

# BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB

www.bridletrailscommunity.org

May 2011

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## GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2011  
Time: 7:00 - 8:00 pm  
Refreshments: 8:00 - 8:30 pm  
Location: Cherry Crest School

### Bridle Trails Community Club General Meeting Agenda:

1. Club Business
2. Detached Accessory Dwelling Unit Plan Update
3. Build A Better Bellevue
4. Cell Tower Update
5. Bridle Trails Night Out
6. Park Levy Update
7. New Business
8. Refreshments

## BRIDLE TRAILS NIGHT OUT

– NANCY BENNETT

The Bridle Trails Community Club will once again be partnering with the Neighborhood Watch Committee for Bridle Trails Night Out. The annual event will be held on July 12 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the Cherry Crest Mini Park located on 25th St. & 127th Ave. NE. The theme for this year's party will be emergency preparedness. Bellevue's Police and Fire Departments will make special appearances. Come and learn how joining the Bridle Trails Community Club and becoming a member of the Neighborhood Watch program can benefit you while enjoying free food, ice cream and drinks.

## LIGHT RAIL IS COMING TO BELLEVUE – ELLEN KERR

As most of you are probably aware, light rail is coming to Bellevue. The issue to date has been complicated and contentious. Because this is such an important issue facing Bellevue, the board has decided to provide education/information to the membership in an attempt to shed some light on light rail and how it will impact Bridle Trails. BTCC is not taking a formal position or supporting any group.

We have invited several groups to come and speak at our meetings. The first presentation will be by *Build a Better Bellevue* at the May 19th meeting. The group's core is made up of neighbors who are directly affected by the proposed Sound Transit routing (B2M). They have proposed an alternate route (B7 Revised), currently under study and supported by Council.

In this article there is no way to fully explain the complexities of the routes, sub-routes and tunnel options that are currently under consideration. I will try and explain the basics! East Link is a voter-approved project to extend light rail from Seattle, across Lake Washington

on Interstate 90, through Bellevue and on to the Overlake Transit Center in Redmond. It is a Sound Transit project, but Bellevue residents, directly and through the City Council, are offering input about the route through Bellevue. Bellevue's proposed B7-Revised route generally runs along I-90 and north on I-405 to downtown. Sound Transit's Board of Directors' preferred alternative, called B2M, runs from I-90 north along Bellevue Way and 112th Avenue NE to downtown Bellevue. There are several large and smaller sub-groups supporting these two main routes as well as several additional alternatives.

Please check our website for links to the various groups and organizations involved in the process. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

## LIGHT RAIL STATION AT 130 AND 16TH – LORETTA LOPEZ

The Light Rail Station and Park and Ride which will be built at 130th and 16th (across the street from Cadman) will bring many changes to the Bel-Red area, including changes to traffic patterns. Sound Transit is responsible for the design and construction of the Station and Park and Ride. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project has not yet been issued. Once issued, we need to review and possibly comment upon the traffic, noise and other issues.

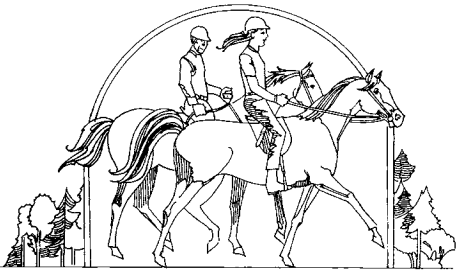
The City of Bellevue is responsible for the zoning surrounding the Light Rail Station and Park and Ride. The City will address issues concerning Goff Creek which runs near the proposed Station, bicycle access to the Station and zoning for redevelopment. The City will schedule an Open House in the next few months to provide information to the public and invite comments. If you have any questions, contact Paul Ingrahm, Comprehensive Planning Manager at 425-452-4070 or by email at [PlInghram@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:PlInghram@bellevuewa.gov)

## DETACHED ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS – LORETTA LOPEZ

The City staff continues to move forward to advocate changing the zoning in the entire City to allow Detached Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in single family zones. Under the current zoning laws Bellevue residents are allowed to build Attached Accessory Dwelling Units. Residents may also have Guest Houses and Cottages on their property but such dwelling units cannot be rented.

The changes in the zoning laws would allow property owners to build and to rent Detached Accessory Dwelling Units and Guest Houses and Cottages. City

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**DETACHED ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS continued...**

staff members assert that the allowance of rental units would increase housing options in Bellevue. They further assert that increasing the housing options is in keeping with the need to increase affordable housing in Bellevue.

Instead of focusing on how many possible rental units can be built on citizens' properties, why not focus on what is good for the existing community? Do citizens want to change to allow multi-family, higher density, rental dwelling units in all zones in the City?

The BTCC formed a Detached ADU Committee to review and study the issue. The Committee's conclusion is the allowance of rental Detached Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) would not be consistent with the character of the Bridle Trails area. The Committee has met and attended Planning Commission and City Council meetings. The City staff's plan to change the zoning continues despite the concerns that the Committee has raised during the public comment at the Planning Commission and the City Council meetings.

If you are interested in the issue and want to help please contact Norm Hansen at 425- 861-7333 or by email at Hansennp@aol.com.

**NEW PARKS IN BRIDLE TRAILS**  
– LORETTA LOPEZ

In 2008 the citizens of Bellevue voted for a levy to be used for parks. The City allocated a portion of the Park Levy funds for parks in the Bridle Trails area. The BTCC formed a Park Levy Committee which worked with the City gathering public comments over a period of one and a half years. The Committee reviewed the comments and recommended that the City (1) acquire the land on the corner of NE 24th and 134th and (2) enter into a long term

lease with the State to develop the property at 52nd and 132nd (Acheson property) into an equestrian-focused park. The Achesons donated their property to the State with the condition that it must be used for equestrian-friendly purposes.

The City purchased the property at NE 24th and 134th at the end of January. The City will meet with the State in early May to begin the discussions of entering into an agreement for the Acheson property with the State. Prior to any development of the parks, the City will conduct a Master Plan Process which invites public comment and recommendations concerning the parks.

The BTCC has formed a Park Levy Follow Up Committee to monitor the process. The purpose of the Committee is to check on the status of the process and periodically meet with the City. We as a committee, will assist the City in getting information to the community. The Committee will not make decisions but rather it will facilitate communication. We hope to meet with the City in June. If anyone is interested in joining us at the meeting or has questions or comments, please contact Loretta Lopez at 425-885 -1851 or send an email to llopez@mstarlabs.com.

The members of the Follow Up Committee are: Norm Hansen, Ellen Kerr, Jamie Wallace, Rani Sampson, Stuart Heath, Harvey Reis, Drew Smith, Bill Aron and Loretta Lopez.

**NEP ART PROJECT UPDATE**  
– LORETTA LOPEZ

In February, the Bellevue Selection Panel which consists of Bridle Trails residents, artists and a Bellevue City Art Commissioner asked the artist, Bruce Myers, to make some revisions to his work. The Selection Panel will review his work in early May. After the Panel reviews and accepts the revisions, the City will show the designs and gather comments

from Bridle Trails residents. The Selection Panel will review the comments and vote on a recommendation to the Bellevue City Arts Commission. The Commission will then vote on whether to endorse the Panel's recommendation to the City Council.

If you have any questions or comments contact, City Arts Specialist Mary Pat Byrne, at 425-452-4105 or email her at MPByrne@bellevuewa.gov.

**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!**  
– JILL LUM

Membership Renewal Notices were mailed out in February to all those who were due for 2011. PLEASE remember to send in your dues payment and renew today! Your membership is vital to keeping our organization active on issues that protect and preserve our Bridle Trails Community. Would you please consider asking a neighbor to join BTCC? Share this newsletter over a cup of coffee with a neighbor or two and invite them to join! Membership info can be found on our website: www.bridletrailscommunity.org. Thank you for your continued support!

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- **May 19** BTCC General Meeting, Cherry Crest School Library 7:00 pm
- **June 25** BT Park Foundation's Party In The Park, Bridle Trails State Park
- **July 12** Bridle Trails Night Out sponsored by Neighborhood Watch and BTCC, Cherry Crest Mini Park 7-8:30 pm
- **Aug 25** BTCC Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- **Sep 22** BTCC General Meeting, (Location TBD) 7:00 pm