

Great Neighborhoods Crossroads and Newport Neighborhood Area Plan Updates

Parks & Community Services Board

Teun Deuling, AICP
Community Development

May 21, 2025



City of Bellevue



For information and discussion

Staff request that the Board review draft policies for Crossroads and Newport, especially as they relate to parks, recreation and open space elements.



Agenda

1. Background
2. Planning Process
3. Scope Elements
4. Community Engagement
5. Draft Policies - Crossroads
6. Draft Policies - Newport



Program Objectives

1. Localize **citywide policies** that reflect **neighborhood priorities** through extensive **community engagement**
2. Develop **local policies** to address **issues and opportunities** to help the community **grow in a unique way**

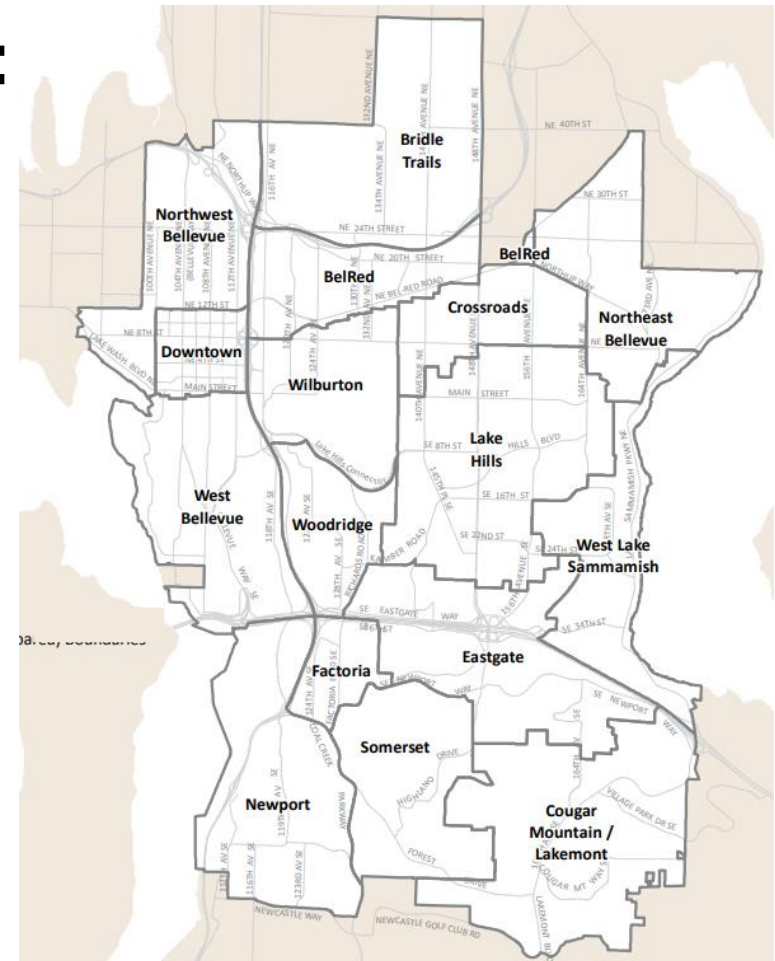


Background

Bellevue's Neighborhoods:

- 16 neighborhood areas
- Diverse and vibrant communities with unique identities

Program Launch: Initiated in 2018 to strengthen community connections.



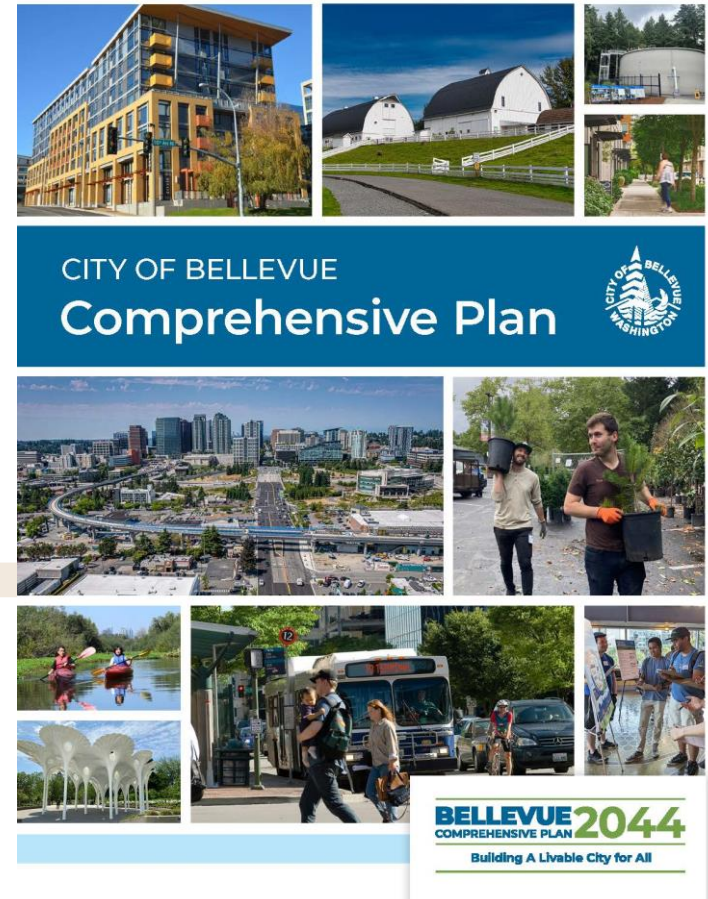
Background

Comprehensive Plan:

- Volume 1: Citywide policies
- Volume 2: Neighborhood-specific goals and policies

Why it is important:

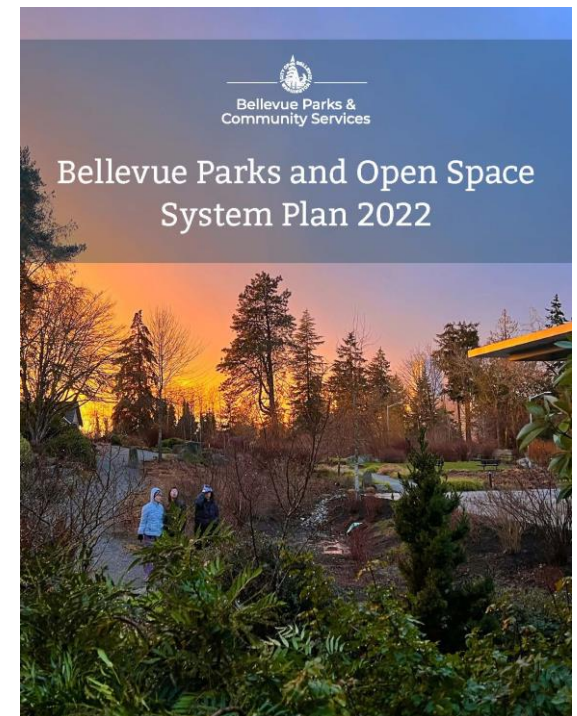
- Vision for how the community evolves and grows
- Long-range plan (20-year time horizon)
- Sets policy that guides city actions and decisions
- Guides capital investments



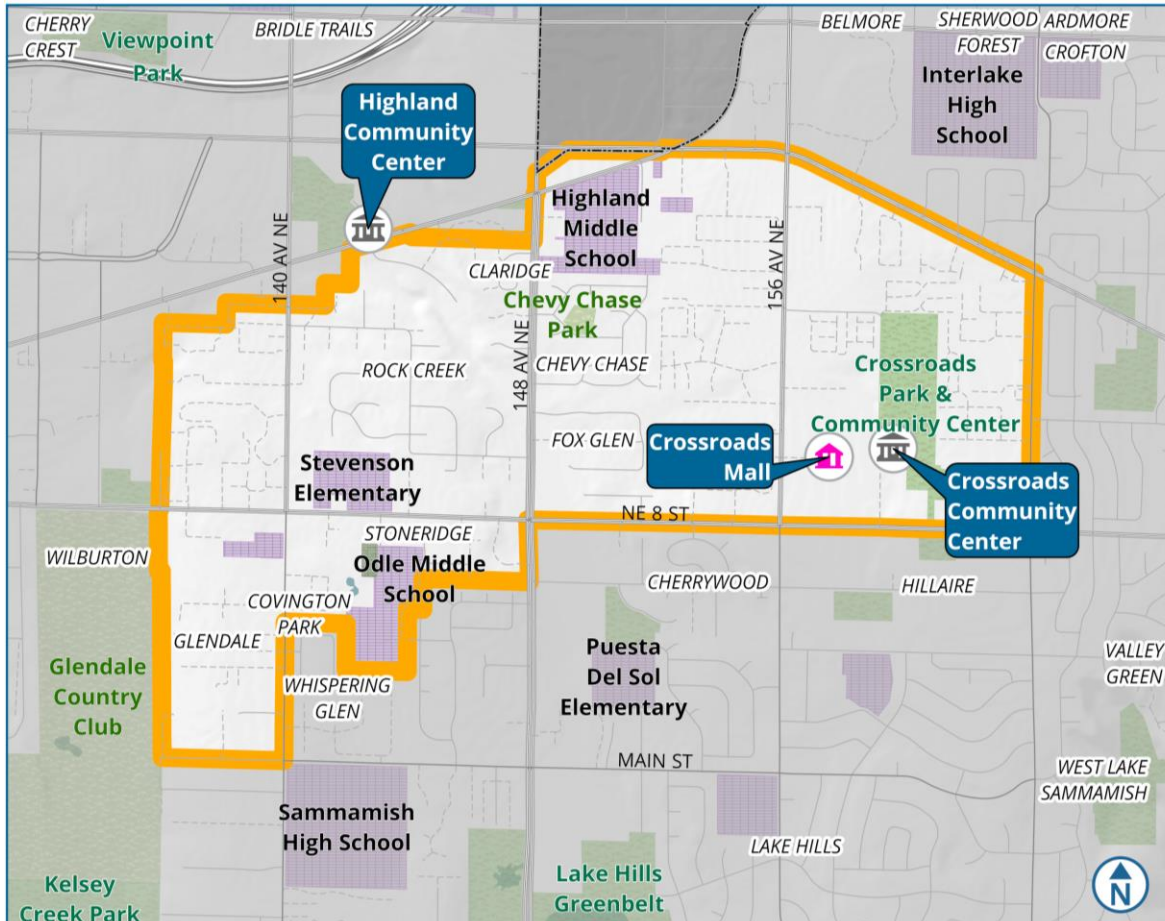
Background

Parks and Open Space System Plan:

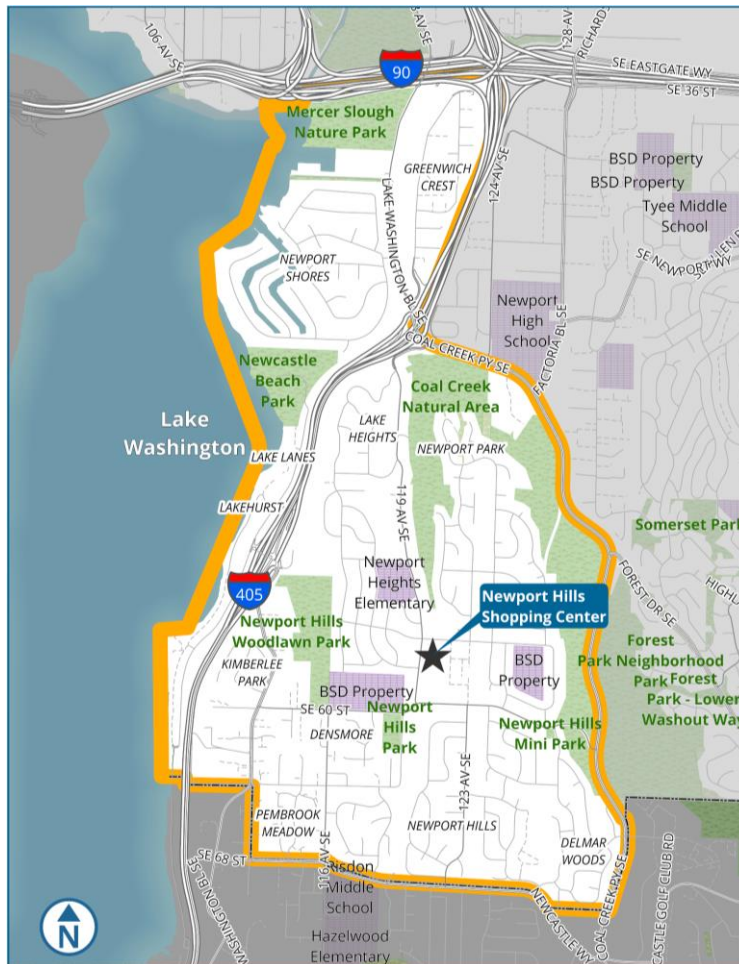
- Add neighborhood scale parks
 - Crossroads – western portion
 - Newport – underserved areas
- Connectivity to regional trails and parks
 - Crossroads – Crossroads Park
 - Newport – Coal Creek Natural Area, Eastrail



Diverse and Vibrant Crossroads

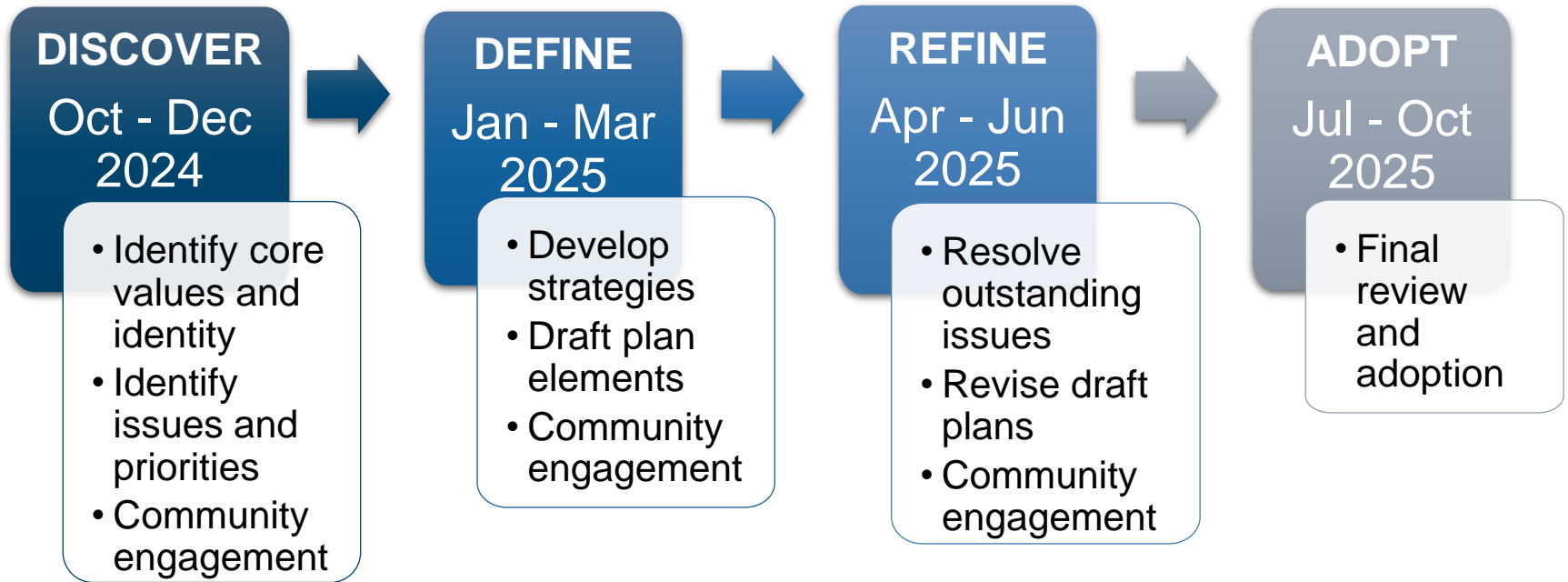


Diverse and Vibrant Newport



Neighborhood Planning Process

Boards and
Commissions



Key Elements of Neighborhood Plans



Urban Design



Neighborhood
Identity



Public Realm



Neighborhood
Connectivity



Land Use

The plans center around strengthening a neighborhood area's unique identity and community gathering places.

No changes to the Future Land Use Map were initiated by property owners.



Community Engagement

Equitable, inclusive engagement to ensure representative participation:

- Community clubs, HOAs and neighbors' groups
- Varied activities across the neighborhood areas
- Targeted outreach to diverse communities
- Collaboration with property managers, also at KCHA
- In-person activities with seniors and school kids



Our Engagement Reports provide a full summary and are included in the meeting packet.



What We Learned So Far

In Crossroads, community members:

- Desire more **play and creativity** in public spaces.
- Desire **improved access and orientation** to natural areas and other **green spaces**.
- Desire better **walking and biking connections**, including enhanced trails.
- Want to see more **senior activities**.
- Desire **small parks** and green areas.

Crossroads is known for its **convenience**. We pride ourselves on being a **diverse** and **culturally vibrant** neighborhood. Working together we can be a more **cohesive community** that enhances a **safe environment** for future generations.

*~ Participant
Vision Statement*



What We Learned So Far

In Newport, community members:

- Appreciate the many **trails and natural areas** that give Newport a **sense of beauty and quiet**.
- Desire an indoor space for more **community gatherings**.
- Want to see more support for **connectivity**, also through new and improved trail connections.
- Desire **improved access** to green spaces, especially Coal Creek Natural Area.

Newport Hills is known for its **low-key community**. We pride ourselves on being a neighborhood with **treasured green spaces** and a **fabulous location that is welcoming**. Working together we can be a more **stronger community** that enhances **community and opportunity** for future generations.

*~ Participant
Vision Statement*



Draft Policies

Crossroads



Draft Policies - Crossroads

Neighborhood Identity

S-CX-3

Integrate accessible signage and wayfinding into streetscapes and public spaces that use multiple languages and are culturally relevant to enhance neighborhood identity.

S-CX-6

Connect Crossroads Park with the surrounding commercial and residential areas through a safe, active and functional pedestrian environment that is integrated with the architecture, landscaping and signage of the surrounding land uses.



Draft Policies - Crossroads

Community Gathering Places

S-CX-17

Acquire parcels suitable for mini-parks where such parcels can have active transportation access, especially west of 152nd Avenue NE.

S-CX-20

Collaborate with the Bellevue School District to strengthen school sites' function in Crossroads as safe and welcoming community gathering places.



Draft Policies - Crossroads

Mobility and Access

S-CX-21

Recognize the mobility needs of people of all ages and abilities when planning and designing city streets, shared use paths and trails.

Environment

S-CX-29

Encourage and support increased visibility and access to natural areas, especially the Kelsey Creek Basin, for their enjoyment by the community.



Discussion

Do draft policies provide adequate direction for Crossroads, especially as they relate to parks, recreation and open space elements?



Draft Policies

Newport



Draft Policies - Newport

Neighborhood Identity

S-NP-5

Preserve existing visual features such as trees and hilltops, public views of water, and open space in new development when feasible.

Community Gathering Places

S-NP-13

Encourage the Bellevue School District to include community-serving uses in the redevelopment of its property and support the use of surplus Bellevue School District property as third places.

S-NP-15

Support multi-functional, programmable parks and other outdoor spaces for sports, cultural activities and recreation opportunities that meet the needs of the community.

S-NP-16

Acquire parcels suitable for mini-parks, especially where such parcels can be connected to the trail system.



Draft Policies - Newport

Mobility and Access

S-NP-21	Link trails across the neighborhood by expanding the public trail network as land and funding become available in collaboration with other public landowners.
S-NP-22	Collaborate with King County and other managers of local trails to implement signage to help people identify entrances to and connect between trail systems.
S-NP-24	Work with Newcastle and King County to connect to trail systems across jurisdictions.
S-NP-25	Work with school districts to enhance trails that pass through or are adjacent to school district property and connect them to the rest of the trail system.
S-NP-29	Expand access to Lake Washington and its tributary creeks and streams in ways that support their ecological functions and contribute to educational or recreational opportunities for the community.



Draft Policies - Newport

Environment

S-NP-30

Work with partners to preserve and enhance the wildlife habitat in Coal Creek Park, Newport Hills Woodlawn Park, Mercer Slough Nature Park and the riparian and green corridors between and adjacent to them.

S-NP-33

Add information signage throughout the public network about the natural areas, the animal habitat, and how people can contribute to the health of the environment.



Discussion

Do draft policies provide adequate direction for Newport, especially as they relate to parks, recreation and open space elements?



Next Steps

Staff will consider and incorporate input from the Parks and Community Services Board as part of the final draft policies.

Final draft policies for the Crossroads and Newport neighborhood area plans will be reviewed with Planning Commission in June.



Thank you!

Teun Deuling, *Community Development*

tdeuling@bellevuewa.gov

425-229-6534

