

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

about your **NEW FIRE STATION 10**

In 1965, the Bellevue Fire Department began as a rural department serving our neighborhoods and business community. Since then it has grown to meet the expanding needs of our community. Today, Bellevue's Fire Department prides itself on maintaining accreditation with the Center for Public Safety Excellence and its Class 2 rating from the Washington State Survey and Rating Bureau. Bellevue Fire ranks in the top 1 percent of the 46,699 rated departments in the U.S. and is one of the top three departments in Washington State. The Bellevue Fire Department is committed to a high standard of excellence, positively impacting the health and safety of our community, and is proud to maintain one of the highest cardiac arrest survival rates in world.

Why do we need a new fire station?

The Bellevue Fire Department placed fire stations in areas of the city that provided a central point from which to meet the needs of the community. This creates a "system wide" support strategy to ensure that the first arriving Fire Engine, Ladder Truck, Aid Car or Medic Unit, will make it to your front door quickly. The travel time (time the apparatus is on the road) of three minutes to high rise and four minutes to non-high rise incidents, is critical to saving lives. Traffic congestion, response to other incidents, as well as the additional time required to move staff and equipment vertically up to 40+ stories, increase the challenge of meeting these goals. The "system wide" support network of existing stations ensures every individual receives the same standard of excellence, no matter where they might live or work.

The Fire Department recently completed an extensive study to examine how to meet the city's needs of today and into the future. An integral part of a strong "system wide" support strategy, is the development and construction of a new Fire Station 10. The Bellevue City Council approved the funds for property acquisition for Fire Station 10 in the 2015-21 Capital Investment Program.

What were the key findings of the Fire Facilities Master Plan?

- The area of Downtown and Bel-Red represents 70% of the projected population growth of the City. As the city has grown, the number of calls to the Fire Department from the Central Business District (CBD) has greatly increased. From 2010-2015, emergency incidents increased by 24%. (672 emergency responses in 2015).
- Residential population growth in Downtown is expected to increase from 7,147 members in 2010 to an estimated 19,000 in 2030. Bellevue's employment base is also projected to grow from 42,525 employees in 2010 to an estimated 70,300 by 2030.
- There are current gaps in meeting the three minute travel time to incidents in the neighborhoods of Northwest Bellevue, Downtown, Bel-Red and Wilburton. (See area map on left).
- The Facilities Master Plan identified that the most effective option to account for time to ascend a high rise, either by elevator or by stairs, is to reduce the target travel time to the building to three minutes. This is consistent with the department's current four minute target travel time to non-high rise areas.
- Any current response into the CBD draws fire apparatus and crews from other fire stations, increasing response times to the neighborhoods where those stations are located, should they require assistance.



 area with 3 minute travel time
  area with **greater** than 3 minute travel time

Fire Station 10 will be staffed to meet the needs and ensure quick response times to nearby neighborhoods, such as Downtown, Northtowne, Wilburton, Bel-Red, Northwest and West Bellevue.

Based on the coverage gaps identified in the Fire Facilities Master Plan, the plan consultant defined a geographic area for the station siting. Criteria used to evaluate potential sites within that area included:

- Response time/coverage
- Site access and traffic impacts
- Medic 1 freeway access
- Cost to acquire, develop and operate
- Site configuration
- Land use impacts

The site for Fire Station 10 was chosen because it met all six requirements.

The city council approved funds for the land acquisition for Fire Station 10 in the 2015-21 Capital Investment Program. The city has begun the property acquisition process of the site.

Proposed construction will take place 2019-2020 (18 months) with an occupancy date in 2021.



The city will be providing stakeholder briefings for interested parties seeking more information. To request and schedule a stakeholder briefing, or if you want to be involved with the design process, please contact Ryan Armstrong, 425-452-6995, rarmstrong@bellevuewa.gov or visit <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/fire-outreach.htm>.

To view the Fire Department Facility Master Plan visit <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/11609.htm>.