neighborhood news

April 2017

news for and about Bellevue neighborhoods

Better Together Spring Series

Exploring Cross Cultural Communications

Wednesday, April 26, 6:30pm

Bellevue City Hall Council Chamber

In our diverse community we not only speak different languages, we each think and perceive the world in a continuum of marvelously different ways. Explore stories of universal experiences by meeting minds of those of another culture. The evening will be an experiential journey learning new ways of seeing, listening and speaking. The goal is to come to understand and communicate more effectively with people from other cultures.

Save the Date:

Under Our Skin: What Do We Mean When We Talk About Race?

Wednesday, May 31, 2017, 6:30pm

Bellevue City Hall, Council Chamber

Reservations required: neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6836

The Great SBCC Challenge

Saturday, April 29, 10am-1pm

South Bellevue Community Center

Come join us at the Great SBCC Challenge this month! South Bellevue Community Center and Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue co-present this unique event where teams of 3-5 compete in a series of fun challenges which require athleticism for physical feats, smarts for mental tasks, and artistic abilities for creative endeavors.

Participants will be competing in challenges throughout Eastgate Park, Bellevue Challenge Course, and inside the South Bellevue Community Center. The team who successfully completes the challenges in the allotted time while earning the most points will be crowned winner, but twists and turns can throw off the most talented, so beware! The team with the best costumes will receive bonus points. The top 3 teams with received various prizes. #GETCHALLENGED

This event is for ages 6 years and up. $10 per team member, Pre-registration is required Registration Deadline: Wednesday, April 19. Register at http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov Course #: 111294. For more information, please call 425-452-4240 or email sbcc@bellevuewa.gov

Threadcycle: Give Damaged Clothes New Life

Do you toss damaged clothes, shoes and household linens in the trash because you think they can't be donated? We've got great news: items that aren't reusable can now be recycled into new products, rather than going in the trash.

Every year, Seattle and King County residents and businesses throw away over 75 million pounds of clothes, shoes, linens and other textiles. The Council for Textile Recycling estimates that the average American throws away 70 pounds of clothing per year and that up to 95 percent of clothes, shoes and linens that are thrown in the garbage could have been reused or recycled.

Many local thrift stores, drop boxes and other collection sites want all your damaged clothes and linens – not just those that are "gently used." Even single shoes, socks, gloves and other items that are normally paired-up are acceptable. Why? Single items like shoes and socks can be matched with other "singles," sold to export markets and worn by people who otherwise would not have those items to wear. Damaged clothes and linens can be turned into such items as industrial wiping cloths, home insulation and sound-proofing for automobiles and appliances.

More clothes, shoes and linens are acceptable than ever before – the good, the bad and the ugly – as long as they're not wet, moldy or contaminated with hazardous materials.

So gather up your clothes, shoes and household linens, from your mismatched socks to your ripped t-shirts and faded, old sheets. Visit http://www.kingcounty.gov/threadcycle to find locations for the many clothing collection partners who accept these damaged items, and the types of conditions that are acceptable. There are many easy ways to donate these items, from taking them to a nearby collection site or drop box, to arranging for a pick-up.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program Update

The Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) is a $5M, city-funded, capital improvements program that empowers residents to propose and select projects that improve their neighborhood's quality of life, and enhance its character. The program rotates through the City's 14 NEP Neighborhood Areas, serving two areas each year, for a period of seven years (2015-2022). NEP has rotated through the Eastgate/Factoria, Cougar Mountain/Lakemont and West Lake Sammamish Neighborhood Areas since initiating in 2015.

Eastgate/Factoria

Since the NEP process completed in Eastgate/Factoria in spring 2016, the 152nd Avenue SE trail project has been completed, the Horizon Heights streetlight project will be completed this summer, and the Lattawood Park lighting project has begun the artist selection process. The project area for the 38th Street SE gateway landscaping project has been cleared, and debris from a dumping site in the area has been removed. Planting may begin as early as fall 2017, pending the completion of a utility project in the area this spring/summer. The 150th Avenue SE pathway project has been incorporated into a larger, Transportation Levy-funded project that will provide a new right turn lane on 150th Avenue SE, and a more enhanced pathway than originally planned.

Cougar Mountain/Lakemont

Since the NEP process completed in Cougar Mountain/Lakemont in fall 2016, the Lakemont Boulevard pathway project has been assigned to an in-house design team. The Lewis Creek Park buffer enhancement project is scheduled to begin this spring with invasive vegetation removal and site prep, which will coincide with the City's annual Arbor Day celebration.

West Lake Sammamish

The West Lake Sammamish ballots were being tabulated at the time of printing, but residents can expect to receive an announcement of the winning projects later this month.

Northeast Bellevue

This month, we will be launching the NEP process in Northeast Bellevue, which has been allocated more than $300,000 for enhancements. A kick-off meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, from 6:00-7:30 pm, at Sherwood Forest Elementary School (16411 NE 24th Street). City staff will provide attendees with a brief overview of the program guidelines and schedule, answer questions, and invite folks to share, discuss and submit project ideas. Following the kick-off meeting, each household in NE Bellevue will receive a prepaid NEP Project Request Form in the mail. We encourage all NE Bellevue residents to use this form, or the online project request form on the NEP website, to submit as many NEP project requests as they like by May 31, 2017.

To find out which NEP Neighborhood Area you call home, when NEP will be in your area, and how much funding your area has been allocated, please visit http://www.bellevuewa.gov/nep.htm For more information about NEP, please contact Emily Kish at ekish@bellevuewa.gov.

Your Voice Counts - 2017 Performance Survey

The 2017 Bellevue Performance Measures Survey is live through April 23, and for the first time, available in multiple languages. Survey participants will be able to take the survey in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese or Russian.

This survey helps the city determine how residents view the city's services and overall performance. We send this statistically-valid survey to a random sample of Bellevue residents. Mailed invitations come in the envelope seen below. If you receive an invitation, please respond.

Thank you in advance for helping make Bellevue a better place to live, work and play!

Don't Trash It! Fix it!

Monday, April 17, 3-6pm

Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue

Do you have something lying around your home that could be useful again if only you knew how to repair it?

Join us at the free Repair Fair this month. Volunteers experienced in repair will be on hand to try to fix items brought in by the public. They will do their best to make repairs.

Bring in any small household items, such as:

- Chairs and tables
- Blenders, coffee makers, lamps, and fans
- Cell phones with broken screens
- Clothing and curtains, ripped or needing minor alterations

You will need to bring your own replacement parts and materials for specialized repairs, which many are.

The Repair Fair is a partnership between King County and the City of Bellevue. For event questions or to let us know what you are planning to bring, which is helpful for our repair volunteers, call 206-477-4481 or email tom.watson@kingcounty.gov.

Green Clean at Home: Free Workshops

Wednesday, April 19, 7-8pm
Newport Way Library Meeting Room

Sunday, April 23, 6-7pm
Bellevue Library Room 1

Thursday, April 27, 1-2pm
Lake Hills Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, May 2, 7-8pm
Lake Hills Library Meeting Room

Free, hands-on, community workshops presented by the City of Bellevue and in partnership with the King County Library System to learn how to choose and make green cleaners and how to avoid products that are harmful for the environment and our health. Receive a free green cleaning kit and a certificate for completing the class! Adults and children over 7 are welcome to attend. Registration is required. Please email us at recycle@bellevuewa.gov or call 425-452-6932 to register. Spaces are limited to 20 people per session. First come, first served.

If you can't come to the workshop, but are interested in learning more about green cleaning, come visit the **Green Clean Booths** at your local library! Green cleaning informational booths will be set up in April and May. Visit the booth to receive green cleaning recipes and free drain cleaners:

- Monday, April 17, 10:30am - 1:30pm, Newport Library
- Sunday April 30, 1-5pm, Lake Hills Library
- Saturday, May 6, 1-5pm, Downtown Library
- Wednesday, May 18, 2-6pm, Downtown Library

Meaningful Movie: Just Eat It

Tuesday, April 18, 6:30-8pm

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 4228 Factoria Blvd. SE, Bellevue

City of Bellevue, King County and Meaningful Movies are partnering to show the film "Just Eat It." in Bellevue. This film is about food waste and food rescue and will include a panel discussion with local experts after the film. Admission is free and booths will be set up by 6pm. For more information about the film, please visit https://meaningfulmovies.org/multiple-screenings-of-the-movie-just-eat-it-across-the-seattle-area/

Day of Sharing and Caring

Deadline: May 31

Residents in need of outside home maintenance can apply for help from a team of volunteers who will tackle either a one day transforming yard clean-up or single story exterior painting on some 20 Bellevue homes. "Day of Sharing and Caring" now in its 10th year, is a partnership of the City of Bellevue and Jubilee REACH, a Bellevue based non-profit. The deadline for submitting a request for assistance is May 31. A committee representing Jubilee REACH will review applications and select projects. Residents whose projects are selected will be notified by July 18.

"Day of Sharing and Caring" improvements will take place beginning late July into the month of August. In order to be considered you must own and occupy your home in Bellevue. Home selection is need-based; residents facing economic or other life challenges are encouraged to apply. Residents can request more information or a home improvement application by contacting Ken Carpenter at 425-818-4106 or kenc@jubileereach.org.

Interested in volunteering? Businesses or non-profit groups who might like to help a Bellevue resident are encouraged to call Ken at Jubilee REACH. For more information on Minor Home Repair Services (for income-eligible homeowners) offered through partnering organizations contact Carol Ross at cross@bellevuewa.gov 425-452-7917. For more information about City of Bellevue Home Repair 0% Interest Loan or Grant/Weatherization Programs, contact Sam Ezadean at 425-452-6884.

Next Cultural Conversations: Can We Really Go Back Home Again?

Tuesday, April 25, 1-2:30pm

Crossroads Community Center, 16000 NE 10th St

At its April meeting, the Bellevue women's group Cultural Conversations, which was launched in 2010 to increase cultural understanding and connection, will discuss the "other side of the coin." In a slight departure from customary contributions, the event will feature the perspective of an American living abroad for an extended period of time and the impact of returning home.

Given the increase in Bellevue's foreign born population, and those newly arrived and working temporarily in the U.S., what might we learn from this shared experience and how can we become more sensitive to approaches to connection in the wider community?

Janet Livingstone, who recently moved back to Seattle after 12 years in Slovakia, will discuss her perspective on how definitions of home shift from place to place. Janet will explore how returning to one's home country after having been away can be almost as difficult as moving somewhere new for the first time. Her story will illuminate the complexities of the intersection of culture, identity, and building relationships. Following the storytelling, table groups will share in conversations about their own "return to home" experience, whether within the US or across the globe.

The events are free, refreshments are served, and women of all ages, faiths, and cultures are welcome to attend. To fully participate in the sharing, we encourage you to make arrangements for childcare. For more information, please contact Carol Ross 425-452-7917, cross@bellevuewa.gov or Barb Tuininga 425-452-2800, btuininga@bellevuewa.gov.

TRAFFIC CORNER

Intersection near Downtown Park.

City Gets in the Zone to Address Potential Spillover Parking in South Bellevue

The South Bellevue Park and Ride will be closing soon to make way for East Link construction. Though the Park and Ride will close for up to five years, the popular Sound Transit 550 bus route will continue to operate along Bellevue Way. The loss of 500+ commuter parking stalls has some neighborhoods along the 550 bus route concerned that neighborhood streets will be an attractive parking option alternative. The City is prepared to discourage spillover parking occurring in neighborhoods through residential parking zones (RPZ).

Streets in the Enatai neighborhood near the Park and Ride could be impacted with commuter traffic once the lot closes for construction. As a proactive measure, a new residential parking zone has been approved by City Council. The RPZ will be fully implemented if spillover parking meets minimum guidelines and restrictions are approved by residents via ballot; balloting usually takes about 3 weeks. For the other Bellevue Way bus stop locations that serve the 550, they will be reviewed on an as-needed basis much like any other parking concerns in the city. For more information on parking mitigation near the South Bellevue Park and Ride, please see: http://www.bellevuewa.gov/south-bellevue-parking-mitigation.htm or contact the John Murphy at 425-452-6967 or jmurphy@bellevuewa.gov.

In addition to the possible creation of parking restrictions, Sound Transit opened replacement parking lots in eastside communities. In addition to using church lots, Sound Transit is using existing underutilized park and ride lots. Commuters who typically use the South Bellevue Park and Ride are encouraged to readjust their parking location prior to the closure. For more information, please visit Sound Transit's "Park and Ride Options" webpage at www.soundtransit.org/eastlink.

Intersection near Downtown Park to Close for Upgrades *(Image above)*

The intersection at NE 1st St. and 102nd Ave NE will be closed to vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians from March 27 until approximately April 17 for construction of a pedestrian crossing.

The new crossing will connect to a new south entrance of Downtown Park, which is scheduled to reopen at the end of June, following completion of the circular promenade and a new, universally accessible Inspiration Playground. The new intersection will feature a pedestrian-friendly raised surface and a design that integrates with the park entrance. The Transportation Commission drew up the improvements for the city's Downtown Transportation Plan, and staff from the Parks and Transportation departments collaborated on the project.

Work at the intersection includes: pavement removal; regrading and repaving; and removal and replacement of the sidewalk ramps.

Construction crews work Monday through Friday, 7am-5:30pm, and Saturdays, 9am -5pm. Local traffic will have access to parking garages, and deliveries, mail service and garbage collection will continue.

Westbound traffic on NE 2nd St. will be detoured to Main St. at 103rd Ave NE. Eastbound traffic on NE 1st St. will be closed to through traffic at the intersection of 100th Ave NE.

Street parking will be unavailable on NE 1st St. from 100th Ave NE to 103rd Ave NE.

Construction Projects Update

Construction continues in April for a number of projects. The following locations serve a high volume of traffic so, if possible, use an alternate route:

Lane or full road closures:

- **Northup Way Connection to SR 520 Trail:** Bike lanes, sidewalks, intersection, traffic signal and wall work continues on Northup Way from 116th Ave NE to NE 24th St. Expect impacts from the 116th Ave NE intersection west toward NE 24th, Monday through Friday, 7am - 4pm.
- **120th Ave NE, Stage 2: NE 8th St to NE 12th St:** Work continues on the west side of the roadway. Expect lane closures and obey construction signing.
- **120th Ave NE, Stage 3:** NE 12th St to NE 16th St: The roadway is closed until May 2017 to build a bridge with five lanes and bike lanes between the 1400 block and 1600 block.
- **NE 1st St and 102nd Ave NE:** This intersection will be closed March 27, 2017 from 7:00 a.m. through April 17, 2017, ending at 3:30 p.m. Both drivers and pedestrians will need to adhere to the posted detours. Northbound 102nd will be closed to thru traffic at Main Street.

Besides City of Bellevue projects, here are some construction impacts related to East Link light rail:

- **110th Ave NE/NE 2nd St:** Water main replacement. Lane closures at intersection through April. Through early April, east leg of NE 2nd St closed.
- **112th Ave SE south of Main St:** Intermittent lane and sidewalk closures to haul dirt from the south portal tunnel excavation project.
- **NE 2nd Pl from 110th Ave NE to 111th Ave NE:** Closed through 2018 for construction staging.
- **Bellevue Way SE/South Bellevue Park & Ride:** Plan ahead for the closure of the park and ride. Alternate commuter lots now available. More information at www.soundtransit.org/eastlink.

The East Link light rail project will have associated lane closures throughout construction. A good way to plan your travels in advance is to check the City's weekly Traffic Advisories listed below under Construction Information Tools.

Please note: This list does not include the current lane closures due to private development projects being constructed in downtown Bellevue. For information about those projects, please refer to: www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Development%20Services/lu_MajorProjects.pdf

Construction Information Tools: To stay up-to-date about where construction has lane or full road closures, please use the following information tools:

Electronic Message boards: Gives dates or times of upcoming lane or road closures.

Real-time Traffic Map & Cameras: www.bellevuewa.gov/trafficmap

Traffic Advisories webpage: www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic_advisories.htm

Follow the Transportation Department on Twitter: @BvueTrans

Capital Project (Interactive) Map: www.bellevuewa.gov/capital-projects-map.htm

Sign up for email alerts on project webpages: www.bellevuewa.gov/transportation.htm

Boards and Commissions Meetings

(All meetings are in City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. You may confirm with Neighborhood Outreach the day before or day of the meeting. Or consult the City web pages listed below to download agendas.)

Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network
(6pm, Bellevue City Hall) Last Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bdan.htm

East Bellevue Community Council (6:30pm, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd) First Tuesday of each month http://bellevuewa.gov/ebcc.htm

Arts Commission (4:30pm, 1E-109)
First Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

Environmental Services Commission
(6:30pm, 1E-113) First Thursday of each month
http://bellevuewa.gov/environ_serv_comm.htm

Planning Commission (6:30pm, 1E-113) Second and fourth Wednesday of each month
http://bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

Transportation Commission (6:30pm, 1E-113)
Second Thursday of the month of each month
http://bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

Human Services Commission (6pm, 1E-113)
First and third Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

LEOFF 1 Disability Board (6pm, Room 1E-118)
First Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/leoff-1-disability-board.htm

Library Board (5pm, Lake Hills, Bellevue or Newport Way Library) The third Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/library_board.htm

Parks & Community Services Board
(6pm, 1E-113) Second Tuesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

Network on Aging (8:30am, 1E-113)
First Thursday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

Special Events Committee (8:30am, 1E-112)
Second Thursday of each month
http://bellevuewa.gov/special_events_committee.htm

Youth Link Board (6pm,1E-120)
Second Wednesday of each month
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/youth_link_board.htm

Bellevue's Neighborhood Outreach Office offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, please visit our website at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood-outreach.htm or call 425-452-6836 or email: neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov

City Council https://bellevue.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Day	Scheduled Meeting(s)	Location	Public Comment Opportunity
1st and 3rd Mondays except in August and December	6pm, Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8pm, Regular Session	Council Chambers	8pm, Oral Communications
2nd and 4th Mondays except in August and December	6-10pm, Extended Study Session	Council Conference Room	6pm, Oral Communications
August - first Monday only	6pm, Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8pm, Regular Session	Council Chambers	8pm, Oral Communications
December - first and second Mondays only	6pm, Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8pm, Regular Session	Council Chambers	8pm, Oral Communications