

MEMORANDUM



Bellevue Parks &
Community Services

Date: October 11, 2022

To: John Stokes, City Councilmember, Parks & Community Services Board Liaison
and Bellevue City Council members

From: David Hamilton, Chair
Parks & Community Services Board

RE: Third Quarter 2022 Report and Communication

Over meetings in July and September, the Parks & Community Services Board had the opportunity to conclude an area of long-running focus while looking forward to new initiatives. In July, the Board finalized its regular recommendations to the City Council regarding Capital Investment Program (CIP) Plan funding for the upcoming 2023-24 biennial budget. This included support for the Council's long-range parks funding plan and action to forward a parks capital project voter initiative for consideration in November.

The Board appreciates the strong support from the Council in preparing for continued robust development of parks, trails, recreational facilities, and open space conservation. Bellevue's well-maintained parks and abundant trails consistently deliver on multiple levels by building community health and cohesion, attracting economic growth and advancing environmental protection and stewardship.

Two programs that consistently deliver positive outcomes presented to the board in September. These include the South Bellevue Community Center and the Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA), an advisory committee facilitated by staff at the North Bellevue Community Center. BNOA is a strong and steadfast voice advocating for older adults in Bellevue. The Chair of the committee spoke to BNOA's accomplishments and identified ways that the Parks & Community Services Board can consider the needs of older adults in the course of the Board's work evaluating park design plans and policies. The South Bellevue Community Center (SBCC) described its long-running partnership with the Bellevue Boys and Girls Club in bringing recreation and services to the Bellevue community, particularly residents south of I-90. The SBCC staff described how it maintained service and contact with residents throughout the pandemic through virtual programming and re-opening as soon as allowed during 2021, "safely and slowly" ramping back up toward pre-pandemic levels of service in 2022.

The Board also received an update from the Community Development Department on the ongoing planning efforts in the Wilburton commercial area. The Board has been highly engaged in previous planning efforts in Wilburton and for the Grand Connection. We look forward to continued focused involvement in citywide planning initiatives during the update to the Comprehensive Plan that is currently underway.

If you have any questions on the Board's work, please contact me anytime at dhamilton@bellevuewa.gov.