



City of Bellevue

# BELLEVEUE IT'S YOUR CITY

Winter-Spring 2025

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New art at Bellevue Library

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Coal Creek property acquired

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Sheep-shearing in the spring



Participants in the Bellevue Police's Women Empowered self defense class pose after a session. Uniformed officers, including Craig Hanaumi (not pictured), usually lead the class.

## Police's self-defense class for women tops 2,000 participants

By DREW ANDERSON  
Police Public Information Officer

New year, same popular women's self-defense class from the Bellevue Police Department. More than 2,100 women from across Puget Sound have participated so far in a Women Empowered workshop since the program was launched in 2022 – with some traveling as far as 60 miles to learn how to fight off attackers.

The free program is organized and run by veteran Bellevue officer Craig Hanaumi, a martial arts expert. Some women officers, including Lakita Hemsley and Gabrielle Igo, help lead the class.

"I've attended three Bellevue Police self-defense classes," said Robyn, a participant. "I am so grateful for them. First of all, as a single mother, I have a tight budget, so the fact that this class is free is incredibly helpful. I've always wanted to learn self-defense but could never afford it."

The program teaches techniques and principles that address 20 threat scenarios through a series of 15 different classes. It also provides a safe space to discuss some of the psychology and phases of an assault, and one may differ whether the attacker is a stranger versus a friend or family member.

The Bellevue program is the official self-defense program for women taught at Gracie University in Torrance, California and more than 200 certified training centers around the world.

"Being the one of the few police departments in the world certified to offer regular workshops like this is a special thing for us," Hanaumi noted. "With lots of help from our colleagues and friends in our community, we believe the caliber of our instruction meets the standards set at Gracie University's for-profit

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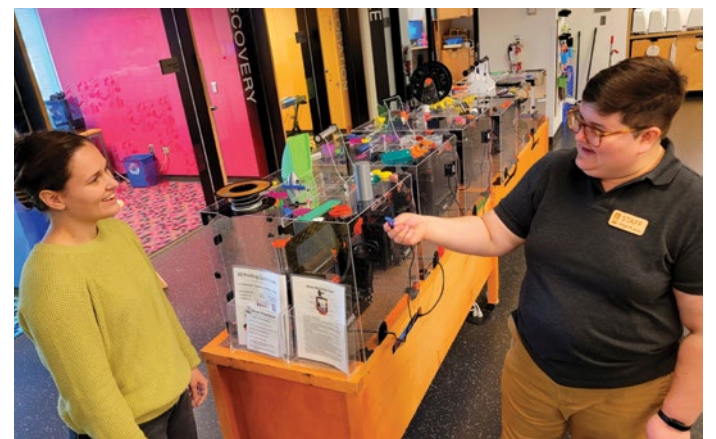
## You can do that with a 3D printer?! Learn new ways to repair, reduce, reuse and recycle

By BETHANY KOGUT  
Utilities Conservation and Outreach Administrator

When the plastic knob on your toaster oven breaks, that little problem can spell the end for the whole appliance. Well, imagine being able to "print" a new knob on a 3D printer, giving that toaster oven a new lease on life!

That trick, which can be done in the Bellevue Library Makerspace, is just one of many hacks you can learn in Bellevue Utilities' Greener Living classes this spring. Offered in partnership with King County Library System mostly at Bellevue libraries, these free classes empower people to repair, reduce, reuse and recycle.

Think saving money while protecting the planet. In addition to teaching how to repair household items, instructors offer enlightenment about getting rid of almost anything to declutter or reorganize, crafting with upcycled materials and making cleaners with common household items.



Megan Willan (at right) with KCLS shows Bethany Kogut what you can do with a 3D printer at the Bellevue Library Makerspace.

Attendees will receive materials and tools for attending. The classes are friendly, free and geared toward adults, but all are welcome. Children

**REPAIR**  
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# Council Corner

## Creatively addressing Bellevue's affordable housing needs

By Councilmember  
DAVE HAMILTON



After a little over a year on the City Council, it is a pleasure to write my first column for It's Your City. My topic – affordable housing – might seem a little obvious, since we seem to discuss it almost weekly. But what

may be less known are the many creative solutions we're creating and implementing. And we're working with a wide range of community members to finalize our approach.

With middle housing in primarily traditional single-family neighborhoods and more housing mixed into commercial centers around the city, among other mechanisms, we can start to make a home in Bellevue more attainable for everyone. More kids will be able to stay here as they grow up; more older adults will be able to happily enjoy retirement here.

Bellevue is a great city, with top schools, fabulous parks and a healthy variety of jobs. But like many cities around the region and beyond, the lack of affordable housing affects everyone – residents, employees, businesses, seniors and families, with rents beyond the reach of about two thirds of Bellevue's workforce.

We are well on our way to exceeding our 10-year target for added or preserved affordable housing in our 2017 Affordable Housing Strategy, but the challenge continues to grow as supply lags behind demand. We face this crisis together and we can all help resolve it.

We're early in the process of updating our Affordable Housing Strategy, with a doubled



More housing options like Park East Apartments can enhance choice in Bellevue

affordable housing target, city staff are working to increase housing opportunities through planning, policy and code work across departments. Land use code updates of note concern middle housing and housing in mixed-use areas.

A recent state law requires Washington cities to change local regulations to allow "middle housing" – up to four housing units per lot (six in some cases) – in a variety of housing types. In addition to single-family style buildings, residential areas also allow cottage housing, courtyard apartments, stacked flats and townhouses.

Some of the changes we need to make might seem daunting, but more housing opportunities for people at all stages of life will ultimately enhance neighborhoods around the city. No one neighborhood will absorb all the new housing, but

all will absorb some. We can expand housing choices while preserving all of our great neighborhoods.

In addition to all this, the city continues to offer developers tax breaks and other incentives, as well as dedicated funding, in return for the construction of affordable units. The city's C-1 Affordable Housing Density Bonus program encourages affordable housing on properties in Bellevue owned by religious institutions. The recently adopted Bellevue 2044 Comprehensive Plan gave the city new policy guidance on housing planning and affordable housing.

So now you have an idea how and why affordable housing takes up so much of the council's (and staff's) time. Clearly, it's complex work, but it's all worth it to have a Bellevue that offers more opportunities for everyone.

## Council Roundup

By CLAUDE IOSSO  
It's Your City Editor

### Council approves \$350,000 for arts grants

On Jan. 7, the council allocated \$350,000 for the 2025 Eastside Arts Partnership grants for artists and arts groups serving Bellevue. Approved by the Arts Commission in December, the allocation includes funding for a total of 61 grantees. Thirty-seven will receive EAP support grants and 24 will receive EAP project grants. The support grants, issued every other year, provide operational support to organizations that offer arts and cultural programming to Bellevue community members and visitors. Project grants, issued annually, support independent artists and organizations with arts and cultural projects.

For more than 20 years, since 2001, the council has been issuing arts grants to support artists and arts organizations that provide arts, cultural and heritage programs and services.

### 'Flat' 2025-26 budget approved

The council unanimously approved a 2025-2026 Operating Budget and 2025-2030 Capital Improvement Plan on Nov. 19.

"This is a very balanced and prudent budget the council has approached with very good fiscal stewardship in mind," said City Manager Diane Carlson.

"You did a budget overhaul and reconciled our entire system in a way that made it much more accurate and realistic," added Mayor Lynne

Robinson upon adoption. "We are lucky to have a flat budget, and I feel like it's...responsive and responsible."

After three public hearings and several presentations over four months, the council received a final presentation on the overall budget, which includes allocations for Community Development Block Grants, human services, water, stormwater and sewer rates, development services and school impact fees, and property tax adjustments, in addition to the CIP and other discrete budget items.

### Electric vehicle roadmap

The council on Nov. 19 received an overview of the recently completed Bellevue Electric Vehicle Roadmap and Electric Vehicle Readiness options, which staff began working on in late 2023, based on actions established in the Sustainable Bellevue Plan.

The EV Roadmap, which guides city strategy and investment in EV infrastructure, projects EV adoption in Bellevue to grow from 10% today to 50% in the 2030s and 100% by 2050. To support this increase, the city will require over 118,000 charging ports, including 10,000 publicly available ports compared to the approximately 600 in Bellevue today.

Key strategies from the plan include building private-sector partnerships, increasing community awareness of financial incentives, exploring code and policy changes and creating resources and incentives to expand charging access in multifamily buildings.

# More services added at Mini City Hall

By RAMU AYYALURU  
Mini City Hall Program Administrator

After moving to a new, larger space at Crossroads Bellevue last year, Mini City Hall continues to expand the services it offers. This month Pim Savvy began offering free tax assistance and financial coaching at Mini City Hall.

Mini City Hall started in 1994 as a small resource center in the Crossroads neighborhood that featured assistance in multiple languages. Over the last 20 years, the city began to expand available services by contracting with a growing number of area nonprofits.

Over 10 nonprofits operate at Mini City Hall on a regular or seasonal basis. The staff speak eight languages – including Chinese, Spanish, Somali, Hindi, Telugu, Russian and Ukrainian – and work with everyone looking for assistance.

A range of free services are available. For booking appointments to any of the following services, please contact Mini City Hall directly (425-452-2800 or [minich@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:minich@bellevuewa.gov)). Mini City Hall is next to the Hallmark store, across from the Armed Forces offices.

## Tax assistance and financial coaching (Pim Savvy)

- Pim Savvy's IRS-trained volunteers provide free tax services to those who qualify. Appointments are required; limited spots available.
- Pim Savvy volunteers also offer financial coaching for those struggling with personal finances and small business owners fighting to stay open. In addition to financial coaching, Pim Savvy offers budgeting, job application assistance, resume and cover letter help and DSHS enrollment. Appointments are encouraged.

## Medicare assistance (SHIBA)

Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) answer all sorts of questions about Medicare, including for seniors or individuals with disabilities who qualify for Medicare. Appointments are required.

## Computer and cellphone coaching (KinOn)

KinOn volunteers, in one-on-one coaching sessions, help people struggling with modern technology, offering tips on using laptops, tablets or cellphones. Volunteers are trained to help people of all ages and languages. Appointments are required.

## Chinese Information Service Center (CISC):

In-person assistance in English, Chinese, Spanish, Russian and Ukrainian. CISC cultural navigators help with services such as registering for local discount programs and interpreting/translating important documents.



People wait at Mini City Hall to meet with Irina from the Chinese Information Service Center, who speaks Russian and Ukrainian.

- Monday: Russian and Ukrainian, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Tuesday: Russian and Ukrainian, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Wednesday: Spanish, 1 p.m.-5 p.m.
- Thursday: Russian and Ukrainian, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Spanish, 1-5 p.m.; Chinese, 2-5 p.m.

## Indian American Community Services (IACS):

Free and confidential social services in English, Hindi, Telugu, Punjabi, Tamil and many more Indian languages. From youth leadership opportunities to older adult activities, IACS looks to serve people of all ages. Wednesday: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

## Africans on the Eastside (AOE):

In-person assistance with completing forms and applications, advocacy services for landlord disputes and utility providers, personalized youth and family support and more. AOE provides services in English as well as Wolof and Mandinka. Fridays: noon-4 p.m.

## Immigrant Women's Community Center (IWCC):

Immigrants looking for help can receive help from IWCC, with services in English, Arabic and Somali. Tuesdays: 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

## Bellevue Utilities:

Utilities Department staff help people struggling to pay water bills or with questions about the bill. They can help with setting up an account, autopay and payment assistance programs.

# Newly acquired artwork tells story of Bellevue's Japanese American farmers

By LORIE HOFFMAN  
Arts & Creative Economy Manager

An art installation that tells the story of Bellevue farmers imprisoned by the government during World War II is Bellevue's newest public art. A small house with four richly colored murals as its sides, *Emerging Radiance* is now on display at the Bellevue Library.

The Japanese Americans depicted on the murals become animated speakers when visitors scan QR codes on their smartphones. It's a very 21st-century way to tell a 20th-century story.

"When you look at this place it's hard to imagine it's anything other than beautiful," one of the artists, Michelle Kumata, noted at a 2022 virtual Day of Remembrance for Japanese American Incarceration event. "We are surrounded by water, pinned between the ocean and the lake, in a canopy of trees. You would never know what happened to my community here, the stories just exist inside of us now."

The city acquired *Emerging Radiance*, created by Kumata, a muralist, and documentary

director and augmented reality artist Tani Ikeda, to bring to light the untold stories of residents who played a key role in Bellevue's history.

An opening reception was held on Feb. 19, the Day of Remembrance, during which the artists and officials from the city and the King County Library System spoke.

In the first half of the 20th century, Bellevue earned a reputation as the home of fabulous strawberries, lettuce and other produce. The people who gave it that reputation were first- and second-generation Japanese farmers who pooled their labor to clear stumps and grow and ship fruit and vegetables to Seattle and beyond.

In 1942, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Bellevue's residents of Japanese descent, like 120,000 others from cities up and down the West coast, were stripped of their rights and sent to prison camps. Only a few of



The *Emerging Radiance* farmhouse can be seen at the Bellevue Library, on the second floor. Photo by Truong Nguyen

Bellevue's 60 Japanese families returned to recover their property here.

Installed at the Bellevue Library in January for at least a two-year stay, *Emerging Radiance* is an audiovisual experience. Recordings of Bellevue farmers Toshio Ito, Rae Matsuoka Takekawa and Mitsuko Hashiguchi sharing their connections to the land before the war, during incarceration and post-war literally animate the art.



Jockeying for parking is serious business in BelRed's Spring District.

## Exploring curb pricing in urban core

By GILLIAN HAGSTROM  
Transportation Public Information Officer

With on-street parking in Bellevue's urban core becoming increasingly scarce, the Transportation Department has launched the Curb Pricing Study to determine whether it's time to charge for parking in areas like the Spring District, downtown and Old Bellevue.

The study, which started in the fall and will run through 2025, is evaluating curb space demand and analyzing the costs of maintaining an on-street paid parking program. Feedback gathered from the community will also inform next steps.

### Why Study Curb Pricing?

On-street parking data collected from 2022 and 2024 revealed many blocks in the Old Bellevue, downtown and Spring District areas are consistently full, causing drivers to circle for parking. This leads to increased congestion, emissions and frustration for people driving.

When curbside spaces are full, deliveries and passenger loading become more challenging and dangerous, with many vehicles double-parking or spilling into nearby residential neighborhoods.

Although people have become accustomed to free on-street parking in these areas, charging for curb access can make it easier and more reliable for customers to visit shops, restaurants and businesses.

In 2023, the City Council adopted the Curb Management Plan, a long-range strategy for improving curbside spaces in the city's densest neighborhoods. Exploring curb pricing is a high-priority action in the plan. National best practices show that implementing a reasonable price at the curb can help manage and spread demand, ensuring one or two parking spaces are available per block at any time.

### What's Next?

Earlier this month the project team held two open houses, one virtual and one at City Hall, about the study. The team provided background and took questions.

As part of the project, the team also created an online survey to gather feedback on people's parking behaviors and experiences. This survey is live until March 10 and can be found, along with project details at [BellevueWA.gov/curbpricingstudy](https://BellevueWA.gov/curbpricingstudy).

## City Hall art exhibit celebrates Black History Month

By EMILY INLOW-HOOD  
Deputy Communications Officer

In celebration of Black History Month, the City of Bellevue will host an art exhibit at City Hall featuring the work of 21 Pacific Northwest Black artists. "Voices Unbounded" is the second art exhibit at City Hall presented with Seattle architectural firm MG2.

In the first- and second-floor concourses at City Hall in February and March, the exhibit curated by MG2 architect Jay Taylor includes paintings, photography, sculptures, textiles and fashion.

Visitors can view the exhibit during business hours, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and evenings when City Hall is open for public meetings or events.

Last year was the first time the city hosted a public art display featuring only Black artists. "Voices Unbounded" will feature different artworks than were in 2024's "Elevating Voices."

"We are proud to again work with MG2 and Onyx Art Gallery to celebrate Black History Month with an art exhibit at City Hall," said Dr. Linda Whitehead, chief diversity, equity and inclusion officer. "Black art is a lasting symbol of Black culture. Through this exhibit, we are highlighting the profound impact of Black art and its role in shaping cultural identity."

More exhibits and events from the city's Diversity Advantage Team celebrating Bellevue's diverse cultures and communities can be found at [BellevueWA.gov/diversity-events](https://BellevueWA.gov/diversity-events).



Many of the two-dimensional art pieces hang along the second-floor catwalk at City Hall.

## City buys property by Coal Creek Natural Area

By MICHELLE DEGRAND  
Chief Communications Officer

With help from a \$9.2 million King County grant, the city has purchased a 12.2-acre parcel of land next to the Coal Creek Natural Area in south Bellevue. This acquisition conserves a key connection in the Coal Creek and Cougar Mountain Regional Park corridor.

"Collaboration with partners who have a shared recognition of the value of natural areas made this purchase possible," Mayor Lynne Robinson said Dec. 10, the day the City Council approved the purchase. "This property supports our connected network of open spaces that protect wildlife, provide wellness and draw people from around the region and beyond to our 'city in a park.'"

"Thank you to the City of Bellevue for their bold actions to preserve this property, and I am so proud King County could contribute funds to help acquire it," said King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci.

"I was proud to support this once-in-a-generation opportunity to conserve our green space, fill in a critical wildlife corridor and preserve local history, while also adding more trails to one of our region's most popular hiking destinations," King County Councilmember Reagan Dunn said.

Acquisition of the property aligns with the city's conservation goals of protecting the natural beauty, ecological function, and historical and recreational value within the city.

The \$9.2 million came from the King County Conservation Futures Fund and collaboration with the Trust for Public Land, a national nonprofit that works to create parks and protect public land.

To cover the remaining \$9.9 million cost of the property, the city could initially draw \$8.3 million from existing parks capital funding and the 2022 Parks Levy, coupled with around \$1.6 million in potential future regional grants.

"We are fortunate in Bellevue to have a community that values parks and open space, as well as regional partners willing to help support our long-range vision to preserve key corridors and lands that enhance our parks and open space system for all to enjoy," said Parks & Community Services Director Michael Shiosaki.



The property the city acquired contains critical environmental areas and a trail that connects to the city's trail system in the Coal Creek Natural Area.

## SELF-DEFENSE

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schools, and we are proud to provide this to women for free."

No experience is required to participate in a Women Empowered workshop, and girls as young as 11 and women as old as 80 have participated. Classes are held almost every Sunday from 1:30-3:10 p.m. at City Hall.

"[The program] grounded my rational fears of how one needs to stay alert and watch out for others," said Ching Fong. "It weighs on me how important it is to have some basic skills, some knowledge of what to do. We get that fighting chance when we take the time to learn these tools, and for Bellevue to give us that opportunity is invaluable. I hope it continues indefinitely."

According to RAINN (Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network), about one in six women in their lifetimes has been a victim of attempted or completed rape. Young women are especially at risk, with about 82% of juvenile victims being female. About 90% of rape victims are female.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence also found that about one in three women – including 41% of Washington women – experience some form of domestic violence from a partner or significant other.

Preregistration is required to attend as space is extremely limited. Women interested should email [chanaumi@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:chanaumi@bellevuewa.gov) to secure a space.



## Zahn appointed to state Legislature

By MICHELLE DEGRAND  
Chief Communications Officer

The King County Council appointed Councilmember Janice Zahn to the State House of Representatives on Jan. 21, where she will represent the 41st Legislative District, which includes parts of Bellevue.

"I continue to be really grateful to this council for the learning and collaboration over the years," Zahn said at a Jan. 28 council meeting, "and know that you have a friend in Olympia."

She also noted that she was looking forward to bringing some of the policies that have worked well in Bellevue to other areas across the state. Zahn has begun her work at the state level, but said she plans to continue serving as a Bellevue city councilmember for a short time as she wraps up some key city projects.

Zahn was first elected to the council in 2017, and has focused on safe and supported neighborhoods, affordable housing, infrastructure for a healthy city, and engaged and connected communities.



A couple of Jubilee volunteers spare a moment for a smile while they paint a house.

## Jubilee partnership offers free yardwork help for seniors and others in need

By SARINA MILLER  
Community Development  
Community Relations Coordinator

Jubilee in the Community, in which volunteers provide free yardwork and outdoor home assistance to residents facing physical or financial challenges, is back.

The partnership with local nonprofit Jubilee REACH that started in 2007 as a single "Day of Sharing and Caring" has grown over the last couple of years into a full season of service. Each summer, volunteers from businesses and community groups come together to give back and make homes and lives brighter.

Jubilee in the Community has already helped hundreds of Bellevue residents with home upkeep, whether it's spreading bark, fixing a gate or painting a deck.

"In short, a kind of miracle visited me this summer," a 2024 participant in the

program wrote in a feedback form. "I'm barely able to put words to it, other than to say I'm deeply grateful, and I'll never think of the word "neighborhood" in the same way again. We really are all connected!"

### Who Can Apply?

The program is for homeowners in Bellevue who live in their homes and need extra support. It's perfect for seniors, long-time residents, people on fixed incomes or anyone with limited help. While the service is free, some projects may require small material costs.

Households that potentially meet the criteria will receive a mailer and application with details on how to apply in March. Applications will also be available online in March at [BellevueWA.gov/jubilee](http://BellevueWA.gov/jubilee) and are due June 30. They can also be completed in the city's top eight languages.

## Affordable housing development proposals sought for Wilburton and BelRed properties

By SABRINA VELARDE  
Housing Stability Program Coordinator

The City of Bellevue is seeking proposals from housing developers to design, finance and construct affordable housing on two city-owned parcels, one in Wilburton and the other in BelRed.

The Wilburton request for proposals, released earlier this month, calls for development of a half-acre parcel in the recently designated transit-oriented development district in the east part of the neighborhood area. Formerly a Porsche auto dealership, the site is located at 12000 Bel-Red Road and was purchased by the City of Bellevue in 2014 to support a street improvement project.

The vision for the Wilburton TOD district, outlined in the 2024 Comprehensive Plan update and supported by land use code amendments slated for early this year, calls for a vibrant, mixed-use, urban center that balances residential, commercial and recreational spaces.

The BelRed project calls for multifamily housing development on a future site in the BelRed Arts District. A builder is wanted who has strong roots in local communities and a mission to furthering arts and culture. Beyond housing, this project should play a significant role in the local economy and help the local arts community thrive.

Formally recognized by the city in 2009 as part of the BelRed Subarea Plan and subsequent 2024 Subarea Plan, the BelRed Arts District has long been known as a hub for arts and culture. Today, the neighborhood is home to more than 100 creative businesses and cultural organizations including Theater33, Yuan Ru Art Gallery, the Pacific Northwest Ballet and Fruit Events Co.

To learn more about these opportunities, please contact the Bellevue Office of Housing directly at [housing@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:housing@bellevuewa.gov). Details are at [BellevueWA.gov/affordable-housing-rfps](http://BellevueWA.gov/affordable-housing-rfps).



## Safety improvements for Bellevue streets underway

By LAURA MILSTEAD  
Transportation Public Information Officer

Bellevue is making progress on turning data into action to make city streets safer. Between 2021 and 2023, the city conducted eight Road Safety Assessments to identify safety concerns and potential solutions for segments of the city's high-injury network – a relatively small number of city streets where most fatal and serious-injury collisions are concentrated.

The first step of the assessments was to document current roadway conditions based on the experiences and observations of road users. Community members were invited to walk and roll along these road segments and provide feedback to improve safety and comfort for people who travel on these roadways. Audits included major roadways such as Northeast Eighth Street and Factoria Boulevard Southeast, with the remaining six conducted in school zones surrounding 12 schools.

Currently, the city has advanced roughly a third of the suggested improvements identified through the road safety assessments. Smaller spot improvements like trimming vegetation for better visibility for drivers or increasing pedestrian crosswalk times have been implemented with funding from the city's Vision Zero Rapid Build Safety Program.

Corridors with larger recommended improvements such as safer bicycle facilities and traffic calming measures are advanced to a Safe Corridor Study which includes additional evaluation of safety data, engineering standards, city guidelines, and multimodal traffic analysis, and later advanced into design.

Transportation staff completed the first Safe Corridor Study for the Northeast Eighth Corridor which provided a preliminary design for improved crosswalk and bike lane facilities between 156th and 164th avenues. This design concept received a federal grant to continue design work in 2025, and construct the project in 2026.

### More road safety assessments

The city also received federal funding to complete road safety assessments for an additional 13.7 miles of Bellevue's High Injury Network. In the coming years, the Transportation department will encourage the community to participate in walking and rolling audits to identify safety concerns and recommend improvements. The first audits will kick off early this summer.

If you are interested in receiving updates and participating in upcoming community walking and rolling audits, you can learn more and even fill out an interest form at [BellevueWA.gov/road-safety-assessments](https://BellevueWA.gov/road-safety-assessments). Or reach out to RSA project manager, Akshali Gandhi ([agandhi@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:agandhi@bellevuewa.gov)).



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## Still recovering from bomb cyclone

By CLAUDE IOSSO  
It's Your City Editor

The bomb cyclone that walloped Bellevue and the rest of the region in November required extraordinary efforts by city crews to clear debris from streets and sidewalks and to deploy generators to power traffic lights and some wastewater pump stations.

It took weeks for the city to dig out from the wreckage left by the storm, and the city has applied for \$1.2 million in disaster relief from FEMA for damages related to the storm. Businesses and residents were able to apply for low-interest loans from the federal Small Business Administration to repair storm damage.

Winds up to 70 mph, coming from an unusual direction, knocked trees down throughout Bellevue, leaving nearly 90% of households without power early Nov. 19 and blocking several streets. One Bellevue woman died when a tree crashed on her home.

In the 24 hours during and following the cyclone, the Fire Department responded to 543 calls for assistance, eight times its usual volume. Transportation, Utilities and Parks & Community Services crews worked around the clock for a week to clear debris.

"Rave to Bellevue Parks & Community Services for their gargantuan effort to level a mountain of rubbish from the bomb cyclone," a resident wrote in a rave that appeared in the Seattle Times Jan. 17. "Bannerwood Park started to receive dozens of truckloads a few days after the storm till it became a formidable pile. They worked every day, rain or shine, till it was ground up, chainsawed and loaded into Dumpsters."

Parks & Community Services and Finance & Asset Management staff opened community centers and City Hall for the public to use as warming and charging centers several days after the storm.

"Preparing for emergencies often happens in the background out of view, and it has very few cheerleaders, but when emergencies happen, we are glad to be ready," Bellevue Emergency Manager Carl Lunak said in a report to the City Council a week after the cyclone. "All city departments were supportive of this storm response, and I am proud to serve this community and to be part of this "One City" effort."



Many trees hung across streets like this one over 132nd Avenue Northeast after the Nov. 19 bomb cyclone.

# Residents offer input for small projects in their neighborhoods

## 2025 NEP in Bridle Trails and NW Bellevue

By **THERESA CUTHILL**  
Neighborhood Enhancement Program Coordinator

Landscaping? Traffic calming? Public art? Streetlights? What kind of improvements do Bellevue residents want to see in their neighborhoods? All of the above and more.

For decades, residents have nominated and voted for projects that improve safety, manage traffic and beautify their surroundings, all funded at least in part through the city's Neighborhood Enhancement Program. This year NEP is in the Bridle Trails and Northwest Bellevue neighborhood areas.

Written comments over the years have included, "Community decisions – local control" and "That somebody asked me what I thought – highly unusual these days!"

The program is in its third year of a seven-year cycle (2023-2029), rotating annually through two of the city's 14 neighborhood areas each year. In 2022, the City Council allocated \$7 million for NEP, distributed among all the neighborhood areas based on the number of households in each.

NEP kicked off in Bridle Trails in January, with project nominations due by Feb. 27. NEP will launch in the Northwest Bellevue area in late March.

In each neighborhood area, residents nominate small-scale capital projects they would like to see, then all households in the area have the opportunity to vote on a slate of proposed projects. The city selects

projects that garner the most points during the voting process, which can be funded through the neighborhood area's share of the NEP budget.

Sometimes, if the city determines a project is a citywide priority, additional city funding may be added to expand the project's impact.

Recent NEP projects include:

- Installation of bat houses along the Lake Hills Greenbelt pathway
- Interpretive bee exhibit at Wilburton's Kelsey Creek Park
- Landscaping on Main Street in Lake Hills, between 140th and 156th avenues Northeast and the 121st Avenue Southeast entrance to the Woodridge neighborhood from Southeast Eighth to Southeast 10th Street
- Park amenity additions and improvements in Cougar Mountain, with new basketball court fencing at Lewis Creek Park and upgrades to the Lakemont Park pedestrian bridge

Work will be underway soon on other NEP projects, including street and stair lighting additions to the South Bellevue Light Rail Station in West Bellevue, upgrades to Northeast Eighth Street over the I-405 overpass for a safer pedestrian experience downtown, along with

updated landscaping on 148th Avenue between Northeast Eighth Street and Bel-Red Road in Crossroads and Northwest Bellevue along Bellevue Way between Northeast 24th Street and Highway 520.

For more information on the NEP program and when it will be in your neighborhood area, visit [BellevueWA.gov/NEP](http://BellevueWA.gov/NEP).



An enhanced crosswalk on Main Street near 148th Avenue was a Neighborhood Enhancement Program project.

## Acting city attorney tabbed for permanent role

By **MICHELLE DEGRAND**  
Chief Communications Officer



After serving as acting city attorney for eight months, Trisna Tanus was hired to take the position permanently on Jan. 16. Bellevue's deputy city attorney since 2023 and having occupied various

legal roles over 10 years with the city before that, Tanus came out on top in a public recruitment process.

"Trisna is an inclusive and collaborative leader and a skilled legal advisor to many leadership teams at the city including our City Council and boards and commissions," said City Manager Diane Carlson. "I am confident that with her integrity, intelligence and experience, Trisna will continue to provide exceptional service to the City of Bellevue and the community."

Tanus brings legal experience from both the public and private sectors.

She joined the city in 2016 as a legal advisor for the Development Services

Department and also served as a consulting attorney and code and policy director for the department, which manages construction permitting. Prior to her work with the city, she was an associate attorney with law firm Johns Monroe Mitsunaga Kolouskova, and served as a hearing examiner and legal writer with Sound Law Center.

Tanus has worked on issues including land use, public contracting, environment, finance and real property. She also has managed issues of civil litigation and criminal prosecution.

"I am excited about the many opportunities ahead for Bellevue as the city continues to grow and plan for the future," said Tanus. "It is an honor and opportunity to offer my experience and contributions to the city's thriving future."

Tanus has called the Pacific Northwest home since immigrating to the United States as a young child. She received her juris doctor from the University of Washington and a bachelor's degree in architecture with a minor in business administration from Washington State University.

Tanus replaces former city attorney Kathy Gerla, who retired from the position in May 2024.

### REPAIR

Continued from [page 1](#)

must attend with an adult guardian. Nearly all classes are in-person.

For more information, visit [BellevueWA.gov/greener-living-classes](http://BellevueWA.gov/greener-living-classes). Registration is required. To register, email [recycle@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:recycle@bellevuewa.gov) or call 206-949-1787.

#### Choose to Reuse: Craft with Upcycled Materials

- Saturday, March 22, 2-3 p.m.  
at Lake Hills Library

#### Easy Repair: 3D Print Replacement Parts

- Tuesday, April 1, 6-7:30 p.m.  
at Bellevue Library Makerspace

#### How To Get Rid of Anything: Recycling, Composting, Hazardous Materials and Unusual Items

- Wednesday, April 16, 6-7 p.m.  
virtual
- Tuesday, May 13, 6-7 p.m.  
virtual

#### Make and Take Home Your Own Natural Cleaners

- Tuesday, April 22, 6-7 p.m.  
at Bellevue Library

#### Effective Strategies to Reorganize and Declutter at Home

- Wednesday, May 7, 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
at Newport Way Library

# Working to reduce Bellevue's greenhouse gas emissions

By **SOFIA FALL**  
Sustainability Program Coordinator

Bellevue's 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan includes a goal to reduce citywide greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030 and 95% by 2050. To help achieve these targets, the city is in the process of updating its Sustainable Bellevue Plan, which has strategies for reducing emissions and addressing the impacts of climate change.

## Citywide emissions increase slightly, remain below pre-pandemic levels

Earlier this month, the City of Bellevue released its 2023 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory. Overall citywide emissions were 4.5% higher than 2022 but still remained below pre-pandemic levels. Compared to 2011, Bellevue's emissions went down by 8%, in spite of the city's population growing by 25% and the number of jobs increasing by 26%.

Emissions increases were largely driven by returns to pre-COVID work and travel patterns, as well as changes to Puget Sound Energy's electricity mix, which included less wind and more natural gas to power its grid and resulted in higher emissions for the same amount of energy used.

Bellevue's largest sources of emissions remain energy used to power buildings (including homes and commercial buildings) and transportation (including passenger vehicles, trucks, buses and airplanes).

Per capita emissions have declined by 26% in Bellevue since 2011, illustrating the potential for investments in regional transit, building efficiency and transit-oriented development to reduce emissions

even as our city's population grows. While this is significant progress, Bellevue is currently not on pace to meet its 2030 reduction goal of 50% from 2011. The city will use the Sustainable Bellevue Plan update process to refine strategies for further reduction at the local level to support meeting its 2030 goal.

## Municipal operations exceeding goals

Greenhouse gas emissions associated with the City of Bellevue's municipal operations declined 4% from the previous year, as the city continues to electrify its fleet, improve building energy performance, and invest in renewable energy. Municipal emissions have declined 54% since 2011, which means city operations have exceeded the goal of 50% reduction by 2030 five years early.

## Get involved at EarthFest

Community members are invited to Bellevue's second annual EarthFest celebration at the Bellevue Botanical Garden on Saturday, April 19, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. EarthFest is a family-friendly, drop-in event featuring interactive nature-based programs, creative arts activities, tours and environmental resource booths.

This year, EarthFest will also offer opportunities to engage on the Sustainable Bellevue Plan Update. All who live, work and play in Bellevue are encouraged to come celebrate our city's urban ecosystems and shape the future of sustainability and environmental stewardship for generations to come.

There will be other opportunities to engage on the Sustainable Bellevue Plan Update throughout the spring.

To learn more about Bellevue's 2023 greenhouse gas inventory, EarthFest 2025, or the Sustainable Bellevue Plan Update, visit [BellevueWA.gov/environment](http://BellevueWA.gov/environment).



Local business leaders and others gather at City Hall in November to brainstorm about inclusive innovation.

## Forum to support inclusive innovation

By **CLAUDE IOSSO**  
It's Your City Editor

Bellevue has been an Eastside hub for high-tech jobs and commerce for decades. The city has worked to support that, ensuring large, multinational businesses and garage startups alike can thrive here. The city also strives to make technology available to everyone in Bellevue.

This year the city is launching an Inclusive Innovation Forum where people from the private and public sectors can exchange ideas and advise the city on how technology and innovation can be harnessed to support equity, mobility and economic development here.

The first Innovation Forum will be in City Hall on Wednesday, March 5, with staff and volunteers focusing on next steps and work plans for 2025 and 2026.

Staff will also present findings from a survey and other outreach in November to prepare for the ongoing forum.

Participants in the forum will provide input to Bellevue staff on topics such as:

- city innovation projects
- policy development
- emerging technologies with potential equity and community impacts
- community education opportunities and digital equity
- innovative partnerships

The forum will meet four times a year, with subteam work in between. Details and meeting registrations are at [BellevueWA.gov/inclusiveinnovation](http://BellevueWA.gov/inclusiveinnovation).

## Untended ivy can endanger trees

By **GILLIAN HAGSTROM**  
Transportation  
Public Information Officer

Lush, green English ivy can look pretty, especially in the winter months, when most deciduous trees in the area have lost their leaves. However, it's an invasive weed that smothers other vegetation, endangers trees and reduces visibility along streets, trails and sidewalks.

Property owners in Bellevue are responsible for maintaining vegetation overhanging or obstructing streets and sidewalks, blocking visibility for people using the roads or obstructing traffic control signs, like stop and speed limit signs.

English Ivy should be removed because it:

- Outcompetes native vegetation
- Grows over shrubs and small trees, reducing the light they receive
- Adds weight to trees, which can increase the likelihood of them blowing over

## What does English Ivy look like?

English ivy is a trailing evergreen vine, with leaves all year round. It can climb vertically, including on structures and trees. The leaves are glossy and dark green, although shape and size vary based on the variety of ivy.

## How to control English ivy

The best method for controlling English ivy is removal of the vines and roots, with specific variations depending on where it is growing. For ivy growing on trees, King County Noxious Weed Control recommends:

- Killing upper vines by cutting and removing all the stems from the ground up to a manageable height
- Prying off lower vines from the trunk of the tree and pulling out of the ground. Try to minimize damage to the tree bark
- Clearing ivy on the ground to prevent it from growing back
- Applying mulch to the cleared area around the base of the tree, but not burying the tree trunk. Mulch will help with erosion issues and resprouting and will discourage other unwanted weeds from establishing.

Noxious Weed Control suggests wearing gloves and protective clothing when removing English ivy, as the sap can cause a reaction in some people. You can also use chemicals but keep them in the area of infestation and use the least toxic products possible.

## More information

For additional information about English ivy identification and removal, go to [KingCounty.gov](http://KingCounty.gov) and search for English ivy.





A participant smiles at a Newport ideas fair.



People walk in Crossroads Park with the Crossroads Community Center in the background.

## Great Neighborhoods workshops coming to Newport, Crossroads

By **BROOKE BROD**  
Community Development Engagement Lead

The Great Neighborhoods planning program, underway since September for the Crossroads and Newport neighborhood areas, ramps up in March with place-based workshops and neighborhood walks.

The Community Development Department's planning team will engage community members in an exploration of urban design, focusing on ways the city can make the public spaces in Crossroads and Newport more enjoyable and welcoming.

Events are scheduled for Saturday, March 15, Saturday, March 22, and Thursday, March 27. Learn more and register at [EngagingBellevue.com/great-neighborhoods-crossroads](https://EngagingBellevue.com/great-neighborhoods-crossroads) and [EngagingBellevue.com/great-neighborhoods-newport](https://EngagingBellevue.com/great-neighborhoods-newport).

The goal of Great Neighborhoods is to update the city plans for these areas to enhance their livability in ways consistent

with each neighborhood's identity, opportunities and challenges. The planning is focused on the following topics:

- **Neighborhood Identity:** Define the unique aspects of each neighborhood and develop strategies to highlight them.
- **Enhanced Community Gathering Spaces:** Define and strengthen community hubs and "third places" that foster social interaction and connectivity.
- **Urban Design Framework:** Establish guidance on neighborhood design, focusing on opportunities to activate spaces and improve the look and feel of public spaces.
- **Neighborhood Connectivity:** Make it safe and convenient for people to get around their neighborhood, connect to transit and use other modes of transportation.
- **Public Realm Improvements:** Identify needs for potential future improvements, such as streets and trails, through community engagement.

The planning team recently completed the "Discover phase," where they heard from over 350 people in Crossroads and over 300 people in Newport about what makes their neighborhoods special and what challenges and opportunities exist.

Community members in Crossroads value the neighborhood's convenience and diversity. People appreciate that it's easy to access services and amenities like the mall and the community center, and to access downtown and other neighborhoods.

Community members in Newport value the community's friendliness, safety and convenience. People especially appreciate the many trails and natural areas that give the neighborhood a sense of beauty and quiet.

## Youth conference coming up March 22

By **CHRISTINA FAINE**  
Parks & Community Services Public Information Officer

Bellevue Youth Link will host the Youth Involvement Conference, open to all Bellevue middle- and high-school age youth, on Saturday, March 22, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at City Hall, 450 110th Ave. NE.

Since the early '90s, the city has hosted this biennial conference to give Bellevue teens an opportunity to learn leadership skills, identify youth priorities in the community and connect to volunteer opportunities.

The theme of the 2025 conference is "Foundations for Tomorrow: Youth Voices, Youth Futures." Attendees will focus on mental health, homelessness, food insecurity and community engagement.

Middle- and high-school age youth in public, private and other learning communities are invited to register. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Students may earn six community service hours for attending.

The conference is free for all youth. Registration at [BellevueWA.gov/youth-conference-registration](https://BellevueWA.gov/youth-conference-registration) by March 7 is required. For more information, please email [youthlink@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:youthlink@bellevuewa.gov) or call 425-452-2846.

Bellevue Youth Link is a national award-winning partnership of the City of Bellevue and Bellevue Public Schools that engages young people in community leadership. Through Youth Link, teens and adults have teamed up to develop youth programs and projects including: Bellevue Skate Park, Ground Zero Teen Center, Bellevue Youth Court, Youth Connections, Teen Closet and Youth Volunteer Corps.



# Project Roundup offers deeper dive on select projects

Online 'Projects in Your Neighborhood' upgraded



Starting with this edition of *It's Your City*, our roundup of major city construction projects has a new focus. Rather than trying to list all projects across in Bellevue in a particular phase – such as design or under construction – the Project Roundup will provide a deeper look into just a few projects across the city in each issue.

This change coincides with an upgrade of the Projects in Your Neighborhood online tool, where it's now easier to see what's happening and filter for projects you're interested in. Find Projects in Your Neighborhood at [BellevueWA.gov/capital-projects](https://BellevueWA.gov/capital-projects) and see what city projects are planned for your area.

## Meydenbauer South Reservoir

Department: Utilities | Status: Design

To prepare for anticipated population growth in downtown, BelRed, Wilburton and elsewhere, the city will build a new water reservoir in the Meydenbauer Bay neighborhood. Bellevue reservoirs supply water for drinking and firefighting, buffering strain on the water supply system during peak demands and allowing for continuous service during brief supply shutdowns.

After two years of community engagement and feasibility considerations, Meydenbauer was selected as the location for the new underground reservoir, now in the design phase. The project also includes a proposed pump station building next to the reservoir and over a mile of water transmission main pipe.

The preliminary design phase is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2025, with final design and permitting to follow. The project team will continue to host regular community outreach meetings through the design and construction phases. Construction is anticipated to start the summer of 2027.

**Project contact:**

Jay Hummel | [jhummel@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jhummel@bellevuewa.gov) | 425-452-4160

[BellevueWA.gov/meydenbauer-south-reservoir](https://BellevueWA.gov/meydenbauer-south-reservoir)

## Lake Hills Connector Fish Improvement

Department: Utilities | Status: Design

The Kelsey Creek Lake Hills Connector Barrier Correction Project is an important restoration effort to improve fish passage to the Greater Kelsey Creek watershed. The current culvert structure, located under the westbound Lake Hills Connector Boulevard, blocks fish from reaching upstream habitats critical for spawning and rearing.

This project is part of Bellevue's Fish Passage Improvement Program, which targets protecting and restoring local ecosystems and supporting the health of native fish populations. The project team is currently reviewing solution alternatives based on surveys and the condition of the creek and culvert. Next, the team will design how the solution will be implemented, keeping the community informed.

**Project contact:**

Juan Gattorno | [jattorno@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jattorno@bellevuewa.gov) | 425-229-6496

[BellevueWA.gov/lake-hills-connector-culvert](https://BellevueWA.gov/lake-hills-connector-culvert)

## 130th Avenue Northeast Reconstruction

Department: Transportation | Status: Construction

The city is reconstructing 130th Avenue Northeast, from Bel-Red Road to Northeast 20th Street to improve mobility for people who walk, roll, take transit, drive and freight. The project was designed in coordination with Sound Transit's 2 Line light rail, which crosses 130th Avenue along Spring Boulevard next to the BelRed-130th Station.

The redevelopment of this corridor supports the larger vision for transit-oriented development throughout BelRed. Once complete, the road will include two vehicle travel lanes, protected bike lanes, new sidewalks and landscaping.

The segment north of the intersection with Northeast Spring Boulevard is designed for people walking and rolling to safely and comfortably access the businesses, restaurants and retail that line the corridor and will also provide on-street parking. Other improvements will include new turn lanes, mid-block crossings, intersection upgrades and improved lighting. Construction is expected to be complete by this fall.

**Project contact:**

Paul Krawczyk | [pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov)

[BellevueWA.gov/130thavecorridor](https://BellevueWA.gov/130thavecorridor)

## Main Street Multipurpose Path and Intersection Improvements

Department: Transportation | Status: Design

The Transportation Department is improving safety and access for people walking and rolling on the south side of Main Street near the East Main light rail station, building on input provided by the community through the East Main Station Area Plan.

This project will construct a new 12-foot wide multipurpose path on the south side of Main Street between 108th and 112th avenues, install a landscaped buffer strip between the path and Main Street between 108th Avenue and 110th Place Southeast, upgrade existing curb ramps, build two new marked crosswalks and a pedestrian refuge median island at the intersection of Main Street and 110th Avenue, and install new traffic signals and update traffic signal operations at Main Street and 110th Avenue.

The traffic signal changes will allow all directions of travel at the intersection of Main Street and 110th Avenue, which will improve access for people who live in Surrey Downs. It will also allow for better separation between pedestrian crossing and driving movements, which will improve safety. Construction is estimated to start in spring 2025 and be completed by the end of the year.

**Project contact:**

Sara Haile | [shaile@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:shaile@bellevuewa.gov) | 425-452-7835

[BellevueWA.gov/main-st-path](https://BellevueWA.gov/main-st-path)

# Community Calendar

## Lichen Walk

**Tuesday, March 4, 10 a.m.-noon**

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Details, registration and additional offerings at [BellevueBotanical.org/events](http://BellevueBotanical.org/events)

## Children's Workshop: All About Birds

**Saturday, March 15, 1-3 p.m.**

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Details, registration and additional offerings at [BellevueBotanical.org/events](http://BellevueBotanical.org/events)

## Puget Sound Dahlia Association Tuber Sale

**Friday, March 21, and Saturday, March 22,  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Bellevue Botanical  
Garden, 12001 Main St.

Exhibition-quality dahlias  
at reasonable prices.

[PugetSoundDahlias.com](http://PugetSoundDahlias.com)



## March Mania Plant Sale

**Sunday, March 23, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Unique landscape plants from small  
nurseries and specialty growers

[NorthwestPerennialAlliance.org](http://NorthwestPerennialAlliance.org)

## "The Little Prince"

Presented by Bellevue Youth Theatre

- **Friday, March 28, 7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, March 29, 5 p.m.  
(sensory-friendly)**
- **Sunday, March 30, 2 p.m.**
- **Friday, April 4, 7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, April 5, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.**
- **Sunday, April 6, 2 p.m.**

Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th St.

\$13 for live tickets

Visit the box office, call 425-452-7155 or go to [BellevueWA.gov/byt](http://BellevueWA.gov/byt)

## NW Chapter North American Rock Garden Society Plant Sale

**Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Annual spring sale from Northwest Chapter  
of the North American Garden Society,  
specializing in rock garden plants.

[nargsnw.org](http://nargsnw.org)



## "Storybook Series: World of Adventure"

Presented by Bellevue Youth Theatre

- **Friday, April 18, 6 p.m.**
- **Saturday, April 19, 2 p.m.**
- **Saturday, April 19, 6 p.m.  
(sensory-friendly)**
- **Friday, April 25, 6 p.m.**
- **Saturday, April 26, 2 and 6 p.m.**
- **Sunday, April 27, 2 p.m.**

Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th St.

\$13 for live tickets | \$8 livestreaming link

Visit the box office, call 425-452-7155 or go to [BellevueWA.gov/byt](http://BellevueWA.gov/byt)

## Washington Native Plant Society Sale

**Saturday, April 26, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Local selection of bird and pollinator  
friendly, beautiful native trees, shrubs,  
perennials and ground covers.

[wnps.org](http://wnps.org)

## Kelsey Creek Sheep Shearing

**Saturday, April  
26, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.**

Kelsey Creek Farm,  
410 130th Pl. SE

Shearing, spinning  
demos, children's  
activities, tractor-  
pulled wagon  
rides and food.



Free admission. Costs vary for food  
and activities.

No ATM on site.

425-452-7688 or  
[kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov)

## Northwest Perennial Alliance Spring Plant Sale

**Sunday, April 27, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Featuring unique landscape plants from  
small nurseries and specialty growers.

[NorthwestPerennialAlliance.org](http://NorthwestPerennialAlliance.org)

## "Pizza and Existentialism"

Presented by Bellevue Youth Theatre

- **Friday, May 2, 7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, May 3, 2 p.m.  
(sensory-friendly)**
- **Saturday, May 3, 7 p.m.**
- **Sunday, May 4, 2 p.m.**

Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th St.

\$13 for live tickets | \$8 livestreaming link

Visit the box office, call 425-452-7155 or go to [BellevueWA.gov/byt](http://BellevueWA.gov/byt)

## Eastside Fuchsia Society Plant Sale

**Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Featuring a large selection of fuchsias.

## Bellevue Botanical Garden Party Community Concert

**Saturday, May 10, 3 p.m.**

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra  
featuring chamber, small group and solo  
performances from students.

[byso.org](http://byso.org)

## "Descendants: The Musical"

Presented by Bellevue Youth Theatre

Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16051 NE 10th St.

### EVIE CAST

- **Friday, May 9, 7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, May 10, 2 p.m.  
(sensory-friendly)**
- **Saturday, May 10, 7 p.m.**
- **Friday, May 16, 7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, May 17, 2 and 7 p.m.**
- **Sunday, May 18, 2 p.m.**

### MAL CAST

- **Friday, May 23, 7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, May 24, 5 p.m.  
(sensory-friendly)**
- **Sunday, May 25, 2 p.m.**
- **Friday, May 30, 7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, May 31, 2 and 7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, June 1, 2 p.m.**

\$13 for live tickets | \$8 livestreaming link

Visit the box office, call 425-452-7155 or go to [BellevueWA.gov/byt](http://BellevueWA.gov/byt)

## Fern Fest; Hardy Fern Foundation Plant Sale

**Saturday, June 7, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.**

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St.

Great selection of rare and favorite ferns.

[HardyFerns.org](http://HardyFerns.org)

## Lake to Lake Bike Ride

**Saturday, June 14, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.**


Robinswood Park

[BellevueWA.gov/lake-to-lake-bike-ride](http://BellevueWA.gov/lake-to-lake-bike-ride)



# City Contacts

<b>City Hall</b>	450 110th Ave. NE / P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012
<b>Service First (general information)</b>	425-452-6800
<b>City of Bellevue website</b>	<a href="http://BellevueWA.gov">BellevueWA.gov</a>
<b>City Council Office</b>	425-452-7810
City Offices	
<b>City Clerk's Office and Public Records:</b>	425-452-6464
<b>City Manager:</b>	425-452-7228
<b>Community Development</b>	425-452-7892
<b>Conflict Resolution Center</b>	425-452-4091
<b>Development Services</b>	425-452-6800
New permit applications	425-452-4898
Inspection requests, application and status, pay fees	425-452-6875
Simple permits, inspection requests	<a href="http://MyBuildingPermit.com">MyBuildingPermit.com</a>
Application and inspection status	<a href="http://MyBuildingPermit.com">MyBuildingPermit.com</a>
Code Compliance	425-452-2047
<b>Diversity Program</b>	425-452-7886
<b>Fire Emergency</b>	911
<b>Fire Non-Emergency</b>	
General Information	425-452-6892
Inspection	425-452-4254
Fire prevention	425-452-6872
<b>Human Resources</b>	425-452-6838
<b>Information Technology</b>	425-452-4626
<b>Neighborhood Outreach</b>	425-452-6836
<b>Parks &amp; Community Services</b>	
Aging Services	425-452-4200
Information, Recreation, Youth Sports	425-452-6885
Ballfield, Park Rentals	425-452-6914
Park Maintenance	425-452-6855
Human Services	425-452-6884
Probation	425-452-6956
<b>Community Centers</b>	
Crossroads Community Center	425-452-4874
Highland Community Center	425-452-7686
North Bellevue Community Center	425-452-7681
Northwest Arts Center	425-452-4106
South Bellevue Community Center	425-452-4240
<b>Marina</b>	425-452-5255
<b>Mini City Hall</b>	425-452-2800
<b>Police Emergency</b>	911
<b>Police Non-Emergency</b>	
General Information and Records	425-452-6917
Crossroads Station	425-452-2891
Factoria Station	425-452-2880
Crime Prevention	425-452-6915
<b>Transportation</b>	
Administration	425-452-6856
<b>Utilities</b>	
Administration	425-452-6932
Billing/Customer Service	425-452-6973
Water, Sewer, Street Maintenance and Emergency	425-452-7840
<b>Other Numbers (Not city government)</b>	
<b>Regional Animal Services of King County</b>	206-296-PETS
<b>Republic Services (recycling, yard debris, garbage)</b>	425-452-4762
<b>Metro Transit/Sound Transit</b>	206-553-3000

 For alternate formats, interpreters or reasonable modification requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-4448 (voice) or email [ciosso@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ciosso@bellevuewa.gov). For complaints regarding modifications, contact the City of Bellevue ADA, Title VI and Equal Opportunity Officer at [ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov).

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**It's Your City** is published for people who live or work in Bellevue. For questions or comments about this publication, contact Claude Iosso, 425-452-4448 or [ciosso@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ciosso@bellevuewa.gov).

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# City Council



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## Short films to showcase inspired housing strategies

As part of the 2025 Affordable Housing Strategy update, the City of Bellevue has partnered with the Better Cities Film Festival to present a night of short films showcasing the world's most inspiring stories about making better cities, towns and neighborhoods for all.

The city is updating its 2017 Affordable Housing Strategy to continue addressing housing affordability in Bellevue. The movie night will be Thursday, March 6, 6-8 p.m. in the council chamber at City Hall, 450 110th Ave. NE. Register at [better-cities-bellevue.eventbrite.com](http://better-cities-bellevue.eventbrite.com).

Bellevue is not alone in its efforts to ensure affordable housing for a range of income levels. This event will provide a great opportunity to highlight places and partners across the United States and world that are finding innovative solutions to create accessible, affordable communities.

To learn more about this event or the 2025 Affordable Housing Strategy, visit [EngagingBellevue.com](http://EngagingBellevue.com) or contact Hannah Bahn Miller at [hbahnmille@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:hbahnmille@bellevuewa.gov) or Brooke Brod at [bbrod@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:bbrod@bellevuewa.gov).

## Track city programs via Alerts



Want to stay in the know about city news, jobs, events, projects and programs? Bellevue offers free Alerts – emails or texts when there's a new development with a program or project, a new job posted or just news.

We have over 100 topics, including news, jobs and emergencies. Other popular topics include the Bellevue Aquatic Center, Traffic Advisories and Bellevue Youth Theatre auditions. You can also sign up for Alerts concerning City Council, board and commission meetings, and major projects.

### How to sign up

People can sign up for Alerts by using the link on [BellevueWA.gov/communications](http://BellevueWA.gov/communications). You can find a subscription link on selected project and program pages.