

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Those interested in providing input into the development of the 2021-2022 budget have opportunities to participate in the process between now and when the City Council approves the budget, including:

Budget One 2021-2022 Website is available at: <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/finance/budget-and-performance/budgets/public-involvement/>

- The website provides links and contact information for anyone interested in further information.

Neighborhood Leadership Gathering

On February 25, 2020, the Neighborhood Outreach team hosted a Neighborhood Leadership Gathering called City Budgeting Through a Neighborhood Lens. Finance & Asset Management staff presented an overview of the city budget and answered community questions. Neighborhood leaders engaged in a hands-on exercise demonstrating the challenges of balancing priorities with limited resources. The meeting also shared the results of a community survey asking residents to rank and share their citywide priorities, as well as, their priorities for their neighborhood. More information can be found at <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/neighborhoods/classes-and-events/neighborhood-leadership-gathering>.

Budget and Performance Surveys (will be posted on the Budget One 2021-2022 website above as they are completed).

- **Budget Survey**

In preparation for the new budget, the City conducts a budget survey each biennium. The survey is designed to provide a statistically valid tool to enhance the City's knowledge of residents' perceptions about the City and to better understand community priorities and expectations regarding City services. This survey has been conducted biennially since 1998. Estimated publish date for the 2020 survey is July. Reports are available at: <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/finance/budget-and-performance/performance-reports/budget-survey>

- **Business Survey**

The city conducts a business survey to address Bellevue's key metrics, attitudes about operating and owning a business, starting a business, and questions relating to taxation. The survey has been conducted every other year since 2015. Reports are available at: <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/finance/budget-and-performance/performance-reports/business-survey>

- **Performance Survey**

The Performance Survey is designed to gauge how the City meets the needs of its residents. The survey asks questions about: overall quality of life, overall quality of city services, comparability to other communities, direction the City is headed, and the value of services for tax dollars paid. The methodology for the Performance Survey is the same as in the Budget Survey. Estimated publish date for the 2020 survey is July. Reports are available at: <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/finance/budget-and-performance/performance-reports/performance-measures-survey>

Public Hearings

- The City Council historically holds three public hearings on the 2021-2022 budget to provide stakeholders multiple opportunities to officially comment on the operating and capital budgets. Generally, two public hearings are held prior to the submission of the Preliminary Budget to the Council and offer residents and other stakeholders the opportunity to let the Council know what issues are important to them. COVID related events could impact the timing, and potentially, the amount of public hearings. The third hearing, in November after the Council receives the Preliminary Budget, provides interested parties the chance to address new budget proposals and comment on significant budget issues.

Public Comment at any Council meeting

- The public is welcome to provide written comment to the council by emailing council@bellevuewa.gov, subject line "Written Communications," by 3 p.m. on the day of each Council meeting.
- The public is welcome to speak during public comment periods at all regular Council meetings once physical meetings resume. Council agendas are posted on the Council website in advance of the meeting.

Boards and Commissions

Four City Boards and Commissions provide input into the budget process. The processes below may be impacted in this budget process by events related to COVID. More information is located at <https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/>

Commission and Board Roles in the 2021-2022 Budget Process

Commission	Description	Members	Role in Budget Process
Transportation Commission	The commission shall act in a policy advisory capacity to the City Council. The commission may hold public hearings and shall conduct studies, perform analyses, and prepare reports as required by the traffic standards code or requested by the City Council (BCC 3.63.070).	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviews City Manager's Transportation Department proposed CIP budget and provides feedback to Council and the City Manager on Prelim Budget.
Parks & Community Services Board	The board shall act in a policy advisory capacity to the City Council. With respect to city parks and community services facilities and programs, the board may hold public hearings and shall conduct studies, perform analyses, and prepare reports requested by the City Council. The board shall review, advise, and make recommendations to the Council on policies regarding parks and open space and community services issues (BCC 3.62.070).	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advises the Council on the Parks' CIP.• Reviews existing and potential new CIP projects.• Communicates CIP priorities to Council via a Board-approved memo and oral communication to Council.
Environmental Services Commission	The commission shall act in a policy advisory capacity to the City Council. The commission may hold public hearings and shall conduct studies, perform analyses, and prepare reports requested by the City Council. The commission shall review, advise, and make recommendations to the Council on city water, sewer, storm and surface water, and solid waste utility programs (BCC 3.55.070).	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advises Council on Utilities Department budget through approval of Water, Sewer and Storm Drainage rates.

Human Services Commission	The commission shall act in a policy advisory capacity to the City Council. The commission may hold public hearings and shall conduct studies, perform analyses, and prepare reports requested by the City Council. The commission shall review, advise, and make recommendations to the Council on human services issues and policy (BCC 3.61.070).	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviews and recommends to the Council funding for various Human Services agencies (including Parks, Community Development, Development Services, Police, and Fire). The Commission's role includes reviewing City and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.
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E-mail/Contact Councilmembers Council@bellevuewa.gov

Comments to the full Council may be made by email to the address above or by leaving a voicemail with the Council Office at 425-452-7810.

E-mail/Contact Finance & Asset Management FAM@bellevuewa.gov

- Presentations to Neighborhood Groups, Business Associations and Others
The Finance & Asset Management Department will give presentations about the budget upon request to any group. Please contact us by phone, 425-452-5281 or at the email above.
- Information Provided Upon Request
The Finance & Asset Management Department responds to any communication received regarding the budget process. Please contact us at 425-452-5281 or at the email above.