



PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Pedestrian and bicycle facilities are vital to Bellevue's transportation system. An integrated, connected, and safe pedestrian and bicycle system increases mobility and provides convenient access to schools, work, transit, and parks.

Building and maintaining a seamless network of walkways, bikeways, and off-street trails requires a coordinated effort that is documented in the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan](#) and the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Implementation Initiative](#).

Walking is a fundamentally important way to travel. A safe and continuous pedestrian system makes walking an attractive option. Furthermore, walking for transportation and recreation provides significant benefits to personal health and to the environment.

The bicycle system provides an increasingly important mobility option. Bicycle facilities are incorporated into the city's transportation priorities, especially along specified north/south and east/west corridors. A well connected and continuous bicycle system that is safe and comfortable for riders of all ages and abilities provides benefits similar to the pedestrian system and enables longer-distance travel within the city and to regional destinations.

By constructing and maintaining pedestrian and bicycle facilities, the city increases mobility options for everyone. This approach to pedestrian and bicycle transportation is consistent with the Puget Sound Regional Council's vision for a region-wide non-motorized transportation system, as articulated in Transportation 2040, the adopted 30-year action plan for transportation in the central Puget Sound region.

COMPLETE STREETS

The transportation system in Bellevue provides safe and reliable

WHAT IS A COMPLETE STREET?

Roadway Users and Modes - Complete Streets are for people of all ages and abilities walking, bicycling, and using public transit, and for those driving private automobiles, freight and delivery vehicles, and emergency vehicles.

Projects and Phases - Complete Streets applies on the public ROW and easements for all project phases including scoping, planning, designing, implementing, operating, and maintaining the transportation system.

Clear, Accountable Exceptions - The conditions for granting exceptions are specific and require approval from the Transportation Director.

Network Connectivity - Complete Streets promotes a comprehensive, integrated, connected network for all modes.

Design - Complete Streets uses a best practices approach and practices balance and flexibility to accommodate the needs of all roadway users.

mobility options for people to travel throughout the city. A Complete Streets network enables equitable access for all people and all travel modes. Each street in Bellevue is unique, and each street must serve a range of users with a design that is compatible with the context of the corridor and community. Complete Streets may also create great places that encourage people to gather in public spaces.

The Transportation Element supports a complete, connected, and resilient multimodal transportation system. City staff incorporate Complete Streets best practices and consider all roadway users and all modes of travel as they scope project concepts, plan for alternative approaches, design the preferred solution, build the project, then maintain and operate the project.

A Complete Streets network approach provides access for all modes along convenient alternate routes in situations where it is not possible, practical, or desirable to incorporate facilities for all modes on a particular street.

The Transportation Director maintains and updates a Transportation Design Manual that incorporates best practices to implement a Complete Streets approach, using design guidance from professional organizations such as the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), and National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO).

VISION ZERO

Bellevue City Council Resolution No. 9035 (December 7, 2015) endorsed Vision Zero – recognition that death and serious injury on city streets is unacceptable and preventable. Policies related to Vision Zero are integrated throughout the Transportation Element to support implementing context-appropriate traffic safety measures for all travel modes and to emphasize protecting the most vulnerable users. In a comprehensive, coordinated manner, Bellevue will maintain, enhance and monitor progress in a citywide effort to achieve zero traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2030.

COMPLETE STREETS cont'd

Community Context - Complete Streets solutions complement the context of the corridor and surrounding community.

Performance Measures - Complete Streets performance is measured against adopted LOS standards and mode-specific plans.

WHAT IS VISION ZERO?

Vision Zero is an approach to traffic safety that has the ultimate goal of ending traffic deaths and serious injuries. It is a framework for a multi-faceted approach to create a transportation system that is safe for all users, especially for those people who are the most vulnerable. Components of a Vision Zero programmatic approach to safety include several categories of actions: Education; Encouragement; Enforcement; Engineering; Equity; and Evaluation.



FREIGHT MOBILITY



The regional and local transportation system allows for the movement of goods as well as people. The function supports economic vitality and meets the needs of residents and businesses. Bellevue designs and manages the local transportation system to provide for the efficient movement of goods along specified corridors. Large-scale freight handling is primarily an off-street function, and the curbside is increasingly used to accommodate small-scale parcel pick-up and delivery.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Whether considering runoff from streets, tailpipe emissions into the air, or noise from tires and engines, the transportation system has the potential to affect the quality of the environment. Environmental policies include proactive efforts in Bellevue to reduce the adverse impacts of the transportation system.



NEIGHBORHOOD PROTECTION

Two types of transportation system impacts are of special concern to neighborhood quality of life:

- Cut-through traffic and spillover parking on residential streets that may create noise and safety issues.
- Roadway projects in and near residential areas that may affect neighborhood appearance, character, and livability.



Employing transportation system management tools and implementing a traffic safety program maintains mobility and minimizes traffic impacts on neighborhoods. Approaches may include appropriately scaled and designed roadway improvements, traffic safety measures on neighborhood streets, and prioritized mobility modes along corridors that are compatible with neighborhood character and quality of life.

TRANSPORTATION FINANCE

This Plan requires investments in all modes, with the objective of providing mobility options and meeting adopted level of service standards for all modes.

Funding for improvements is derived from multiple sources: businesses and residents (the city's general fund and local business taxes); pass-through users (gas and motor vehicle taxes); new development (impact fees), and outside resources including grants. Joint funding and partnerships are options for projects that involve Washington state, King County, transit service providers, or adjacent jurisdictions.

To ensure that funding and improvements keep pace with demand and meet long-term system requirements, the city has a 12-year Transportation Facilities Plan that identifies long-range needs and cost estimates. Detailed transportation revenues and expenditures are balanced every two years in the city's seven-year Capital Investment Program (CIP). At every update of the CIP, transportation facility cost estimates are completed and available revenues are reassessed. New transportation needs are prioritized based on the Transportation Facilities Plan, as well as emerging high-priority short-term needs.

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

- Bellevue residents, employees, and visitors move safely and comfortably along roadway corridors with a full suite of mobility options.
- Connected and continuous pedestrian and bicycle facilities provide convenient access to schools, work, activity centers, transit, and parks.
- Frequent and reliable transit provides Bellevue residents with connections to the city and region.
- Multimodal metrics and level of service standards inform design and investment decisions.
- The transportation system complements and enhances neighborhood character, the environment, and quality of life.

