

BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB

www.bridletrailscommunity.org

September 2008

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BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, September 25

Time: 7:00pm to 8:30 pm

Location: Cherry Crest School

Agenda:

1. Ped/Bike Update
2. Bel/Red Corridor Development
3. New Website Announcement
4. Club Business/Board and Treasurer's report
5. Park Foundation
6. Park Bond Levy
7. Neighborhood Enhancement Program
8. New business
9. Refreshments at 8:30

PED/BIKE UPDATE: PROJECTS IN THE BRIDLE TRAILS AREA INCLUDES WIDENING OF 140TH - LORETTA LOPEZ

On September 11, the Transportation Commission voted to approve the Ped/Bike Plan which includes a project list of over 500 projects throughout the City. The Ped/Bike Plan includes a high priority project to add 5 foot on-road bike lanes on both sides of 140th. The Commission added the 140th project to the Ped/ Bike Plan on its own motion in April. The BTCC disagrees with the 140th project for several reasons, including that the development will require the destruction of trees and vegetation and will encourage increased speed and traffic.

In order to implement the Ped/Bike Plan, the Planning Commission and the City Council must approve the Ped/Bike Plan and must approve a Comprehensive Plan Amendment. The City will present the Ped/Bike Plan to the Planning Commission on September 24 and to the City Council at a study session on October 6. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the Ped/Bike Plan on November 12. The City Council will vote on the Ped/Bike Plan in December.

The Ped/Bike Plan includes many projects in the Bridle trails area. Check the City Ped/Bike website or call Franz Loewenherz, City Transportation Planner, at 452-4077 to determine whether a project affects your property. Attend the Planning Commission public hearing

to express your opinion on projects. Contact the City Council by email, phone or attend the City Council meetings to let the council know your opinion about the Ped/Bike Plan.

BEL/RED UPDATE - NORM HANSEN

The Planning Commission gave their approval to the new Bel-Red Subarea plan on July 23rd. They also approved an update to the Land Use code amendments including Bel-Red regulation, design standards, guidelines, other related Code changes, and adoption of new zoning districts for the Bel-Red area. The plan is now scheduled for City Council review on September 22nd. Following is the expected City Council schedule for reviewing the Planning Commission recommendations:

City Council

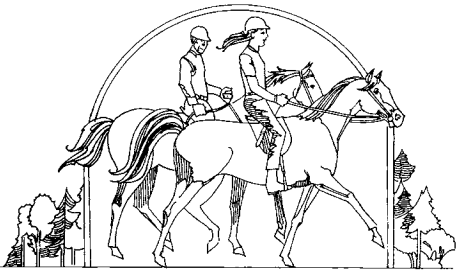
- September 22, 2008: Presentation of Planning Commission Transmittal
- October 6, 2008: Review Incentive System and Urban Land Institute (ULI) Recommendations
- October 13, 2008: Review BROTS Update
- November, 2008: Continued deliberations with anticipated adoption in December/January

See city Web site for further info
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/bel-red_meetings.htm or contact Paul Ingrhram at 452-4070

BTCC ROLLS OUT NEW WEBSITE!

At long last, BTCC has updated our website. We have moved to a new hosting company(site), created a new, fresh look and have a new webmaster, Nancy Bennett. Check us out at bridletrailscommunity.org. The website will keep you up to date on community events and other information that effects our neighborhood. Let us know what you think!

The BTCC thanks Kim Carnesale, our previous webmaster, for her assistance with the initial phase of the website. Kim's work provided the foundation for our new website.



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STATE CONSIDERING PSE RATE INCREASES AND MERGER

- ELLEN KERR

Currently the State does not require PSE to develop and maintain a specific and detailed long range rate and or service/infrastructure plan for its customers. The State Utilities and Transportation Commission is considering yet another rate increase and an international merger for PSE.

As the State deliberates, the club wrote a letter requesting the UTC mandate PSE to develop a long term strategic and economic growth plan to develop state of the art services and infrastructure for Bellevue. We continue to work with the city and PSE to establish such a plan.

NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

The City allocates funds for neighborhood projects through the Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP). The City sent ballots to all Bridle Trails residents last spring. The Bridle Trails community selected an equestrian-themed public art work as one of its 2008 Neighborhood Enhancement Program projects

The City invites all Bridle Trails residents to a community meeting about neighborhood identity and public art where the City will ask: What is your neighborhood's identity? How does public art work in neighborhoods?

When: Tuesday, September 23, 7-9pm

Where: Cherry Crest Elementary School Library

For information on the project contact: Tamar Benzikry-Stern, Public Art Project Coordinator, 452-4852

BRIDLE TRAILS PARK FOUNDATION - ALICE PRINCE

What a Party ! When was the last time you invited people over for a

pancake breakfast and a run through the woods while the kids rode the ponies? It's a lot of fun, but it's also a lot of work.

This year the 6th annual Party in the Park, held on Saturday, June 28th, was simply HUGE! It took over 100 volunteers to staff and put this shindig together for the more than 2,500 visitors who dropped by. Dignitaries from Bellevue, Kirkland and King County attended and pitched in and helped walk ponies, serving coffee and juice, and handing out awards. More than 1,200 visitors enjoyed the pancake and bacon breakfast, 400 + competed in one or another of our 5K, 10K, or 30K trail runs through the park. In addition, there were pony rides for kids, face painters and 2 hours of outstanding entertainment.

What can we say but THANKS to all of you who either volunteered or participated. This is your Park and this is how we get people to see and understand its value in the midst of this urban environment. Without the Party and the financial support of so many neighbors and park enthusiasts, who enjoy and support it as an equestrian/pedestrian/passive park, it wouldn't be there for all to enjoy.

What's Next ? Two events are yet to come to the Park this fall.

1. Seattle City Light has yet to come into the Park and take down the 40 trees that City Light has must be cut to protect their power lines. Most of the 40 trees will be felled and left in the Park for small creature habitat and to minimize further damage that would be caused by removing the trees.

2. We have at least one, and possibly two mushroom walks coming up in October. We don't have exact dates yet, but they will be posted on our website as soon as we know when they'll be. They depend, of course, a lot on the schedule of our guest host/speaker, Dr. Ammirati, fungi specialist

from the U. of W. He's fascinating, even if you aren't a "fungi" enthusiast. If you're interested, please call or write Jim Erckmann to sign up. The groups are limited to 20 people in order to make it a more manageable experience. You can reach Jim at 425-827-6595 or <mailto:erckmann1@arthlink.net> >erckmann1@arthlink.net

BELLEVUE PARK LEVY

There is a Park Levy on the November ballot. The total levy is \$41 million for parks in the City of Bellevue. Decide whether you agree or disagree with a property tax assessment to provide funds for Bellevue parks and vote.

For more information on the Park Levy, see the City of Bellevue, Home Page and click on Park Levy fact sheet.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Bel Red Corridor Public Meetings**-September 22, October 6th and October 13th. Meetings at City Hall. Check city website for times and exact location.
- **Ped/Bike Plan Meetings** Planning Commission: Briefing of Ped/Bike Plan on September 24, Study Session on October 22, Public Hearing on November 12, Potential Final Action by Planning Commission, November 19.
City Council: Study Session on October 6 and December 8. Vote on Comprehensive Plan amendments in January.

FUTURE BTCC MEETINGS

- BTCC General Meeting - Thursday, September 25 at Cherry Crest School
- BTCC Board Meeting - October 23 (tentative) at Cherry Crest School
- BTCC General Meeting - November 20th (tentative) at Cherry Crest School