



Bellevue Joins Nextdoor City Program



More than 8,000 residents from 97 of neighborhoods in Bellevue are already using Nextdoor (www.nextdoor.com), the private social network for neighborhoods. Responding to requests from residents, the city this month has adopted the platform as another way to communicate with residents.

This new partnership will improve citywide and neighbor-to-neighbor communications and help build safer neighborhoods across the city.

On Nextdoor, neighbors can get to know one another and exchange local advice and recommendations. Bellevue staff, primarily in Neighborhood Outreach and the Police Department can now post notifications on Nextdoor.

“We believe (the city joining Nextdoor) would be a fantastic demonstration of Bellevue’s commitment to community outreach, using the most appropriate means,” Ryan Barton of Wilburton wrote in an email to Neighborhood Outreach, requesting the service. “I would encourage the city to participate in this program, and continue Bellevue’s reputation of being technology-savvy and community-driven.”

As with many cities that have partnered with Nextdoor, many Bellevue notifications will be focused on improving safety and strengthening virtual neighborhood watch efforts. The police piloted a city Nextdoor

presence this spring. At the outset, Neighborhood Outreach will primarily post neighborhood-specific messages on Nextdoor.

Please join your neighbors and the city in building a stronger, safer Bellevue today at www.nextdoor.com.

Bellevue Essentials

Bellevue Essentials Recruiting Class of 2015

*Information Meeting Tuesday, June 9,
6-7pm • Bellevue City Hall*

Bellevue Essentials, the City’s program for emerging neighborhood and community leaders is seeking applicants for the 2015 class. People interested in learning more about the structure and operations of city government are invited to attend an information meeting on June 9, 6-7pm.

The nine-week course provides an introduction to civic engagement in Bellevue and begins on Thursday, September 17 and continues for 8 weeks.

Participants will learn the nuts and bolts of how city government works from neighborhood and community leaders, elected officials and key city staff. Class topics will include history, demographics, public process, neighborhoods, code compliance, parks and community services, planning, budget, transportation, environmental stewardship, utilities, intergovernmental relations and economic development.

Bellevue Essentials seeks participants with diverse backgrounds and interests. No experience is needed to qualify and class members have ranged in age from 17 to 70-plus. Classes are open to anyone who lives or works in Bellevue. Class tuition is \$95 per participant and financial assistance is available.

For more information or to request a brochure and a simple one-page application, please contact Julie Ellenhorn, Neighborhood Outreach, 425-452-5372 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov or visit <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bellevue-essentials.htm>

Starting Small with a Neighborhood Gathering

Last summer, More than 30 block parties were organized in and around Bellevue



neighborhoods with support from the City's Neighbor Link Program. Block parties range from 15-100 people. The larger community events are typically organized by community clubs, neighborhood and home

owner associations. with neighborhood fairs, associations and community clubs. While some neighborhood parties have become annual events, many are also held by first time organizers. If the idea of organizing a block party seems like a big undertaking, consider that you and a couple of like-minded neighbors might start small. The City of Bellevue offers Neighbor Link supported block parties June 1 through October 4.

If you are starting small, consider having a simple gathering that lasts for a few hours that reflects the character of your neighborhood. Are the residents older having lived in Bellevue for a long time or more recently with their children? Are your neighbors empty nesters or perhaps young families? Have your neighbors recently arrived in Bellevue from another

country? If so, don't be afraid to ask what might be a tradition or custom for gathering that would be welcoming. That information will be helpful in determining the day, time and type of gathering to plan. Your event could be a dessert or ice cream social where neighbors will bring their favorite dish with the host serving coffee or tea. Some other ideas are a potluck, National Night Out – Aug 4, or a garden/plant exchange. The gathering might be held on a lawn or driveway, with a set-up of a few tables and chairs. Name tags are an important conversation starter. Most people love to travel; so why not travel and learn something new, without leaving home? One idea is to ask your neighbor write the name of the last place called home. You'll have an opportunity to welcome new neighbors to your community, reconnect with neighbors who you don't see often, and to perhaps collect names, addresses, phone numbers and emails that can be used to organize for future gatherings, emergencies or to create a block watch. The city can help with colorful flyers to help promote the event. If you plan one of these gatherings we would be interested to hear about it! Visit our website for more information <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighbor-link-block-parties.htm>.

Neighborhood Match Program

Are you tired of looking at the dated entry sign of your neighborhood? How about the overgrown trees on the medians?



Wouldn't it be nice if a bench or an art piece is added in your neighborhood to enhance the community experience? These are just some of the project examples that you and your neighbors could do together, and with the City's support, you could get reimbursed for half the costs for up to \$10,000 by the Neighborhood Match Program.

“It’s truly remarkable to see what happens to a neighborhood when neighbors come together to do a project. The bonding experience definitely boosts community pride and neighbors get to know one another. It’s magical!” said the Match Program Manager Ying Carlson.

Created in the 1990’s, the Match Program has been a great funding source to residents who requested small local projects to improve their neighborhood. The Program provides a matching grant up to \$10,000 per project for small-scale neighborhood improvements. For every dollar awarded by the City, the applying neighborhood provides an equal or greater match consisting of money,

professional services, materials, and/or volunteer labor. Every year, numerous great neighborhood projects are accomplished because residents love where they live. Many neighborhoods have taken advantage of the program to receive matching funds and have made their neighborhood a better place.

The City is always looking for fun and creative project ideas to bring people together. Applying for funds may sound complicated, but staff in the city’s Neighborhood Outreach Team is there to help applicants turn project ideas into realities. To get started, contact Program Manager Ying Carlson at ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4342.

Lake to Lake Bike Ride

Saturday, June 13 • Start and Finish: Lake Hills Community Park, 1200 164 Ave SE

Bring the whole family for an enjoyable, non-competitive ride, on roads and trails of Bellevue on Saturday June 13. The event benefits Bellevue Youth Camp Scholarship Fund.

The 4 Annual Lake to Lake Bike Ride starts and finishes

at the Lake Hills Community Park (1200 164 Ave SE). Day of event registration opens at 8am and riders can start between 9 and 10am. There are two scenic routes that take you through Bellevue’s award winning park system: a mostly flat Greenbelt Loop flat

8-mile route; and the Lake Loop which is a more challenging 22-mile route. Both routes are approximately 80% on-road and 20% off-road gravel. This event is recommended for ages 8 and up. Riders under age 18 must be in a tag a long or trailer.

All participants will receive a t-shirt. Custom socks will be given to the first 150 people to register. Pre-registration is welcome and participants will pay a \$15 entry fee instead of the \$20 entry fee on the day of the event. To register, please visit <http://parksreg.bellevuewa.gov/> activity code 95182. For more information, please visit event website at <http://bellevuewa.gov/lake-to-lake-bike-ride.htm>. You can also call 425-452-4882 or email bikeride@bellevuewa.gov



Take the Green Power Challenge

Be an energy hero and sign up for PSE's Green Power Program to offset all or a portion of your electricity usage. Participating at 100 percent reduces your home's carbon footprint by 6 tons* of CO₂ each year.

Enrolling also means you will be counted in the Bellevue Green Power Challenge. The goal of the challenge is to have 250 more Bellevue homes sign up for the program before October 31. When we meet the goal, Puget Sound Energy will award Bellevue



\$40,000 for a solar project at the Crossroads International Park.

Meet PSE's Green Power Program team at Bellevue Neighborhoods Forum on June 30.

Sign up today at pse.com/gpchallenge. Visit us on Facebook at [PSEGreenPower](https://www.facebook.com/PSEGreenPower)

*Based on the average PSE electricity customer home using 1,000 kWh each month.

Bellevue Neighborhoods Forum

Going Green in Your Home and Neighborhood

Tuesday, June 30, 7-8:30pm

Speaker's Panel and Resource Fair

City Hall Council Chambers and Concourse

Come learn how to be better stewards of our environment!

Meet staff and active residents from Eastside Energy Corps, Farmer Frog, 12,000 Rain gardens, Master Naturalists and other environmentally friendly organizations. Walk away with the information and tools you need to view your home, neighborhood and community through a greener lens.



Topics include energy efficiency, urban agriculture, rain gardens, pedestrian/bike infrastructure, backyard habitat, solar energy, and more.

Going green is fun, easy and makes a difference! For more information, contact Paul Andersson, pandersson@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6129.

Learn What's Happening with Two Signature Transportation Projects

You're invited to the following Open Houses:

NE Spring Boulevard: 116 to 120 (Zone 1) and 120 to 124 Ave NE (Zone 2)

(Formally, the NE 15/16 Street Roadway Improvement Project in the Bel-Red area)

Wednesday, June 24 2015, 4:30-7pm • Bellevue City Hall

Attendees will see the latest design plans for this new multi-modal roadway into the Bel-Red area that begins at NE 12 Street just west of 120 Ave NE, crosses over East Link, and extends through the Spring District to 124 Ave NE (Zone 1 & 2 combined). Attendees will also have an opportunity to view and comment on some of the urban design

features that are based on the vision for the Bel-Red area.

Please note: Zone 1 is funded for design and construction and Zone 2 is only funded for design at this time.



Mountains to Sound Greenway (MTSG) Trail

Thursday, June 25, 5-7pm • Crossroads Bible Church, Fireside Room, 15815 SE 37 Street

Attendees will see the current design of the trail between Factoria Blvd SE to the vicinity of 150 Ave SE. /I-90. The public will have an opportunity to comment on urban design features and landscaping for the proposed

trail and for SE 36 Street between Factoria Blvd SE and Allen Road.

For questions or more information, please contact Tresa Berg at 425-452-4638 or Tberg@bellevuewa.gov

King County Parks is Trailblazing on the Eastside



Imagine a new regional trail on the Eastside that makes it easier to travel from home to school or work. The Eastside Rail Corridor is not only a major new north-south multi-modal transportation spine through the Eastside. It is an unprecedented opportunity to connect Renton, Bellevue, Kirkland, Woodinville, and Redmond with the rest of the regional trail system.

In Bellevue, the trail will link the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail, the State Route

520 Trail, and the future East Link Light Rail alignment. Additionally, it will connect to key areas like the Spring District, Bel-Red Corridor, and the Wilburton neighborhood.

From June through September, King County will host meetings within communities along the trail to gather input on possible alternatives and factors to consider in our planning work. In January 2016, the County will release a draft of the Trail Master Plan informed by your feedback.

This June, come help shape the vision for this trail by attending these meetings:

Woodinville

Thursday, June 18
6 – 8 p.m.
North Shore YMCA
17401 133 Ave NE
Woodinville

Renton

Tuesday, June 23
6 – 8 p.m.
Talbot Hill Elementary
2300 Talbot Rd South
Renton

Bellevue

Thursday, June 25
6 – 8 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall
450 110 Ave NE
Bellevue

For questions or additional information, contact ERCtrail@kingcounty.gov or 855-216-9461, or visit www.kingcounty.gov/erc.



Residents Celebrate Grand Opening of Bridle Trails Corner Park



Mayor Claudia Balducci and Parks Board Chair Sherry Grindeland, Council members, City staff and many neighborhood leaders shared with the Bridle Trails community an

afternoon of bubbles, balloons and ribbon cutting for the Grand Opening of Bridle Trails Corner Park.

As the Bridle Trails neighborhood has grown, the community remains dedicated to maintaining its active equestrian and rural character. Bridle Trails Corner Park, with its serene setting, restored habitat, and naturalistic playground, embodies the spirit

of the neighborhood. Located at the corner of NE 24 St and 134 Ave NE, the park was funded by the City of Bellevue 2008 Park Levy. The Bridle Trails Community Club and the City of Bellevue joined with the community to create this environmentally and family-friendly space. The property was purchased in January 2011, and the Master Plan process began in early 2012. Completed in December 2014, the park features a loop pathway through forest, a wildflower meadow, native gardens with wetland views, a large grassy area, and an area with play elements based on nature.

If you missed the event, stop by the Corner Park for a visit!

Downtown Livability Community Check-in Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 5:30 p.m. • Bellevue City Hall

The public is invited to a community check-in event focused on the Downtown Livability Initiative. In Spring, 2013, the Downtown Livability Advisory Committee was appointed by the City Council and tasked with examining the Downtown Land Use Code for potential revisions.

The Committee met monthly between May 2013, and June 2014. Significant time was invested by the Committee in soliciting public input and understanding what is working, not working, and where there is room for improvement relative to the Land Use Code. The Committee's work was completed in June, 2014. A summary of their recommendations are available at www.bellevuewa.gov/downtown-livability.htm

The Community Check-In will provide the opportunity to hear in detail about the recommendations on Downtown Livability and potential updates to the Land Use Code, as well as to learn how to stay engaged and

provide input as the Downtown Livability Initiative moves through the Planning Commission and City Council processes.

The event kicks off at 5:30 pm at City Hall, 450 110 Ave NE. Open house stations on



multiple topics will be followed by a formal staff presentation at 6pm. The audience will have the opportunity to ask questions, and to re-visit the stations until 7:30pm.

For more information contact project managers, Emil King, eaking@bellevuewa.gov, 425 452-7223 or Patti Wilma, pwilma@bellevuewa.gov, 425-452-4114

Alzheimer's Café' Provides Social Space



The idea of a public venue to bring together people suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia began in Europe and has quickly gained popularity in Western Washington. Tutta Bella Neopolitan Pizzeria in Crossroads Shopping Center opened its doors to people with Alzheimer's and dementia in May. Families living with the conditions are encouraged to meet and socialize in an environment that is accepting and nonjudgmental. Event organizers say that if all goes well, the café will become a regular event on **the last Tuesday of each month**. The event is also open to caregivers and family members of persons suffering with memory difficulties.

The Tutta Bella restaurant will dedicate a section of the restaurant to the Alzheimer's café. They will provide a simplified menu for the occasion with only six choices and limited selections of beer and wine. Each patron will be given a nametag, and the name of the server will be posted on the table as a friendly reminder. The café is being sponsored by Overlake Medical Center, the YMCA and the Alzheimer's Association. The Bellevue Network on Aging, an advisory board of volunteers who either work or live in Bellevue and make recommendations to the City on matters affecting older adults in Bellevue, endorses the concept of such cafes given the growing number of older adults living in the community. For more information about the Bellevue café, contact Cheri Pamer, YMCA, at 425-990-6979 or cpamer@seattleyymca.org. To learn more about other regional Alzheimer's Cafes visit: www.FullLifeCare.org/AlzCafes



June 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.)

6/1 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Energize Eastside EIS Update, Comprehensive Plan Update (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Wilburton Traffic Impacts, consent calendar, Public Hearing – Bel-Red Street Vacation, Public Hearing – Kids Quest Street Vacation, Land Use Code Amendment and Development Agreement to enable mixed use multifamily development, Establishing Rules of Procedure for the City Council.

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/2 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Public hearing on PSE Lake Hills/Phantom Lake Transmission Line Shoreline Conditional Use Permit (SCUP) CUP and Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Note: no additional testimony will be taken during the public hearing http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

6/2 Arts Commission (4:30, 1E-109) Update on neighborhood public art projects, artist selection for East Link “hospital station” and other commission business

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

6/3 East Link Permitting CAC (3:30-5:30pm, 1E-113) Review of Sound Transit’s Central Bellevue Design and Mitigation Permit Application

<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-permitting-cac.htm>

6/4 Bellevue Network on Aging (8:30-10:30a.m., 1E-120) Agenda to be determined

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

6/8 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Transportation Facilities Plan, Comprehensive Plan Update, STE3 System Plan Priority Project List http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/9 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, 1E-113) Agenda to be determined

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

6/9 East Main CAC (4:00 1E-112) Continued discussion of the East Main Station Area Plan

<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-station-areas.htm>

6/10 Planning Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Agenda to be determined

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

6/11 Transportation Commission (6:30, 1E-113)

Transportation Commission Election of Officers, Bellevue Transportation Demand Management Plan Update Briefing, Spring Boulevard Zone 1 Briefing

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

6/15 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Comprehensive Plan Update, Community Partnerships with Kids Quest, Boys & Girls Club, Music Works, Salvation Army (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Consent Calendar, 2015 Comprehensive Plan Amendments, Adoption of Comprehensive Plan Update

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/16 Library Commission (5:00, Newport Way Library 14250 S.E. Newport Way) Presentation by Beth Castleberry of the King County Library System Foundation on the Foundation’s role in supporting programs and services in KCLS libraries. http://www.bellevuewa.gov/library_board.htm

6/16 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113)

Agenda to be determined

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

6/17 East Link Permitting CAC (3:30-5:30p.m. 1E-113)

Review of Sound Transit’s Central Bellevue Design and Mitigation Permit Application

<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-permitting-cac.htm>

6/18 Environmental Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113)

Low Impact Development Principles Project Briefing; Water System Plan – System Analysis Approach & Results; Storm System Plan Aspirational Initiatives

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/environ_serv_comm.htm

6/22 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) East Link Monthly Update, Regional Issues, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP)

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/23 East Main CAC (4:00 1E-113) Continued discussion of the East Main Station Area Plan

<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/light-rail-station-areas.htm>

6/24 Planning Commission (6:30, 1E-113)

Agenda to be determined

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

Bellevue’s Neighborhood Outreach Office offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, call 425-452-6836.