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Artist David Packer of New York City installs "The Last of the V8s" in the Pavilion at City Hall. Five large, red, porcelain "engines" will hang from the ceiling of the building at the north end of the City Hall Plaza.

Visitors to the Galleria this summer and fall will see something odd – hundreds of upside down mason jars filled with sea glass, beads, moss and plants. Over at the old Safeway parking lot downtown, passersby will spy the frame of a camping trailer constructed with driftwood.

"Jar" and "Ghost Trailer," arts installations intended to make people wonder, will be a distinctive feature of the 10th edition of Bellevue's sculpture exhibition. Assembled on-site, they will mark the first time the show reaches beyond Downtown Park and City Hall.

"Bellwether 2010: Art Walk Bellevue," June 26 to Oct. 17, will focus on sustainability and the idea of a pathway featuring public art connecting City Hall with the city's waterfront. A bellwether is a sign of what's to come, so seemed an appropriate title for a show that focuses on key aspects of Bellevue's future.

"It's an exciting exhibit," says Judy Holder, chair of the city's Arts Commission. "We've had a long-term goal of an art walk. This is the first step in making that happen."

There will be an opening night celebration for the show at City Hall, 6 p.m., on Saturday, June 26.

The latest information about Bellwether 2010 as well as audio narration accessible via cellphone, is available at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bellwether2010.htm>.

Bellwether 2010 will feature 37 sculptures and installations in all – 26 at City Hall, nine at Downtown Park and the two in between. A panel of nationally respected artists chose from 167 entries submitted by 87 artists from the U.S., Canada and Australia.

Organizers want to encourage a conversation among visitors to the exhibition. Tell the world what you think of the pieces by posting comments on the city's exhibition gallery page (<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bellwether2010-gallery.htm>).

With "Jar," Kristin Tollefson of Bainbridge Island seeks to present a jarring departure from traditional, regimented landscaping. All those upturned mason jars, with a broad array of brightly colored objects, some growing, will be a public science experiment.

"Ghost Trailer," by Anne Thompson and J.D. Perkins of Portland, Ore., has the distinctive teardrop-on-its-side shape of a retro camping trailer. Instead of a shiny stainless steel hull though, it's just a skeleton of driftwood, hinting at going back to nature for more than just a weekend.

On the Northeast Sixth Street pedestrian corridor and at the corner of Northeast Fourth Street and Bellevue Way, the installations are posted along a route planned for future permanent public art.

An installation by Del Webber of Kirkland on the City Hall plaza will offer a new take on the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. The "Vie Garden Project" will feature a series of columns with short PVC pipes reaching out in different directions. Plants will grow from a small plot at the base of each column as well as from the pipes. With an associated blog, "Vie Garden" will explore sustainable food production in dense urban areas.

The installations are not the only works of interest at the exhibition. The sculptures span a spectrum of forms and sizes, many of them tackling the concept of sustainability one way or another.

"Monument to the Ordinary" is a towering, rusty milk can that will be sited at the park. One of two pieces from Michael Johnson of Gig Harbor, who wrote in his

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Council Corner



Building a strong local economy, becoming a world-class city

By Deputy Mayor Conrad Lee

What makes Bellevue a wonderful place to live, work and play?

Many things, of course. A nationally-recognized school district, beautiful parks, great neighborhoods, residents who care enough to get involved—all of these things contribute to our high quality life.

But another important factor – and one largely invisible to many residents – is the city’s ongoing efforts to maintain a vibrant economy by helping businesses grow and invest in our community. This is important because it keeps our taxes low. A vibrant economy brings in revenues, and eases burdens on residents.

During my service on the council, I have been very involved in these economic development efforts. Working with fellow council members, staff and others, our goal has been to foster a healthy, sustainable business climate that can generate the revenues needed to support first-rate city services and programs.

In recent years, we’ve accomplished this through a number of activities, including:

- Maintaining a competitive tax structure;
- Making sure our permitting, licensing and other regulatory processes are efficient and streamlined;
- Pursuing successful marketing initiatives with the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce, Bellevue Downtown Association, Bellevue Convention Center Authority, Bellevue College, the Trade Development Alliance and others;
- Reaching out to businesses seeking information and other assistance about locating here;
- Embarking on an innovative effort to build on our population’s increasing diversity by strengthening trade and cultural relationships internationally, particularly with the rapidly developing countries of India and China; and
- Developing Bellevue as the gateway in mobile communications and “future economy.”

Are we succeeding? I think so. Bellevue is viewed as having one of the most vital business climates in the state and nation. We are routinely cited

as a “best place” by national media, who note the city is a good place to do business, and is an attractive place to live—with our great neighborhoods, parks, schools and proximity to beautiful mountains and other natural amenities.

Consider that:

- The number of major companies headquartered or with a major presence in Bellevue continues to grow, adding to our city’s transformation as one of the state’s major employment centers with an emphasis on high-technology and finance. Symetra, Expedia and Microsoft have decided to move employees downtown due to its vibrancy and connection to transit and other services.
- Our downtown retail core, the envy of many cities, continues to grow. We are considered one of the country’s premiere shopping areas. The Bellevue Collection and the opening in recent years of many new stores are two reasons why.
- We continue to successfully help small, minority-owned businesses through the Bellevue Entrepreneurship Center, a partnership between the city, the Chamber and others. At the same time, we are working hard to revitalize aging neighborhood commercial centers, teaming up with business owners and residents alike. Work is now underway at Lake Hills Center, and at Newport Hills, we are collaborating with residents, businesses and property owners to revitalize the retail area
- To diversify our economy and maximize the benefits and growth potential from the high technology industries already in Bellevue and our diverse and highly-trained workforce, we are aggressively reaching out to countries like China and India to build stronger relationships. For example, in May we signed a trade pact with the China city of Qingdao. A year and a half ago, a similar pact was signed with another China city, Dalian.

As I mentioned earlier, many of the benefits from the economic development activities I’ve listed are largely invisible to residents. And it can take years before certain activities yield tangible results. Relationships are built over time. It takes years to build the talents, and Microsoft ecosystem and financial resources we now have.

But a large part of a solid economic development program, of building a sustainable, healthy local economy, is about building relationships. During an economic downturn such as the one we are now experiencing, it is more important than ever to maintain our commitment to these efforts to meet the needs of a rapidly changing business world – and to become a world-class city.

Council Roundup

520 replacement under way

After years of hard work to get the aging State Route 520 corridor rebuilt, the City Council members heard on May 24 the news they’ve been waiting for: Construction on the eastside portion will begin early next year.

State Department of Transportation officials gave the council a progress report on the highway, one of two east-west roadways across Lake Washington and a major commuter route for workers residing on both sides.

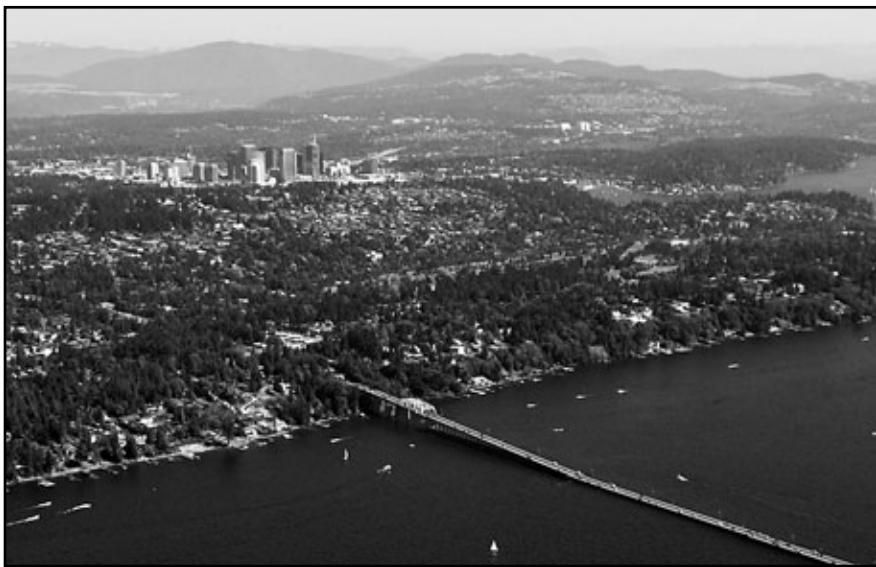


Photo by David Johanson Vasquez / Big Picture Photography

Bellevue has played a key role in seeking political support for the project, as well as assisting WSDOT with planning and engineering work.

“This project has been a long time coming, and our thanks go to Gov. Gregoire, our state legislators and others who have been instrumental in supporting the legislation needed to get this project underway in 2011,” Bellevue Mayor Don Davidson said. “This project is essential not only for public safety reasons, but for the continued economic success of our region.”

The SR 520 project calls for the replacement of the aging Evergreen Point Bridge and the Portage Bay Bridge, both of which were built in the 1960s without the benefit of today’s design standards and considered vulnerable to windstorms and earthquakes. The project also calls for major highway improvements along the 520 corridor.

The Bellevue City Council is particularly interested in the portion of the highway that runs through Medina and Bellevue. Planned improvements include three lids over the freeway, a new bridge at Bellevue Way, an

enhanced regional bike trail, noise walls and fish passage improvements.

Council discusses budget

The council on May 17 convened the first of a series of public hearings to discuss the city’s 2011-2012 operating budget and 2011-2016 capital improvement plan.

The May 17 meeting will be followed by a second public hearing on July 19. A third and final hearing will be Nov. 15, prior to adoption of a budget in early December.

The new budget and capital plan are being crafted at a time when Bellevue, like cities everywhere, faces significant fiscal challenges due to the economic downturn.

While cost control measures put in place last year have helped the city weather the downturn, the city still expects a significant operating budget deficit in the new biennium.

“Our history of strong fiscal stewardship and success in attracting new commercial and residential growth has helped us weather this economic storm better than some communities,” said City Manager Steve Sarkozy. “But we are facing big challenges as we move into next year. This is going to be an extremely challenging budget cycle, and a lot of hard decisions are going to have to be made.”

Neighborhood sidewalk projects approved

The City Council on April 5 approved two sidewalk projects that are part of the city’s Neighborhood Enhancement Program.

Under the NEP, started in 1988, residents identify and vote on which high-priority, city-funded projects will be built in their neighborhoods. In addition to sidewalks, typical upgrades include park improvements, school playground equipment, new trail connections and street lights.

Sidewalk improvements make up more than 40 percent of the requests. Sidewalk projects given the green light on Monday were:

- Southeast 24th Street: Sidewalk will be installed where a section is missing on the north side of Southeast 24th Street, between 139th Avenue Southeast and Kamber Road, in the Sunset neighborhood. The contractor’s bid of \$71,565 is 51 percent below the engineer’s estimate for the work. Study Session Item
- Northeast Eighth Street: To replace sections of sidewalk damaged by tree roots on the north side of Northeast Eighth Street, west of 156th Avenue Southeast, in the Crossroads neighborhood. The contractor’s bid of \$147,780 is 37 percent less than the engineer’s estimate. Study Session Item

Feedback: Vangie Garcia, Neighborhood Enhancement Project Manager, 425-452-6103 or vgarcia@bellevuewa.gov.



Bellevue offers cheap thrills

In this economy, many residents are on the lookout for inexpensive forms of entertainment. Families can find a wide variety of ways to pass the time this summer free or almost free in Bellevue parks, from outdoor movies and lake beaches to a farm and skate parks.



An outdoor movie at Bellevue Downtown Park.

Outdoor movies: Every Tuesday evening, July 6 through Aug. 24, in Bellevue Downtown Park, 10201 NE Fourth St. Free, though a donation to a different charity is encouraged each night). Even the popcorn is free. For more information, visit www.intelius.com/summermovies.

Frolic in the water: There are seven beach parks in Bellevue and an indoor pool at the Bellevue Aquatic Center, 601 143rd Ave. NE. The beaches are free, while the drop-in cost for the aquatic center is \$4.75 for kids 12 and under and \$5.75 for everyone else. For more information, call 425-452-4444. The Crossroads Water Spray Playground, 16000 NE 10th St., features squirting clams, orca whales and more in a “zero-depth” facility accessible for children of all abilities.

Beautiful gardens: The Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St., features 53 acres of display gardens, woodlands, meadows and wetlands. Highlights include the Northwest Perennial Alliance Border, Waterwise Garden, Yao Garden, Alpine Rock Garden and summer displays of dahlias and fuchsias. Free guided tours are available in the summer on Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. For more information, call 425-451-3755. King County master gardeners offer free workshops on Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. to noon, at

the Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th St. No registration is required. For a schedule of topics and dates: <http://www.mgfk.org>.

Canoe or kayak in the Slough: Park Rangers lead guided canoe tours of the Mercer Slough from Enatai Beach Park, 3519 108th Ave. SE, on Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Cost: \$12-\$14. For more information, call 425-452-7225. Canoe and kayak rentals are also available for \$12 to \$25 per hour at Enatai Beach Park. Call 425-430-0111.

Explore nature: The Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Ave. SE, Lewis Creek Park, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE, and the Lake Hills Greenbelt, 15416 SE 16th St., all offer opportunities to see nature up close. People can drop in for informal visits or enjoy special programs or guided tours. Activities include: free Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Walks, Saturdays from 2 to 3 p.m. No registration required. For more information, call 425-452-7225; Birding, free, the first Saturday of each month, 9 to 10 a.m. at Lewis Creek Park. Call 425-452-4195. On Saturdays, from 2 to 3 p.m., ranger-guided walks exploring the spectacular 320-acre Mercer Slough Nature Park. Free. For more information, call 425-452-2565.

Skate: Skateboarders and roller bladers can have free fun at the Highland Outdoor Skate Plaza, 14224 Bel-Red Rd., Crossroads Park, 16000 NE 10th St., and Lakemont Park, 5170 Village Park Dr. SE. The Highland Indoor Skatepark, 14224 Bel-Red Rd., offers a variety of activities including drop-in sessions, special events, competitions, lessons and professional demonstrations for a drop-in cost of \$4 to \$5 per session, plus a one-time membership fee of \$8 to \$10. Half-hour lessons also available for \$20.

Play tennis and climb: Robinswood Tennis Center, 2400 151st Pl. SE, offers indoor and outdoor courts, lessons, cardio classes and more. Drop-in cost: \$10-\$30. Bellevue also has 10 other parks with free, outdoor tennis courts. See www.bellevuewa.gov/outdoor_tennis_courts. The South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way, offers fitness classes, solo cardio/strength workouts, a drop-in fitness center and “The Crag” Indoor Climbing Wall. Drop-in cost: \$3-\$8. Call 425-452-4240.

Pick blueberries: Established in the 1940s, the Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm, 2380 Bellevue Way SE and Larsen Lake Blueberry Farm, 700 148th Ave. SE, are owned and managed by Bellevue Parks & Community Services to help preserve Bellevue’s agricultural heritage. The farms provide a pastoral setting for park access and seasonal U-pick opportunities. Hiking access: Free. U-Pick blueberries cost: \$1.25-1.50/lb, depending on quantity and location. For more information, call Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm at 425-467-0501 or Larsen Lake Blueberry Farm at 425-260-2266.

At Crossroads, Mini City Hall is hopping

Sofia Martinez needs help. A Mexican immigrant who supported four children and three grandchildren as a housekeeper, she injured her back and can’t work.

“I have no money for food for my family,” says Martinez, who has lived in Bellevue for six years.

On a tip from a member of her church, Martinez has come to the Crossroads Mini City Hall. At this satellite office in the Crossroads Bellevue mall, city staff and volunteers, along with nonprofit partners, give information and referrals to residents in the city’s most diverse corner.

On a rainy Wednesday afternoon, Martinez sits at a small table with Diana Moshe, a “cultural navigator” with the Chinese Information and Service Center. Moshe speaks Spanish and English, with office hours at Mini City Hall on Wednesdays. She tells Martinez where to apply for help with bills, rent and utilities.

According to statistics collected by the city, half the people who come to Mini City Hall do not speak English as a first language. Cultural navigators offer guidance in Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), Korean, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Bengali, Hindi and Urdu.

Mini City Hall is abuzz with activity. In addition to Martinez and Moshe, the office manager communicates with a woman who speaks Russian via a telephone translator and other staff and volunteers receive training in new accounting software.

In a one-hour period, others walk in, including an older woman and a Latino man. They peruse the brochures about various programs and ask staff two or three questions then merge back into the surge of lunch-time customers at the mall.

Behind glass panels, under a muted yellow sign that features the word for “welcome” in multiple languages along with the city’s logo, Mini City Hall is an inviting space. Between an arts ceramics store and a shoe repair and accessories shop, this place offers information with something more.

“People don’t even know all the questions they have when they show up,” noted Barb Tuininga, the program coordinator at Mini City Hall. The staff and volunteers are trained to ask questions and listen to determine the real scope of a client’s needs, she said.

While the city provides few direct services at Mini City Hall, referrals to all of the appropriate resources offered by agencies across the Eastside “really improve a family’s quality of life,” Tuininga said.

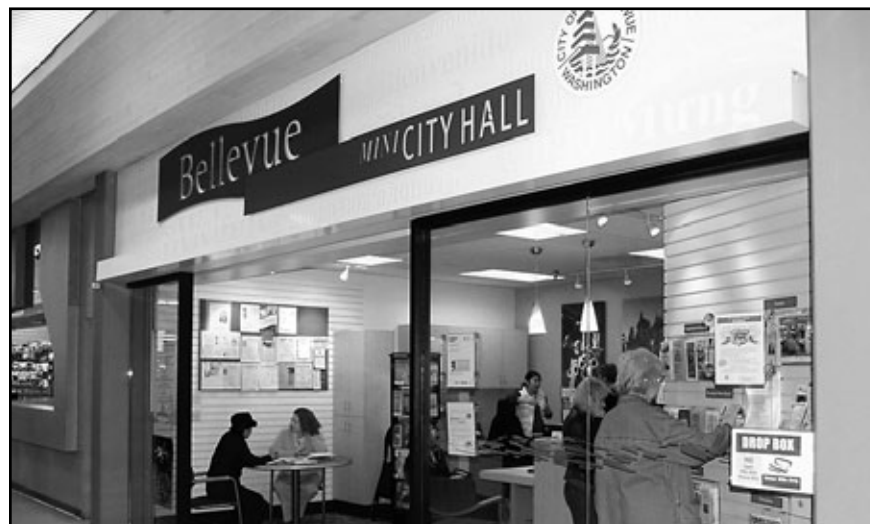
Bellevue’s Mini City Hall was established in 1994, in response to a resident demand, expressed in a survey, for city staff in people’s

neighborhoods. Neighborhood Outreach, a division of the Planning and Community Development Department, chose Crossroads because of the concentration of apartment complexes there.

“Usage exceeded our expectations from the start,” said Cheryl Kuhn, Neighborhood Outreach manager. Her small staff took turns at the facility to cope with up to 50 residents coming in a day.

Demand at Mini City Hall has only grown since then, as the city’s foreign-born population rose from about 15 percent to over 33 percent.

The number of people who come to Mini City Hall varies greatly,



depending on the day or season; it’s crowded on Mondays, when a King County public health outreach worker is there, and throughout early spring, when utility rate rebates are available. On average, 150 clients visit Mini City Hall each day.

With the recession, the office has experienced a slight overall increase in the number of clients. More notably, clients’ needs have changed. No longer are residents complaining about stray shopping carts or potholes. Now unemployed people are asking how to start a business or seeking help with housing or child care.

“Mini City Hall has become a lot of things to the people of Crossroads over the last 16 years,” Cheryl Kuhn said. “They’ve really come to rely on it.”

Coal Creek restoration nears completion

A multi-year, \$4 million effort to stabilize the fragile banks of Coal Creek is nearly complete, with trails restored by volunteers making Bellevue's largest natural area easy to access.



Stream boulders, logs and root wads have been installed along Coal Creek to prevent erosion and enhance fish habitat.



Over the past five years Utilities crews have installed boulders, logs and root wads to shore up the upper and middle reaches of Coal Creek, which were subject to severe erosion following nearly a century of coal mining.

Teams of volunteers working for Parks have restored the trail, installing curb rails, elevated trail beds, retaining walls, bark and culverts. When the trail project is done this summer, visitors will be able to easily amble through Coal Creek's 446 acres of moss-covered trees, ferns, meandering streams and ravine.

Stabilization Project

Coal Creek was mined for nearly 100 years, after coal was discovered in 1863. Over that period, miners dug out 11 million tons of coal and 4 million tons of waste rock. Piles of waste rock and coal dust were piled along the

creek's banks, where they washed downstream each year.

Bank restoration intended to reduce erosion, sedimentation and flooding, improve water quality and enhance fish habitat began in 2006. Early projects included and installation of boulders and logs on about 2,000 feet of streambank in the middle reach of Coal Creek, along with the repair of 11 drainage outfalls on steep slopes.

The last phase of the project focused on 1,400 feet of stream banks along the creek's upper reach, downstream of Lakemont Boulevard. For that phase, crews installed 500 tons of boulders and more than 220 logs and root wads to improve fish habitat. More than 13,000 trees and shrubs were planted to prevent erosion and provide shade, which helps improve water quality by keeping the stream cool.

Once a new sediment pond is built this summer, the stabilization project will be complete. Monitoring will continue for several years to make sure planting survival goals are met.

Trail Restoration

Parks & Community Service has been working in partnership with the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and the state Department of Natural Resources Conservation Corps to improve the 4.5-mile Coal Creek trail, which follows the creek as it descends from its headwaters on Cougar Mountain to the shores of Lake Washington.

So far in 2010, 71 volunteers have provided almost 400 hours of work, aided by members of the Conservation Corps. Over several weeks, the volunteers and the Corps stabilized 1,860 feet of trail. The trail project is expected to be completed this summer.



Just flick your wrist, sir

Sophie Wolz, a member of the Bellevue East girls varsity lacrosse team, gives Councilman Grant Degginger some tips at the grand opening of the new turf sports field at Wilburton Hill Park. The synthetic turf, completed in May, expands youth sports opportunities year-round.

Later this summer Newport Hills Park is scheduled for synthetic turf installation, also funded through the 2008 Parks and Open Space Levy.

Neighbor Link rallies residents to action

Like many residents around Puget Sound, Robin Bentley of Newport Hills is raising vegetables in a "pea patch" community garden plot. However, instead of serving up the harvest at her own dinner table, Bentley is donating 100 percent of what she grows to the local food bank.



Claire Turner, a volunteer, tends plants in Robin Bentley's pea patch garden.

The plot Bentley started with neighbors is one of dozens offered for community use by the Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Factoria starting this year. Newport area neighbors, especially youth and apartment dwellers who don't have the space or the knowledge to garden, are invited to join in. (Those interested in volunteering can contact Bentley at piperdawn97@hotmail.com.)

"This is the beginning of what I hope is a long-term vision for a larger community garden in my Newport Hills neighborhood," Bentley says. "Neighbors can gather to garden and provide food donations to help the community."

Bentley was inspired to expand the benefits of her pea patch by Bellevue's Neighbor Link program, now in its second year of asking neighborhoods to commit themselves to a community-building or charitable project.

In return for the neighbors' commitment, Neighborhood Outreach staff offers assistance with planning and promotion, some basic materials and a celebration to mark the end of a successful project.

Neighborhoods are awarded a "Party-in-a-Box," which includes a banner, flyers, decorations, games and entertainment provided by the city, and "Burritos by the Box" donated by Chipotle Mexican Grill.

Newport Hills is not the only neighborhood to participate in a charitable effort organized with Neighbor Link's help.

In May the Monthaven neighborhood hosted a community garage sale and neighborhood clean-up event. An initial meeting attracted 50 neighbors, many of whom had never met, and resulted in committees to address safety, emergency preparedness, neighborhood cleanup and a ramp fix-it project. Monthaven also filled a van with canned goods for World Impact Network food bank on Richards Road.

Neighbor Link projects can span far outside the realm of food drives. Neighborhoods should be creative and should access the project idea bank at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Neighborhoods/Idea_Bank_2010.pdf. Residents can also contact Neighborhood Outreach at 425-452-5372 for help getting a new project started.

In addition to hosting their own block parties in recognition of their projects, all Neighbor Link participants are invited to a "Celebration of Service" picnic and concert to which all residents are invited on Saturday, Sept. 11, noon to 2 p.m. on the lawn at City Hall.



Bel-Red project wins awards

A long-range plan to transform the city's Bel-Red area into a vibrant corridor that links transportation, jobs, housing and recreation has won major regional and state awards as well as recognition from a U.S. senator.

Bellevue received a Smart Communities award from the state on June 4.

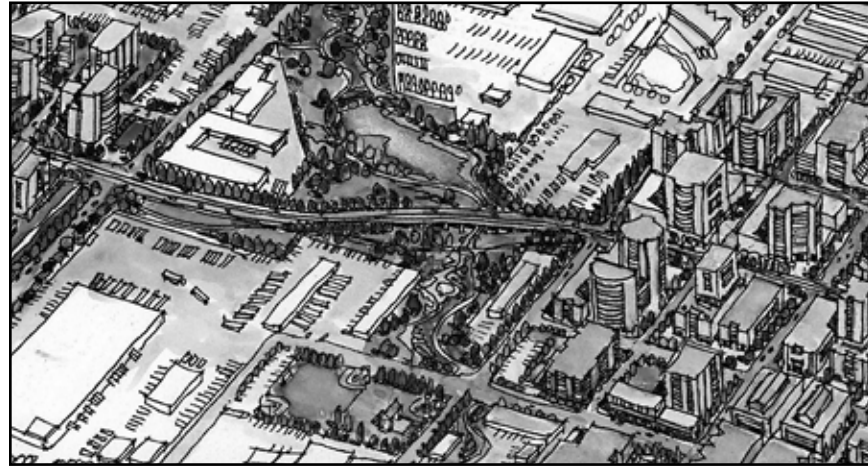
"As Washington recovers from this downturn in the economy, the work of local governments and their partners in creating vibrant, quality communities is vital," Gov. Chris Gregoire said in an announcement. "The leadership of these award winners helps to make Washington a great state in which to live and do business."

On May 20, the Puget Sound Regional Council, a regional growth and transportation planning agency, presented its Vision 2040 Award to Mayor Don Davidson.

"I'm pleased that the PSRC has validated our vision and commitment to make the Bel-Red project a model of sustainable, transportation-oriented development," Davidson said. "I'm confident that we'll realize our goals."

Earlier in May, U.S. Sen. Patty Murray, chairwoman of the Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Subcommittee, praised the city's Bel-Red Corridor plan as a "leading model for sustainable development" during a hearing in Washington D.C.

The Bel-Red plan, which includes changes to zoning and development regulations, calls for the transformation of a 900-acre light industrial and retail area into mixed-use, transit-oriented neighborhoods. Plans also include



the creation of thousands of new jobs and housing units, along with stream restorations and new parks.

Located between downtown Bellevue and Microsoft's headquarters in Redmond, the Bel-Red area is envisioned as a model for sustainable planning, utilizing large-scale, transit-oriented development that will be served by the future East Link light rail line.

Bellevue launched the Bel-Red initiative more than three years ago and the effort has included a citizens committee that worked for 20 months to develop a plan, along with an investment of more than \$1 million. While work on the project continues, fulfilling the Bel-Red vision is expected to happen gradually as new development takes place over several decades.

Don't go out on a limb – know the laws about tree removal

"City in a park" is not just a marketing slogan for Bellevue, with abundant trees on public and private property helping make the city beautiful and healthful.

The city's trees aren't just pretty; they absorb stormwater runoff and carbon dioxide and other pollutants while producing oxygen. Preserving Bellevue's tree canopy was identified as a priority when the City Council launched an environmental stewardship initiative in 2007.

A variety of rules protect trees in Bellevue. Under certain conditions, residents must obtain a permit to cut or prune trees on their property.



While Bellevue's tree canopy is substantial, the city has been losing trees.

It is illegal to remove, prune or "top" trees on public property, and the penalties are stiff. The city has collected more than \$200,000 in penalties in recent years, and currently has four pending actions against people who cut or pruned trees on city property.

The city receives many questions about tree regulations. Here are answers to some of the most frequent ones regarding tree removal:

Private Property

Do I need a permit to remove one or more trees from my property?

For most homeowners, the answer is No. A permit, however, is required if one or more of the following conditions are true:

- Tree removal results in more than 1,000 square feet of disturbance of the ground.
- The property is part of a designated critical area or buffer.
- The tree is in a native growth protection area or a retained vegetation area.
- The tree is on the city's right of way adjacent to your property.
- The property is located in Bridle Trails.

Contact the Land Use desk in Development Services (425-452-4188 or landusereview@Bellevuewa.gov) for assistance in determining whether you need a permit or what restrictions may prevent you from removing trees.

What is disturbance of the ground?

Disturbance of the ground results from any action that displaces or destroys vegetation, resulting in increased soil exposure. This includes exposure of the existing ground due to tree removal, where no other vegetation is growing under the tree. Disturbance can also result from the physical process of tree removal, where foot and vehicle traffic, construction of access roads, felling of trees, dragging of felled trees and excavation of stumps disturb the ground.

How do I estimate how much disturbance of the ground will result from tree removal?

Generally speaking, the removal of an evergreen or deciduous tree that is eight inches or greater measured four feet above the existing grade would result in 50 square feet of ground disturbance. The city's clearing

and grading staff can help you with disturbance estimates and with other questions related to tree removal. They can be reached at 425-452-2019 or clearandgradereview@bellevuewa.gov.

What are "critical" areas?

The City of Bellevue regulates six types of critical areas in its Land Use Code:

- Streams and riparian areas
- Wetlands
- Habitats for species of local importance
- Geological hazard areas
- Flood hazard areas
- Shorelines

These areas are given special protection because they provide unique environmental functions that are difficult, if not impossible, to replace and because they ensure public health, safety and welfare.

Who can I contact to obtain a permit?

Visit Permit Processing in Development Services or contact them at 425-452-4898 or PermitProcessing@bellevuewa.gov.

What if I am concerned about the health or safety of my trees?

One of the leading reasons given for tree removals is safety. To ensure you are not needlessly removing an otherwise healthy tree, it pays to talk with a qualified certified arborist or certified forester. There are two websites that can help. Contact the International Society of Arboriculture at www.treesaregood.org or the Society of American Foresters at www.safnet.org.

What if I have a dispute with my neighbor about a tree?

Tree "ownership" is determined by whose property the trunk stands completely on. If the tree is a boundary tree (the trunk straddles a property line), it is owned jointly. In most cases, property owners may trim branches and roots which encroach on their property if they stay within certain guidelines: trim only up to the property line; do not enter the owner's property without permission; do not destroy or damage the tree by trimming roots or branches.

If you have a dispute with your neighbor, call the Mediation Program at 425-452-4019. They can help you explore your alternatives, coach you on how to negotiate with your neighbor or provide free mediation to help you and your neighbor find a workable solution.

Public Property

May I remove trees adjacent to my property, either in a public right of way or a park?

No. The public is not authorized to remove (or reduce) any vegetation – including trees – from any public property. Please refer to your property title report, or e-mail either rightofwayuse@bellevuewa.gov or parksweb@bellevuewa.gov to help determine whether a tree is on public or private property.

I noticed that some public trees look unhealthy. What can I do?

The city has foresters and arborists on staff to respond to your concerns. To report a potentially unhealthy tree on park property, call 425-452-6855 or e-mail parksweb@bellevuewa.gov. To report a potentially unhealthy tree in the public right of way, call 425-452-7840.

What happens if I remove, top or otherwise prune a tree on city property without permission?

You may face civil penalties, including fines up to three times the assessed value of the trees involved. Depending on the circumstances, criminal charges may also be brought.

Green remodels can save money

Summer is a popular time for people to consider remodeling their homes. If they take an environmentally sustainable approach, they won't just be doing the planet a favor. They'll add resale value, improve indoor air quality and save money on utility bills and maintenance.

Whether you need more space or are just looking to update an existing feature of your home, a green remodel combines beauty, efficiency, comfort and convenience with health and conservation. Green features include:

- Increased ventilation and low-toxic finishes that help increase indoor air quality;
- Energy Star appliances that cut energy use and lower utility bills;
- Additional insulation that lowers energy bills and increases occupant comfort; and
- Low-flow plumbing fixtures that cut water consumption.

To make it easy to build green, the city is forming a Green Team with staff from the Transportation, Utilities, Civic Services and Development Services departments.



When the Green Team is in place, staff will be able to provide personalized service to help homeowners and contractors who want to go green. In the meantime, tips and resources are available at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/green-team.htm>.

Green means green in real estate

According to a recent GreenWorks Realty report, environmentally certified homes sold in 24 percent less time than other homes in Seattle. Homes stocked with green features sold for 23.5 percent more per square foot in 10 percent less time.

As with traditional remodeling projects, homeowners must consider costs and long-term benefits. Also like traditional projects, green remodels can involve a multitude of choices. Bellevue's Green Team can help you navigate the world of sustainable features.

Start with appliances

So where to begin? One of the easiest and most obvious ways to save money is to choose energy-efficient appliances such as those with the "Energy Star" label. The federal government's Home Energy Saver website shows potential savings of \$600 to \$1,200 a year in utility bills with a switch to energy-efficient appliances.

Refrigerators: In general, refrigerators with freezers on top use up to 25 percent less energy than side-by-side models. Also, size appliances to your needs; your refrigerator will work most efficiently when it is full.

Dishwashers: Dishwashers made before 1994 waste about 8 gallons of water per cycle compared to new Energy Star-qualified models. This could translate into a \$40 per year savings on your utility bills.

Clothes washers: Energy Star-qualified clothes washers use about 30 percent less energy and 50 percent less water than other washers. In addition, many have greater capacity than conventional models, meaning fewer loads of laundry.

Dryers: Since dryers aren't required to display EnergyGuide labels, it's difficult to compare efficiency among models. Natural-gas dryers are less costly to operate than electric ones, but much of our electricity comes from renewable hydroelectric sources, while natural gas is non-renewable and produces greenhouse gases. Moisture sensors with automatic shutoff controls make dryers more efficient.

Toilets: Toilets aren't appliances, but they do use a lot of water. In a typical home with older toilets, almost a third of the indoor water used goes to flush toilets. Switching to a "WaterSense" toilet can cut water use by thousands of gallons a year.

Rebates

In addition to long-term energy savings from the Energy Star-qualified appliances, Puget Sound Energy offers a variety of rebates on them. Details are available at <http://www.pse.com>.

Bellevue and Cascade Water Alliance now offer up to a \$100 rebate for the purchase of WaterSense toilets. After the rebate, a typical home will recover the cost of the toilet replacements in one to four years in savings on utilities bills. Call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-4127 for details.

Recycling old appliances

Is your washer or dryer all dried up? Visit King County's "What do I do with...?" website at <http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/wdidw/index.asp> to find a recycling location near you.

New construction and fire codes

Starting July 1, permit applications for home improvements or repairs will be subject to new construction codes, which could impact the project design.

The new codes include 2009 editions of the International Codes (building, fire, fuel gas, mechanical and residential) and the Uniform Plumbing Code. New code requirements include carbon monoxide alarms in new homes, new, more restrictive property line setbacks to prevent fires spreading from one house to another and a new requirement to test ductwork for leaks.

If you're planning a summer construction project, such as installing a deck or exterior doors or windows, you may need a permit. "Simple" permits for small-scale projects such as reroofing, hot water tank replacement or residential electrical, mechanical and plumbing changes can be obtained online at www.mybuildingpermit.com.

To learn whether you need a permit, go to www.bellevuewa.gov/development-services.htm. You'll find publications (especially helpful is Development Services handout P-3, Single-Family Improvements/Repairs), submittal requirements and other information. Staff at Permit Processing (425-452-4898) can answer questions and save you time.

Permit review allows code experts to reduce potential hazards from unsafe construction.

Proper permitting also helps protect property values. More and more, property insurers aren't covering damages caused by work done without permits and inspections.

You are required to disclose any improvements or repairs when you sell the house, and many banks won't finance a purchase without proof of a final inspection. Without a permit, work may be subject to removal or other costly remedies.

Food waste recycling launched in elementary schools

When they're done with lunch, students at Bellevue elementary schools are taking recycling to the next level by tossing food scraps into an organics recycling container instead of the garbage.

The new food waste recycling program, which started in January and is rolling out to all 16 of the city's elementary schools, sends food scraps to Cedar Grove's compost facility instead of the landfill.

Enatai kindergarten teacher Regan Cox said her students are fascinated by the idea of recycling food scraps.

"When they heard about the program, they began making signs and cheering," said Cox. "It's a fabulous program, and we are so appreciative of the support we've gotten."

Schools recycling food waste so far include Enatai, Cherry Crest, Bennett, Spiritridge, Lake Hills, Medina, Newport Heights, Sherwood Forest, Somerset, Eastgate and Puesta del Sol. In the fall the program will roll out to five more schools: Ardmore, Clyde Hill, Phantom Lake, Stevenson and Woodridge.

Supported by the City Council, the food waste recycling project costs \$25,000, with a grant from the state Department of Ecology covering \$19,000, and the city's Solid Waste fund covering the rest. City employees manage the grant and help with education to schools.

The grant pays for food waste containers, biodegradable bags and collection by Cedar Grove. Four elementary schools, which have not been chosen yet, will also receive funding to pay the difference for compostable trays instead of Styrofoam for the 2010-2011 school year.

Last year, as part of a pilot, Somerset Elementary had 56 tons of food waste composted. With 15 more schools participating, an additional 842 tons could be kept from the landfill per school year. The total, over the course of the two-year grant, could be 1,800 tons.

One goal of the program is to show that food waste collection and recycling can pay for itself through reduction of solid waste collection and disposal costs, with increasing awareness of recycling in general through support of Bellevue School District's current recycling program.

"I was very surprised at how much food waste we have at our school," said Enatai fifth grade teacher Monica Chun. "Our kids are talking about composting before they arrive at lunch and after school when they see their parents at pickup. They are excited about being "green" and doing something to stop being wasteful and to help the Earth."



Bennett Elementary School students show a poster about composting.



Draft shoreline plan is starting point

To get the ball rolling on an update of Bellevue's shoreline regulations, the city has produced a "working draft" of a new Shoreline Master Program.



Lake Sammamish, with Phantom and Larson lakes behind it.

Intended to be a starting point for a conversation the Planning Commission has with the community about updating the 36-year-old SMP,

the draft plan is a compilation of baseline information from existing policies and codes, and specific language from the state guidelines and other local shoreline master programs.

Like the original program, the update is intended to protect the shoreline from piecemeal development and environmental harm. Following an update of state shoreline regulations, the city began working on an update of its own SMP in December 2007.

Staff introduced the working draft SMP at the May 12 Planning Commission meeting. The draft is available at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Development%20Services/Draft_SMP.pdf.

The Planning Commission will work to tailor the plan for Bellevue. Staff will start by reviewing in detail topics that most affect shoreline property owners, including:

- Piers and docks;
- Shoreline stabilization (bulkheads);
- Setbacks and vegetation management; and
- Marinas.

The first topic for review is setbacks.

The Planning Commission will continue its review through the summer and into the fall, with open houses and a public hearing on the draft in November. The City Council is scheduled to begin reviewing the Planning Commission's recommendation by the end of the year.

See the Shoreline Management page on the city website for scheduling details and opportunities to become involved at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/shoreline-master-plan.htm>.

Police honored for heroic efforts



Officer Jeffery Liddiard accepts a Commander award from Deputy Chief Cherie Baker.

When a drunk driver drove onto a crowded sidewalk during last year's arts fair weekend, police officers Mark Tomlinson and Jeffery Liddiard sprinted after the car and managed to get the driver to stop before he hit a group of children drawing with colored chalk.

For their heroics, which likely saved lives, Tomlinson and Liddiard received Commanders awards in May. During the annual Bellevue Police award and promotions ceremony at City Hall, 16 officers and three residents received awards.

Liddiard and Tomlinson were working traffic control at the intersection of Bellevue Way and Northeast Sixth Street during the arts fair last July when the motorist drove around a barricade and barreled onto the sidewalk. While pedestrians were jumping out of the way, the officers caught up with the car and yelled, banged windows and blew their whistles to get his attention.

No one was injured in the incident. The driver was arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol and reckless endangerment.

Other officers who received Commanders awards were:

- Lt. Dave Sellers, for exemplary performance with department's SWAT team over several years;
- Officer My Tran, for preventing a suicidal woman from jumping off an Interstate 405 overpass in July;
- Lt. Marcia Harnden, for helping the department manage a large-scale transition to new software; and
- Officer Joe Engman, who assisted a driver having a medical emergency while Engman was off-duty.

Deputy Chief Jim Jolliffe received a life-saving award for performing the Heimlich maneuver on a man who was choking. Officer Casey Hiam received a police medal for exhibiting exceptional courage and bravery when a suspect in a domestic dispute attacked him with a knife.

Civilian law enforcement merit awards were issued to Charles Julian, Linda Huizingh and James Simmons. Julian prevented a suicidal woman from jumping off an I-405 overpass in December. Huizingh and Simmons likely saved a man's life when they applied tourniquets to his legs after he was hit by a car at a car-wash facility.



Ospreys like new home

The pair of ospreys who called a light pole at Hidden Valley Sports Park home for the past six years have returned. Apparently the move to a special platform designed for them was acceptable.

The city constructed the platform on a pole when it replaced all of the 40-year-old lights in January. Contractors for the city moved part of the ospreys' nest to the new platform, in the hopes they would rebuild it there.

The new location offers the birds an escape from hot lights that could have literally fried an egg and spares fans in the bleachers from inadvertent showers of debris falling from the nest.

City checks lake sewer line

With 13 miles of aging sewer pipes in and along Lake Washington, the city will begin assessing the condition of the entire line this summer.

Over the next couple of years, Utilities employees and consultants will dig up sections of the 8- and 10-inch pipes buried in the lake bed and take samples of the pipes as well as run cameras through the pipes to view them from the inside. (Property owners will be notified before any digging is done.)

The lake line serves lakefront and upland properties in Bellevue, Yarrow Point, Hunts Point, Medina and Beaux Arts, plus a small portion of unincorporated King County near Renton. Much of the line was built in the 1950s and 1960s, and may be nearing the end of its useful life.

If aging lake line pipes break, residents can lose service, and raw sewage can flow into the lake, possibly damaging shoreline habitat and closing beaches.

Assessment of the lake line will help Utilities produce a "road map" to determine areas of pipe that need rehabilitation or replacement or that have more years of use.

One challenge of the project is that development along the lake has made access to and maintenance of a number of pipes difficult. The city will need permission from residents to access private property and dig up the ground in various places to get pipe samples. In many locations, crews will also need to access cleanouts and manholes to videotape the pipe.

The completed study will help guide scheduled maintenance, in addition to being part of a larger Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to design, permit and construct replacements or rehabilitations.

Utilities will contact local property owners to give them more details about the project. If you have questions, please call Jay Hummel, Capital Projects Manager, Utilities Engineering, 425-452-4160.

Bellwether exhibition walks the walk

continued from page 1

entry statement, “I find the ordinary to be extraordinary.”

Two bas-relief wood carvings at the park by Steve Jensen of Seattle – “Goldfish Carving” and “Viking Ship” – have a touch of Rorschach test about them, as reddish and blackened wood shapes jostle to be the foreground.

David Packer of New York takes a bittersweet look at technological innovation with “The Last of the V8s,” a series of five red engine blocks to

hang from the ceiling inside the Pavilion in City Hall Plaza.

Carol Milne of Seattle pokes fun at the idea of transparency in government and business with a large plaster hand bearing transparent plastic heads on the tip of each finger, also to be inside City Hall.

Ken Turner focuses on where we get a lot of work done, or at least sit, with “Endless Meeting,” a stack of chairs rising skyward, to be placed on the City Hall plaza.

A popular feature of the sculpture exhibition is the Teen Project, a hands-on experience in public sculpture that deepens teens’ understanding of what goes into the making, preserving and maintaining public art.

Approximately eight high-school students will design and fabricate small-scale models of site-specific art ideas. Photographs of the models will then be inserted into photos of the sites for which they are designed to show how the full-scale work would look on-site.



“Thoughts of Home” by Ryan Takaba



“Transparency” by Carol Milne



BELLWETHER
art walk
BELLEVUE2010



“Monument to the Ordinary (Milk Can)” by Michael Johnson



"Evolution" by Julie Lindell



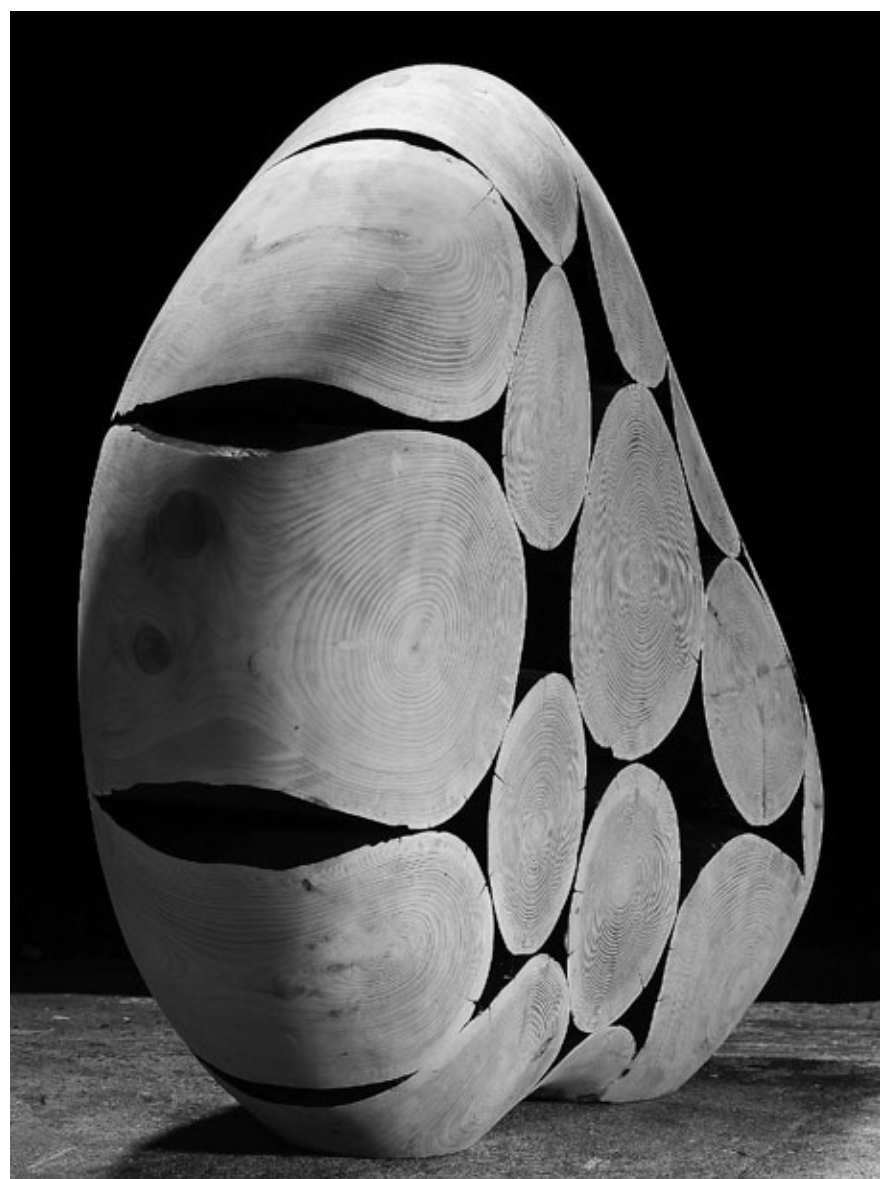
"Mallet" by



"Endless Meeting" by Ken Turner



"Ghost Trailer" by Anne Thompson and J.D. Perkins



"07063" by Jaehyo Lee



"Deluged" by Pat McVay

Raising the transportation system's IQ: How to make signals smarter and waits shorter

As Bellevue matures, there are fewer opportunities to expand the roadway system by building new roads or expanding existing ones. At the same time, travel demand is increasing and traffic congestion remains a challenge.

To meet this challenge, the city must operate its street system with increased efficiency. One way to do that is by employing a so-called "intelligent transportation system," or ITS.

Bellevue already has some ITS elements in place, such as its real-time traffic map (online at <http://trafficmap.cityofbellevue.net/>). To expand on that effort, the City Council recently approved upgrades to the computer system that controls the city's 182 traffic signals.

Mark Poch, the city's traffic signals manager, recently talked about what ITS is and how it can help move traffic more efficiently in Bellevue.



It's Your City: If the proposed new system is "intelligent," does that mean the system we have now is dumb?

Poch: Well, I'd prefer to think of our current system as old, rather than "dumb." We already have a computerized traffic signal system at the Traffic Management Center in City Hall. We use it to monitor and adjust traffic when it stacks up at certain times, due to causes such as bad weather, construction projects or special events.

But with the current signal system, we have concerns about reliability, a lack of modern features, and an inability to support what we call "multi-modal mobility." Those are features, for example, that allow buses to have green-light priority over cars at intersections, or that reduce wait times at crosswalks for pedestrians. An "intelligent" system with "smart" signals will help us get more capacity out of our existing roads.

ICY: It sometimes takes a long time to drive places in Bellevue and red lights can last forever. Why can't we synchronize our signals like other cities?

Poch: I often hear from people who are frustrated with traffic in Bellevue and I understand their frustration. Regarding traffic signals, there are fundamental reasons for longer waits at some of our intersections. For instance, our downtown has only about half the streets of a typical downtown on which to move traffic. This means fewer one-way streets, larger intersections and a lot of vehicle and pedestrian traffic that needs to be accommodated.

While we don't expect to add many new streets to the grid, we do think we can squeeze some improvements out of our existing system by using ITS tools.

ICY: What constitutes an intelligent transportation system (ITS)?

Poch: ITS is simply the application of advanced communication and information technology to the transportation system. Traditional approaches to transportation improvements have focused on roadway widening to add traffic capacity.

An intelligent system allows us to make operational improvements minus the concrete. It provides more information to motorists and to our traffic engineers. The most obvious example is more efficient traffic signals, but ITS also includes innovations that promote more informed decision making, such as our network of traffic cameras, which can be accessed through the city's website.

ICY: What are smart signals?

Poch: An example is our plan is to install "traffic adaptive" signals at downtown intersections on Northeast Eighth Street, Northeast Fourth Street and Bellevue Way, as well as Factoria Boulevard in South Bellevue.

With our current system, timing plans that control the signals typically change just a few times a day, and can get outdated pretty quickly. The new traffic adaptive system will monitor traffic in all lanes of all intersections continually, then send the information to a central computer at City Hall. The computer will adjust timing at intersections on every signal cycle, not just a few times a day.

ICY: Will the new system allow us to synchronize our signals so drivers can go through several green lights without stopping?

Poch: Like our current system, the new system will coordinate groups of traffic signals, but will do so more efficiently, day or night. Though it's difficult to have long strings of green lights downtown – due to heavy traffic, two-way streets rather than one-way streets, and numerous left-turn arrows – the new system would be able to provide signal coordination, and, more importantly, an overall reduction in vehicle and pedestrian delays over the current system.

ICY: How will you measure the benefit from these improvements?

Poch: We're anticipating a cumulative benefit of \$1.5 million annually to the public from the first phase of the project. This assumes the system results in a 5 percent reduction in overall delay at traffic signals, and valuing people's time at \$10 per hour.

Ouch! Plan for I-405 night closures July 26 to 29

Every time the state Department of Transportation closes Interstate 405 in Bellevue it's like a flu shot: it hurts for a little while but the long-term benefits are worth it.

The latest injection of road improvement work will come in late July when WSDOT crews close I-405 lanes for four nights to set girders for a new Northeast 12th Street Bridge. All northbound lanes of I-405 will be closed for two nights, July 26 and 27; all southbound lanes will be closed July 28 and 29.

Several ramps will also be closed and detours around the work will be posted. Drivers should plan to take alternate routes to avoid delays. Information on closure times and other details will be available on the project website at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i405/ne8thtosr520/> prior to July 26.

The short-term hurt of the freeway closure is obvious, but what about the long-term benefits? Here it is: once complete, the new bridge will have a trail separated from traffic for pedestrians and bicyclists. Bigger picture, the taller, wider bridge is part of the Bellevue Braids project, designed to decrease congestion, reduce delays and improve safety on northbound I-405, between downtown and SR-520.

Travelers who use this stretch of highway – the busiest I-405 ramp in the region – are familiar with the infamous "weave" of drivers jockeying for position. The Braids project will eliminate the weave by building new multi-level "braided" ramps to separate northbound vehicles entering and exiting I-405 between Northeast Eighth Street and SR 520. The ramps will run beneath the new bridge.

The City of Bellevue is working in cooperation with WSDOT and general contractor Guy F. Atkinson Construction LLC on Bellevue Braids, a \$107.5 million construction effort, which began in January 2010 and is scheduled for completion in 2012.



This visualization shows the addition of both the Northeast 10th Street Bridge and the braided on- and off-ramps.



Getting to the end of Project Rainbows

By Steve Kasner, East Bellevue Community Council Chair

It has been a busy couple of months in the East Bellevue Community Council area. We were able to take a huge step in facilitating any future development at 148th Avenue Northeast and Main Street, where the vacant former K-Mart resides.

Twenty-three years ago, a concomitant zoning agreement (CZA) was put in place, which stated that if development was to take place at this site, the underlying Kelsey Creek culvert would have to be day lighted. This meant that the creek would be visible within the property.

In addition to the creek itself, all applicable setbacks would be enforced, which would have created a swath through the property that was a little over 100 feet wide. As the property owner sought development opportunities through the years, this requirement prevented many projects from moving forward.

I first became personally aware of this requirement while serving on the South Bellevue Community Center Advisory Committee in the late 1990s. The purpose of the CZA was to ensure that the environment was preserved and protected in future development proposals.

The old K-Mart building has been vacant for more than 10 years, while surprisingly, the building has been fully leased. Soon after K-Mart vacated, Costco signed a long-term lease for this building to premier "Costco Fresh," a new, higher-end grocery store concept.

Subsequently, Costco decided to abandon the Costco Fresh concept nationwide, and withdrew its permit applications for this site. However, Costco had already signed the long-term lease on the K-Mart building. That lease remains in effect to this day, and likely removes much of the financial incentive for redevelopment by the owner of the property.

City staff have been aware for years about the importance of this site to the Lake Hills neighborhood, and have heard from many residents about their desire to see redevelopment. Indeed, this was the top priority of the West Lake Hills Neighborhood Investment Strategy recommendations. However, it takes a committed owner and developer to move forward with redevelopment, and over the years this did not come together at Kelsey Creek.

While the long-term building lease is a factor discouraging redevelopment, the CZA also has an impact on the cost of full-scale redevelopment. In 2004, the city conducted a stream reach study to determine what would be necessary to remove the stream daylighting requirement in the CZA.

While this was designed to support an owner applying for the removal through a rezone process, the owner application did not occur until this year.

After the stream study was completed, it became clear that environmental mitigation alternatives could be found that would enhance the surrounding wetlands without destroying the economic potential of the site. In fact, the requirement could be removed if the city, the proponent, the City Council and the East Bellevue Community Council agreed that the citizens of Bellevue would be better served if the CZA was modified.

I was disappointed that the property remained vacant for more than 10 years before a proposal came from the property owner/tenant to request that the CZA be modified.

The other thing that amazed me about the CZA modification was that, as it wound through the process, only one party commented on the issues the entire time it was under consideration. I took this to mean that either no one realized that this process was going on or that everyone decided that this was a good idea.

During our hearing, we asked many questions about how this rezone would affect the surrounding wetlands. The developer told us that he was going to replace the rotten wooden culvert under the parking lot at a cost of \$1.8 million, and pay a mitigation fee of just under \$600,000 to enhance the wetlands to the south.

While I was somewhat troubled by the fact that I was not sure that the owner was required to do this if the rezone was approved, I believe that the owner will follow through and make the improvements to the property while starting on future development plans.

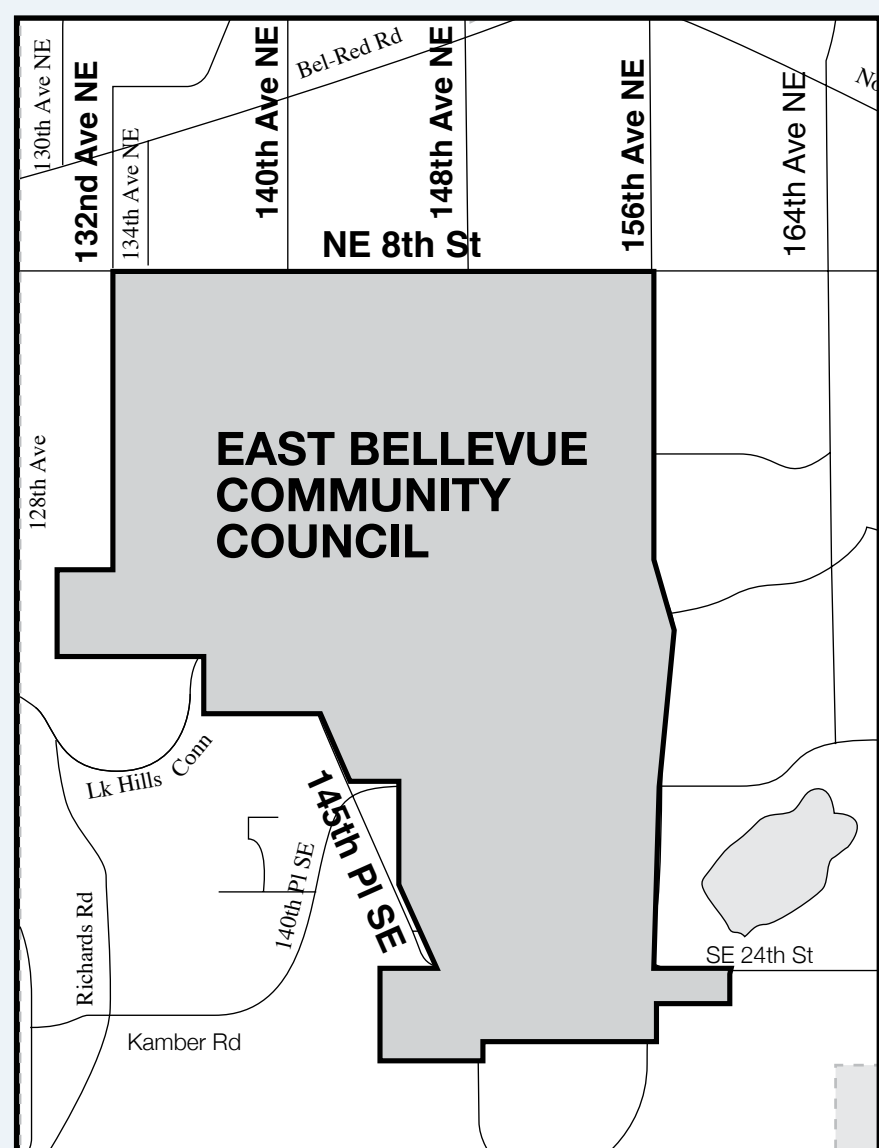
I realize that these things take a long time. However, the fact that the K-Mart building sat vacant for over 10 years was too long.

As to other happenings at 148th and Main, the former Shell gas station, now painted gray, will become a bank in the near future, and the Chevron gas station across the street is being remodeled, though the completion date remains unknown.

I would also like to recognize the upcoming five-year anniversary of the South Bellevue Community Center in Eastgate. Since I was involved with this project for over 10 years, with heated rhetoric on all sides, I want to use it as an example of a project that was built for the betterment of the entire community in spite of opposition.

During the public meetings for this project the police were called to maintain order because some people could not discuss the project civilly and listen to all sides. Many of us took tough votes to do what we thought best for all of the citizens of Bellevue and surrounding communities.

I bring this up now because I see another issue that has the potential to benefit the community for years to come if done properly. I am talking about East Link Light Rail. There are many permutations to this project too numerous to recap here, but I urge all sides of this discussion to look at the bigger picture to find the solution that will serve our city for decades to come when some or all of us are no longer here.



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, Richard Erwin

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 grew up in Cherry Hill, N.J., where I took light rail for granted since it was there from the time I was a little boy. When I moved here over 30 years ago, the road to nowhere truncated right over the Kingdome. It was eventually finished and became Edgar Martinez Way and completed the Interstate 90 highway system.

Our area's light rail project is a regional system of which Bellevue is a very important part, but the entire system should be analyzed before any decisions are finalized in Bellevue to make sure the maximum value is attained.

I look forward to the day when I can use the system with my family to see the beautiful area that we live in. If you have an opinion, please share it with the decision makers. I just ask that you look at things from the perspective of what we should do, not from the perspective of what we should not do.

One of the ways we do some of this long-term planning is to use census data, which is being collected at this time. Over 650,000 temporary workers nationwide are collecting and processing the data through the rest of this year.

To all of you who returned (about 75 percent in Bellevue) your original form in March and April, thank you. For everyone else, census workers were out in May and June trying to obtain the rest of the data.

In addition, this year the Census Bureau added a quality control unit to verify the data collected by workers. So if you get contacted by multiple census workers, please be patient with them, so that the highest quality count can be gathered by the end of the year, when it must be certified.

It is likely that one of the ramifications of the census data is that Washington may be granted a 10th representative in Congress. Not too bad for a little western state that gave the original 13 colonies an almost a 100-year head start.

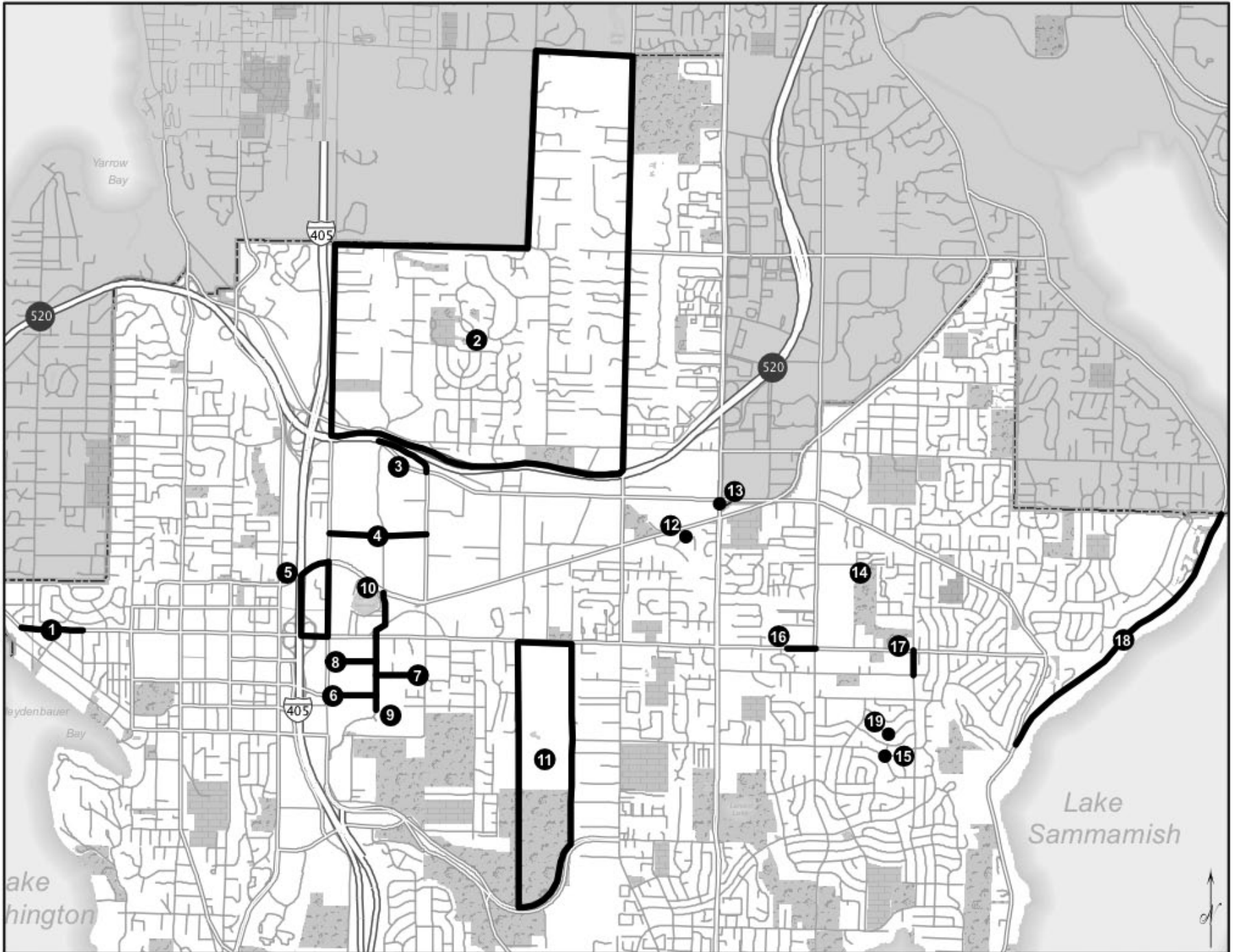
I close with a hope that many of you come to the celebration for our new Lake Hills library, currently scheduled for the end of July. Also, our present Lake Hills library is now open on Sundays while the Newport Hills library is being renovated. Enjoy it while it lasts - I am told it will not last forever.

May each of you find your pot of gold at the end of your project rainbows. It is an honor to serve the citizens of Bellevue as chair of the East Bellevue Community Council. I look forward to meeting with you soon.

North Bellevue Projects Update

It is time to give you an update on what the city is working on in North Bellevue. Keeping you informed about the project activity is very important to us as we work to improve freeways, parks, sewer systems, sidewalks, streets and water mains in Bellevue.

To find projects taking place in your area, please refer to the map below which is based on the Neighborhood Enhancement Program. They are: West Bellevue, Northwest Bellevue, Bridle Trails, Wilburton, Crossroads, and Northeast Bellevue. These neighborhoods fall in the area north of Main Street. The Utility Department projects are in various areas in north Bellevue and are not identified on the map.



WEST BELLEVUE

Recently Completed!

1. Northeast 8th Street: 96th Avenue Northeast to Lake Washington Boulevard Sidewalk



This project was just finished. It includes a new six-foot continuous sidewalk with curb and gutter, a three-foot striped shoulder, a four-foot landscaped planter and street lights on the north side of Northeast Eighth Street. We upgraded the existing traffic signal at the intersection of Northeast Eighth Street and 92nd Avenue Northeast for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

BRIDLE TRAILS

2. Bridle Trails Park Levy Project

The 2008 Bellevue Parks & Natural Areas Levy included \$2.5 million to acquire, develop or enhance parks and open space in the Bridle Trails neighborhood. Working with the Bridle Trails Community Club (BTCC),

the city sought project ideas from area residents through surveys, newsletters, neighborhood block and park parties, as well as through multiple BTCC and neighborhood meetings. More than 60 project suggestions were generated and commented on by the neighborhood and then further evaluated. City staff is researching project feasibility and planning level costs on select neighborhood projects forwarded by the BTCC. Depending on the project recommendations and Council direction, acquisition, planning and development will follow. This \$2.5 million project started in the spring of 2009 and is still in progress. For more information: Pam Fehrman, 425-452-4326 or Pfehrman@bellevuewa.gov

Recently Completed!

3. Northup Way: 120th to 124th Avenue Northeast

The project installed one eastbound lane on Northup Way between 120th Avenue Northeast and 124th Avenue Northeast, and added another left-turn lane for eastbound traffic on Northup Way turning onto the westbound SR-520 on-ramp. Major work items included widening Northup Way, installing a wall on the southeast corner of the intersection of Northup Way and 124th Avenue Northeast, and installing detention and water quality vaults.



Follow projects with
E-Mail Alerts

www.bellevuewa.gov



4. Northeast 15th Street: 116th Avenue Northeast to 124th Avenue Northeast Multi-Modal Corridor

This is one of a number of high-priority transportation investments to address planned growth and development within the Bel-Red and Wilburton subareas. The Northeast 15th Street multi-modal corridor is being designed to integrate the many transportation system elements that are directly supportive of the planned growth and development and will include general purpose travel lanes, turn lanes, street lighting, traffic signals, bicycle and sidewalk facilities, landscaping, urban design features including provisions for green spaces and open-space connections, regional trail connections, and will also reflect planned light rail stations and facilities.

The current budget of \$1 million allows for advancing conceptual engineering, which supports developing the overall corridor master plan for the entire NE 15th/16th Street multi-modal corridor and addressing other LRT related interests. Additional funding would be needed to advance preliminary and final engineering for the priority segment between 116th Ave NE and 124th Ave NE.

For more information contact Rick Logwood, 425-452-6858 or rlogwood@bellevuewa.gov

5. Medical District Transportation Demand Management Program

In mid-2010, we will launch an outreach campaign in the medical district east of I-405, which will help raise awareness of travel options, including recent increased frequency of transit routes and improved transit access to the Bellevue Transit Center. The program may include incentives to employers who help their employees try a new mode of transportation other than driving alone, such as bus, carpool, vanpool, and VanShare. For more information: www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org or Kate Johnson, 425-452-7896 or Kmjohanson@bellevuewa.gov

6. Northeast Fourth Street Extension: 116th Avenue Northeast to 120th Avenue Northeast



The proposed improvements include a four-lane roadway, sidewalks, bike lanes and left-turn pockets at new or modified signalized intersections. The preferred alternative was presented to City Council in April, and the council approved a resolution to advance to the completion of the final design and preparation of the construction documents. As we develop the final design, we will work closely with adjacent business and property owners and private developers in the immediate vicinity. This estimated \$38 million project is expected to be ready for construction in 2011. For more information: Marina Arakelyan at 425-452-4632 or marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov

7. Northeast Fifth Street Neighborhood Traffic Plan



As the City of Bellevue engaged the community during an update to the Wilburton Sub-Area Plan Update, residents expressed concerns about the potential for increased traffic on Northeast Fifth Street, given the other Wilburton Connections projects planned for surrounding streets, including 120th Avenue Northeast and Northeast 4th Street Extension. In response to the community's concerns, the city committed to developing a neighborhood traffic plan for Northeast Fifth Street.

The Northeast Fifth Street Neighborhood Traffic Plan Project will assess the existing traffic patterns and analyze the traffic impacts on Northeast Fifth Street and the Wilburton Neighborhood from the Wilburton Connections Projects. The goal of this project will be to develop a plan that is supported

by all stakeholders, including the Wilburton Neighborhood. A consultant will lead the public involvement process as residents, adjacent businesses, and city staff take part in a Traffic Committee that will discuss the traffic analysis findings and possible alternatives. The neighborhood as a whole will be updated of the progress and asked for input through newsletters and public workshops. For more information: Vangie Garcia at 425-452-6103 or Vgarcia@bellevuewa.gov

8. Northeast Sixth Street Extension: I-405 to 120th Avenue Northeast

This project will extend the existing Northeast Sixth Street transit and carpool ramp, which is accessible to and from Interstate 405 in both directions, eastward from the middle of the freeway. The new road would extend above the northbound lanes of I-405 and 116th Avenue Northeast to a new intersection at 120th Avenue Northeast. The project will be closely coordinated with existing and potential development in the area and other agency partners, which includes the 120th Avenue NE project, Sound Transit East Link project, and the Washington State Department of Transportation. The city has allocated \$1 million to work on the preliminary design and we are currently selecting a consultant to assist with this effort. For more information: Nancy LaCombe at 425-452-4382 or Nlacombe@bellevuewa.gov

9. 120th Avenue Northeast (Segment 1): Northeast 300 block to Northeast 700 block



This project will widen 120th Avenue Northeast to five lanes, add landscaping, bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides, and include street light improvements. The project will be coordinated with the Northeast 4th Street Extension. Final design for this \$9.9 million project is underway. Construction is expected to begin in early 2011. For more information: Steve Costa, 452-452-2845 or scosta@bellevuewa.gov

10. 120th Avenue Northeast Improvements (Segment 2): Northeast Eighth to Northeast 12th Street



City Council set aside \$190,000 to begin conceptual engineering to extend, realign, and widen 120th Avenue Northeast from Northeast Eighth Street to south of Northeast 12th Street. This will include all intersection improvements at Northeast Eighth. The roadway will include five lanes with two travel lanes in each direction with turn pockets or a center-turn lane. This project will improve, or install where missing, bike lanes, curb, gutter, and sidewalk on both sides, street lighting, landscaping, irrigation, storm drainage, and water quality treatment. The project will be coordinated with the 120th Avenue Northeast improvements south of Northeast Eighth Street (Segment 1) and the continued widening of 120th Avenue Northeast between Northeast 12th Street and Northup Way (Segment 3). For more information: Steve Costa, 452-452-2845 or scosta@bellevuewa.gov

11. Kelsey Creek Stream Fish Passage Improvements

This project will construct improvements in the stream channel that will remove obstacles hindering fish migration between Northeast Eighth Street and Lake Hills Connector, and between 132nd and 136th avenues Northeast. This \$195,000 project is still in the permitting phase and construction may start in the summer of 2011. For more information: Stephen Noeske, 425-452-5271 or Snoeske@bellevuewa.gov

12. Kelsey Creek Bank Stabilization

This project will rebuild an existing retaining wall at 13800 Bel-Red Road that needs to be repaired due to stream bank erosion. This \$500,000 project will start construction this summer. For more information: Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 or Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

CROSSROADS

13. Valley Creek at NE 20th Street & Kelsey Creek at 140th Avenue NE Fish Passage Improvements

This project will correct the fish passage problems through minor modifications to increase water depth through the culverts during non-storm periods at Northeast 20th Street (Valley Creek crossing near 140th Avenue Northeast) and at 140th Avenue Northeast (Kelsey Creek crossing near Bel-Red Road). This \$90,000 project begins this summer and will be complete in the fall. For more information: Vanaja Rajah, 425-452-4881 or Vrajah@bellevuewa.gov

14. Crossroads Community Gardens (P-Patch) at Crossroads Park Neighborhood Enhancement Project

This project will expand the a community garden or "P-Patch" in Crossroads Park adjacent to the Crossroads Golf Course to include signage, raised beds and a shed. This \$60,000 project starts this spring and will be complete winter 2011. For more information: Laura Hughes, 425-452-7225 or Lhughes@bellevuewa.gov

15. Main Street and 162nd Avenue Intersection Traffic Calming

The Main Street and 162nd Avenue intersection is larger than others in the area. To address residents' concerns about pedestrian safety and the speeds of turning vehicles, intersection improvements are currently in design to narrow the mouth of 162nd Avenue Southeast, to shorten the crossing distance. Some short sections of sidewalk will be installed at the south corners of Main Street at 162nd Avenue Southeast. For more information: Rebecca Rodni, 425-452-6160 or rrodni@bellevuewa.gov

NORTHEAST BELLEVUE

16. Northeast Eighth Street Sidewalk, west of 156th Avenue NE

There are approximately 430 feet of curb and sidewalk on the north side of Northeast Eighth Street, just west of 156th Avenue Northeast, which has been upheaved by tree roots. The Crossroads neighborhood voted to fund replacing the curb and sidewalk through the Neighborhood Enhancement Program. The existing trees will be incorporated into a continuous planter strip to help minimize the potential of future sidewalk upheaval. This project is currently under construction. The overlay program has also funded \$147,841 to repair the adjacent travel lane as part of the project. For more information: Vangie Garcia, 425-452-6103 or Vgarcia@bellevuewa.gov

17. Landscaping on 164th Avenue Northeast from Northeast Sixth Street to Northeast Eighth Street

This project will install new landscaping along approximately 6,500 square feet of right-of-way along the east side of 164th Avenue Northeast from Northeast Sixth Street to Northeast Eighth Street. The project will include the removal of existing vegetation and extensive site and soil preparation for new plantings. This \$46,000 project will be complete this spring. For more information: Rick Bailey, 425-452-6031 or RIBailey@bellevuewa.gov

18. West Lake Sammamish Parkway Design Report: North City Limits to I-90



The Parkway improvements will be built in five phases with each segment approximately one mile long. The construction cost for each segment range from \$8 to \$13 million dollars.

The current total project budget is \$6.56 million, which is sufficient to complete the final design and acquire the right of way for the first phase; however, the city will need to allocate or pursue additional project funding to fully construct the first phase of the corridor improvements. For more information: Paul Krawczyk, 425.452.7905 or Pkrawczyk@bellevuewa.gov

19. Pressure Reducing Valve 67 Replacement 2010, Phase 1

These two projects: 1) PRV #67 Replacement at Valley Greene Condominiums and 2) PRV #67 Replacement at 211 168th Avenue Northeast will replace an aging Pressure Reducing Valve that is nearing the end of its service life. Pressure Reducing Valves regulate water pressure within the water system that supplies residential and business customers to prevent large fluctuations in water pressure. These projects will start this summer and be complete this fall. Each project is estimated to cost \$400,000. For more information: Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 or Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

VARIOUS NEIGHBORHOODS IN NORTH BELLEVUE

2010 AC Watermain Replacement, Phase 1

This project is currently under construction. The locations where AC Watermains will be replaced are:

- Northeast 29th Street, between 96th and 98th Avenues Northeast
- Northeast 30th Street at 164th Avenue Northeast
- 16626 Northeast 30th Street
- 110th Avenue Northeast, south of Northeast 14th Street
- Northeast 45th Street west of 134th Avenue Northeast
- Northeast 26th Place, southeast of 110th Avenue Northeast
- Northeast 27th Street, east of 107th Avenue Northeast

These projects, estimated at \$2,600,000, will be completed in the fall. For more information: Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 or Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

2010 AC Watermain Replacement, Phase II

This project will replace existing AC watermains with ductile iron pipe in the following locations:

- Northeast 29th Place, east of 100th Avenue Northeast
- Northeast 14th Street, from Northeast 15th Street to 92nd Avenue Northeast
- Fairweather Place, north of Northeast 31st Street
- 108th Avenue Northeast, just east of Northeast 27th Street
- 174th Place Northeast, just south of Northeast 4th Street
- Northeast 9th Street, from 93rd Avenue Northeast to 95th Avenue Northeast
- Northeast 39th Place, west of 92nd Avenue Northeast

These projects, estimated at \$2,600,000, will be completed in the fall. For more information: Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 or Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

2010 Water Service Saddle Replacement

This project is replacing aging water service saddles that connect residential water services to the watermain in north Bellevue:

- Southeast 44th Place and 149th Avenue Southeast, up to Southeast 45th Place
- Somerset Drive Southeast, between 135th Avenue Southeast and 134th Avenue Southeast
- 140th Avenue Southeast, between Somerset Boulevard Southeast and Southeast 44th Place
- Northeast 16th Street, between 98th Avenue Northeast and 100th Avenue Northeast
- Southeast 40th Place and 181st Avenue Southeast, up to West Lake Sammamish Parkway Southeast
- Lake Washington Boulevard Northeast, between 94th Avenue Northeast and Overlake Drive
- Northeast 8th Street, between 92nd Avenue Northeast and 98th Avenue Northeast

These projects, estimated at \$325,000, are currently under construction, with completion this fall. For more information: Vanaja Rajah, 425-452-4881 or Vrajah@bellevuewa.gov

2010 Overlay and Pavement Restoration

This project will restore pavement that has been patched after replacement of AC watermains in 2009. The locations are:

- Northeast 20th Place, between 102nd and 104th Avenue Northeast
- 109th Avenue Northeast, between Northeast 9th Street and Northeast 10th Street
- Bel-Red Road at 132nd Avenue Northeast
- Northeast 8th Street, west of 129th Place Northeast

These projects, estimated at \$300,000, will start this summer and be complete this fall. For more information: Abe Santos, 425-452-6456 or Asantos@bellevuewa.gov

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.

The North Bellevue Projects Update is published for people who live, work, or do business in the area north of Main Street. If you have questions or comments about this publication, 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



Community Calendar

Bellevue Strawberry Festival

June 26, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
June 27, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Crossroads Community Park
16000 NE 10th St.
425-450-1049 or
bellevuestrawberryfestival.org

Farm Gardening

June 30, 1 to 1:30 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Park, 410 130th Pl SE.
All ages welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. Free.
425-452-7688 or kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov

Symetra Bellevue Family 4th

July 4, 2 to 10:30 p.m.
Bellevue Downtown Park
The Eastside's largest Independence Day celebration. Live entertainment and fireworks synchronized to the music of the Bellevue Philharmonic Orchestra. Family entertainment and children's activities.
425-453-1223
bellevuedowntown.com/events

Free Summer Outdoor Movies in the Park

Tuesdays at dusk, July 6-Aug. 24
Bellevue Downtown Park
10201 NE 4th St.
July 6 *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* (PG)
July 13 *Where the Wild Things Are* (PG)
July 20 *Night at the Museum: Battle at the Smithsonian* (PG)
July 27 *Monsters vs. Aliens* (PG)
Aug. 3 *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* (PG)
Aug. 10 *The Spy Next Door* (PG)
Aug. 17 *The Blind Side* (PG-13)
Aug. 24 *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* (PG)
Movie titles subject to change.
Free movies • Free popcorn
Presented by Intelius and Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Visit www.intelius.com/summermovies for more information, including suggested donations for each week's charity.

Independence Day Luncheon

July 7, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Ave NE.
Lunch and bingo. Suggested donation: \$3 (60+), \$5.75 (-60)
425-452-7681

Amphibian Exploration

July 10, 10 to 11 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn about our local frogs, salamanders, and newts! Ages 6+ \$10. 425-452-4195

Weowna Park Hike

July 10, 10 a.m. to noon
Challenging three-mile hike on soft-surface trail.
Meet at 168th Ave SE and 19th St. Limited parking; carpooling encouraged.
Dress for weather, bring water and wear sturdy shoes.
No registration required.
425-452-4195

Bastille Day Dance

July 13, 2 to 4 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Ave NE.
Live music from Sound of Swing. \$3. 425-452-7681

Fraser Cabin Heritage Day

July 17, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Park, 12304 SE 8th St.
425-450-1049 or
eastsideheritagecenter.org

Going Wild for Wildlife

July 17, 1 to 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Shrinking Habitat game and more. Age: 8+. Cost: \$3.
Registration: 425-452-6885
Information: 425-452-4195



Eastside Heritage Center volunteers Barb and Steve Williams demonstrate pioneer activities at Fraser Cabin Heritage Days.

Kids' Show at Robinswood Park

July 22, 1 to 2 p.m.
Robinswood Barn
2432 148th Ave. NE
Madcap journey aboard the SS Miraculous. Bring blankets for seating on the grass. Free.
kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov
425 452-7688

Hog Walk

Jul 28, 1 to 2 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Park Amphitheatre, 410 130th Pl SE.
Meet Kelsey Creek Farm's resident hog. All ages welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. Free. 425-452-7688 or kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov.

National Night Out Against Crime

Aug. 3, 4 to 7 p.m.
Crossroads Police Station, 15600 NE 8th St.
Free community event with games and prizes for the kids. Meet your local police officers and neighbors and learn how to organize your neighborhood to fight crime.
425-452-2891

Pops in the Park

Aug. 7, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St.
Bring a picnic supper and enjoy a free family concert on the lawn.
425-451-3755 or
www.bellevuebotanical.org

Bellevue Botanical Garden/Wilburton Hill Park Hike

Aug. 14, 10 a.m. to noon
A 3.4-mile hike on gravel and soft-surface trails. Meet at parking lot at Main & 124th Ave NE. Limited parking; carpooling encouraged. Dress for weather, bring water and wear sturdy shoes.
No registration required.
425-452-4195

Bellevue Youth Theatre Presents Seussical

Aug. 13-15
The Theatre at Meydenbauer Center
11100 NE 6th St.
\$12. Musical based on the stories of Dr. Seuss.
meydenbauer.com
425-452-7155

Eastside Fuchsia Society Show and Sale

Aug. 21 and 22, 10 to 4 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St. Bellevue
bellevuebotanical.com
On display and for sale.
425-885-2107

Neighbor Link Picnic and Concert and Volunteer Resource Fair

Sept. 11, noon to 2 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall
450 110th Ave NE
Open to all Bellevue residents. Musical entertainment, Neighbor Link awards, volunteer resource fair, and free picnic sponsored by Chipotle Mexican Grill.
425-452-5372 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov

Family Health and Safety Fair

Sept. 25, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Marketplace @ Factoria
Factoria Mall, 4055 Factoria Boulevard Southeast
Join Bellevue Police and Fire, and other community leaders to learn the latest tips for personal health and motor vehicle, pedestrian, fire and home safety.
www.factoriamall.com

SEASONAL

2010 Beach Park Lifeguards

Medenbauer & Newcastle
June 19 through Sept. 6,
Noon to 7 p.m.
Chism, Clyde, Enatai, *Chesterfield
June 26 through Aug. 29, noon to 7 p.m.
(* Chesterfield will be guarded from 2 to 5 p.m. only, and will not open on days of inclement weather.)
425-452-4444

Summer and Fall Recreation Programs & Day Camps

Register now for summer and fall programs and classes for all ages.
425-452-6885 or
myparksandrecreation.com

Seasonal Fresh Produce Stands

Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm and Bill Pace Fruit & Produce
Mercer Slough Nature Park
2380 Bellevue Way SE
Open through October, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily.
425-467-0501

Larsen Lake Blueberry Farm and Cha Family Farms

Lake Hills Greenbelt, 2 locations:
700 148 Ave SE & 156th Ave SE/
SE 16th St.
Open mid-June through October
Tuesday - Sunday,
10 a.m. - 6p.m.
425-260-2266

2010 Picnic Shelter Reservations

Hosting a special occasion or casual summer gathering at one of Bellevue's beautiful parks? Picnic shelters are available for reservation.
425-452-6914

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

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 452-6466 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 and 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: 452-7228

Community Centers

Crossroads: 452-4874

Highland: 452-7686

North Bellevue Senior: 452-7681

South Bellevue: 452-4240

Community Council: 452-6466

Crossroads Mini City Hall: 452-2800

Development Services Center: 452-6800

New permit applications: 452-4898

Inspection requests, application and inspection status, pay fees: 452-6875

Simple permits, inspection requests: MyBuildingPermit.com

Application and inspection status: MyBuildingPermit.com

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@bellervuewa.gov

City Manager: Steve Sarkozy

Communications Director: Tim Waters

Editor: Claude Iosso

Graphics: Ted Van Dyken

www.bellevuewa.gov



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Bellevue City Council



Don Davidson
Mayor



Conrad Lee
Deputy Mayor



Claudia Balducci



Grant Degginger



John Chelminiak



Jennifer
Robertson



Kevin Wallace

Bellevue's got a Facebook page!

Bellevue has embraced "Web 2.0," with pages on the popular social networking sites Facebook and Twitter, as well as the file-sharing sites YouTube and Flickr, all drawing hundreds of fans, followers or views.

"Facebook and similar sites enable the city to serve and inform people where they are," said Bellevue's online editor, Claude Iosso. "Residents can also participate in a conversation about city activities by posting comments."

Since it was launched in February 2009, the city's Twitter page – <http://twitter.com/bellevuewa> – has drawn nearly 1,000 followers. The city's Facebook page – <http://www.facebook.com/bellevuewashington> – also launched in early 2009, has more than 700 "people who like this," using the Facebook terminology.

The latest news about city events and programs has been going to people's e-mail inboxes since August 2007, when Bellevue launched "E-Mail Alerts." More than 10,000 residents have signed up to receive alerts when web pages about projects in which they're interested are updated.

You can find out about all of the options at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/social-media>.

People following us on Twitter receive news release headlines in "tweets" from Bellevue, with links they can follow to read the whole story. They can receive those messages on their own home pages or as text messages on their phones.

On Facebook, city news and photos have been posted on the city's "wall." People can post comments about Bellevue programs and events.

Bellevue has its own channel on YouTube, with some videos, selected somewhat randomly so far, posted on it. The city has professionally produced Bellevue TV videos available for viewing at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bellevue_tv.htm. YouTube will offer another route to some of that programming.

The city's Flickr page – <http://www.flickr.com/photos/bellevuewashington/> – is its newest social media page, giving people an easy way to see photos of city projects and events. In some cases, as with the Bellevue Sculpture Exhibition, people can post comments.

Get Connected!

www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org

A one-stop website of travel options for residents, commuters, visitors, and students

Now available on Twitter, Facebook and You Tube

Congratulations to Bellevue's Connect Downtown program, winner of the 2010 Governor's Commute Smart Community Champion Award

Choose your way **B** Bellevue
www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org