

neighborhood news



March 2019

news for and about
Bellevue neighborhoods

Meydenbauer Bay Park

Grand Opening

Join us to celebrate the grand opening of the long-awaited Meydenbauer Bay Park! A community celebration commemorating the decades-long effort will take place on Saturday, March 16, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 9899 Lake Washington Blvd NE.

The new park will increase public access to Lake Washington and transform Bellevue's connection to the waterfront.

The expanded public area has a quarter mile of waterfront. A large public swimming beach, pedestrian pier, historic whaling building and new beach house will make the park a destination for residents and visitors.

In 1987, the city prioritized the acquisition of Meydenbauer Bay waterfront in its Parks and Open Space Plan. Between 1992 and 2007, Bellevue acquired 12 properties along the bay to add to the land that King County transferred to Bellevue when the city was incorporated in 1953. The Bellevue Marina was purchased in 1992.

In 2007, the City Council appointed a 13-member steering committee representing various neighborhoods and citywide interests to engage with staff and the public through the long-range planning process. A master plan was later adopted in 2010.

Key elements of the project include:

- Remodeling the historic Whaling Building to include accessible restrooms, a small meeting room and boat rentals;
- Shoreline restoration to improve ecological functions;
- Overlooks; and
- Parking.

Meydenbauer Bay Park responds to the community's long-held interest in additional public water access.

For more information: Parks.BellevueWA.gov/planning-and-development/meydenbauer-bay-park-and-marina-projects



Photo courtesy of Manfred Seidler.



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Cultural Conversations 5th Annual Evening Presentation:

Transcending Boundaries, Transforming Community

New Date! New Time!

Tuesday, March 26, 6:30-8:30 pm

Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Ave NE

As we renew from winter and look to spring, you're invited to join with family, friends and neighbors for the 5th annual evening of Cultural Conversations. The program will feature storytellers who broke boundaries in their youth to pursue individual dreams and are now sharing their gifts with the wider community.

Following storytelling, be inspired to connect, learn and share in table conversation. The evening forum is free and open to the public. Women, men and children (age 13 and up) are welcome to this evening program.



Sujata: "That was Then; This is Now"

Sujata was a frequent visitor to the U.S. before making a life-changing decision to move to Seattle from India in 2015. She faced challenges living in the new culture – one that was so familiar and yet different from the way of life that she knew best. Volunteering provided the path forward and helped her to find her community. She now supports nonprofits in giving voice to their mission and is inspired to continue making a difference in the community.

Po: "I Belong in Both Places"

Po, a graduate of Interlake High School, immigrated to Bellevue as a child from Bangkok, Thailand. His involvement in the city's Youth Link program helped him feel a sense of belonging and taught him that

being part of community involved taking responsibility. Civic engagement had felt foreign to Po, given a lack of visible role models. Now he's passionate about youth contributions to the community and inspires students in Bellevue and Thailand.

Daniela: "Seeds of a Dream"

Amidst chaos following a military coup during the 1970's in Santiago, Chile, a family was exiled to Seattle to begin a new life. Two decades later, when they were free to return home, two young people met and were married. Daniela dared to dream of the promise of life in the U.S., was determined to learn English, pick up American customs and shatter stereotypes. The boxes Daniela is asked to check don't fully describe who she is or how she inspires her children to dream.



Event parking is on a first-come basis, and is available in the P2 level of the city's parking garage accessible from 112th Ave NE. To RSVP, receive more information or to request accommodation, please contact NeighborhoodOutreach@BellevueWA.gov or call 425-452-6836.

Please note, regular Cultural Conversations programming will resume at Crossroads Community Center on Tuesday April 23.

A Memorable Weather Event - and Suggestions for the Future!

During the first two weeks of February the city experienced a very challenging weather event, including multiple snow and ice storms. City departments were literally "on the ground" helping to keep us safe, and other city staff responded to hundreds of questions and requests from residents.

Each neighborhood, street or hill presents distinct challenges, and with an unfolding event, there were many who were inside for several days. It's been encouraging to hear that many residents stepped up to check on neighbors, pick up groceries and medications, shovel apartment parking spots, clear sidewalks and storm drains, and do "whatever it takes!"

Here's what some residents have said about their neighbors:

"In my neighborhood we have many elderly, young children and disabled people. Most of us lost power for one day and that made it difficult for us to check on our neighbors. It was also freezing and very difficult to stay warm. One of our neighbors had power and was so kind to make coffee for us and her immediate neighbors."

"Our street just shoveled the snow manually (each of us took the swath in front of our house and a portion of the big hill) and chipped in some salt between us for the steeper parts to make it so we weren't stuck and did not pose a danger to ourselves getting in or out. It was nice to have folks chip in. Not everyone had a shovel, so we'd leave them at the bend in the hill and people would use them and leave them there afterward."

"One of our neighbors went out and shoveled several parking spots in our complex every day!"



"Makes me happy to be shoveling with a couple other neighbors ensuring the older folks can get to doctor appointments easier, etc. Great neighbors!"

As part of your planning, please consider the recommendations from the city's Office of

Emergency Management and connect with neighbors before and during emergency events. When services and transportation options are limited, your offers of practical assistance to those close by are vital.

Many seniors, people with disabilities and new residents are especially appreciative of their neighbors' offers to shovel snow and share necessities.

The city's Office of Emergency Management provided three important recommendations for future emergencies:

1. **Make a kit:** When possible, we ask that residents try and design their kits as if they would be on their own for 10-14 days. While emergency personnel will do their best, depending on the scope of the disaster residents may be on their own for quite a while.
2. **Make a plan:** We always encourage families to communicate about what their emergency plan is before something happens. For example: How will you communicate? Where will you meet? See guidance from FEMA: [ready.gov/make-a-plan](https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan).

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2 WEEKS READY

BUILD KITS

Plan to be on your own for at least 2 weeks

Water (1 gallon per person, per day)

Food (non-perishable)

Comfort/entertainment

Medical equipment

Glasses/eye care

First aid kit

Can opener

Sturdy shoes

NOAA alert radio

Extra batteries

Flashlight

Warm clothes

Personal hygiene items

Fire extinguisher

Tools

Pet supplies

Cash

Toilet paper

Medications

Identification & important documents

Keep at least 2 weeks of supplies in your home. Have smaller kits for work, for every family member, and pets. Have a vehicle safety kit too.

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3. **Get involved:** There are a several skills that will help you to be better prepared in an emergency. Some examples of programs offered by the City of Bellevue:
 - ✓ **CERT Lite (Community Emergency Response Team):** This fun-filled three-hour Saturday morning course is designed for residents who want to learn basic life-saving skills such as using a fire extinguisher, basic medical skills and personal preparedness. Classes are offered approximately once a month in different neighborhoods throughout the city and can be found on Eventbrite under CERT Lite.
 - ✓ **CERT Program (Community Emergency Response Team):** This is an eight-week course where residents are taught important skills such as fire safety, disaster medical, search and rescue, personal preparedness, etc. For more information about CERT: [Fire.BellevueWA.gov/emergency-management/volunteer-training-opportunities/community-emergency-response-team](https://www.fire.bellevuewa.gov/emergency-management/volunteer-training-opportunities/community-emergency-response-team).
 - ✓ **CPR/First aid courses:** The City of Bellevue offers CPR/First aid courses to residents. They can sign up here: [Fire.BellevueWA.gov/medical/cpr-training](https://www.fire.bellevuewa.gov/medical/cpr-training)



Northwest Bellevue Neighborhood Workshop

When: Thursday March 21, 6:30-8pm

**Where: First United Methodist Church
1934 108th Ave NE, Bellevue**

RSVP Contact: gn@BellevueWA.gov (RSVPs appreciated)



Northeast Bellevue Neighborhood Workshop

When: Thursday March 28, 6:30-8pm

**Where: Overlake Park Presbyterian Church,
1836 156th Ave NE, Bellevue**

RSVP Contact: gn@BellevueWA.gov (RSVPs appreciated)

Can't make it to the workshop? Participate online! We will be posting the top strategies that come out of the workshop on this website. Do you like them? Let us know what you think!

GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS

BELLEVUE

Northwest and Northeast Neighborhood Workshops

Join us for an interactive workshop to develop community-led strategies to strengthen your neighborhood! This is another key step in updating your Neighborhood Area Plan; building on community input heard so far.

The workshop agenda will begin with a short open house and update from program staff. Then we'll spend most of our time in a series of fun and engaging exercises to develop strategies for impacting Bellevue's future. The intent is for these strategies to continue to be refined with the residents after the workshop and ultimately be included in your Neighborhood Area Plan.



Partner with Bellevue Police

Department's "Paws on Patrol"

Every day hundreds of people walk with their dogs throughout the city. Often, they are preoccupied with phones, music or conversations that keep them from noticing suspicious activity that may be occurring near them. The Bellevue Police Department is excited to launch Paws on Patrol, which is a community-based crime awareness program that trains you and your four-legged partner to assist the police department by being our "eyes and ears" in your neighborhood!

Paws on Patrol will train you to recognize suspicious activity and empower you to report it when you see it. The program provides a simple way for you to be a critical component in keeping your community safe. Over 90% of arrests are a direct result of a 911 call or observant citizens reporting suspicious activity. While walking your dog, you can also send a message to criminals that dog walkers will report suspicious activity.

To sign up, please visit our website and complete the application and brief training guide: [Police.BellevueWA.gov/pawsonpatrol](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/pawsonpatrol). If you have additional questions about Paws on Patrol, email crimeprevention@BellevueWA.gov or call 425-452-6915.



Let's talk about BelRed!

BelRed Transformation Coffee and Conversation
March 26, 2019 • [BellevueWa.gov/AccessBellevue](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/AccessBellevue)

What's happening
in BelRed?

Glad you asked ...



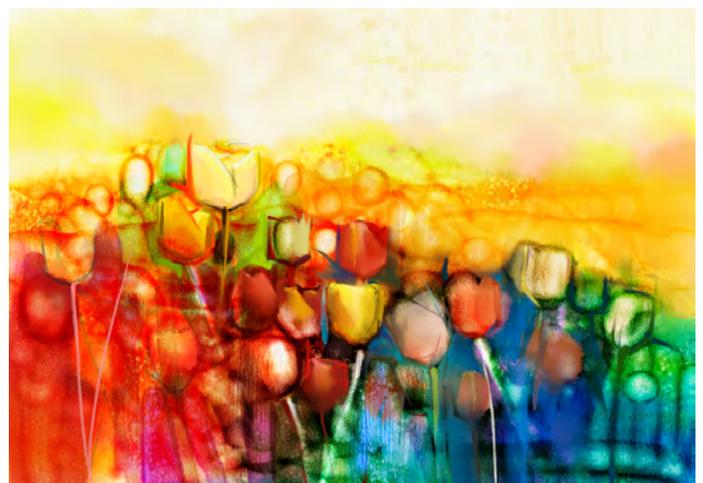
If you're curious about the redevelopment of BelRed, wondering when light rail will open or have ideas about possible neighborhood enhancements, then you'll want to attend the BelRed Transformation – Coffee and Conversation on Tuesday, March 26. Residents and employers are invited to the event being held at the Global Innovation Exchange (GIX) Commons Area, 12280 NE District Way, 7:30-9:30 a.m.

There will be no formal presentations, allowing you to visit information tables with discussions about developments including East Link light rail, major city transportation projects, BelRed Look Back and the Neighborhood Enhancement Program. Walking tours of The Spring District will be available at 9:30 and 10:00 a.m. Light refreshments will be provided.

Registration is appreciated at [accessbellevue.com](https://www.accessbellevue.com) by Friday, March 22.

Staff from the City's Transportation, Development Services and Community Development departments will be on hand, as well as from Sound Transit, the state Department of Transportation and King County Parks.

The forum is part of the city's Access Bellevue effort to provide complete information about major projects around the city. More details are available at [BellevueWA.gov/accessbellevue](https://www.BellevueWA.gov/accessbellevue).



Downtown/BelRed Neighbors:

March 12 is the deadline to send in your NEP project ideas!

The project idea submission period is now open for the Downtown/BelRed Neighborhood Enhancement Program; a capital improvements program that provides you and your neighbors with the opportunity to propose and select small-scale physical projects that improve the quality of life and enhance the character in your neighborhood area. The City has a budget of \$491,000 for you to spend on projects. Don't miss the opportunity to let the City of Bellevue know what you'd like to see done in your neighborhood!



You can submit ideas in two easy ways:

BY MAIL: Return the prepaid Project Idea Request Card that all Downtown/BelRed residents received in the mail in late January.

ONLINE: BellevueWA.gov/nep

There is not a limit on the number of project ideas that you can submit, but all ideas must be received at City Hall or submitted online by Tuesday, March 12.

NEP rotates through Bellevue's 14 Neighborhood areas, serving two areas each year. To find out which NEP Neighborhood Area you call home, when NEP will be in your area and the NEP funding that your area has been allocated, please visit BellevueWA.gov/nep. For more information about NEP, please contact Theresa Cuthill at tcuthill@BellevueWA.gov or 425-452-4186.



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 BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-managers-office/diversity/bellevue-diversity-advisory-network

East Bellevue Community Council (6:30 p.m., Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd) First Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/east-bellevue-community-council

Arts Commission (4:30 p.m., 1E-109) First Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/arts-and-culture/arts-commission

Environmental Services Commission

(6:30 p.m., 1E-113) First Thursday of each month Utilities.BellevueWA.gov/conservation-and-the-environment/environmental-services-commission

Planning Commission (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second and fourth Wednesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/planning-commission

Transportation Commission (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second Thursday of each month transportation. BellevueWA.gov/planning/transportation-commission

Human Services Commission (6 p.m., 1E-113) First and third Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-services/human-services/human-services-commission

LEOFF 1 Disability Board (6 p.m., Room 1E-118) First Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/human-resources/retirees-former-employees/leoff-1-disability-board

Library Board (5p.m., Lake Hills, Bellevue or Newport Way Library) Third Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/library-board

Parks & Community Services Board

(6 p.m., 1E-113) Second Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-services/boards-and-commissions/parks-community-services-board

The Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA)

8:30 a.m., North Bellevue Community Center 4063 148th Ave NE, Bellevue) First Thursday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-services/boards-and-commissions/network-on-aging

Special Events Committee (8:30 a.m., 1E-112) Second Thursday of each month Parks.BellevueWA.gov/special-events/special-events-committee

Youth Link Board (6 p.m., 1E-120) Second Wednesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-services/boards-and-commissions/youth-link-board

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: Planning.BellevueWA.gov/community-development/neighborhoods or call 425-452-6836 or email: neighborhoodoutreach@BellevueWA.gov.

To subscribe to this newsletter, visit: 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

