

## Roberts, Karin

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**From:** VERNON SCHRAG <dwights30@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 08, 2019 12:22 PM  
**To:** EBCC  
**Subject:** Vision Zero Gun Safety Comprehensive Plan Proposal Permit # 19 103789 AC  
**Attachments:** AG Ferguson I-1639 Enforcement Letter to Police Chiefs-Sherrifs\_Feb 2019.pdf; AG BobFerguson\_s Feb Ltr\_Semi-automatic Assault Rifle law enforcement of I-1639 Gun SafetyFEB2019.pdf

Dear East Bellevue Community Council members (Steve Kasner, Betsi Hummer, Hassan Dhananjaya, Stephanie Walter & Ross Gooding):

FYI this memo and attachment/pdf files are sent for your consideration to encourage reviews, consideration of enactment and support of realistic Gun Safety Comprehensive Plans in Bellevue currently under **Threshold Review (now) by our Bellevue Planning Commission.**

Please reach out to your constituents and weigh in for their/your benefit. If enacted the Comprehensive Planning Ordinances and Policies (such as those already in place for Vision Zero Traffic Safety by 2030) will likely cover the entirety of our City in long-term visionary safety practices.

Your active support now and into years ahead will make a positive impact for Public Safety policies far into the future for School Children, residents, businesses and visitors to Bellevue.

Thank you for your public service. If you have questions about Vision Zero Gun Safety, please feel free to ask.

Also FYI, Nicholas Matz is Bellevue's Planning leader for these Threshold Reviews ongoing in March-April.

Warm regards,

Vernon Dwight Schrag

Bellevue Downtown resident

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**As set forth in RCW 35.14.050**, a community municipal corporation acting through its community council may:

(1) Make recommendations concerning any proposed comprehensive plan or other proposal which directly or indirectly affects the use of property or land within the service area;

(2) Provide a forum for consideration of the conservation, improvement or development of property or land within the service area; and

**(3) Advise, consult, and cooperate with the legislative authority of the city on any local matters directly or indirectly affecting the service area.**



**Bob Ferguson**  
**ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON**

Administration Division  
PO Box 40100 • Olympia, WA 98504-0100 • (360) 753-6200

February 12, 2019

Open letter to Washington's sheriffs and police chiefs refusing to enforce Initiative 1639:

In November 2018, Washingtonians overwhelmingly adopted Initiative 1639.

Numerous sheriffs and police chiefs have stated that they will not implement or enforce the initiative. I want to share my thoughts on this important issue, which affects both the safety of our communities and respect for the rule of law.

Like all laws passed by the people of Washington and their representatives, Initiative 1639 is presumed constitutional. No court has ruled that this initiative is unconstitutional.

I will defend Initiative 1639 against any legal challenge. My office defeated the legal challenge to the previous gun safety initiative passed by the people, and I am confident we will defeat any constitutional challenge to Initiative 1639 as well. Local law enforcement officials are entitled to their opinions about the constitutionality of any law, but those personal views do not absolve us of our duty to enforce Washington laws and protect the public.

I would like to focus on one component of Initiative 1639 in which you play a vital role, and have a legal obligation. Effective July 1, Initiative 1639 requires enhanced background checks for the purchase of semiautomatic assault rifles, which are identical to the enhanced background checks currently required for all handgun purchases in Washington state. Just like handgun purchases, local law enforcement officials are required to perform these background checks.

Local law enforcement has been performing these enhanced background checks for all handgun purchases in Washington state for many years. These enhanced background checks keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals who lawfully cannot own firearms because of a mental illness or criminal record. As far as I know, no Washington sheriff or police chief has refused to perform these enhanced background checks for handguns. Why refuse to perform them for semiautomatic assault rifles?

I am deeply concerned that the failure of local law enforcement to perform Initiative 1639's background check requirement will jeopardize public safety in our state by allowing the sale of semiautomatic assault rifles to dangerous individuals not lawfully allowed to own a gun.

State law provides immunity to local law enforcement officers who run these checks "in good faith." However, in the event a police chief or sheriff refuses to perform the background check required by Initiative 1639, they could be held liable if there is a sale or transfer of a firearm to a dangerous individual prohibited from possessing a firearm and that individual uses that firearm to

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**do harm.** In short, the taxpayers of your city or county assume the financial risk of your decision to impose your personal views over the law.

Outside your legal obligation to perform the background checks, you have discretion, of course, to prioritize your resources. This is a trust placed on you by the Washingtonians you serve. Enforcement discretion, however, cannot subvert the rule of law. All Washingtonians, including those of us in government, are equally subject to the law.

Analogies to marijuana and immigration law enforcement are misplaced. This is not a situation where the federal government is trying to force the state to enforce federal laws. Rather, Initiative 1639 was submitted to the people of Washington and was adopted as state law by nearly 60% of the people. No action by a city council or county commission can change this state law or the responsibilities and duties that the law vests in Washington's law enforcement agencies.

I am personally deeply opposed to the death penalty, and have maintained reservations about its constitutionality for many years – but my personal feelings about the death penalty did not impact my duties as Attorney General. Last October, our State Supreme Court unanimously ruled in *State v. Gregory* that Washington's death penalty was applied in an arbitrary and racially biased manner. Until the *Gregory* decision, however, my office continued to defend the death sentence in federal courts when death row inmates filed appeals, even after the Governor announced his moratorium. I did this out of respect for the rule of law. At the same time, I proposed legislation to the State Legislature to abolish the death penalty. If you personally disagree with Initiative 1639, seek to change it. Or file a lawsuit challenging it. But do not substitute your personal views over that of the people.

Under Article 1, Section 1 of the Washington State Constitution, "All political power is inherent in the people, and governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, and are established to protect and maintain individual rights." As public officers, our duty is to abide by the will of the people we serve, and implement and enforce the laws they adopt. I encourage you to do so.

Sincerely,



BOB FERGUSON  
Attorney General

RWF/jlg

WA AG Ferguson's Feb Ltr regarding Semi-automatic Assault Rifle law enforcement of I-1639 Gun Safety

## SUPPORTERS OF GUN-SAFETY POLICIES IN CITY OF BELLEVUE

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Dear Bellevue Gun Safety & I-1639 supporters:

We in WA are fortunate the Attorney General supports our citizen-voter enacted Gun Safety laws.  
**See attached letter to Sheriffs and Police Chiefs. (PASS IT ON)**

Note that per p.2 if law enforcement Does Not enforce and comply that **WE TAXPAYERS assume the risk for any non-compliance of enforcement as of July 1st.** The burden is on us to make sure we develop and enact appropriate City policy steps for Public Safety and legal enforcement.

**Vision Zero Gun Safety** proposal starts us down that vitally important action path for residents and taxpayers, schools and businesses in the City of Bellevue.

Further, **ALL Washingtonians are equally subject to I-1639 Law (see both p. 1 & p.2)** .... Per the Law the requirements are presumed Constitutional and must be complied with.

That seems straightforward and helps us to press for Bellevue Policies and Comprehensive Planning initiatives to assure laws are enforced for benefit of residents and taxpayers.

Our personal efforts to make this a working, meaningful step for our children's safety and our own are in our hands. We can lead the way to do this; and especially since we own the RISK of failing to act on our own behalf.

Warm Regards,

Dwight Schrag

Supporter of Bellevue VISION ZERO GUN SAFETY Proposal

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- [AG Ferguson I-1639 Enforcement Letter to Police Chiefs-Sheriffs\\_Feb 2019.pdf \(220 KB\)](#)

**Roberts, Karin**

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**From:** Dave Edson <dave.edson@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 09, 2019 4:03 PM  
**To:** EBCC  
**Subject:** Bike lane on se16th

On SE 16th between 148th and 156th there is not a single crosswalk and the road has no sidewalk on the south side near 156th.

Before adding a bike lane to a very hilly road (that most cyclists would take 22nd instead), please put a crosswalk down by the Ranger Station so that All Of Robinswood can safely cross 16th to get to the trails to Larsen lake.

Sent from my iPhone

**Roberts, Karin**

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**From:** Y Yu <yyqhdu@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 09, 2019 4:58 PM  
**To:** EBCC  
**Subject:** About Lake Hills-Phantom Lake transmission line project

Hello folks of EBCC,

I'm a resident of Lake Hill, and I saw the news today about PSE's Lake Hills-Phantom Lake transmission line project. More than 300 trees will be removed due to this project, which leads to a huge negative impact to the residents of Lake Hill. Is there a way to appeal Bellevue City's decision? I asked my neighbors and most of them are not aware of this project. I searched online and found there was already a lot of back and forth about this project since 2012, it surprised me that this week the City approves it.

Please let me know what we can do to help PSE to come up a better plan.

Thanks,  
YiQi

## Roberts, Karin

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**From:** p johnston <pamjjo@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 10, 2019 8:50 AM  
**To:** Pamela Johnston  
**Cc:** tuli.davenport@onebellevue.us; Albert Ting  
**Subject:** One Bellevue, Thursday March 14, 7:00pm, 1E-108

Dear Council members and Candidates,

One Bellevue is having an Election Kickoff meeting this Thursday. Our mission for this year includes understanding the issues and the candidates' positions. This meeting is set to kick-off the collaboration with the members on that project. As all of our team events have been, it is an open to all residents. You are welcome to participate, as we know that you would be willing to listen and work, rather than persuade. We have the same goal: to make Bellevue a strong community.

Because of the nature of elections, our membership has not included council members and candidates. However, it is our intention to collaborate with the City on common projects.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP at <http://OneBellevue.us>

If you have any questions, just ask. Reply or connect with me at 425-881-3301.

One Bellevue is a community-powered, non-partisan and non-profit. One Bellevue does not endorse any candidate.



**Who is One Bellevue?** Ordinary citizens who care deeply about our city and our neighbors and want to make a difference.

### One Bellevue...

#### Connects Neighborhoods

- Finds common ground between neighborhoods across the city.
- Works collaboratively to research the leading issues impacting the quality of life in Bellevue Neighborhoods
- Networking with Neighborhood leaders

#### Advances Neighborhoods

- Incubates Neighborhood and City advocacy issues
- Seek to understand and share City Council and Council Candidate's principles and ways of thinking for Voter choice
- Working with City staff to make it easier for all residents to access government
- Uses the tools of Government to impact government, especially to effect transparency, accountability, and fairness
- Seeking the city to embrace neighborhood activists as true partners
- Provide mentorship, information and support for neighborhoods facing issues like Comprehensive Plan amendments, rezones, and other land use changes and inappropriate projects.

#### Values Neighborhoods

- Alert neighborhoods to the importance of being involved before it is too late
- Creating an informed group of citizens by educating and mentoring residents interested in neighborhood concerns and city government,



- Provide the opportunities to engage and become civic leaders in the neighborhood, in the community, and at City boards and commissions and advisory committees.
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-*Camela Johnston*

## Roberts, Karin

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**From:** Fiona Cofield <fionaco44@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 7:21 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Cc:** EBCC  
**Subject:** Bellevue's future

Council members--

I have attached a [link here](#) to a video that illustrates the frightening conditions on Seattle's streets, which have gotten progressively worse over the past few years. I am specifically requesting that council members view a two-minute segment that begins at 40:00, about a small-business owner who once operated a boutique in Belltown. She has since moved her business to Bellevue, where she is pleased by the clean, calm streets and thriving economy. Her business here is apparently booming. She has nothing but good things to say about our city.

But I have to ask myself, "Will she need to move again?" If so, how much time does she have left to enjoy her renowned prosperity? What does Bellevue have to do to avoid becoming as unbearable, dirty, and miserable as Seattle currently is?

These are serious concerns, and I am not the only one asking them. Citizens are already wondering about the future of livability in Bellevue. The property taxes are high, the traffic is worsening, our roads are crumbling, crime is increasing, and our trees are vanishing. How do we keep Bellevue a good place to raise a family, grow a business, a City in A Park?

There are already RV's and trailers littered throughout the Spring District, East Bellevue and South Bellevue. Violent crime is [up](#). It is no longer unusual for me to witness customers shoplifting merchandise at the Fred Meyer on 148th-- rather, it is the new norm. The store employees look the other way, as they are instructed to do. In fact, quite a few individuals (perhaps with help from one of the local businesses) have set up their own mini-RV camp on that property, in back of the Sacred Heart thrift shop. More RV's have been allowed to call the Methodist Church "home" on Newport Way.

There were two instances of illegal camping on the Greenbelt at the Blueberry Farm in September. How many have yet to be discovered or reported throughout Bellevue's parks and green spaces? How long until our children start having to step over needles in our beloved parks and trails?

With the low-barrier shelter on the way, and the extended camping ban that allows for exceptions for those who are homeless, **is Seattle Bellevue's future?** How do we avoid making the same mistakes, when we are clearly following their example?

I hope this video inspires you to ask yourselves these questions. I ask you to see that despite Seattle's best efforts to contain the crisis in certain pockets of the city, it has spread to every corner. The shelter will be in Eastgate, but the homeless will go where they please. If the council is concerned with the expensive real estate in Downtown Bellevue, they should know that those properties are at risk too. Like Karen Dannenberg's shop.

Karen owns a business, but it's important to remember she is a person, and I would like to ask the Council to consider that people matter. The homeless people are people, and they matter. They don't deserve Seattle's nightmare, and neither do we.

How can we avoid the eventuality that Seattle suffers? How long will Bellevue live, while Seattle dies? Their council, staff and legal departments have made choices that have brought them to where they are right now. Will you do the same, or will you choose to enforce our laws and codes, allow our police force to fulfill their duties, and prosecute criminals and trespassers?

Tent fires and mental illness and human waste on the streets--these should serve as lessons, and I hope to God they do. Whatever happens to Bellevue, you will be our legacy. I hope you are up to the challenge. All eyes are on you to save us from Seattle's fate.

Fiona Cofield