

OPEN SPACE AND NATURAL SYSTEMS QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES – PARKS AND OPEN SPACE POLICY MOVES

Planning Commission | April 10, 2024

Response ID	Which of these policy moves sound good to you, and what makes you say that?	Are there any ideas or considerations unique to BelRed you think are missing?	What do you want the Planning Commissioner and other boards and commissions to know as they discuss these policy moves and make their recommendations?
1471530	<p>Updates to ensure equitable and convenient access to nature, parks, trails, and open space.</p> <p>Updates to emphasize natural resource benefits to riparian corridors and upland areas in the acquisition of park and open space lands.</p> <p>New policy to incorporate parks, recreation, and natural amenities into pedestrian streets.</p>		
1471546	<p>Updates to emphasize natural benefits to riparian corridors and ACQUISITION of park and open space lands.</p>	<p>Changing zoning for housing purposes will require a parks plan overhaul.</p>	<p>Changing the zoning to allow for residential use needs a clear and definitive plan for adding parks, trails, open space, community space, riparian enhancements, and the enhancement or creation of natural lands habitat for wildlife.</p>
1471571	<p>Updates to emphasize opportunities along the West Tributary of Kelsey Creek, Goff Creek and NE Spring Boulevard for parks, trails, and open space development.</p> <p>We need perks and more walkable areas near the spring district.</p>	<p>Improved walkability (safely) and severely lacking parks near the spring district</p>	<p>Population and investments are growing around the spring district, but planning for walkability and parks is way too slow. We needed this infrastructure yesterday.</p>
1471588	<p>All of the above sound good and are commensurate with the intended goals for Bel/Red.</p>		<p>Keeping space available to the public, e.g., is important to keep in mind.</p>
1471591	<p>acquisition of park and open space lands, the area lacks large open park space</p>	<p>Keeping or building more large warehouse tall spaces. lots of arts and even sports need these tall ceiling warehouses that seem far and few in between</p>	

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1471597		Do not do anything for bike lanes that will reduce car lanes or reduce street parking. Spending on bike access is not cost effective, just look at what was recently spent in Factoria for bikes and how little it is used. Cost per bike trip?	
1471616	Incorporating parks into pedestrian streets is very important, making sure people can easily walk to nature/places to hang out or enjoy their life without having to get into a car to drive somewhere. It's really great for kids!		You should not listen to regular 'people', the people lack expertise in planning, they don't have a long term vision, they have selfish interests to keep their own property values high, etc.
1471622	Any moves to streamline, reduce redundancy, and better leverage resources should be commended. In Bel-Red, I think a focus on trail/sidewalk connectivity should be commended. Re-examine opportunities to route these trail systems through stream buffers to better leverage that area already being conserved.	Revisit the requirement for multifamily play areas, when this scale of public investment in neighborhood open spaces is running in parallel. Why have these play areas siloed on private properties when those resources could be better leveraged into a larger offsite public investment everyone can use? The siloing of these private spaces sounds like the opposite of "equitable".	The Bel Red Arts District seems a little "forced", as it is focused on an area that will be redeveloped from the ground up. Most successful models in other cities started in well-established or even historic neighborhoods, where the vibe is already eclectic, and provide subsidies to artists in older properties. It will be difficult to replicate that in completely new ground-up development. Is this District really, honestly, in the best possible location for success? Who is going to subsidize this? A LID? The developers? City tax dollars?
1471633	support Goff Creek and Kelsey		
1471672	Incorporate parks with pedestrian streets. A	Possible walking overpass over NE 20th to Bel Red	It's critical to have speeds monitored with and kept at 30mph and make a green space set back prior to sidewalks. Don't make sidewalks against streets.
1471690	Drop all social babble terms such as 'equity'. It is meaningless political dialog.	Reduce setbacks to swamps and streams. Allow for simple restoration plans and only allow commercial use for jobs- zero housing.	Businesses are noisy and need their space too. Not everyone touches plastic a million times a day for a living. Allow for housing to move with the urban growth line which must be moved out.

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1471734			<p>With regard to the second policy move, "Updates to ensure equitable and convenient access to nature, parks, trails, and open space." Equitable as a word has taken on a lot of new meanings and implications over the past few years. If this policy is designed to be racist in any form (i.e., provide improvements targeted at any specific race at the detriment of other races), then it should be struck from the policy. We want a city that equally welcomes all people who live in Bellevue and parks that meet everyone's needs.</p>
1471747	<p>These all sound like great moves to defend open spaces and integrate them into the built environment</p>		<p>Along the lines of "ensure equitable and convenient access," building a protected pedestrian walking and cycling network to access these spaces will be vitally important as population density rises and car access becomes less feasible since it isn't scalable with the growth this area will see. Additionally, a connected pedestrian network like that will be a more enjoyable way to access parks in a busy city</p>

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1471764	<p>Updates to streamline policies and clarify objectives to provide for a diverse and functional collection of parks and open space throughout BelRed. -I like that there's a focus on parks and open spaces. This can make living in a city fun and gives it some life</p> <p>Updates to emphasize opportunities along the West Tributary of Kelsey Creek, Goff Creek and NE Spring Boulevard for parks, trails, and open space development. -I would love for there to be more trails in Bellevue. I think it's something we're definitely missing.</p> <p>Updates to highlight opportunities for supporting the performing arts and community events within park facilities in the heart of the BelRed Arts District. -I really like performing arts so I like that this is a focus</p> <p>Updates to emphasize natural resource benefits to riparian corridors and upland areas in the acquisition of park and open space lands. -I like parks a lot and think they're great to have more of</p> <p>New policy to incorporate parks, recreation, and natural amenities into pedestrian streets. -This is a really cool idea and can help us make the most of the limited space there is + encourage people to get out and walk more</p>		<p>We need to make the most of our space, but that shouldn't mean we build housing in every nook and cranny. We want to have a beautiful city and we should keep the "city in a park" mantra alive</p>

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1471844	<p>The area of your focus currently holds a vast amount of new, nearly empty office buildings and new small apartments that are largely vacant. Real estate professionals share how owners in Bellevue are keeping large amounts of office space and apartments off the market so they can keep prices higher on the areas they do rent. (Go read the business journal and other analysis.) The planned development/density seems way off reality now and likely in the next couple of decades.</p> <p>I find your talk about access to parks, riparian and natural amenities nothing more than lip services when less than a half-mile away you plan to allow for 40-story towers that will block the beautiful vistas from the Botanical Gardens and cast shadows detrimental to that wonderful space.</p>	<p>You need to touch the items of reality -- we have hundreds of cars that travel N-S through those areas daily, and N-S on Bell-Red and Bell-Red (NE 20th). How are you going to keep that viable? How are you going to keep the Coca Cola plant? The bus barns? The businesses in the area now that are so vital?</p>	<p>This first stage seems like you are setting off on another bubble plan and ignoring reality.</p>
1471850	All	No	Thank you!
1471882	<p>Supporting arts and events sound really great. This city needs more activities and events for families to enjoy. The only places to go is the Bellevue square mall which isn't that nice. Not enough walkable areas in the city.</p>	<p>If you ever visit historical European city town centers and other very walkable cities in Asia, it's vibrant and full of buzz in the city. There is nothing like that here in Bellevue... everything is spread out, just big box stores and not enough pockets of walkable neighborhoods with small businesses.</p>	
1471929	<p>All above are good New Policy gets to the heart of my previous text.</p> <p>Good street and safe walking access for all is important. Car free zone accessible to all should be encouraged.</p>	<p>It would be wonderful to have a play area accessible to all. I am very impressed by the changing facilities at Newcastle Beach Park it would be great to review this facilities for COB Parks and Recreation Planning.</p>	<p>Their could to be a free arborist service available to HOA's to support education and develop Riparian corridors. Linking in to schools and youth groups.</p>

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1472008	Updates to emphasize natural resource benefits to riparian corridors is a good policy move. What makes me say that is our riparian corridors are NOT in good shape (creeks and streams) and Bellevue often leans into calling something green space when instead they mean sport fields and playgrounds.	Emphasizing benefits to riparian corridors for the benefit of the environment and if justification is needed to include unpaved walking trails and not high use baseball/soccer fields or parks that are from one end to another end groomed playgrounds.	
1472134	All sound reasonable.	No.	
1472645	The policy to incorporate parks, recreation, and natural amenities into pedestrian streets sounds great, the rest of them sound too vague		
1473352	All appropriate. Equitable access, pedestrian streets stand out to me.	The North side of BelRed needs more parks and natural open spaces that are publically accessible.	Your duty is to the people of Bellevue, not to the businesses that happen to be here now. Make it an extraordinary place to live and the businesses will follow.
1473475	Updates to streamline policies and clarify objectives to provide for a diverse and functional collection of parks and open space throughout BelRed. Really resonate with the idea of park/open spaces for more diverse functions/groups of people. Different age/demographic/even ethnic groups have different needs of park/open spaces, so we should differentiate across these spaces rather than having 90% similar parks, just of different sizes/locations. The facilities we install in each space can be a good way to highlight the differentiation. This differentiation can bring people with similar needs to gather in similar parks, helping them to make acquaintances/build relationships as well		

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1480420	You're not mentioning specifics, but the general concept of continuing to enhance parks and recreation within the city is important as green space decreases.		
1486178	<p>Updates to emphasize natural resource benefits to riparian corridors and upland areas in the acquisition of park and open space lands.</p> <p>---Natural resources are key to any healthy environment so cannot ignore.</p> <p>New policy to incorporate parks, recreation, and natural amenities into pedestrian streets.</p> <p>---This has also become mandatory due to the loss and destruction of our tree canopy. Get some of them back as quickly as possible. There is a reason that people come and stay most of their lives.</p>	<p>Involve the schools more in helping with the care of some of the parks. Students may want to participate in weekends gatherings to plant or clean or tour the parks. The notices that go out on occasion may not be getting to the kids directly. They use them for some activities but need to "own" them too.</p>	<p>Not that I think they care, but many older people and affluent who can work from another state are leaving Bellevue due to the growing taxes. It isn't being addressed well, hence my comments about the developers getting away with dumping it on the city and residents.</p>
1490892	Yes to all of the above.	<p>Our level of income disparity is pretty great. During the pandemic I was able to enjoy nature as a calming and life-enhancing feature. That should be more available across all income levels including in small ways. I am happy to see it included.</p>	<p>Yes, I believe in clarity and streamlining of policy to get rid of the bureaucracy that makes it wasteful, time-consuming, sometimes at odds with itself. Also to make a version that is understandable to the lay reader.</p>
1532811	<p>The draft amendments as presented are extremely hard to parse. I spent about 2 minutes trying and lost patience and I will be surprised if anyone else gets through the document. It's hard not to assume that this was deliberate. You're legally obligated to seek public comment, but you clearly don't care what we have to say.</p>	<p>I have been extremely disappointed with the city's insistence for the past 15 years on severing Overlake and Northup from the rest of the neighborhood. The Spring District replaced industry. This, here, is a fully blown opportunity. We could and should have rezoned everything from the 140th Ave. golf course to Bel-Red & 130th. You could have had a Central Park of your very own. Instead you're putting a few little pockets of trees in between another 5,000 housing</p>	<p>You have betrayed everyone who hoped to live out their lives in the neighborhoods in which they were raised.</p>

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		units that nobody who grew up here will be able to afford.	