

Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update: Proposed Amendments

Attachment A | Arts Commission (3/6/24)

This packet includes proposed policy amendments. The “New Number” column reflects proposed policy enumeration. All policy numbers in the notes column refer to the new number unless the number is preceded by (old number). Strikethrough means the text is deleted. Underline means the text is new.

Key			
	Repealed (moved, old location)		New Policy
	Modified		Retained (moved, new location)

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
Urban Design and the Arts			
Character: Citywide Character			
		Public Experience	
	UD-1	Enhance the appearance, image and design character to make Bellevue an inspiring place to be.	Note: Removed because the policy is too broad.
UD-1	UD-2	Preserve and enhance trees as a component of throughout the skyline city to retain <u>tree canopy and foster the city's image of</u> as a “City in a Park.”	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-6 and UD-1.
	UD-3	Foster and value the preservation of open space as a dominant element of the city's character.	Note: Redundant with policy PA-1.
	UD-4	Create a safe, engaging and attractive pedestrian environment throughout the city using appropriate urban design features.	Note: Redundant with UD-12.
	UD-6	Encourage the green and wooded character of existing neighborhoods.	Note: Included in UD-1.
	UD-7	Support neighborhood efforts to maintain and enhance their character and appearance.	Note: Redundant with policy NH-14.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
	UD-8	Design collector arterials that go through residential neighborhoods to reduce traffic impacts and to support the existing residential character.	Note: Redundant with policies TR-47 and TR-48.
UD-2	UD-27	Integrate high quality and inviting public and <u>semi-publicly accessible</u> open spaces into major development.	Note: Updated terminology.
UD-3	UD-58	Provide a <u>system/network</u> of public places of various sizes and types throughout the community with a variety of experiences and accommodations.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-4	UD-9	Enhance the appearance of <u>all</u> neighborhoods with targeted city programs and right-of-way improvements.	Note: Updated to emphasize that this applies to all neighborhoods.
UD-5	UD-23	Encourage excellence in architecture, site design, the use of high-quality and workmanship, and durability <u>in durable</u> building materials to enrich the appearance of that have a development's surroundings <u>sense of permanence.</u>	Note: Updated to remove subjective language.
UD-6	UD-24	Encourage the creation <u>and preservation</u> of iconic visual reference points <u>and gateway elements</u> in the community through innovative site and building designs.	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-85 and UD-6.
	UD-85	Identify vista points and landmarks such as major trees, buildings and landforms to preserve as Bellevue develops.	Note: Included in UD-6.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
UD-7	UD-51	Ensure sign design and placement is compatible with building architecture, neighboring commercial signs and with the visual character <u>identity</u> of the community.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
	UD-52	Maintain the skyline as a public view discouraging signs at upper levels of major buildings with limited exceptions. When allowed, signs should be in a subdued color and not impact the skyline.	Note: Redundant with UD-7
UD-8	UD-53	Develop and maintain a public signage and wayfinding system throughout the city that reinforces the identity of Bellevue and its distinct neighborhoods.	
UD-9	UD-54	Use landscape designs that are appropriate for urban incorporate native and suburban settings climate-resilient plants suitable to the Pacific Northwest.	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-55 and UD-9.
	UD-55	Exemplify the Pacific Northwest character through the use of appropriate plants in new landscaping.	Note: Included in UD-9.
UD-10	UD-59	Ensure public places give access to sunlight, provide a sense of security, seating, landscaping, accessibility and connections to surrounding uses and activities.	Note: Updated to remove text that is redundant with UD-22.
UD-11		<u>Incorporate universal design principles in the design of indoor and outdoor spaces to ensure these environments are usable to the greatest extent possible by all people regardless of age and ability.</u>	Note: Added to support design of inclusive spaces.
Mixed Use Areas			

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
	UD-11	Develop Downtown and other mixed-use areas to be functional, attractive and harmonious with adjacent neighborhoods by considering through-traffic, view, building scale, and land use impacts.	Note: Redundant with LU-20 and TR-48.
UD-12	UD-12	Enhance and support a safe, active, connected and functional pedestrian environment for all ages and abilities.	
UD-13	UD-25	Ensure that site and building design relates and connects <u>from site to site to the surrounding community through architecture, landscaping, and signage.</u>	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-44, (old number) UD-49 and UD-13.
	UD-43	Permit high intensity development subject to design criteria that assures a livable urban environment.	Note: Removed because the policy is too broad.
	UD-44	Incorporate the character of the surrounding community into the architecture, landscaping and site design of commercial and mixed use centers.	Note: Included in UD-13.
	UD-49	Incorporate architectural character, landscaping and signs into commercial and public centers to make them functionally cohesive.	Note: Included in UD-13.
	UD-50	Require buildings be sited at or near the public sidewalk as long as the full sidewalk potential is not diminished, as appropriate.	Note: Redundant with UD-18.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
UD-14	UD-45	Ensure that perimeter areas of more intense developments use site and building designs that are compatible with <u>reduce noise, wind, glare, and connect to surroundings</u> shadow impacts on adjacent lower-scale development where appropriate.	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-61 and UD-14.
	UD-61	Consider the edges of public places that abut residential property for special design treatment to create a buffer that does not interfere with security or visual access.	Note: Included in UD-14.
UD-15	UD-47	Mitigate potential impacts <u>of more intense developments</u> to surrounding neighborhoods <u>residential areas</u> using landscaping, greenspace and other urban design elements <u>as buffers</u> .	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-16	UD-10	Encourage rooflines that create interesting and distinctive forms against the sky within Downtown and other mixed use areas.	Note: Updated to remove redundant language (now in the Mixed Use Area subsection).
UD-17	UD-29	Integrate <u>Screen</u> rooftop mechanical equipment screening with <u>from public view through</u> building architecture <u>and other methods</u> .	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-18	UD-36	Reduce the visual impact of parking lots, parking structures and service docks to public areas using architectural design, site design, landscaping, screening and appropriate lighting.	

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
UD-19	UD-46	Encourage site and building designs that <u>integrate transit passenger amenities support and provide convenient connections with</u> to existing or planned transit facilities.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-20	UD-57	Preserve <u>and enhance</u> vegetation, <u>with giving</u> special consideration <u>given to the protection of</u> protecting groups of trees and associated undergrowth, specimen trees, and <u>evergreen</u> other trees that define the natural characteristics of the area.	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-75 and UD-20.
	UD-75	Minimize the removal of existing vegetation when improving streets to preserve the natural character of Bellevue.	Note: Included in UD-20.
UD-21	UD-62	Identify and preserve views of water, mountains, skylines or other unique landmarks from public places as valuable civic assets.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
Design Quality – Downtown, Commercial, and Mixed-Use Center Developments – Site and Building Design			
UD-22	UD-22	Employ design guidelines to affect <u>public and private development form and building placement and design</u> in order to promote solar access <u>and reduce wind impacts</u> in public spaces and a sense of openness.	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-33, (old number) UD-40, and UD-22.
	UD-33	Encourage public and private development to incorporate access to sunlight.	Note: Included in UD-22.
	UD-40	Employ design guidelines that guide the form and placement of large buildings to reduce wind impacts on public spaces.	Note: Included in UD-22.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
UD-23	UD-48	Link increased intensity of development with increased pedestrian amenities, benefits for the public realm, such as pedestrian-oriented building design, through-block connections, public spaces, activities, openness, sunlight and view preservation views.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-24	UD-39	Minimize excessive glare from reflective building material and outdoor lighting into residential adjacent areas using appropriate site design and technology.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-25	UD-20.1	Support and encourage the development of the Grand Connection as a cultural corridor by designing and creating spaces for performance, installation, and temporary-based art and cultural installations.	
UD-26	UD-50.1	Employ design guidelines that promote a consistent aesthetic quality and urban experience for those who use the Grand Connection.	
UD-27	UD-69.1	Encourage the development of the Grand Connection vision to create a unique, defining, and signature experience for active transportation people walking, riding a bicycle, or using other compatible mobility options, recognizing that the pedestrian experience and pedestrian safety take precedence over other modes.	
UD-28		<u>Catalyze the activation of BelRed Arts District as a unique destination focused on arts, culture, innovation, and nightlife.</u>	Note: Added to support the BelRed Arts District

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
UD-29		Support the organization and visibility of the BelRed Arts District, increase the number of affordable creative spaces and foster connection and collaboration with the BelRed community in accordance with the BelRed Arts District Implementation Plan.	Note: Added to support the BelRed Arts District
<u>Neighborhood Center Design</u>			
UD-30	UD-70	Enhance neighborhood shopping streets to act as the local “main street” Neighborhood Centers with exceptional landscaping, increased pedestrian and bicycle facilities and neighborhood specific character design elements. (See Map UD-2)	Note: Updated to apply specifically to Neighborhood Centers.
UD-31	UD-74	Incorporate dramatic and imaginative landscape and art gateway features when reconstructing streets and/or sidewalks at key intersections. (See Map UD-4). that define the experience of entering each Neighborhood Center.	Note: Updated to apply specifically to Neighborhood Centers.
<u>Public Space: Street and Corridors Experience</u>			
	UD-63	Ensure continuous and safe sidewalks wide enough to serve current and planned uses along arterials that are integrated with abutting land uses. Consider alternative street and sidewalk designs that minimize environmental impacts and use permeable surfaces where appropriate.	Note: Redundant with policies TR-95 and TR-96.
	UD-66	Design streets to be visually appealing connections between different parts of the city for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians.	Note: Removed because the policy is too broad.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
	UD-67	Give identity and continuity to street corridors by using a comprehensive street tree plan and other landscaping to enhance circulation routes, soften the appearance of pavement and separate pedestrians from traffic.	Note: Redundant with policy PA-40.
UD-32	UD-68	Design key city boulevards to be <u>distinctive visually distinct</u> from other streets and to reinforce the image of Bellevue as a "City in a Park." Use features such as gateways, street trees, median plantings, special lighting, separated and wider sidewalks, crosswalks, seating, special signs, street names, landscaping, decorative paving patterns and public art both within the right-of-way and on adjacent private development. (See Map UD-1)	Note: Updated to remove limiting list.
UD-33	UD-69	Design <u>scenic</u> boulevards adjacent to parks, natural areas and open spaces to reflect <u>scenic natural</u> elements of the surrounding areas and neighborhoods. Streetscape design should promote a safe and comfortable park-like experience for all users. (See Map UD-1)	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-34	UD-64	Use appropriate street tree species <u>that are well adapted to urban street conditions</u> and provide <u>adequate rooting space to identity and continuity to street corridors.</u> <u>Adequate soil volume shall be provided to support tree health and limit damage to sidewalk and street infrastructure.</u>	Note: Updated to describe appropriate street tree species and to detail sidewalk conditions.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
	UD-71	Work with the community to identify and develop a system of neighborhood greenways that offer safe alternative routes for pedestrians and bicyclists to provide local access to parks, schools and services.	Note: Redundant with PA-1.
UD-35	UD-73	Design enhanced streetscapes Identify opportunities at designated intersections and key entry points into the city and into smaller districts to highlight neighborhood identity. (See Map UD-1)	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
	UD-76	Work closely and cooperatively with regional transit providers in the planning and design of transit facilities to ensure that the design of the facilities reflects the general character of Bellevue and the surrounding neighborhoods.	Note: Redundant with policy TR-60.
UD-36	UD-78	Work with the state and federal governments on new freeway projects to see that appropriate alignments, landscaping materials and lighting enhance the community's image while limiting noise.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
	UD-79	Encourage dense plantings, hedges, or large, fast-growing trees to act as visual screens at locations where existing views of or from freeways are unappealing.	Note: Included in UD-37.
UD-37	UD-80	Ensure that all Encourage freeway corridor and freeway-abutting development abutting the freeway corridors includes specialto include landscaping and design features which provide an attractive entrance to the citythat enhance the community's image.	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-79, and UD-37.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
	UD-81	Integrate the Mountains-to-Sound greenway concept into the designs of frontage roads along the I-90 freeway corridor. Give particular attention to multiuse trails, large-scale landscaping and pedestrian amenities.	Note: Removed because the policy is outdated.
Pedestrian Experience			
UD-38	UD-21	Explore Provide opportunities to enhance pedestrian and other mobility connections between buildings and <u>developments</u> public spaces through the <u>development process</u> .	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-39	UD-32	Provide design <u>or art</u> treatments for blank <u>elevations and/or walls</u> that are visible from the public <u>right of way</u> realm.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-40	UD-34	Provide both weather protection and access to sunlight in pedestrian areas <u>using architectural elements and public places</u> .	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-60, and UD-40.
	UD-60	Incorporate weather-protected areas into major public places.	Note: Included in UD-40.
UD-41	UD-35	Include clearly visible and accessible walkways from street sidewalks and parking areas to building entrances and <u>within</u> through large commercial blocks and between developments as a part of site design.	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-72, and UD-41.
	UD-72	Provide clear and identifiable walkways into and through Bellevue's large commercial blocks to improve pedestrian activity.	Note: Included in UD-41.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
UD-42	UD-65	Ensure that sidewalks, walkways, walkway and trails are furnished, where needed and appropriate, with lighting, seating, landscaping, street trees, planter strips, trash receptacles, public art, bike racks, railings, handicap access, newspaper boxes, etc. without interfering trail furnishings do not interfere with pedestrian and bicycle circulation.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
	UD-77	Design and coordinate the proximity of bike racks, wheelchair access, pedestrian amenities, non-motorized trails and other modes of transportation with transit facilities.	Note: Redundant with policies TR-64.
Sustainable and Environmental Design			
UD-43	UD-31	Utilize greenroofs and walls where they enhance the character of Bellevue as a “City in a Park” and soften the visual impact of development.	
UD-44	UD-42	Use <u>Integrate</u> low impact development principles early in the site design and development process <u>to reduce the environmental impact of impervious surfaces.</u>	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-37, (old number) UD-38 and UD-44.
	UD-37	Use site design, water efficient landscaping and stormwater management practices to reduce the environmental impact of impervious surfaces.	Note: Included in UD-44.
	UD-38	Minimize paved surfaces within open spaces and use permeable surfaces where appropriate.	Note: Included in UD-44.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
	UD-41	Design context appropriate stormwater management facilities that reflect the unique character and design elements of the neighborhood in which the site is situated.	Note: Redundant with UD-44.
UD-45	UD-56	Promote water conservation in landscape and irrigation system designs.	
UD-46		<u>Incorporate interpretative or educational materials to highlight sustainable design components.</u>	Note: Added to encourage education around sustainable design.
UD-47	UD-26	Encourage visual, auditory and tactile design elements in the built and natural environment. Incorporate principles of biophilic design into public and private development.	Note: Updated to use more current concepts.
	UD-30	Encourage the use of solar panels and energy efficient technologies in private and public development.	Note: Redundant with policies HO-24 and CL-66.
Arts and Culture			
UD-48	UD-5	Support community efforts to develop <u>Cultivate public art that enhances neighborhood character, identity, builds community, and engages residents in the artistic process.</u>	Note: Updated to combine (old number) UD-17 and UD-48.
	UD-17	Support and encourage a variety of artwork in public places, such as parks, public buildings, and plazas.	Note: Included in UD-48.
UD-49	UD-28	Encourage private and public developers to integrate art into the design of the public areas of their projects.	

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
UD-50	UD-13	Support and encourage <u>Cultivate</u> art and arts programs that facilitate involvement, engagement, communication, understanding, and respect among the city's diverse population.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-51	UD-14	Support and encourage development, display and performance opportunities for a wide range of artistic expression throughout the city.	
UD-52	UD-15	Support and encourage the development of <u>Provide for</u> a wide array of <u>arts and cultural facilities</u> throughout that serve the city and the Eastside through local and regional strategies.	Note: Updated to clarify policy intent.
UD-53	UD-16	Support and encourage lifelong arts education for all skill levels.	
UD-54	UD-18	Expand the city's public art collection and involve the community in the selection of new major items.	
UD-55	UD-19	Support artists and arts groups working in the community through city programs and private partnerships.	Note: Updated to focus on City role.
UD-56	UD-20	Support and encourage the development of <u>Provide for</u> affordable space for artists and arts groups to practice, create, teach, perform, and present their art.	Note: Updated to use more directive language.
UD-57		<u>Encourage and enhance arts and cultural opportunities within Neighborhood Centers.</u>	Note: Added to include Neighborhood Centers specifically.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
UD-58		<u>Use art treatments, such as box wraps, where it can extend the usable life and deter vandalism of city owned equipment and facilities.</u>	Note: Added to support broader arts and cultural program.
UD-59		<u>Develop a process for designating festival streets that can be temporarily closed to vehicular traffic for pedestrian-oriented activities.</u>	Note: Added to support broader arts and cultural program.
UD-60		<u>Support partnerships and spaces for cross-cultural programming that contribute to intercultural engagement, learning, and exchange.</u>	Note: Added to support broader arts and cultural program.
UD-61	UD-83	<u>Recognize the heritage of and affirm diverse heritages within the community by naming (or renaming) parks, streets and other public places after major figures through interpretative materials, artistic expression, and events placemaking.</u>	Note: Updated to use more inclusive language.
Landmarks and Historic Resources			
UD-62		<u>Consider establishing a local preservation program to increase historic resources protections.</u>	Note: Added to support consideration of a future historic preservation program. DEIS mitigation measure (Appendix D, 5.1).
	UD-82	<u>Preserve, enhance and interpret Bellevue's historical identity.</u>	Note: Removed because the policy is too broad.

New Number	Old Number	Proposed Policy Change	Reason for Change/CPP/Note
UD-63	UD-84	Designate historic landmark sites and structures and review proposed changes to ensure that these sites and structures will continue to be a part of the community and explore incentives for rehabilitation. <u>Explore opportunities for preservation, rehabilitation, and adaptive reuse of historically significant sites and structures.</u>	Note: Updated to broaden focus of policy to include all historically significant sites.
UD-64		<u>Identify and protect historic and cultural sites and structures that may be acutely sensitive to climate hazards.</u>	Note: DEIS mitigation measure (Appendix D, 5.1). Recommendation in Climate Vulnerability Assessment (5.1.2).
UD-65		<u>Establish a process of conducting historic surveys that identify, document, and evaluate historic properties.</u>	Note: Added to support consideration of a future historic preservation program.
UD-66		<u>Coordinate with affected tribes and agencies regarding planning and development activities that may impact significant natural, cultural, or archaeological resources.</u>	Note: Added to support consideration of a future historic preservation program.
UD-67		<u>Work with tribes and other historically marginalized or underserved communities to raise awareness of and protect historically and culturally valuable resources to these communities.</u>	Note: Added to support consideration of a future historic preservation program.