

CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Regular Meeting

December 13, 2021
6:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Robinson, Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis, and Councilmembers Barksdale, Lee, Robertson, Stokes and Zahn

ABSENT: None.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m., with Mayor Robinson presiding.

2. Roll Call; Flag Salute

City Clerk Charmaine Arredondo called the roll. All Councilmembers were present and participating remotely. Councilmember Barksdale led the flag salute.

3. Approval of Agenda

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to approve the agenda, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

4. Oral Communications

- (a) Craig Spiezle, speaking on behalf of the Lochleven Community Association (LCA), expressed support for the updated draft Northwest Bellevue Neighborhood Area Plan. He thanked City staff, the Planning Commission, residents and the City Council for their involvement and responsiveness. He said residents are interested in participating in an advisory role toward evaluating considerations and establishing guardrails related to different housing types. He said it is important that private parties and developers do not compromise the integrity of the neighborhood planning work. Mr. Spiezle noted the proposed amendment to the Northwest Bellevue plan and said the LCA has challenged the applicant's legal standing and has asked the City Attorney to disqualify their application. He expressed concern regarding the proposal to rezone certain property from

multifamily-high (MF-H) to mixed use (MU). He asked the Council to stop others' efforts to undermine the fabric of their neighborhood.

- (b) Dick Thompson, a Northtowne resident, commented on Ordinance No. 6635 adopting the Northwest Bellevue Neighborhood Area Plan. He recalled that he opposed the plan presented to the Council on November 22. However, after listening to the Council's discussion and revisions, he said he is no longer opposed to the plan. He thanked the Council for listening to the community. He asked the City to involve residents in the next major update to the Comprehensive Plan.
- (c) Luci Chai thanked Councilmembers for their discussion on November 22 and expressed support for the proposed amendments to the Northwest Bellevue plan. She is glad to hear that safety and environment will be emphasized and addressed. She encouraged a more robust public engagement effort to consider detached accessory dwelling units (DADUs). She felt there was low public participation in the recent neighborhood planning.
- (d) Victor Bishop, former Chair of the Transportation Commission and current Legislative Chair for the Eastside Transportation Association (ETA), commented regarding Ordinance No. 6633 adopting the Transportation Element Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA). He encouraged the Council to revise Policy TR-2 to refer to "reduce" congestion instead of "manage" congestion. He recalled that the ETA sent a letter to the Council dated December 1 regarding this issue. Mr. Bishop said that traffic congestion is a top priority for residents, and the City has an obligation to reduce congestion as a primary function of the Comprehensive Plan.
- (e) Court Olson described the first meeting of the Residential Energy Efficiency Work Group hosted by Jennifer Ewing, Environmental Stewardship Program Manager. Mr. Olson said the group is focused on ways to increase energy efficiency and reduce energy bills for residents. He praised Ms. Ewing for her work with the community.
- (f) Christopher Randels, a Lake Hills resident, said he is an environmental science researcher and community organizer. He commented on the significant challenge of finding affordable housing in Bellevue. He encouraged the development of more types of housing, including DADUs, throughout the community to ensure equitable impacts.
- (g) Todd Woosley commented regarding Ordinance No. 6633 amending the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan. He noted his past service as Vice Chair of the Transportation Commission. He asked the Council to support the policy language: "to strive to reduce congestion." He said the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Transportation Element amendment. He said they also recommended that the Council retain the policy goal of reducing congestion, which is broadly supported by the public as well.
- (h) Leysha Wig encouraged Council adoption of the East Main Land Use Code Amendment (LUCA). She thanked the Council and City staff for their extensive work with Wig Properties and the community over the past seven years. She said they look forward to

creating a place that surpasses the Council's expectations and establishes a landmark for the community.

- (i) Matt Jack, representing the Bellevue Downtown Association (BDA), encouraged the Council to adopt Ordinance No. 6633 amending the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan. Regarding policy TR-2, he asked the Council to consider how vehicle congestion can be reduced in the Downtown if more people are expected to be living and working in the Downtown. He encouraged the Council to think about the best ways to support growth.
- (j) Chris Buchanan, speaking on behalf of Downtown Action to Save Housing (DASH), said the organization was founded in 1991 to provide affordable workforce housing in Downtown Bellevue. She expressed support for Ordinance No. 6631 and thanked Councilmembers for their support of the amendment and for their efforts to provide more housing choices. She said DASH looks forward to continuing its partnership with the City to provide more homes for working families and seniors.
- (k) Mark Walters, a member of the Lochleven Community Association (LCA) Board, said he attended his first Planning Commission meeting and he was impressed with the presentation and discussion. He thanked them for their professionalism and said he looks forward to working with them in the future.

5. Reports of Community Councils, Boards, and Commissions: None.

6. Report of the City Manager

- (a) 2021 Digital Cities Award

City Manager Brad Miyake said the City received a Digital Cities award for the fifth year in a row.

Sabra Schneider, Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department (ITD), said Bellevue won third place this year in the 2021 Digital Cities awards for cities with 125,000-250,000 in population.

PJ Rodriguez, Chief Operations Officer, ITD, said the Center for Digital Government conducts an annual city survey to address data management/analytics, networking and security, digital innovation, culture and leadership, application development, user-centric technology and cost-effectiveness. He said partnerships are a critical component of the Council's vision for a smart, connected and innovative city. Mr. Rodriguez noted regional collaboration with the eCityGov Alliance and the Community Connectivity Consortium.

Enzhou Wang, Senior IT Manager, said the Bellevue projects highlighted in the 2021 survey included fiber infrastructure, free public Wi-Fi, the City's virtual permit center, State of Our Neighborhoods report and the Police Department data dashboard.

Ms. Schneider thanked the Council for its support of staff's efforts.

Mayor Robinson commended staff for their work and accomplishments.

(b) 2021 Resident Performance Survey

City Manager Miyake introduced staff's update regarding the 2021 resident survey.

Toni Call, Director of Finance and Asset Management (FAM) Department, said the 2021 survey is the 24th resident performance survey conducted by the City. There were a total of 439 respondents to the survey, online or by phone, and the survey was conducted in five languages. Regarding overall quality of life in Bellevue, 94 percent of the survey respondents said it exceeds or greatly exceeds expectations. Consistent with recent years, 90 percent of the respondents rated the overall quality of City services as exceeding or greatly exceeding expectations.

When asked if they feel they are getting their money's worth for their City tax dollar, 76 percent of the survey respondents indicated that they are getting their money's worth or are definitely getting their money's worth. An increase over the past few years, 76 percent of the respondents said they somewhat or strongly believe Bellevue is headed in the right direction. Nearly all (95 percent) survey respondents rated their neighborhood as good or excellent.

Ms. Call said this is the first year the survey included questions related to a sense of belonging, which covers four categories: emotional connection, influence, membership and needs fulfillment. She said older adults tended to report a greater sense of belonging than individuals 35 years old or younger. She said the survey results indicate that a majority of residents feel an emotional connection to the community and that its needs are being fulfilled.

Mayor Robinson thanked staff for the update.

7. Council Business and New Initiatives

(a) Determining Procedure for Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor at Council's January 3, 2022 Meeting

Mayor Robinson said the Council would be electing a Mayor and Deputy Mayor during its January 3, 2022 meeting.

City Clerk Charmaine Arredondo said the Mayor and Deputy Mayor positions are two-year terms and the Council elects a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor at the first regular business meeting of even-numbered years. She requested Council direction regarding two options for conducting the elections. The Council has used simultaneous voting for the past four elections. Nominees are called for and then voted on simultaneously via a roll call vote or ballot vote. She said the Council has historically used paper ballots for voting. However, given the virtual meeting format, the Council should choose whether to use a roll call vote or an electronic/mailed ballot. Once an individual secures a majority vote, he or she will be deemed elected.

Ms. Arredondo said the second option is outlined in Robert's Rules of Order and requires that each nominee be voted on individually in the order of nominations. This method requires Councilmembers to vote no on a candidate until their preferred candidate is being voted on. The vote options are a voice vote, roll call vote or electronic/mailed ballot.

Councilmember Robertson said the Council has been using the simultaneous voting method for the past eight years and it has served the Council well. She suggested a roll call vote.

Councilmember Stokes concurred, noting that the simultaneous voting method is the quickest and most congenial.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis concurred with Ms. Robertson.

- Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt a temporary Council rule authorizing to conduct the January 3, 2022 elections for Mayor and Deputy Mayor by voting all nominees simultaneously using the roll call method of voting. Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.
- The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

(b) Selection of Temporary Chair for January 3, 2022 Council Meeting

City Clerk Arredondo said the Council has a longstanding practice of designating a member to act as the temporary chair for the first meeting in January to preside over the election of the Mayor. Once the Mayor is elected, that individual takes over the gavel and proceeds with the election of the Deputy Mayor.

- Councilmember Stokes nominated Mayor Robinson to serve as temporary chair for the January 3, 2022 Council meeting. Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis seconded the motion.
- The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

(c) Council Liaison Recommendation for Appointment to Human Services Commission

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis recommended the appointment of Angela Phan to the Human Services Commission to serve a partial term expiring on May 31, 2022. Mr. Nieuwenhuis said Ms. Phan is a professional child care specialist and has served on Bellevue's Youth Link Board. She is a member of the Youth Link Board's diversity, equity and inclusion subcommittee and is working on a mentorship program with the most at-risk Latinx and Hispanic children at Highland Middle School. Mr. Nieuwenhuis said Ms. Phan recently joined the Bellevue School District PTSA and volunteers with Backpacks for Kids.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to appoint Angela Phan to the Human Services Commission to serve a partial term expiring on May 31, 2022. Councilmember Lee seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

8. Consent Calendar

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to approve the Consent Calendar, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion to approve the Consent Calendar carried by a vote of 7-0, and the following items were approved:

- (a) Council Minutes
Minutes of November 22, 2021 Regular Meeting
- (b) Motion to approve payment of claims and payroll for the period November 1, 2021 - November 30, 2021.
- (c) Resolution No. 10039 authorizing execution of a grant agreement with King County for \$1,500,000 through the Flood Reduction Grant Program for the Valley Creek at NE 21st Street Urban Flood Reduction Project, with the executed agreement to be substantially in the form as the agreement in the Council Library.
- (d) Resolution No. 10040 approving the A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH) 2022 Administrative Budget and Work Program as recommended by the ARCH Executive Board.
- (e) Resolution No. 10041 authorizing execution of Amendment No. 2 to the administrative services contract between the City of Bellevue and Premera Blue Cross extending the term through December 31, 2022, and establishing rates and terms for calendar year 2022 medical and prescription drug third party administrator services, in an amount not to exceed \$820,000, plus all applicable taxes.
- (f) Resolution No. 10042 authorizing execution of Amendment No. 2 to the professional services agreement between the City of Bellevue and the Benefit Services Group, Inc., extending the term to December 31, 2023, and establishing fees and costs for calendar years 2022-2023 online health benefit enrollment and management services, in an amount not to exceed \$280,000, plus all applicable taxes.
- (g) Resolution No. 10043 execution of the ORCA card agreement with King County for the purchase of ORCA cards for City of Bellevue employees for 2022, in an amount not to exceed, \$215,000, plus all applicable taxes.

- (h) Resolution No. 10044 authorizing execution of all documents necessary to implement settlement of the claim brought by Alexey Ball in the amount of \$130,000.
- (i) Resolution No. 10045 authorizing the purchase of 11 adult changing tables from Harbor Medical Inc. in the amount of \$94,807, plus all applicable taxes, for installation in restrooms throughout the Parks system.
- (j) Resolution No. 10046 authorizing execution of an amendment to renew an agreement with Stein, Lotzkar and Starr, P.S., Inc., to provide public defense services for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025, in the amount of \$915,036 per year plus all applicable taxes for up to 1,812 cases annually, plus other sums as provided for therein, including appeals and court costs.
- (k) Resolution No. 10047 authorizing an amendment to an agreement with Cornerstone OnDemand, Inc., in the amount of \$89,924.73, plus all applicable taxes, to add Content Anytime Leadership & Management, Content Anytime Professional Skills, and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion training courses for one year, plus all applicable taxes, with the option to extend the services for an additional year at a 2 percent fee increase.
- (l) Resolution No. 10048 authorizing the execution of a contract with Great Western Recreation for the demolition of existing play equipment and the purchase and installation of new play equipment at Cherry Crest Mini Park, in an amount not to exceed \$101,415.16, plus all applicable taxes.
- (m) Resolution No. 10049 authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 3 to the Aon Risk Insurance Services West Inc. Professional Service Agreement to increase the total not to exceed amount of \$400,000, plus all applicable taxes to a not to exceed amount of \$480,000, plus all applicable taxes and to extend the term of the Agreement from September 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Robinson called for a short break. The meeting resumed at 7:07 p.m.

9. Public Hearing

- (a) Public Hearing and action on Ordinance No. 6637 extending an Interim Official Control adopted by Ordinance No. 6585, which amended sections 20.10.440, 20.25A.050, 20.25D.070, 20.25F.010, 20.25L.020, and 20.25P.050 of the Land Use Code (LUC) to allow permanent supportive housing and transitional housing in all land use districts where residential uses and/or hotels and motels are allowed, and to allow Homeless Services Uses in all land use districts where hotels and motels are allowed; amending the definition of Homeless Services Uses in LUC 20.20.455 for conformance and consistency with state law; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

City Manager Miyake introduced the public hearing regarding the extension of the interim official control (IOC) established by Ordinance No. 6585 related to supportive housing and emergency housing/shelters.

Mike Brennan, Director of the Development Services Department (DSD), said staff is working with the Planning Commission and stakeholders to develop recommendations for permanent regulations related to supportive and emergency housing.

Trisna Tanus, Consulting Attorney, DSD, recalled that House Bill 1220 went into effect on July 25 and requires cities to: 1) allow permanent supportive and transitional housing in all land use districts where residential dwellings or hotels are allowed, and 2) allow emergency housing and emergency shelters in all land use districts where hotels are allowed. The IOC was designed to bring the Land Use Code in compliance with the new state law while permanent regulations are developed. Ms. Tanus said more time is needed for the Planning Commission and staff to complete their work.

Caleb Miller, Senior Planner, said that permanent supportive housing and transitional housing provide supportive services to help keep tenants permanently in housing and to transition them to independent housing when possible. Emergency housing and shelters are intended to address basic daily needs for short-term stays. Mr. Miller said the current IOC adds a note to the land use tables to indicate that permanent supportive and transitional housing are allowed in districts where residential and hotel/motel uses are allowed. It also amends land use tables to allow homeless services uses, including emergency shelters, only in districts where hotel/motel uses are allowed. Mr. Miller said no other changes to homeless services uses regulations are included in the IOC.

Mr. Miller said that if the IOC is extended, it will expire on July 12, 2022. It may be extended again if necessary and if another public hearing is held. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in January on the proposed LUCA with permanent regulations. The East Bellevue Community Council (EBCC) will ultimately take action on the City Council's LUCA ordinance.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to open the public hearing, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

No one came forward to comment.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to close the public hearing, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6637 extending the Interim Official Control adopted by Ordinance No. 6585. Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

10. Study Session

(a) Newport Hills Park Name Recommendation

City Manager Miyake introduced discussion regarding the name for a new park in the Newport Hills neighborhood. He recalled that in May, the Council provided supplemental park naming guidance to the Parks and Community Services Board. Since that time, the Board solicited additional community input as directed by the Council.

Michael Shiosaki, Director, Parks and Community Services Department, said the planning process for the new park began in May 2019. It concluded eight months later with a Parks and Community Services Board recommendation and a Council-supported preferred design for the 13-acre park.

The planning process included three community meetings, two Board meetings and one Council meeting, all of which were well attended. City staff asked residents for potential park names and the most frequent suggestions included references to the neighborhood and natural features (e.g., woods, sunset, creek and trails), recognition of the area's coal mining history and neighborhood historical figures. In the fall of 2020, staff conducted an online survey and 203 responses were received. They identified several preferred names: Newport Hills Neighborhood Park, Ringdall Park, Newport Hills Sunset Park, and Newport Woods Park. After a thorough deliberation, the Parks and Community Services Board voted to recommend the name Borghild Ringdall Neighborhood Park to the City Council.

Mr. Shiosaki said the City's policy is to choose names for parks and facilities based on a neighborhood or geographical identification, a natural or geographic feature, a historic figure or name of historical or cultural significance, or on a corporation, nonprofit organization or individual who has made a significant contribution to the parks system and who has a compelling connection to Bellevue or the park system.

During the Council's May 3 meeting, the Council opted to not adopt the Parks and Community Services Board's recommended name (Borghild Ringdall Neighborhood Park) and provided supplemental guidelines. The Council agreed that parks are not to be named after a person and should not duplicate existing park/place names. The Council suggested including Newport or Newport Hills and glen or meadow in the name, with preferences to be informed by the Newport Hills neighborhood.

David Hamilton, Chair of the Parks and Community Services Board, said five name options were chosen for final input based on the Council's updated naming guidance and the community's preferences: Newport Hills Woodlawn Park, Meadow at Newport Hills Park, Newport Happy

Trails Park, Newport Glen Neighborhood Park, and Forest Haven at Newport Hills Park. A survey with the five name options was mailed to all Newport Hills neighborhood residents. It indicated that while the popular vote would not select the name, both the Parks and Community Services Board and the City Council would consider the neighborhood feedback in their deliberations.

Chair Hamilton said that 3,098 surveys were mailed, the project web page was updated, and 1,200 email notices were sent to raise awareness of the survey. He praised staff's extensive public outreach activities. He said the top names based on the survey responses were Newport Hills Woodlawn Park (29 percent), Meadow at Newport Hills Park (24 percent), Newport Happy Trails Park (22 percent), Newport Glen Neighborhood Park (16 percent) and Forest Haven at Newport Hills Park (9 percent). During the September 14 meeting, the Parks and Community Services Board unanimously selected Newport Hills Woodlawn Park as the recommended name for the City Council's consideration.

Mayor Robinson thanked Chair Hamilton and the Board for their work and recommendation.

Councilmember Zahn, liaison to the Parks and Community Services Board, thanked the Board, staff and the community for their continued effort and engagement. She expressed support for the Board's recommended name, noting that it was the community's preferred name.

Councilmember Barksdale thanked staff and the Board for their data-driven approach.

Councilmember Lee complimented staff and the Board for their work and said the Newport Hills neighborhood has been advocating for the park for a long time.

Councilmember Stokes expressed support for the recommended park name.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to direct staff to return with a resolution for Council consideration and action at a future meeting to adopt the name Newport Hills Woodlawn Park as recommended by the Parks and Community Services Board. Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

11. Land Use: None.

12. Other Ordinances, Resolution, and Motions

City Manager Miyake said the first several ordinances represent Comprehensive Plan Amendments (CPAs) and the last set of ordinances for consideration adopt the East Main Station Area Land Use Code Amendment (LUCA).

- (a) Ordinance No. 6631 adopting the DASH Glendale and Evergreen Court amendment to the Comprehensive Plan (20-114270 AC) of the City of Bellevue

pursuant to the Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW, and Chapter 35A.63 RCW; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Emil King, Assistant Director of the Community Development Department, introduced discussion regarding the 2021 annual CPAs.

Thara Johnson, Planning Manager, said staff is requesting Council action on five separate ordinances and one general ordinance adopting all of the 2021 CPAs. The DASH Glendale and Evergreen Court CPA proposes map amendments on two parcels totaling 7.5 acres from Multifamily-Medium (MF-M) to Neighborhood Mixed Use (NMU). The remaining four CPAs are City-initiated amendments. The Transportation Project List CPA repeals the Comprehensive Transportation Project List (CTPL) from the Comprehensive Plan. The Multimodal Policies CPA amends the Transportation Element to embed a multimodal approach in transportation concurrency.

The Northeast Bellevue Neighborhood Area Plan CPA updates the narrative and policies, amends the Northeast Bellevue land use map to its new borders and amends the borders for the adjoining Crossroads and Southeast Bellevue Neighborhood Areas. The Northwest Bellevue Neighborhood Area Plan CPA renames the North Bellevue Subarea Plan and replaces the North Bellevue narrative and policies with new Northwest Bellevue narrative and policies.

Ms. Johnson presented a map and described the DASH Glendale and Evergreen Court site.

Mayor Robinson noted that this is the Council's third time to discuss the CPAs.

→ Councilmember Lee moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6631, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

- (b) Ordinance No. 6632 adopting the Comprehensive Transportation Project List (CTPL) Comprehensive Plan Amendment (21-107724 AC), which repeals the CTPL from Volume 2 of the Comprehensive Plan pursuant to the Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW, and Chapter 35A.63 RCW; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Kevin McDonald, Senior Planner, Transportation Department, recalled that during the 2015 Comprehensive Plan update, the Comprehensive Transportation Project List (CTPL) was created based on a recommendation from the Transportation Commission. As a result, adding or removing a project from the list requires a CPA. Mr. McDonald said staff recommends repealing the list from the Comprehensive Plan and instead using the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as the single inventory of planned transportation projects. He said the TIP is updated annually.

Councilmember Zahn expressed support for the proposed change.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6632, and Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

- (c) Ordinance No. 6633 adopting the Transportation Element Comprehensive Plan Amendment (21-107724 AC), which will amend the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan pursuant to the Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW, and Chapter 35A.63 RCW to incorporate policies and narrative that support a multimodal approach to transportation concurrency; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Mr. McDonald said Ordinance No. 6633 embeds multimodal concurrency policies in the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The plan's current policies regarding concurrency explicitly apply to a vehicle-only approach. The CPA repeals or amends existing policies related to transportation concurrency, adds two new policies and amends the narrative section. Mr. McDonald recalled that the Council voted to approve the following language for policy TR-2: "Improve the multimodal transportation system and strive to manage congestion and improve the quality of the travel experience for all users."

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis said his understanding is that retaining the existing language of policy TR-2 is consistent with the proposed multimodal level of service, transportation implementation plans and other proposed Comprehensive Plan revisions. He said residents consistently identify traffic congestion as a top concern in the City's budget surveys. He said the 2016 neighborhood transportation levy was approved by voters to fund, in part, congestion relief projects. He said the Growth Management Act requires that Bellevue have adequate capacity in the transportation system to accommodate growth in accordance with the City's concurrency standard. He noted that the City receives significant revenue from impact fees to reduce congestion impacts related to new development. Mr. Nieuwenhuis suggested keeping the aspirational language to "reduce" (versus "manage") congestion, similar to the aspirational wording of the goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to increase the number of affordable housing units.

Councilmember Stokes said he appreciates the concept that congestion can be addressed through multimodal transportation solutions. He suggested the following language for policy TR-2: "To aggressively plan, manage and expand transportation investments to reduce congestion in a multimodal and comprehensive manner."

Councilmember Zahn referred to page 4 of the packet materials and noted revisions to the multimodal concurrency policy that appear to already address the issue: "Transportation system investments will address vehicle congestion and will build projects for all mode types that will incorporate design for safety, accessibility, connectivity and preservation of neighborhood character."

Councilmember Lee said it is important to have clear, straightforward policies, including to pursue federal grant funding. He said he does not see any harm in using language to “reduce” traffic congestion.

Councilmember Robertson said the City will continue to address traffic congestion, including through the neighborhood transportation levy and impact fees, and to accommodate growth related to development. She expressed support for retaining the word “reduce” because congestion is not limited to single-occupancy vehicles. It includes overall mobility for buses, pedestrians and others. Ms. Robertson said the Transportation Commission was on the fence about the recommended change, and the Planning Commission supported using the word “reduce.” She expressed support for Councilmember Stokes’ suggested revision if the language “and improve the quality of the travel experience for all users” is added.

Councilmember Barksdale said his concern about using “reduce” is that it focuses staff on reducing congestion instead of focusing on multimodal transportation. He said that increasing transportation options will help to reduce congestion. He suggested focusing on providing multimodal transportation options.

Responding to Mayor Robinson, Mr. Barksdale asked staff to comment on Councilmember Stokes’ proposed language.

Andrew Singelakis, Director of the Transportation Department, said staff recommended manage congestion because they questioned whether it is possible to reduce congestion within a growing city. However, it is an aspirational policy and the multimodal concurrency issue will come back to the Council as an ordinance for formal action. Mr. Singelakis said the choice of “reduce” versus “manage” does not make a big difference because what will actually implement the policies are future ordinances, including for the approval of the Mobility Implementation Plan. Responding to Mayor Robinson, Mr. Singelakis said Councilmember Stokes’ suggested language would not result in any changes in ordinances moving forward.

Mayor Robinson expressed support for Councilmember Stokes’ proposal. She expressed concern about losing the focus of the neighborhood transportation levy, which includes projects to reduce congestion. She acknowledged that it is difficult to reduce congestion with an increasing population. However, she is concerned about the neighborhood impacts, including cut-through traffic.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis concurred and expressed support for Mr. Stokes’ amendment.

Councilmember Lee suggested simplifying the language to: “Reduce congestion through a multimodal system, including (whatever the City would like to list).”

Mayor Robinson read the proposed language for policy TR-2: “To aggressively plan, manage and expand transportation investments to reduce congestion and expand opportunities in a multimodal and comprehensive manner, and improve the quality of the travel experience for all users.”

→ Councilmember Stokes moved to revise Comprehensive Plan policy TR-2 to read: “To aggressively plan, manage and expand transportation investments to reduce congestion and expand opportunities in a multimodal and comprehensive manner, and improve the quality of the travel experience for all users.”

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-1, with Councilmember Lee opposed.

Councilmember Lee proposed an amendment to remove the beginning of the policy statement and to begin with “To reduce congestion...” There was no second to the proposal.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6633, as amended above. Councilmember Lee seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

- (d) Ordinance No. 6634 adopting the Northeast Bellevue Neighborhood Area Plan Comprehensive Plan Amendment (21-100173-AC) pursuant to the Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW, and Chapter 35A.63 RCW; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Elizabeth de Regt, Senior Planner, said that Ordinance No. 6634 and Ordinance No. 6635 update each neighborhood’s foundational policy document to capture neighborhood goals and to guide other plans, capital investments, regulations, programs and services. She said the neighborhood planning process will pause until the next major update of the Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. de Regt highlighted the changes in the Northeast Bellevue Neighborhood Area Plan. She noted five issues raised during the November 22 discussion with the Council and suggested those could be addressed separately: 1) amend policy S-NE-11 regarding the mitigation of development impacts, 2) add a new policy: “Create a safe community, including safe places to gather, walk and play,” 3) amend policy S-NE-20 to remove the reference to detached accessory dwelling units (DADUs) or to remove the policy entirely and replace it with language referring to a mix of housing typologies, 4) add three policies from the Northwest Bellevue neighborhood plan about aging in place, and 5) add to the narrative section: “Northeast Bellevue residents value having a clean and healthy environment.”

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6634, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

Mayor Robinson said the Council would address each amendment separately to determine whether to add them to the ordinance.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6634 to incorporate the revision to Comprehensive Plan policy S-NE-11, and Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.

→ The motion to amend carried by a vote of 7-0.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6634 to add: “Create a safe community, including safe places to gather, walk and play.” Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion to amend carried by a vote of 7-0.

Mayor Robinson moved to policy S-NE-20 regarding housing types and noted options 3a and 3b on slide 14 of the presentation.

Councilmember Barksdale said if the Council chooses option 3b, he proposes the following language: “Create opportunities for a mix of housing typologies to allow for a range of affordability options with a variety of housing units and visual styles and ease of movement for the physically disabled.”

→ Councilmember Barksdale moved to amend Ordinance No. 6634 to revise policy S-NE-20 as stated above. Mayor Robinson seconded the motion.

Councilmember Robertson expressed support for the amendment, noting that people want housing options.

Mayor Robinson concurred.

Councilmember Zahn suggested adding the term “range of households” from Option 3a. There was no opposition to the friendly amendment.

Councilmember Stokes expressed concern that the statement is becoming too complex. He said referring to a mix of housing typologies encompasses all types of housing. Mr. King said the language referring to affordability options and variety of sizes of housing was intended to address the concept of “range of households.” He said it would be preferable and more streamlined to not add the term.

Responding to Mayor Robinson, Councilmember Zahn concurred with withdrawing the friendly amendment.

→ The motion to amend policy S-NE-20 carried by a vote of 7-0.

Mayor Robinson requested Council action on the new policies related to aging in place.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6634 to incorporate the proposed policies related to enabling residents to age in place. Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.

As a friendly amendment, Councilmember Robertson suggested moving the new goal statement (To support seniors staying in the neighborhood as they age) to occur above policy S-NE-23. The amendment was accepted.

- The motion to amend carried by a vote of 7-0.
- Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6634 to add to the narrative section: “Northeast Bellevue residents also value having a clean and healthy environment.” Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.
- The amendment carried by a vote of 7-0.

Councilmember Zahn noted a request to amend policy S-NE-14 to add a reference to “public or publicly accessible” gathering spaces.

Ms. de Regt read the proposed policy: “Create new gathering places for community members to meet, mingle and get to know one another.”

Councilmember Stokes cautioned against creating expectations in the community. He noted that the City has community centers and other gathering places.

Councilmember Robertson concurred with Mr. Stokes and said she believes the concept of “public” spaces is included in the current language. Ms. Robertson said there are a number of privately owned spaces where the public gathers.

Councilmember Zahn thanked everyone for the discussion and said she is comfortable with staff’s proposed language.

Councilmember Robertson thanked staff, the Council and residents for their hard work on the neighborhood plan.

Councilmember Stokes said the updates to the neighborhood plans are a significant accomplishment and he thanked everyone for their work.

Mayor Robinson thanked Councilmember Barksdale for his work as liaison to the Planning Commission.

- The main motion to adopt Ordinance No. 6634, as amended on the floor, carried by a vote of 7-0.

At 8:42 p.m., Mayor Robinson declared a short break. The meeting resumed at 8:50 p.m.

- (e) Ordinance No. 6635 adopting the Northwest Bellevue Neighborhood Area Plan Comprehensive Plan Amendment (21-100174-AC) pursuant to the Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW, and Chapter 35A.63 RCW; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Ms. de Regt highlighted the updates to the Northwest Bellevue Neighborhood Area Plan and described five suggestions from the November 22 discussion with the Council: 1) add a new

policy: “Create a safe community including safe places to gather, walk and play,” 2) delete policy S-NW-25 due to the implicit inclusion of DADUs in policy S-NW-24 that refers to a mix of housing typologies, 3) add a policy that reads: “Build awareness of programs that support and enable older adults to stay in their homes as they age,” 4) add mobility and access amendments to strengthen the safety language, and 5) add to the narrative section: “Northwest Bellevue residents value having a clean and healthy environment.”

- Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6635, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.
- Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6635 to add the language about a safe community, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.
- The motion to amend carried by a vote of 7-0.
- Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6635 to remove policy S-NW-25 due to the implicit inclusion of DADUs in policy S-NW-24, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.
- The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.
- Councilmember Barksdale moved to revise policy S-NW-24 to match the language used in the Northeast Bellevue plan. Councilmember Zahn seconded the motion.

Councilmember Zahn suggested retaining in the Northwest Bellevue plan the language that reads: “...within both lower and higher intensity districts.”

Councilmember Stokes suggested it is best to use the same language in both plans.

Mayor Robinson said she believed the language came from residents because there are differences in the two neighborhood areas.

Councilmember Zahn said she would like to honor the language from the community while also creating as much consistency as possible. Mr. King suggested keeping the language in the Northwest Bellevue plan. He said the two neighborhoods have different land uses, and Northwest Bellevue has a greater variety of densities and land uses.

- The motion to amend carried by a vote of 7-0.

Councilmember Lee moved to amend Ordinance No. 6635 to remove policy S-NW-26. There was no second.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt policy S-NW-26 as written. There was no second.

Councilmember Lee said removing the policy would be consistent with other statements about housing types.

Councilmember Robertson said she did not hear a second to the motion. She noted her understanding that policy S-NW-26 is already in the existing neighborhood plan.

- Councilmember Robertson moved to amend policy S-NW-26 to read: “Explore regulations to minimize the impact from any new mix of housing typologies to the existing residential character of the street.” Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.
- The motion to amend carried by a vote of 7-0.
- Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6355 to add a new sense of community policy to read: “Build awareness of programs that support and enable older adults to stay in their home as they age.” Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.
- The motion to amend carried by a vote of 7-0.
- Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6355 to revise the narrative language as recommended by staff, incorporate policies S-NW-31 and S-NW-32, and to add a new policy: “Increase designated pedestrian areas and sidewalks within Northwest Bellevue, prioritizing the safety of pedestrians in determining locations of new walking paths.” Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.
- The motion to amend carried by a vote of 7-0.
- Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6355 to add to the narrative section: “Northwest Bellevue residents value having a clean and healthy environment.” Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.
- The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.
- The main motion to adopt Ordinance No. 6635, as amended on the floor, carried by a vote of 7-0.
- (f) Ordinance No. 6636 adopting the City’s 2021 amendments to the Comprehensive Plan as separately set forth in Ordinance Nos. 6631, 6632, 6633, 6634 and 6635, pursuant to the Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW, and Chapter 35A.63 RCW; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Councilmember Barksdale suggested, based on community input, that the Council prioritize the consideration of DADUs in a citywide approach as part of the implementation of the Affordable Housing Strategy. He would like staff to continue to research DADUs in preparation for that discussion.

Mayor Robinson agreed and noted concurrence by Councilmember Stokes and Councilmember Zahn as well.

Councilmember Robertson noted that the issue is not on the meeting agenda and has not been discussed by the Council. She suggested discussing the issue when staff returns with the affordable housing work plan.

Mayor Robinson said staff previously confirmed that the issue would be addressed as stated by Ms. Robertson.

Councilmember Robertson said it is not appropriate to raise an issue requesting Council direction to staff for an item not on the agenda.

Councilmember Lee concurred.

Councilmember Stokes agreed that the Council and staff have previously expressed the desire to address DADUs in greater detail next year.

Mac Cummins, Director of Community Development, confirmed staff's plans to discuss a number of items related to the affordable housing work plan and priorities early next year.

Councilmember Lee encouraged a robust communications plan to educate the general public about affordable housing and housing-related issues.

Councilmember Zahn stated her understanding that the Council already expressed an interest in a citywide approach to DADUs.

Ms. Johnson requested Council action regarding Ordinance No. 6636 approving all of the 2021 Comprehensive Plan Amendments.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6636, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

- (g) Ordinance No. 6627 amending the Land Use Code (LUC) to create a new Part 20.25Q East Main to establish requirements, standards, and design guidelines to implement the new East Main Transit Oriented Development (TOD); amending LUC 20.10.020 Land Use Districts and LUC 20.25H.045 Critical Areas Overlay District for consistency with the new Part 20.25Q LUC; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Director Brennan said Ordinance No. 6627 adopts the East Main Land Use Code Amendment (LUCA), Ordinance No. 6628 is the rezone ordinance, Ordinance No. 6629 is the noise control ordinance and Ordinance No. 6630 is the sign code ordinance. He recalled the LUCA process to date, including seven previous study sessions and the July public hearing. He recalled the Council's discussion on December 6 regarding a request from Wig Properties to amend the code to allow a block length exception for a grocery store in the East Main redevelopment.

Mr. Brennan recalled that the Council made a motion on December 6 to adopt Ordinance No. 6627. An amendment proposed by Councilmember Robertson to adjust the phasing for fulfilling the minimum housing requirement was approved by the Council at that time. Mr. Brennan said an additional motion to amend by Councilmember Robertson was left unresolved.

Mayor Robinson withdrew her motion to amend from the December 6 meeting and said she would support the motion proposed by Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis in the desk packet.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to amend Ordinance No. 6627, Section 3, to expand the exception for block size and length requirements within 350 feet of 114th Avenue SE or Main Street when a grocery store is proposed as part of the project. Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis thanked staff for their work on this amendment. He said the amendment is responsive to the property owner's request for a reasonable adjustment to the block length and perimeter requirements to accommodate the requirements of a grocery store. He noted that the East Main Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) and Surrey Downs residents identified a grocery store as a neighborhood need. He recalled previous discussion about Mayor Robinson's suggestion to add child care centers as an exception. However, he said the code includes provisions to encourage them in the East Main area, including prioritizing child care centers as a Tier 1 amenity option and increasing the bonusable area for the use from 10,000 square feet to 15,000 square feet. He said grocery stores require larger floor plates than a child care center.

Mr. Nieuwenhuis recalled that Councilmember Barksdale suggested also including "unmet needs" in the community. However, Mr. Nieuwenhuis said it would be challenging to define the term, and the community's needs change over time. He opined that the exception would create less predictability for staff, developers and the public.

Councilmember Robertson read her suggested language for the proposed amendment: "Block size and length requirements shall not apply to any block within the project limit wholly contained within 200 feet from 114th Avenue SE, and shall also not apply to any block within the project area that is within 350 feet of 114th Avenue SE or Main Street." She emphasized the importance of the comma midway through the sentence.

Trisna Tanus, Consulting Attorney, said that was an accurate understanding of staff's intention.

Councilmember Robertson's wording was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Responding to Councilmember Stokes, Mr. Brennan noted that if a grocery store is developed and later leaves the location, there is a risk related to the continued use of the space. He said a concern was expressed by the property owner that should the retail type change, it could be challenging to find a new tenant.

Councilmember Lee expressed support for Councilmember Robertson's suggestion. Mayor Robinson confirmed that it is included as a friendly amendment.

→ The motion to amend, including the friendly amendment, carried by a vote of 7-0.

→ The December 6, 2021 motion to adopt Ordinance No. 6627 carried, as amended, by a vote of 7-0.

- (h) Ordinance No. 6628 amending the selected land use designations in the Southwest Bellevue subarea for consistency with revisions to the East Main Transit Oriented Development (EM-TOD) land use designation in the Comprehensive Plan; repealing Ordinance No. 2961, which adopted Concomitant Zoning Agreement No. 6837, where the conditions have been met or are no longer necessary; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Mr. Brennan said Ordinance No. 6628 establishes the East Main Transit Oriented Development (TOD) land use districts for the East Main neighborhood.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6628, and Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

- (i) Ordinance No. 6629 amending Bellevue City Code (BCC) 9.18.025 to incorporate and regulate the new East Main Land Use Districts, EM-TOD-H and EM-TOD-L, in the Noise Control Code, Chapter 9.18 BCC; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Mr. Brennan said Ordinance No. 6629 amends the code to incorporate and regulate the new East Main land use districts in the Noise Control Code.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6629, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

- (j) Ordinance No. 6630 amending Bellevue City Code (BCC) 22B.10.025 and BCC 22B.10.030 to incorporate and regulate the new East Main Land Use Districts, EM-TOD-H and EM-TOD-L, in the Sign Code, Chapter 22B.10 BCC; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Mr. Brennan said Ordinance No. 6630 amends the code to incorporate and regulate the new East Main land use districts in the Sign Code.

- Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6630, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.
- The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.
- 13. Unfinished Business: None.
- 14. New Business: None.
- 15. Executive Session: None.
- 16. Adjournment

At 9:44 p.m., Mayor Robinson declared the meeting adjourned.

Charmaine Arredondo, MMC
City Clerk

/kaw