

# MEMORANDUM



Bellevue Parks &  
Community Services

Date: January 10, 2023

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

From: David Hamilton, Chair  
Parks & Community Services Board

RE: Fourth Quarter 2022 Report and Communication

The fourth quarter of 2022 was most notable for November's successful passage of the ballot initiative establishing the new Levy for Parks and Open Space. The board extends a heartfelt thanks to the City Council for championing this effort and creating a levy package helping address the long-term funding needs of our community's cherished and highly used parks, trails, open spaces and recreation facilities. The Parks & Community Services Board looks forward to working in the coming years to implement the approved 2022 levy projects.

Over meetings in October and November, the Parks & Community Services Board provided feedback on the update to the Airfield Park Master Plan. This was subsequently presented to the Council in early December noting that the Board overwhelmingly supports modifying the master plan for a new aquatic facility and the addition of pickleball courts. With additional public outreach planned in 2023, the Board expects to provide the Council with a formal recommendation on the updated Master Plan in the coming months.

The Board also received an informative presentation on our existing Bellevue Aquatics Center on NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street. This pool complex has been serving the community for over fifty years. The pools at the facility support a wide range of uses and programs that are continually in high demand and not often available at private pools. These include water-based therapies, swimming lessons for all ages and abilities, support for swim teams for the school district and several community swim clubs and programs, and Bellevue Fire emergency response personnel trainings among other programs and events. In addition, the Aquatics Program manages the SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street boat launch, summer swimming beaches and the highly successful canoe and kayak rental program with REI at Meydenbauer Bay and Enatai Beach parks.

Finally, the board provided initial input to the Community Development Department on the Comprehensive Plan update. Continuing into 2023, the board intends to review and provide detailed feedback to update the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element of the plan to ensure that Comprehensive Plan policies remain consistent with the Council's recently adopted Parks & Open Space System Plan.

If you have any questions on the Board's work, please contact me anytime at [dhamilton@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:dhamilton@bellevuewa.gov).