

OPEN HOUSE COMMENTS - June 28, 29 & 30th, 2016

At the request of Council, staff held three Open Houses (June 28-30) to receive community input on potential ballot measures to more timely fund Fire Facilities and Transportation Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity projects. The following are the comments received verbatim from all three open houses:

COMMENTS RECEIVED REGARDING: Do you have comments regarding a possible ballot measure for FIRE FACILITIES AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE?

Could there be help given by helicopter facilities for getting water from the lakes on either side of Bellevue for fighting large fires?

New fire station is top priority then seismic upgrades.

Please redirect funding from the Tateuchi Center to fire safety improvements, and then use the savings from Tateuchi to decrease the cost of the fire ballot measure.

Good idea.

The needs sound reasonable, but I think the downtown region (Developers) should be contributing more to the downtown station.

Currently doing a very good job.

Not at this time.

I think that it would be important to provide seismic upgrades, the Fire Facilities & Emergency Response Department is a very important part of our community.

I think that improving the fire stations is a priority to enhance the safety of residents.

I think it is important to provide seismic upgrades. I only rated Downtown station so low because it is not the area I live, but I think it is important too.

It's important to provide time essential medical service as it consists of 75% of Emergency calls/response by fire dept.

I support these capital improvements to make our city safer. I am willing to pay more in taxes or approve bond issues.

IF on a ballot I would vote YES!

Go for it.

This is welcome and long overdue. If anything, my criticism of process is one related to communication; the need for a downtown location is evident, but only if the implications of having rapid high-rise response is made clear, currently it isn't. Illustrating this is important and better data visualization is needed here.

Separate ballot for fire station need? Funding for new downtown station paid for by developers, owners of housing units (landlords) property owners initially.

Separate the ballot measures.

I appreciate the efforts to keep our fire services up to date to serve the city's needs.

Separate Fire measure from Transportation Traffic. Increase developer assessments to cover new construction.

Fire station improvements/new needs to be on a separate ballot measure. Higher developer assessments need to put in place to build a new fire station downtown.

Prior to November, voters need to know what is in the current CIP, as opposed to what would be funded by the levy - BIG PICTURE

Can some of the maintenance costs come out of the operation budget?

Our fire stations need to be prepared for earthquakes.

There are impact fees for transportation why not fire? Development should be paying their share.

Are developers paying sufficient/reasonable impact fees for the height of their buildings since that makes the difference in response times?

I agree we need a new downtown fire station. I do not want it built in Ashwood Park.

We would love to have an improved fire & emergency system!

****In reference to "Existing station upgrades" < What does this mean? **In reference to "Improve facility locations" < What does this mean? *COMMENTS: Like for new transportation capital facilities. Council should consider a Fire Facilities Impact Fee. This would shift some of the cost burden of a new downtown station to new development - growth help pay for impacts of growth.**

I hope we do get a ballot measure for these very important issues.

No.

SEPARATE THE ISSUES! #1 MEASURE: FIRE #2 MEASURE: TRANSPORTATION #3 MEASURE: BIKE & TRAIL

COMMENTS RECEIVED REGARDING: Do you have comments regarding a possible ballot measure for TRANSPORTATION NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND CONNECTIVITY?

It needs to pass.

Transportation Safety is easy if we are willing to slow cars & give real priority to people walking & biking. Diverters, stop signs. Make walking & biking Safe & and pleasant & people will have options. That's much cheaper than trying to accommodate cars.

You guys do a real good job! - Trees trimmed, sidewalks, fixed, available pedestrian signals.

New sidewalks & trails for Lake Samm S.E. Slow down on W. Lk Samm (response to Enhanced technology for traffic management). High Traffic 8-10Am & 4-6 PM too many cars (response to Reducing neighborhood congestion) 10A-12N not many cars but lots of speeders.

Possible ballot measure to include the suggestion for local neighborhood shuttle bus type transportation to facilitate movement of people from homes/neighborhoods to transit stations, shopping malls, etc.

W Lake Area - How will the "Iron Triangle" (Bel Red Rd, 156th & 24th) fare in the future with all the new high density development in the area. I've seen private ambulance drivers sitting in the ambulance waiting for the next accident. Is Redmond in on any planning?

NEEDED

****Comment regarding Neighborhood safety:** Skateboarding on our streets. We have a steep hill that attracts skateboarders. We have elderly neighbors who back out of driveways. We don't want to kill a skateboarder nor do we want elderly people trying to deal with a tragic accident. The problem is increasing, teens are seeing role models. We fear that one day someone will get seriously injured.

***Question:** Is the trail at Hilltop a private or public trail since the area was annexed into Bellevue in 2012?

Please place a higher priority on safety improvements than on new amenities. Also, please expand police enforcement of jaywalking and noise laws.

Cars are the primary transportation system for Bellevue.

I like the proposals a lot. Would also like to see a program looking at high volume intersections like 148th and Main where peds and traffic interact a lot.

34th between 162 & 164 needs a sidewalk for safety & a crosswalk at the bus stop. There is no crosswalk between WLSPW (West Lake Samm PW) & Eastgate Way on 34/35th. It is a "major" road for Police, Fire, EMT for much of WLSPW & they go by "Fast"

Specifically W. Lake Sammamish Pkwy to 162nd Pl SE via SE 34th & SE 35th Place - Crosswalks @ 164th St & possibly other intersections. Safety - it is impossible to walk and get across the street.

I think it is very important to provide new sidewalks, trails & crosswalks. I recommend thinking of a possibility of putting a crosswalk on Newport Way near the Bellevue Community Center, I think it is important. I have seen many pedestrians trying to cross Newport Way to get to the Community Center.

On Allen Rd. around Tyee, it is very unsafe for kids to walk to school especially after school when walking home or to the library. There are no sidewalks & speed limits aren't that enforced. For instance, I walk to school (I attend Tyee) & I feel like walking on the side of the road is pretty scary especially with big buses coming right past me. I feel it is important for a new sidewalk so that all the kids that walk to school or to the Newport Way Library for many years to come may walk safely. On SE Newport Way to get to the community center there currently is no crosswalk which would help a lot.

I think neighborhood safety is increasingly important since it will help reduce accidents.

I support these capital improvements to make our city safer. I am willing to pay more in taxes or approve bond issues.

Be sure you are asking for ENOUGH to cover multiple projects (esp. those not currently planned). Want 150th SE sidewalks between SE 46th & SE 49th high traffic, blind corners, & lots of people pushing strollers & walking dogs.

Hope this is on ballot, would love to see the above implemented. I would vote YES.

Skateboarders: We have quite a few skateboarders (young and old) on our hill and we know that there is a Bellevue City Ordinance that rules against skateboarding in our neighborhood. We have contacted the police department on their non-emergency numbers to report the skateboarders. One time a police officer came after the call to check but the skateboarders were already gone. Our hill is quite steep and there are a lot of curves with blind spots. I am scared that one of these days one of us who lives in the neighborhood would hit the skateboarders and injure them badly. Is there anyway we can let the Bellevue residents know about the ordinance? Is there a way we can get the support from our police department? Will it be helpful if we can put a sign at the entrance of our neighborhood to warn skateboarders about the ordinance? Hilltop Trail: Is the Hilltop trail public or still private? A few of us walked the trail and have been told by the Hilltop residents that it is a private trail and that we were trespassing.

Keep up with technology. Maintain what you build.

This is good and welcome. What would help with communication on a general election ballot is clarify about the benefits of the smart cities initiative; right now it sounds technical and officious.

Separate ballot measure from fire ballot

Separate congestion as a ballot measure by itself.

Please separate this from the fire measure.

Look at phased approach.

In addition to sidewalks & bike paths, we need investments in major/minor arterials, which provide neighborhood access/egress & congestion relief.

All 6 issues can and should be addressed by comprehensive redesign and reconstruction of NE 108th Ave from 12th Street to 24th (24th from 112th also needs to be addressed as a major thoroughfare) with many of the same issues and opportunities. My recommendation in summary: Redesign and reconstruct 108th as a linear park with "18' skinny street" & necessary wide streets to accommodate periodic transportation needs, ie. busses, moving trucks, city service vehicles, etc. Design and install proper sidewalks and do not do anymore "band aid" changes on 108th or anywhere else. Thank you - Keith Stevenson -

This long proposal needs significant roadway capacity projects included in a significant way.

Improving the bike and sidewalk facilities will help people with mobility issues.

This measure really will make an impact quickly. I support this measure and am glad to see the City looking at the future.

Crossing Downtown streets can be hazardous. I would like to see safety improvements at the intersections along N.E. 8th St. & 110th Ave NE & 108 Ave. N.E.

New constructions cause traffic too.

Fix the rail corridor by 108th Ave (near South Kirkland Park & Ride) so that path is lit, no railroad tracks, & a surface appropriate for bicycles. - Upgrade traffic signal timing to allow a driver to hit a series of green lights, almost never happens in Bellevue.

Do the most possible with the money we have and do the cost effective, smaller projects.

Reducing congestion all over is a very high priority to me. Please stop putting yellow curbs in the middle of our intersections all over town.

I would like to hear how efficiently COB uses these funds: In other words, what will be the administrative costs that are used to execute the projects? Are you constantly improving your execution of projects? What are your successes?

SEPARATE SIDEWALK & TRAIL. LOOK WITH VISION FOR THE FUTURE!