

# neighborhood news



November 2018

news for and about  
Bellevue neighborhoods

## Great neighborhoods:

### Neighborhood Area Planning has launched!



During two neighborhood walks, four farmers market events, two pop-up offices and eight small and larger group meetings, we've walked and talked with over 200 residents. We've heard and seen a lot over the past two months, but we look forward to hearing more from you!

Throughout September and October, Community Development staff were in Northeast and Northwest Bellevue listening and learning about each of the community's assets, issues and opportunities. We really enjoyed hearing about what is valued in each neighborhood – and seeing it! Neighbors are telling us that they've enjoyed getting together to hear what others have to say – and to meet new people.

#### This an opportunity to:

- Identify and address important local issues, community concerns, opportunities and ideas
- Empower each other to identify opportunities and constraints, and then develop strategies and actions together to improve our neighborhoods
- Think critically about the ways our neighborhoods function and their impacts on our lives

We've heard many ideas on how to improve the neighborhoods, and the current discovery effort will continue through the end of 2018. Beginning in 2019, both neighborhoods will learn what their neighbors feel are the most important issues for discussion, analysis and problem-solving.

What you've shared so far is helping us to understand each neighborhood's top issues, including neighborhood character, tree preservation, walkability and traffic. While the list of topics will continue to grow and evolve, it will eventually inform the development of priority strategy areas where everyone in the neighborhood will get a chance to roll up their sleeves and work collaboratively on short-term and long-term strategies. These opportunities will begin in February after the priority strategy areas are finalized by the neighborhoods.

It's your voice that will make your neighborhood even better! So stay involved and contribute your ideas, and visit [BellevueWA.gov/NAP](http://BellevueWA.gov/NAP) to see what has already been shared and how you can connect with your neighbors through Great Neighborhoods.



## Citizenship information meeting

Sunday Nov. 4, 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Bellevue Library, 1111 110th Ave NE, Bellevue



Are you getting ready to apply for naturalization to become a citizen? Come join us for a citizenship information meeting with the USCIS - United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. Learn more about the N-400 application, what the interview is like and the overall process.

In the middle of filling out the N-400 application form but not sure how to answer some of the questions? Maybe a friend, family member or neighbor is confused about the process? Are you curious what the interview is like?

The City of Bellevue, King County Library System and the USCIS are partnering to bring you an opportunity to meet an official Immigration Officer, who will present the latest naturalization information including requirements and steps to becoming a citizen. You can also to ask non-case specific questions regarding immigration and naturalization.

The event is free and an RSVP is appreciated. For more information or to request interpretation at the event, please call 425-452-4342 or email [ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov)

Sponsored by:



## City budget hearing

Monday, Nov. 19, 8 p.m.

City Hall, 450 110th Ave NE, Bellevue

This is the year that the Bellevue City Council will adopt a 2019-2020 budget for the city. The budget sets for an operational and capital plan and includes resources needed to provide quality services to the residents and stakeholders of Bellevue. Residents are encouraged to engage in the budget process by visiting the Budget Process Public Involvement Website at: [BellevueWA.gov/budget](http://BellevueWA.gov/budget). The website provides links and contact information for anyone interested in further information. In addition to survey and other engagement options, the council held public hearings on June 4 and August 6. The third and final public hearing is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 19. If you wish to provide testimony



to the council regarding the budget at the public hearing, you may sign up to speak during that evening's regular session, or submit comments in writing to the city's Budget Manager ([dbaldwin@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:dbaldwin@bellevuewa.gov)) or City Clerk ([kstannert@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:kstannert@bellevuewa.gov)) by 5 pm on Monday, Nov. 19. If you have questions about the budget or the budget process, contact David Baldwin at [Dbaldwin@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:Dbaldwin@bellevuewa.gov).



Save the date!

## Cultural Conversations

Tuesday, Dec. 4, 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Crossroads Community Center

16000 NE 10th St, Bellevue

Six-word reflection:

“Through my eyes: identity, connection, community.”



As we near the end of the year and head into winter, we welcome time to get comfortable, share memories, and tell stories. During December's Cultural Conversations, we plan to do just that—take time to reflect on those things that matter most, with the challenge of using a few key words or phrases. Sound creative? Join us and share six-word stories, written in your own language, choosing any of these three topics: who you are, where you call home, or what community means to you. This conversation was inspired by a 2008 article from the New York Times, “Summing It Up (in Six Words).” <https://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/02/07/summing-it-up-in-six-words/> The hope for this conversation, is that we will “travel” with new or familiar companions and connect in small table conversation while remaining in the comfort of Crossroads Community Center. You are invited to wear cultural dress, bring a picture or another small item to help you tell your story.

Here are some examples based on the three themes:

- **Identity:** Short but feisty and mostly fearless.
- **Connection:** I am not home—not yet.
- **Community:** Middle in more ways than one.

Cultural Conversations, a program in its ninth season, has transformed relationships and perspectives among diverse women in our community through a range of topics and storytelling since 2010.

Please join us for tea, conversation and connection with other community members! Women of all ages, faiths and cultures are welcome to attend. To fully participate in the sharing, attendees are encouraged to plan arrangements for childcare. Please RSVP to Carol Ross at [NeighborhoodOutreach@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:NeighborhoodOutreach@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-452-6836.

## Good Neighboring Tips

### Communicating with people you may find irritating

You just found out Uncle Bob is coming for Thanksgiving. A sick feeling arises in your belly as you envision yet

another year of him spewing his distasteful viewpoints across the dining room table. Getting into it with him requires conversational jujitsu that you just haven't mastered. You are frustrated. We all have someone whose views and manner of speaking irritate us. They can be family, friends, neighbors. We gotta love 'em, but how do we keep the conversation from spoiling the meal? How do we let them know we care about them, just not their ideas or style? How can we find commonality with someone who thinks and acts so differently from us?



Here are some ideas for dealing with these types of situations:

**Have empathy.** Whatever the nature of the irritating behavior, beneath what someone is saying is always a motivation; a deeper need. Usually these needs are something we all share, like the need for respect, to be heard, to feel safe, to belong, to be validated, to have fun, to be free. If we can decipher what

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someone needs, just identifying it often helps the person feel heard at a deeper level. Say something like "You are worried about the future and want to feel safe." "You are proud of your accomplishments and understandably want to be acknowledged." "You are furious at the \_\_\_ and want things to change so life feels more predictable." Guess what they need deep down and say it.

**Create boundaries.** If they are argumentative and want to argue with you, you do not have to engage. If you feel brave you can say, "I care about you, and I have a different opinion from you. This does not mean I don't like you, just that we are different. I doubt either of us is going to change our opinions much. And our respect for each other is not going to change, either, just because we have a difference of opinion."

If the issue is politics, and you find yourself on opposite side in these highly divisive times, be the change you wish to see. Let the other person know you respect their right to their opinion and stance, just as you hope they will respect yours. Or you can announce at the beginning of the day that discussions of politics are off-limits.

**Be curious.** Rather than become engaged in an argument, get curious. When they say something you think is outrageous, you can just reply "Hmm, can you tell me more about that?" or "I want to understand that." Let them speak and have their say. Listen. Just listen.

If they keep saying the same thing over and over, ask them to speak more about that, going deeper. Usually they are saying it over and over because they do not feel heard. Or, you can change the topic to something about them, say something they love to do, or have done recently.

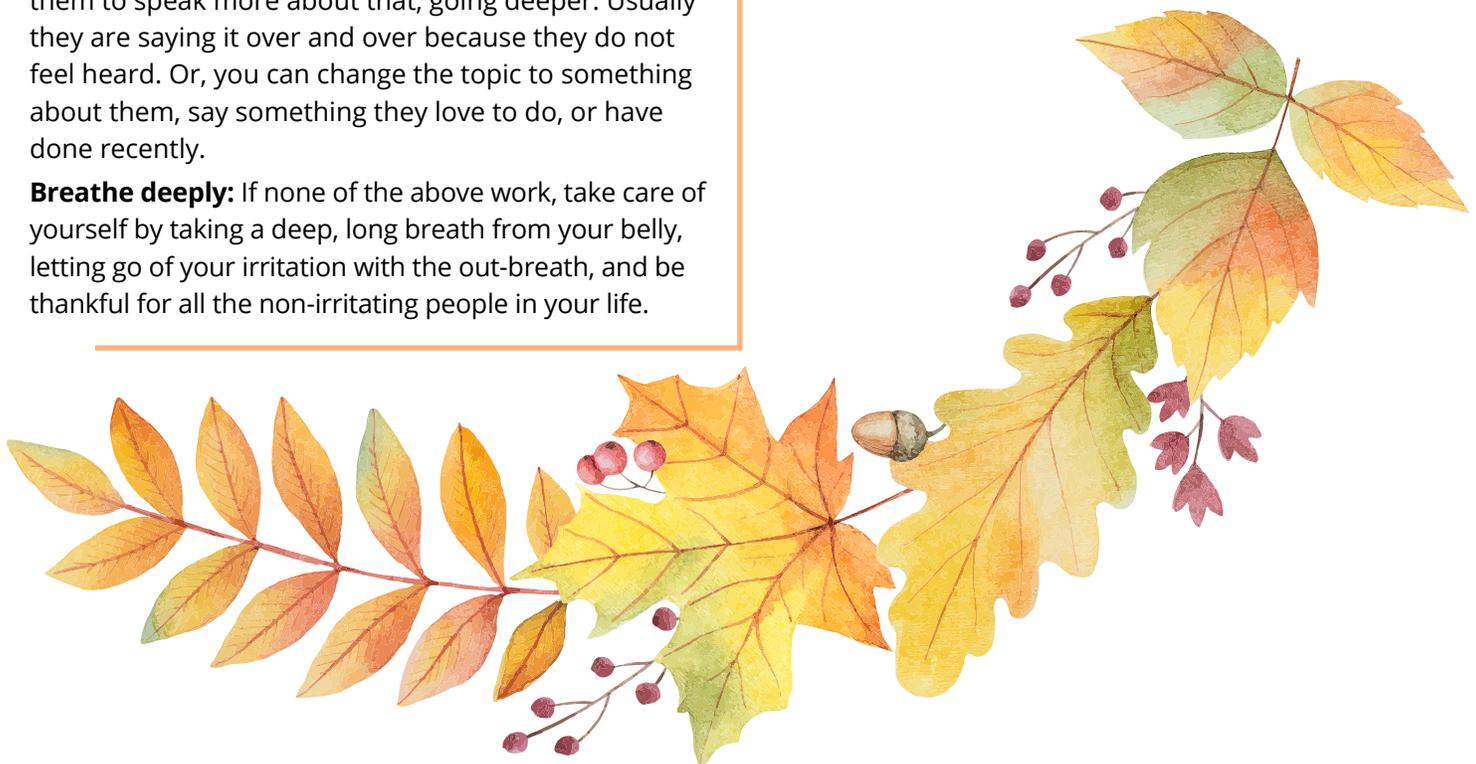
**Breathe deeply:** If none of the above work, take care of yourself by taking a deep, long breath from your belly, letting go of your irritation with the out-breath, and be thankful for all the non-irritating people in your life.

## Volunteer Board position available A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH)

Make your voice heard on affordable housing funding and programs by joining the ARCH Citizen Advisory Board (CAB). The CAB consists of twelve to fifteen community residents



and housing professionals that work with ARCH staff to evaluate local housing funding proposals and increase awareness of housing issues on the Eastside. Board members contribute their understanding of housing and community issues, as well as certain specialized perspectives including real estate, housing development, planning, finance, assisting persons with low income or special needs, faith community, racial diversity, architecture and residents of affordable housing. The CAB also strives to be representative of the eastside communities that make up ARCH. The body typically meets one Wednesday evening per month for two hours. More information about ARCH and the ARCH Citizen Advisory Board is available at [ARCHhousing.org](http://ARCHhousing.org). To apply, please contact Jessie Tang, [jtang@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jtang@bellevuewa.gov) or Klaas Nijhuis, [knijhuis@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:knijhuis@bellevuewa.gov) or call: 425-861-3677.



## Innovative bus platform

### Construction to start in November on 108th Avenue Northeast



For the first time in Washington state, a new type of bus platform will be used as part of a project in downtown

Bellevue. The Spanish-made Zicla platform will be installed on 108th Avenue Northeast, south of Northeast Second Street in the southbound direction.

The platform is the latest component of the Downtown Demonstration Bikeway project, launched in July. Purchase of the platform is made possible through a grant from King County Metro. Installation is expected to begin in mid-November and take approximately three-and-a-half weekday nights to complete; work hours will be 7 p.m. to 4 a.m.

The Zicla product is made of molded, recycled, black plastic. It's designed for rapid installation and comes in compact, pre-fabricated sections that fit together and are bolted to the street. The sections can also be removed for possible reuse at a different location. The height of the platform will be the same as the curb to which it's connected.

Benefits of the new bus platform include:

- Smoother, safer operations for buses, which will no longer need to pull alongside the curb;
- A reduction in travel time of five to 20 seconds for each bus stopping at the platform; and
- More space for bicyclists to safely pass buses, which will no longer block the bike lane when stopping for passengers.

For installation, the contractor will snap together nearly 300 sections of plastic, then drill, bolt and epoxy them into place. Noise from the project on 108th Avenue Northeast will be apparent during some of the construction work.

If you have questions or comments about the installation project, please contact Franz Loewenherz, principal planner, at 425-452-4077 or [Floewenherz@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:Floewenherz@bellevuewa.gov), or Dale Lydin, construction operations manager, at 425-452-2734 or [dlydin@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:dlydin@bellevuewa.gov)

## Metro launches on-demand shuttle service in Eastgate area

King County Metro has launched a new mobile app to hail on-demand shuttle vans to and from the Eastgate Park-and-Ride in Bellevue. The new service, called Ride2, started Oct. 23 and is the first of several that Metro will roll out at major transit hubs throughout the region.



Commuters can use the app to hail a shuttle operated by Chariot and Ford Smart Mobility to and from Eastgate, the county's largest park-and-ride.

"Eastgate is home to a critical higher education center in Bellevue College, an established commercial core and the region's largest park-and-ride," said Bellevue Mayor John Chelminiak. "The key to success is connecting these important community assets to surrounding neighborhoods. The Ride2 program will help us do that and we're pleased King County Metro has chosen Eastgate to pilot this service."

Ride2 Eastgate operates in the 2- to 3-mile area flanking Interstate 90, including the Factoria, Lake Hills, Somerset, and Lakemont neighborhoods. It will be available to an estimated 44,000 residents and 31,600 employees who work in the area.

The shuttle service will be available for peak weekday commute times, 6-10 a.m. and 4-8 p.m. for passengers 18 years and older. It will be free for the first few months and will then cost the same as a standard Metro bus ride.



## Boards and Commissions 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.)

### Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network

(6 p.m., Bellevue City Hall) Last Tuesday of each month  
<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bdan.htm>

**East Bellevue Community Council** (6:30 p.m., Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd) First Tuesday of each month  
<http://bellevuewa.gov/ebcc.htm>

**Arts Commission** (4:30 p.m., 1E-109) First Tuesday of each month  
[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts\\_comm.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm)

**Environmental Services Commission** (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) First Thursday of each month  
[http://bellevuewa.gov/enviro\\_serv\\_comm.htm](http://bellevuewa.gov/enviro_serv_comm.htm)

**Planning Commission** (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second and fourth Wednesday of each month  
[http://bellevuewa.gov/planning\\_commission.htm](http://bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm)

**Transportation Commission** (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second Thursday of each month  
[http://bellevuewa.gov/trans\\_comm.htm](http://bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm)

**Human Services Commission** (6 p.m., 1E-113) First and third Tuesday of each month  
[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human\\_serv\\_comm.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm)

**LEOFF 1 Disability Board** (6 p.m., Room 1E-118) First Tuesday of each month  
<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/leoff-1-disability-board.htm>

**Library Board** (5p.m., Lake Hills, Bellevue or Newport Way Library) Third Tuesday of each month  
[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/library\\_board.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/library_board.htm)

**Parks & Community Services Board** (6 p.m., 1E-113) Second Tuesday of each month  
[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks\\_board.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm)

**The Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA)** 8:30 a.m., North Bellevue Community Center 4063 148th Ave NE, Bellevue) First Thursday of each month  
[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network\\_on\\_aging.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm)

**Special Events Committee** (8:30 a.m., 1E-112) Second Thursday of each month  
[http://bellevuewa.gov/special\\_events\\_committee.htm](http://bellevuewa.gov/special_events_committee.htm)

**Youth Link Board** (6 p.m., 1E-120) Second Wednesday of each month  
[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/youth\\_link\\_board.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/youth_link_board.htm)

*Bellevue's Neighborhood Services Division 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, please visit our website at: <https://planning.bellevuewa.gov/community-development/neighborhoods> or call 425-452-6836 or email: [neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov).*

*To subscribe to this newsletter, visit: <https://planning.bellevuewa.gov/community-development/neighborhoods/neighborhood-news>*

## City Council <https://bellevue.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Day	Scheduled Meeting(s)	Location	Public Comment Opportunity
1 and 3 Mondays except in August and December	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications
2 and 4 Mondays except in August and December	6-10 p.m., Extended Study Session	Council Conference Room	6 p.m., Oral Communications
August - first Monday only	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications
December - first and second Mondays only	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications