

Lake Hills Neighborhood Association

Question & Answer Sheet



Why is a traffic signal being installed at the intersection of 156th Ave SE and Lake Hills Boulevard?

A traffic signal is being installed at the intersection of 156th Ave SE and Lake Hills Boulevard to improve the safety of the intersection for people walking, biking and driving and to reduce congestion for residents getting to and from their neighborhood.

A 2019 study worked with the Lake Hills community to consider various improvement options at this intersection, including: an enhanced all-way stop, a compact single-lane roundabout and a traffic signal. Each option was evaluated based on congestion reduction, safety, pedestrian and bicycle mobility, property impacts, environmental impacts, cost, and community input.

Based on the evaluation criteria, the recommended alternative is a traffic signal since it improves traffic congestion with minimal impacts to adjacent properties. Public outreach included two community open houses, an online questionnaire, and a project page on the city's website.

The 2019 study also included similar improvement options at the all way stops at SE 16th Street and the five-legged intersection at SE 24th Street. The study concluded that enhanced all-way stops with improved pedestrian connectivity would be the best options for these other two intersections.

Additional information: [BellevueWA.gov/156th-improvements](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/156th-improvements)

Staff contact: Daniel Lam, project manager
425-452-2063, diam@bellevuewa.gov

Could a left turn signal be installed northbound 164th Avenue SE at NE 8th Street?

This traffic signal is planned to be rebuilt due to the age of the equipment. We will be studying potential operational improvements this year and will begin design of the recommended improvements in the next two years. Funding for construction is not available until 2024.

Staff contact: Darcy Akers, P.E., Transportation Engineer
425-452-6140. dakers@bellevuewa.gov

What can be done about speeding in the neighborhood, especially on 164th Avenue SE?

The City has a long-standing traffic calming program that addresses speeds on neighborhood streets. Locations of concern are evaluated across all other locations in the city. If a location is selected for a project, potential treatments can include speed humps, traffic circles, raised crosswalks, curb extensions, and more. If you are interested in submitting a location for review, please submit a Request for Action (www.bellevuewa.gov/rfa).

For streets like 156th and 164th avenues NE (arterials), we generally address speed concerns through police enforcement and our stationary radar sign program. To request enforcement, please submit a traffic service request (www.bellevuewa.gov/tsr). The radar sign program, like the traffic calming program, evaluates all locations citywide. The locations that prioritize the highest are selected for funding. To request a radar sign, please submit an online request at BellevueWA.gov/ntss (Select: Traffic Safety Request Forms).

Additional information: BellevueWA.gov/ntss

Staff contact: Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services
425-452-6457, bellevuentss@bellevuewa.gov

What can be done to reduce neighborhood cut through traffic?

A significant portion of cut through traffic is due to mobile apps suggesting alternate routes to avoid congestion on the primary travel routes. The best way to combat this issue is to improve conditions on the primary travel routes, which for Lake Hills Neighborhood, would be 148th Ave NE. The city has multiple projects planned to improve traffic conditions on the 148th Ave NE corridor starting with modifications at the Lake Hills Blvd intersection. At this intersection, two dedicated westbound left turn lanes will be installed so that the east-west through movements can run concurrently. This change will allow for more green time on 148th Avenue NE. Construction will start in early 2022. Similar capacity improvement projects are also planned for the NE 8th Street intersection and the Eastgate interchange and a new traffic signal at the Kelsey Creek Shopping Center that will reduce congestion at the Main Street intersection. These improvements will be constructed over the next few years.

Staff contact: Chris Long, P.E., Assistant Director, Traffic Management
425-452-6013, clong@bellevuewa.gov

What is the purpose of a traffic circle?

A traffic calming circle is a raised island located in the center of an intersection around which traffic must circulate. By providing a landscaped area in the middle of the roadway, they can visually break up the scale of wide streets, break up the monotony of the street grid, and provide space for added greenery and stormwater treatment. Traffic calming circles are generally used at low volume neighborhood intersections.

Traffic calming circles should not be confused with roundabouts, which are designed to handle much higher traffic volumes and reduce vehicle delay. Traffic calming circles are typically installed as part of a traffic calming project.

More information:

- BellevueWA.gov/ntss

Staff contact: Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services
425-452-6457, bellevuentss@bellevuewa.gov

Why are traffic circles being installed on 165th and 166th avenues?

Several interim traffic circles will be installed at a few key intersections along 165th and 166th avenues later this summer. These circles are part of the East Bellevue Demonstration Greenway project, which will reduce traffic speeds and improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists on the route. The Demonstration Greenway route will follow the same alignment as last year's Healthy Streets route, where 165th and 166th avenues were closed to cut-through traffic.

The proposed traffic circles on this route will be made from paint, decorative pavement markings, and plastic post products. Residents will have a months-long opportunity to provide feedback about the design once implemented. Based on feedback and usage data, the Demonstration Greenway elements – including the painted traffic circles – may be kept, enhanced, or removed altogether.

More information:

- Project website: BellevueWA.gov/east-bellevue-greenway
- Staff contact: Chris Iverson, P.E., Senior Transportation Engineer
425-452-6461, civerson@bellevuewa.gov

How is a traffic circle different than a roundabout?

A roundabout is a circular intersection where drivers travel counterclockwise around a center island without traffic signals or stop signs. Roundabouts are designed to accommodate vehicles of all sizes, including emergency vehicles, buses, and truck and trailer combinations. In a modern roundabout, drivers enter the intersection by navigating a gentle curve. Drivers yield at entry to traffic already in the roundabout, then proceed into the intersection and exit at their desired street.

Neighborhood traffic calming circles are much smaller than modern roundabouts and can have stop signs placed on “minor legs” to ensure orderly traffic control. They are typically used in residential neighborhoods to slow traffic speeds and reduce collisions.

Additional information:

- BellevueWA.gov/roundabouts
- <https://wsdot.wa.gov/Safety/roundabouts/BasicFacts.htm>

How do I request a sidewalk?

Feedback from Lake Hills residents reflects the desire to have more sidewalks within the neighborhood, particularly on SE Phantom Way, Lake Hills Boulevard east of 164th Avenue SE, and on 167th Avenue SE. The best way to request a sidewalk is to submit the online request form at BellevueWA.sidewalkrequest.

Candidate project locations are assessed using a prioritization framework that considers elements such as the speed limit, collisions, volume of traffic and proximity to activity centers -- shopping, schools and libraries, for example.

In most cases sidewalk projects are too small in scope and cost to compete for funding against larger projects. Or they are too large to be funded by other capital programs, such as the [Neighborhood Enhancement Program](#) (NEP) or the Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Improvements Program. Funding from the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program is often combined with funding from other transportation programs, such as Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services program, and with outside grants

Fortunately, in 2016, Bellevue voters approved a Neighborhood Safety and Connectivity Levy for transportation projects and the neighborhood sidewalks program is allotted a portion of those dollars every two years. The additional levy funding allows more sections of sidewalk throughout the city to be built.

Additional information:

- BellevueWA.gov (Search: [Neighborhood Sidewalk Program](#))
- BellevueWA.gov/nep

*Staff Contact: Kristi Oosterveen, Neighborhood Sidewalk Program Manager
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*Theresa Cuthill, NEP Manager
425-452-4186, tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov*

How do I request a crosswalk?

The Traffic Engineering Division takes great care in evaluating conditions that meet the safe crossing needs for pedestrians and your input is invaluable to our assessment. There are a number of factors our engineering staff consider including options for alternative crossings, future capital projects to construct sidewalks and signals, federal and state policies on

crosswalk installations, and other relevant matters that weigh on our decision for improvement to the pedestrian environment.

To request a crosswalk in your neighborhood, complete the online form at BellevueWA.gov/crossingrequest.

*Staff contact: Kurt Latt, P.E., Senior Transportation Engineer
425-452-6020, klatt@bellevuewa.gov*

How do I learn about projects in my neighborhood?

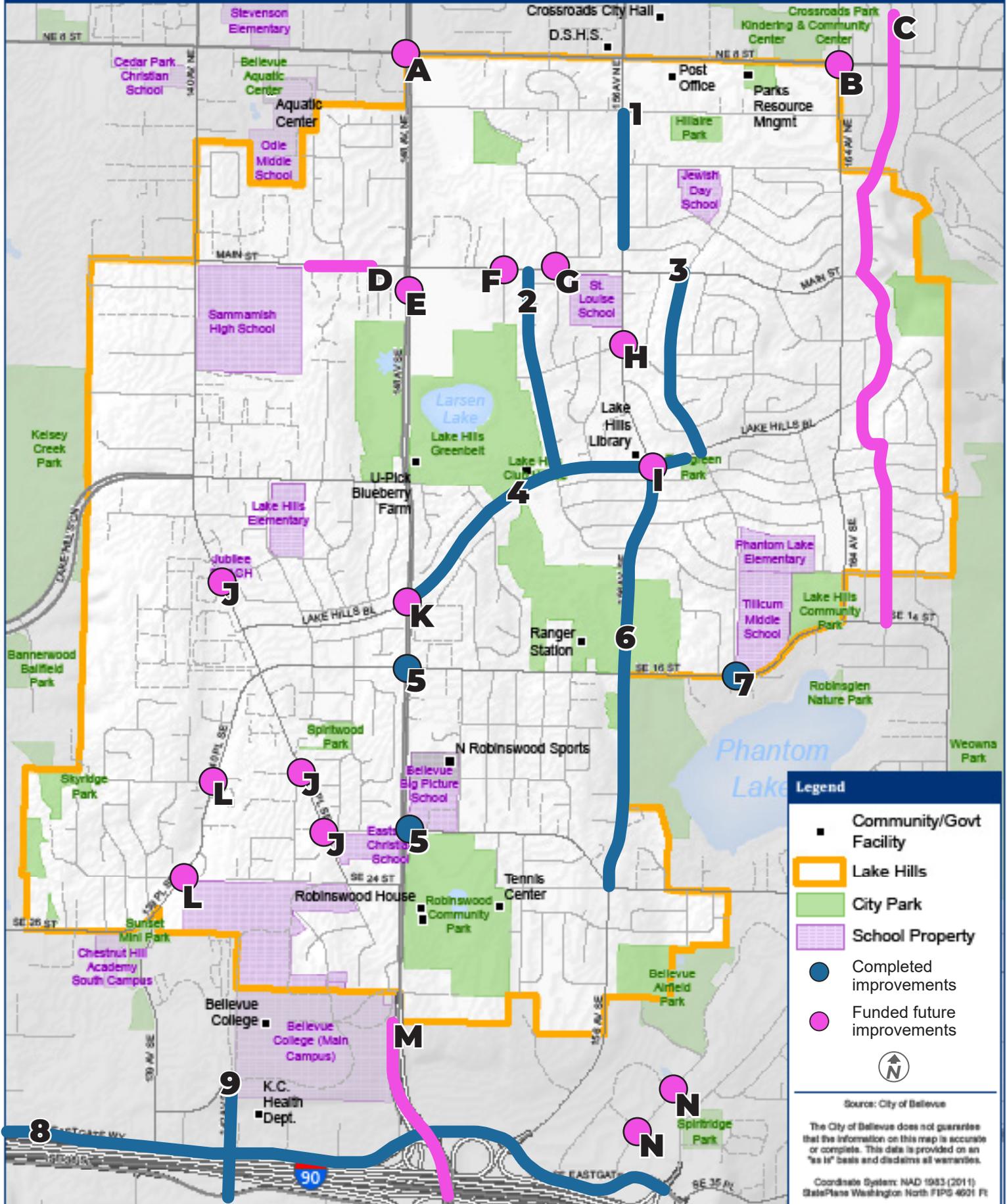
There are a few ways to learn about projects planned or being built in your neighborhood.

- *Contact the appropriate department
 - [Transportation Department](#), 425-452-6856 or trreception@bellevuewa.gov
 - [Utilities Department](#), 425-452-6932 or utilities@bellevuewa.gov
 - [Development Services Department](#), 425-452-6800 or permits@bellevuewa.gov
 - [Community Development Department](#), 425-452-6800 or communitydev@bellevuewa.gov
 - [Parks & Community Services](#), 425-452-6885 or parksweb@bellevuewa.gov*
- *Look up the project on the [Bellevue Map Viewer](#) (BellevueWA.gov, search “Bellevue Map Viewer”)*
- *Look for project listings in the [It’s Your City](#) newsletter mailed to homes on businesses in February, June and October.*
- *Read project updates in Neighborhood News, published online monthly, at BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news.*
- *Search development permit activity at BellevueWA.gov/departments/development.*
- *Subscribe to receive weekly traffic updates at BellevueWA.gov/trafficadvisories.*

The following pages include a map of transportation projects near the Lake Hills neighborhood area.

If you need this information translated in another language, please contact Marie Jensen, Public Involvement Manager, 425-452-2064, mjensen@bellevuewa.gov.

Transportation Projects near the Lake Hills Neighborhood Area: *Completed and funded future projects*



Legend

- Community/Govt Facility
- ▭ Lake Hills
- City Park
- ▭ School Property
- Completed improvements
- Funded future improvements

↑ N

Source: City of Bellevue

The City of Bellevue does not guarantee that the information on this map is accurate or complete. This data is provided on an "as is" basis and disclaims all warranties.

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 (2011)
 GatePlane Washington North FIPS 4901 Ft

● Recently Completely Transportation Projects in the Lake Hills Area

- 1 **156th Ave NE: Main St to NE 6th St Pedestrian Improvements**
Sidewalk and flashing crosswalks
- 2 **152nd/154th Aves SE cut-through traffic project***
Speed bumps and entry treatments
- 3 **158th Place SE: Lake Hills Blvd to Main St**
Sidewalk
- 4 **Lake Hills Blvd: 148th to 159th Aves SE safety project**
Flashing crosswalks and radar signs
- 5 **2019 Signal Pole Replacements**
New protected-permissive left turn movements at the signals
- 6 **156th Ave SE: SE 24th St to Lake Hills Blvd**
Bike lanes
- 7 **SE 16th St Walkway Improvements**
Raised crosswalk and sidewalk
- 8 **Eastgate Way: Richards Rd to SE 35th Pl**
Bike Lanes
- 9 **142nd Ave SE: SE 36th to SE 32nd Sts**
Bike Project



* All projects funded by the 2016 voter-approved Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy except those marked with an asterisk

Funded Future Transportation Projects in the Lake Hills Area

- A 148th Ave NE and NE 8th St intersection project***
Add dual left turn lanes to each intersection leg.
- B 164th Ave NE and NE 8th St intersection project**
Add dedicated left turn signal to NE 8th St from 164th Ave NE.
- C East Bellevue Demonstration Greenway**
Project to make 165th/166th Aves NE/SE from Northup Way to SE 14th St more comfortable for people walking and rolling.
- D Main St Safety Project**
Install flashing crosswalk systems at Main Street and trail crossing, and at 145th Place NE along with two radar signs.
- E Kelsey Creek Shopping Center Signal***
New traffic signal south of Main St at Kelsey Creek Shopping Center.
- F Puesta del Sol Crosswalk Project***
Install Flashing crosswalk system at Main St and 151st Pl NE, associated with development of Puesta del Sol.
- G Main St Safety Project**
Install Flashing crosswalk system at Main St and 153rd Pl NE.
- H Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Project***
install flashing crosswalk at SE 4th Street and 156th Ave SE.
- I Lake Hills Boulevard and 148th Avenue SE Improvements**
Widen east leg of the intersection; add second left turn lane.
- J 145th Pl SE Crosswalk Improvements***
Install two new flashing crosswalks on 145th Pl SE at SE 13th Pl, 144th Ave SE and SE 22nd St.
- K Lake Hills Boulevard and 156th Ave SE Improvements**
Remove all-way stop and add a traffic signal.
- L 2021 Crosswalk Project**
Install two new flashing crosswalks on Kamber Road (at SE 24th and SE 20th streets).
- M Eastgate Interchange Capacity Improvements**
Improve signal operations on 150th Ave SE at Eastgate Way, SE 37th St and SE 38th St through channelization improvements.
- N 2021 Crosswalk Project**
Install two new flashing crosswalks 160th Avenue SE, at SE 33rd Street and in the SE 3000 block.



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