

## MOBILITY AND ACCESS

With its proximity to both Downtown Bellevue and highway access to both I-405 and SR 520, Northwest Bellevue has a multitude of jobs, activities, services, and more within easy access. There is a network of arterials connecting the residential streets to this larger system. Transportation improvements are focused on these important arterial corridors.

This great vehicular access can also create a challenge to Northwest Bellevue. Nearby highways and major arterials like Bellevue Way can create barriers to local mobility across multiple modes of transportation. In addition, the residential streets tend not to be interconnected in the area, enhancing reliance on Bellevue Way NE, 100th Ave NE, NE 24th Street, and NE 8th Street to get through the neighborhood. Residential streets that do connect through longer portions of the neighborhood can attract cut-through traffic. Drivers who exceed posted speed limits on residential streets and along the arterials dissuade many residents from walking, biking, and taking transit, particularly with many gaps in the sidewalks and bikeways.

Residents have prioritized these alternate modes of transportation, seeking improvements particularly for pedestrian safety and opportunity. Whether they want to get out for some exercise, enjoy the greenery and fresh air, or get to a destination with Downtown or another commercial use that is walkable for many, Northwest Bellevue residents want to invest in improving the experience for those walking in the neighborhood.

~~With many arterials that break up the neighborhoods and many neighborhoods that lack sidewalks, residents worry about pedestrian safety. They tend to desire prioritization of pedestrian improvements over vehicular, transit, or bicycle improvements as a way to enhance neighborhood safety and experience.~~

### ***Mobility and Access Goals and Policies***

**To improve pedestrian safety and encourage walking in the area, particularly to or from residential areas.**

POLICY S-NW-27 Address vehicle speeds and safety concerns along arterials, particularly along both Bellevue Way NE and NE 24th St near the intersection of the two.

POLICY S-NW-28 Utilize traffic calming measures to discourage people from driving faster than the speed limit within residential neighborhoods.

POLICY S-NW-29 Increase designated pedestrian areas and sidewalks within Northwest Bellevue, prioritizing the safety of pedestrians in determining locations of new walking paths.

POLICY S-NW-27POLICY S-NW-30 Encourage pedestrians to cross arterial streets within designated crosswalks or intersections.

POLICY S-NW-28POLICY S-NW-31 Explore opportunities to install new safe crossing locations where gaps are present, particularly along Bellevue Way NE near Northtowne Shopping Center.

POLICY S-NW-29POLICY S-NW-32 Improve visibility of pedestrian areas when sidewalks are not present.

POLICY S-NW-30POLICY S-NW-33 Maintain a pedestrian path clear of obstacles where feasible when sidewalks are present.

~~POLICY S-NW-31POLICY S-NW-27 Utilize traffic calming measures to discourage people from driving faster than the speed limit within residential neighborhoods.~~

~~POLICY S-NW-32~~ ~~POLICY S-NW-27~~ — Address vehicle speeds and safety concerns along arterials, particularly along both Bellevue Way NE and NE 24th St near the intersection of the two.

**To encourage multiple methods of access through and within Northwest Bellevue.**

~~POLICY S-NW-33~~ ~~POLICY S-NW-34~~ — Prioritize completing gaps between existing sidewalks or bikeways in pedestrian and bicycle networks to provide continuity within the pedestrian and bicycle networks.

~~POLICY S-NW-34~~ ~~POLICY S-NW-35~~ — Explore ways to support increased public transportation and ride-sharing use in Northwest Bellevue.

~~POLICY S-NW-35~~ ~~POLICY S-NW-36~~ — Explore ways to improve and maintain bicycle access to Eastrail at 108th Ave NE.

**To maintain efficient and safe vehicular movement within Northwest Bellevue.**

~~POLICY S-NW-36~~ ~~POLICY S-NW-37~~ — Maintain a clear distinction between arterials and neighborhood streets, discouraging commuter through-traffic from using residential streets to get to their destination.

~~POLICY S-NW-37~~ ~~POLICY S-NW-38~~ — Minimize new vehicular access points to major arterials to facilitate efficient traffic movement.

~~POLICY S-NW-38~~ ~~POLICY S-NW-39~~ — Explore transportation improvements on streets that lead to/ from and intersect with SR-520 that reduce vehicle speeds and improve safety.

**To protect and enhance easy access to goods, services, and gathering places within Northwest Bellevue.**

~~POLICY S-NW-39~~ ~~POLICY S-NW-40~~ — Prioritize transportation enhancements that improve safety and access between residential areas and popular destinations, particularly schools, parks and transit stops.

~~POLICY S-NW-40~~ ~~POLICY S-NW-41~~ — Create direct pedestrian connections between parks and nearby residential areas.