

neighborhood news



September 2015

news for and about
Bellevue neighborhoods

Neighborhood Leadership Gathering

Focused on Neighborhood Improvement

Wednesday, September 9, 6:30-8pm

Bellevue City Hall Room 1E-108

What improvement would you like to see in your neighborhood? How does building a project bring positive energy into a community while everyone works together? Come join the Neighborhood Outreach staff at the City and your fellow neighbors for an evening of visioning and conversation about neighborhood improvement.

The bi-annual Neighborhood Leadership Gathering will turn its focus to Neighborhood Improvement. Staff will provide details about the newly reinstated Neighborhood Enhancement Program. The program has always been very popular and well known among Bellevue residents, but there are some significant updates to make it even better. Attendees will learn



about the new changes to the program and how residents can participate in a meaningful way to enhance their community.

The event is an excellent opportunity for neighborhood leaders to meet each other and to learn about community issues focused at the neighborhood level. Neighborhood association members, emerging leaders and those interested in becoming more involved in their neighborhood are invited to attend. There is no cost to attend and light refreshments will be served. Please reserve your space by contacting neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6836.

Blueberry Festival Strengthens Neighborhood Connections



Saturday, September 12, 11am -1pm

*Lake Hills Elementary School, 14310
SE 12th St.*

The community is invited to the eighth annual Lake Hills Blueberry Festival, a celebration of back-to-school, community services, and our area's rich blueberry harvest this month.

The event will be an opportunity for the community to come together to learn about Wrap-Around Services, a collaboration of the city, Bellevue School District and United Way of King County that supports youth and families.

The event will feature a free hot dog lunch and family activities, including:

- Live music, games, arts and crafts and face painting;
 - Assistance and information about a variety of human services programs from local service providers; and
 - Visits from Bellevue firefighters and police.
- Parking is limited, so walking, riding the bus or carpooling is encouraged. The event is sponsored by Wrap-Around Services and Macy's in partnership with Lake Hills Neighborhood Association. For more information, contact Jeannie Anderson, Wrap-Around Services Coordinator at 425-456-5312 or janderson@bellevuewa.gov.

Help Map Walking-Biking Hot Spots in Bellevue

As part of Bellevue's Pedestrian and Bicycle Implementation Initiative, intended to advance a range of projects that improve walking and biking in the city, people are being invited to take part in a wiki map survey <http://wikimapping.com/wikimap/bellevuewa.html>. The survey will run through September and most of October.

The map will be used to identify locations where people have noticed hazardous conditions or behavior. It's an opportunity for survey participants to provide detailed information that eventually could lead to improvements they see or need on the street.



The wiki survey tool helps the city design facilities, develop education programs, and deploy enforcement resources to address safety issues. It is not intended to replace the city's MyBellevue mobile app, which is used to report maintenance issues such as potholes, and to request services.

Cultural Conversations

Cultural Journeying: from connection to expansion

Tuesday, September 29, 1-2:30pm

Crossroads Community Center

Cultural Conversations is a women's group that was launched in 2010 as a partnership between diverse women in the community and the City of Bellevue. It provides an opportunity for women to enhance knowledge and understanding of different cultural practices and world views. At its next gathering this month, the group will explore the reasons they are drawn to Cultural Conversations or what motivated them to warmly extend an invitation to others to the meetings over the years.

In the past year, many new members have joined Cultural Conversations and experienced the sharing that creates connection. In the upcoming meeting the group will revisit

some of the original questions that started Cultural Conversations, but with a twist!

Attendants will hear from women who are new to this journey and those who have been on this journey for several years. Together they will explore stories of why they share this cultural experience with others and how it has resonated with them. Who were they before having these conversations? How are they different? How has the shared experience shaped their relationships with each other and with those whom they know? What are the rippling effects of these cultural connections?

The event is free, refreshments are served and women of all ages, faiths and cultures are welcome to attend. To fully participate in the sharing, attendees are encouraged to make arrangements for childcare. For more information on this event or future Cultural Conversations programs, please contact Carol Ross at 425-452-7917 or cross@bellevuewa.gov; or Barb Tuininga 425-452-2800 or btuininga@bellevuewa.gov.





Telephone Conciliation Training

Wednesday, September 30, 5-9pm

Thursday, October 1, 9am-5pm

Friday, October 2, 9am-5pm

The Bellevue Neighborhood Mediation Program is committed to utilizing volunteers to resolve conflicts in our community. The program is now seeking volunteers to provide telephone intake and conflict coaching services. Both the training and volunteering are a pre-requisite to becoming a future mediator with the program.

There is no charge for the training. Attendance at all sessions is required. Upon completion, those attendees who are selected are expected to volunteer in the mediation office in three hour, weekly shifts during business hours.

Telephone intake volunteers assist callers in understanding their issues, exploring options and developing strategies for problem resolution. Training includes conflict theory,

communication skills building, conflict styles, database usage and procedural tools.

Qualifications for volunteering: You must live, work or go to school in Bellevue to be eligible. Desired qualities include: good communication skills, a positive attitude, the ability to empower people to resolve problems, and the ability to respect confidentiality and remain impartial.

To apply for this training, contact *mediation_info@bellevuewa.gov* or call 425-452-4091.

Application deadline is September 18, 2015. Interviews will follow.

Please check our website www.bellevuewa.gov/mediation.htm for further information about the Mediation Program and its services.

Correction about False Alarm Reduction Program

A utility bill insert advertising the City of Bellevue's new False Alarm Reduction Program provided an incorrect web address. The correct website to register your monitored security alarm system is www.crywolfservices.com/bellevuewa. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Residents and businesses are now required to register any monitored security alarm systems

within the City of Bellevue as part of the program. The program goal is to reduce the number of false alarms, which are costly and dangerous because they divert police officers from proactive crime prevention efforts and can divert public safety resources from true emergency calls. For more information, please contact CryWolf at 855-694-8280 or email bellevuewa@publicsafetycorp.com

Paws on Patrol

Paws on Patrol is a community watch program for residents who regularly walk their dogs through the neighborhood.

“Dog Walker Watch” is a program started by the National Association of Town Watch (also responsible for National Night Out). It involves recruiting dog walking members of the community to be extra eyes and ears watching for and more accurately reporting property crimes and/or suspicious activity on their walking route.

The City of Bellevue Police Department version of the program is “Paws on Patrol,” graciously shared by the Mukilteo Police Department and now used across the Eastside in Mercer Island, Redmond and Issaquah.



Sign up online <https://www.cognitoforms.com/BellevuePDCrimePrevention/PawsOnPatrolSignup> if you are interested. Contact Detective Amanda Jensen for more information about the program at Ajensen@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6915

Bridle Trails Gazebo Returns

For over 40 years, a small gazebo in Bridle Trails sheltered school kids waiting for the bus, and runners or walkers caught in a sudden rain. It marked the center of the Bridle Trails area and the entry into Parkside. Last year, the gazebo was damaged in a car accident (no one was injured) and its future was in doubt.

Residents of Parkside approached the City to determine how to restore the gazebo – and even improve it! Different options were explored, and the Arts Commission accepted a proposal to have the gazebo added to the

City’s Public Art Collection. In the meantime, using funds from the insurance settlement, Parkside neighbors worked with a contractor to rebuild the Gazebo. The agreement was signed, and on August 18th the Gazebo reappeared. Special thanks goes out to Parkside resident, Toni Vincent, who was a strong advocate for helping to preserve this important part of Bridle Trail’s history!

Toni who is a professional photographer, documented its reconstruction and said passersby were happy to see its return.



Pack Waste-Free Lunches

Start this school year off right with lunches that waste less! It's estimated that a school-age child using disposable lunch items generates 67 pounds of waste per school year!

Many students come to school with lunches full of single use items: juice boxes, bags of chips, fruit snacks, string cheese, and snacks in Ziploc bags, granola bars, yogurt, and more. These items are convenient, but most go straight to the landfill.

Here are a few tips on packing a waste free lunch and save on costs:

- Buy snacks from bulk bins so you get only what you need
- Pack smaller portions in containers
- Include leftovers and small helpings of a variety of snacks, like crackers, cheese, and fresh fruits and veggies

Building a Waste Free Lunch Kit is also easy:

- reusable drink containers
- stainless-steel forks & spoons
- reusable plastic, glass, or metal containers
- reusable lunchboxes
- cloth napkins

Reducing the number of lunch items destined for the landfill can help you save money, pack healthier lunches, conserve resources, prevent pollution, and save energy! If you need extra help packing a waste free lunch, please visit www.ecoluncheastside.org to make a pledge to reduce your lunch and get a free bento lunch kit (limit one per household while supplies last).

Get a free lunch kit for your child!

Want some extra help packing a waste free lunch?

Check out EcoLunchEastside.org to make a pledge to reduce your lunch waste, and get a free bento lunch kit!

ecolunch
eastside



** Limit 1 per household. Available while supplies last.*

Photos by wastefreelunches.org



WSDOT Plans I-405 Lane Closures to Prepare for Express Toll Lanes

By the Washington State Department of Transportation

Commuters on the Eastside know that mornings and afternoons are synonymous with traffic and congestion. To change that, WSDOT is implementing 17 miles of express toll lanes on I-405 between Bellevue and Lynnwood. Leading up to the launch of the express toll lane system, drivers will begin to see major see changes along I-405, including new signage and lane striping.

Closed for construction

Before the I-405 express toll lanes Go Live! on Sunday, September 27, crews will close several lanes and ramps on I-405, between Bellevue and Lynwood to complete final lane striping. The closures will begin at 11 p.m. Friday, September 25, and the new express toll lanes will be open for business on Sunday, September 27. Among the closures travelers in Bellevue should be aware of:

- Two lanes in each direction of I-405 will remain open between south Bellevue and SR 522;
- All NE 6th Street Direct Access Ramps will be closed;
- On Saturday, September 26, from 2-5 a.m. on southbound I-405 approaching SR 520, there will be multiple lane closures, ramp closures and detours;
- On Sunday, September 27, from 3-6 a.m., on northbound I-405 approaching SR 520,

an additional lane approaching SR 520 will close, one lane will remain open and shift onto the outside shoulder; and

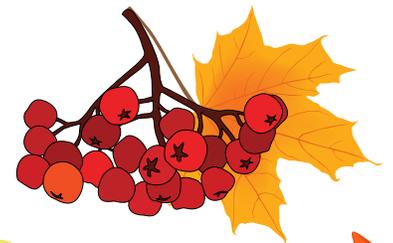
- Early on Saturday or Sunday morning, on northbound I-405 approaching I-90, one to two left lanes of I-405 will close to install signs above HOV lane.

Know before you go

The weekend of September 25-27, drivers should expect delays and consider taking alternate routes. Regardless, Bellevue, Kirkland, Bothell, and Lynnwood will be open for business. To avoid delays, get to town early for brunch or stay later for dessert. Detailed information about closures will be available on WSDOT's construction webpage.

Your new commute

On Sunday, drivers will have the first chance to get to work or home faster by using the new express toll lanes. The new lanes bring big changes for carpoolers on I-405. Drivers will need to meet occupancy requirements and have a Good to Go! Flex Pass to use the new lanes without a toll. Regardless of whether you choose to use the new express toll lanes, drivers will feel relief from congestion and also benefit from increased safety features with the latest improvements to I-405. On Sunday, be among the first to see the express toll lanes in action.



Two Construction Projects are almost Done!

The two following projects are almost done; however, more construction impacts will occur at these locations during the month of September:

- 116th Avenue NE Pavement Overlay: NE 12th to Northup Way: The Pavement Overlay Program will repave and re-channelize 116th Avenue NE, adding bike lanes on both sides of the roadway. It also includes a new mid-block crosswalk near Children's Hospital and reconstructed curb ramps and sidewalks. The pavement grinding work started in August and will be followed by paving work through mid-September.
- SE Newport Way: 150–152nd Avenues SE: This walkway/bikeway project is now expected to be under construction through mid-October, with final paving underway the last week of September.
- We realize construction has been an

inconvenience and we thank you for your patience and understanding this summer.

- With construction still underway for a number of projects, here are some resourceful tools to “be in the know:”
- Watch for electronic message boards and informational construction signing
- Download MyBellevue App to access the following:
 - Traffic Advisories: www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic_advisories.htm
 - City CIP interactive map of projects: www.bellevuewa.gov/capital-projects-map.htm
 - Follow the Transportation Department on Twitter: *@BvueTrans*
 - Follow the City of Bellevue Facebook page
 - Refer to the Real-time traffic map and cameras: bellevuewa.gov/trafficmap/

Volunteer in Bellevue's Waterwise Garden

Splendid gardens don't need large amounts of water or garden chemicals that can harm children, pets, and the Puget Sound. Bellevue Botanical Garden's award-winning Waterwise Garden demonstrates natural gardening that's healthier for families and local eco-systems. Volunteers are needed to help care for the garden. Learn new practices and discover plantings that conserve water, lower chemical use, reduce runoff, recycle waste, and preserve habitat – all without sacrificing an ounce of beauty. Join the Waterwise Volunteer Team and:

- Learn natural gardening techniques that can easily be applied to your home garden
- Get hands-on experience soil building, composting and caring for a variety of plants during the growing season
- Meet new people and build friendships by sharing similar interests
- Have fun while achieving important resource conservation goals in the community



Volunteer days are the first and third Wednesday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m. from spring to fall. No experience is needed. For more information, send an email to [Bellevue Utilities](mailto:BellevueUtilities@bellevuewa.gov) or call 425-452-4127.



September Meetings

(All meetings are in City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. You may confirm with Neighborhood Outreach the day before or day of the meeting. Or consult the city web pages listed below to download agendas.)

9/1 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) principles and final public hearing for Recreational marijuana http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

9/1 Arts Commission (4:30, 1E-109) Review and comment on Parks Open Space Plan draft 2016 workplan http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

9/1 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Public Hearing on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Preliminary Funding Recommendations; Finalize 2016 CDBG Funding Recommendations http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

9/2 East Link Permitting CAC (3:30-5:30p.m., 1E-113) Continued discussion of CAC's Draft Advisory Document on Central Bellevue Segment Design and Mitigation Permit <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-permitting-cac.htm>

9/3 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30a.m., 1E-121) YWCA & Goodwill representatives speak on difficulties of employment for aging adults http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

9/7 Labor Day – City offices closed

9/8 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Boys and Girls Club Partnership Agreement, Neighborhood Safety, Update from Eastside Pathways

(8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Presentation by Bellevue Youth Theater, Management Brief on ITD Awards and Water Reduction Update, Consent Calendar, Old Bellevue Parking Land Use Code Amendment (LUCA) http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

9/9 Meydenbauer Bay Park Public Art Concepts Presentation (6:30, 1E-112) Artists will present initial concepts for public art for Meydenbauer Park for community feedback

9/9 Planning Commission (5:15, Walking Tour of future Eastgate TOD area; 6:30 regular meeting, Bellevue College) NPDES Stormwater Code Review, Bellevue College update; Eastgate Land Use Code Study Session http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

9/10 Transportation Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Briefing on the Mountains to Sound Greenway project in the I-90 corridor through Bellevue; Discussion on Low Impact Development http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

9/10 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, 1E-112) Public hearing on Parks & Open Space System Plan Update http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

9/14 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Update on Willowmoor, Biannual Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI) Update and Energy Star memorandum of understanding (MOU) Briefing, WSDOT Update on 405 Tolling, Affordable Housing Strategy http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

9/15 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) 2015-2016 Needs Update – 1st draft http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

9/16 East Link Permitting CAC (3:30-5:30p.m., 1E-113) Continued discussion of CAC's Draft Advisory Document on Central Bellevue Segment Design and Mitigation Permit. <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-permitting-cac.htm>

9/17 Environmental Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Water Shortage Update; Parks & Open Space Plan Update and Storm System Plan http://www.bellevuewa.gov/environ_serv_comm.htm

9/21 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Development Services Department and Department of Planning and Community Development Work Plan Update (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) WSDOT Presentation on 520, Consent Calendar http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

9/23 Planning Commission (South-half downtown walking tour, time TBD, followed by meeting, 1E-112) Downtown Livability Study Session http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

9/28 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) East Link Monthly Update, Regional Issues, Issaquah Assumption of South Cove Water System http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

9/22 East Main CAC (4:00 1E-113) Topic: Continuation of discussion on draft vision statements and follow-up on transportation items <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-station-areas.htm>

9/30 Planning Commission Retreat (6:30, ImpactHub Lincoln Center) ImpactHub tour, past year accomplishments and upcoming work program, Smart Cities and emerging technology http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

