

# neighborhood news



April 2019

news for and about  
Bellevue neighborhoods



## First levy projects of 2019 build on strong momentum

It will be another busy construction season for work funded by the 2016 Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy. Last year, a total of 13 levy projects were completed. Below are some of the early projects that contractors are slated to work on this spring.



- Crosswalk, bicycle and pedestrian improvements on 112th Avenue Northeast: After a winter hiatus, construction is resuming on 112th Avenue Northeast, from Northeast 12th Street north to the city limits. Crews will activate previously installed flashing beacons at mid-block crossing between Northeast 12th and 24th streets. They will also add bike lanes, add pedestrian paths and repair sidewalks from Northeast 24th Street to SR-520.
- Sidewalk, traffic circle and crosswalk upgrades on 158th Place Southeast: Work is projected to begin in April to add a curb, gutter and a six-foot wide sidewalk on the east side of to 158th Place Southeast, from Main Street to Southeast Sixth Street. Crews also will rebuild a traffic circle at Southeast Fourth Street, add a pedestrian-activated flashing crosswalk on Lake Hills Boulevard at 159th Place Southeast and replace a water main.



Crosswalk and sidewalk improvements for 156th Avenue Northeast: Construction is expected to start later this spring to add a new mid-block crossing, with a flashing beacon, on 156th Avenue Northeast at Northeast First Street. Also planned is a new sidewalk from Northeast First Place to Northeast First Street and improving existing mid-block crossings at Northeast Fourth and Sixth streets with new flashing beacons.

More information is available on the levy projects webpage: [BellevueWA.gov/transportationlevy](http://BellevueWA.gov/transportationlevy)



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## Neighborhood Enhancement

## Program coming to Lake Hills area

## with over \$500K for improvements

The Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) is a \$5 Million, city-funded capital improvements program that allows residents to propose and select projects that improve their neighborhood's quality of life and enhance its character. The program rotates through Bellevue's 14 NEP Neighborhood Areas, serving two areas each year. Since 2015, NEP has funded projects in the Eastgate/Factoria, Cougar Mountain/Lakemont, West Lake Sammamish, Northeast Bellevue, Bridle Trails, Northwest Bellevue and Downtown/BelRed areas. This month, the NEP process will launch in Lake Hills, with a budget allocation of over \$500,000 for enhancements.

A Kick-Off meeting will be held on Apr. 16, 6:30-8:00 p.m., at the Sammamish High School Library, (100 140th Ave SE). City staff will provide a brief overview of the program guidelines and schedule, answer questions and invite residents to share, discuss and submit project ideas. Following the meeting, each household in Lake Hills will receive a prepaid NEP Project Request Form in the mail. All residents in the Lake Hills Area are encouraged to use this form or the online project request form on the NEP website and to submit as many project ideas by May 31.

Examples of past NEP projects throughout the city include: art elements, crosswalk improvements, trail connections, street lighting, play structures and streetscape improvements.

To find out which NEP Neighborhood Area you call home, when the program will be in your area and how much funding has been designated for your neighborhood, please visit [BellevueWA.gov/nep](http://BellevueWA.gov/nep). For more information, please contact Theresa Cuthill at [tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-462-4186.



### Lake Hills NEP Kickoff Meeting

Tuesday, Apr. 16, 6:30 p.m.

Sammamish High School Library

## Summer day camp registration

## is underway!

Looking for a safe and enriching program for your child this summer? Find more value, more variety and more fun with



Bellevue Parks & Community Services summer day camps! Partial and full-day options are available for children and youth ages 4-18. Register at [register.BellevueWA.gov/php/onlineereg/#/bvuewa/login](http://register.BellevueWA.gov/php/onlineereg/#/bvuewa/login). For the summer camp guide visit [parks.BellevueWA.gov/connections](http://parks.BellevueWA.gov/connections).

Bellevue Parks & Community Services strives to make program opportunities available to all interested individuals who live in the boundaries of the city of Bellevue, regardless of income. Scholarships are provided to those who might not otherwise be able to participate. For a copy of the scholarship application call 425-452-6885 and staff will be happy to mail a copy of the form, free of charge.

## Upcoming Events

This spring and summer, get out to Bellevue's parks and community centers for one of these exciting events:

- **Apr. 13: April Pools Day** at the Bellevue Aquatic Center, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Learn basic self-help skills in a water emergency with a water safety demonstration and lifejacket fitting. Kids age 12 and under swim free!
- **Apr. 20: Arbor Day-Earth Day Family Festival** at Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. This event will mark Bellevue's 28th year of being recognized as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation. Kids can grab an Arbor Day-Earth Day activities passport from a Park Ranger and journey through various eco-stations.
- **Apr. 27: Kelsey Creek Farm Sheep Shearing**, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Watch the sheep being shorn of their winter coats and enjoy wool spinning demonstrations, children's activities, tractor/wagon rides, pony rides, food and animal viewing areas.
- **May 4: The 2019 Great SBCC Challenge** at South Bellevue Community Center, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Teams of three to five people will compete in a series of fun challenges. Teams that register by April 17 will receive event t-shirts!

For more information on these and other events, visit the Parks Events Calendar [parks.BellevueWA.gov/special-events/calendar](http://parks.BellevueWA.gov/special-events/calendar)

# Cultural Conversations

## The Tangled Politics of Hair: Why What's on Your Head Matters to Society *a surprising look at beauty, bias and belonging*

Tuesday Apr. 23, 1-2:30 p.m.

Crossroads Community Center

16000 NE 10th St, Bellevue

During April's Cultural Conversation, we'll hear from speaker and acclaimed University of Washington educator Anu Taranath, as she explores the role of the hair on our heads. Using song, video, poetry and imagery, Anu poses the question, "Why is one kind of hairstyle understood as 'better' than another?" Encouraging us to go deeper, we'll take a surprising look at beauty, bias, belonging and examine the cultural perceptions which influence our judgement of hair and the individual.



Cultural Conversations, a program in its ninth season, has transformed relationships and perspectives among diverse women in our community through education and storytelling since 2010. For this month's event, the program is partnering with the King County Library System and Humanities Washington.

Please join us for tea and conversation and be inspired to connect with others in your community! Women of all ages, faiths and cultures are encouraged to attend. To fully participate in the sharing, attendees are encouraged to plan for childcare. Please RSVP at [NeighborhoodOutreach@BellevueWA.gov](mailto:NeighborhoodOutreach@BellevueWA.gov) or 425-452-6836.

### Bellevue Utilities hosts

### Greener Living and Zero Waste

### Hero workshops

City of Bellevue Utilities is pleased to partner with King County Library System to offer two FREE environmental classes!

During Zero Waste Hero workshops, you can learn how to live a healthier and more sustainable life. You'll also sharpen your recycling and composting knowledge. Other topics include:

- Learn how to save money by reducing food waste.
- Properly sort recycling, organics and garbage.

- Learn where to recycle unusual items such as batteries.
- Take home a reusable recycling collection bag, a kitchen composting container and kit, and an instructional poster on how to sort recyclables.

**At the** Green Cleaning workshops you'll learn how to choose and make green cleaners, as well as tips on avoiding harmful products. Receive a free green cleaning kit and a certificate for completing the class!

Registration for each workshop is required and limited to 20 people per session. Adults and children over age seven are welcome to attend. Please email [recycle@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:recycle@bellevuewa.gov) or call 425-452-6932 to register.

Continued from previous page

## Workshop Dates & Locations

### Green Cleaning

Newport Way Library, 14250 SE Newport Way

Saturday, Mar. 23, 1-2 p.m.

Monday, Apr. 15, 7-8 p.m.

Tuesday, May 7, 7-8 p.m.

Lake Hills King County Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd.

Sunday, Apr. 28, 2-3 p.m.

Wednesday, May 1, 7-8 p.m.

Bellevue Downtown Library, 1111 110th Ave NE

Thursday, May 2, 6-7 p.m.

### Zero Waste Hero

Newport Way Library, 14250 SE Newport Way

Saturday, Mar. 30, 12-1 p.m.

Monday, Apr. 29, 7-8 p.m.

Tuesday, May 14, 7-8 p.m.

Lake Hills King County Library, 15590 Lake Hills Blvd.

Friday, Apr. 12, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, May 15, 7-8 p.m.

Bellevue Downtown Library, 1111 110th Ave NE

Monday, May 6, 7-8 p.m.

## When cultural differences make it hard to communicate

By Marcia McReynolds, Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center

"My neighbor keeps saying 'yes' when I ask him to trim the tree, but it seems like he really means 'no.'"

"She is very pushy and demanding!"

The way we say and hear things is often as important as what we say. The issue is seldom just the tree blocking

our view or the poorly parked car. Increasingly, cultural differences and potential bias underlie many of the conflicts that conciliators in the city's Conflict Resolution Center handle. In our diverse city, it can be easy for people from "We cultures" and "I cultures" to misunderstand each other.



### I and We cultures

Social scientists have identified China, India and countries in Southeast Asia, Africa and South America as "We cultures." Conversely, experts have dubbed the

United States, Russia, Canada, Australia and European countries as "I cultures."

So, what does that mean? I culture societies tend to be focused on individual goals, rights and freedoms. They are direct in communication and say what they want. Difference of opinion, for instance, is something to negotiate openly. They value direct and "efficient" conversation that gets to the point.

We culture people tend to be focused on the collective—the people who make up their culture—and they tend to stick together. Outward conflict is avoided and saying directly what you want is seen as rude and pushy. People in We cultures use body language and vocal tone to express a preference, while they still show deference to the group.

None of us are completely "I" or "We." Instead we mostly communicate one way or the other.

### Crossing the Cultural Divide

If you understand your neighbor's underlying communication style, you are more likely to be receptive to what he or she says. The more that people in the community can learn about each other, the sooner these cultural clashes can be avoided.

If you're from an I culture, it can be helpful to make a connection with your neighbor through small talk before telling them what you want. Read their body language and tone of voice to understand how they really feel about a proposal.

If you're from a We culture, sometimes it's OK to say explicitly what you want and why. Know that I culture people will not be offended if you say "No."

A majority of the conflicts that the Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center helps people with contain some element of cultural misunderstanding. Many conflicts begin with an assumption that the actions or words of another have ill intent. In general, it is helpful to review any negative assumptions when interpreting what your neighbor, who may be from a different culture, is thinking or doing. When in doubt, assume that they mean well.

If you could use some help with a conflict that involves a possible cross-cultural misunderstanding or difference, please give us a call at 425-452-4091. We have diverse conciliators who will listen and help you to sort it out.

[BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/conflict-assistance](http://BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/conflict-assistance)



# GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS

BELLEVUE

## Great Neighborhoods Workshops

**“What is your best idea, strategy or action to improve your neighborhood?”**

Northwest and Northeast Bellevue gathered in March for lively workshops to develop strategies to strengthen their neighborhood. The workshops were the next step in updating Neighborhood Area Plans and built on the community input that has been heard so far.

Residents discussed a wide range of ideas for improving their neighborhoods, and the strategies included better walkability, additional roundabouts, extending sound walls, and many other ideas. The next step in the evening was improving the ideas and possible implementation. To end the evening, each group reported on their ideas.

Great Neighborhoods was launched in Sept. 2018, and has offered residents numerous opportunities to share their thoughts in-person and online. All ideas and progression of strategies are posted on [EngagingBellevue.com](http://EngagingBellevue.com), and you are welcome to be part of the conversation and see all of the ideas that have been discussed so far.



## Bellevue College: Campus-Community Conversations

**We're your neighbor and we're on the move!**

Tuesday May 7, 6-7 p.m.

Bellevue College, Room #K100P

3000 Landerholm Circle SE

Join Vice President Dennis Curran to learn what is happening on campus, share your comments and ask questions about growth, upcoming events, programs and more. These informal conversations are designed to improve communication and create connections with the surrounding residential and business communities. There is no set agenda for these sessions, just open Q&A. The conversation will begin in Room #K100P, and may include visits to other sites or a tour of campus. Campus parking is free in the evening.





## New to Bellevue?

### WELCOME TO CITY HALL!

Friday May 17, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

450 110th Ave. NE-City Hall Concourse

If you or someone in your neighborhood is new to Bellevue and has never visited City Hall, this fun and informative tour is for you!

“Welcome to City Hall” will introduce you to the basics of Bellevue city government and to the many resources available at City Hall. This event is FREE and a light lunch is included. Pre-register your preferred language of English or Chinese. Registration is required and space is limited. Please contact Julie Ellenhorn at 425-452-5372 or [jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov) to register.

貝爾優的新移民，歡迎你到市政廳來！

五月十七日，星期五，上午11:30至下午2:00

貝爾優市政廳大廳（地址：450 110th Ave. NE, Bellevue）

如果您或者您的鄰居，朋友是貝爾優的新移民，並且從未訪問過市政廳，那麼我們歡迎你參加這個名為“歡迎來到市政廳”的活動！

我們將向您介紹市政府的基本信息以及貝爾優市為市民提供的各項服務。此活動免費，名額有限，我們將為參與者提供免費午餐，請提前註冊。如有興趣獲取更多關於本次活動的信息或者註冊，請致電425-452-4342或電子郵件[ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov) 聯繫謝小姐。



## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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: [Planning.BellevueWA.gov/community-development/neighborhoods/neighborhood-news](http://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

