Bellevue if certain institutions offered validation for the 520 - similar concept to going to the movies and having your parking waved. In this case, buy admission to BAM (or similar attractions) and get a portion of your 520 fare reduced.	Downtown
9	5	4	Farmers Market, Move from Church to DT Core	Move the Farmers Market from the Presbyterian Church to Downtown Bellevue's Core. Your Local Market is closed, move it back to that location, or some other lot that is vacant My Choices: 1. Your Local Market, parking lot 2. Bellevue Square parking structure, next to JCPenny's 3. Mars Hill Parking Lot (adjacent to Barnes & Noble) 4. Parking Lot on SW corner of NE 8th & 110th Ave NE Have no idea, whether any of these lots are available.	Monthaven
				Kemper Freeman is breaking ground on new construction in the parking lot of Your Local Market. I would like to see the farmers market more centrally located, though.	
8	8	0	Outdoor concerts	Outdoor concerts that allow for people to buy cheap tickets to sit on the lawn and more expensive tickets to sit in an amphitheater.	Eastgate
7	6	1	Artistic center for graphic designers and artists	I think that's it would be great way for people to explore there artistic sides and share them with the rest of the community also allowing the community to share there own views on life in an unpressured environment.. this would yield a more cultured lifestyle as opposed to just a business vibe.	Downtown
				Check out my "university neighborhood" in downtown idea.	
2	2	0	Performing Art Center/Bookstore	It would be nice to have a community in/outdoor theatre including a bookstore with many conference rooms, coffee/café that caters to everyone. We use to have one in California, I love the story telling, many exhibitions, like "Star Trek", Yo-Yo, magic, dance hall. A lot of many great things happening at once love that area near 7-11, jack in the box, radio shack, you have not seen an outdoor movie, sketch, play, you haven't seen anything, this would be a plus for everyone!	Main & NE 8th St.

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Community Health	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
26	25	1	Ensure Crucial Early Intervention for Children!	80% of a child's brain development occurs by age three. With the rising demand for special education services, the Bellevue community needs to devote more support for early intervention and special education of our ever-diverse and growing community of children with special needs. Bellevue should be committed to the mission that children should receive the early help they need to grow and thrive!	Crossroads
16	13	3	Project to increase gratitude & happiness	The new field of positive psychology has proven that increased gratitude leads to more happiness, compassion and empathy. Children with more compassion and empathy lead to are much less likely to bully or be bullied. Everybody wants to be happier.	Wilburton
				Teach positive psychology and compassion in our schools. There is tension between compassion and our hyper-competitive values. I don't know how we fix that but we can at least start talking about it.	
				The easiest way would be to declare, say, May 1st Happy/Gratitude Day in Bellevue. However, showing gratitude works best when to take active actions to show our gratitude. There are limitless possibilities for showing gratitude in action that don't cost	
				Sounds great, how should the City of Bellevue officials accomplish this?	
				Gratitude is a keystone to all the good things in life. Let's incorporate ways to feel and show our gratitude for our community!	
12	12	0	Downtown farmers market	With more and more people moving in to the downtown core of Bellevue, it would be wonderful to have more community events, such as a farmers market, that residents could walk to.	Clyde Hill
				The Saturday farmer's market in Bellevue is located right downtown in front of Bellevue Galleria. Not sure how more in the "core" than that. Bellevue hosts many events...Art Fair in July, 4th of July event, Making Strides 5k starts/finishes at the park in October, Bellevue Mingle at the BAM, Live at lunch music during summer, etc...	
				Bellevue does have a downtown farmers market on Saturdays: http://www.bellevuefarmersmarket.org/ It begins this year on June 8, and was previously held at the Bellevue First Congregational Church parking lot. (Due to proposed construction in the adjacent lot, I believe they are looking for a new site.)	
8	8	0	No Smoking	No public smoking in Bellevue! The 25 foot away from the door rule is not enough. My children and I still have to walk through clouds of smoke. It's not right that people can blow second hand smoke in the faces of others (including children) who want to live healthy lives.	Phantom Lake
				The Bellevue Aquatic Center on 143rd Ave and NE 8th is indispensable for seniors and the handicapped. This is the only facility in this area that has a nice sloping ramp for wheelchair users and those who have trouble walking to get into the pool, and the warmer water is better for those in frail health also. People come from Kirkland, Duval, and all over to use the Aquatic Center to keep up their strength and health. I need it myself. Please regard this as an essential city service!	Spirit Ridge
				It is also where Bellevue & Sammamish high school swim teams practice, and the divers from Bellevue, Newport, Sammamish, Mercer Island and Interlake all practice there. Support the pool and interscholastic sports.	
3	3	0	ADA & Mental Health	Celebrate Mental Health and ADA in Bellevue with a bike and run in the city. Help raise awareness with police, fire and the community. We need speakers and a demonstration to work a wheelchair. Bring in the Military, veterans to help raise the awareness, share their stories. Improve area's with more "Disability" signs in area's that need them.	Downtown City Hall
			Remove Fluoride toxins from our drinking water	The city of Bellevue receives their water from the Seattle City Water system. Something our annual water quality report does state. Taking on the topic of Fluoride toxin in our water system would require the city of Seattle to cease the use of Fluoride toxins. We deserve the right to choose what is in our water. We deserve the right to choose how we care for our dental health. Why does the government need to spend the money on preventing cavities? People deserve a vote.	Clyde Hill

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Diverse Community						
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood	
25	25	0	Bring SIFF to Bellevue Theatres	Seattle International Film Festival is THE World renowned film festival, with over 400 movies shown from May to end of June. Currently, movies are shown in Seattle, Kirkland and Renton. It would be great if the City works with SIFF and show movies in Bellevue. Another idea, post the Festival, re-show top 5 to 10 movies that people rated, and show them in a Bellevue Theatre. http://www.siff.net/	Monthaven	
				Ideal for the off-season at the Theatre at Meydenbauer Center.		
16	1	15	More indoor shopping centers	I wish the City has more indoor shopping centers for kids and families. It's hard to find a place to hang out during the long rainy season. That's one of the reasons why the Crossroads Shopping Center is so successful and the Bravern is not. I think more neighborhoods can benefit from the Crossroads' model.		
13	3	10	Add themes to your Pocket Parks	Base your park theme on the local demographic majority, themes engage the public and encourage use by sectors that may not be fully using the current park. Carefully selecting the theme can insure that the majority of community members can relate to it and thereby derive greater sense of community.	Microsoft	
				Some of the older parks are just magical, each one so very different, with unusual play equipment and creative designs. For instance, the Spirit Ridge park is tiny, and yet when you walk the paths, it feels like you are in the middle of a big forest. Each curve gives you a new and interesting view. The newest parks, in general, are more generic. For instance, the Enatai Beach Park had to be redone, so that there would be more parking and not interfere with the local neighbors, but it went from enchanting to boring and ugly. Hire another park designer of the type you used to have!		
				I like idea of themes (kids, sports, tech, arts) but not based on demographics or ethnicity !		
				I don't want a sense of community. I want people to leave me alone.		
9	8	1	Tech for people	Redmond & Bellevue attract so many high tech workers and there are so many people that are not tech savvy; I would like to see a user fair, where new or odd uses of devices are shared, people's problems are addressed, sources of training are aired. I'm thinking of apps for handicapped, software for artists, robots for health, & games for education.	Overlake	
				Community center computer labs?		
3	1	2	5 \$ 10K Race	Have a annual city hall race, walk to raise money to help pay for things like new bicycle lanes, bring indie music and film to the Eastside .Bring awareness to health and fitness for all. Try to raise money for a new dog park near Meydenbauer area.	All	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Economic Development		
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood	
36	36	0	Fiber-Optic, 1 Gigabit per second speeds	Google Fiber is now launched in Kansas, why not Bellevue. Work with Frontier or Google Fiber, and make 1 Gbit/s speeds a reality in Bellevue. City of Bellevue will commit high tech firms to stay in Bellevue forever!	Monthaven	
				Condo-internet provides 1Gb Internet to larger communities.		
28	28	0	Arts make good business	The performing arts center in the works for downtown has been independently rated to have a 10-year \$470 million economic impact on the region. Combined with BAM and the Children's Museum (coming soon) Bellevue will have an arts triangle contributing not only to quality-of-life, but also to the local economy. Support all three & support the economy!!	Downtown	
				Building a performing arts center in the heart of downtown Bellevue is a fantastic idea! There is no doubt that everyone would benefit by its presence in our great city of Bellevue. The Tateuchi Center is going to be a great addition to our community.		
				Having working within performing arts organizations, I have seen the impact that they have not only on economic growth but also the positive impact on a community through education outreach. Being able to put children in the same room with performing artists to exchange ideas about creativity can inspire students and help shape their future. And having another venue capable of housing performances of Seattle Arts Organizations will help them serve and grow their audiences. Lastly, with the number of local companies who require a large, technically advanced venue for conferences and presentations, this center would offer an option to be able to keep those conferences right in Bellevue to the benefit of local businesses.		
				A performing arts center is long overdue in Bellevue.		
				Creating another point of brilliance with this performing arts center will be uplifting for our community and economic development.		
				The City of Bellevue has grown into a wonderful city and most importantly a community that offers something for everyone. The icing on the cake would be to build the Tateuchi Center. A performing arts center of this magnitude would allow so many types of events to be performed in our own backyard. It would also support the Seattle based arts organizations that are losing their patrons that live on the East side due to traffic issues.		
25	22	3	Food truck stands	Designate pockets between roads and sidewalks where food trucks can park. Maybe provide some metered services such as electricity and wifi. Let merchants book in advance so they can tweet, "#BestFood at #BellevueWayNE6th on June 7!"	Lake Hills	
23	22	1	Focus on small business for the City's Comprehensive Plan	We need to encourage small business. There is a distinct lack of small-scale, dense retail in Bellevue. Malls are great and probably lucrative for the city, but they discourage a sense of community that flows through walkable shops and casual street conversation. More on-street parking, actual mass transit, and zoning that encourages mixed-use retail in greater density than currently exists could minimize downtown Bellevue's "IT Wall Street" feel for a bustling, local experience.	Seattle	
21	19	2	Encourage small, locally-owned food businesses in downtown	The locally-owned, small businesses in downtown Bellevue have a loyal following: Black Bottle, Ooba Tooba, Monsoon East, Cupcake Royale, etc. But the rents in Bellevue encourage only bland corporate chains, which discourages foodies. If Bellevue wants to get its own local flavor, we need to subsidize more locally-owned restaurants/cafes/coffee houses	Downtown Bellevue	
				Please vote for pedestrian street idea that will enable your idea as well: https://bellevuesbestideas.ideascale.com/a/dtd/Make-one-of-the-streets-Pedestrian-only/494275-22901		
19	2	17	Sports + Entertainment	Situate entertainment at either ends of the WALKABLE Spring District, served by Light Rail (to minimize traffic impacts). Offset planned Local Improvement District with revenues.	Eastgate	
				Sports arwna...no thanks!!		
15	14	1	Wifi in the city	Provide free public wi-fi through out Bellevue	Community	
				It is amazing that in 2013 the City of Bellevue does not have city wide free WiFi. This is key to this tech city. People visiting from other countries for work often ask me why this is not available here.		
				especially in and around parks, public buildings like schools and Bellevue College, on buses and bus stations, etc		

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Economic Development, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
13	4	9	A visitor center is needed for the City!	Many people who visit Bellevue have nowhere to get information about the City. If we want to grow tourism and encourage more international investments, we should at least have a visitor center where visitors can gather information about Bellevue and what opportunities the City offers.	
				I would suggest visitor center idea be scaled or piggybacked onto something like the like mini city hall at xroads.	
12	10	2	Bellevue needs ubiquitous connectivity	Comcast is expensive. Free high speed wifi is limited. Schools need to transition to cloud-based curriculum (for relevancy as well as cost). Health care needs to connect patients in their homes with doctors and clinics and hospitals and records. Lower economic households are in danger of being left behind and becoming further isolated from the tools and information that support informed and productive citizens. Bellevue's infrastructure could be much better!	Bridle Trails
				This is all well and good but I wouldn't want to be the one who ends up with a cell tower in my backyard. Is there a solution that you had in mind to this issue of lack of wifi?	
				Faster, cheaper Internet will help people at all parts of the economic spectrum.	
				+1 for anything that will diversify infrastructure choice!	
10	9	1	Bellevue Technology Centers	This is an opportunity to focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in the Bellevue Communities. Just like we have recreation for outdoors we need to invest in our kids future.	Community
7	5	2	Newport Hills Shopping Center	Revitalize the NH shopping center by encouraging a Grocery Outlet Bargain Market to replace the old Red Apple (all the senior citizens would benefit). Tear down Herfy's and add a Jack-in-the-Box Restaurant. Use the old Bank of America branch as a Jewelry Store and replace the Batting cage/failed pizza place with a bike/skateboard shop complete with skateboard park.	Newport Hills
7	6	1	Small business incubator	Look into using any City owned facilities that are underused as a business hub - and encourage small business incubation. Allow multiple start ups to learn from each other and generate synergy to bring new businesses to Bellevue.	Bellevue
				Underused City facilities should be sold.	
7	7	0	After School programming classes for Teens	We need to start exposing kids to Technology at a young age so we can increase registration of STEM degrees	Community
				There's more to STEM than programming...	
6	1	5	Develop a permanent Coffee museum in Bellevue	Seattle is famous for coffee. The museum will provide history, exhibit, tasting, gathering place. Tourist attraction.	Downtown
6	1	5	Attract cheaper hotels outside of downtown Bellevue	A lot of Americans visit Seattle without experiencing Bellevue (to their detriment). Many foreigners such as myself also have guests from outside the country visiting once in a while. Would be great if the city found a way to encourage hotel owners to open new locations in the cheaper parts of Bellevue (Crossroads, Factoria) in order to reduce the currently exorbitant average nightly rates that the existing hotel oligopoly in Bellevue is allowed to get away with. This will increase tourism too.	Bellevue
				I agree there are no cheap hotels in the whole area at all! Even 2* motel costs ~\$100/day. There is no affordable place to put guests for a while.	
				I guess we live in the "cheap" side of town -- near Crossroads. Personally, I prefer the quiet small town feel in the "cheaper" side of town and would not prefer big hotels over here.	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Economic Development, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
4	3	1	Sustainable Products Portal	Internationally there are thousands of sustainable product manufacturers that are interested in both selling and buying sustainable products from the U.S. Just a simple review of the benefits of two sustainable businesses conducting international trade makes this the most beneficial business partnership for each business. By creating sustainable product legislation here in Washington we could become the West coast portal for all sustainable products via international trade.	Pro Club
				What is a sustainable product?	
2	1	1	Main Street, Downtown area	I was hoping for Main street/old Bellevue will develop into several small restaurants, shops, galleries. From there, you can hop on a shuttle bus that can take you to your car parked near QFC, or the horse carriage, just for summer time, close some of the streets so people can use this source of transportation. I like to see more outdoor and indoor restaurants in old Bellevue and by Wendy's, etc. If there are more things to do and eat, more people will come to move in the downtown area.	Old Bellevue
2	2	0	Viewing Platform to take in Bellevue's Beautiful Views	Create someplace in Bellevue where visitors, residents and workers can go to take in the views- the top of a high rise apartment, hotel or commercial building (ala the Empire State Building). It could be free or a small fee, maybe a restaurant or lounge.	Northtowne

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Environmental Stewardship	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
21	21	0	Promote water conservation, rain collection systems	Work with Cascade Water Alliance, in conjunction with Industrial Companies (food services, beverage companies, etc...) that uses 55 Gallon Barrels or 275 Gallon "Intermediate Bulk Containers" to residences to provide these items at a reduced rate. Residences use these containers to harvest rain water and use less City water. This will reduce the flow of water into Lakes / streams. Will benefit gardens / landscapes. Will prevent water rations in the summer	Monthaven
				where will the rain collecting barrels go?	
				I agree. I bought a 160 gallon tank for my rainwater	
18	8	10	Environmental classes	I wish the City will provide more educational classes regarding environmental issues like global warming, and green building.	
18	16	2	Plastic Bag Ban	Bellevue must take part in the effort to end the distribution of plastic carry-out bags from all retail stores. Although Bellevue has a strong recycling program, it's not effective enough to keep many plastic bags from entering landfills or oceans. This is an obvious step in the right direction as four cities in WA have already, successfully, implemented this policy including Seattle, Bellingham, Edmonds, and Mukilteo.	Cherrywood - Crossroads
				I would suggest taking a look at the plastic bags you're using. The ones I've been getting are recyclable. Left alone they degrade.	
				I think that Carolyn Bowie's answer to my question of why it's important to ban plastic bags even if it means we would use more paper bags is really relevant so I'm going to copy it here so other voters can read it! The largest issue with plastic bags is their detriment to the environment in our waste stream. Plastics do not biodegrade. You can recycle plastic bags but it costs a lot more energy to produce plastics from recycled bags than using raw resources. On the production end, plastic bags are of course made from oil, a non-renewable, resource and the industry helping lead our planet in climate change. Paper bags are pretty intensive in production, coming from tons of trees, and although they're recycled more than plastic, the recycling process is also energy/chemical intensive. (This is a good article on the debate http://www.treehugger.com/culture/paper-bags-or-plastic-bags-everything-you-need-to-know.html) Really, the best answer to this question is to redirect it to the benefit of using reusable bags. Banning plastic bags is an issue based in shifting our habits and culture. Places that already ban plastic bags (and put a tax on paper bags) have caused people to be	
14	14	0	End Government Spending on Bottled Water	We all know that our municipal, local tap water is some of the best quality in the nation. Large scale privatization of water for bottling is detrimental to the environment (in both production and waste) and it's an offense to the human right to water (recognized by the UN). The City of Bellevue must take a stance by ending all government spending on bottled water. We're already spending taxpayer money on our shared resource of tap water, we don't need to waste it on bottled water.	Crossroads
				Another informative and relevant quote from Carolyn Bowie: "The Government doesn't sell bottled water but instead, typically, hires vendors/vending machines to sell it on small scales like at City Hall. The city also purchases bottled water for a lot of events (volunteer events, employee picnics, etc.). It's definitely a smaller consumer than the general public, but when a city takes a stance on this issue it speaks huge volumes to consumers and corporations!"	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Environmental Stewardship, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
11	8	3	Reduce Garbage Waste, Recycle MORE	<p>Republic services provide smaller garbage cans (<12 gallons), & give incentives to residences for using a reduced garbage can, by giving reduced ratesOR Thinking outside the box, what about residences receives a 5 gallon garbage bucket, receive a CREDIT to their Garbage BillORCity of Bellevue, give CREDITS for residences that put their garbage cans out every other week. Seattle provides 12 gallon mini-cans, Bellevue smallest is 20 gallons. Seniors living alone can use a 12 gallon</p>	Monthaven
				We have property in Astoria, OR, and they only pick up trash and recycling every other week (alternating.) They also discourage buildup of clutter by providing all subscribers with two free dump tickets a year. I love Western OR Waste! Costs are lower and I'm sure it's better for the environment to cut down on truck trips. I couldn't get by with a smaller can, but would be great to see the option for people with smaller households.	
				I agree as long as the 20 gallon can is still an option. We have a family of 4 and could not make due with a smaller can.	
				If you prepare your garbage, you should be able to close your lid. Try moving stuff from the garbage bin, to the blue or green bin, try pushing the garbage downMayor Conrad Lee recently quoted, "In Bellevue, residents are recycling almost 70%...That is double the national averageWhile most residents don't take the time to sort their garbage, those who do and recycle, should be able to get a credit for their efforts. Incentives usually drive people's ability to adoptFYI- my green bins are usually so high, the lids are not closed ever, never had a charge on my account.	
				I totally agree with you, however, the garbage company is in it for the \$\$\$\$\$. I just found out that if your container (trash, yard waste or recycle) is full enough that the lid is up 4" or more, the garbage company charges you for an entire extra container.	
7	3	4	Transportation for families, and for the future.	<p>Because of the growth that has occurred within Bellevue and neighboring residential areas, cutting down on vehicle congestion yet providing fun transport for everyone needs to be an option. One such option could be the installation of trolleys within Bellevue and adjoining areas. These trolleys can run on biodiesel , which is a clean burning alternative fuel source. The trolleys would run throughout Bellevue and offer a clean option to transportation, and reduce vehicle congestion.</p>	Covington, WA
				Trolleys are a huge waste of money.	
				Identifying the need here is important - allow people to get around easily without a car that usually spews exhaust, has to wait a long time at downtown traffic lights, requires parking, and requires those huge 5-lane roads in downtown. Creative solutions could make the city awesome. Trolleys are good. In some cases gondolas or moving walkways or dirigibles too. think outside the box ;).	
6	3	3	Seed Library Bank - Harvest & Disperse	<p>City of Bellevue, in conjunction with the Master Gardeners Foundation or Bellevue Parks or Botanical Garden, collect quality seeds in the fall from neighborhoods/residences, and disperse them free-of-charge or small donation, to residences in the SpringThis program will help the environment, and make planting more readily available to those who couldn't afford to buy seeds.</p>	Monthaven
				This sounds like something for a non-profit to do. Bellevue's government should do things that governments are uniquely good at.	
				I like this idea. I always have seeds left after planting my vegetable garden and would love for them to be used. I can't imagine that this would be a very costly program and it could benefit so many.	
			Tree Habitat	Provide tree habitat and safety on greenbelt in northeast Bellevue	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Housing	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
29	12	17	EOH - equal opportunity housing	Require that any new mixed-use development include housing options for the same demographic percentages in the local district. High rises in downtown should be attainable to minimum wage earners in percentages equal to the demographic.	Microsoft
				there is plenty of low income housing (crossroads/lake hills/factoria/eastgate) that is just a hop skip or 5 minute bus ride away. I don't think it is a necessity to live in a downtown high rise. Furthermore, the reason these are expensive if they're new and they have amenities. The HOA dues and taxes on these places are sky-high-- are you suggesting that other owners in these high rises pay the share of the low-income residents? How about taxes--should Bellevue eliminate taxes for these people as well? Rich people have more opportunities and fancier homes. Such is life.	
				Wow, Marcus B., Snob much?! Isn't that what Mercer Island is for? Move there. If people could live near where they work they could save enough \$ to get off subsidized housing. Not sure what you call a "real Career" but not all careers pay the big bucks.	
				No. If you want subsidized housing go to Seattle! We should avoid mixed use development like the plague that it is. That is why I left Seattle! Isn't that what Federal Way is for? Minimum wage earners should get roommates and live where they can afford until they get a real career. Until then, they should not be able to live in high rises downtown! All housing should be market rate and distributed accordingly! If you can't afford it then live where you can.	
19	9	10	Balance	I would like to see Bellevue have a wide range of people of different incomes, and not just cater towards the wealthy. Have a balance of housing for high income, moderate and low income families. Let the contractors who want to build moderate and low income housing into the market. It is completely out of balance right now. Provide affordable housing for everyone.	Crossroads
				More affordable housing is definitely needed in Bellevue. Low-income families are living here for the great schools, but that doesn't mean they can find housing they can afford. 15% of Bellevue residents are currently paying more than half their income for housing, placing them at great risk for homelessness. Let's create housing options for all of our community's workforce, not just the high-income earners.	
				Affordable housing options have never been found to bring down property values, but they can be built in various ways to fit match community character. Let's have a conversation about what affordable housing for our teachers, baristas, and young people starting their careers should look like instead of just disparaging the housing needed by our community's workers.	
				No. There are plenty of places in the greater Seattle area with affordable housing for low-income. I like not having to lock my front door.	
				There's quite a bit of low-income housing in Bellevue. I don't see a lack of balance in my neighborhood (Lake Hills.) I would support SOME additional density as these older homes are torn down, perhaps adding a few duplexes or triplexes, but I don't want to see an emphasis on revising codes or placing limits on builders. My corner of Bellevue is doing its part already--take a look at the population stats in our schools if you have any doubt (particularly free/reduced lunch stats, which top 50% in some schools.)	
				I prefer not to have low income housing bringing down my property values.	
				What is affordable? The home you can afford may be out of reach for the someone else. Zoning and land use codes actually make housing more expensive.	
2	2	0	Newport Hills Senior Housing and Center	Put mixed-used retail and senior housing in the old Red Apple shopping center currently for sale. Add a central plaza with lots of benches and a senior center. The only senior center in Bellevue is way up at the north end. We've got elderly people who can't drive down here, too!	Newport Hills

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Improved Mobility	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
44	35	9	Alternative Transportation Options	As a cyclist/pedestrian/bus-rider, I feel very much like a second-class citizen in Bellevue. Reducing the size of the roads and speed limits downtown, implementing one-ways and adding some bike lanes would move the many pedestrians along more quickly and would encourage more people to bicycle.	Newport Hills
				Last week I commuted to work by bike in Bellevue- I'm usually a Seattle bike commuter and I must say I was shocked at the lack of bike lanes, bike parking-- Bellevue feels like a carcentric city. I didn't feel scared to take a lane and ride in the streets but I was somewhat shocked that I couldn't find a single bike lane.	
				I agree. Bellevue is incredibly lacking in viable bike routes. A couple bike routes into downtown and running north south throughout town would go a long way to promoting cycling and getting more cars off the road.	
				I live on 148th and the only safe way to bike there is on the sidewalk, which contends with pedestrians and dogs. I would love to have better bike paths on major roads and more sharrows downtown where widening may not be feasible. Even one really safe path through downtown would help a lot.	
43	9	34	Preserve AutoMobility	Keep the focus on the transportation method most people use. Cars. To focus on moving people instead of cars is a huge mistake and a complete waste of resources. The last thing we need is to try and change peoples mobility behavior.	Factoria
				I would love to take the bus to work, but driving takes me 13-16 minutes from downtown Bellevue to my office on south MLK. Taking a bus requires two transfers and takes an hour. I already wake up at 5:30 which is brutal. Waking up at 4:45am, taking two transfers and walking .2 miles in between transfers is a huge hassle. Just keep in mind that it isn't always a matter of a "few minutes early." Although for the most part, I do agree or would like to agree with your post.	
				Spending on car transportation never seems to be able to keep up with demand. Giving commuters effective options that don't involve cars not only helps with congestion but helps to reduce CO2 emissions and improves options for residents who can't afford cars. <u>Look at cities with effect metro systems as examples.</u>	
				There are always those who just can't seem to give up their fancy impressive cars and take the bus. They figure they are too good for the bus or they might have to leave or go a few minutes earlier or later than they think is convenient. Odds are that they probably have never ridden the bus and don't realize how nice it is to not have to fight with traffic and to sit and relax or read or sleep. during the ride.	
				Or maybe just pave the entire US and have done with it...	
				To get a handle on the issue, one needs to look at the big picture, and the long range.	
				As the area grows, demand for transport will grow apace. That's the essential problem. QED: the solution is not more and more roads.	
				Because of pent up demand. There is more expansion and improvement to be done. When the HOV lane was added to I-405 it was a huge improvement. Adding 2 more General Occupancy lanes would do even more!The new light signals through factory have made a huge positive difference in the time it takes to get through that corridor. The Bellevue braids project is a huge success in alleviating backups through Bellevue. (they should have moved it further east however to allow more lanes through Bellevue)	
				Funny how there have been so many expensive road widenings, extensions, changes to intersections and so on - and there is still a congestion problem...	
				The paradox is wrong! only seems true when there is previously existing demand that is unmet. If demand is met then congestion disappears.	
				Look up 'Braess's Paradox' - it will tell you that widening roads does not help with congestion in the long term.	
				Cars place a heavy burden on our environment. Most people are forced to use them when other choices are lacking or transportation system horribly designed.	
				Yes. Transit isn't a solution for very many people. there is no reason I-405 can't be expanded to 5 lanes. There is plenty of room along the entire corridot-5 can be reworked through downtown.	
				Do you really want to sit in traffic as the population in the area grows. If nothing you should support the development of mass transit to preserve more space on the roads for your car.	
9	7	2	"All walk"and no EB or WB left turn at Bel Way and NE 8th		

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Improved Mobility, cont.	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
40	32	8	Bellevue needs to accomodate different types of bike riders	Bellevue needs different types of roads, not just motor-vehicle only. To allow bike commuters 'compete' on roads that were designed for cars AND ALSO to allow for families and kids safe passage to parks and schools. Bellevue needs to stop putting motor-vehicle only roadways every block. Consider alternating with bike & pedestrian routes.	North
				Having safe pedestrian / bicycle facilities should not be viewed as competing with having adequate vehicle facilities. I have posted a suggestion about an idea that I call the "Green Line," that would provide a significant grade-separated bike / ped' facility that passes through a large swath of our community. I welcome your comments.	
				It's great to see so many ideas being posted that are about improving biking access. Bellevue may have been car centric in the past, but the demographics have since changed and it is time to built a network rivaling that in some of our neighboring cities.	
				Posting that someone should move to another city instead shows unwarranted hostility & admins should remove them from this site -- they contribute nothing to a healthy discussion. Hopefully you will no longer see that post & maybe not even the user.	
				Yes! To be clear a "bike & pedestrian route" is not a road only for bikes and peds (i.e. no cars). It is just a road that is designed and engineered so that it is safe for people to walk and bike along while still allowing cars to use it. This can be done in many ways: engineering the street to be a slow speed street. Not just with speed limit signs, but using other treatments to slow and reduce traffic so that drivers who are not going to a destination on that street would prefer to use the next street over if the speed is higher (e.g. 30mph) then provide physical separation between cyclists and cars and provide safe ways for cyclists and pedestrians to get through intersections. None of this is significantly more expensive than what Bellevue is already doing. And it would reduce traffic (making the people who do drive cars happier because they could get where they are going faster) and improve safety for all road users including drivers.	
32	24	8	Pedestrian access	Downtown is a thriving area with lots of people moving about. To reduce car usage, re-parking, pedestrian-car accidents, & to increase business access, user experience, & community life; I suggest sky bridges be encouraged by code, insurance, & tax changes. Ped. bridges between tall buildings would make Bellevue a 3D model city & reduce exposure to harsh weather conditions for shoppers & workers.	Downtown
				I think that walkable downtown streets is a better idea and will achieve the same goal: https://bellevuesbestideas.ideascale.com/a/dtd/Make-one-of-the-streets-Pedestrian-only/494275-22901	
				Skybridges are an eyesore. They block skylines. Build underground walkways instead.	
				Kemper Freeman fought for a long time with a LOT of data to get just his two skybridges ok-ed by the city. Good luck getting properties not owned by the same person to sign up for that fight again.	
				Many tall bldgs have several layers of shops inside, so biz will not suffer. The skyBridge would just provide an alternative to crossing traffic & getting wet or wind blown; best 4 those with specific destination (like attending a meeting.)	
				Le Corbusier thought this was a good idea, but separation of pedestrians from storefronts and other street life has not been found to create a positive urban environment. The idea of proper awnings/verandahs which give shelter to those outdoors is excellent - specially if they have proper drainage (ie don't just pour water onto the sidewalk)	
				Keeping people inside reduces livability. Perhaps zoning to allow half of the sidewalk to be covered by awnings/canopies from buildings downtown would encourage more people to walk around downtown in inclement weather rather than getting in their car to drive 1 or 2 blocks	
22	15	7	Safe to bicycle!	Make it safer to bicycle in Bellevue. I don't want to get in my car at 4:30 to get from my neighborhood to businesses, because traffic is a nightmare at that time. However, it's NOT safe to get on my bike and be on the roads with those cars! Separate bike trails (just like safe walking trails) are necessary to get the broader populace to use bicycles instead of cars.	Woodridge
				More bike lanes to keep children active, improving their health; homes to schools and workplaces; to the theatre, library and other public places. More bike lanes would also help improve the environment, making less pollution and traffic.	Enatai
				Yes! I felt safe riding my bike on any of the streets in Santa Monica, CA. I would love to hop on my bike to go places downtown Bellevue as well, but downtown traffic is intimidating and the roads are not biker friendly.	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

				Campaign - Improved Mobility, cont.	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
20	18	2	Bellevue Green Line Bike / Pedestrian Trail	The construction of the East Link light rail project presents a unique opportunity to provide a multi-modal pedestrian / bicycle connection, linking the I-90 trail, the regional trail along I-405, parks and open spaces, and the Burke Gilman trail in Redmond. It would also provide safe, grade-separated pedestrian and bicycle access to all stations. The path should be tree-lined and constructed of pervious asphalt to minimize runoff. I would call it the "Green Line."	Enatai
				Thanks for the feedback. I agree that the bike / ped' paths should be separated, just as we need to separate bikes and automobiles. The design standard I propose would have sufficient width for both as well as a continuous landscape strip, which could serve as a bioswale. Sound Transit will be removing miles of sidewalks and thousands of trees during construction. The opportunity is there to replace them with something permeable, more functional and green.	
				I agree, except I prefer not to mix walking trails with bikes. The two are not compatible and likely annoy each other. Maybe a special bike lane on the trail?	
				Check out Kirklandgreenways dot org or kirklandgreenways or facebook. Not going as far as the greenline, but is a lot cheaper (and there more likely to get implemented sooner) and can create a network of comfortable walking and cycling routes for people of all ages and abilities Anyone want to start up the Bellevue chapter?	
18	4	14	Delete Unneeded Light Rail Station	Delete the light rail station planned for the Bel-Red Corridor at about 130th Ave. NE and NE 15/16th. This station is too close to the station planned for 124th Ave NE (Spring District) and will slow travel times between Overlake and Downtown Bellevue. Deletion would save millions of \$s and improve light rail service.	Rock Creek
				I think the skeleton of both stations should be built now, but 1 be finished & 1 completed later when needed.	
14	14	0	Benches and Places to sit in a "City in the Park"	Benches, benches, benches and lots of comfortable places to sit all over the city enabling residents, such as the elderly or parents with children, to walk longer distances from point to point. Wide sidewalks and fun statues along the way will make connecting pathways more appealing.	Bridle Trails
				Please vote for pedestrian street idea that will enable your idea as well: https://bellevuesbestideas.ideascale.com/a/dtd/Make-one-of-the-streets-Pedestrian-only/494275-22901	
13	4	9	Remove Free Rights on Reds at downtown Bellevue intersections	Many intersections on Bellevue Way (specifically 2nd & Bellevue Way, Main St & Bellevue Way, 4th & BW, and 8th & BW) are extremely dangerous for pedestrians because of cars making "free rights on reds" WITHOUT LOOKING to the right to see pedestrians crossing on their green light. I have been almost killed several times. Cars do not understand that PEDS have priority in this situation.	Downtown Bellevue
				I agree, but let's take it one step further and make those intersections "All Walks" where all pedestrians can cross in all directions at the same time while traffic is stopped in all directions without being able to turn on red as well. Due to so much pedestrian traffic at these intersections frequently cars turning right never get the opportunity to do so during their green light and end up holding up lots of traffic behind them as well.	
				YES! So dangerous and unbelievable rude.	
12	4	8	Traffic flow	While there are areas with safety and flow issues, need to get rid of so many divided roads that restrict turning directions or add more left turn or multidirectional turn lanes. Not green making people go around huge blocks, wastes time and gas. Also better for business...i alter my shopping habits over this and suspect others may as well	Crossroads/Tam O'Shanter vicinity
12	10	2	Build a lid over I-405	Let's admit it. Our city sucks when it comes to negotiating with regional agencies like Sound Transit (aligning an elevated rail line behind fences of SF homes, to save 0.3% of the project cost) or WSDOT (the hideous 405N to 520E interchange with a blind merge from the 10th St on-ramp into traffic flowing at highway speeds) or getting a plain old bridge on Bellevue Way while Media got beautiful parks on lids. So I can only dream of a lid over 405 in downtown, but please up-vote if you agree.	Enatai
				I've been dreaming of this for years, and even talked to the city about it. It will happen...just not in my lifetime!	
				Sounds expensive, and like it would make future freeway maintenance or expansion very difficult.	
				Sounds expensive.	
				It would be nice to get Parks on lids like Mercer Island has.	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Improved Mobility, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
10	7	3	Pedestrians vs auto	At busiest intersections we should consider installing walk signals that allow all pedestrians to cross at one time including diagonally across the intersection. This will avoid the right turning vehicle with a green light having to wait for pedestrians (in some cases ignoring the pedestrians and slipping by) while allowing pedestrians easier access to cross two streets on one light. This should improve access for both pedestrians and motor vehicles.	Bellevue Towers
				I just walked home, having almost been run over at two consecutive intersections by people doing right turns on red lights. This road rule should be suspended at busy intersections. Do we really think car drivers could restrain themselves at an all-way pedestrian crossing intersection when they can't even handle the current rules?	
9	7	2	"ALL WALK" at Bellevue Way and 8th	"All Walk" where all pedestrians can cross in all directions at the same time while traffic is stopped in all directions without being able to turn on red as well. Due to so much pedestrian traffic at this intersection frequently cars turning right never get the opportunity to do so during their green light and end up holding up lots of traffic behind them as well.	Enatai
				Yes, similar idea. But need to take away the left turns in order to make the signal timing works. Otherwise the signal cycle would be too long for veh and pedestrian. Allow allow three lanes EB and WB thru.	
9	4	5	Improve Bus Service to/from Seatac Airport	Few people use ST 560 bus to/from downtown Bellevue to Seatac Airport because its local routing takes too long and times are inconvenient and unavailable for early morning flightsTo support conventions, tourists, and downtown residentsMake 1/2 of ST 560 buses truly Express between Seatac airport and Bellevue Transit CenterMatch bus times better to arrivals/departures at Seatac, providing more frequent service at peak hoursPublicize changes	Northwest Bellevue
9	2	7	One-ways, street parking and pedestrian safety	We see cars on some of the major downtown streets speeding on the outer lanes right next to pedestrians on sidewalks. This results in discouraging pedestrians as they feel unsafe. I would love to see some streets which have 6-7 lanes (combined) be converted to one way streets with the outer lanes reserved for street parking. This also speeds traffic movement as it eliminates turn signals.	Enatai
				I agree with the comment above. Street parking=yes. One way streets=no.	
				1. More covered walkways downtown 2. Moving sidewalks 3. shuttle busses to/from Bellevue Square/Transit Center 4. "handicapped" insignia and button at Bellevue Square "Lodge"	
				Street parking is great - separates pedestrians from fast-moving vehicles and increases safety. One way streets are disastrous though, causing frustration and confusion.	
9	7	2	Add Bike Parking at Elements buildings on 112th	The Elements Buildings house many services (bakeries, restaurants, fitness centers) but there is NO public bike parking. I have to chain my bike to a handrail. The management refuses to build it. We need street-side bike parking.	Downtown Bellevue
				I request 100 bike racks please :)	
				on the city's website (http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/walking_biking.htm), you can email kmcdonald@bellevuewa.gov to request a new bike rack placement. Can't guarantee it will happen, though :)	
				Easily accessible bicycle parking is difficult to find almost anywhere in downtown Bellevue. Going to Lincoln Square? You need to ride into the underground parking lot to find a bike rack. I suspect the same is true of Bellevue Square Mall. Part of why people on bikes are so good for local businesses is that we can hop off our bikes and into/out of a store or shopping center much more quickly than someone in a car so we are more likely to stop and shop. Studies show that people on bikes buy less per trip but make more frequent purchases (i.e. more trips) than people in cars. Bellevue would just install a bunch of convenient bike racks all over downtown (covered would be nice since it rains once and a while here) it would help downtown businesses. Of course some of the other top voted Improved Mobility ideas would also help, like actually creating some safe bicycling routes into/through downtown.	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

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Campaign - Improved Mobility, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
8	6	2	Create a crosswalk at the corner of 105th & 4th	The corner of 105th & 4th is a very long block (105th terminates here, and does not run north), and jaywalking is common between Chipotle and the old Safeway. Before someone runs over a ped, we need a crosswalk here, with flags & lights.	Downtown Bellevue
				thanks fogoso20...you're right, I meant 105th & 4th.	
				105 and Bellevue way are the same street. Do you mean 105th and 8th? Where the Lincoln square us bank is and maggionos is? people cross over to the hyatt below the skybridge? other than that there is a crosswalk there at 8th and Bellevue way and a cross walk going from the us bank and maggionos in Lincoln square to the other side crossing in front of the exit for the Lincoln square parking garage.	
7	5	2	New Construction Suggestion	I wish all new commercial construction would have awnings so pedestrians can walk freely during our many rainy days. How many people would visit more than one business if they didn't have to get in their car to drive down the street just to keep dry?	East Bellevue
5	3	2	More bike lanes in Bellevue and one on 108th	Bellevue needs more bike lanes so that kids and adults can stay active and improve their health, when biking to and from school and work. Many kids and adults have weight problems due to inactivity. By increasing the numbers bike lanes it will not only make it safer to bike; also the cost to treat common diseases resulting from inactivity and obesity will decrease such as diabetes and coronary diseases. Other benefits of biking are less congested streets and a reduced CO2 pollution.	Bellecrest
6	3	3	Transportation options need to include people with strollers	Especially on busses, pedestrians with strollers with small children, and possibly groceries, can have very difficult time. It would help to have space for unfolded strollers.	Robinswood
6	3	3	Covered People mover on NE 6th ped corridor	Similar to the people mover used in the airport. The people mover will connect the proposed light rail station and transit center from Bellevue Way to 112th Ave. This will encourage ped traffic. People who work or shop can easily carry the merchandizes for public transportation.	Downtown
6	3	3	"All walk" and no EB or WB left turn at Bel Way and NE 8th	No EB and WB left turn at Bellevue Way and NE 8th. Make three thru lanes going EB and three thru lanes going WB on NE 8th. Add an "all walk" signal for pedestrians.	Downtown
5	1	4	Adopt ped crosswalks with bright flags	Bellevue needs to adopt crosswalks much like Kirkland's light-up crosswalks with bright flags in buckets.	Downtown Bellevue
4	4	0	Bus stops provide sheltered benches to wait for a bus	At all bus stops install a simple sheltered area with a bench. Provide a place to sit, so bus users have a shelter from rain, sun, wind, and a place to sit while waiting for the bus.	Bellecrest
4	3	1	Link Greater Downtown Neighborhoods to downtown via Circulators	A system of circulator Buses connecting Greater Downtown Neighborhoods like Vue Crest, Surrey Downs, Bellecrest, Northtowne, and Enatai is necessary to implement use of the downtown as their commercial space, while keeping local car trips off downtown streets. Link the Library, Post Office, Bel Sq, Olde Bellevue, Downtown Park, City Hall, East Link Stations, Meydenbauer Center, and the Hospital District with short term parking at greater downtown neighborhood church parking lots.	Greater Downtown (Surrey Downs)
2	2	0	Seniors: Transportation, Health, Meals, Arts, Exercise	Free transportation on buses and light rail in Bellevue and on freeway, more senior centers with pools, exercise equipment, low cost meals, space for making art, alternative medical centers physical health and counseling available lower rent for small cafes in downtown.	Medina Heights
				The population will have greater numbers of seniors would like to plan ahead...	
2	2	0	More stops for 550 Express	There are no stops along the Bellevue way-100th Ave stretch of NE 8th. The area in front of QFC/Bartell's should be a stop for both Metro AND Sound Transit. Its 520 only right now. Closest is NE 4th and Bellevue Way...pretty limiting for such a densely populated area of downtown. I mean its a full half mile walk. I'm not trying to be lazy but its not very convenient, especially if you're carrying groceries or something. I suppose I should take this up with Metro and ST, not Bellevue, though.	Downtown Bellevue

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

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					Campaign - Parks and Recreation	
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood	
34	24	10	Downtown Senior Center	Bellevue's only senior center is at NE 40th St and 148th Ave NE. This is 3 to 6 miles from other sections of Bellevue. I propose a small senior center in downtown Bellevue. A lot of elderly people live in the condos and apartments downtown, and they would appreciate a place to gather and be active. This will become increasingly important in the next 10 or 20 years.	Downtown	
				And for teens/preteens. And how different populations can mingle and interact with each other		
21	21	0	Improve BNSF trail for recreational use	The BNSF railway line that runs through many of the eastside cities was recently purchased by King County towards implementing a regional trail system. While Kirkland which worked in partnership with King County on the purchase has already announced plans to convert it to a trail, Bellevue has not been proactive in this regard. I would like the City of Bellevue to do its part and make sure we build a world class trail that generations of future citizens would enjoy.	Enatai	
20	17	3	Offleash Dog Park in DT Bellevue	Downtown Bellevue is growing at a rapid rate. Washington is VERY dog friendly. Residents of DT Bellevue need an offleash dog park. Location idea: NE 2nd Street/110th Avenue NE where Trend Imports Auto dealership is currently located. Marriott hotel currently under construction acquired parcel from the City of Bellevue and owes us a park. See current petition! http://www.change.org/petitions/city-of-bellevue-wa-develop-an-off-leash-dog-park-in-the-downtown-bellevue-neighborhood	Downtown Bellevue	
				I think there should be an off leash area in the Downtown Park. Lots of people have their dogs off leash in that park anyway even though it's against the rules. If you create a designated off leash area in the park then at least you can keep them in one area.		
17	17	0	Smoke-Free Parks	Bellevue has some of the best parks in the country but all public spaces should be smoke-free. The majority of visitors go to the parks for fresh air and enjoyment and they should not be assaulted by smokers.	Downtown	
				Secondary smoke is a public health hazard. At least keep smoking to limited areas in parks.		
				I agree 100%! In fact, why not ban smoking in public completely? I am so tired of me and my family walking thru smoke clouds produced by inconsiderate smokers. Very gross.		
14	14	0	Bike map	There are many trails in Bellevue neighborhoods. Please publicize & distribute pedestrian trail & bike maps more widely by partnering with local businesses.	Crossroads	
				Some Open Source projects allow you to find a lot of cycling trails in the area already: http://www.openstreetmap.org/?lat=47.632&lon=-122.1839&zoom=12&layers=C Besides, you can easily contribute to this project to improve the quality of the project, without depending on any company.		
				I agree with this, although I'm pretty sure there IS a bike map for Bellevue. Here is the online version http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Transportation/bike_map_2009.pdf Citizens can also go to http://www.myparksandrecreation.com and find trail maps. Since this is a regional site, it also shows where trails pass through city boundaries.		
14	12	2	Downtown Park	Our downtown park is an amazing asset. It's a large, open space that could be used for a great many events. Currently, it's only used for a few standout events: 1) ice skating in the winter months, 2) the Independence Day celebration, and 3) outdoor movie nights. I would like to see the park become an outdoor concert venue during the warmer months. I'd like to see alcohol (beer, cider, and wine) available during concert events in addition to food trucks and other approved food vendors.	Clyde Hill	
				Yes, yes, yes. Marymoor park has been doing this successfully for years. The main issue is parking and attracting too many people driving in from out of town. I think we should implement this idea but encourage local residents within walking distance by providing them discounted tickets, or parking zone stickers for free parking based on where they live. I love the idea of concerts in the park but they'd need to do something to keep them from contributing to traffic and parking hassles.		
				An event that includes alcohol or a beer garden doesn't need to use bottles. Most beer gardens use recyclable plastic cups and you aren't allowed to leave the garden with your cup. There are plenty of ways to incorporate this without the hassles you mentioned.		
				Definitely NO alcoholic beverages in the park, the last thing we need are beer bottles everywhere. There can be permits for special occasions but we don't need rowdy crowds and beer bottle litter in the park.		
				I think the park could be a lot more interesting - there's so much lawn... and not much else. What about making a Children's Garden somewhere?		

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Parks and Recreation, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
9	7	2	Create a covered/sheltered public playground for children	It is SO HARD on kids during the winter and while places like WiggleWorks are great, not everyone can afford to pay-to-play. It would be wonderful to have a sheltered playground so that even if it was raining, kids could play outside - especially in the springtime when it's not that cold but still raining!	Tam O'Shanter
9	8	1	Create a rain garden-- fun for the kids!	Build a rain garden with a seating area in the parking strip of your neighborhood's commercial area.	Newport Hills
6	4	2	Place to Race Model Cars	When I want to race my electric model cars, I have to go as far as Lynnwood (in winter, there is an indoor raceway in Seattle). It would be great if there was a smooth, flat, well-drained area to race model cars (at least 15 parking spaces long, 4 wide, larger would be better). It would be a good place for kids and adults to enjoy this hobby.	Spirit Ridge
				could you use the covered area at an Elementary school? I know that several of the schools in Bellevue have large covered areas that are paved.	
5	4	1	More Social/Sports activities for kids k-12	I think that Bellevue should have more Sports programs and social activities for kids. I think there should be Bellevue basketball/baseball/football/ soccer etc for the public and not private programs. I think we should also have more social programs like clubs and drill teams. These would be available after school and during summer.	Woodridge
				I feel that our Parks and Community Services dept., Boys and Girls Clubs, and Jubilee Reach provide quite a few activities like these. I think we compare very favorably with other communities on this scale. The key ingredient is parent involvement--the more we have, the more we can provide. Many organizations rely on volunteer coaches and leaders to thrive, and to keep costs down. If you're a parent, grandparent or community member with an hour or two a week to spare, consider pitching in!	
4	4	0	Buy open space for Public Parks in the DT area	City of Bellevue needs to develop a revenue generating tool/requirements to require existing developments and future developments to pay for Open Spaces and Parks for the enjoyment of all Bellevue. The Downtown area needs more Open Spaces and Parks-in the near future with more residents, day workers and visitors we need to get the land before it is TOO expensive. The urban environment needs to have more green, soft places of beauty, shade, peace in an ever increasing populated busy large city.	Bellecrest
2	1	1	Soap Box Derby	Let's start our first annual Soap Box Derby races in Bellevue, invite people from all over Washington, then if popular, all over the US and the World! If selected, we have to come up with rules, age, how much for the soap box, prizes, when and how long. We had one in California and it was really fun!	All
2	1	1	Soccer Tournament	Design for boys and girls to play soccer here in Bellevue. Maybe introduce more and new sports like Lacrosse.	all
1	1	0	Future Use Of Existing 520 Bridge	Do not demolish the old bridge after the new one is completed, instead use it as a place for entertainment, park, night market, or just a viewing platform.	Avondale Road, Redmond, WA.
			Year Round Ice Skating Rink	A year round ice skating rink and more outdoor water parks	
				A water park that works better than the Crossroads one	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

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Campaign - Partnerships and Collaboration					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
17	14	3	Gates & fences	People like to move freely about their neighborhood, meeting friends, visiting neighbors, & stores. Hedges & fences often prevent this. I don't want to get into a car just to go 1000 feet. We should walk more! There should be gates in long fences & cooperation between large complexes. I feel pedestrian access reduces crime not increase it.	Crossroads
				Hedges and green places are one of the things that make Bellevue beautiful. I wouldn't want to remove those. Also, I can sympathize with residents and schools who want to have fences for safety and privacy.	
8	8	0	Intergenerational Connections	The City should be or create conduits between diverse populations, for the betterment of all. For example, connect senior citizens with elementary schools. The schools need volunteers, the sr. citizens need outlets for creativity and energy. Win-win!	Bellevue
				Check out my "University neighborhood" idea.	
				http://seniornet.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=726&Itemid=259 We have GrandPals in our schools, and they are vital to the success of some of our kids. I'm all for more kids and seniors working together. I believe the YMCA and Jubilee also provide those connections.	
3	2	1	King County Court Annex	If there was an annex of the King County Superior Court in Bellevue, at least for some trials, then one would not have to go into Seattle for jury duty.	Spirit Ridge
1	1	0	A University neighborhood in downtown Bellevue	Attract via code incentives, planning, collaboration, and partnership, a university that will develop a major portion of the southeast quadrant of downtown to include high rise housing, classrooms, labs, etc. in addition to other tenants, retail and open space, resulting in a true liberal arts/cultural environment often identified with college town life. Primary and secondary education as well as music, art and theatre should be included in the education opportunities mix.	Greater Downtown (Surrey Downs)
0	0	0	Public Parking Garages/Coordinating Circulator busses	The city should implement a collaboration of properties/businesses/developers to provide public parking for the Downtown Park/Old Bellevue, in the area of East Link/City Hall and in the southeast quadrant of Downtown. Retail suffers from lack of and abuse of proprietary parking. Adjacent neighborhoods suffer from spillover parking. One should not have to move their car to patronize several destinations within a short walk of one another.	Greater Downtown (Surrey Downs)

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

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Campaign - Quality Neighborhoods					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
47	38	9	Invest in 'Third Places'	<p>One great asset for neighborhoods is to have vibrant public gathering places - or 'third places' - that provide a place for neighbors to connect. Crossroads Mall is a great example of a dynamic public gathering place. Can we be more intentional about cultivating these places on a neighborhood scale across Bellevue?</p> <p>how do I change my vote? I agree, but clicked disagree by mistake. :(</p> <p>I love crossroads mall with my daughter.</p> <p>It's so international that I avoid iDiversity is annoying. live in Bellevue so I can avoid interacting with other people.</p> <p>That's a great idea! I love Crossroads, it's so international there. It's always filled with people, not only to shop and dine, but also to hang out. I wish there are "third places" like that all around town!</p>	
22	21	1	Sidewalks & Bike Lanes	<p>Many neighborhoods in Bellevue do not have sidewalks nor safe bicycling lanes connecting residents to neighbors, community trails, parks and local businesses or local attractions. With population growth, auto traffic is becoming more and more aggressive and dangerous to people walking in the streets. A good example for bike lanes needed is 16th Ave, 156th, 164th from the Lake Hills Area down to Redmond where cars speed around like it's the freeway. Sidewalks- most inner neighborhoods apply.</p>	Phantom Lake
21	20	1	Keep Green and Open Spaces	<p>Every residence should have green space families can use. We love being near work and services and transit. But need an accessible "back yard" area that doesn't make us cross the street or play near cars. Kids like to play in nature; studies show that trees and green space positively impact mental health and even decrease crime! The tension is that real estate development often builds on every square foot. Allow tall, thin buildings; require trees and greenery next to them.</p> <p>If you want convenience buy a house with a back yard, it all about choices</p> <p>Bellevue has lots of public green space. Look here http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/parks_intro.htm</p> <p>The above applies especially to permitting or up-zoning multi-family residential buildings but also very dense housing. Shared yards are needed. It's a lie if someone says that apartment-dwellers don't want green space. They just aren't given the choice in so many instances.</p>	Bel-Red
20	16	4	Conduct routine televised discussions on important issues	<p>Bellevue is confronted with a range of critical problems in the future ranging from sustainability to business development. Key concerns involve the inherent tension between continued rapid growth and preservation of quality neighborhoods for all social groups. Conduct quarterly televised discussions with moderator and panel of decisionmakers or neighborhood activists. Televisе and conduct computer-aided polls on each issued discussed.</p> <p>There is nothing more annoying than neighborhood activists, or any other types of activist for that matter. As far as decision making, I prefer to make my own decisions without interference from "decision makers" or "activists". The best way to preserve a neighborhood is for tough zoning that prevents infill development in existing neighborhoods and prevents mixed use development from encroaching on single family neighborhoods.</p>	Wallingford
16	12	4	Art Parties	<p>Coordinate community events where community members design, development and build art for the community.</p> <p>Fun idea!!! Or garden parties in parks etc</p>	Downtown
15	13	2	Neighborhood coffee shops	<p>Change zoning to allow for coffee shops and, or, small cafes in residential neighborhoods to have a walkable, social neighborhood gathering place and to simply get a cup of coffee without having to jump in your car.</p> <p>I don't want any commercial activity in my neighborhood</p> <p>Agree as long as traffic, parking and noise problems are minimized. Let's have more neighborhood gathering spaces.</p>	Enatai

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

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Campaign - Quality Neighborhoods, cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
15	12	3	Recycle Under-Used Parking Lots!	Repurpose a derelict parking lot and create community by planting an edible garden with a bench	Newport Hills
				Where are there underused parking lots??? I thought parking was expensive and hard to find.	
15	14	1	Implement a 20 year plan to provide underground electrical power	To increase reliability and reduce outage time especially due to extreme weather. This will provide a mechanism to provide uniform electrical power distribution for all areas of Bellevue.	Bridle trails
13	9	4	Unique Neighborhoods	Bellevue should develop unique neighborhoods with hubs that relate to various cultures. I really enjoyed going to Uwajimaya when it was in my neighborhood, but now it is just a Walgreens. I think all along the Bel-Red corridor, it would be great to have areas that specialize in cuisine, architecture, and art from around the world.	Lake Hills
				Cute idea if it's aesthetic only but sounds a little like segregation if you are hoping to keep certain peoples in certain areas.	
				Why just the Bel-Red Corridor? Unique neighborhoods belong everywhere!!	
12	10	2	Don't let Spring District become urban monstrosity like Belltown	Ensure walk-ability, open spaces, wide sidewalks, family friendly, mix-use, community driven, safe and healthy place-making of the Bel-Red Corridor and the Spring district, as in the Portland's Pearl District or NYC's East Village or Brooklyn's Park Slope. Let's learn from Belltown's failure to prevent another crime-ridden soulless monstrosity	Bridle Trails
				Bellevue is not Portland, NYC or any other city. There are current projects already trashing the east side of Bellevue. Pay attention to the way the east side of Bellevue works before treating it like the west side.	
				Keep it walkable, prevent traffic jams, keep the noise to moderate levels, and keep out the Sound Transit rail yard.	
11	9	2	Host a Bellevue Food truck roundup event	There are Food Truck Roundups in Seattle (the big one is August). We definitely have the parking lot space. It would encourage locally-owned food businesses and pedestrian activity, plus it's a great outdoor summer event	Downtown Bellevue
				like the bite of seattle but more like a bite of bellevue	
10	7	3	Make Bellevue on a Human Scale	SIFF produces a film called Human Scale - to make the city more livable for humans, not cars. This is a great resource to start to learn about planning for people. Go to the Harriett Bullitt Foundation and learn from the Bullitt Foundation building. We can add electric cars, solar panels on rooftops, and relief stations that are open on weekends at transit areas.	Bellevue
9	5	4	Plan for young families	In order for Bellevue to thrive, it needs young families with children. It is important to look at the number of households having a child that is in K-12 - and ensure that is does not go below 30 percent of the general population. What helps young families - and make it affordable - to come to Bellevue? We need good schools, affordable housing, high density housing, and additional incentives to intentionally plan for younger families.	Bellevue
				Agree about the teachers being able to afford to live here! We have lost several elementary teachers over the years to districts with lower costs of living. They get sick of commuting from Renton, Bothell and Kent! Our schools are wonderful and enrollment continues to grow. The district is looking to add capacity at all levels. Young families seem to be finding Bellevue pretty hospitable already.	
				In complete agreement that a vibrant, sustainable community is a community where everyone invest in the next generation. To attract young families, our public schools offer excellent educational opportunity to all kids the district serves. To keep our schools great, we need to attract caring and passionate teachers. As a city, we need to be able to provide affordable housing to keep the teachers in our community. What we have now is good and there are room to improve!!!	
7	2	5	Bellevue Way Park	Reduce/eliminate a majority of the traffic on Bellevue Way from 8th Street to 4th Street. Provide a single two lane road with no through traffic in this region, that will be eventually moved underground. Replace the street with park that runs the entire length from Bellevue square to the downtown park.	Downtown
				This is exactly what Seattle did along Pine Street. Everybody hated the idea, until it was done. Now it was the best thing Seattle Ever did.	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

May - July 2013

Campaign - Quality Neighborhoods, cont.						
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood	
7	6	1	Community Pool	I feel like we should have a great community pool like in Federal Way, they have one section for kids, lap pool, and another for people with disabilities. Have 3-5 pools design for kids to older adults/wheelchairs, etc. The one up on NE 8th is really outdated and overcrowded.	Toys R Us area	
7	6	1	Create a Newport Hills "Town Square"	Having watched people circumnavigate the NH shopping center for exercise, I suggest encouraging this healthy practice, boost the use of the currently ugly and unused space, and visually tie together the space, by replacing the sidewalk with an attractive brick walkway (neighbors can buy a personalized brick!) that centers on a brick square where the current bank parking is. Trees, a pond and benches would make for a great place to gather.	Newport Hills	
5	1	4	Fast Food Mall	I was craving for a In & Out burger and it would be great if we had one here in Washington State, including Sonic, Tommy's, Yoshinoya's (Japanese fast food), Dunkin Donuts, El Pollo Loco, Carls Jr., and a soup kitchen like they have in Eastern Europe, cheap food but good, buffet style, it would be great if we had a place to enjoy great food a low prices.	Downtown Bellevue, along Main Street, near BC	
				The last thing Bellevue needs is more chains. We need locally owned businesses.		
5	3	2	Interpersonal Internet Cafes	Internet cafes would be social spaces where tweens and teens could be online in the company of friends (instead of isolated at home). The networked computers would be set up on moveable desks to encourage friends to face each other. Sharing leads to caring, thus internet cafes may contribute to best friendships that last a lifetime.	All	
5	3	2	Bellevue (Eastside) Lending Library	The West Seattle Tool Lending Library, http://wstoolibrary.org/ is a perfect program all residences could use. This program could provide alternatives from buying, is better for the environment, and forms relationships cross-neighborhood. Items could include general tools, books, specialty tools. Liability forms would be required, that would waive users right to file suit against this governing body. could be hosted at a Neighborhood Center or Botanical Garden.	Monthaven	
5	3	2	Concrete	Ban the use of asphalt. All roads should have been concrete decades ago. One town back east put in concrete streets and roads in the 1950's and same are still their. Cost is only slightly higher initially but vast savings over the long term. Why has this been such a no brainer?	Bellevue SE	
5	4	1	Use of Next Door for neighborhood interaction	Wilburton is using Next Door (www.nextdoor.com) to build community communications regarding safety, projects, events and general information. I'm sure there are other Bellevue neighborhoods doing this also. It would be good to nurture this kind of neighborhood interaction and for the city to help promote (and leverage) these neighborhood forums.	Wilburton	
4	2	2	Bel-Red like Portland's Pearl District	It would be great if Bel-Red's new neighborhoods transitioned over time to include both the old and the new-- with everyone benefiting from new roads, bicycle facilities and transit. I think it could be like Portland's Pearl District.	DT	
				Pearl District is highly subsidized it would not work otherwise, which begs the question does it really work at all?		
				I agree! I was making the comparison about how the Pearl District kept its unique roots; the way it "includes both the old and the new". I'm hoping the same for Bel-Red.		
				Bellevue is not Portland, Seattle or any other city. This is Bellevue.		
2	1	1	"Little Library" Promote Connections	Provide Department of Neighborhoods with grant money so that residents in neighborhoods can build free Little Library site in their neighborhood. Develop a Little Library culture by supporting and communicating this idea.	Bellecrest	

BELLEVUE'S BEST IDEAS

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Campaign - Quality Neighborhoods cont.					
Total Votes	Up	Down	Title	Details	Neighborhood
2	1	1	Washington State Mall(Made here in Washington state)	I had this crazy idea of having a Mall that caters to everything that came from here in this great state of Washington ! It includes REI, Starbucks, Made in Washington, Nintendo, Boeing, Seattle sports, Microsoft. I think having a children's restaurant(recipes made from Washington mom's), local bookstore, 2 famous restaurants, seafood and a buffet. And of course, on the walls, you will have videos of the famous places in Washington, how it was made, founder, etc.	Crossroads, next to Art Museum
			Family Oriented Housing	Consider some kind of incentive for new development in downtown Bellevue to include three-bedroom apartments (or larger.) believe there are a lot of families who would enjoy living in the downtown area, but cannot fit in to a two bedroom apartment. The few available three bedroom properties are so popular that there is a wishlist for their units.	Downtown Bellevue
			Welcome Package	I was living in Claremont, California and I had this lady from the Chamber of Commerce/City Hall bring us a gift basket, it included coupons, directory, calendar of the city, post cards, etc. I thought this would be nifty and also have an orientation for newcomers that are living here in Bellevue. Show them why they are living in one of the best cities in Washington State. You would have speakers in different languages, do a scavenger hunt with them, have maps, etc. Make it fun!!	All
1	1	0	Make one of the streets Pedestrian only	The proposition is to close one of the streets in downtown Bellevue for automotive traffic and accommodate it for pedestrian only use. This tendency can be seen worldwide. Large cities like NY and Moscow are transforming their streets to attract people to downtown, help local businesses grow customer base, host cultural events on the streets (free band stands and outside art exhibitions). 106th Ave NE from 4th to 8th street makes a perfect candidate for becoming such street.	Downtown
1	1	0	Volunteer Day, Tree Sculptures	I would love to volunteer one day improving the beautiful city of Bellevue by removing trash, mowing the lawn, painting, recycle, rebuild a new fence, clean the park, one day during the year, maybe a Saturday! Have teens to the elderly, everybody pitching in. Have Businesses help with snacks and water for the volunteers. It would be nice to have a tree shaped like Bruce Lee, Hendrix, famous people from WA throughout the City, have a plaque, or a tape with their memories.	All in Bellevue