

CITY OF BELLEVUE  
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Regular Session

October 3, 2011  
8:00 p.m.

Council Chamber  
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Davidson, Deputy Mayor Lee, and Councilmembers Balducci, Chelminiak, Degginger, Robertson, and Wallace

ABSENT: None.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:09 p.m., with Mayor Davidson presiding.

2. Roll Call, Flag Salute

Upon roll call, four Councilmembers were present. Councilmember Balducci led the flag salute.

Deputy Mayor Lee and Councilmembers Robertson and Wallace took their seats on the dais immediately following the flag salute.

3. Communications: Written and Oral

- (a) Patrick Bannon, representing the Bellevue Downtown Association (BDA), thanked the City for its partnership in hosting the Naturalization Ceremony on September 23. He thanked Deputy Mayor Lee for speaking at the event. Mr. Bannon thanked the Council and staff for initiating work on the Downtown Transportation Plan Update, which is on the evening's agenda. He noted that the City's draft project principles, as provided in the meeting packet, are similar to the draft principles under development by the BDA. The BDA supports looking for opportunities to optimize traffic flow, improve the pedestrian environment, and to realize cost efficiencies. Mr. Bannon noted an interest in reviewing the 30-year-old Downtown Land Use Code to identify opportunities for improving the built environment and making it more attractive for development, while ensuring that development meets the needs of the Downtown.
- (b) Bill Popp spoke to a memo that he provided to the Council during the previous week's meeting. He observed that there are mistaken notions about the proposed HOV lane project on Bellevue Way, which is related to the East Link light rail project. He explained

that the road currently fails concurrency standards due to the South Bellevue Park and Ride lot. He said that traffic would improve significantly if the facility were moved, which was demonstrated by ARUP's analysis of the B7-Revised alternative. Mr. Popp said there is no evidence in the record that a HOV lane would benefit traffic flow. He said he would welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue with City staff.

4. Reports of Community Council, Boards and Commissions: None.

5. Report of the City Manager

(a) Management Brief providing Downtown Transportation Plan Update: Project Principles and 2030 Growth Forecast Assumptions

City Manager Steve Sarkozy opened discussion regarding the Downtown Transportation Plan Update. City staff has assembled the project team and updated the status of the current transportation project list. The Council reviewed the proposed scope of work and public outreach plan for this project on June 6, and approved the professional services contract for technical consulting services on September 6. The purpose of tonight's discussion is to obtain Council feedback on the draft project principles and to provide data on the Downtown growth forecast.

Kevin McDonald, Senior Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the draft principles, which are intended to provide direction from the Council to guide the project's efforts. The principles set community expectations for the project outcomes, and will guide the Transportation Commission in its review of the project and development of final recommendations for the City Council to consider. The key issues reflected in the principles are the development and refinement of a multi-modal transportation system, engagement with the community and regional transportation partners, and the identification of opportunities to secure outside funding for project implementation. The draft project principles are provided on page 5-5 of the meeting packet [Attachment A].

Mr. McDonald referred the Council to the Analysis of Downtown Growth Forecasts document beginning on page 5-7 of the meeting packet [Attachment B]. This report recently completed by staff provides the rationale for a slight downward revision to the 2030 employment forecast for Downtown and maintains the housing forecast at current projections.

Councilmember Wallace observed that an important element missing from the draft principles is the SR 520 bridge tolling set to begin in December. He would like to understand the impact of tolls on Bellevue's holiday shopping season. He encouraged asking the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to defer tolling implementation until after the peak shopping season.

Mr. Wallace said that none of the draft principles address cost-benefit analysis. He would like to see objective metrics for comparing project costs and benefits, and for establishing a basis for the Transportation Commission's ranking of the projects.

Mr. Wallace encouraged a review of Downtown land uses to ensure that the multi-modal system is adequately addressing each of them. He expressed concern about lowering the growth targets without more information. However, he acknowledged that planning for the worst is probably better than missing the mark. Councilmember Wallace suggested a market-based review of who owns downtown properties and what plans they have for their properties.

Deputy Mayor Lee stated that the Downtown is the most important economic engine of the community. He concurred with Mr. Wallace's comments, and added that having adequate parking is important and might need some scrutiny. Mr. Lee said that downtown vitality is dependent on mobility, which he believes should be emphasized in the draft principles.

Councilmember Chelminiak commented that the draft principles are a good starting point. He encouraged an emphasis on the principle to minimize traffic impacts on neighborhoods. He noted that the opening of the braided ramp project will draw more traffic to NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street, which might affect adjacent neighborhoods.

Mr. Chelminiak suggested adding the Puget Sound Regional Council to Principle 8 referencing regional transportation partners. He concurred with Councilmember Wallace's comment about ensuring that the multi-modal system meets downtown needs. Mr. Chelminiak commented that it is important to balance the ability to collect both business and retail sales taxes. He suggested exploring ways to provide one-stop parking opportunities.

Councilmember Robertson questioned the boundaries of the study, noting that there are nearby transportation connections outside of the main boundaries. Mr. McDonald said the Downtown Transportation Plan Update will focus on the downtown core, especially with regard to pedestrian and bicycle mobility. However, he acknowledged that it is important for people to be able to get to and from downtown. Staff will study the major arterials serving the downtown, perhaps all the way south to I-90, north to SR 520, and east to 116<sup>th</sup>/120<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Ms. Robertson noted that the Eastgate study area extends to Lakemont Boulevard because of the interconnectedness of the overall system.

Ms. Robertson questioned the status of the Downtown Circulator. Mr. McDonald said it is still in the plan. The purpose of the plan update is to look at all existing plans and projects in the Downtown Subarea, and to make an evaluation of their functionality in providing multi-modal mobility for everyone in the future.

Councilmember Robertson noted her work on the PSRC prioritization working group, which is focusing on establishing funding priorities for regional projects. She suggested keeping that in mind as it relates to the Downtown Transportation Plan Update.

Ms. Robertson questioned the level of outreach to citizens who speak something other than English as their first language. Mr. McDonald said the project will include this type of outreach through a number of methods including electronic, personal, and community wide communications.

Councilmember Balducci questioned the methodology used to review and adjust the downtown growth forecast. Emil King, Strategic Planning Manager, said staff reviewed the past 10 years to understand growth in all of the downtown sectors related to jobs, population, and specific land uses. Staff then focused on the next 20 years as reflected in the City's and PSRC's forecasts. The conclusion of this review was that job growth needed to be adjusted downward. Two sources of information in this process were Conway Pederson, local economic forecasters, and the City's continuing work with PSRC, which produces regional forecasts.

Responding to Councilmember Balducci, Mr. King said the City has traditionally prepared 20-year forecasts, while PSRC bases its work on a 30-year horizon. He noted that the City's build-out analysis extends beyond 20 years into the future.

Regarding the draft principles, Councilmember Balducci suggested organizing them in a way that will make it clear that transportation is built to serve specific land uses and travel demands. She observed that people are not mentioned in the principles, and requested that this be addressed. She suggested that Principle 4 refer not only to the transportation environment but also to the land use environment. She recommended additional projects to be listed within this principle including the I-90 R8A project, I-405 expansion project, and others.

With regard to Principle 8, Ms. Balducci said this should also consider how the City's plans fit into the regional plans. Councilmember Balducci thanked staff for their work.

Mayor Davidson referred to the Plan Update Timeline on page 5-17 of the meeting packet, and questioned the next step for the Council. City Manager Steve Sarkozy said staff's plan is to return later in October or in November to request Council action on the project principles.

Councilmember Wallace requested feedback, even if just in the form of email, from the Transportation Commission and Planning Commission before bringing the principles back to the Council.

Councilmember Chelminiak said it is important to have input from the Human Services Commission as well.

Councilmember Balducci stated that the Council typically sets its principles first, which guides the Council's direction to the Commissions in terms of the work requested.

Councilmember Wallace reiterated that initial input from the Commissions would be helpful to him, even though the Council has the final decision in adopting the principles.

Councilmember Robertson requested a map of the Downtown Transportation Plan Update study area.

## 6. Council Business and New Initiatives

Councilmember Balducci reported that she, Mayor Davidson, and Councilmember Chelminiak attended the RapidRide opening ceremony. Ms. Balducci attended a fashion show during the Nordstrom fashion week, which was a benefit for the Bellevue Youth Theatre Foundation. She attended a meeting of the Newport Hills Neighborhood Association, which is interested in the redevelopment of the neighborhood shopping center and planning for the new park. She shared a question from that group – With regard to zoning for the future within the Neighborhood Business zone, are there any options that can be used now to stimulate the vitality of the shopping center?

Councilmember Balducci said she was contacted by a citizen who suggested naming a park or establishing a memorial of some type within the community to honor Rachel Beckwith, the young Bellevue resident who was killed in a car accident on I-90. She suggested referring this to the Youth Link Board and asking them to work with the Parks and Community Services Board to develop a proposal.

Councilmember Wallace reported that he attended a number of meetings related to the East Link light rail project. He and Deputy Mayor Lee attended the Washington Multifamily Housing Association conference. Mr. Wallace reiterated his ongoing interest in taking a look at the anticipated impact of SR 520 tolling on holiday shopping in Bellevue. He would like the City to work with WSDOT on their tolling implementation schedule.

Councilmember Degginger said he attended a number of East Link-related meetings as well, and the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Executive Committee meeting.

Councilmember Chelminiak attended the KidsQuest Carnival, Downtown Bike Ride, and Naturalization Ceremony at City Hall. He attended meetings of the Eastside Human Services Forum and Human Services Commission. Mr. Chelminiak said the City has received appreciation for the Police Department's work to address robberies targeting Hispanic-owned businesses. Mr. Chelminiak noted that many Bellevue residents continue to struggle with meeting basic needs and to request assistance from human services providers.

Councilmember Robertson attended meetings related to East Link, as well as meetings of the PSRC Growth Management Planning Council and the Eastgate/I-90 Citizen Advisory Committee. She was a chaperone for a 4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery, and noted that the salmon are still running. She attended the ribbon cutting at the Andrews Glen housing project for low-income individuals and veterans, which is adjacent to St. Margaret's Church. Ms. Robertson described the Congregations for the Homeless program that was started at that church. It involves a number of Eastside churches that take turns hosting homeless men overnight. She noted that nine of those gentlemen are moving into permanent housing at Andrews Glen.

Ms. Robertson asked the City Manager to provide a potential capital project cut list to the Council, because this has an impact on the East Link MOU currently under negotiation. She is interested in knowing what the City Manager recommends deferring, in order to be able to partner with Sound Transit sooner.

As a separate item, Ms. Robertson recalled that, on June 6, the Council authorized the City's purchase of property next to Children's Hospital. The City was essentially bound by a previous agreement with the hospital to purchase the property after a certain time period. At that time she expressed concern about the high price of the parcel. It has now come to her attention that another adjacent parcel is available for purchase. Based on the price of this property currently on the market, she estimates that the parcel purchased in June cost the City three times what it should have, and it is impacted by a rather large easement as well.

Councilmember Robertson would like to have an understanding of whether the City has any other similar agreements that could have an impact on future expenditures. She requested information on how the Children's Hospital deal came together, because it was a bad deal for the City.

Deputy Mayor Lee congratulated the partners of the Andrews Glen housing project. He noted that the Bellevue School District produced the most National Merit Semi-Finalist Scholars in the state. Mr. Lee reported that he spoke at the Naturalization Ceremony at City Hall, and he attended the fashion show fundraiser for the Bellevue Youth Theatre.

Deputy Mayor Lee and the Mayor attended the Suburban Cities Association (SCA) dinner, which recognized members of the Regional Transit Committee for their work. Mr. Lee attended meetings of the Regional Transit Committee, Enterprise Seattle, and the Institute of Chinese Engineers. He traveled with the Mayor to Olympia to meet with the Governor and staff on a number of topics including the B&O Tax.

Mayor Davidson reported on his meeting with the Governor regarding the State's proposal that the B&O Tax be standardized, and collected and distributed by the State. Mayor Davidson is concerned about the proposal. He explained that Bellevue is working with a number of cities on a separate one-portal system that can meet the needs of local government without involving the State. He said local governments have traditionally set their B&O tax to match their local business environment. He noted that 82 percent of Bellevue businesses do not pay B&O taxes. Bellevue's B&O tax is primarily applied to the higher income businesses.

Dr. Davidson said he met with the pastor of Mars Hill Church, which is opening a location in the former John Danz Theatre, and with other faith-based leaders as well to discuss human services. He attended the opening of the RapidRide service, the Bellevue Youth Theatre fashion show, a media event for the SR 520/I-405 braided ramp project, and an event at Jubilee Reach.

7. Approval of the Agenda

- Councilmember Wallace moved to approve the agenda, and Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.
- The motion to approve the agenda carried by a vote of 7-0.

8. Consent Calendar

→ Councilmember Wallace moved to approve the Consent Calendar, and Councilmember Degginger seconded the motion.

→ The motion to approve the Consent Calendar carried by a vote of 7-0, and the following items were approved:

(a) Minutes of September 12, 2011 Extended Study Session

Minutes of September 19, 2011 Study Session

Minutes of September 19, 2011 Regular Session

(b) Resolution No. 8297 authorizing execution of a contract with ESC Automation Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$335,713, for the replacement of building control systems throughout City Hall.

(c) On-Call Landscape Architectural Services

Resolution No. 8298 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with Barker Landscape Architects, P.S., for on-call landscape architectural services;

Resolution No. 8299 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with Richard VanDeMark, Landscape Architect, Inc., P.S., for on-call landscape architectural services;

Resolution No. 8300 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with SvR Design Company, for on-call landscape architectural services; and

Resolution No. 8301 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with HBB Hough Beck & Baird Inc., for on-call landscape architectural services.

(d) On-Call Urban Design Services

Resolution No. 8302 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with ZGF Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects, LLP, for on-call urban design services;

Resolution No. 8303 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with Makers Architecture & Urban Design LLP, for on-call urban design services;

Resolution No. 8304 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with KPG Inc., for on-call urban design services; and

Resolution No. 8305 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with LMN Architects, for on-call urban design services.

(e) On-Call Architectural Services

Resolution No. 8306 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with A/R/C Architects, for on-call architectural services; and

Resolution No. 8307 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with Architects Rasmussen Triebelhorn AIA/ps, for on-call architectural services.

(f) On-Call Project Management Services

Resolution No. 8308 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with TCA Architecture Planning, for on-call project management services;

Resolution No. 8309 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with Heery International, Inc., for on-call project management services;

Resolution No. 8310 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with KPFF Consulting Engineers, for on-call project management services; and

Resolution No. 8311 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with David Paul Thomas Architects, Inc., for on-call project management services.

(g) On-Call Construction Management Services

Resolution No. 8312 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with Ronald Seng, Landscape Architect, for on-call construction management services;

Resolution No. 8313 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with EHS Design, Inc., for on-call construction management services;

Resolution No. 8314 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with TranTech Engineering, LLC, for on-call construction management services; and

Resolution No. 8315 authorizing execution of a two-year Professional Services Agreement, with an option to renew for an additional two years, with The Robinson Company, for on-call construction management services

- (h) Resolution No. 8316 authorizing execution of a contract with the Bellevue School District, in an amount not to exceed \$106,500, to provide after-school program tuition to low-income students at Stevenson Elementary School as part of the Wrap-Around Services Program.
- (i) Ordinance No. 6021 authorizing execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Bellevue School District for the assignment of a maximum of five School Resource Officers to be stationed at Bellevue high schools and middle schools during the 2011-2012 school year.

9. Public Hearings: None.

10. Land Use: None.

11. Other Ordinances, Resolutions and Motions: None.

12. Unfinished Business: None.

13. Continued Oral Communications: None.

14. New Business: None.

15. Executive Session: None.

16. Adjournment

At 9: 21 p.m., Mayor Davidson declared the meeting adjourned.

Myrna L. Basich, MMC  
City Clerk

/kaw