

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

Resolution establishing a policy framework for City collaboration on technological innovation solutions to improve government services and support digital equity; authorizing use of City resources for innovation demonstrations and digital inclusion-related projects.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**ACTION**

This Resolution authorizes the City Manager or designee to execute a Technology Innovation Policy Framework to support and encourage design partnerships between the city of Bellevue and businesses and start-ups seeking civic design partnerships.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10525

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

In the second half of 2024, staff from the Information Technology Department conducted outreach with businesses, individuals, and non-profits to gather input on increasing innovation in Bellevue services. This work included stakeholder interviews, an open public survey, and thus far two in-person events soliciting feedback on priorities and actions.

From this input, staff and community members honed focus to three areas: supporting and enhancing digital equity; augmenting policies and priorities; and building thriving innovative ecosystems. The forum formed sub teams around these three areas of focus which include Bellevue staff, community members, and businesses. The sub teams have developed work plans and presented these plans to Council on June 3, 2025. Included in the work plan for the policy and priority team was bringing an innovation resolution and policy framework to council for consideration. Council gave input to staff during the June 3, 2025 meeting and directed staff to bring back the resolution for council consent.

Augmenting Policies and Priorities

A short-term priority for this sub-team is supporting a draft innovation resolution. The resolution would make it easier for start-ups seeking to test ideas with the city of Bellevue enter into partnership agreements. This priority also aligns these innovative partnerships with existing Council and strategic framework priorities.

Technology Innovation Policy Framework

The attached Technology Innovation Policy Framework, outlined in the proposed Resolution, prioritizes the innovative solutions to enhance city services by encouraging and streamlining design partnerships between the City and businesses, non-profits, and educational institutions, including:

- Supporting innovation partnerships with companies and entrepreneurs.

- Enhancing digital equity partnerships and opportunities.
- Assessing emerging technologies for wider deployment.
- Supporting digital equity opportunities
- Supporting start-up ecosystem

Following council input, staff made edits to the supporting partnership policy to include youth participation, stronger framing balancing risk and rewards and highlighting community impact.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Embedded in Council Priorities is the statement, “Innovation is an integral part of our community. We embrace and support innovation in all aspects of our community – systems, institutions, businesses, schools and government. This innovative spirit is crucial to Bellevue’s success.” The innovation forum seeks to enhance and support innovation across the community and the eastside.

Fiscal Impact

In the 2025/26 budget process, council adopted an innovative CIP to support this work. This funding will support innovation efforts and long-term goals to augment funding through partnerships.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution establishing a policy framework for City collaboration on technological innovation solutions to improve government services and support digital equity; authorizing use of City resources for innovation demonstrations and digital inclusion-related projects.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

A. City of Bellevue Innovative Design Partnership Policy (Version 1.0)
Proposed Resolution No. 10525

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A