

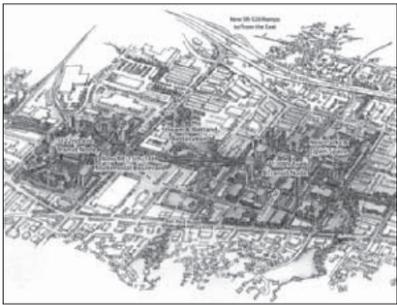


FEBRUARY 2009

INSIDE

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Council to choose preferred light rail route through city



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Residents comment on proposed light rail routes at a Sound Transit public meeting. About 175 people attended the event at City Hall.

After two years of research, detailed analysis and public outreach, City Council members are poised to announce their preference on where Sound Transit should locate a new light rail line in Bellevue.

Council members were expected to make their route choice known by Feb. 25 – the deadline set by the regional transit agency for public comment on the light rail line's draft environmental impact report, which was released on Dec. 12.

"This project is a game changer – it will ultimately alter our community and region in ways that will be felt for generations," City Manager Steve Sarkozy said.

"The council's ultimate goal has been to choose a route that makes the best sense from a cost and performance perspective, advances the economic, environmental and land-use goals for the city and region, and maintains the character of our neighborhoods," Sarkozy added.

The Sound Transit Board of Directors is expected to decide in April what route it prefers for the new light rail line, called East Link. Work will then begin on a final environmental impact report, which is expected to be complete in mid-2010. Soon afterwards, the board will cast its final vote on where to locate the line.

The East Link project is part of a broader regional transit plan approved by King County voters last November. East Link ultimately will run from downtown Seattle, across Interstate 90 to downtown Bellevue and then through the city's Bel-Red Corridor to the Overlake area of Redmond. The line is expected to carry up to 48,000 passengers daily.

East Link construction is projected to begin in four years, with light rail service in downtown Bellevue anticipated by 2020. Service to the Overlake Transit

Center is forecast to start in 2021.

After studying various options, the Bellevue City Council in 2006 endorsed light rail as the best type of high capacity transit system to meet the rapidly growing transportation needs of Bellevue and the Eastside.

In making its case for light rail, the council stated that such a system would not only provide commuters and others with an attractive alternative to single-occupancy vehicles, but could be built in its own right of way without reducing existing road capacity.

Council members also thought that a light rail system would help advance city and regional growth management objectives by attracting new residential and commercial development around high-capacity transit in the Bel-Red Corridor, thereby reducing sprawl and the pollution caused by vehicle exhaust. The city's new plan for the Bel-Red Corridor, expected to be adopted Feb. 17 by council members, focuses on transit-oriented development.

To help the community plan for light rail, Council members initiated a unique process aimed at learning from the light rail experiences of other cities and applying those lessons to Bellevue.

Called the Light Rail Best Practices Project, it began in 2007 when Council members chose a citizen-led panel to investigate how light rail works in other North American cities and to seek input from the community. Key conclusions of the panel's report, which was completed in June, 2008, included:

- Light rail must connect areas where people live or work, and transit stations must be designed for the safety and the security of riders and neighbors;
- Public participation should be sought in the design and alignment of the line; and
- Adverse impacts need to be anticipated in advance and mitigation sought to minimize those impacts.

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East Link at a glance

- **Description:** Voter-approved light rail system that will extend service from Seattle, across Lake Washington via Interstate 90 to south Bellevue, then north through downtown, then northeast through the Bel-Red area to the Overlake Transit Center in Redmond.
- **Where it will run:** East Link eventually will provide a direct connection from Overlake in Redmond to the UW, via Bellevue, Mercer Island and downtown Seattle.
- **Length of trips:** From downtown Bellevue: to Microsoft campus, 10 minutes; to downtown Seattle, 20 minutes; to University of Washington, 30 minutes; to Sea-Tac Airport, 55 minutes.
- **Proposed service:** Every nine minutes, with service 20 hours per day.
- **Proposed routes:** There are 19 different routes proposed between Seattle and Redmond, divided into five different segments, covering a total of 17 to 19 miles, depending on the routes chosen. Ultimately, one route will be selected for each segment.
- **Number of Bellevue stations:** 5 to 10, depending on the route chosen and other factors.
- **Estimated ridership:** 40,000 to 48,000 riders daily, depending on the routes selected (13 million per year).
- **Timetable:** Final routes selected in 2010; construction begins in 2013; downtown Bellevue service begins in 2020; service to Overlake begins in 2021.



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Council Corner



Neighborhood Enhancement: A history of people-powered projects

By Bellevue Deputy Mayor Claudia Balducci

A lot of factors go into making a city a great place to live, work and play. At the top of the list, however, is a commitment by citizens to get involved in their neighborhoods.

For many of us who live in Bellevue, this commitment has been manifested over the years by the city's successful Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP), which celebrated its 20th anniversary last fall.

The NEP is a program that gives neighbors the power to identify projects needed in their neighborhood, and to fund those projects based on a vote of the community. Since its inception in 1988, NEP has invested about \$18.8 million and funded more than 400 successful projects ranging from new sidewalks, street lights and sports field improvements, to picnic shelters, skate parks and community gardens.

Along the way, the program has won the participation and support of the citizens it is designed to serve by encouraging grassroots participation in identifying neighborhood needs. In a recent interview, Wilburton resident Ron Griffin praised NEP as "an opportunity for the community to come together."

"The value to the neighborhood," Griffin said, "is that we see something getting done; we see community members working together; we see the community working with the city."

Neighborhood collaboration is a theme often repeated in the citizen evaluations returned at the end of each neighborhood cycle.

"One of the benefits of the program is simply neighbors getting to know neighbors better," Westwood Highlands resident Jerry Minzel recently noted.

Other residents, in their written evaluations of NEP, commended the program for extending decision-making authority to the neighborhoods, and for improving the quality of Bellevue neighborhoods. Quoting from those evaluations:

- "It's a great and easy way to be involved."
- "It's nice to have a voice in decisions being made in our community."
- "Bellevue City government is far ahead of the game in keeping our city very livable – safe, pleasant and friendly."

NEP began in 1988 with an annual budget of \$560,000 and a project cost limit of \$65,000. Initially, the program cycled through all of the city's neighborhoods once every five years, with a geographic distribution that was mostly equal in size.

Over the years, the program has grown in community acceptance and popularity, and evolved to better meet neighborhood needs. The NEP budget has increased and now stands at \$1.9 million per year. The project cost limit also has increased to \$150,000. NEP areas have changed to be consistent with school attendance boundaries. Modifications have been made to accommodate annexations. The program cycle has been sped up, so that it now serves each neighborhood every three years, instead of every five years.

The NEP process in each area begins with mailings to every household inviting residents to suggest projects. City staff evaluate each proposal,

develop descriptions and cost estimates, determine which projects meet the NEP eligibility criteria and review eligible projects with neighbors at a workshop. Finally, ballots are mailed to all households in the area-one ballot per household-and residents vote for their top priority projects.

"One of the benefits of the program is simply neighbors getting to know neighbors better."

Westwood Highlands resident Jerry Minzel

The top priority projects with a total estimated cost are then funded and implemented, up to the total maximum cost allocated to that area.

In the three-year budget period that ended in 2007, more than 8,000 Bellevue citizens took the time to submit ballots for their preferred projects. Some of the projects recently selected by residents and completed by the city include:

- Residents in the Crossroads neighborhood area voted to fund construction of a new skate plaza at Highland Community Center, which provides a free and attractive recreation alternative for youth. Built with funds from NEP, grant money and Parks funding, the state-of-the-art skate park was completed last year;
- Wilburton residents approved a landscaping and wetland enhancement project along Kelsey Creek at Northeast Eighth Street. Funded by NEP and the Community Salmon Fund, it was built with assistance from community volunteers.

For the coming year, residents can look forward to these projects, approved for funding by neighborhoods:

- In the Northeast Bellevue neighborhood, residents approved new restrooms at Ivanhoe and Ardmore Parks;
- Landscaping projects at six city rights of way in Bridle Trails, Northeast Bellevue and Northwest Bellevue neighborhoods. These projects entail removing old, dying or invasive vegetation and replacing it with attractive and hardy new landscaping, and irrigation where appropriate; and
- In Bridle Trails, voters approved equestrian art. This is the first NEP-funded neighborhood art project, involving residents in the design and location of professional artwork reflecting the special character of the neighborhood.

In coming years, as our neighborhoods and their needs and desires change, the types of programs residents choose to fund through NEP will undoubtedly change. What won't change, however, is the guiding philosophy behind NEP: Residents themselves are in the best position to decide how to improve their neighborhoods.

For more details about the NEP process, to find out when NEP is scheduled to come to your neighborhood, and to learn about the upcoming NEP outreach to West Bellevue and Woodridge, visit the NEP web site at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/nep.htm> or call Neighborhood Outreach at 425-452-6836.

Don't let neighbors curb your curb appeal

Your home and yard are in pristine condition, but the front of your neighbor's home looks like a used car lot. How can you maintain good relations with your neighbors and keep your block looking good?

The sixth and final Great Community Workshop – "Maintaining the Value and Appearance of Your Neighborhood" – will offer some answers. The workshop will be Thursday, March 12, at 7 p.m. in Room 1E-108 at City Hall.

Organized by the city's Neighborhood Outreach team, the monthly Great Community workshops explored a variety of topics, including neighborhood organizing, communication skills and conflict resolution. More than 100 residents participated.

Frank Muscutt, who attended multiple workshops, said, "The workshops gave me new ideas on how to communicate with other homeowners. The turnout was good, so there was feedback from many participant who had different views."

Experts spoke at each of the workshops. At the March workshop, appraiser Graham Albertini, code compliance officer Liz Krzyminski and home loan repair specialist Sam Ezadian will offer their perspectives.

Participants are invited to submit code-related questions before the meeting via e-mail to ekrzyminski@bellevuewa.gov. Such questions will be addressed at the workshop.

Community resources are available for those that may need help with home maintenance. Home loan repair specialist Sam Ezadian will review the parameters of the Bellevue home loan repair program. Copies of the newly updated Bellevue Home Repair and Maintenance Guide will be available.

The evening begins with a "meet and mingle" with refreshments at 7 p.m. and the formal program begins at 7:15 p.m. An RSVP is preferred, but last-minute attendees are welcome. To RSVP or for more information, contact Julie Ellenhorn in Neighborhood Outreach, 425-452-5372 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.



Appraiser Graham Albertini on the job.



Bel-Red area poised for major changes

The City Council in February was nearing approval of a long-range plan expected to transform the Bel-Red Corridor into a model for growth management and transit-oriented development.

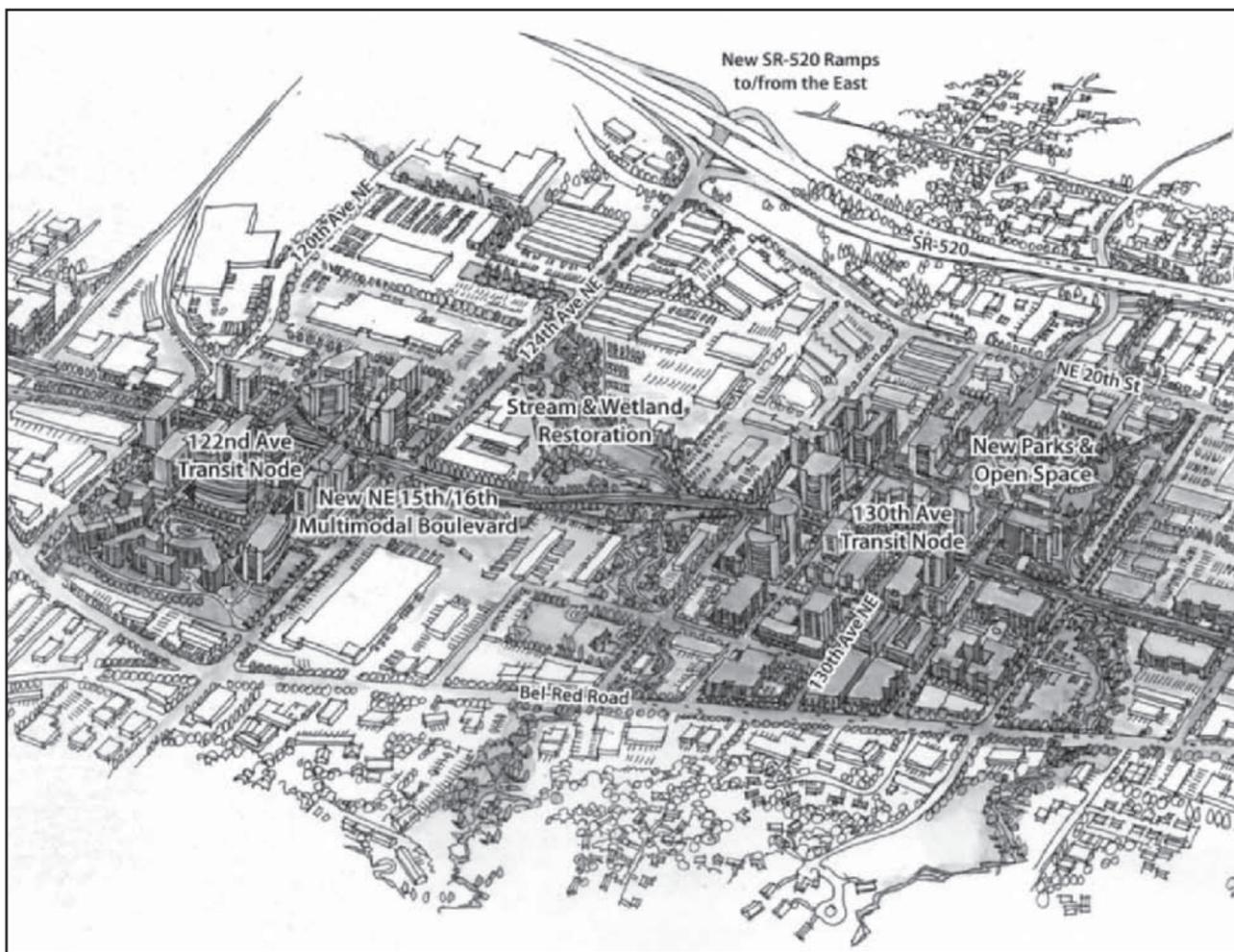
The council was expected to endorse a plan to comprehensively rezone the 900-acre area, located northeast of downtown. Over the next two decades, the plan is expected to reverse a gradual decline the area has experienced in recent years and generate:

- New office and commercial space blended with residential development, including up to 10,000 new jobs and 5,000 new housing units organized around high-capacity transit stations;
- A new light rail line that will provide a direct connection to the region's three biggest employment centers: downtown Bellevue, Seattle and Overlake;
- New parks, trails and bike paths that enhance the neighborhoods and better connect them to the rest of the city;
- Restored salmon streams, more open space and reduced greenhouse gas emissions because locating transit, housing and jobs in close proximity will mean fewer car trips;
- More affordable housing, with specific targets to serve low- and moderate-income households.

"This is certainly one of the most ambitious transit-oriented projects in the state," City Manager Steve Sarkozy said. "We expect the area to become a model for how land use and transportation planning can be integrated to achieve multiple goals. That benefits not only our community, but the region and state."

The Bel-Red plan was developed over a three-year period and included extensive public comment. Numerous meetings were held by a council-appointed steering committee charged with identifying a long-term vision for the area that reflects the community's overall land-use goals.

Long-term, the Bel-Red plan envisions the entire corridor – about twice the size of downtown Bellevue – going through a gradual transition from a mostly light industrial area, to a mixture of retail, office and residential uses. At the same time, recognizing the value to the community of existing Bel-Red businesses, the new plan contains provisions that allow companies to continue operating in the area indefinitely.



The long-range plan for the Bel-Red area includes a new East-West arterial and two transit nodes.

Unlike downtown, where the city has successfully concentrated high-density development by allowing buildings of over 40 stories, the tallest buildings in the transformed Bel-Red area will be limited to 13 stories and located only near two transit centers, or "nodes." The plan calls for other parts of Bel-Red to have three- to six-story buildings.

These higher densities will help Bellevue meet state-imposed growth management targets, which require cities and towns to accept larger populations in order to avoid suburban sprawl. Previously, none of the Bel-Red area was zoned for housing.

"The Bel-Red project is really quite unusual for this region," said Matt Terry, Bellevue's Planning and Community Development Director. "The only other effort I can think of that's comparable in size and the ability to uplift a large swath of urban land is the South Lake Union project in Seattle."

In separate but related deliberations, the city council is considering a range of ways to pay for the proposed improvements in Bel-Red. Options include higher impact fees and creation of local improvement districts.

For more information on the Bel-Red project, visit http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bel-red_intro.htm.

UW students to help city with environmental action plan

As the city begins exploring ways for residents and businesses to cut greenhouse gas emissions, it will receive help from the University of Washington's Program on the Environment.

Graduate students from the interdisciplinary program, which offers degrees in environmental studies and graduate certificate programs, will help the city draft an environmental action plan for the community.

In 2007, as part of the city's Environmental Stewardship Initiative, Bellevue joined other cities in a pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012. Initial efforts last year included conducting an inventory of emissions from municipal operations and the community as a whole.

Using that inventory, the city is working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in its own operations. The main task now is to create and implement an action plan for the community at large. That's where the UW team comes in.

The team, which includes students from the Foster School of Business, the Evans School of Public Affairs and the Department of Atmospheric Sciences, will look at what the Bellevue community has already done to reduce emissions, research what has worked in other cities and develop a range of best practices for Bellevue, including performance criteria and measures.

The team is expected to present its work to Council in May.

In addition to recruiting help to draft a community environmental action plan, the city has recently tackled several projects to further environmental goals:

- The Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, completed in October, was awarded a King County Green Building Award and has

applied for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) gold certification. The MSEEC, a partnership between the city and the Pacific Science Center, showcases a variety of green building techniques and materials, such as green roofs, pervious concrete and floors made out of discarded wood scraps. During construction, drills ran on corn oil to eliminate the threat of toxic seepage to the surrounding wetlands.

- City Hall and Bellevue's Service Center began composting food scraps in 2008. Through education and team-building, recycling rates for all materials at City Hall have risen from 48 percent to 77 percent in the past year.
- Increased education and outreach has resulted in higher recycling rates citywide. Single-family households are recycling 68 percent of their waste, and those living in apartments and other multifamily structures are recycling 18 percent. Participation in food waste recycling by residents living in single-family households has steadily grown—from 12 percent in 2005 to 43 percent in 2008.
- Bellevue's expansion of parks and playground recycling containers has been very successful, with nearly four tons of material being diverted out of the solid waste stream each month. The city has purchased an additional 100 recycling containers, with the goal to have a recycling container next to every garbage bin in the parks. Many city-sponsored events now aim for "zero-waste" standards, and the city earned a "Best Workplace for Recycling" award last year from King County.
- An analysis of the city's tree canopy, using satellite imagery, has been completed and will help shape strategies to protect and add to the number of trees in the city.

Bellevue weathers two weeks of snow and ice

December's onslaughts of snow and ice, according to many, added up to the worst bout of winter weather to hit Bellevue in more than 20 years. The thermometer registered below-freezing temperatures for 17 straight days, with repeated heavy snowfalls that eventually totaled 12 to 16 inches or more across the city.

On Dec. 21, the canvas roof over the ice rink at Downtown Park collapsed from the weight of the snow. Fortunately, the skaters there that evening escaped serious injury.

To ensure residents could travel as safely as possible around a city with some treacherous elevations, Utilities crews worked around the clock from Dec. 12 to 29, plowing and sanding the streets. All totaled, Bellevue's 14 snowplows logged more than 26,000 miles, spreading more than 1,600 yards of sand and nearly 2,600 tons of calcium chloride de-icer in addition to pushing the white stuff off the streets. Parks crews plowed entrances of hospitals, fire stations and other city buildings critical to public services.

Repeated 12-hour shifts led to fatigue for plow operators, but encouragement from residents inspired them.

"Every plow operator was thanked by citizens and we all got waves and smiles from people out walking in the snow," said Matthew Morrison, one of the drivers. "Knowing that we were helping people and they appreciated it made every long hour worthwhile."

The city operated an emergency overnight shelter at the Crossroads Community Center from Dec. 14 to 29. The only severe weather shelter to open on the Eastside, the facility served about a dozen people each night. Employees of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond and the King County Housing Authority as well as members of Congregations for the Homeless, a nonprofit organization, staffed the shelter.

Residents had lots of questions during the episode, and Utilities received more than 700 calls and e-mails. Many residents asked when a snowplow would be coming to their neighborhood. So you will be informed the next time snow flies here, here are answers to that and other common questions:

Question: Why are some streets plowed before others?

Answer: The city clears priority arterials first, to serve emergency vehicles, commuters and transit. After that, secondary arterials and residential streets are serviced. In December, plows had to concentrate on the arterials again and again, because new snow kept coming. Plowing and de-icing neighborhood streets also takes longer because neighborhood streets are narrower, sometimes very steep, and have more obstacles than arterials, including parked cars and playing children.

I was glad to see a snowplow, but it placed a large amount of snow at the end of my driveway. Can this be prevented?

When Bellevue gets the usual one to three inches of snow, snow packed against the curbs by the plows is not an issue. However, the mounds of snow pushed to the sides of the streets this time were high. If the snowplow



operators had stopped to clear each driveway, it would have brought plowing operations to a near standstill. We ask that citizens help us out by removing snow at the end of the driveway after plows go by and maybe help neighbors who are not able to do this.

Why do you close some streets during a snow storm?

Bellevue does not automatically close roads, but some streets may need to be closed temporarily, especially if stranded cars block snowplows. Drivers who cannot navigate a road should make every attempt to move their vehicles completely off the roadway. If you must leave your car on the street, parallel park as close to the curb as possible in the downhill direction, so that all cars are on the same side of the street. If you have to leave your car, place your phone number visible on the dashboard. Abandoned vehicles may be towed. To avoid being impounded, return to your vehicle as soon as practical.

Before leaving home, prepare your vehicle, plan your trip by checking Bellevue's priority response map at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Transportation/snow_response_priorities_map.pdf, and allow extra time to reach your destination. Check to make sure you have the proper emergency equipment, test new chains for proper fit before the first snow and take a charged cell phone if you have one.

Where can I get information on road conditions in Bellevue during snow events?

For more information during extreme weather events, visit the Bellevue website at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov> and click on the "Extreme Weather Response" button on the right side of the page. Sign up for alerts to get the latest updates on extreme weather. The section also contains information on topics such as power outages, storm debris and garbage collection, a snow response priorities map, and important phone numbers and websites.

Bellevue Youth Theatre director among top volunteers honored



Gath-McClain, with a clipboard, coaches.

Karen Gath-McClain loves theater and helping children. For her, volunteering at the Bellevue Youth Theatre is more fun than work. That helps explain how she won the President's Call to Service Award, logging an astounding 35,000 hours unpaid at the BYT.

"I've been involved with the BYT since its inception," said Gath-McClain. "I love theater and I love working with kids; it's just the perfect fit."

The wife of James McClain, who manages the BYT, Karen has been resident director and costume advisor since 1990. She began teaching drama this year at Forest Ridge School of the Sacred Heart and directing at St. Louise Parish

School, so just stepped down as costume advisor at the BYT.

Gath-McClain was one of several residents recognized in December with President's awards for volunteer service.

Other volunteers who received the President's award are: Shirley Johnson, who has performed more than 4,770 service hours for the Highland Community Center; Gerry Katt, a longtime Bellevue Police volunteer with more than 7,300 and Randall Apted, who has donated more than 20,000 to the Bellevue Youth Theatre.

"These recipients are role models for all Americans," City Manager Steve Sarkozy said. "Each volunteer hour contributed makes a difference in improving the quality of life for others, and I encourage everyone to contribute to our community by volunteering. Through their commitment, volunteers bring us closer together as families, as communities and as a nation."

In December the city honored 15 individuals and seven groups with

the President's Volunteer Service Awards.

Established in 2003, the award is available annually to individuals, groups and families who have met or exceeded requirements for volunteer service and have demonstrated exemplary citizenship through volunteering. Award eligibility is based on hour requirements.

Bellevue has a long history of volunteer service, and more than 6,700 volunteers perform community service each year on behalf of the city. Among many other programs, volunteers help neighborhood mediation, the police department, Youth Link, the Bellevue Youth Theatre, the Botanical Garden, Eastside Amateur Radio Support (EARS) and the Highland Community Center.

Recipients of the bronze award included Rachel Jiang, Jackie Gray, Jack Mahler and Rhonda Younker. The silver award went to Mike Ryan, Don Marshall, Angela McInnis, Laurie Roberts, Cressida Stapely and Elise Troske-Roberts. The gold award goes to adult volunteers who give more than 500 hours and teens who volunteer more than 250. This year's recipients are Mike Matteson and Stacy Stenslie.

Groups can qualify for the award by serving more than 1,000 hours. Seven groups working at the Bellevue Botanical Garden qualified for the 2008 award, including: the Botanical Garden Docents, Garden d'Lights, the Botanical Garden Trillium Shop, the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society, the garden's Horticulture Volunteers, including Waterwise Garden, the Northwest Perennial Alliance and Genus II Plant Records Volunteers.

The award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, a group created by President Bush to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making to our nation. Chaired by two-time Super Bowl champion Darrell Green, with former U.S. Senators Bob Dole and John Glenn as honorary co-chairs, the Council comprises leaders in government, media, entertainment, business, education, nonprofits and volunteer service organizations and community volunteering.

For more information about volunteering for Bellevue, contact Volunteer Program Coordinator Shelly Shellabarger at 425-452-5375, or Volunteer@BellevueWa.gov. To explore volunteer opportunities throughout the city and the community, visit the city's volunteering web pages.



Focus group ensures police and minorities maintain good relations



Police Chief Linda Pillo

With the percentage of Bellevue residents born outside the United States at 31 percent and rising, Police Chief Linda Pillo is making a special effort to ensure everyone in the community feels served by her force.

When Chief Pillo took office last year, one of her goals was to make sure no community groups felt neglected. To this end, she formed a diversity focus group in May.

“We believe in providing the highest quality law enforcement, community education and support services possible. I want to make sure we are providing this service to all of our community members” stated Chief Pillo.

“I’m very pleased,” said Valentina Kiselev, a member of the Diversity Focus Group with connections to the large Russian immigrant population in Bellevue. “The department can fine-tune how

it operates in a very diverse city. The focus group gives minority groups an opportunity to feel more connected and included. It might help decrease crime in Bellevue.”

The seven-member advisory panel has opened a line of communication to the various ethnic, religious and cultural groups in Bellevue that might not otherwise be reached. The communication can be two-way, with members relaying community feedback regarding the level of service the Bellevue

Police provide.

The group meets quarterly or as needed. The members – Vibhas Chandorkar, Shomari Jones, Kiselev, Alan Lai, Hector Martinez, Lourdes Salazar and Khawya Shamsuddin – collectively represent ethnic groups traditionally difficult to reach for law enforcement.

“I have lived in Bellevue for over 20 years and I was delighted when Chief Pillo asked me to join the Diversity Task Force,” Shamsuddin said. “I believe that the work of this task force is already proving useful, providing

“The focus group gives minority groups an opportunity to feel more connected and included.”

Valentina Kiselev

the police with important information that will lead to smoother interaction with the communities.”

The group advises the chief on issues ranging from officer training to department policy. For example, the group evaluated a video-based training program designed to prevent racial profiling last year. Some members of the panel are currently participating in making a training video, demonstrating and explaining customs from their cultures that could raise an officer’s suspicions unnecessarily.

Chief Pillo added, “We appreciate the members’ willingness to participate in this process. They play a key role in helping us reach our service goals for people who come from a background that may be distrusting of police or government.”

As part of her commitment to community outreach Chief Pillo or an expert department representative are available for speaking engagements. Anyone wishing to schedule a speaker should contact Officer Grannis, the public information officer, at ggrannis@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4129.

With parks levy approved, council to begin prioritizing projects



Photo by David J. Vasquez, Big Picture Photography

Completing the loop trail at Downtown Park is one of the projects covered in the levy.

With easy passage the new parks levy last fall, the City Council will begin prioritizing a list of projects this spring.

In November residents approved the \$40.5 million levy by a margin of two to one. Sixty-seven percent voted for the measure, which replaced a levy that expired in 2008.

The levy will protect water quality in Bellevue’s lakes and streams and preserve additional natural areas throughout the city. Key projects the levy will fund include:

- Trail and natural area improvements in Coal Creek Park and Lewis Creek Park;
- Completion of the loop trail around the waterfall and reflecting pond at Bellevue Downtown Park;
- Upgrades to synthetic turf for Wilburton and Newport Hills soccer fields;
- Expansion of Crossroads Community Center to support youth performing arts;
- Improvements to the Bellevue Botanical Garden;
- The addition of neighborhood parks in Bridle Trails and along West Lake Sammamish Parkway;
- Redevelopment of Surrey Downs Park; and
- Development of a new 27-acre community park in the Eastgate area along 156th Avenue Southeast.

“The City Council is looking forward to delivering these great new amenities to our community. Our legacy of environmental stewardship is something that all of us should look upon with pride,” said Bellevue Mayor Grant Degginger.

The City Council voted in July to place the replacement parks levy before voters on the Nov. 4 ballot. The levy tax rate is 12 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, or approximately \$71 per year for a typical home in Bellevue. That is less than the average tax rate associated with the expiring 1988 levy, which had an average tax rate of 17 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value.

www.bellevuewa.gov

Generosity is still in season

Responding to record need, residents gave for the city’s annual holiday food drive with record generosity, donating at least double the amount of food usually given. With the national and regional economy still roiling, local human services providers continue to need help.

Several neighborhood organizations made a contest out of Bellevue’s food drive, and the result was a mountain of canned and dried foods collected at the Crossroads Mini City Hall. Many schools helped support the effort too.

“The response to the food drive was incredible,” City Manager Steve Sarkozy said. “Especially in these difficult economic times, it is really wonderful to live in a community that cares about all of its residents.”

The generosity in December was boon to service providers who reported unprecedented demand in the fall. Local organizations are not seeing an ebb in that demand now. Donations and volunteer labor are vital.

“As more people are displaced from their jobs and the economic downturn continues, need at Hopelink is surging,” said Glen Miller, spokesman for the Eastside food and shelter provider. “Requests for housing assistance, energy and food are all up by double digits.”

The picture is similar for other agencies.

The Jubile REACH Center at Lake Hills reported a steady increase of need for financial assistance to pay utility bills, rent and relocation expenses. Many more clients are seeking help for food and public transportation.

Those interested and able to help Bellevue families in need can still



Hopelink’s food bank sees high demand.

make food or cash donations to a human service organization. Volunteers are also welcome.

For more information about these and other assistance programs, call the Community Information Line, 211, or go online to <http://www.resourcehouse.com/en/WA/cgi-bin/location.asp>.

East Link plans continued from front page



“Best Practices was an unprecedented effort to be proactive in the face of the biggest transit investment in Bellevue’s history,” Bellevue Transportation Director Goran Sparrman said. “The City Council wanted to take full advantage of the fact that light rail systems are already in place elsewhere and seize the opportunity to learn from others.”

The Best Practices report has been utilized by city staff and council members as the various route alternatives identified in Sound Transit’s draft environmental report have been analyzed. Some of the key issues in the report have been echoed recently by speakers at the Council hearing and at Sound Transit meetings. Concerns have included:

- Reducing impacts from the construction and operation of a light rail system on residential neighborhoods such as Surrey Downs and Enatai,

- as well as impacts to businesses during and after construction;
- Minimizing the need for Sound Transit to buy private properties for right of way;
- How East Link can support the city’s land-use vision for a thriving downtown and renewed vitality in the Bel-Red area;
- Maintaining street capacity in downtown Bellevue by minimizing the loss of traffic lanes due to East Link routing;
- Providing a fast and reliable travel option to highway gridlock and driving alone in one’s car.

Since the draft environmental impact statement was issued, Sound Transit has conducted an extensive public outreach effort. The transit agency hosted two public meetings in late January – one at Bellevue High School and the other at City Hall – which attracted an estimated 350 residents.

The Bellevue City Council held its own public hearing Feb. 2 to an overflow crowd of more than 150. Television monitors were set up outside council chambers to accommodate audience members, and 59 people spoke during the 3 ½-hour meeting. Comments from the meeting will be forwarded to Sound Transit along with the council’s preferred route choice.

“In the end, this is a balancing act,” Sarkozy said. “The council must weigh the economic, environmental and quality-of-life issues that come with a light rail system against the inevitable hardships that accompany any large-scale construction project. It won’t be easy, but in the end it will be worth it.”

To comment online before the Feb. 25 deadline, visit Sound Transit’s project web page at <http://www.soundtransit.org/x3245.xml>. To comment by mail, write Sound Transit, Union Station, Attention: East Link DEIS Comments, 401 S. Jackson St., Seattle, WA. 98104.

More information about East Link, including a copy of the draft EIS, is available on the Sound Transit website at <http://soundtransit.org/x3245.xml>. The city’s staff contact is Bernard van de Kamp, Regional Projects Manager, 425-452-6459 or bvandekamp@bellevuewa.gov.

Pilot project to shed new light on Bellevue street



Tony Lau, with Transportation’s traffic signals team, installs a LED light.

Bellevue is testing a new type of street light that holds great promise for better energy efficiency, lower costs and less light pollution than existing lights.

The project is the first time that light emitting diodes, or LEDs, have been used for multiple street lights on a city roadway. New lights are being installed in February and early March along 118th Avenue Southeast, from Southeast Fourth Place to just south of Main Street.

Ten new LED street light fixtures will replace existing “shoebox” fixtures, which contain traditional high-pressure sodium lamps. The work will also include one new street light pole.

It’s anticipated the new system will provide a better quality, more uniform light level for the roadway,

while decreasing the amount of light “trespassing” onto private property nearby. LED street lights produce a more natural white light that makes objects more discernable at night, compared with the yellow-tinted light that comes from high-pressure sodium fixtures.

In addition to improving the quality of light, the 10 new LED street lights are expected to reduce annual electricity costs from approximately \$700 per year to \$300 per year.

The lights will also result in the reduction of an estimated 3.5 tons of carbon into the earth’s atmosphere annually, making the LED project a good fit with the city’s Environmental Stewardship initiative, which seeks to achieve sustainable operational practices, among other goals.

Mark Poch, who manages the city’s street lights and traffic signals, said there are approximately 8,000 street lights in Bellevue, 3,000 of which are owned and maintained by the city. The other 5,000 lights are owned and maintained by Puget Sound Energy.

According to Poch, research from manufacturers suggests that using LED lights could cut electricity costs by 40 percent or more, a major consideration since the total electric bill for all 8,000 lights in Bellevue is close to \$550,000 a year.

Poch plans to monitor the LED project closely. If the results are favorable and the price of LED light fixtures continues to fall, more such street lights may be on the way. The new lighting fixtures for the pilot project will cost approximately \$5,000.

“We’re looking for a reduction in the price of the fixtures so that the energy saved over the life of the hardware pays for the initial cost,” Poch said. “We haven’t hit that price point yet, but we anticipate it happening in the not too distant future.”

Residents who want to report a burned out or malfunctioning street light may call 425-452-6950 or visit the Bellevue website at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/street_light_requests.htm.

Utilities discounts available for seniors and disabled

Seniors and homeowners with disabilities can receive up to 75 percent off their water, wastewater and drainage bills if their income is below a specified amount.

Senior and disabled renters who do not actually pay a utility bill, but pay through their rent, can also receive a reimbursement.

Who qualifies?

Senior citizens (over age 62) living in the Bellevue Utilities service area.

Citizens of any age receiving permanent disability payments and living in the Bellevue Utilities service area.

Households in either category above who meet income guidelines (total income in 2008 for a single person of \$28,231 or less or \$32,271 or less for married/co-tenant). A household of four can make up to \$40,352 and still be eligible.

Applications will be accepted beginning in February. For more information, please call 425-452-5285.

Waterwise gardeners wanted



Volunteers are needed to maintain the Waterwise Garden, one of the displays at the Bellevue Botanical Garden.

The award-winning garden demonstrates how you can create a healthy, thriving landscape with less water, chemicals and work. Volunteers tending the garden can apply lessons there to their own yards and gardens.

Volunteer days are the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 1 to 3 p.m. from spring to fall at the Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St. No experience is necessary. To sign up or to get more information, call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-4127.



New route proposed for Rotary 5K

The Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club has proposed a new route for its third annual 5K Run and Walk-a-thon. Set for April 26, the event will begin and end at Crossroads Community Park.

Proceeds from the run will provide funds for local programs including: Kindering Center; scholarships; feeding the hungry; literacy projects; and support for homeless families. Some of the proceeds will also be used to combat polio and provide clean water to children in developing countries.

The Rotary has a long tradition of sponsoring healthy communities both locally and around the world.

The proposed route is as follows:

- Start in southeast corner of Crossroads Community Park (Corner of Northeast Eighth Street and 164th Avenue Northeast);
- Proceed northwest through the park;
- Exit onto Northeast 15th Street and proceed west;
- Turn left onto 156th Avenue Northeast, and proceed south in the northbound curb lane;
- Turn left onto Northeast Fourth Street. Proceed east on Fourth in the westbound lane;
- Turn left onto 167th Avenue Northeast. Proceed north on 167th in the southbound lane. Turn right onto Northeast Sixth Place, which becomes 168th Place;
- Turn left onto Northeast 12th Street and proceed west in the eastbound lane;
- Turn left onto 164th Avenue Northeast. Proceed south on 164th on the asphalt path;
- Turn right into Crossroads Community Park Finish in the southeast corner of the park.

The Rotary Club has filed a request for the proposed route with Bellevue's Special Events Committee. *Residents with questions or concerns have until April 1 to submit them to the Committee at sec@bellevuewa.gov.*

City Hall is regional voting center



Photo by Brian Casey

Bellevue City Hall is now a Regional Voting Center, which will serve people who have difficulty voting by mail. One of three such centers established by King County this year, the operation in Room 1E-121 will serve the Eastside at each election.

While the county has moved to mail balloting, the voting centers were created for voters who cannot fill out a paper ballot. Voting machines with special audio and visual features will help voters with limited vision and/or other disabilities.

An additional goal of the voting centers is to provide assistance and translated materials to people who speak languages other than English, as specified by Section 203 of the Federal Voting Rights Act.

City Hall was chosen as one of the three voting centers because of its central location on the Eastside and proximity to the Bellevue Transit Center. The other centers are in Seattle and Renton.

The Bellevue voting center, to be run by county elections staff, will be open for a total of four days during each election period: the Friday, Saturday and Monday prior to Election Day, as well as Election Day itself.

Area nonprofit agencies offer foreclosure prevention assistance

Problems with sub-prime mortgages have led to a rise in foreclosure rates in many Washington communities, including Bellevue. Local nonprofit agencies provide guidance on a variety of home financing topics such as home buying, renting, reverse mortgages and default and foreclosure prevention.

The following nonprofit agencies offer information and assistance to local homeowners:

- Washington Homeownership Center Hotline: 877-894-4663;
- Seattle Metro Area including Bellevue: 206-587-5641;
- Solid Ground 206-694-6766;
- Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle: 1-800-368-1455;
- Consumer Counseling of the Northwest: 253-830-6806.

In addition to these resources, the following are some suggestions for dealing with a foreclosure notice:

Don't ignore the problem. Contact your lender as soon as you realize that you may be late in paying your mortgage.

When you are behind on your mortgage payment, your lender will send you a notice. It is important to open and respond to all letters from your lender. The first notices that you receive will usually offer good information about foreclosure prevention options. If you ignore the first letter, later letters may include important notices of pending legal action. Your failure to open the mail and respond could lead to a notice to appear in foreclosure court.

Know your mortgage rights, understand foreclosure prevention options, foreclosure laws and time frames in Washington State.

Avoid foreclosure prevention companies who contact you promising to negotiate with your lender who will charge you a fee; instead, contact HUD approved non-profit Housing Counseling agencies (see list of approved agencies above) for information.

Don't lose your house to foreclosure scams. Be careful of anyone claiming that they can stop your foreclosure immediately if you sign a document appointing them to act on your behalf. Never sign a legal document without reading and understanding all the terms and getting legal advice from an attorney. If you need an attorney, the King County Bar Association may be able to provide you with a referral. The county also has neighborhood clinics where you may receive free legal advice. Visit <http://www.kcba.org/ScriptContent/KCBA/legalhelp/index.cfm> for more information or call 206-267-7100.

Valuable information can also be found at the state Department of Financial Institutions (<http://www.dfi.wa.gov> or 360-902-8700).

If you believe you have been a victim of a "foreclosure rescue scam" please call the state Attorney General's Office at 1-800-551-4636 or file a complaint with the office online at <http://www.atg.wa.gov/fileacomplaint.aspx>

Editors Note: The resources listed above are not affiliated with the City of Bellevue, but the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development has approved them.

www.bellevuewa.gov

Eastside cities increase human services funding

Despite having to tighten their belts, five major Eastside cities – Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Issaquah and Mercer Island – all approved increases in funding for human services in 2009-2010.

The Eastside Human Services Forum said the total investment in human services in these cities rose to more than \$5.7 million, but noted that the sum remains far from adequate to address looming gaps at the county, state and federal levels.

The economic crisis that is forcing governments to trim their budgets is pushing people out of work, causing a spike in demand for services.

In Bellevue, the City Council approved nearly \$2.4 million in human services funding for 2009, an increase of 10 percent and nearly \$229,000. Additional funds approved by the Council will fund 10 new programs and expand funding above the rate of inflation for 19 programs.

Funding beyond the inflation rate and new funding occurred largely in programs addressing needs related to food security and homelessness/housing needs, including the Emergency Feeding Program, World Impact Network's food bank and the Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council's homeless housing and rental assistance program.

Other new awards went to programs providing domestic violence support groups, consumer-driven mental health services, and parent-child English language classes.

The mission of the Eastside Human Services Forum is to foster strong public and private partnerships to assure a stable network of health and human services for the benefit of all East King County residents.

This is accomplished through partnerships, advocacy to protect Eastside interests, informing decision makers such as funders, policy makers and the public about issues of importance, and strengthening the funding base for human services.

For more information, visit the Eastside Human Services Forum website at www.eastsideforum.org, Debbie Lacy, Forum Coordinator, 425-587-3324.

Several new buildings completed in 2008



Photo by David Johanson Vasquez, Big Picture Photography

Can you name these?

Some of the cranes have left Bellevue's downtown, but they left their mark in the form of new high-rise office towers and condominiums. The downtown skyline underwent a lot of change, with eight new buildings going up. Can you match the buildings with the correct picture? (Answers: page 16)



Photos by Claude Iosso



List of buildings shown on page 8 and 9:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| TEN20 Residential Tower | Bravern Office Towers |
| Avalon Meydenbauer | City Center II |
| Belletini | Tower 333 |
| Bellevue Towers | Washington Square |

Vacancy on EBCC offers opportunity for input

For the first time in a long time you see a new name on this article. James Bell who has authored this column for many years, resigned his position with the East Bellevue Community Council after more than 20 years of service. Jim has left the council to spend more time with his family. His contribution to the Council and the community it serves will be missed.

With his departure, a vacancy has opened up on the EBCC. This creates an opportunity for you, if you live in the area, to join the EBCC and participate in land-use decisions in your community. Applications are available on Bellevue's website at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/ebcc-vacancy.htm>.

So what do we do?

The five-member EBCC has represented the east Bellevue area (see adjacent map) for almost 40 years. It is empowered by state law with the approval/disapproval authority over certain land-use actions in east Bellevue, and advises the City Council on other land-use issues that directly or indirectly affect the area.

Since joining the EBCC two years ago, I personally have had the opportunity to weigh in on some important land use issues that affect each of us in the community.

One of the projects we have been following is the Lake Hills Shopping Center redevelopment plan. There is great news to report about this project, including the fact that the King County Library System has signed an agreement to move the Lake Hills Library from its current location down the street to the corner of the Lake Hills shopping center property.

The 10,000-square-foot building will be brand new and will be a great asset to our community. Wendy Pender, manager of the Lake Hills Library and Crossroads Connection, came to an EBCC meeting to share some of the plans for the library after the move is completed. The library move is the first of three phases of development, which, when completed, will make the Lake Hills Shopping Center one of the crown jewels of our neighborhood.

When and where do we meet?

The EBCC meets the first Tuesday of every month (unless it's a holiday, in which case we meet on Wednesday) at 6:30 p.m. in the Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.

How can you participate?

Read about land-use issues under consideration by the EBCC, the city and the City Council. EBCC meeting agendas, minutes and resolutions are published on Bellevue's website at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm.

Come to an EBCC meeting and listen to the discussion, testimony from the public and/or consider testifying yourself. The meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to testify in person, or send e-mails to ebcc@bellevuewa.gov with input on land-use issues under discussion.

For those who may not wish to serve on the EBCC, or are not comfortable providing public testimony, but would like to help the Community Council, take a few minutes to think about your neighborhood and what makes it great. As a city grows, it changes – sometimes for the better and sometimes not.

Please share your thoughts on how you would like to see land-use issues develop with one of the EBCC members. We are interested in hearing what changes you support and which ones you do not. You can e-mail your thoughts to the e-mail address noted above, or consider stopping by before or after one of our meetings and share your thoughts directly with one of the EBCC members.

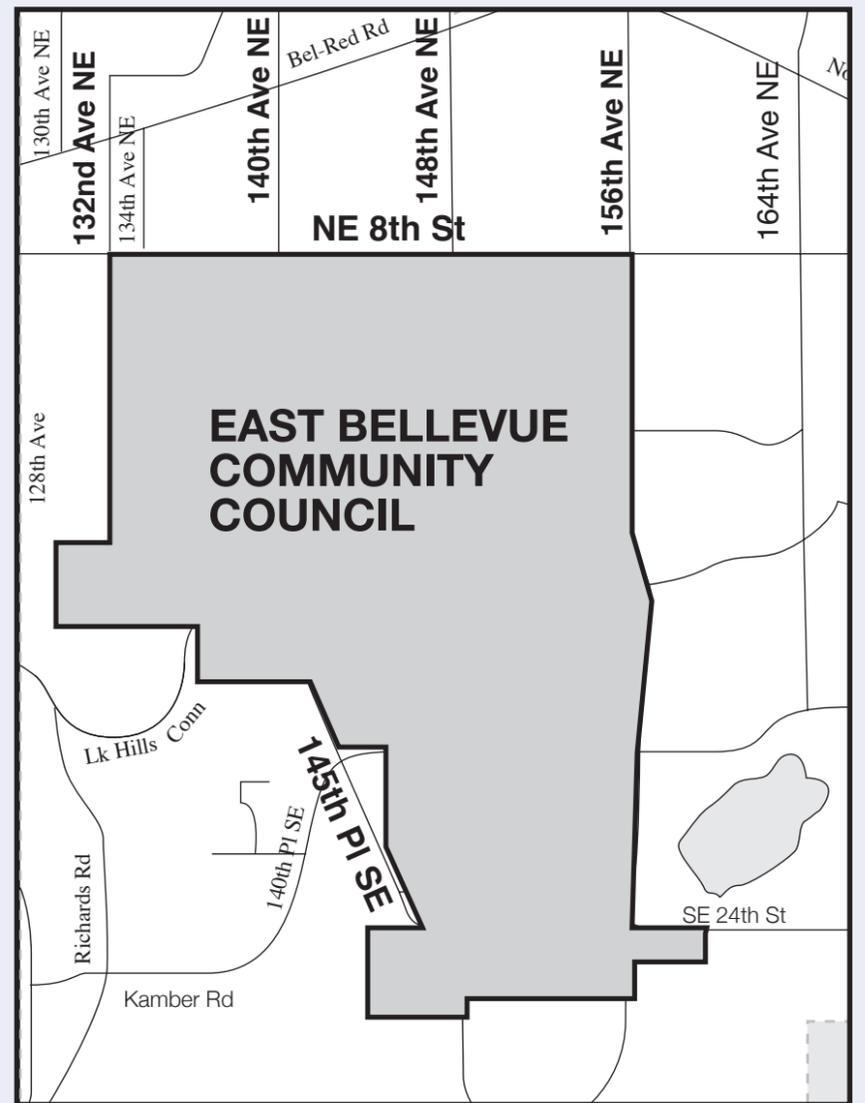
As a social studies teacher and Student Council co-advisor at Chestnut Hill Academy in Bellevue, I have worked with my students to show that an individual can make a difference. Most of my students have great compassion and empathy for the world that we live in, certainly more than I had as a 10- or 11-year-old.

In the fall, my class had a spirited unit discussion regarding both our presidential and gubernatorial races. The idea was for students to participate in a fair and respectful manner that allowed others to share contradicting opinions in a judgment-free and safe environment.

I was humbled by how well they took the lesson to heart and truly learned from each other's perspective. Sometimes I think that children understand the value of others' thoughts better than adults.

I hope that, as we debate the future of land-use in our neighborhood, we can take a lesson from my students and remember to respectfully hear and value each other's perspectives, no matter how passionately we feel about an issue.

There is no one answer to any given problem, and each of us will be affected to differing degrees. It is critical, as a community, that we are engaged and come together collectively to provide input and make sound decisions that impact our community. It is all about the vision. Let's hear yours.



For more information about the East Bellevue Community Council, call Deputy City Clerk Michelle Murphy, 425-452-6466, or contact Steven Kasner, acting chairman for the EBCC.

East Bellevue Community Council meets the first Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.

Members

Michael Elwin, Ross Gooding, Steven Kasner, Ken Seal

We welcome comments about the East Bellevue area. You can share your views with the Community Council via e-mail at EBCC@bellevuewa.gov. To find out more about the agendas and decisions of EBCC go to the website, http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm.

I personally pledge to evaluate each issue through the prism of what will serve our greater community. I value deeply the input of my fellow Council members, citizens in the general community and my neighbors in forming my decisions.

I am hopeful that at least one of you reading this takes the time to fill out an application and join my colleagues and me in participating on the EBCC.

There are many other great projects going on that will make our city even greater. Many of them are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. I thank you for reading this far and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

See *It's Your City* on  **BTV 21**
Bellevue TV

Every Tuesday and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
and every Friday at 9:30 p.m.
or see previous editions on the web.
Go to bellevuewa.gov/bellevue_tv.htm.



Work on highways in Bellevue continues in 2009



This overpass will support the new section of Northeast 10th Street.

Bellevue is a crisscross of freeways, with Interstate 405, Interstate 90 and State Route 520 connecting the city to the rest of the region. Anyone who drives these highways has probably noticed that the state Department of Transportation has been working on several projects. Here's a summary of

what's happening and what to expect in the coming months:

Interstate 405: WSDOT has two separate I-405 projects under construction in Bellevue. The I-405 South Bellevue Widening Project, which began in July 2007, is scheduled for completion by the end of this year. It adds capacity between Southeast Eighth Street and 112th Avenue Southeast to help relieve congestion on the drive in and out of downtown. The Northeast 10th Street Bridge project, started in early 2008 will open for traffic later this year. It will provide a new road over I-405, connecting downtown and the growing medical district east of the freeway, relieving congestion on Northeast Eighth Street.

SR 520: Crews continue geotechnical drilling along SR 520 in Bellevue to collect soil samples. The work, expected to continue through March, is needed for design of retaining walls, lids and drainage for a new highway. The drilling is part of larger project that eventually will result in a new six-lane corridor – including a new floating bridge – from I-5 to just west of I-405 in Bellevue.

Interstate 90: WSDOT and Sound Transit are adding high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes to the outer roadway of I-90, between Bellevue and Seattle, in preparation for light rail tracks in the center lanes of the floating bridge. In October 2008, a new westbound HOV lane was added between Bellevue and Mercer Island. This year, design work for Stage 2 is in progress. It will add an eastbound HOV lane from Mercer Island to Bellevue. Construction slated to begin in 2010.

For more information online about I-405 projects, visit the WSDOT website at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/i405/>; for SR 520 work, see <http://wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR520Bridge>; and for I-90 projects, see <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i90/TwoWayTransit>.

New options for electronics recycling

Washington residents, small businesses, schools and charities can now recycle computers, laptops, monitors and televisions free at authorized collection sites throughout the region in a new program paid for by electronics manufacturers. E-Cycle Washington, a result of state legislation that took effect Jan. 1, is an ongoing program, with no time limit for recycling old items.

Why recycle electronics? Many electronics contain hazardous materials such as lead, cadmium and mercury. It is illegal to throw computers, laptops, monitors and televisions into the garbage in King County. Recycling recovers resources for use in new products and keeps the electronic waste out of the landfill. According to Consumer Reports, almost 90 percent of computer contents can be reused or recycled.

What can I recycle for free? You can recycle computers, laptops, monitors and televisions. Peripheral items such as keyboards, mice and printers, as well as cell phones and portable electronics, are not included in the program, and there may be a charge to recycle. However, these items can be recycled at the curb by single-family residents in Bellevue who have curbside recycling.

Who can use the program? Residents, small businesses, schools, school districts, small governments, special purpose districts, nonprofits and

charities can use this program. Small businesses are defined as having fewer than 50 employees.

Can I still recycle electronics at the curb? Yes, if you live in a single-family residence in the Bellevue service area and have curbside recycling, you may continue to recycle electronics at the curb free. This new electronics recycling program supplements current curbside service by offering free recycling for televisions and monitors that are 24 inches or larger, which are not accepted curbside.

Note: Not all recycling locations are able to accept larger televisions and monitors.

Where can I recycle? For a list of all King County locations, visit <http://www.ecyclewashington.org> or call 1-800-RECYCLE.



City offers mediation training



A recent training with the Bellevue Mediation Program.

The Bellevue Neighborhood Mediation Program is offering its annual 40-hour basic mediation training in March.

The program has been providing mediation services to the Bellevue community since 1995. Mediation is a confidential and voluntary alternative to lawsuits and enforcement actions. Parties in dispute are guided by a neutral third party through a discussion of their issues and an exploration of a mutually agreeable solution.

Resolving disputes through mediation helps parties save money and preserves relationships.

BNMP mediators are trained community volunteers – they help resolve disputes on a variety of issues including: neighborhood noise, landlord/tenant disputes, parking, barking dogs, property lines, roommates, trees,

fences and property maintenance. The services are free to people who live, work or go to school in Bellevue.

BNMP offers a 40-hour basic training to those who live, work or go to school in Bellevue. This no-cost training is designed for people who are interested in developing mediation and conflict resolution skills, and is a prerequisite for those who wish to volunteer with the program.

Training will include conflict theory, communication skills building and mediation techniques. The next training will be at City Hall, 450 110th Ave. NE, March 18 to 28.

For more information or to register for the training, please call 425-452-4091 or e-mail gjones@bellevuewa.gov. More information about the program is also available at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/mediation.htm>.

Interest-free home repair loans

Bellevue homeowners with low to moderate incomes can receive up to \$35,000 in zero-interest loans and grants from Bellevue's Home Repair Program for home repair projects including weatherization projects, or roof, plumbing, electrical or other repairs. These loans don't have to be repaid until the house is sold and no monthly payment is required.

To be eligible for assistance, you must have owned and lived in the house for which you are requesting assistance for at least a year, the house must be within the Bellevue city limits and you must meet the program's income requirements.

To determine eligibility, count the number of household members residing in the house (household size) and check the maximum allowable income on the city website, at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/homerepair_assistance_eligibility.htm.

For more information about Bellevue's Home Repair Program, call the Parks & Community Services Department at 425-452-6884 (TDD: 411).

Downtown Bellevue Projects Update

The building boom in downtown Bellevue may be over, but as both the residential population and work force continue to increase, projects are underway to enhance livability and support walkers, riders and drivers.

This Downtown Bellevue Project Update provides a roundup of projects undertaken by the city and state. Many of the projects are in the planning and design stages; others are under construction.

City projects include improvements to parks, pedestrian corridors, the transit system and streets. Some are part of a new mobility initiative aimed at maintaining a healthy transportation system to serve growing numbers of people and businesses. All are geared toward making downtown a more appealing place to live, work and play.

To help you locate where these projects are, please see the map below.

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

P1. Ashwood Park Plaza

The plaza provides easy access and entry to Ashwood Park (near 108th Avenue Northeast and Northeast 10th Street) and to the TEN20 Tower.



The plaza depicts an arts and culture theme, and strengthens connections to the library, Ashwood Park and future theaters at the 1020 Tower and the Performing Arts Center Eastside (PACE). The design creates a strong

urban corner maximizing the green landscape elements with stepped seat-walls, clear public signage at the entrance and a water feature. The \$1.4 million plaza is now open. For more information, please contact Pam Fehrman at 425-452-4326 or Pfehman@bellevuewa.gov

P2. Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan

City leaders have long envisioned a public waterfront easily accessible to Old Bellevue, the Downtown Park and nearby neighborhoods. In the spring of 2007, the City Council established a steering committee and a set of planning principles to guide a public planning process for the 10-acre site with nearly a quarter mile of shoreline. A consultant team was selected to assist with the project. To help fulfill the goal of creating a unique waterfront destination connected to adjacent neighborhoods, the area surrounding the new park is included in the planning process.

An extensive and inclusive public process has been underway since early 2007. In October 2008, the city determined that park and land use alternatives identified through that process could best be studied and compared in an environmental impact statement. Work is now underway on the draft EIS, which is anticipated to be issued in the spring. For more information, please contact Mike Bergstrom, 425-452-6866 or Mbergstrom@bellevuewa.gov

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

PROJECTS IN THE PLANNING STAGE

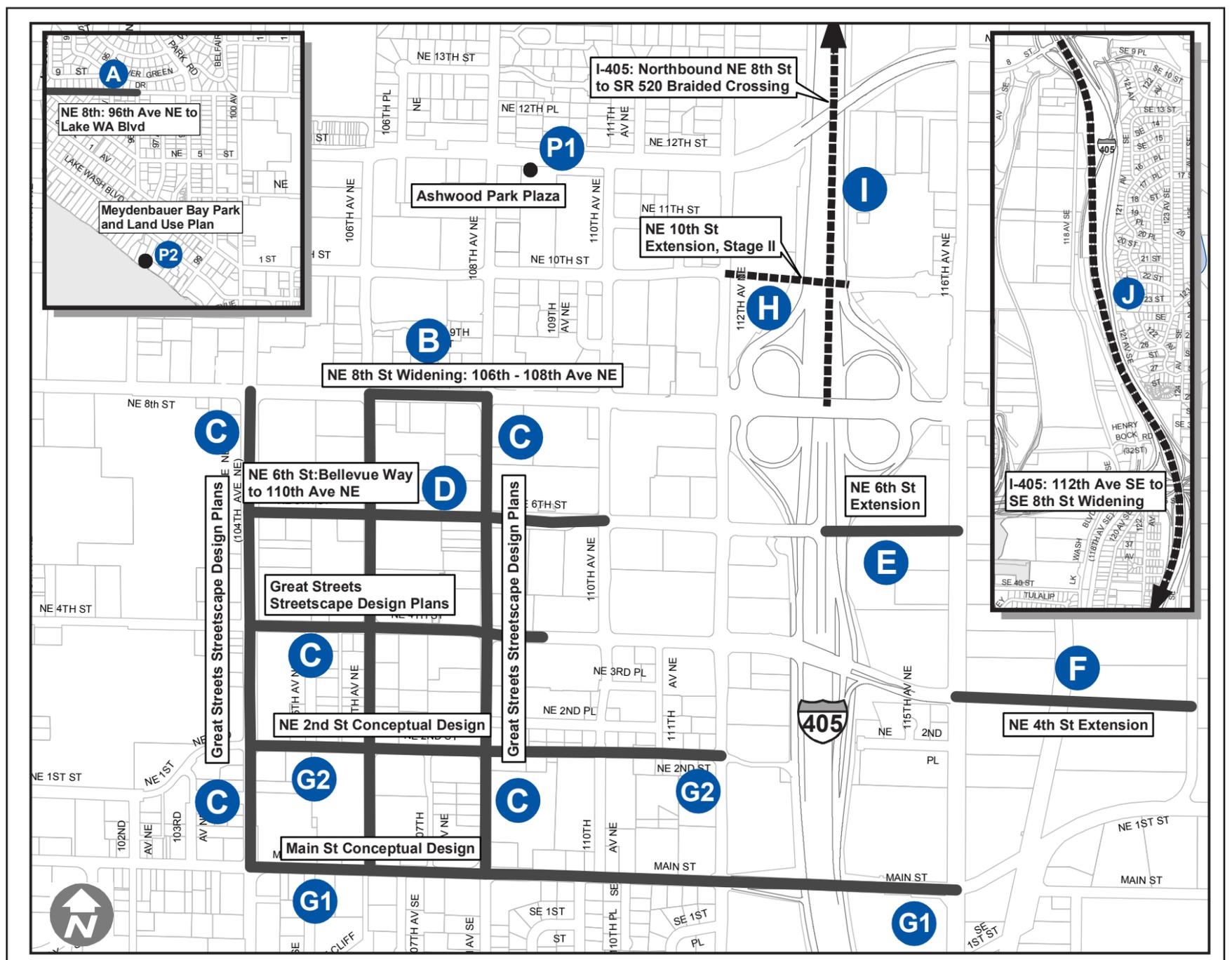
The following planning stage projects are not identified on the map.

Downtown Circulator – Transit Now

To support growth in both the employment and residential sectors downtown, a downtown shuttle, using a bus or van, has been proposed. Phase 1 of the project evaluated routes and service frequency, forecast ridership and estimated costs. Phase 2 will determine how to implement the circulator over the next five years. The city will share the service cost with King County Metro. For more information, please contact Maria Koengeter at 425-452-4345 or Mkoengeter@bellevuewa.gov

Connect Downtown - Growth and Transportation Efficiency Center

Connect Downtown is Bellevue's downtown Growth and Transportation Efficiency Center, a state grant program that helps employers, employees and individuals with travel alternatives such as transit, carpooling, vanpooling, walking or riding a bicycle. The program began in early 2008 and is continuing to provide employer assistance as well as "Commuter





Connection,” the new indoor bicycle parking and commuter assistance storefront at the Bellevue Transit Center. The plan also helps people with finding carpool and vanpool partners and provides information for new downtown residents and employees. The city’s travel options website, <http://www.chooseyourwaybellevue.org>, is a one-stop shop for travel option resources and highlights Connect Downtown offerings. For more information, please contact Kate Johnson at 425-452-7896 or Kmjohanson@bellevuewa.gov

Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan Update

After 18 months of technical review and public input, the Transportation Commission updated the 1999 Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan. The plan includes 435 projects that when implemented would result in: 90 miles of new sidewalk, 147 miles of new bicycle lanes and 20 miles of new trail facility improvements. For more information, please reference <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pedbikeplan.htm> or contact Franz Loewenherz at 425-452-4077.

Downtown Bellevue Wayfinding Kiosks – Under Construction

Coming soon to downtown Bellevue are four new kiosks that will provide a map and information, plus an exciting addition of public art. The kiosks will be installed at prominent locations along the heavily traveled pedestrian corridor between Bellevue Square and the Meydenbauer Convention Center.

Removal of the four existing kiosks and installation of the new ones took place last month.

The downtown map and selected destinations on one side of the kiosk will provide information about attractions within walking distance, such as the Transit Center, the King County Regional Library and the Meydenbauer Convention Center. On the opposite side of the kiosks will be photos and information about the Bellevue Arts Fair, the Meydenbauer Convention Center, the history of Compass Plaza and the making of the art on the top of the kiosks called “Topos,” a piece designed and fabricated by artists Maria Cristalli and Marc Brown. The budget for the project is \$100,000, plus \$53,559 from the Bellevue Arts Program.

For more information about the kiosks, contact Kevin McDonald at 425-452-4558 or KmcDonald@bellevuewa.gov. If you would like to learn more about the public art, contact Mary Pat Byrne at 425-452-4105 or Mpbyrne@bellevuewa.gov.

PROJECTS IN THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM PLAN

A. Northeast Eighth Street: 96th Avenue Northeast to Lake Washington Boulevard Sidewalk Project – Under Project Design

This project will add a continuous six-foot sidewalk, a three-foot-wide striped shoulder, and a four-foot-wide landscaped planter, where feasible, on the north side of the roadway. It will improve access and safety for pedestrians and bus riders, enhance the landscaping and the street appeal and improve collection and treatment of storm water on Eighth Street. This \$2.2 million project is under design and is expected to start construction in the spring, and be completed by year’s end. For more information, please contact Marina Arakelyan at 425-452-4632 or Marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov

B. Northeast Eighth Street Widening: 106th Avenue Northeast to 108th Avenue Northeast – Under Construction

This project will add a third lane on Northeast Eighth Street, from 106th to 108th Avenue Northeast, where it will become a right-turn only lane. The project was recommended by the Downtown Implementation



Plan to improve traffic flow along Northeast Eighth. Sidewalks will be reconstructed next to the new lane. The \$4 million project is under construction and will be complete in June. Periodic lane closures will occur westbound on Northeast Eighth Street during construction; drivers will be encouraged to use alternate routes. For more information, please contact Paul Krawczyk at 425-452-7905 or Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov

C. Downtown Great Streets Streetscape Design Plans – In Pre-Design

Making downtown a better place to walk is a priority of the community and a key recommendation of the Downtown Implementation Plan. Current city standards for downtown street frontages offer a limited range of materials and design options. As more of downtown is redeveloped, opportunities are lost to create aesthetically pleasing and pedestrian-friendly corridors.

www.bellevuewa.gov

The Great Streets project is producing conceptual design plans for five key corridors downtown: Bellevue Way, Northeast Fourth Street, Northeast Eighth Street, 106th Avenue Northeast and 108th Avenue Northeast. It will provide a palette of options for sidewalk features, landscape materials and design elements for use along these streets, as well as a toolkit that can be applied to other downtown streets. A plan for public art along downtown streets is also part of the project. A streetscape design guide will be completed early this year, following review by the City Council. Council has allocated \$3.8 million to construct Great Streets recommendations. For more information, please contact Nancy LaCombe at 425-452-4382 or Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov

D. Northeast Sixth Street: Bellevue Way to 110th Avenue Northeast (Pedestrian Corridor) – In Pre-Design

Northeast Sixth Street is the central east-west pedestrian route through downtown. The way it looks and feels is a key part of downtown’s evolution, and it will become even more important as greater numbers of employees and residents use transit and more people choose to live in downtown. Sixth Street connects the shopping and entertainment district along Bellevue Way with the office core, transit center and the City Hall/Convention Center district to the east. The City Council has urged a strong vision and a coordinated approach to transform the corridor into a signature element for the city.

An update will be completed of the Pedestrian Corridor and the Major Public Open Space Design Guidelines. Options will be explored to partner with property owners along the corridor. Three locations have been identified along Northeast Sixth where corridor improvements will enhance the pedestrian experience: 105th Avenue to 106th Avenue, north side; 106th Avenue to 107th Avenue, north side; and 107th Avenue to 108th Avenue, south side. The budget for this project is \$3 million. For more information, please contact Emil King at 425-452-7223 or Eaking@bellevuewa.gov, or Patti Wilma at 425-452-4114 or Pwilma@bellevuewa.gov

E. Northeast Sixth Street Extension – In Pre-Design

This project would extend Northeast Sixth Street across Interstate 405, allowing buses and carpools to cross the freeway without the traffic signal delays found on Northeast Fourth, Eighth and 12th streets. The need to reduce transit travel times will become increasingly important with the



future implementation of King County Metro’s Rapid Ride, a bus rapid transit service connecting downtown Bellevue and downtown Redmond. The Northeast Sixth Street HOV extension includes a bicycle and pedestrian crossing and is part of a proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment for the downtown subarea. A project budget, design schedule and construction timeline has not yet been determined. For more information, please contact Nancy LaCombe at 425-452-4382 or Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov

F. Northeast Fourth Street Extension – In Pre-Design

The extension of Northeast Fourth Street between 116th and 120th Avenues Northeast was evaluated within the context of the redevelopment of Auto Row and as a component of both the Wilburton/Northeast Eighth Street Study and the Bel-Red Corridor Study planning efforts. It is a critical



project, extending the grid of arterial streets serving both the downtown and the redeveloping area just to the east. It would offer needed relief to traffic on Northeast Eighth Street between 116th and 120th Avenues Northeast.

A preliminary planning level estimate puts the cost of this project at \$31.8 million. The project funding, design, schedule, and construction timeline has not been determined. For more information, please contact Nancy LaCombe at 425-452-4382 or Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov

G. Main Street and Northeast Second Street Conceptual Design – In Pre-Design

The Downtown Implementation Plan recommended a review of the Main Street corridor from Bellevue Way to 116th Avenue Northeast to evaluate design concepts that would enhance the street's character, improve the pedestrian environment and add landscaping. The Downtown Implementation Plan also identified the widening of Northeast Second Street to improve traffic flow through downtown. Both roadways are included in this conceptual design project to ensure travel demand impacts and urban design features are designed to balance the southern edge of downtown and help define the area as a unique downtown neighborhood. The Main Street and Northeast Second Conceptual Design project will include the following elements:

G1. Main Street

Develop conceptual plans for Main Street from Bellevue Way to 116th Avenue Northeast including lane configuration options, bicycle/pedestrian



facility options and open space opportunities. This work will also include gateway design concepts for the intersection of Main Street and Bellevue Way.

G2. Northeast Second Street

This work builds upon work performed under a previous contract for Northeast Second Street from Bellevue Way to 112th Avenue Northeast that



included widening Northeast Second Street from three lanes with on-street parking to five lanes. This project will develop streetscape design concepts for each block of Northeast Second from Bellevue Way to 112th Avenue Northeast, and develop conceptual plans for a linear park along Northeast Second Street and the four corners of Northeast Second Place and 110th Avenue Northeast.

While this project is being led by the Transportation Department, it is a multidepartment effort with staff from Planning and Community and the Parks and Community Services departments. This project will be completed this summer. For more information, please contact Francine Johnson at 425-452-6967 or Fjohnson@bellevuewa.gov

Downtown Mid-block Crossings – In Pre-Design

Specific locations have not been determined and have not been identified on the map.

Because downtown's "superblocks" are much larger in length than typical city blocks, this project calls for identifying and installing mid-block crossings to make it easier for pedestrians to get around. Several sites have been identified as possible locations for the first phase. Evaluation of these locations is being coordinated with the city's traffic operations staff and

the downtown community. This \$1.3 million project considers aesthetic treatments, locations, geometric design elements, weather protection and lighting along with how the crossings could affect traffic flow. Pending city council approval this winter, design is anticipated to be completed this summer, with construction beginning in late fall. For more information, please contact Nancy LaCombe at 425-452-4382 or Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov

FREEWAY IMPROVEMENTS

H. Northeast 10th Street Extension, Stage II – Under Construction

The city's Downtown Implementation Plan identified the need for improved access and circulation between downtown and the city's medical district along 116th Avenue Northeast, east of I-405, where the Overlake Hospital and Medical Center and the new Group Health Bellevue Medical Center reside. The Northeast 10th Street Extension is one of several steps that will address growing travel demand. Stage I was completed in 2008. We are now in Stage II of this state Department of Transportation project.

Stage II will extend Northeast 10th Street east from 112th Avenue Northeast, over I-405 to connect with the Stage 1 section of 10th next to the Overlake Hospital campus. The overpass is being designed to accommodate future ramps to/from State Route 520 and 10th Street. The total cost for both stages of the project is estimated at \$62.6 million. For more information, please contact Rick Logwood at 425-452-6858 or Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov

I. I-405: Northbound Northeast Eighth Street to SR 520 Braided Crossing – In Design

To reduce congestion and improve safety, a "braided crossing" structure will be built on I-405 northbound to separate merging and weaving traffic flows. As part of the project, the Northeast 12th Street bridge over I-405 will be replaced, an on-ramp from Northeast 10th Street to eastbound SR 520 will be added and an eastbound lane along SR 520 will be added to separate northbound I-405 to eastbound SR 520 traffic from traffic exiting at 124th Avenue Northeast. The total cost of the project, funded by the state, is \$255 million. Construction is scheduled to start in 2009 and continue through 2012. For more information, please contact Nancy LaCombe at 425-452-4382 or Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov. More information is available on the WSDOT website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i405/NE8thtoSR520.

J. I-405: 112th Avenue Southeast to Southeast Eighth Street Widening Project – Under Construction

The city has partnered with WSDOT to make improvements in both the northbound and southbound directions on I-405 to address the extreme congestion south of downtown Bellevue.

WSDOT has completed several major milestones in the past couple of months:

- Built a new southbound bridge over I-90 on the west side
- Added a new northbound lane from Coal Creek Parkway to I-90 which has increased traffic capacity and shortened the commute time for drivers
- Widened the bridge over Coal Creek Parkway to accommodate the new lane on the east side
- Installed a new ramp meter, HOV bypass lane and second lane on the northbound ramp at 112th Avenue Southeast

This \$124 million project is expected to be complete by the end of this year. For more information, please contact Rick Logwood at 425-452-6858 or Rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov

Questions/comments: If you have questions or comments about the Downtown Bellevue Projects Update, please call 425-452-4638 or write Tresa Berg, Public Involvement Manager, City of Bellevue Transportation Department, P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012, or Tberg@bellevuewa.gov.

To learn more: For additional information about many of the projects listed in the Downtown Bellevue Projects Update, visit the City of Bellevue web pages at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_construction_update.htm or http://www.bellevuewa.gov/city_initiatives.htm

For information about current weekly traffic conditions due to construction, please refer to: http://www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic_advisories.htm

For information about downtown commercial or private development, please refer to: http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/PCD/Major_Projects.pdf

Title VI Notice to the Public It is the City of Bellevue's policy to assure that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin or sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated may file a complaint with the Title VI Coordinator. For Title VI complaint forms and advice, please contact the Title VI Coordinator at 425-452-4270.



Community Calendar

February

Fossilize Workshop

Feb. 18, 2-3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park
5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE
Make a fossil and learn how rocks help us understand the past.
Cost: \$7, for ages 6+. Preregistration required.
425-452-4195

Crawly but not Creepy Workshop

Feb. 20, 10-11 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park
5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE
Workshop featuring close encounters with spiders.
Cost: \$7, for ages 6+. Preregistration required.
425-452-4195

Stewardship Saturday

Feb. 21, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Location to be announced
Community groups volunteer to help maintain city park.
Sign up as a group or participate as an individual.
425-452-4195

Mom and Me at Mercer Slough

Feb. 23, 10-11 a.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center
1625 118th Ave. SE
Explore Mercer Slough with your child and other parents.
\$5, preregistration required. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
425-452-2565

Movies at Mercer Slough

Feb. 27, 5 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center
1625 118th Ave. SE
“Pole to Pole,” the first in the Planet Earth series. See the planet’s majesty and amazing creatures on the big screen. Free. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
425-452-2565

March

Crossroads Par 3 Golf Course

Opens March 1
15801 NE 15th St.
Excellent beginner and family course, takes about an hour to play.
425-452-4873
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/golf_courses.htm

Sustainable Design: Emerging philosophies

March 4, 7-9 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.
1625 118th Ave. SE
Learn how sustainable design can echo the connection to the local ecology by embracing energy conservation, materials selection, scale, daylight and more.
Free.
425-452-2565

March Mania Plant Sale

March 8, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.
Proceeds support Northwest Perennial Alliance Border. Tours of the Border offered. Free admission.
425-452-2750
<http://www.bellevuebotanical.org> or <http://www.n-p-a.org>

Movies at Mercer Slough

March 27, 5 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center
1625 118th Ave. SE
“Beavers: The Biggest Dam Movie You Ever Saw!” shows several beaver families in the wild, with underwater photography offering rare footage of the animals in their lodges. Free. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
425-452-2565.

Little Lake-to-Lake Earth Day 5k Walk

April 22, 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Park
156th Ave. SE and SE 16th St.
Walk the Lake Hills Greenbelt Trail. Preregistration required for groups of 20 or more. Free. 425-452-7106

Sheep Shearing at Kelsey Creek Farm

April 25, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park
410 – 130th Pl. SE
Free shuttle service available. (Location TBD)
Free admission. Costs vary for food and activities.
425-452-7688

Seasonal

Bellevue Botanical Garden Tours

April – October, Saturdays and Sundays, 2 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.
425-451-3755

Sit, Sip and Stroll

Thursdays, 11 a.m. – noon
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center
1625 118th Ave. SE.
Take in the magnificent views of the Slough as you sip coffee or tea. Use a spotting scope to find and watch wildlife. A park ranger will lead a guided stroll along the trails. No registration necessary.
425-452-2565

Guided Tour and Wetland Walk

Saturdays, 1 – 2 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center
1625 118th Ave. SE.
Guided tour of the new Environmental Education Center and wetland walk in the Mercer Slough Nature Park. Meet at the Visitor Center. No registration necessary. All ages welcome. Free.
425-452-2565

Seasonal Fresh Produce Stands

Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm and Bill Pace Fruit & Produce

April – October, 9 a.m. -7 p.m. daily.
Mercer Slough Nature Park
2380 Bellevue Way SE
425-467-0501

Larsen Lake Blueberry Farm and Cha Family Farms

Tuesday – Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt, 2 locations:
700 148 Ave. SE and 156th Ave. SE/
SE 16th St.
425-260-2266



Capturing the sunlight at the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, where families are welcome for a host of events.

Shamrock Dance

March 10, 2-4 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center,
4063 148th Ave. NE
Sound Of Swing performs.
\$3 at the door.
425-452-7681

Snow White

March 13, 14, 20 and 21, 7 p.m.
March 22, 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16661 Northup Way.
Based on the classic Brothers Grimm story, with many new characters and original music. Suitable for all ages. \$9 per seat, reserved seating.
425-452-7155

St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

March 17, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center
4063 148th Ave. NE
Lunch provided by Catholic Community Services of Pierce County. Suggested donation of \$3 for 60+, \$6 for under 60 years old. Preregistration required by March 16.
425-452-7681

Myths and Legends – Native American Storytelling

March 21, 4-5 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center
1625 118th Ave. SE
Natural and cultural stories of Pacific Northwest tribes come alive through interactive stories and songs.
\$5, preregistration required. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
425-452-2565

Mom and Me at Mercer Slough

March 30, 10-11 a.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center
1625 118th Ave. SE
Explore Mercer Slough with your child and other parents.
\$5, preregistration required. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
425-452-2565

April

Coal Creek History

April 4, 10 a.m.
Lewis Creek Visitor Center
5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE
Learn more about the Eastside’s first major industry – coal mining. Researcher Steven Gates presents the geologic history of Coal Creek. Free.
<http://eastsideheritagecenter.org> or 425-450-1049

The Tales of Beatrix Potter

April 17, 18, 24 and 25, 7 p.m.;
April 26, 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre
16661 Northup Way.
Six of Beatrix Potter’s best-loved animal tales come to life.
\$9 per seat, reserved seating.
425-452-7155

Earth Day-Arbor Day Community Celebration

April 18, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Volunteer projects in various locations, 8:30-11:30 a.m. and Community celebration, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Lewis Creek Park
5808 Lakemont Blvd.
425-452-4195

City Contact Information

Bellevue City Hall

450 110th Ave. NE/P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012

City of Bellevue website: www.bellevuewa.gov

Information Center: 452-6800

City Council Office: 452-7810

City Council Meetings

1st and 3rd Mondays each month: study session 6-8 p.m., regular session 8-10 p.m.
2nd and 4th Mondays each month: extended study session 6-10 p.m.

Community Council Meetings

East Bellevue Community Council: 1st Tuesday each month, 6:30 p.m.
Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.

Board & Commission Meetings

Call 452-6805 for meeting locations/agendas
Arts: 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m.
Civil Service: 2nd Tuesday, 4 p.m., Jan., Mar., July, Oct.
Environmental Services: 1st Thursday, 7 p.m.
Human Services: 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Library Board: 4th Tuesday, 4 p.m.
Parks & Community Services Board: 2nd Tuesday, 6 p.m.
Planning: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
Transportation: 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month, 6:30 p.m.
Youth Link Board: 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.

City Offices (all city phone numbers use the 425 area code)

City Clerk's Office and Public Records: 452-6464

City Manager: 452-6810

Community Centers

Crossroads: 452-4874
Highland: 452-7686
North Bellevue Senior: 452-7681
South Bellevue: 452-4240

Community Council: 452-6805

Crossroads Mini City Hall: 452-2800

Development Services Center: 452-6800

New permit applications and application status: 452-6800

Inspection Requests: 452-6875

Code Compliance: 452-4570

Fire & Emergency Medical

Emergency Only: 911
Business and Information: 452-6892
Inspection/Fire prevention: 452-6872

Human Resources: 452-6838

Job Line: 452-7822 or www.bellevuewa.gov

Information Technology: 452-4626

Marina Hotline: 452-6123

Neighborhood Mediation Program: 452-4091

Neighborhood Outreach: 452-6836

Parks & Community Services

Parks Information: 452-6881
Recreation Registration: 452-6885
Youth Sports: 452-6887
Ballfields: 452-6914
Picnics/Rentals: 452-6914
Park Maintenance: 452-6855
Human Services: 452-6884
Cultural Diversity: 452-7886
Probation: 452-6956
Recreation & Special Services Division: 452-6885

Police

Crossroads Station: 452-2891
Factoria Station: 452-2880
Transit Center Station: 452-7933
Emergency Only: 911
Complaints and Information: 452-6917
Crime Prevention: Commercial 452-6915; Residential 452-6916
Traffic Safety/Enforcement: 452-6940

Transportation

Administration/Information: 452-6856

Utilities

Administration/Information: 452-2977
Billing/Customer Service: 452-6973
Water, Sewer, Street, & Surface Water Maintenance and Emergency: 452-7840

Other Numbers (Not city government)

King County Animal Control: 206-296-PETS

Allied Waste/Rabanco: 425-452-4762 (recycling, yard debris, garbage)

Metro Transit/Sound Transit: 206-553-3000

Bellevue

IT'S YOUR CITY

It's Your City is published for people who live or work in Bellevue. If you have questions or comments about this publication or city services, call 425-452-4448; or write: Editor, *It's Your City*, City of Bellevue, P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012;

or send e-mail to ciosso@bellevuewa.gov
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www.bellevuewa.gov

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Bellevue City Council



Grant Degginger
Mayor



Claudia Balducci
Deputy Mayor



Patsy Bonincontri



John Chelminiak



Don Davidson



Conrad Lee



Phil Noble

Match program offers up to \$5,000 for neighborhood projects



Are there improvements you want to see in your neighborhood but don't know how to get them done? Bellevue's Neighborhood Match Program can help, with up to \$5,000 available in matching funds for small neighborhood improvement projects.

Imagine what you and your neighbors could do to beautify a median in your area. Could your neighborhood use an entrance sign with landscaping? A creative art project could bring some distinction to your neighborhood or school.

Up to \$5,000 in matching funds is available now for qualified projects. Your neighborhood can make their contribution with cash, materials or volunteer labor. Applying is easy. It just takes you and an idea to start the process.

Call for help with filling out the application and to get ideas on how to work with your neighbors. Contact community outreach coordinator Patricia Knight at 425-452-7917 or pknight@bellevuewa.gov. Applications are also available on the web, http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood_match_program.htm. Apply soon; funds are limited.



Match the building to the correct photo answer key:

Washington Square	E	Bravem Office Towers	B
Avalon Meydenbauer	F	TEN20 Residential Tower	D
City Center II	G	Tower 333	C
Bellevue Towers	H		A