

Model of Bellevue's Planned Water Park



# MAKING A *Splash!*

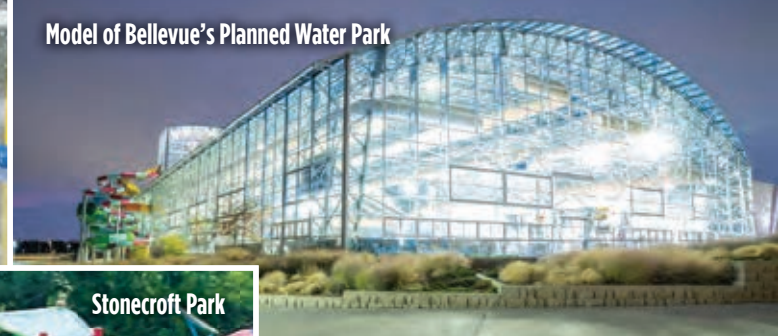
Looking Glass Park



Everett Park Splash Pad



Model of Bellevue's Planned Water Park



Model of Bellevue's Planned Water Park



Stonecroft Park



Fun at Bellevue Splash Pad





Christmas in Olde Towne!



Memorial Day Service



Winter at Columban Fathers



Bellevue Assistant Fire Chief Steve Betts and Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation Jim Shada honored for 45 years of Service



Bellevue Rocks! Riverfront Music Festival



Olde Towne Trick or Treat



Bellevue Bike Trails

# Real Quality of Life!



Fishing at Haworth Park



Nebraska's Official Veterans Day Parade



Youth Sports



Bellevue Graduation

**Music in the Park**  
Every Thursday in June & July  
7:00 pm at Washington Park



**Defenders of Freedom  
Air & Space Show**  
August 24th & 25th, 2024



**Arrows to Aerospace  
Parade 2024**  
Saturday, August 17th





# A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR HIKE

As always, thank you for allowing me to represent you for another year. Bellevue is the best city in the Great State of Nebraska, in my opinion. Our community is second to none and you are the reason why. Thank you to the countless number of citizens who serve on boards, councils, commissions, committees, foundations, and all the volunteers that work selflessly to make our city shine.

2023 will go down in history as the year that Bellevue began the transformation from a quaint bedroom community to one that is not only a great place to live but one where you can work and play as well. The Inland Port Authority was approved and we are already getting inquiries from manufacturers. The NC3/REACH project is well under way with full support from the city and state and will provide high paying intel jobs and additional community services surrounding that area. Additionally the 100,000 square foot water park has been approved and funded with an opening date in the summer of 2026. Bellevue University is making huge investments in a new field house on their campus and a soccer and softball complex at Haworth Park. Bellevue will begin construction of the amphitheater in American Heroes Park in 2024 and a children's park in 2025. The Bellevue Community Foundation announced their Legacy of Lights project which will light the walking trail around American Heroes Park lake as well. Many new housing developments continue to develop around town as well as in-fill projects, and Offutt continues to make world-class improvements to the base.

I want to commend our Police Department for drastically lowering our crime rates and our Fire Department for being so responsive. Bellevue Public Works keeps our roads safe year-round, our city utilities running well and our parks in welcoming and safe condition. Thank you to all our city employees for a job well done.

Lots of exciting changes are happening and I hope you enjoy this annual report that is loaded with fantastic information. For updated information throughout the year, please visit our website at **[www.Bellevue.net](http://www.Bellevue.net)**. As always, if you ever need additional information, please contact me.



**Rusty Hike**  
Bellevue Mayor



Bellevue University Field House



Children's Park at American Heroes Park



Public Safety Excellence



Lighted Legacy Trail at American Heroes Park

# CITY OF BELLEVUE MANAGEMENT TEAM



**Rusty Hike**  
Mayor



**Jim Ristow**  
City Administrator



**Aimee Bataillon**  
City Attorney



**Joey Bockman**  
Code Enforcement Supervisor



**Mike Christensen**  
Chief Building Inspector



**Ken Clary**  
Police Chief



**Angela Curry**  
Assistant Planning Manager



**Phil Davidson**  
Community Relations



**Ashley Decker**  
Human Resources Director



**Julie Dinville**  
Library Director



**Dave Goedeken**  
Public Works Director



**Perry Guido**  
Fire Chief



**Abby Highland**  
CDBG Specialist



**Scott Houghtaling**  
Risk Manager



**Todd Jarosz**  
Fleet Maintenance Superintendent



**Harrison Johnson**  
Community Development Director



**Susan Kluthe**  
City Clerk



**Tracy Niemier**  
Facilities Maintenance Superintendent



**Tammi Palm**  
Planning Manager



**Amanda Parker**  
Human Services Manager



**Epiphany Ramos**  
Wastewater & Solid Waste Superintendent



**Bobby Riggs**  
Street Superintendent



**Lisa Rybar**  
Administrative Assistant



**Rich Severson**  
Finance Director



**Jim Shada**  
Deputy Director of Parks & Rec







Green Bellevue



Bellevue Together



Light Up Bellevue



Bellevue Woman's Club



Bellevue Public Safety Foundation



Offutt Advisory Committee



Knights of Columbus

# BELLEVUE Helping BELLEVUE!



Bellevue Community Foundation Award Winners



Bellevue Public Schools Foundation



Volunteers in Police Enforcement & Response (VIPERS)



Bellevue Bicycle Club



Bellevue Senior Center



Bellevue Eagles Club #3912 & Bellevue Food Pantry



VFW Post #10785



Bellevue/Offutt Kiwanis Club



Bellevue Junior Sports Association

Here in Bellevue, we take tremendous pride in our spirit of "Bellevue Helping Bellevue." It's our genuine, caring people... who make a difference.

Bellevue is very fortunate to have such wonderful service groups, nonprofit organizations, helpful neighbors, and community support groups that are always willing to reach out when help is needed.

Pictured are just a few examples of the many groups and organizations supporting our community throughout the year. We thank all who volunteer, donate, and help Bellevue to be such a special and caring place to live.



# BELLEVUE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Street Sign Dedication in Honor of KCMO Police Officer James Muhlbauer (Bryan High Graduate) & his Police Service Dog Champ



**SERVICE • COURAGE • INTEGRITY**

## BPD Chasing Perfection

2023 was another great year for the City of Bellevue and the Bellevue Police Department (BPD). As mentioned in the 2022 Annual Report, last year we were able to complete the build-out of BPD. We have maintained our staffing throughout 2023, and remain fully staffed to serve Bellevue's growing public safety needs. This build-out was the result of a two-year effort, in response to the ongoing growth of Bellevue, and the City Administration prioritizing public safety.

The importance of the City Administration making the Bellevue Police Department build-out a priority, along with its impressive results cannot be understated. As anticipated, the growth of Bellevue would result in additional BPD Calls-For-Service (CFS). Indeed, CFS jumped from a five-year average of approximately 45,000 to a new high of over 51,000 CFS in 2023. Fortunately, due to the foresight of our administration, although the CFS increased 9%, crime dropped for a THIRD straight year. In fact, crime fell in nearly every major category.



### COMPARING BPD NUMBERS OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS

- Robberies have dropped 89%
- Homicides have dropped 80%
- Burglaries have dropped 40%
- Child Abuse has dropped 39%
- Destruction of property has dropped 22%
- Personal injury and fatality crashes are down 19%
- Fraud is down by 16%
- Theft is down by 14%
- Domestic Assault is down by 12%



We are thrilled at these results and the increased safety within our amazing community. As we often say, the Bellevue Police Department constantly works towards our mission of “reducing crime and enhancing the quality of life through an active partnership with our community.” We continually strive to connect with the community, maintain open lines of communication, foster an atmosphere of transparency, and work collaboratively to meet the needs of our thriving community.

# BELLEVUE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Focused on Bellevue's Growing Fire Safety Needs!

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Bellevue Fire Department is committed to providing the highest quality of emergency services to the residents and visitors of the city. Our mission is to strive for excellence in the performance of our duty through training, education, and a continuous drive for self-improvement. We remain vigilant in promoting awareness of hazards and educating citizens of all ages. This shall be accomplished through proper utilization of resources and administering in a fiscally responsible manner.



### EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- For the calendar year 2023 the Bellevue Fire Department responded to 6,418 calls for service or approximately 17.6 calls per shift. That number includes 4,657 EMS calls, 261 vehicle accidents with injuries, 155 fires, 7 rescues, 193 hazardous conditions, 355 fire alarms, 419 general assistance and 126 miscellaneous calls for service.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Participated in numerous neighborhood events and taught three classes for Bellevue Public Schools to raise awareness about fire prevention.
- Conducted fire alarm evaluations with all the Bellevue Public Schools.
- Conducted 44 fire safety visits for schools and community groups.
- Participated in four recruitment events to keep a high number of qualified candidates in our hiring pool.
- Performed 77 Smoke/CO Detector installations or changed batteries in smoke detectors for residents who could not afford a detector or were unable to change the batteries.
- Participated in the Annual Holiday Heroes where Fire and Police take underprivileged children shopping for the holidays.

### TRAINING, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE, & EQUIPMENT

- Our Department conducted 1,155 hours of fire and specialized training and 223 hours of EMS training.
- We completed a fire academy for new hires.
- During 2023, BFD replaced its Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). This was made possible with the awarding of an Assistance to Firefighter Grant. A significant advantage to the new SCBA is the addition of a Bluetooth microphone and speakers in the face mask. These connect to the firefighter's portable radio and highly improve communication.
- Acquired a new state-of-the-art fire engine to replace a 1990's era apparatus.
- Five new firefighters were hired to fill vacant positions.
- Three fire captains and three battalion chiefs were promoted.

### LOOKING AHEAD

In 2024, we remain committed to safeguarding lives, property, and the environment. BFD will continue to collaborate with the community, enhance our capabilities, and adapt to emerging challenges.





# CITY OF BELLEVUE

City Council Wards  
& City Limits

Welcome to  
**BELLEVUE**  
Nebraska's  
First City

**MAYOR  
RUSTY HIKE**

**POPULATION  
65,047**

**Ward 5**  
**10,987**

Don Preister



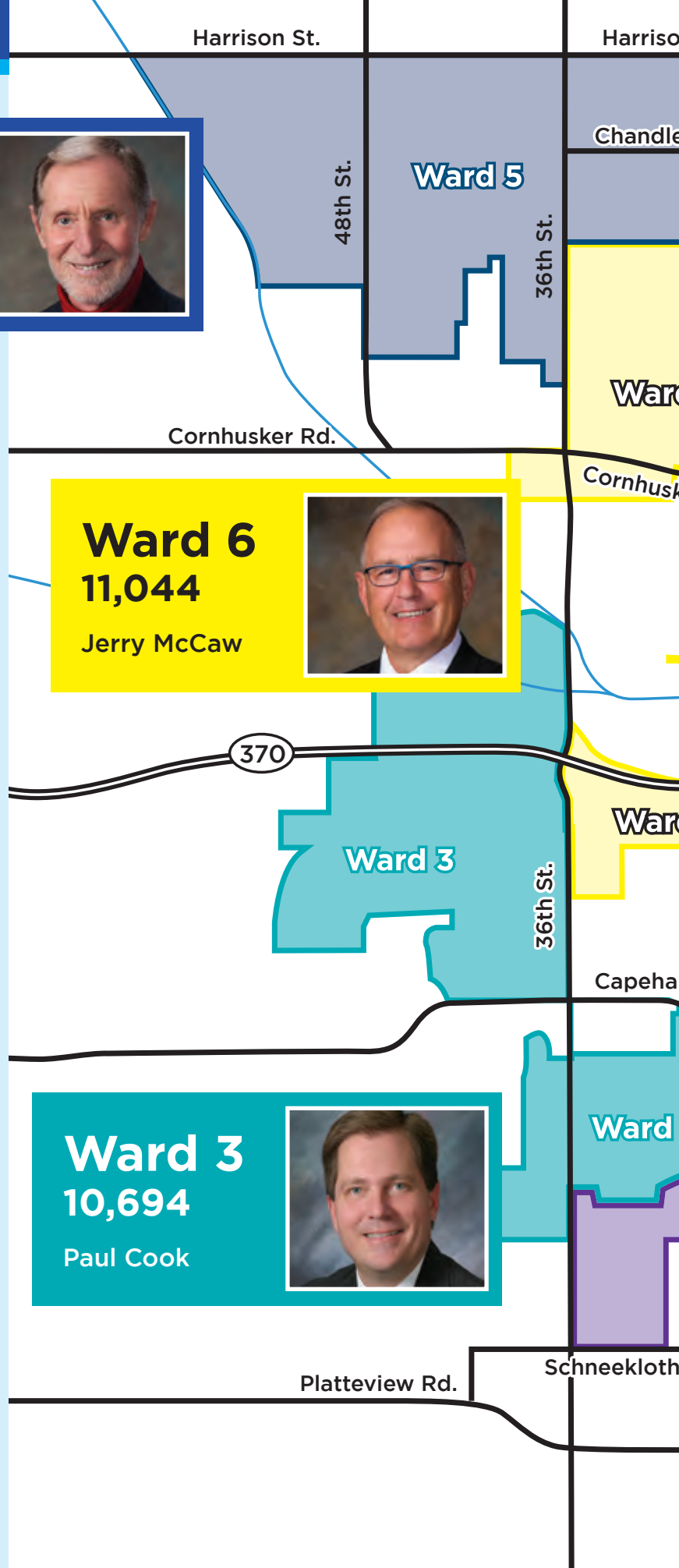
**Ward 6**  
**11,044**

Jerry McCaw

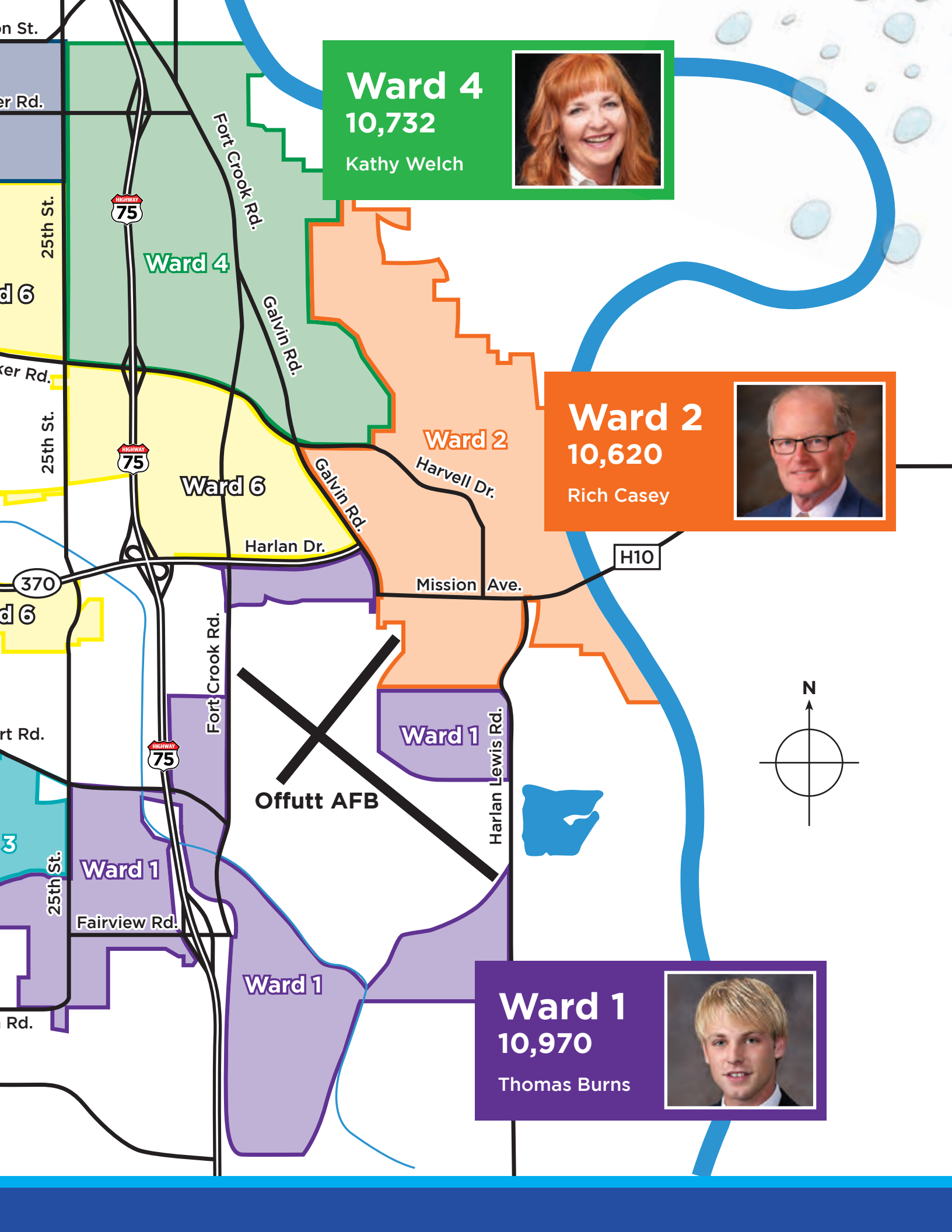


**Ward 3**  
**10,694**

Paul Cook







## Ward 4 10,732

Kathy Welch



## Ward 2 10,620

Rich Casey



## Ward 1

## Ward 1 10,970

Thomas Burns





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Bellevue Water Park & Entertainment District



The City of Bellevue will construct a 100,000 square foot indoor all-season water park that is planned to be completed in 2026. This exciting new attraction expects an annual draw of at least 400,000 visitors with over a third coming from out of state and will serve as the core project for the Bellevue City Recreation District. This premier indoor water park looks to fundamentally transform the local economy to increase growth and sustainability, while also dramatically improving the quality of life for its residents. The indoor water park will be owned and operated by the City of Bellevue with an experienced private management firm conducting day-to-day operations. The development is expected to cost \$60 million and will be funded by city-issued bonds. The cost of development will be paid by profits from the operation of the park and anticipated occupation fees from the Nebraska Good Life District.

## City & Bellevue Chamber Partnership

Longtime Bellevue resident Diane Bruce took over the leadership of the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce in March 2023. Diane has worked with a dedicated group of Chamber Board Members, Ambassadors, and the City to help keep the Bellevue Chamber moving forward. The Chamber does an excellent job of providing networking and educational opportunities for their members and serves as a strong advocate for businesses in the area. The City of Bellevue is proud to partner with the Chamber to help recruit more businesses to Bellevue and support existing businesses in our great community.



Diane Bruce, Bellevue Chamber President



Happy Buddha's Ribbon Cutting



Cake Expressions Ribbon Cutting



The Light House Café Ribbon Cutting



# NC3 Project Supports Growing Needs of STRATCOM

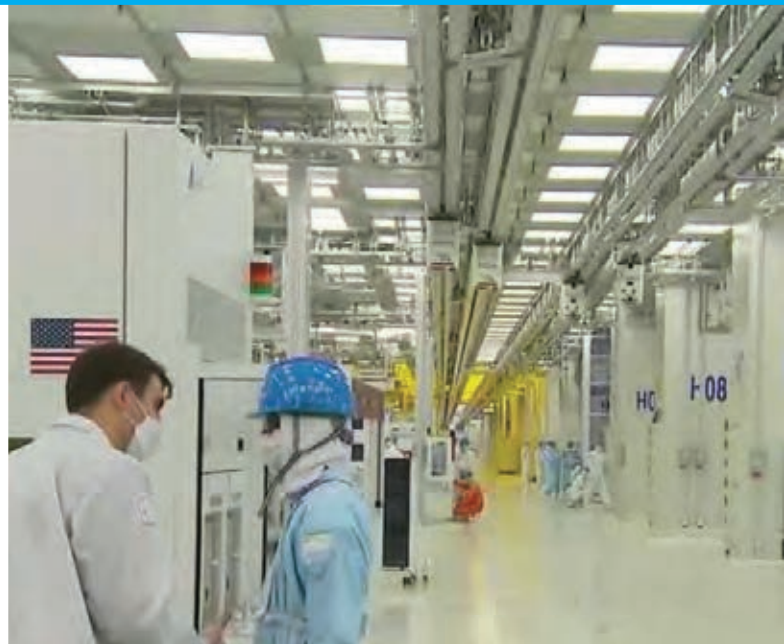
The City of Bellevue realizes the importance of supporting the needs of Offutt Air Force Base. The NC3 Project at Prairie Hill Farm represents a proactive response to the evolving needs of the United States Strategic Command (STRATCOM), headquartered at Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue. Facilitated by the Nebraska Defense Research Corporation, this initiative engages various stakeholders in advancing the modernization of Nuclear Command, Control, and Communication Systems (NC3). At the heart of this endeavor lies the Research, Engineering, and Architecture Collaboration Hub (REACH), a \$250 million commercial facility designed to facilitate both public and confidential work in support of NC3 objectives. Serving as a pivotal element, the REACH facility spurs the development of a proposed 100-acre neighborhood and community hub.



## Inland Port Authority Created to Support High-Tech Development

The new Bellevue Inland Port Authority was established in 2023 and is located just east of Highway 75 along Highway 34. The Inland Port Authority's five year plan includes development of port facilities and intermodal travel around a high-tech manufacturing hub with a targeted goal of over \$2 billion in development and thousands of good paying jobs.

The city is excited to see this project move forward to help develop projects that create high paying high-tech jobs right here in Bellevue.



### Key Elements for the Inland Port Authority include:

- An Economic Development Zone controlled by an independent board.
- As of 2014, two other Inland Port Authorities exist in the state.
- Only five such zones are allowed in Nebraska.







# Bellevue Public Library Update

After nearly 20 years of discussions, planning, and studies, the City of Bellevue celebrated an official groundbreaking at the site of Bellevue's new Public Library in July of 2023. Numerous City officials, library staff, library board members, the Bellevue Library Foundation and Friends of the Bellevue Public Library, along with members of the public, attended the event. Since the groundbreaking, construction has rapidly moved forward at the new site, including renovation work that will add new rooms in the existing building. A new addition is also being built to house a reading area and the bulk of the library's book collection.



A section of the existing Bellevue Professional Center at 2206 Longo Drive, centrally located near the intersection of Cornhusker and Ft. Crook Road, is being transformed into over 23,000 square feet of new state-of-the-art library space. The new library will have an exciting modern look with new furnishings along with these impressive new amenities:

- A meeting space with a kitchenette that allows for concurrent meetings, or can be opened up for larger events or gatherings.
- Quiet study rooms.
- Defined children's and teen areas.
- A bookstore room.
- A makerspace.
- A convenient drive-through service window for library patrons.

At the time of this publication, the construction of the new library is ahead of schedule and is expected to be completed in late summer 2024.

## Bellevue Honors Officer Abbott

Bellevue Police Officer Chris Abbott passed away unexpectedly in November of 2023 after over 22 years of service. Officer Abbott meant so much to the communities of Bellevue, where he worked, and Glenwood, Iowa, where he lived with his family. He is greatly missed, and our thoughts remain with his family and friends!





# BELLEVUE PUBLIC WORKS, PARKS & RECREATION

## Comprehensive Plan

The City of Bellevue Planning Department is in the process of developing a new comprehensive plan and long-range transportation plan for our community. Our Future View, the name of this planning effort, is helping to set the long-term vision for the city and focus on land use, development, character, housing, economic development, all modes of transportation, the natural environment, and more.

Community input is vital to successful comprehensive and transportation planning. Numerous Bellevue residents have contributed by filling out a survey, participating in workshops and following progress on the project website. The development of both plans at the same time is a unique opportunity to provide a coordinated road map to help guide the city's growth, travel, and development for the next 10 to 20 years. Stay tuned for project updates at [www.bellevuecompplan.com](http://www.bellevuecompplan.com).



## Bellevue Farmer's Market

The Bellevue Farmers Market is more popular than ever and has established itself as a fun Summer and Fall tradition. The market will return on Saturday, June 1, 2024 and will be held again at Washington Park in downtown Bellevue.

The City of Bellevue has contracted again with Sarah and Matt Milligan to operate the Farmer's Market this year. For vendor information including the application along with rules and regulations visit: [www.bellevue.net/recreation-living/farmers-market](http://www.bellevue.net/recreation-living/farmers-market). The Farmers Market Facebook page will continue to provide weekly updates.

This year's Farmers Market will be open Saturday morning's from 8am – Noon from June 1st through October 5th. We look forward to a fun and exciting 9th season at the Bellevue Farmers Market in Washington Park.



## Bellevue University Haworth Park Sports Complex

Watch for the transformation of the new Bellevue University Sports Complex at Haworth Park. The new sports complex is being developed through a public/private partnership, and will include a press box, turf field, locker room facilities, and more. This new sports complex project is slated to be completed in 2024.



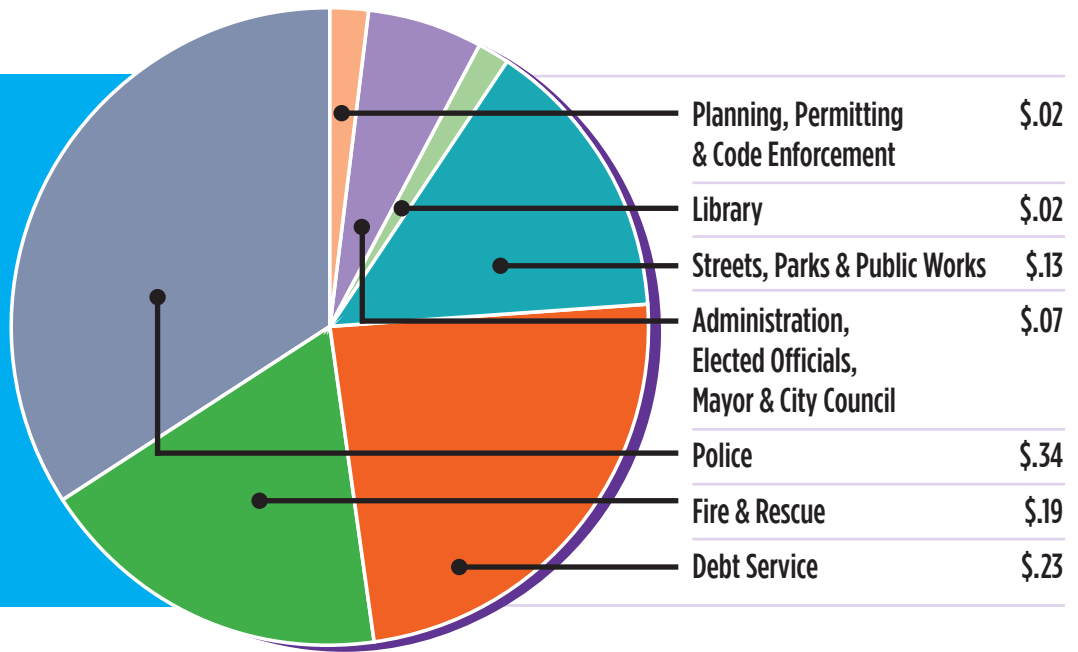


# BELLEVUE CITY FINANCIALS

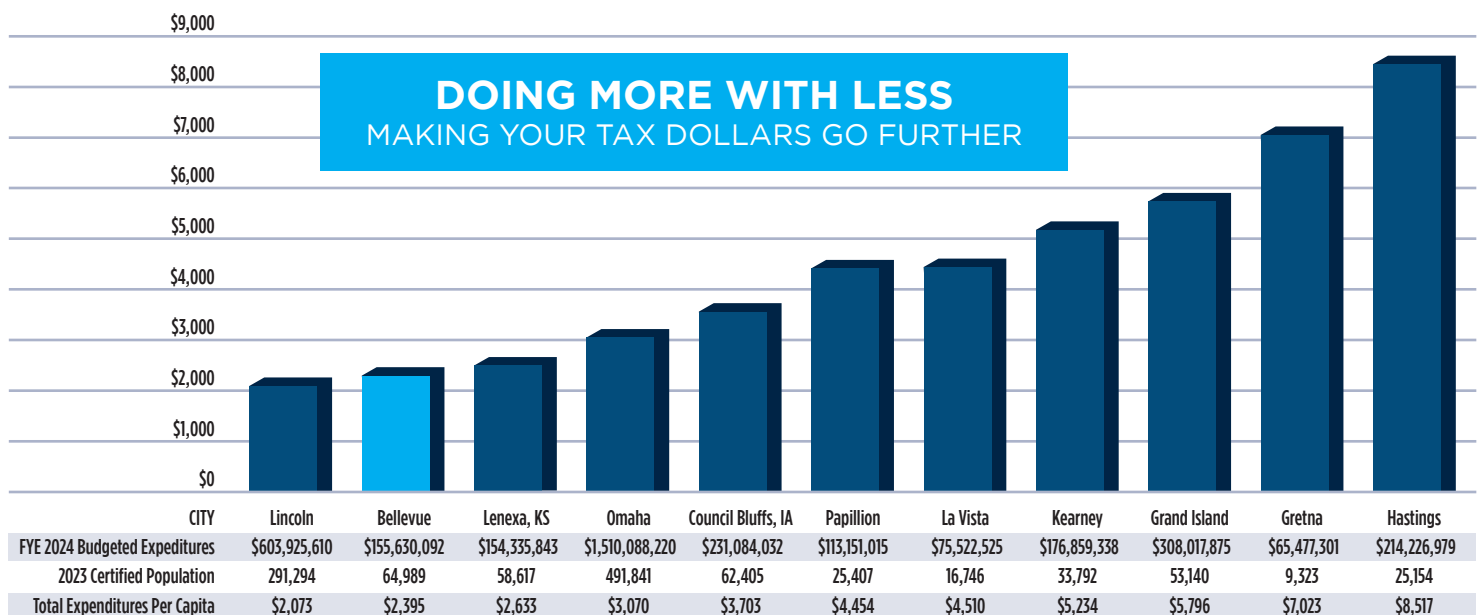
## BUDGET BY FUNCTION

Fiscal Year  
Ending 2024

How Much of a  
Property Tax  
Dollar Goes  
to Each Function



## SPENDING PER CAPITA COMMUNITY COMPARISON



## CITY OF BELLEVUE FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

Mayor's Office..... 402-293-3020  
 City Administrator's Office..... 402-293-3022  
 Mayor's Hotline..... 402-591-4535  
 Community Development..... 402-293-6085  
 City Clerk..... 402-293-3007  
 City Council..... Visit [www.bellevue.net](http://www.bellevue.net)  
 Finance Department..... 402-293-3000

Fire Department..... 402-293-3153  
 - If Emergency ..... 911  
 Police Department ..... 402-293-3100  
 - If Emergency ..... 911  
 Public Works Department ..... 402-293-3025  
 Planning Department..... 402-293-3026  
 Recreation Department ..... 402-293-3142

Personnel Department ..... 402-293-3019  
 Street Department ..... 402-293-3126  
 Cemetery..... 402-293-3125  
 Community Relations..... 402-293-3052  
 Code Enforcement..... 402-293-3050  
 Permits & Inspections ..... 402-293-3014  
 Wastewater & Trash..... 402-293-3136

For other Departments or City of Bellevue Information please go to [www.bellevue.net](http://www.bellevue.net)



# SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2023 & 2022 (\$ In Millions)

## City-Wide Statement of Revenues, Expenditures & Changes in Fund Balance (Cash Basis)

	2023 Fiscal Year		2022 Fiscal Year	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
<b>SOURCES OF REVENUE</b>				
Local - Property Tax	\$33.6	37%	\$30.4	30%
Local - Sales Tax	\$17.5	19%	\$17.0	16%
Local - Charges for Services	\$9.8	11%	\$9.3	8%
Local - Occupation and other Taxes	\$2.9	3%	\$2.9	3%
Other - Federal, State & Local Grants & other	\$14.8	16%	\$19.0	22%
Bond Proceeds	\$0.0	0%	\$5.5	9%
Business Type - Sewer	\$12.1	14%	\$11.8	12%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$90.7</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$95.9</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>FUNCTIONAL EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
<b>PERSONNEL</b>				
Public Safety - Police	\$16.3	41%	\$14.6	40%
Public Safety - Fire	\$11.0	28%	\$10.1	28%
Public Works - (Streets, Cemetery and Maintenance)	\$5.7	14%	\$5.2	14%
Culture, Community, & Admin	\$6.9	17%	\$6.6	18%
Subtotal Personnel	\$39.9	44%	\$36.5	38%
<b>DEPARTMENTAL</b>				
Public Safety - Police	\$2.1	10%	\$2.0	12%
Public Safety - Fire	\$2.0	9%	\$1.2	7%
Public Works - (Streets, Cemetery and Maintenance)	\$11.6	55%	\$8.1	50%
Culture, Community, & Admin	\$5.6	26%	\$5.1	31%
Subtotal Departmental	\$21.3	23%	\$16.4	17%
<b>CAPITAL PROJECTS</b>				
Public Safety - Police	\$0.7	9%	\$0.8	4%
Public Safety - Fire	\$0.7	9%	\$0.1	1%
Public Works - (Streets, Cemetery and Maintenance)	\$4.4	57%	\$11.5	55%
Culture, Community, & Admin	\$1.9	25%	\$8.2	40%
Subtotal Capital Projects	\$7.7	9%	\$20.6	22%
Bonds Payments	\$7.4	8%	\$11.5	12%
Business Type - Sewer	\$14.8	16%	\$11.3	11%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$91.1</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$96.3</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$(0.4)</b>		<b>\$(0.4)</b>	

## Government-Wide Statement of Net Position (Accrual Basis)

	September 30, 2023		September 30, 2022	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash & Equivalents	\$40.1	18%	\$41.4	19%
Receivables - Net	\$8.7	4%	\$15.2	7%
Capital Assets (Net of Depreciation)	\$162.1	72%	\$153.3	71%
All other Assets and Deferred Outflows	\$13.3	6%	\$5.0	3%
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$224.2</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$214.9</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET POSITION</b>				
Long-Term Debt	\$70.3	31%	\$76.1	36%
All other Liabilities and Deferred Inflows	\$29.6	13%	\$35.1	16%
Subtotal Liabilities	\$99.9	44%	\$111.2	52%
Net Position	\$124.3	56%	\$103.7	48%
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET POSITION</b>	<b>\$224.2</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$214.9</b>	<b>100%</b>





We Influence The World!

1500 Wall St. | Bellevue, NE 68005



**Bellevue, NE Annual Report:** This report provides a variety of community, financial, and upcoming project information. For questions about this report please contact Phil Davidson, Bellevue Community Relations Coordinator at 402-293-3052 or email phil.davidson@bellevue.net.

# FREE LIVE MUSIC

THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH



**LOCAL BANDS:**  
DYSFUNCTION & RED DELICIOUS  
*PLUS*

**FAMILY DISCOUNT  
CARNIVAL NIGHT!**  
5 PM - 11 PM  
DISCOUNT RIDE WRISTBANDS

FRIDAY, JUNE 7TH



**RESURRECTION**  
A TRIBUTE TO JOURNEY

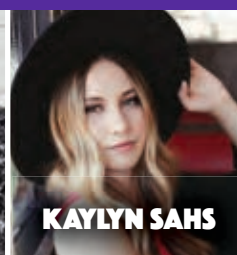


**THE ULTIMATE  
KING OF POP**  
A TRIBUTE TO  
MICHAEL JACKSON

SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH



**LONESTAR**



KAYLYN SAHS



THE HIT MEN OF COUNTRY

**BELLEVUEROCKSTHERIVERFRONT.COM**



PRESENTED BY: BELLEVUE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

TITLE SPONSORS:



BELLE VUE DOWNS  
Horse Track

**JUNE 6-9**

AMERICAN HEROES PARK  
BELLEVUE, NEBRASKA

**FREE ADMISSION**  
DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED  
4PM - MIDNIGHT  
(SUNDAY CARNIVAL ONLY NOON - 5 PM)

**CARNIVAL • FOOD • BEER GARDEN**

PREMIER SPONSORS:



VIP EVENT SPONSORS:

