

## **CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION**

Update on Bellevue Smart plan accomplishments related to the Connectivity element.

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## **DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL**

# INFORMATION ONLY

Council approved the *Bellevue Smart: Planning for a Smarter City* plan in 2017. This update highlights progress made in the Connectivity element of the plan.

#### RECOMMENDATION

N/A

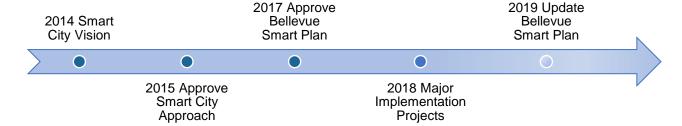
### **BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS**

Bellevue Smart: Planning for a Smarter City established a comprehensive and phased approach to achieving Council's smart city vision, "Bellevue is a 'smart city' with a clean, high-quality environment and excellent and reliable infrastructure that supports our vibrant and growing city, including high-tech connectivity." The plan aligns with Council's updated smart city priority, "Advance implementation of the Smart City Strategy, including advanced transportation technology and autonomous, connected, electric and shared vehicle technologies."

The overall goal of Bellevue Smart is to improve livability, sustainability and resiliency for Bellevue. Bellevue Smart focuses on six elements:

Connectivity – Improve communications infrastructure and consumer services with focus on speed, availability and choice	<b>Transportation</b> – Improve people's ability to move around the City safely and efficiently
Public Safety – Integrate infrastructure, services, agencies and personnel to keep residents and visitors safe	Water – Ensure high-quality delivery of water services to homes and businesses, minimize disruptions and increase customer service
Buildings – Enhance building systems and analytics to improve performance, efficiency and resource conservation	<b>Energy</b> – Improve and integrate energy systems to ensure sufficient, efficient and reliable energy

Council approved the Bellevue Smart Plan in 2017, and since then, major projects and initiatives have begun implementation, such as Smart Mobility effort and the Smart Water Meter project. This update focuses on the Connectivity element. The plan is due for an update by the end of 2019.



Specific accomplishments related to Connectivity include:

- Wi-Fi: BellevueConnect, the City's public Wi-Fi service, continues to be added to King County
  Housing Authority properties in Bellevue when feasible to help address digital equity gaps for
  low-income families. Wi-Fi also is being added in the City's parks as an amenity service when
  opportunities arise.
  - Highland Village Apartments Wi-Fi was added in partnership with King County Housing Authority who was in the process of remodeling Highland Village Apartments on NE 8<sup>th</sup> St. This builds on the Council's commitment to preserving affordable housing in Bellevue. BellevueConnect Wi-Fi went live the first week of June 2019.
  - South Bellevue Community Center Wi-Fi has been extended to the zip line area to facilitate check-ins.
  - Surrey Downs Park Wi-Fi was added by the great lawn and sport court and went live as part of the grand opening.
- Small Cell Wireless: Council adopted code amendments in January and in March 2019 to enable small cell wireless implementation on City-owned streetlights. Small cell wireless is intended to improve wireless coverage and serve as a foundation for 5G wireless in future.
  - Three master license agreements have been now been signed with AT&T (February),
     Verizon (March) and Crown Castle who implements on behalf of T-Mobile and Sprint (April).
  - Small wireless facilities permitting materials are now available on the City's website.
  - Carriers are finalizing the streetlight pole engineering design with the City's approved pole manufacturers.
- Regional Partnerships: Bellevue continues working with regional partners to improve connectivity services for the public institutions serving people in the Bellevue community. Examples include:
  - Community Connectivity Consortium (C3) Bellevue is a partner in the C3, a regional consortium of 28 public entities representing local government, higher education, school districts, public safety entities and medical services. Through the C3, Bellevue has been able to collaborate with Bellevue College and Bellevue School District to connect campuses and schools.
  - Global Innovation Exchange (GIX) Bellevue partners with the University of Washington to leverage its fiber network to connect the GIX campus in the Spring District with the University of Washington.
  - Medical Clinics Bellevue provides connectivity to UW Medical clinics on Northup Way and in Factoria and to Overlake Medical Center and their Downtown clinic.

#### **POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**

## **Policy Impact**

Council approved the *Bellevue Smart: Planning for a Smarter City* plan in July 2017. The plan represents strategies and implementation actions to achieve Bellevue City Council's smart city vision.

The 2018-2020 Council 3-Year Priorities state that the City should "advance implementation of the Smart City Strategy, including advanced transportation technology and autonomous, connected, electric and shared vehicle technology."

The Economic Development Element of the Bellevue Comprehensive Plan supports maintaining and improving communications, electric utility, and other infrastructure needed to support the City's economic needs and growth. (ED-33).

### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this update.

#### **OPTIONS**

N/A

## **ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS**

N/A

#### **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

N/A