



We can't hear you!

From Shelley Miller <shelleyrae2007@gmail.com>

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To Christina Giordani <cgiordani@bellevueidaho.us>; Genoa Beiser <gbeiser@bellevueidaho.us>; Anders Ard <aard@bellevueidaho.us>; Tom Bergin <tbergin@bellevueidaho.us>; Diane Shay <dshay@bellevueidaho.us>; Tammy Davis <tdavis@bellevueidaho.us>; Suzanne Wrede <swrede@bellevueidaho.us>; Bellevue Clerk <Clerk@bellevueidaho.us>

To the Bellevue Council and P&Z,

As you know it was a packed house for the Oct. 5th P&Z meeting, which then ended early due to improper noticing. After going outside and talking with other citizens who were in the room, the overwhelming first thing everyone commented on was "could you hear what they were saying?", "I could hardly hear them", "they need to speak up and stop mumbling, I think they did that on purpose", "I have my hearing aides in and I still could not hear what they were saying". On behalf of many citizens who will be attending upcoming meetings, especially dealing with the Gannett Ranch Annexation, PLEASE have microphones at every meeting. This meeting was important enough to have reporters and a photographer there, please make it so people can hear what you have to say. Making it impossible for members of the audience to be able to clearly hear and understand the officials who are speaking is just compounding the growing problems and mis-trust Bellevue is experiencing at this time.

Also, could you please let me know if the Gannett Ranch Annexation will be on the Agenda for the Council meeting on October 13th. Waiting for it to MAYBE show up on the website in a timely manner is crazy in this day and age. It is a huge waste of city staff time to be answering questions when the information should be easily found on the city website. Since we were unable to hear or understand the officials, it was unclear as to the actual next step.

I'm going to also provide a public comment that should go on the record- Please realize that you are a small town government now dealing with big city issues. I don't say that to de-mean anyone, but that is the reality. Many of you have other jobs. For no other reason than "Bellevue needs to get its own house in order", before

taking on an enormous annexation that will forever change the valley in a detrimental way. Bellevue has too much on it's plate already-

* Sewer plant operating in "emergency capacity" for 3? years, and not enough money to fix it properly. The city should not issue a single building permit until the situation improves dramatically. I am one of those people who live in the county, 3 miles south of Bellevue (2 air miles from the sewer plant), and experience the stench on many occasions.

*Attempting a huge rezoning project that would allow 4 story buildings and apartments on Main St. The fire chief has admitted the dept could not handle a fire in a 4 story building. How much more fire apparatus/staff/training, etc.. would the city need, and at what cost? For the apartments- what about resident parking? Where will kids play and how many of them might wander out to Main st.? This is very urban-style development and most likely not what the current citizens want to see in their small town. Don't create a "build it and they will come" situation.

*City staff and employee base keeps shrinking, when it should be growing to keep up with demands on police, fire, city hall, road maintenance, etc...

City is not keeping pace with the growth and problems currently. The website is outdated and sometimes inaccurate. Citizens have to call city hall to get clear information. The fact that the Mayor can choose who sees what emails and comments and at what time, piling them up and handing them out (on paper?) is completely ridiculous. The city clerk compiling emails over the course of the week and then sending them all out at the end of the week?? This is 2026. City government is operating like it's 1950.

If you really love your town, you will put a pause on anything growth-related, find some emergency money to fix some of the problems, hire staff and pay them a living wage so they will not be tempted to go to work elsewhere.

Thank-you,
Shelley Miller
Derby Rd.