

Parks & Community Services Board

October 11, 2022



Mission Statement

To Provide:

- ▶ Public safety & water safety education
- ▶ Diverse quality programming
- ▶ Sound fiscal management

History of the Bellevue Aquatic Center

- ▶ Built in 1970 & serving the Bellevue community for over 50 years
- ▶ The original pool, now Blue Lagoon, was six lanes with a dive well & provided a wide range of programs managed by King County.
- ▶ The city acquired the pool in 1997 & added the Warm Springs pool to provide warm water therapies, preschool swim lessons, & low impact water exercise classes.



The Bellevue Aquatic Center Team

Full Time Staff

- ▶ Patrick Simmons
 - ▶ Program Supervisor
- ▶ Brandi Christman
 - ▶ Aquatics Manager
- ▶ Julie Byers
 - ▶ Administrative Assistant

Part Time Staff

- ▶ Lifeguards - 53
- ▶ Swim Instructors - 8
- ▶ Customer Service - 7



Facility Programs & Activities

Blue Lagoon

- ▶ 6 lane lap pool: 3 ft-5 ft deep, 83 degrees
 - ▶ Lap swim
 - ▶ Open swim
 - ▶ Masters swim
 - ▶ Lessons- both group & private
- ▶ Dive well: 13 feet (separate from lap lanes)
 - ▶ diving
 - ▶ synchronized swim
 - ▶ deep water exercise
 - ▶ Scuba
 - ▶ Float tests
 - ▶ Advanced in water training for Bellevue Fire Department
- ▶ Spectator Seating for up to 200
- ▶ Lift Entry & Stairs for accessibility



Facility Programs & Activities



Warm Springs

- ▶ 1,750 Sq Ft pool: 3 ft- 5 ft deep, 92 degrees
 - ▶ Swim lessons for children of all ages
 - ▶ Group and private lessons
 - ▶ Wide range in therapies
 - ▶ Occupational
 - ▶ Physical
 - ▶ ASD Therapy
 - ▶ Arthritis therapy
 - ▶ Adaptive Swim Programming
 - ▶ Open swim
 - ▶ Low impact water exercise
 - ▶ Ramp, Lift & Stair entry for accessibility

Partners & Renters

▶ Partners

- ▶ Special Olympics
- ▶ No More Under
- ▶ Splash Forward
- ▶ Washington State Drowning Prevention Network
- ▶ Natural Resources- Parks Ranger Program
 - ▶ Guided Canoe trips
- ▶ WRPA - Aquatics Network
- ▶ REI

▶ Therapeutic Renters

- ▶ Wave Therapies
- ▶ Advanced Therapy Network Resource
- ▶ Breaking Barriers
- ▶ SeaStar Aquatics
- ▶ Nurturing Water Therapy
- ▶ Bellevue School District
- ▶ ICAN Swim

▶ Swim/Dive/Synchro Team Renters

- ▶ Bellevue School District
- ▶ East Swim Team
- ▶ Chinook Swim Club
- ▶ Pacific Dragons Swim Team
- ▶ Alpha Dive
- ▶ Seattle Synchro

▶ Swim Lesson Renters

- ▶ Water Babies
- ▶ Swimpossible
- ▶ Swim Guru
- ▶ Orca Adults
- ▶ BDST Swim Lessons

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Grants

▶ Diversity

- ▶ Parks & Community Services Strategic Plan
- ▶ Courageous conversations training
- ▶ Ongoing trainings as required by the City of Bellevue and those of interest to staff

▶ Inclusion

- ▶ Accessibility is a focus point for both pools
 - ▶ Lifts & Stairs available to all that need
 - ▶ Wheel chairs available to all that need
 - ▶ Adaptive equipment available for swim lessons and therapy
 - ▶ Accessible showers available for caretakers and parents to use for clients/children
- ▶ Free Programming
 - ▶ Aprils Pools Day
 - ▶ Swim Instructor Training Day
- ▶ Financial Assistance

▶ Grants

- ▶ SEEK (Summer Experience & Enrichment for Kids) Fund
- ▶ Washington State Drowning Prevention Network





Covid Response

- ▶ Pool Closed March 11, 2020
- ▶ Beaches opened June 27, 2020
 - ▶ All 6 fully staffed
 - ▶ Adjusted training
- ▶ Pool reopened Phase 1.5 August 1, 2020
 - ▶ Adjusted schedule due to regulations and staffing
 - ▶ Adjusted staff training
- ▶ Throughout Covid response the pool was only closed for 4 days due to COVID cases.
 - ▶ Adjusted facility protocols & rules enforcement for patron & staff safety
 - ▶ Renter Growth
 - ▶ 34 renters pre-covid
 - ▶ 51 renters post covid
- ▶ Pool Re-opened back to full pre-covid schedule September 6, 2022

Future Plans & Renovations

▶ Programs & Activities

- ▶ Expand existing programs using marketing & social media
- ▶ Promote Swim Pass options
- ▶ Expand Rentals
 - ▶ Birthday parties, church groups, corporate, etc.
 - ▶ Certified renters and trainings

▶ Special Event Programs

- ▶ Monthly Women's only swim begins January 2023
- ▶ Quarterly Culturally targeted swim & education begins in March
- ▶ Quarterly themed family swim nights begin in February 2023
- ▶ Free swim lessons for instructor training

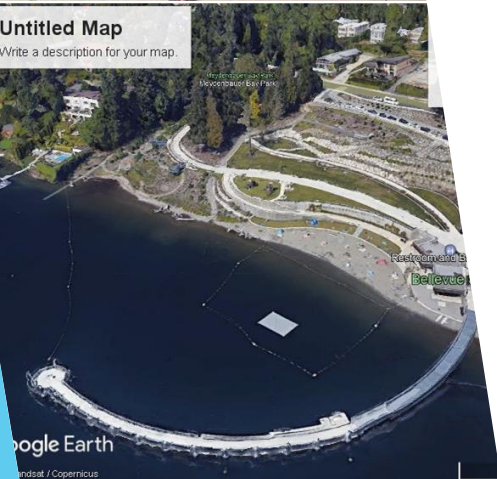
▶ Renovations

- ▶ Sounds Panels installed in warm springs pool August 2022
- ▶ Parking Lot update - September 2022
- ▶ Acid Wash & Seal for both pools August 2023



Beach Lifeguard Program

- ▶ City of Bellevue has six beaches with guarded swim areas on Lake Washington
 - ▶ Meydenbauer Bay Beach Park
 - ▶ Open only 6 days in 2022
 - ▶ Newcastle Beach Park
 - ▶ Enatai Beach Park
 - ▶ Chism Beach Park
 - ▶ Clyde Beach Park
 - ▶ Chesterfield Beach Park
 - ▶ Not guarded in 2022 due to staff shortages
- ▶ Lifejacket Loaner Program
 - ▶ Partnered with No More Under
 - ▶ Permanent loaner stations coming summer 2023



Boathouses & SE 40th St. Launch

- ▶ Boathouse

- ▶ Meydenbauer Bay Beach park
- ▶ Enatai Beach Park

- ▶ REI Contract Started 2019

- ▶ Extended through 2023
 - ▶ Did not operate in 2020 due to Covid

- ▶ Programs

- ▶ Rentals

- ▶ Kayaks
- ▶ Canoes
- ▶ Stand-up Paddleboard
- ▶ Accessible Options available

- ▶ Guided Tours & Lessons

- ▶ 40th Street Boat Launch

- ▶ Aquatic staff manage pay machine contract
- ▶ Staff launch for Seafair weekend



Challenges & Opportunities

► Challenges

- Lifeguard recruitment
- Swim instructor recruitment
- Lane Space for swim teams
- Open space for specialty instruction
- Beach closures due to high bacteria

► Opportunities

- Special events
- Swim lesson program
- Diversity and inclusion
 - Adaptive special events





Questions?