# BELRED LOOK FORWARD Key Policy Moves Open Space and Natural Systems

Emil A. King, AICP, Planning Director Gwen Rousseau, AICP, Senior Planner Community Development

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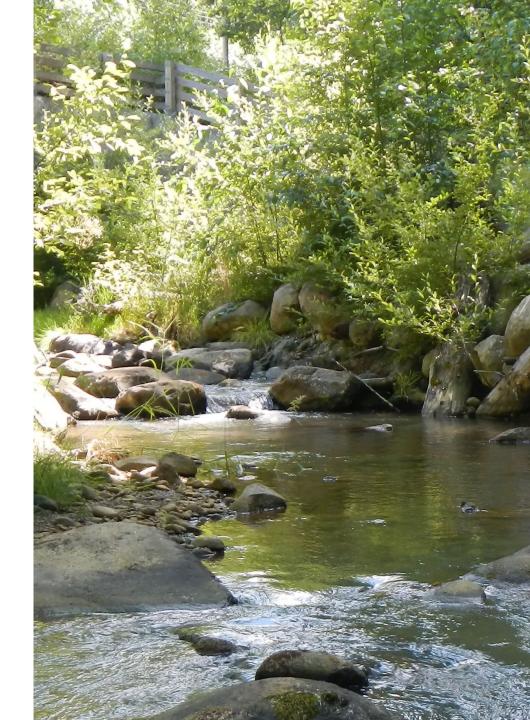
September 27, 2023

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# Direction

Confirm direction of policy moves related to **Open Space and Natural Systems** in the BelRed Subarea Plan occurring as part of the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update.

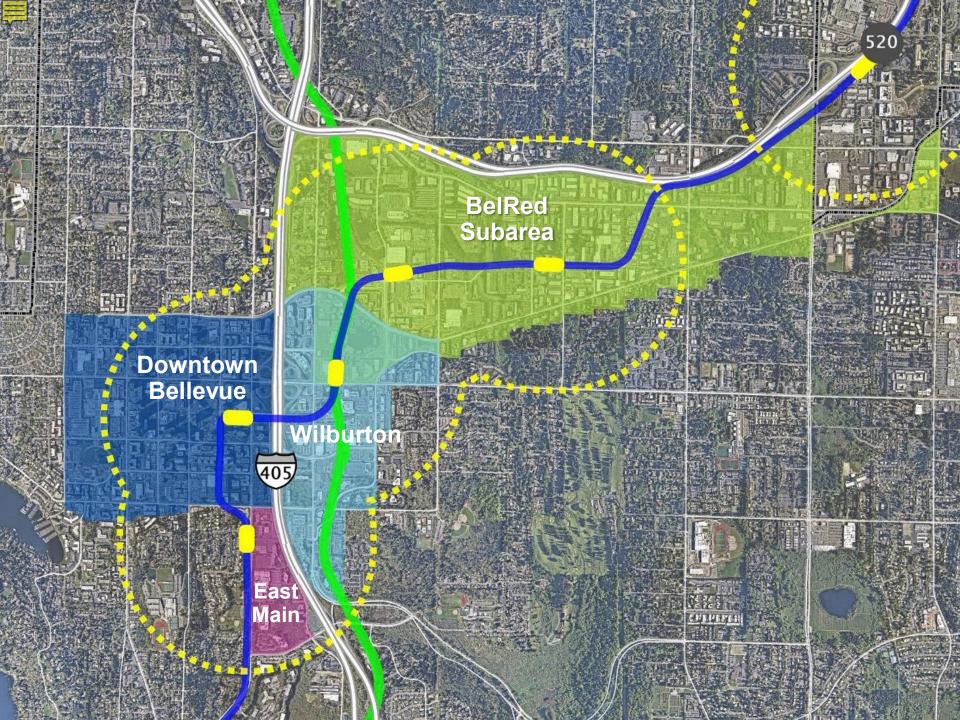


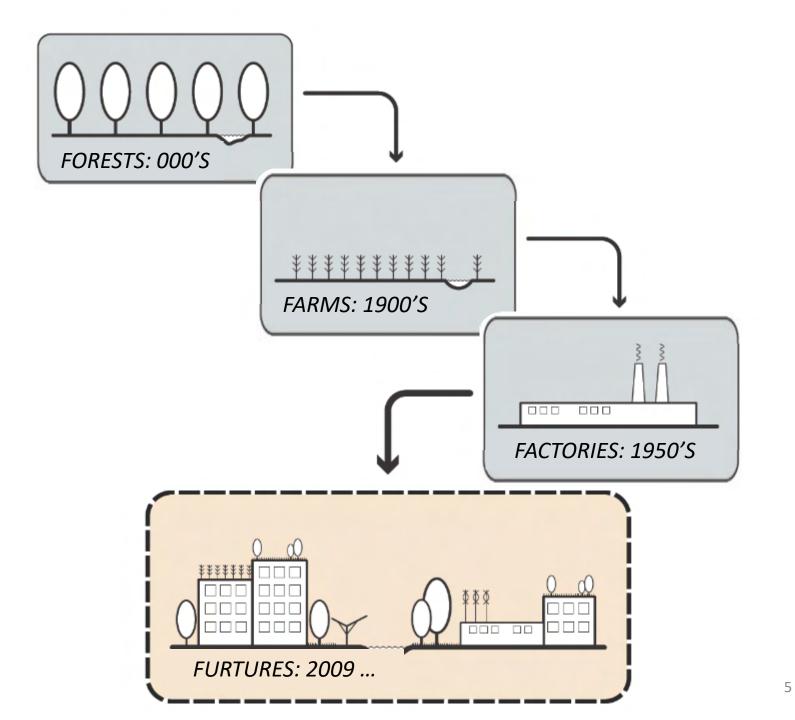


# Agenda

- Introduction
- Road Map
- Parks and Open Space
- Surface and Stormwater Planning and Climate Change Resilience
- Holistic and High-Performance Implementation











# **Scope of Work**

- Reflect new information
- Strengthen implementation strategies
- Increase residential capacity
- Collaborate with community partners to further the BelRed Vision







#### **September 27, 2023**

Open Space & Natural Systems

- Environment
- Parks & Open Space
- Urban Design

Cultural & Community Connections

October 25, 2023

- Arts, Culture & Creativity
- Urban Design

#### **December 13, 2023**

Land Use & Urban Form

- Land Use
- Housing
- Transportation



# **Key Policy Update Areas**

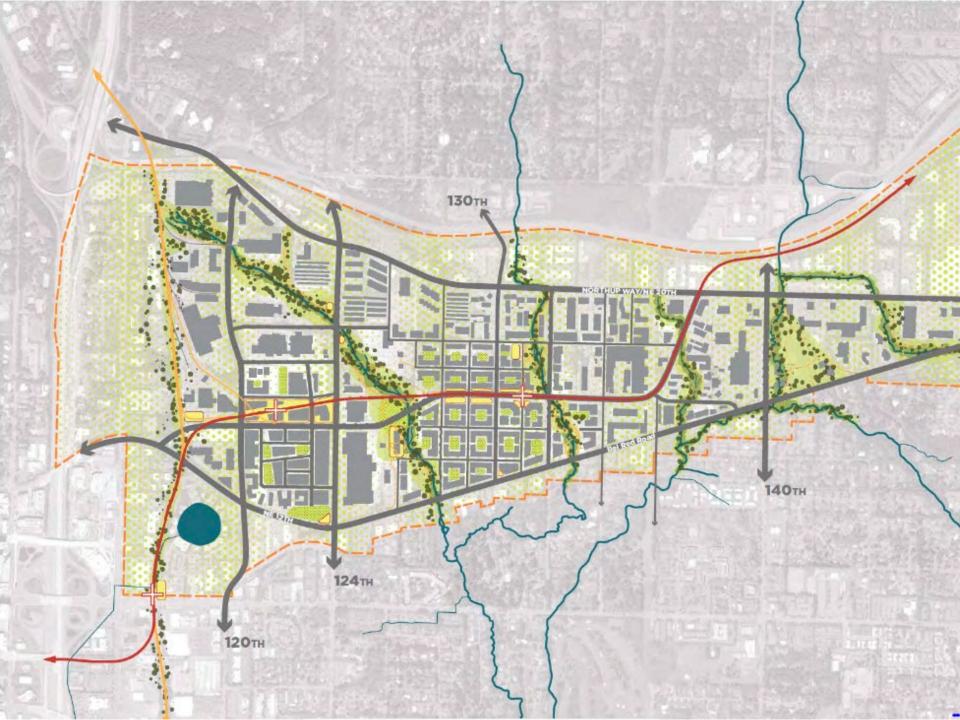
- Parks and open space expansion
- Surface and stormwater planning and climate change resilience
- Holistic and high-performance implementation

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE EXPANSION BelRed Vision



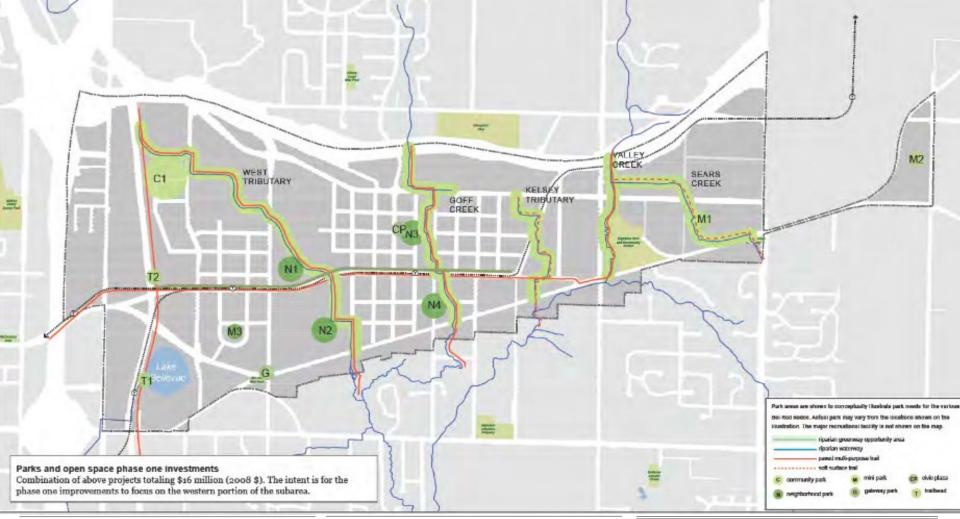
A comprehensive, connected parks and open space system.

- trails along stream corridors,
- urban and natural open space areas,
- community facilities,
- community and neighborhood parks, and
- cultural/arts features.



#### Park, Trail and Open Space System

# BelRed



- N-1 Neighborhood Park Along West Trib, adjacent to NE 16th Street Parkway. Integrates major trail systems and regional detention, with neighborhood park facilities. Includes 1 acre remnant transportation acquisition.
- N-2 Neighborhood Park Along West Tributary, adjacent to Bel-Red Road. Integrates major trail and neighborhood park facilities. Includes 3 acres Neighborhood Park / 1 acre riparian.
- N-3/ Neighborhood Park/Civic Plaza Along Goff Creek, north of
- CP NE 16th Street between 130th Avenue NE and 132nd Avenue NE. Integrates approximately 1-acre urban plaza along pedestrian oriented retail street with 3-acre neighborhood park and trail facilities along 1-acre riparian corridor.
- N-4 Neighborhood Park Along Goff Creek, between Bel-Red Road and NE 16th Street. Integrates trail system along riparian corridor with neighborhood park facilities. Includes 3 acres Neighborhood Park / 1 acre riparian

- G Gateway Park Near the intersection of 124th Avenue NE and Bel-Red Road. Integrates mini park facilities and potential art component near major road intersection to serve as gateway to the Bel-Red Corridor.
- T-1 Trail Head Located adjacent to BNSF at Lake Bellevue. Integrates a trailhead with mini park facilities at BNSF regional trail and Lake Bellevue.
- **T-2 Trail Head** Located at the BNSF regional trail corridor and the NE 15th/16th Parkway. Integrates a trailhead with mini park facilities at the crossing of the two major multi purpose trails.
- M-1 Mini Park Along Sears Creek west of 148th Avenue NE, between Bel-Red Road and NE 16th Street. Integrates trial system and riparian corridor with mini park facilities.

- M-2 Mini Park Centrally located between Bel-Red Road, 156th Avenue NE, and NE 20th Street. Incorporates mini park facilities to serve node.
- M-3 Mini Park Located between 120th Avenue NE and 124 Avenue NE and south of NE 15th/16th Street. Provides park facilities to serve residential and commercial mixed use development
- C-1 Community Park Along West Tributary adjacent to 120th Avenue NE. Incorporates trailhead and trail system along West Tributary and BNSF with community park facilities. Includes 10-acre acquisition through purchase for community park facilities and 7-acre open space dedication by adjacent owner.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE EXPANSION Looking Back



# <u>Strengths</u>

- Streams and wetlands provide framework for park and open space expansion.
- BelRed Park, Trail and Open Space System Plan identifies key opportunities.

#### <u>Weaknesses</u>

- Starting with a deficit of parks and community facilities.
- Fees in lieu have not kept pace with rising land values.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE EXPANSION Looking Forward



#### <u>Threats</u>

#### Few parks =

# Loss of park benefits:

- Active lifestyles,
- Livability,
- Resiliency,
- Community building, +

Disparate access to parks and open space.

# Community Feedback

- Parks and green spaces are highly valued.
- Ensure future generations can enjoy Bellevue's park-like setting.
- 66% of BelRed residents prefer a small park or trail within a 5-minute walk, no parking.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE EXPANSION POlicy Moves

- Exploring additional mechanisms for funding acquisition of parks and open space.
- Tying changes in fees in lieu to changes in land values.
- Evaluating opportunities to leverage public and private investments for the creation of linear parks, plazas and recreational trails, and for expanding access to natural areas.



# SURFACE AND STORMWATER PLANNING AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE BelRed Vision



**Environmental improvements** 

Redevelopment will provide opportunities for major environmental enhancements, including:

- improving riparian corridors,
- adding trees and green spaces, and
- providing a more environmentally sensitive approach to managing storm water and other natural resources.

# SURFACE AND STORMWATER PLANNING AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE Looking Back



### <u>Strengths</u>

- Streams and wetlands provide framework for improvements.
- "Green Streets" provide a basis for a network of natural drainage and connected corridors of trees and vegetation.

#### <u>Weaknesses</u>

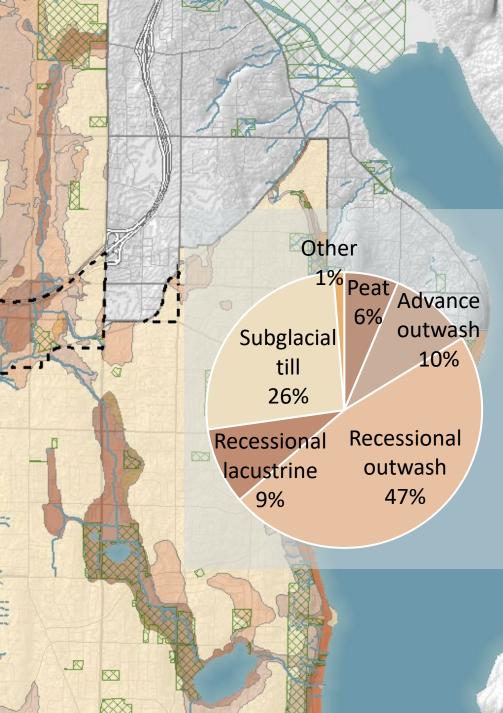
- Starting with a deficit of pervious surface, tree canopy and a high water table.
- Time / effort to daylight streams and restore riparian habitat cost prohibitive.
- Some conflicting requirements limit onsite natural drainage opportunities.
- Lack of a **coordinated** surface and stormwater strategy for the subarea.

# **Geologic Units**

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## SURFACE AND STORMWATER PLANNING AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE Looking Forward



#### <u>Threats</u>

• Increasing frequency, intensity, and duration of storm and high heat events.

#### NEWS

#### Fires, floods, destruction: Washington copes with worsening climate change

From rising sea levels and crop failures to dying forests and fish, Washington state is struggling

#### Drought, Heat Waves Worsen West Coast Air Pollution Inequality

## Community Feedback

- Bellevue residents value the city's streams, lakes and wetlands for the role they play in a healthy ecosystem.
- Expand tree canopy, especially in neighborhoods with low canopy levels.

How extreme heat scorched Pacific Northwest's evergreen trees

#### SURFACE & STORMWATER PLANNING Policy Moves

- Studying development of regional surface and stormwater facilities.
- Leveraging public and private investments in transportation, parks and open space facilities.



# CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE Policy Moves

 Building resilience to climate change through investments in and incentives for green building and biophilic design.





# HOLISTIC AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE IMPLEMENTATION BelRed Vision



Sustainability

New neighborhoods, buildings, streetscapes, parks and open space systems, environmental enhancements, and transportation facilities will also be planned, designed and developed using state-of-the-art techniques to enhance the natural and built environment and create a more livable community.

# HOLISTIC AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE IMPLEMENTATION Looking Back



## <u>Strengths</u>

- BelRed's nodal development pattern enables efficient use of land and energy.
- Overlapping natural and built environment
  networks provide a framework for
  synergistic solutions.

#### <u>Weaknesses</u>

- Some siloed planning resulting in less efficient and missed opportunities.
- Instances where blanket provisions fail to recognize unique site contexts.

# HOLISTIC AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE IMPLEMENTATION Looking Forward



#### <u>Threats</u>

- Incremental or site by site implementation falling short of ecological and livability goals.
- Implementation delay.

#### Community Feedback

• Reevaluate regulations that create barriers to sustainable design.

## HOLISTIC AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE IMPLEMENTATION Policy Moves

- Contextualizing the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) amenity incentive system to direct amenities where they will have the greatest impact.
- Evaluating barriers to sustainable design, relaxing requirements where possible, and seeking solutions that achieve a high level of performance for multiple objectives.





# Direction

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