



SPLASHForward
Water for All | Water for Life



A place for All – The new Bellevue Aquatic Center

Expanding Aquatic Opportunities

May 29th, 2025

SPLASHForward is a WA State nonprofit and 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charity

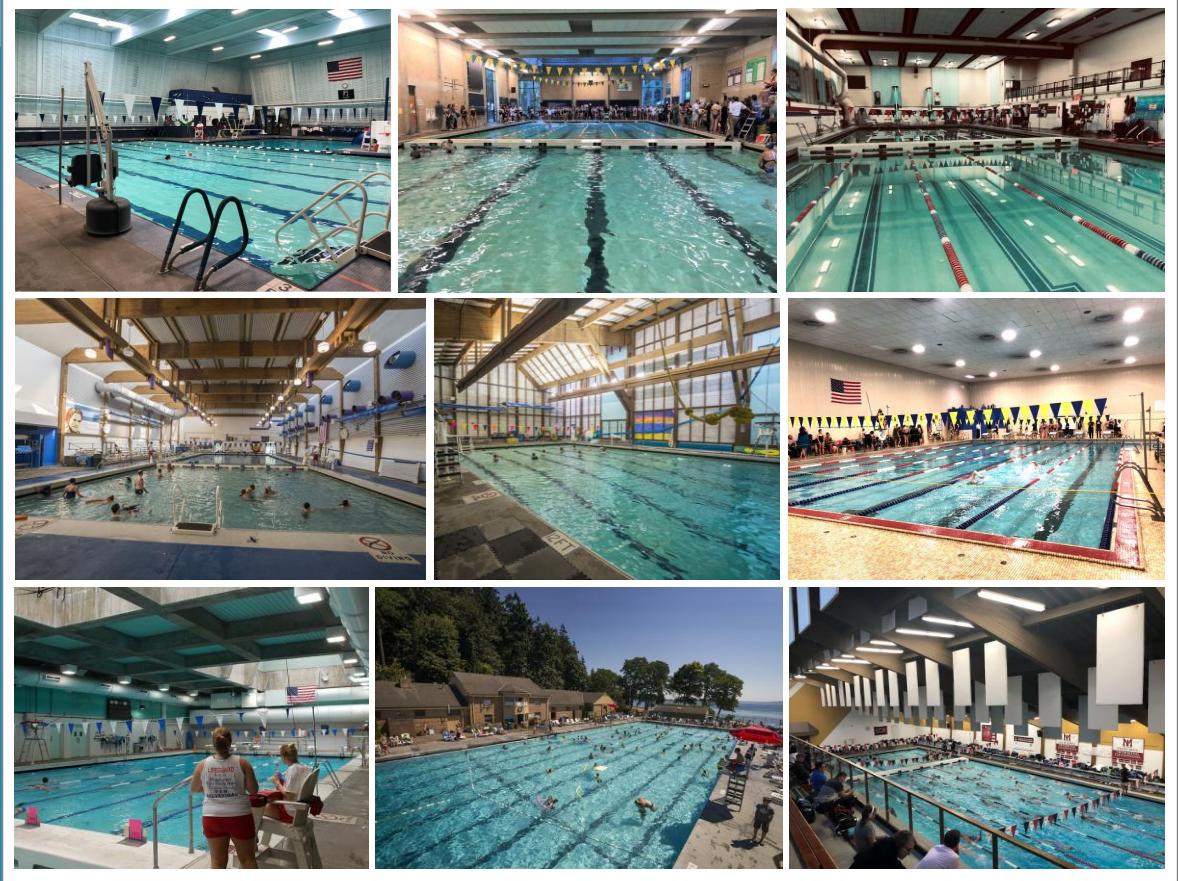


Agenda

- SPLASHForward Mission, Vision & Role
- Our Initiatives & Community impact
- The new Bellevue Aquatic Center Status & Timeline
- Invitation to Endorse, Build Community Engagement & Support
- Questions & Answers



Poll



How many public pools are in King County (population 2.3 million)?

1. 16
2. 35
3. 42
4. 23

Poll



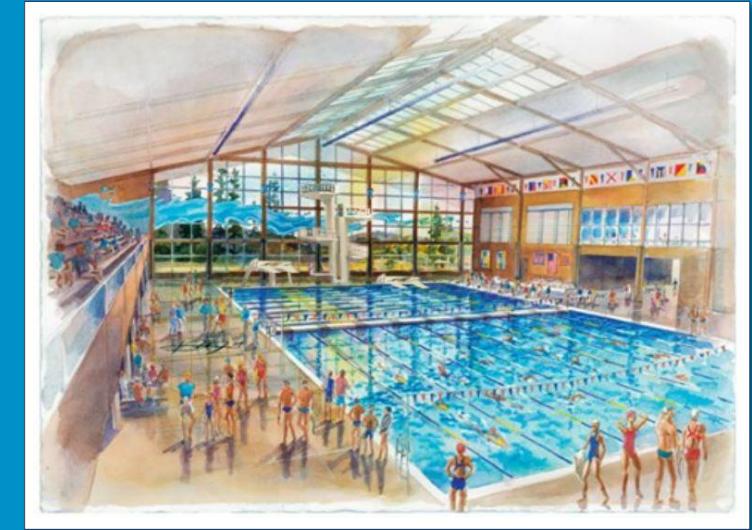
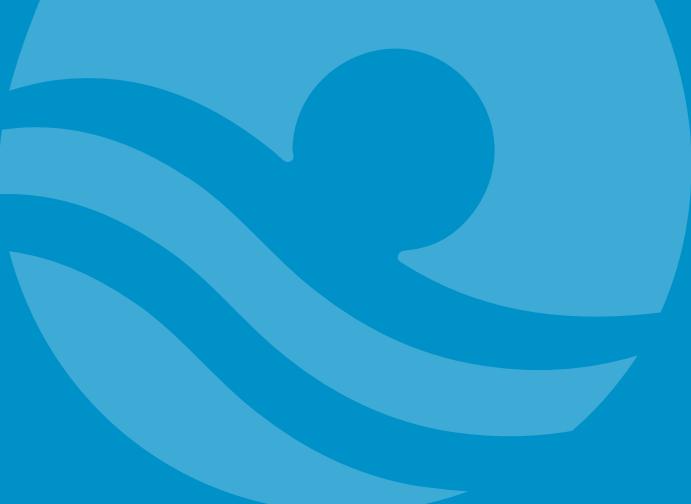
When was the last time a new public pool was built on the Eastside?

1. 22 yrs ago
2. 30 yrs ago
3. 55 yrs ago
4. 63 yrs ago

Did you know?

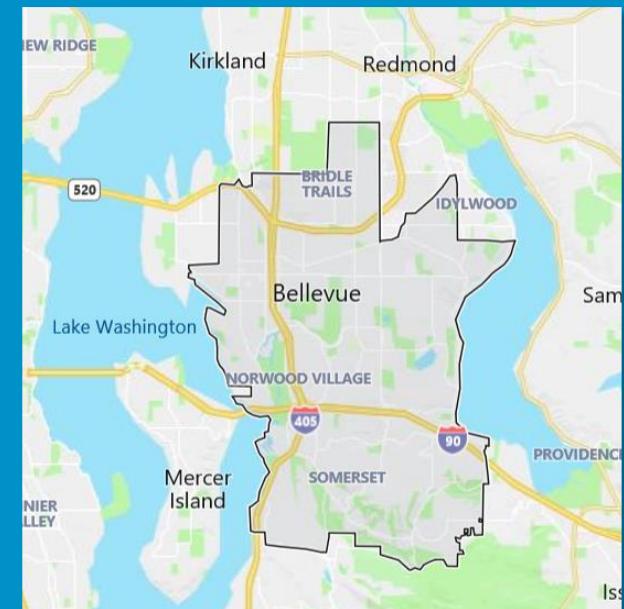
- We are **below** the National standard for aquatic facilities.
- Nationally communities average **one public pool per 50,000 residents**.
- We only have **3 year-round public pools** for **300,000 across Bellevue, Redmond, and Kirkland**.
- Even when pools are available, a **shortage of swim instructors, cost, and availability** prevents many families from enrolling in swim lessons.
- There is **no public pool** to host swim meets or water polo matches.





*Just as water is an essential requirement for life, public aquatic centers are essential to build **healthy, strong, and safe** communities.*

In a growing metropolitan area surrounded by water, everyone deserves access to vital water safety skills, joyful water experiences, and safe inclusive community spaces.



Mission & Vision



Our mission is to build healthier, stronger, and safer communities by creating equitable access to aquatic facilities and programs that build essential life skills, inclusion, connection, and active lifestyles.

We envision a world where everyone is safe around water and has equitable access to best-in-class aquatic centers that are vibrant places of pride and inclusive for all.



[Vision Video – Everyone has a Water Story](#)



[Vision Video – Water Unites Us](#)

Momentum & Strong Partnerships

Once-in-a-generation public aquatic facility

First new public aquatic center on the Eastside in over 55 years

SPLASHForward & the City of Bellevue

- **SPLASHForward**
 - Private funding partner – MOU with the City
 - Fundraising Development resources
 - Developing partnerships – Bellevue School District, Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue, Health Care Partners
 - Holding the vision
 - Cultivating community support
- **City of Bellevue**
 - Site secured
 - Public funding in place for design phase

Critical Time for Community Health & Safety



"We are a city surrounded by water and learning to swim should be accessible to our community for generations to come. Recent drowning deaths demonstrate how incredibly important water safety is for everyone. SPLASHForward has been instrumental in shaping the vision and working with the City." – *Jennifer Robertson, Former Bellevue City Council Member*

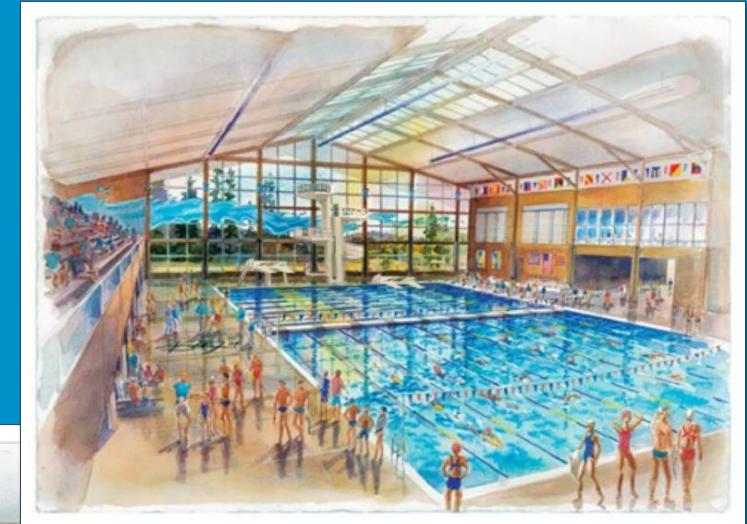


Our Turning Point: The New Bellevue Aquatic Center

Best-In-Class aquatic center

Regional community hub

Essential amenity for a growing
metropolitan area



SPLASHForward Vision

Learn To Swim / Water Safety



Family Time



Competition 50m (2 x 25m) + Deep Water Pool, Training, Events



Family Fun, Leisure Park



Water Therapy



Lap Swim, Masters Swim, Triathlon Training



Programming for All Ages & Abilities



Fitness



sample images only

The New Bellevue Aquatic Center

Concept Plan

\$125 Million (2021), 130,000 sq ft

- 50m x 25yd competition pool
 - 900 spectators/720 competitors
- Separate 6 lane 25yd Deep-Water Tank
- 25yd x 8-10 lane warm water Program and Teaching Pool
- 8,000 sf Leisure Pool
- 2,000-2,500 sf Wellness/Therapy Pool(s)
- Dry side spaces
 - Cardio/Strength/Fitness/Workout
 - Community Use Rooms
 - Lobby & Common Social Spaces
 - Other Flexible Spaces
- Local and Regional Competitions
- Parking for day to day and events (ample ADA)



Our Initiatives & Program Partnerships

- **HS Lifeguard Training Program** – *since 2021*
- **Camp SPLASH!** with Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue and Rainier Athletes – *since summer 2022*
- **After School Swim Lessons** with Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue – *since spring 2023*
- Name Image and Likeness (**NIL**) with **Piper Enge** - *May 2024*
- **Youth Ambassador Committee** – *Winter 2024*
- **Every 2nd Grader Learns to Swim Program** – *just launching*



Every 2nd Grader Learns to Swim

- Received \$2,500 grant from Kirkland Community Foundation
- Partners: LWSD, BSD, WAVE Aquatics, Nurturing Water Therapies, Cities of Kirkland & Bellevue
- Pilot Title I schools in 2026 – LWSD/John Muir, BSD/Stevenson



High School Lifeguard Training Program

- Free support to become a lifeguard or swim instructor
 - Skill Development, Certification, Job Resources, and Mentorship
- Skill Strengthening - Friday Night Teen Lifeguard Development, Overlake Golf & Tennis Club
- Student Lifeguard Workshops



Youth Ambassador Committee

- Youth-led committee
- Cultivate youth ambassadors
- Bring student voices to our efforts and create opportunities for students to grow advocacy skills through a wide range of roles
 - Advocacy
 - Media
 - Government Awareness
 - Environmental Sustainability Advocacy



Bellevue Airfield Park – Site Secured

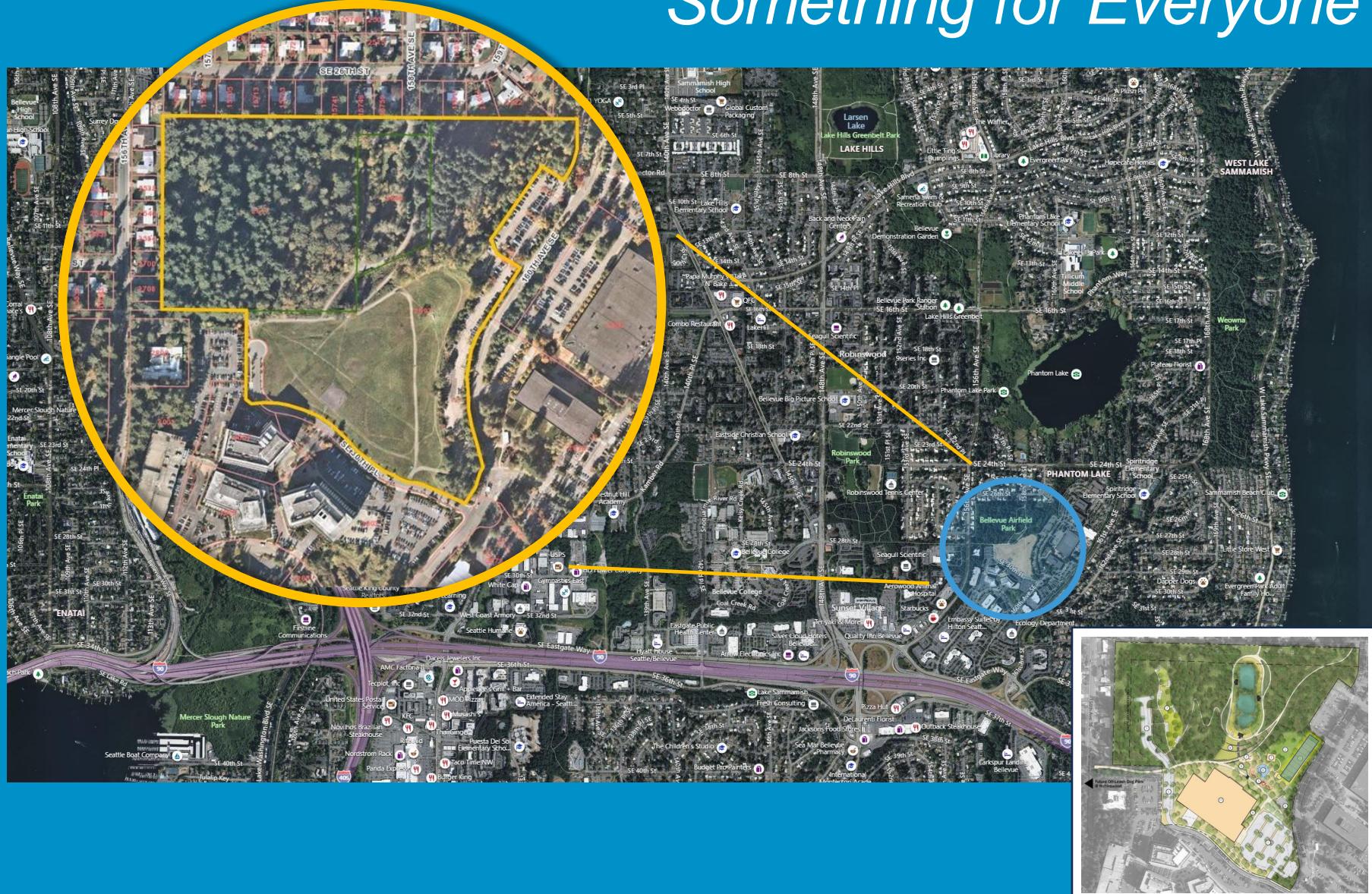
Something for Everyone

Site Benefits

- Multitude of indoor and outdoor usage scenarios
- Within Bellevue's most diverse neighborhoods
- Accessible by foot, bike, bus, light rail, car

Site Facts

- 27.5 acres
 - 16 acres wooded, 11.5 acres open
- Owned by City of Bellevue
- Eastgate Neighborhood
- Connects to Robinswood Park
- Centrally located to schools
- Near I-90 Eastgate Park & Ride



Master Plan for Bellevue Airfield Park

LEGEND:

- ① Parking Area
- ② Flexible Field
- ③ Playgrounds
- ④ Basketball Court
- ⑤ Pickleball Courts
- ⑥ Splash Pad
- ⑦ Picnic Area
- ⑧ Amphitheatre
- ⑨ Stormwater Area
- ⑩ Restrooms
- ⑪ Aquatic Center
- ⑫ Potential Pickleball Expansion



City Council Adopted Sept '24

Early SF Environmental Sustainability Vision

Early Environmental Sustainability Vision





SPLASHForward is dedicated to design principles that are sustainable and support a climate change-resilient building. Examples include:

- Guided by building certifications such as LEED, Living Building Challenge, and WELL.
- Using Building Resiliency to support the transition to Resilient energy, water, health, resilience, and durability.
- Resilient design to support recovery from disasters.
- Renewable energy generation or emergency power.
- Low carbon power generation, storage, or microgrid for "self-sufficiency."

SPLASHForward is focused on best in practice materials specification and waste management:

- Dewelling waste management: move towards zero waste through recycling, composting, and reducing waste.
- Segregating high-value diversion rates from construction materials.
- Encouraging low embodied carbon construction and building materials.
- Specifying materials with low embodied energy and low embodied carbon.
- Selecting healthy materials and discouraging high volatile organic compounds (VOCs) materials and other "Red List" items.

SPLASHForward is paying close attention to the mobility and land use impacts of our new aquatic facility:

- Resilient Transportation Connection:** The new site must be readily accessible via public transportation, including the light rail and bus systems.
- Walkability:** We will explore an opportunity for the City of Belmore including partnerships with King County.
- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure:** Target 25% of parking spaces to be EV ready/recharging city goals in 10 years that are in line with King County.

SPLASHForward is supporting design with water and green space in mind:

- Water Conservation:** Implement water reuse, rainwater harvesting, and reclaimed water.
- Use of local water:** Use local and best practice indoor climate management to reduce water use for irrigation.
- Water Reuse:** Implement water reuse for irrigation.
- Refrigerant-free system:** Implement and/or other non-potable uses.
- Condensate reuse:** Implement condensate reuse for irrigation.
- Connex to nearby facilities:** Connect to building and building to building programming.
- Improvements and upgrade of existing facilities:** Implement system improvements and upgrades of existing facilities.
- Water use and enhanced:** Implement impact to refuse elements, including fire hydrants.

Check out our website or email belmore.aquaticcenter@splashforward.org for more info!



























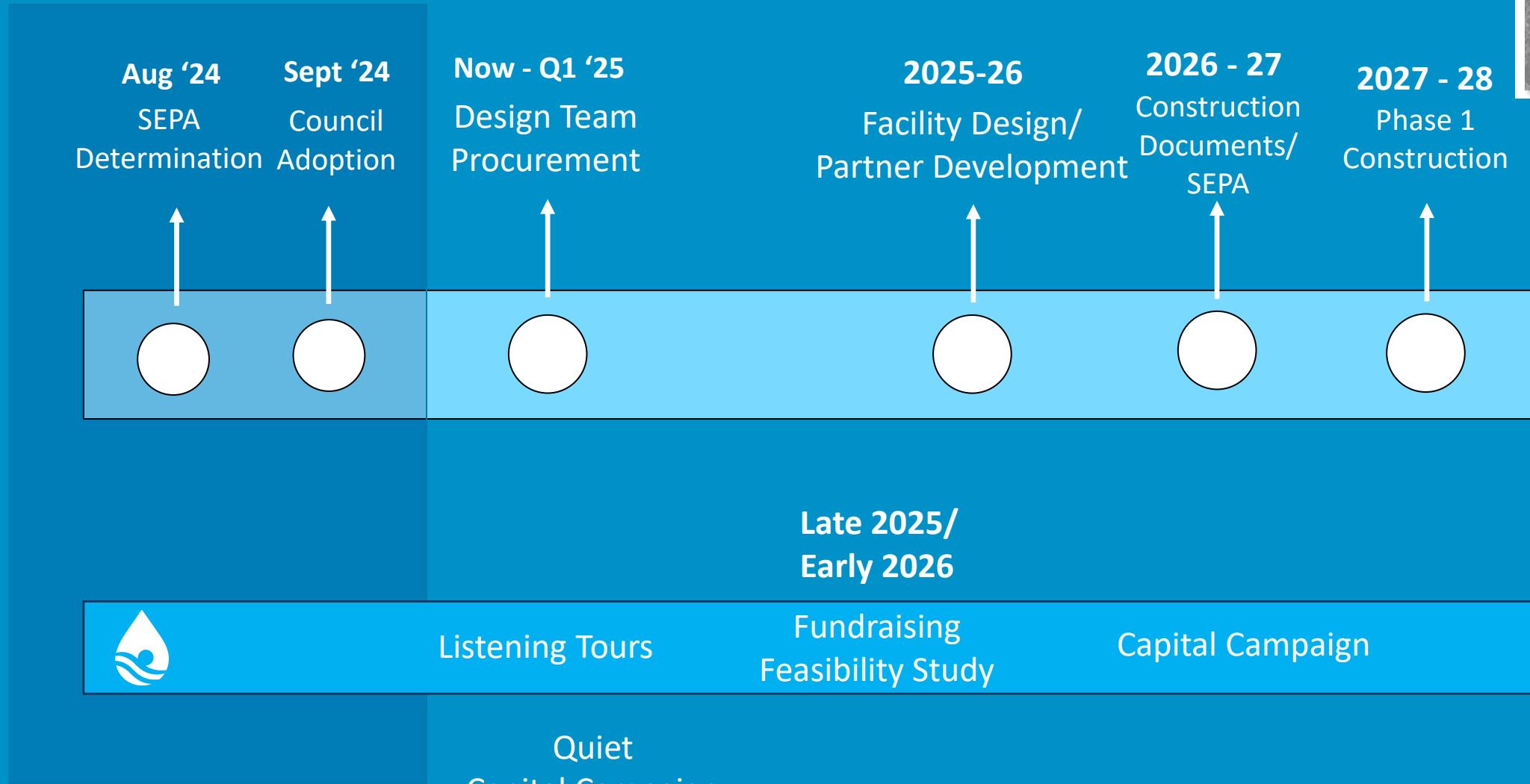


Big Picture Timeline

- 2020 - Aquatic Center Feasibility Study (City and SF)
- 2021 - Council directs Master Plan Update to explore aquatic center / SF MOU
- 2022
 - Master Plan Update - Community Input & Plan Refinement
 - Parks Board & City Council - Input & Review
- 2023
 - Master Plan Refinement & Recommendation
- 2024-25
 - State Environmental Protection Act Study (Determination Aug 2024)
 - Master Plan Adoption (Sept 2024)
 - Aquatic Center - Design Phase
 - SF Silent Lead Donor Campaign
- 2026 - 27
 - Aquatic Center - Design Phase
 - SF Fundraising Feasibility Study (Early 2026)
 - SF Capital Campaign (2027, Public)
 - Break Ground at Bellevue Airfield Park
- 2028 – 29 - Open Doors

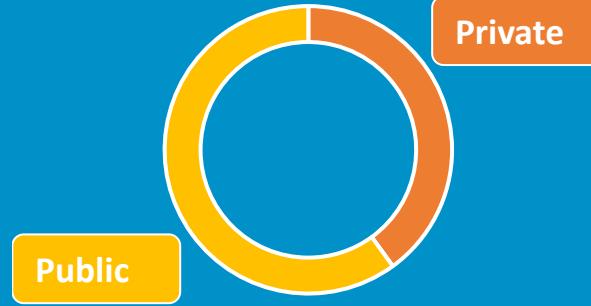


Next Steps in the Design Process



Funding Sources

Project Total = \$125M (2021)*



Public Sources

- 60 – 65% (\$75M - \$81M)
- **General Public**
 - City of Bellevue, King County, State, Federal
 - Bellevue School District, Regional Cities
- **Public Institutional Partner**
 - **Corporate**, Health & Wellness
- *SPLASHForward* to assist developing partnerships and public grant funding

Private Sources (Capital Campaign)

- 35 – 40% (\$44M - \$50M)
- **Individuals Donors**
- **Corporate, Business**
- **Philanthropic** (Grants, Foundations)
- **Community Partners**
- *SPLASHForward* to assess private fundraising capacity via feasibility study

* Update in progress with design development

New Bellevue Aquatic Center

What is known

- SPLASH*Forward* is the private funding partner – MOU with the City in '22
 - ROM target = \$44M – \$50M
- **~\$50M in 2008 Parks Levy** (still collecting, \$8M)
- **\$10M in 2022 Parks Levy** for Recreation/Community Facilities (Aquatic Center) for design phase
- **\$4M in City of Bellevue Budget** for architectural & engineering costs
- **~\$26M in City of Bellevue 2025-26 Biennial Budget**
- SPLASH*Forward* **continues partner** vision development & facilitate discussions
 - Concept plan reflects Bellevue SD needs and objective in design elements
 - Exploring partnership models with Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue

New Bellevue Aquatic Center

What is not known yet?

- All capital partners
 - City of Bellevue, Bellevue School District, King County, SPLASHForward/Private, **Healthcare Partner(s)**, Corporate, State
- Refinement of concept plan to the site with capital and programming partner needs
- Final project cost projections
- Public funding mechanisms
 - Parks Measure, TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax), Grants (county, state, federal)
- Governance - City of Bellevue or 3rd Party or hybrid

SPLASHForward

- Partnerships

- City of Bellevue - MOU as private fundraising partner; facility planning & design partner
- Partnership development with Bellevue School District and Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue
- Community & Partner Outreach & Development

- Advocacy/Regional Role

- Regional Advocacy and Aquatics Stakeholder
- King County Aquatic Facilities & Parks and Open Space Grant Advisory Committee
- Water Safety, Drowning Prevention, & Swim Equity Advocacy

- Private Fundraising

- Raised \$739,000+ since 2018 to fund operations, feasibility study reports, programs, and capital campaign planning
- Founders' Circle & Monthly Donor Circle



Our Supporters & Endorsers



Girls & Boys Swim & Dive Boosters



THE NORCLIFFE FOUNDATION



Public Health
Seattle & King County



The CG SPORTS Co.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF BELLEVUE



NURTURING
WATER
THERAPIES



Healing fear in warm water



NATURA SPLASH



For a Public Aquatic Facility in Our Maritime City!



TOYBOX
Consulting and Management



Aging Well Affinity Group
Bellevue Chamber



Eastside
Neighbors
Network

NEIGHBORS BUILDING COMMUNITY

Bellevue Chamber

Invitation to Join Us

- Endorse and Support SPLASH*Forward*
 - Our Mission and Initiatives
- The City of Medina's support will help to...
 1. Expand access to essential life skills and aquatic opportunities
 2. Act as a catalyst for others to support
 3. Support a year-round world class facility with multi-generational use and will save lives



Questions & Answers

We want to hear your thoughts, questions, ideas!



Thank you for listening!



Appendix



SPLASH*Forward* Roles & Objectives

Advocacy

- More Water on Eastside (55yrs!) – Bellevue Regional Facility + Satellite Facilities
- Expand Equitable and Affordable Access for All Ages, Abilities & Backgrounds through programs and facilities
- Build Awareness to Showcase Community Needs & Benefits
- Regional Advocate for New Public Pools & Water Safety
- Educate that an Operational Sustainable Revenue Model is Achievable Through Partnerships

Aquatics Stakeholder

- Thought Leader - Best In Class, Operational Sustainability, Programming Model, Financial Model, Economic Impact, Partnerships, Environmental Sustainability
- Bring Stakeholder Voices to the Table & Represent Community Needs
- Bellevue School District Partnership & Programming Advocate
- Foster Ongoing Partnerships w/ City, Community Organizations, Local Business, Corporate, Foundations, Institutions
- Develop Regional Partnerships

Private Funding Partner

- Identify Private Fundraising Sources and Targets; Assess Capacity through Feasibility Study
- Capital & On-going Program Funding Through Local, Regional, State, and National Sources
- Establish *SPLASHForward* as a trusted funding partner
- Conduct a private Capital Campaign for the new Bellevue Aquatic Center



The Greater Eastside

City	2022 Population	Public Aquatics Facilities	Year Built	Community Programming	Competition Capable
Bellevue	153,900 (61,200)	1 indoor facility with 2 pools, 1 6-lane 25y with dive tank and a therapy pool (Bellevue Aquatic Center).	1970 Therapy Pool added 1992	Y	N
Redmond	75,270 (12,500)	1 indoor 6-lane 25 yard pool (Redmond Pool) * \$9.2M renovation 2019-20	1972	Y	Y*
Kirkland	92,107 (15,000)	1 indoor 6-lane 25 yard pool (Juanita Aquatic Center at Juanita High School).	1971	Y	Y*
		1 outdoor summer only L-shaped pool 6-lane, 25y (Peter Kirk Pool)	Late 1960's	Y	N
Mercer Island	25,780 (20,000)	1 indoor 6-lane 25 yard pool (Mary Wayte Pool).	1973	Y	Y*

Note: Population statistics do not include daytime population growth. Bellevue estimates 239,200 additional daytime workers (2018) and Redmond estimates 130,500 (2019).

** = bare minimum capabilities*