

Guests
from City Council
What do you want to ask?

BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB

www.bridletrailscommunity.org

Two New BT Parks!
BT Corner Park and #2

NOVEMBER 2014 GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY NOV 20
7-8:30 PM

CHERRY CREST ELEMENTARY
12400 NE 32ND ST.
IN THE CAFETERIA

- 7:00 Welcome members & guests
- 7:05 Club Announcements
- 7:10 Updates on Projects:
PSE, New BT Park, & other
BTCC topics
- 7:20 Introduction of Guests:
Councilmember Jennifer
Robertson & Councilmember
John Stokes
- 7:25 Councilmember Robertson
- 7:30 Councilmember Stokes
- 7:35 Q&A with Councilmembers
- 8:10 Individual Q&A, Meet & Greet

Mark Your Calendar

- Nov 20, 7PM • General Meeting
Cherry Crest Elementary
- Dec 18, 7PM • Board & Advisory
Committee Meeting
- Jan 22, 7PM • General Meeting
- Feb 19, 7PM • Board & Advisory
Committee Meeting
- Mar 19, 7PM • General Meeting
- Apr 16, 7PM • Board & Advisory
Committee Meeting
- May 21, 7PM • General Meeting

Meet City Councilmembers at November Meeting

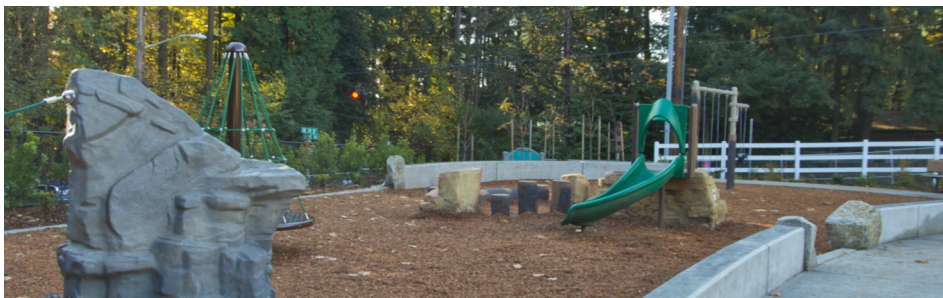
Our City Councilmembers make decisions every week that affect our daily lives. In order to make informed decisions, the City Council needs to hear from residents. We have invited [Councilmember Jennifer Robertson](#) and [Councilmember John Stokes](#) to our November Meeting. This is our opportunity hear about the different issues that the City Council is addressing and to ask questions of Councilmember Robertson and Councilmember Stokes.



Councilmember
Jennifer Robertson

Councilmember
John Stokes

Join us at our Thursday, November 20th meeting. Become connected to your community. Be informed about your local government. Find more information about City Council at www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/council-members.htm



Wow! What Is That on the Corner?

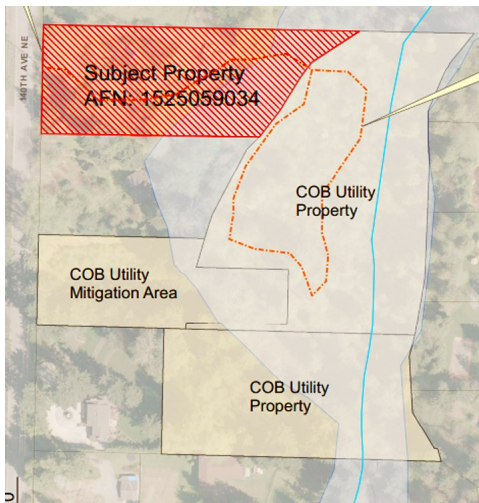
Ellen Kerr

Hard to miss the flurry of activity on the corner of 24th NE and 134th! Isn't it exciting to see our new park take shape and form after the years of work and planning? Barring weather delays, the park will open Nov 24. The lawn and meadow area will remain closed until sod roots. We have many people to thank, so will just mention a few: the park steering committees - Bill Aron, Norm Hansen, Christine Hemmes, Pam Johnston, Ellen Kerr, Loretta Lopez, Jill Lum (for providing the winning name), Michelle McBeath, Allison O'Mahony, Parul Shah, Rani Sampson, Jamie Wallace, and our fearless city leaders, Scott Vander Hyden, Lorrie Peterson and Pam Fehrman. The BTCC is planning to celebrate the park in the spring with a big community party. We could use some help. If interested, please contact: Ellen Kerr, 861-0611, bugsyk1@hotmail.com.

Park #2 Purchase November 14

Loretta Lopez

Congratulations Bridle Trails on the purchase of land for another new park by the City of Bellevue! Given the lack of parks near the lively 140th area of Bridle Trails, the BTCC Park Committee's search focused on a family-oriented, neighborhood park in that area. Last spring, the BTCC Park Committee found a unique property for sale at 4432 140th Ave NE. The BTCC Board and the City agreed: adjacent to 4+ acres of City owned wetlands with a stream, this well-located property could create a synergistic natural area and park area.



Park #2 Property and adjacent City properties
Potential trail spanning two properties marked

The City moved quickly on this. Over the summer, they conducted a feasibility study and decided to make an offer. The City Council approved the acquisition in October. The closing will occur by November 14th.

The City has applied to King County for partial reimbursement since the property includes wetlands.

In 2008, Bellevue residents approved a Park Levy. The City allocated approximately \$2.5 million of the Levy funds for the Bridle Trails area. The BTCC Park Committee recommended keeping creating a primarily passive park in order to have funds available for a second park. Once the BT Corner Park costs were understood, the BTCC formed Park Committee #2. This committee met for a year, reviewing the information gathered for the Park Levy and searching for a second location for a park.

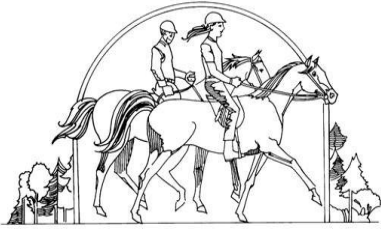
Potential features for Park #2 include picnic shelters, kiosk, parking, and trails connecting to City owned property. The City will begin a park planning process in 2015. If you have any questions contact, Loretta Lopez, 885-1851, llopez@mstarlabs.com.

Stringing Up Bellevue

Norm Hansen

It is happening now! New Puget Sound Energy (PSE) 100 foot poles and wires appearing on NE 24th and 156 Ave. NE. Next, 2.5 miles of up to 80 foot poles are planned for along NE 8th and along 148th Ave. This route currently has all underground utilities. Even more? Nine miles of up to 135 foot poles is being proposed for PSE's New 230,000 Volt Transmission Line through Bellevue neighborhoods. See CENSE.org (Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy) for details.

What can we do? Help us convince the city council to advocate now for a different 2035 Vision and find a path to new technology including the increased reliability of undergrounding. Other areas of



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the country are finding affordable means to accomplish this now. A National survey by Costco recently resulted in 82 % in favor of requiring utilities to bury power lines. New methods of undergrounding insert lines in a plastic tube to facilitate maintenance.

Why is this difficult? Existing Washington State Laws have tariffs that present huge economic barriers. Currently, property owners along the line must pay for all undergrounding even when it benefits many others. In the case of the 230,000 Volt Transmission Line, about 1500 property owners would be required to pay for the benefit of the 1,100,000 PSE customers. We need to be equitable! Consider joining CENSE.ORG to help bring about needed change.

Sound Transit OMSF Update

Jim Binder

Sound Transit's Board voted in late July to pursue the placement of the OMSF (Rail Yard) on 120th Ave NE where International Paper's former warehouse is located (See our Fall newsletter). Since that time, three stakeholder meetings have been held to work out details of how the rail yard could be situated and aligned at that location. Stakeholders include adjacent property owners, Spring District, Metro, City of Bellevue, BTCC, King County, and Sound Transit.

Under discussion are the possible realignment of 120th Ave NE, shifting part of the OMSF to the east to use Metro's current property, connections to NE 116th Ave, and several other ideas.

Sound Transit's Capital Committee will hear some of the preliminary proposals in November. Later in the month, the Sound Transit Board will be briefed on the work done since July.

BTCC donates to CENSE

Loretta Lopez

The BTCC Board voted to donate \$1000 to the Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy (CENSE). This donation will help CENSE pay for ongoing operations of the CENSE website and other day to

day expenses. CENSE has gathered an impressive team of engineers, finance professionals and other interested residents who have analyzed data about the proposed PSE project.

The CENSE team has spent hundreds of hours on the issue and sought and reviewed information from many sources and agencies. The proposed PSE project is a big project and needs to be well understood by residents and the City before committing our dollars to it. We thank CENSE for their work and commitment to the community.

Power Out?

Ellen Kerr

The evening of October 25th most of us in Bridle Trails were in the dark. In Bridle Trails, we have different substations and circuits, so the length of outage time varied. I know some folks were out as much as 2 days; maybe some were longer. One of the best things you can do in a power outage is call PSE at 1-888-225-5773. Sometimes, this is not an easy feat; much patience is required! PSE installed a new communications system which is "supposed" to provide (either through operator or online) updated information and, most importantly, when power will be restored. In my and others experience, this did not work!

BTCC has been working on electrical reliability/restoration response time with the city and PSE for many years. Overall, reliability has somewhat improved; response time, not so much. We have written our contacts at PSE with many questions regarding the recent power outage. PSE is in the process of collecting data and has pledged a response. We will provide follow up after receiving the information. Any questions, concerns contact Ellen Kerr.

Welcome New Advisory Board Member - Toni Vincent-Fisher

We are pleased to announce that Toni Vincent-Fisher has become an Advisory Board Member. We thank her for volunteering to work with the BTCC.

Help BTCC grow membership

BTCC has an opening for a Membership Coordinator. BTCC has a lot to offer to Bridle Trails residents, and we wish to expand our membership reach. Opportunities include:

- Encourage meeting attendees to join.
- Assist with annual membership renewal
- Follow-up on late renewals
- Promote s membership in new ways
- Meet and engage new people and approach friends and neighbors to encourage BTCC membership
- Be an ambassador for BTCC

If you are interested in helping, please contact Wayne Bruning, BTCC Treasurer, 425-883-6843, wbruning@prodigy.net.

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