

CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Extended Study Session

July 13, 2015
6:00 p.m.

Conference Room 1E-113
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Balducci, Deputy Mayor Wallace, and Councilmembers Chelminiak, Lee, Robinson, and Stokes

ABSENT: Councilmember Robertson

1. Executive Session

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m., with Mayor Balducci presiding. There was no Executive Session. Ms. Balducci noted that Agenda Item 4(e) would be postponed.

2. Approval of Agenda

→ Councilmember Stokes moved to approve the agenda, amended to postpone Agenda Item 4(e). Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.

→ The motion to approve the agenda, as amended, carried by a vote of 6-0.

Mayor Balducci presented City Manager Brad Miyake with his 25th anniversary certificate. She noted his prior positions with the City as Budget Manager, Utilities Deputy Director and Director, and Deputy City Manager.

3. Oral Communications

- (a) Diane Richards, Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council (EISCC), distributed copies of a letter to the Council. The organization has 112 faith community members as well as affiliated human services providers. She urged the Council to begin to address the issue of homeless encampments and the expiration of Bellevue's 2006 Homeless Encampment Consent Decree occurring at the end of this year. She said tent cities are necessary for the safety and support of citizens. Ms. Richards asked the Council to allow multiple encampments per year of at least 122 days per encampment on public and private property, including religious organizations. She requested that the City streamline the application process and that Bellevue take leadership in coordinating an Eastside effort to develop a regional homeless encampment policy.

4. Study Session

(a) Council Business and New Initiatives

Mayor Balducci said Councilmember Robertson has requested excused absences due to illness.

→ Deputy Mayor Wallace moved to excuse Councilmember Robertson's absences beginning with the previous week and extending through the August recess. Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councilmember Robinson recommended Katherine Ombrellaro to fill a vacancy on the Special Events Committee.

→ Councilmember Robinson moved to appoint Katherine Ombrellaro to the Special Events Committee, and Mr. Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Deputy Mayor Wallace reported that he and Councilmember Stokes attended the Eastside Transportation Partnership (ETP) meeting. He said there was public comment at ETP that Sound Transit awarded the design contractor another \$20 million as a contingency for their contract to design light rail across the I-90 bridge. He said the original contract in November 2012 totaled \$28 million. Mr. Wallace expressed concerns about the significant expenditures and about proceeding with light rail construction in Bellevue when the design of the I-90 segment has not been resolved. He said he asked staff to provide an update on the status and design of the I-90 crossing. Completion of 100 percent design was originally targeted for April 2015 and has been rescheduled to the fourth quarter of 2016.

Mayor Balducci confirmed that there are design challenges related to light rail on the I-90 bridge. As she understands, no one from Sound Transit or the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is questioning whether the project can be built. However, there are issues to be resolved. Ms. Balducci concurred with the suggestion to ask Sound Transit staff to provide an update.

Councilmember Lee said he shares Mr. Wallace's concern that this is a significant amount of money, and he requested more information for the Council.

Mr. Wallace expressed concern that Bellevue will deal with the hardships of the construction impacts, with the possibility that the project will then be delayed because issues with I-90 have not been resolved. He expressed concern about the possible risk of moving forward with collaborative projects with Sound Transit related to the East Link project (e.g., 120th Avenue and 124th Avenue) if light rail is ultimately not able to connect from Seattle.

(b) Council Action on Establishing Priorities related to the Sound Transit Phase 3 (ST3) System Plan for the City of Bellevue

Transportation Director Dave Berg said this follows up on staff's presentation the previous week of the draft comment letter and draft interest statement regarding the Sound Transit 3 (ST3) package. He said six areas were highlighted in the documents including maintaining subarea equity, implementing system access improvements, implementing the tri-party agreement with Sound Transit and Metro regarding 120th Avenue in the Bel-Red area, evaluating and implementing emerging technologies that could improve system access, Eastside high-capacity transit, and the linkage between affordable housing and transit-oriented development (TOD).

Staff is seeking Council approval in order to submit the documents to Sound Transit on Wednesday, July 15.

Mayor Balducci observed that the revised documents capture the Council's previous questions and direction.

Councilmember Stokes concurred that the letter and interest statement capture the Council's previous discussion and suggestions. He believes that subarea equity and TOD are especially important components of the comments.

Councilmember Lee thanked staff for the revisions since the last discussion, especially the more action-oriented language referring to implementing improvements and priorities. He said he attended the Transportation Commission's retreat the previous week, and the Commission was pleased with the Council's priority for overall regional transit connections.

Councilmember Chelminiak said he is satisfied with the comment letter and interest statement. He noted there have been discussions over the years about a bus layover facility and garage/Park and Ride between downtown and the Wilburton area. He wondered whether this might hasten the NE 6th Street connection across I-405. He questioned whether parking spaces at that location could meet parking requirements for downtown development in lieu of providing underground parking.

Responding to Mayor Balducci, Mr. Chelminiak suggested adding to the letter and/or interest statement a comment on exploring a joint use parking facility somewhere between Wilburton and the Downtown Station.

Responding to Mayor Balducci, Mr. Berg said there is not currently any policy document referencing that type of facility within the vicinity of the Downtown. The Transit Master Plan focuses on capturing trips before they get that close. Mayor Balducci suggested adding a statement to encourage the consideration of additional parking capacity in the Wilburton area.

Councilmember Chelminiak recalled plans years ago for a possible bus layover facility along I-405. He suggested that exploring this idea could tie into a Downtown parking study.

Councilmember Stokes concurred with the concept and suggested it needs to be developed further. He observed that this suggestion is more detailed than most of the items in the letter and interest statement. He suggested adding Bellevue as a location for additional Park and Ride capacity, as well as Issaquah and Sammamish.

Councilmember Lee said this is an interesting idea and appropriate to consider. He said there would need to be a comprehensive analysis, including the regional context, of increasing connectivity. He agreed with the benefit of a connection between Wilburton and the Downtown.

Mayor Balducci said it makes sense because the Wilburton Station does not have a Park and Ride or strong bus transit connections to integrate with light rail.

Deputy Mayor Wallace said he would like to see a partnership with Sound Transit, Metro, and potentially other agencies. He noted the aerial light rail line between the Downtown, the Wilburton Station, and the surrounding area and suggested this provides the opportunity for using the area under that alignment. Mr. Berg spoke in favor of the suggested bus layover space with easy access to the Downtown.

Councilmember Chelminiak noted the existing statement: "Add Park and Ride capacity in the system, including new facilities at North Sammamish and Issaquah." He suggested adding: "Consider additional parking in collaboration with Bellevue and the private sector in the area between the Wilburton Station and Downtown Bellevue, and including the possibility of a joint Metro-Sound Transit layover facility."

Councilmember Robinson said she liked what Mr. Lee said about increasing connectivity. Mr. Chelminiak suggested adding that concept to his previous revision: "Increase system connectivity between light rail, bus rapid transit (BRT), and cars through the consideration of additional parking in collaboration with Bellevue and the private sector in the area between the Wilburton Station and Downtown Bellevue. This could include a joint Metro-Sound Transit bus layover facility."

Ms. Robinson observed that Item 4 of the draft interest statement frequently uses the word "connection." In response, Ms. Balducci suggested revised language as follows: "The Bellevue College Connection should be a component of the Bellevue to Issaquah segment."

- Councilmember Stokes moved to approve the Bellevue ST3 Interest Statement and Comment Letter, as amended by Councilmember Chelminiak and by Councilmember Robinson, and to direct staff to transmit both documents to the Sound Transit Board to meet the July 15 deadline. Councilmember Lee seconded the motion.
- The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

(c) April-June 2015 Quarterly Update on Economic Development Activities

City Manager Miyake opened staff's quarterly update on the Economic Development Plan adopted in July 2014. He recalled that, during the last update on April 20, staff introduced

metrics for three key areas: business attraction, business retention and expansion, and Next Generation Bellevue.

Chris Salomone, Director of Planning and Community Development (PCD), said this is the fourth quarterly report since the Economic Development Plan was adopted last summer. He said the strategy has gained momentum in recent months and exceeded some of the plan's targets.

James Henderson, Economic Development Director, introduced Jesse Canedo, the City's new Economic Development Manager. Mr. Henderson recalled that the plan includes direct strategies and foundational (long-term) strategies. He presented year-to-date results for the three program objectives: business attraction, business retention, and Next Generation Bellevue. He said the Economic Development division is on track to meet or exceed most of the 2015 Action Plan goals. He described new businesses coming to Bellevue. Mr. Henderson noted that Microsoft is consolidating operations in Bellevue to reflect its new business model, and Expedia will move to its new headquarters facility in Seattle in 2018.

Mr. Henderson said Mr. Canedo will be focusing on the Next Generation Bellevue program. He is from San Antonio where he worked in the Office of Economic Development on business attraction and retention projects. He served as a project manager for San Antonio's trade and investment strategy as part of the Brookings Global Cities Initiative. Mr. Canedo is also an entrepreneur who established a company in San Antonio to focus on urban housing and revitalization.

Mr. Henderson said work is underway on the Economic Development web site, and staff anticipates completion by the end of July. It will have mapping technology, a calendar of events, information on fiber corridors, technology industry information, transit information, etc. Staff has implemented the Salesforce project management tool to track leads, prospects, the status of projects, and BRE (business retention and expansion) performance.

Economic Development staff only include in its metrics those company relocations and expansions in which the City played a role in recruiting or providing technical assistance to facilitate their expansion. The City is available to provide technical assistance related to signage, permitting, export assistance, and power reliability. Business attraction activity included in the City's performance metrics are the Global Innovation Exchange, the new Inspur (Chinese-based technology company) facility in the Crossroads area, and the move of UNIQLO, a Japanese casual wear company, to Bellevue Square.

Mr. Henderson thanked Councilmember Lee for his role in attracting Inspur to Bellevue. He highlighted additional new business in Bellevue including REI moving its information technology departments to the Eastgate area.

In the area of business retention and expansion, two companies (ispot.tv and EnvelopVR) have expanded. City staff was involved in helping the Bellevue Brewing Company with export assistance to Canada. Staff has met with a number of businesses and major employers including Concur, Overlake Hospital and Medical Center, and HDR. Businesses like Bellevue's qualified work force, safe community, downtown amenities (restaurants and hotels), transportation

options, and good schools. Mr. Henderson said companies have commented on the need for more and affordable office space, housing for multiple generation employees, and more parking for employees and customers.

Mr. Canedo reported on the performance metrics for the Next Generation Bellevue initiative. The second quarter was focused on supporting ImpactHub in implementing its program and facility and hiring a small business development advisor. ImpactHub opened in March, and there are 43 new businesses housed in the shared space as well as 71 total members. The program is located in the Lincoln Center building on the east side of I-405, and space has been added every month. A public event space is scheduled to open in August.

Mr. Canedo said ImpactHub members note the need for bridge space (between incubator and independent full market space). Members appreciate the cooperative business environment in the area and express a need for expanded multi-modal transportation options (including bike facilities). The small business advisor will be working part-time in Bellevue and part-time in Redmond to provide support and counseling. Mr. Canedo said City staff will be working with a local group of virtual reality company executives who would like to hold a virtual reality conference in Bellevue at the Meydenbauer Center this fall.

Mr. Canedo highlighted regional collaboration with the Global Cities Initiative, Power of Play, Washington State China Relations Council, Trade Development Alliance of Greater Seattle, Economic Development Council of Seattle and King County, OneRedmond, Visit Bellevue Washington, and the Washington Interactive Network.

Mr. Canedo summarized priority activities for the remainder of the year including the completion of the web site, continued company visits, the development of marketing materials and branding to support future economic development activity, the creation of a Tourism Master Plan, a virtual reality conference at Meydenbauer Center, and additional initiatives to support the startup culture.

Councilmember Lee said the Global Innovation Exchange (GIX), to be located in Bellevue's Spring District, will be a significant asset for the region and the country. This partnership between the University of Washington; Tsinghua University, one of China's top research institutions; and Microsoft will initially offer a master's degree in technology innovation.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Mr. Henderson said staff does plan to translate certain pages of the economic development web site to other languages.

Mr. Lee said he likes the idea of the part-time small business advisor in City Hall. He noted that he was the regional director for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in the past. Mr. Lee introduced the idea of a retail space that combines banking, legal, accounting, and other services for small businesses.

Councilmember Robinson thanked Councilmember Lee for all of his work in pursuing relationships with companies in China. She commended Mr. Henderson and Mr. Canedo for their work and thanked Mr. Salomone for what he accomplished before they joined the City.

Councilmember Stokes said he is very happy with the Economic Development team and their activities. He thanked Councilmember Robinson for advocating for entrepreneur and startup incubator space. He is happy to see a focused and forward-looking Economic Development division.

Councilmember Lee noted that former University of Washington President Michael Young was instrumental in bringing the Global Innovation Exchange to the region.

Mayor Balducci said she was impressed with the performance metrics. She said the program is doing very well within the short period of time that new staff have been on board. She observed that this validates the Council's investment in increased resources focused on economic development.

Ms. Balducci suggested adding the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce logo to the list of regional collaboration organizations. She said the City and the Chamber have common interests in which they could be more effective by working together.

(d) Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP 2.0) Proposal

Mayor Balducci recalled that the Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) was discontinued during the recession, but was re-funded during the last budget process. Mr. Miyake said staff has prepared a proposal for moving forward with the program, as directed by the Council.

Dan Stroh, Planning Director, thanked the Council for the \$5 million investment in the budget to re-create a neighborhood program that supports neighborhood leadership, engagement, and community-directed investment. If the Council supports the proposal to be presented tonight, staff will be ready to launch the program in the fall.

Mike McCormick Huentelman, Neighborhood Outreach Manager, introduced Ying Carlson, Community Relations Coordinator, who has worked hard on developing the NEP 2.0 proposal.

Mr. McCormick Huentelman said the program is dependent on neighborhood leadership. Residents are interested in projects and elements that define and reinforce their neighborhood character, and NEP provides the funding to implement these projects.

Mr. McCormick Huentelman recalled that the previous NEP had a per project maximum cost of \$150,000, which constrained certain objectives and needs. The City also received feedback that the projects were taking too long to complete from identification to completion due to the extensive process involved. The old NEP was on a three-year rotating cycle, and sometimes an area's previous project would not yet be completed when their place in the rotation came up again. The new program recognizes the need for outreach to under-represented neighborhoods.

Mr. McCormick Huentelman said the NEP is focused on enhancing neighborhood identity and character, engaging neighborhood leadership, maximizing public benefit, providing adequate resources for small-scale improvements, and completing projects in a timely manner.

Mr. McCormick Huentelman said staff will be using the newly revised Subarea boundaries consistent with the Comprehensive Plan Update. They reflect 14 neighborhood areas with Downtown/BelRed and Eastgate/Factoria as combined entities. The allocation of the budget is based on the number of households, and the latter four subareas did not have enough households to receive a meaningful allocation. The new program will work with two areas per year on a 7-year rotating cycle, which aligns with the 7-year Capital Investment Program (CIP).

Ms. Carlson said the process will begin with the preparation of a neighborhood profile, which will assess current assets and needs. She described the plans for public outreach and engagement including contacts through community centers, local libraries, social media, and a broader outreach to under-represented communities. She described the process for neighborhoods to submit project ideas that will eventually lead to implementation. Potential NEP projects could include art elements, crosswalk improvements, farm stands, street lighting, play structures, trail bridges, and other features.

Ms. Carlson said the City will avoid projects requiring ongoing maintenance such as public restrooms. Neighborhood voting will involve one ballot per household, which will be mailed with projects descriptions. Residents will be asked to rank their top three choices. A project manager will be assigned to each project, and the goal is to complete projects within 3-5 years.

Mr. McCormick Huentelman said staff's workload will expand fairly quickly as the process moves forward within neighborhoods. He said the old NEP had 1.3 FTE positions to support the program, which were responsible for outreach as well as NEP project management and coordination. The NEP 2.0 proposal recommends an allocation of 14 percent of the program's CIP budget (\$100,000 per year) to support the administration of the program, project development, and the handling of the anticipated increase in general and transportation-related requests. From 2015-2021, the allocation of \$725,000 annually (total of \$5.075 million) would cover all CIP project costs for all NEP projects, including staffing associated with program and project management.

Mr. McCormick Huentelman presented the proposed dollar allocations by area based on the number of households. He highlighted the differences between the new NEP versus the old NEP. The new program removes the \$150,000 per project limit to allow neighborhoods to spend up to their area maximum on a project. The citywide cycle will be seven years instead of three years, which is consistent with the seven-year CIP cycle.

Mr. McCormick Huentelman said staff is requesting Council direction on the NEP 2.0 proposal. The first area anticipated by staff is Eastgate/Factoria, which continues the neighborhood rotation sequence from the previous NEP schedule.

Mayor Balducci thanked staff for their work and said she looks forward to kicking off the program.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Mr. McCormick Huentelman confirmed that annual funding is lower than previous NEP program. Mayor Balducci recalled that the funding was a budget decision by the Council, and more money could be added during the next budget cycle if desired.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Mr. McCormick Huentelman confirmed that each neighborhood will be addressed every seven years. Staff determined that this will allow more time for planning and implementation.

Councilmember Chelminiak thanked staff for their work. He is pleased that the total dollar allocations will be spent within each neighborhood versus sharing projects or limiting them to \$150,000.

Mr. Chelminiak expressed concern that some areas will not have a completed project until potentially 2027. He suggested moving to a five-year cycle and starting with two neighborhoods for the first phase, but then moving to three areas at the same time. He estimated that would add approximately \$600,000 to the CIP allocation. He suggested considering a budget amendment during the Mid-Biennium Budget process. He expressed support for the overall proposed NEP 2.0 program, which provides local control and a broad range of projects.

Mr. Chelminiak noted that the MyBellevue app provides a way to submit requests and comments to the City. He suggested using the app for NEP outreach and input as well.

Councilmember Stokes expressed support for the plan and indicated that the Council will be able to expand funding and/or resources if it would like in the future. He concurred with Mr. Chelminiak's suggested to increase the frequency of the rotation cycle. Mr. Stokes observed that the higher funding levels for each neighborhood provide better opportunities for meaningful projects.

Councilmember Robinson expressed support for the proposal and said she is impressed with the level of neighborhood outreach. She hopes to see continued engagement to develop neighborhood leadership through the Boards and Commissions and the Bellevue Essentials program.

Councilmember Chelminiak suggested reviewing the order of neighborhoods in the rotation cycle. He said it might make sense to adjust the order based on investments and projects that have or have not occurred in specific areas over the past few years.

Mayor Balducci expressed general support for the NEP 2.0 proposal. She concurred with Councilmembers Chelminiak and Stokes that the Council might want to consider allocating more money during the budget process to be able to work with the neighborhoods more quickly. She suspects the program will generate more contact from residents, which will add to staff's workload as well. She likes the idea of moving forward with the existing rotation list to avoid favoring one area over another.

Ms. Balducci said the Council might want to consider, as a separate initiative, a more intensive needs-based program, such as the Neighborhood Impact Strategy (NIS) several years ago in East

Bellevue. That effort established an advisory committee that surveyed the targeted community and identified and prioritized needs. She said the long-term effects of this program included establishing a neighborhood association and fostering neighborhood leaders who later served on Boards, Commissions and the City Council. Mayor Balducci thanked staff for their work.

Councilmember Lee noted his interest in reducing the rotation frequency from seven years to five years. He expressed support for the Mayor's suggestion about exploring the NIS program again, but expressed concern about available staff resources.

→ Deputy Mayor Wallace moved to approve staff's proposal for moving forward with the Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP 2.0). Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

Mr. Wallace said the proposal is a good start for re-establishing the program. He suggested moving forward, noting that the Council can consider additional funding and modifications at a later date.

Councilmember Stokes expressed support for the program and the plans for community outreach. He agreed with Mr. Wallace that the Council can modify the program later as appropriate.

Councilmember Chelminiak reiterated that he would like to consider a five-year cycle instead of a seven-year cycle. He would like the City Manager to come back with an analysis for considering that option during this year's Mid-Biennium Budget process or, if necessary, during next year's full budget process.

Deputy Mayor Wallace said he would like details on projects when this program comes back for discussion before considering whether to increase funding.

Mr. Miyake said staff will move forward with implementing the program this fall.

Mayor Balducci referred to Attachment 2 in the meeting packet listing past NEP projects. She anticipates the City will hear that people want sidewalks, but this program does provide adequate funding for those projects. She said the Council might want to address increased funding for sidewalks separate from NEP planning.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

- (e) Discussion of Proposed Ordinance that would authorize repealing the existing Bellevue City Code Section 11.23.040 relating to the City's Parking Code and establishing a new Parking Code

[Postponed.]

- (f) Amendments to Bellevue City Code, repealing and replacing Chapters 3.55 (Environmental Services Commission), 3.56 (Arts Commission), 3.61 (Human

Services Commission, 3.62 (Parks and Community Services Board), 3.63 (Transportation Commission), and 3.64 (Planning Commission)

Mayor Balducci introduced discussion regarding amendments to the Bellevue City Code governing procedures for Boards and Commissions.

Myrna Basich, City Clerk, recalled that the Council directed staff during the February Retreat to pursue a number of Code amendments to update the Council's procedures. The Council adopted a set of new rules and procedures on June 1, and tonight's agenda item presents proposed modifications to six chapters of City Code that affect the operations of the Arts Commission, Environmental Services Commission, Human Services Commission, Planning Commission, Transportation Commission, and the Parks and Community Services Board. These bodies were established at different times by different City Councils and with different City Attorneys writing the Code language, resulting in a number of inconsistencies between the procedures.

Ms. Basich said that, due to the extent of the Code revisions, staff recommends repealing all of the Code sections and replacing them in whole with new language. The new sections are provided in the meeting packet. The major differences between the Code sections that still exist are highlighted in grey. These are mainly found in the Powers and Duties sections.

Ms. Basich said the modifications to the Organizational sections reflect greater consistency and ease of administration. These include: 1) confirming that appointments are made by the Mayor and Board and Commission members may be removed by the Mayor, with the concurrence of the City Council; 2) making the reasons for which members may be removed consistent among the Boards and Commissions; and 3) specifying details such as the frequency of meetings, the necessity for a quorum to conduct business, enabling remote participation in meetings, and making voting provisions consistent with the Council rules.

Ms. Basich said the focus of the changes to the Powers and Duties sections: 1) clarify that the Boards and Commission serve in a policy advisory capacity to the Council, which was not clear in all of the original Code language; 2) update the unique roles and responsibilities of each Board and Commission; 3) add several new provisions granting the ability of the Boards and Commissions to provide suggestions to the Council on topics such as the City Vision or new initiatives the Council might want to consider; and 4) clarify that the Boards and Commissions are expected to provide at least quarterly communications to the Council on their activities and work plans.

Ms. Basich said the Limitations section for each Board and Commission: 1) identifies that the members are not to advocate on behalf of the City, Board or Commission without the express approval of the City Council; 2) states that they have no powers or duties related to supervision of staff or administrative operations, and 3) states that they have no responsibilities related to regional issues that are not specifically assigned by the Council.

Since the retreat, staff received two additional proposals for amendments submitted by Councilmember Robertson [provided on page 3 of the Agenda Memo]. Based on feedback during the Mayor's meeting, staff revised the language and responded to an issue raised by

Deputy Mayor Wallace. Information on Mr. Wallace's proposal and possible options for the Council are provided in the meeting desk packet.

Ms. Basich said staff is seeking feedback and action on the proposed Code amendments.

Responding to Mayor Balducci, Ms. Basich said Deputy Mayor Wallace's comment noted the inconsistency of language related to the limitations of power. Similar language is provided in the Limitations section for the Environmental Services Commission, Powers and Duties section for the Transportation Commission, and Powers and Duties section for the Planning Commission.

Ms. Basich said two options are presented at the end of the desk packet memo addressing Mr. Wallace's proposal.

Mayor Balducci said she had an additional proposed change related to the Arts Commission and the Human Services Commission. There are provisions in both sections that address exclusions from service due to a Commissioner's role on the Board of Directors of an affected agency. For the Arts Commission, the exclusion is based on organizations receiving City funds. For the Human Services Commission, the exclusion applies to serving on a Board of Directors of an agency that is "delivering services to City residents."

Mayor Balducci observed that the key issue is whether agencies are receiving funding. She does not see a fundamental conflict for a person serving on a Board of Directors for a human services agency that is serving Bellevue residents but not receiving City funding. She proposed that the Human Services Commission be revised to match the Arts Commission policy.

Councilmember Robinson concurred.

Mayor Balducci and Councilmember Chelminiak acknowledged that the City has had Human Services Commissioners who were serving on the Board of Directors for agencies providing services to residents. Mr. Chelminiak expressed support for the exclusion based on whether an agency is receiving City funding.

Mayor Balducci noted general agreement of the Council for the proposed change.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Ms. Basich confirmed that there are six proposed ordinances affecting Boards and Commissions that repeal the six existing Code sections and replace them with six new Code sections.

Councilmember Robinson noted language in the Arts Commission section: "Encourage multi-age working, sharing, learning and teaching of the arts." She suggested adding "participating" as well. Mayor Balducci noted Council concurrence with the change.

Following additional discussion, Mayor Balducci noted Council agreement to add similar language under the Parks and Community Services Board section to encourage participation in Parks programs and park facilities usage.

Moving on, Councilmember Lee observed that the Powers and Duties section for the Parks and Community Services Board lists specific functions. He suggested instead listing what they cannot do.

Mayor Balducci said the language is not intended to be prescriptive. She observed that the revised Code language is more modern and streamlined than existing Codes as well as more consistent with how Boards and Commissions are actually operating. She suggested adopting the proposed changes, with the understanding that additional changes may be made in the future.

Deputy Mayor Wallace described a proposed option to address the language inconsistency. The Utilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan contains language about the role of the Environmental Services Commission in advising the Planning Commission: "Involvement in land use issues shall be limited to providing feedback to the Planning Commission." He said this language does not appear for any other Board or Commission. He questioned whether the scope for all Boards and Commissions should be defined with respect to the relationship of their work to the Planning Commission's work. Mr. Wallace suggested that the language be consistent for all Boards and Commissions.

Mr. Wallace said the Transportation Commission's powers under section 3.63.060(I) states: "One of the powers of the Transportation Commission is long-range transportation planning, including participation with the Planning Commission, preparing and reviewing recommended Comprehensive Plan updates and subarea transportation plans, provided that the Planning Commission shall review and make final recommendations to the City Council in all matters which would be adopted by the City Council as part of the Comprehensive Plan." He suggested that the same language be provided for all Boards and Commissions. Ms. Basich confirmed that this is the first option provided in the desk packet memo.

Councilmember Stokes concurred with Mr. Wallace's proposal.

Responding to Councilmember Chelminiak, Mr. Wallace confirmed that he proposes removing the language for the Environmental Services Commission that places a limitation on involvement in land use issues, and replacing it with the language provided here for all Boards and Commissions.

Responding to Councilmember Robinson, Mr. Wallace confirmed that his proposal applies to the development and modification of Comprehensive Plan policies. This will avoid the recent situation in which certain Boards and Commission were offering separate recommendations for the same issues.

Responding to Deputy Mayor Wallace, Ms. Basich said his proposed language would be added to the Rules and Responsibilities sections under Powers and Duties and deleted from the Limitations section of the Environmental Services Commission Code.

Moving on, Mr. Wallace said the language for Boards and Commissions, except the Environmental Services Commission, refers to addressing budget matters within their specific

topical area (Parks, Transportation, etc.). He suggested that Code language for the Environmental Services Commission be specific in addressing utilities budgets.

Ms. Basich said the preamble to that ordinance refers to utilities. However, staff will revise the language in the Code to be more consistent with the other Boards and Commissions. Councilmember Stokes concurred with the clarification.

Mayor Balducci summarized that one proposal is to remove the language limiting the Environmental Services Commission's involvement in land use issues, and to add language for each Board and Commission that clarifies their role in making recommendations to the Planning Commission, which will make final recommendations to the City Council regarding the Comprehensive Plan and Subarea Plans. Mayor Balducci noted general Council agreement with the proposal.

Mayor Balducci requested input on the two proposals from Councilmember Robertson, which are described in the meeting packet. The first is a proposed Planning Commission Code amendment that the Commission may bring the need for a new or revised policy to the Council's attention, and the Council will decide whether the Commission should add the issue to its work program.

Councilmember Chelminiak expressed concern that the language is too broad. Ms. Basich said the intent was to enable the Commission to introduce new ideas during its quarterly reports. Mr. Chelminiak questioned whether that would be appropriate and whether that would distract the Commission from completing previously identified work program items. He believes it is up to the Council to identify issues and work items for Boards and Commissions.

Mayor Balducci said any individual may suggest a proposal or request, and Board and Commission members should be able to do that as well if they submit communications in the same way as any other individual.

Councilmember Stokes spoke against adding the proposed language.

Mayor Balducci noted a Council consensus that the proposed language is not needed. She suggested that Councilmember Robertson might want to comment on her proposal before the Council takes action on the ordinances.

Mayor Balducci said Ms. Robertson's second proposal is a Board and Commission amendment stating that communications with or feedback to the Council shall represent the majority opinion of the Board or Commission and not that of an individual member.

Mayor Balducci noted Council support for the proposed language.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Ms. Basich confirmed that Mr. Lee's earlier proposal for language that Boards and Commissions may designate an ad hoc member, which could be a youth, is included in the Code amendments.

In further response to Mr. Lee, Ms. Basich said the Code does not prohibit holding Board and Commission meetings at different locations within Bellevue.

5. Council Discussion of Upcoming Items

Councilmember Chelminiak questioned whether the Council wanted to reconsider whether to change “Bel-Red” to “BelRed.” The Council voted the previous week in favor of changing to BelRed.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Mayor Balducci said the City would not be changing signage or written materials but would use the new spelling going forward.

- Councilmember Lee moved to reconsider whether to change “Bel-Red” to “BelRed.” Mayor Balducci seconded the motion.
- The motion to reconsider failed by a vote of 2-4, with Councilmembers Chelminiak and Lee in favor.

6. Continued Oral Communications: None.

At 8:56 p.m., Mayor Balducci declared the meeting adjourned.

Myrna L. Basich, MMC
City Clerk

/kaw