

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 6449

AN ORDINANCE adopting the Grand Connection (18-103885 AC) 2018 amendment to the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Bellevue, pursuant to Chapter 36.70A RCW (Growth Management Act, as amended) and Chapter 35A.63 RCW; and establishing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Bellevue on December 6, 1993 as subsequently amended, as required by the Growth Management Act of 1990, as amended; and also adopted the Comprehensive Plan pursuant to Chapter 35A.63 RCW; and

WHEREAS, the Growth Management Act authorizes the City to, among other things, amend the Comprehensive Plan on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, the City Council initiated a proposal to amend the Comprehensive Plan to incorporate the Grand Connection Framework Plan's high-level vision as a memorable place-making element along its entire corridor length, adopting Grand Connection policies into the Urban Design and the Arts Element, and policies and maps into the Downtown and Wilburton/NE 8th Street Subarea Plans, for consideration with the 2018 annual Comprehensive Plan amendments; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has held public meetings and a public hearing pursuant to legally-required notice on the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan and has recommended approval with one text addition to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered and discussed the proposed annual amendment to the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellevue has complied with the requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act (Chapter 43.21C RCW) and the City Environmental Procedures Code (Chapter 22.02 BMC); and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend the Comprehensive Plan consistent with the foregoing; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council's recommended amendments to the Urban Design and the Arts Element, and policies and maps into the Downtown and Wilburton/NE 8th Street Subarea Plans of the City's Comprehensive Plan regarding the Grand Connection, which are set forth in Attachment A to this ordinance, are hereby adopted.

Section 2. The City Council finds that the 2018 Grand Connection CPA has met the Comprehensive Plan amendment decision criteria contained in the Land Use Code (Part 20.301); that the amendment is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and other goals and policies of the City; that the amendment addresses the interests and changed needs of the entire City as identified in its long-range planning and policy documents; that the amendment addresses significantly changed conditions since the last time the pertinent Comprehensive Plan map or text was considered; that if a site-specific amendment, the subject property is suitable for development in general conformance with adjacent land use, the surrounding development pattern, and with zoning standards under the potential zoning classifications; and that the proposed amendment demonstrates a public benefit and enhance the public health, safety and welfare of the City.

Section 3. The City Council finds that public notice was provided for all 2018 amendments to the Comprehensive Plan as required by LUC 20.35.400 for Process IV amendments to the text of the Land Use Code and Comprehensive Plan.

Section 4. The Comprehensive Plan adopted pursuant to Chapter 35A.63 RCW, to the same extent and in the same respect as the Comprehensive Plan required by the Growth Management Act of 1990, as amended, is amended consistent with Section 1 of this ordinance and the separate ordinances referenced therein.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force five (5) days after its passage and legal publication. This ordinance and the Comprehensive Plan shall be available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk.

Passed by the City Council this ____ day of _____, 2018 and signed in authentication of its passage this ____ day of _____ 2018.

(SEAL)

John Chelminiak, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Nicholas Melissinos, Interim City Attorney

Catherine A. Drews, Assistant City Attorney

Attest:

Kyle Stannert, City Clerk

Published _____ 2018

Attachment A **Grand Connection CPA**

Comprehensive Plan Amendments for Grand Connection

URBAN DESIGN AND THE ARTS ELEMENT

Arts and Culture

- Policy UD-NEW.** 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.

Design Quality – Downtown, Commercial and Mixed-Use Developments

- Policy UD-NEW.** Employ design guidelines that promote a consistent aesthetic quality and urban experience for those who use the Grand Connection.

Public Space – Street Corridors

- Policy UD-NEW.** Encourage the development of the Grand Connection vision to create a unique, defining, and signature experience for people walking, riding a bicycle or using other compatible mobility options, pedestrians, bicyclists, and other alternative modes of transportation, recognizing that the pedestrian experience and pedestrian safety take precedence over other modes.

DOWNTOWN SUBAREA PLAN

Signature Streets

The functional aspect of Downtown Bellevue's streets can be refined around a set of signature themes. Figure S-DT.1 shows three types of signature streets. Bellevue Way, Main Street in Old Bellevue, and the NE 6th Street portion of the Grand Connection are identified as Shopping Streets. The others are 106th Avenue NE as Entertainment Avenue, and 108th Avenue NE as Downtown's Commerce Avenue. These streets help tie Downtown together with complementary uses and design elements. All these streets will continue to support multiple uses and modes of travel, with evolving functions and identities.

- Policy S-DT-45.** Continue to develop and implement the Grand Connection vision as a major unifying feature for Downtown Bellevue through public and private-sector investments.
- Policy S-DT-45.1.** Implement design components and wayfinding along the Grand Connection to create an accessible and intuitive multimodal connection for ~~multimodal~~ users of all abilities.

Gateways and Wayfinding

- Policy S-DT NEW.** Aggressively pursue the Grand Connection vision for a multimodal crossing of I-405 between Downtown and the Wilburton Commercial Area.

Eastside Center District

The Eastside Center District is comprised of three smaller districts: Bellevue Square, City Center, and the Civic/Convention District. The Eastside Center is within walking distance to all of Downtown's key features. The key to the Eastside Center District is tying it together from east to west along the NE 6th Street portion of the Grand Connection, and having it become the symbolic and functional heart of the Eastside Region.

Policy S-DT-79. Provide incentives to develop the intersection of 106th Avenue NE and NE 6th Street as a central location for public gatherings, and to increase the role of Compass Plaza as an important node along the Grand Connection.

Policy S-DT-81. Develop the Grand Connection as a unifying feature for Downtown Bellevue by siting buildings and encouraging uses that activate the corridor, and by incorporating design components that ensure accessibility.

Old Bellevue

Policy S-DT-87. Provide a graceful multimodal pedestrian connection through the unifying design features of the Grand Connection between from Downtown Park, ~~through~~ Old Bellevue and to Meydenbauer Bay Park.

City Center South

Policy S-DT-NEW. Consider studying a complementary route to the Grand Connection along Main Street to establish better multimodal connections between Downtown and the Wilburton Commercial Area, as well as community resources, and amenities.

Grand Connection

The Grand Connection is a high priority route for multimodal transportation including people walking, riding a bicycle or using other compatible mobility options. The focus on various modes will vary along the route, with the pedestrian experience and pedestrian safety being of primary importance. Incremental improvements through private developments and public investments will upgrade the Grand Connection to provide exceptional pedestrian access to transit stations and multimodal connections across I-405.

Policy S-DT-144.2. Apply the Grand Connection designation between Meydenbauer Bay Park and the Eastside Rail Corridor Trail to improve multimodal access to parks, public spaces, transit stations, businesses, and residential uses.

Policy S-DT New. Periodically review the performance and use of the Grand Connection based on the stage of implementation and a set of established measures of success.

Through-Block Connections

Policy S-DT-161. Provide safe and convenient pedestrian linkages to adjacent neighborhoods to the north, south and west of Downtown, as well as to the east across I-405, ~~on arterial routes and~~ on the Grand Connection.

WILBURTON / NE 8TH SUBAREA PLAN

Policy S-WI-NEW. Encourage and explore opportunities to create a multimodal crossing over I-405 between NE 6th and NE 4th Streets for people walking, riding a bicycle or using other compatible mobility options as part of the Grand Connection vision.

Policy S-WI-NEW. Encourage the creation of a significant interface between the Grand Connection and the Eastside Rail Corridor Trail to create seamless connectivity for people walking, riding a bicycle or using other compatible mobility options.

Policy S-WI-NEW. The Grand Connection should serve as a catalyst for the future vision of the Wilburton Commercial Area.

Policy S-WI-NEW. Consider the unique role that the city-owned property Lincoln Center could contribute to fulfilling the vision of the Grand Connection as a potential landing location, civic use, or public space.

Policy S-WI-NEW. Consider how the I-405 crossing element of the Grand Connection can assist in creating a unified urban design vision and character for the area bounded by NE 6th Street, NE 4th Street, and the Eastside Rail Corridor Trail, with the Civic Center District of Downtown.

Policy S-WI-NEW. Employ design guidelines that promote a consistent aesthetic quality and urban experience between Downtown and the Wilburton Commercial Area.

Natural Determinants

Policy S-WI-NEW. Pursue opportunities to enhance the natural systems of Sturtevant Creek between NE 8th Street and NE 4th Street as part of the Grand Connection.