

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC**

Recommended amendments to Chapters 11.23 and 11.80 of the Bellevue City Code to allow for the establishment and administration of a paid on-street parking program in support of Bellevue's Curb Management Plan

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****DIRECTION**

Staff will present the recommended Bellevue City Code Amendment (BCCA) that outlines the city's approach to establishing conditions for a paid on-street parking program. Following discussion, staff seeks Council direction to prepare an ordinance for final action at a future meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Consider directing staff to finalize the Bellevue City Code amendments and prepare an ordinance to allow for the establishment and administration of a paid on-street parking program in Bellevue.

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS****Curb Management Program Overview**

Work began on the curb management program in 2022, which included a council adopted Comprehensive Policy Amendment (CPA) creating a policy foundation for curb management strategies. These policies were maintained with the adoption of the Bellevue 2044 Comprehensive Plan.

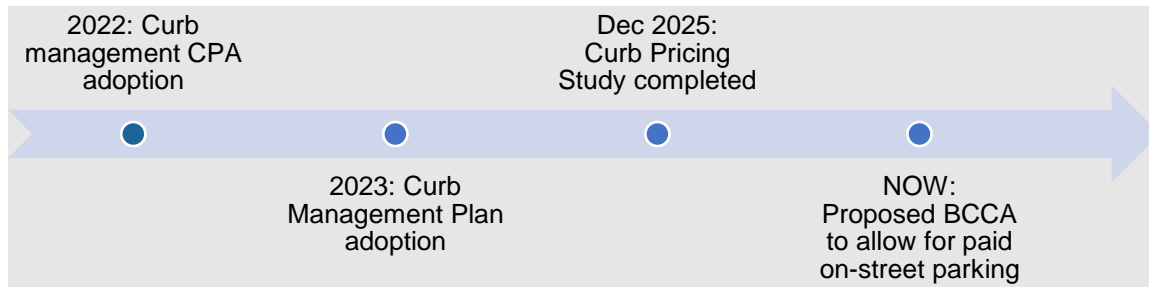
Work continued into 2023, with the adoption of the Curb Management Plan (CMP) in July of that year. The CMP provides long-range guidance on how to manage and operate curbside spaces within transportation right-of-way. One high-priority practice in the CMP aims to explore the implementation of a paid on-street parking system for Bellevue to better manage curbside demands.

The Transportation Department launched the Curb Pricing Study in 2024 in support of this practice. This was a multiyear study that collected existing parking behavior data and conducted robust public engagement to understand current uses of the curb and how paid on-street could support improved management of the curb in the densest neighborhoods of Bellevue. Data collection showed that existing on-street parking areas are overcapacity during many times of the day in areas like Downtown, Old Bellevue and the Spring District. National best practice demonstrates that paid parking is an effective strategy to properly manage curbside parking demand.

At the December 2, 2025 Council meeting, staff presented the Curb Pricing Implementation Strategy which summarized work completed during the Curb Pricing Study throughout 2024 and 2025. The document outlined a recommendation to implement paid on-street parking with a goal to achieve an 80% occupancy target for on-street parking areas in Bellevue's Urban Core neighborhoods of Downtown, BelRed, East Main, and Wilburton. At that meeting, Council moved unanimously to direct staff to prepare an ordinance and draft Bellevue City Code amendments to allow the advent of a paid

on-street parking program for consideration at a future meeting.

The recommended Bellevue City Code amendments (BCCA) to Chapters 11.23 and 11.80 provide the conditions to implement a paid on-street parking program in the City's Urban Core neighborhoods of Downtown, BelRed, Wilburton, and East Main. The proposed BCCA supports adopted policies and practices in both the Comprehensive Plan and the CMP.



### Recommended Code Amendments

To allow for the advent of a paid on-street parking, local codes must be updated to establish the administrative conditions for initiating and maintaining a curbside pricing program. Amendments to Chapters 11.23 and 11.80 in the Bellevue City Code are proposed.

The recommended BCCA (Attachment A) would:

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- Amend Chapter 11.23:
  - Create Council authority to set rate ranges for paid on-street parking areas.
  - Define the area in which paid on-street parking can be considered (“Curb Pricing Zone” – see Attachment B).
  - Delegate authority to the Transportation Director to set specific rates within the Council-established rate range and adjust rates as necessary to achieve the target occupancy goal.
  - Authorize the Traffic Engineer or designee to create curbside regulations, such as parking zones, loading zones, and shared micromobility parking zones.
  - Add provisions for payment options, enforcement, and penalties.
  - Add provisions for public notice of changes to curbside policies.
  - Establish conditions for the use of net revenues generated from the program to ensure funds are directly reinvested back into the curbside management program.
- Amend Chapter 11.80:
  - Delete WAC 308-330-270(5) from the city’s adoption of the Model Traffic Ordinance to avoid conflicting code provisions.

Additionally, existing practices in Bellevue require an ad-hoc approach to establishing curbside rules on a block-by-block basis. The proposed amendments would streamline this practice by providing authority to the Traffic Engineer to manage curbside rules without the need for block-by-block ordinance creation. Previously adopted ordinances regulating the curbside would be repealed in this process.

Streets within the Curb Pricing Zone that will initially receive paid on-street parking are shown in the map provided in Attachment C. As proposed in the BCCA, this map would be updated regularly as paid parking areas are added, modified, or removed over time.

## **POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**

### **Policy Impact**

The Curb Pricing Study and proposed implementation are aligned with the following Comprehensive Plan policies:

- TR-34: Consider implementation of a pay-for curb use program.
- TR-39: Develop and implement a curb management plan that designates a curb typology, establishes a pay-for curb use program recommendation, facilitates dynamic curbside management and accounts for various movement, access, and placemaking functionalities.

### **Fiscal Impact**

Establishing a curb pricing program will require initial capital investment for installation of payment stations, signage, mobile-based subscriptions and increased enforcement. For 2026, initial program implementation costs for design (approximately \$300,000) will be funded through PW-R-46 (Traffic Safety Implementation) in the existing 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget.

Construction and contract expenses incurred in 2027 are anticipated to be recouped through revenue generated from the program within one year of full operation. This program will ultimately provide an ongoing source of revenue to reinvest in the Curb Management Program.

## **OPTIONS**

1. Consider directing staff to finalize the Bellevue City Code amendments and prepare an ordinance to allow for the establishment and administration of a paid on-street parking program in Bellevue.
2. Provide alternative direction to staff.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. BCCA strike draft
- B. Map of proposed Curb Pricing Zone
- C. Map of streets to receive paid on-street parking during initial program launch

## **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

SEPA Environmental Checklist and SEPA Determination