

## CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Initial Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 Budget and 2023-2029 Capital Investment Program Plan

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*Finance & Asset Management*

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The public hearing is an opportunity for residents and other stakeholders to provide input on the budget, including all proposed levies, taxes, fees, and rates to aid the City Manager and staff in development of the Preliminary 2023-2024 Budget and 2023-2029 Capital Investment Program (CIP) Plan in advance of being transmitted to City Council for consideration, modification, and adoption this fall. There will be two additional public hearings. One hearing will also be in advance of the release of the preliminary budget and, the third and final public hearing will be after the preliminary budget is transmitted to City Council.

## RECOMMENDATION

Hold the initial public hearing on the 2023-2024 Budget and the 2023-2029 Capital Investment Program Plan.

## BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Bellevue's budget is produced every two years and includes a seven-year capital budget. It serves as a major policy document and describes how the City intends to finance its services and infrastructure. This public hearing marks another step in a process that launched earlier this year at the March 7 Budget Workshop.

<https://bellevue.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5476342&GUID=9DC5A8D8-94FC-483D-A338-F26E7A1AB32F&Options=&Search=>

The City Council received an initial update on the evolving state of inflationary pressures, the General Fund forecast as well as a discussion of long-term financial strategies and options that the Council can consider as part of the 2023-2024 Budget Development process. Additionally, Council received an update on the 2023-2029 CIP and long-range capital planning efforts by Parks and Community Services.

As the City Manager begins to prepare the preliminary budget, these topics along with others will contribute to the broader discussion and decision-making process.

The public hearing scheduled for May 23, represents the first of three public hearings planned for the City's 2023-2024 Budget and 2023-2029 CIP Plan. The purpose of this initial hearing is to enable the City Council and City management to hear public comment prior to the development of the City's 2023-2024 Budget and 2023-2029 CIP Plan. This public hearing is in keeping with Bellevue's long history of overall citizen involvement with the budget process.

A second public hearing will be held this summer to hear additional public comment prior to the development and publication of the preliminary budget which is anticipated to be presented to Council in September. The final public hearing will be scheduled for October or November.

At all three public hearings on the City's 2023-2024 Budget and 2023-2029 CIP Plan the public is invited to provide testimony on the operating and capital budgets, including all levies, taxes, fees, and rates.

A public hearing gives the public an opportunity to provide feedback to the Council before a final decision is made.

## **POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**

### **Policy Impact**

RCW 35A.34.090 provides that prior to a final hearing on the budget, the legislative body shall schedule hearings on the budget or parts of it.

RCW 35A.34.110 requires that the City Council hold a final public hearing pertaining to the budget for the City. This legally required public hearing must be held not later than the 25<sup>th</sup> day prior to commencement of the fiscal biennium.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this public hearing.

## **OPTIONS**

1. Hold the initial public hearing on the 2023-2024 Budget and 2023-2029 Capital Investment Program Plan.
2. Provide alternative direction to staff regarding the public hearing.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Public Hearing Notice

## **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

N/A