



## The Bellingham Plan Scavenger Hunt

The Bellingham Plan is a two-year project to update the City's Comprehensive Plan. This scavenger hunt is a fun way to learn more about the Bellingham community and content within our Comprehensive Plan. You'll find a variety of topic-related tasks, questions, and fun trivia, along with other helpful resources to explore. Feel free to complete the scavenger hunt at your own pace.

**For each section you complete, you will be entered in a drawing for one of several gift cards to local businesses** - make sure to submit your name and contact information to be entered into the drawing.

*Scavenger hunt closes at the end of January 2024.*

*Return completed forms to the Permit Center at City Hall, or mail to:*

*The Bellingham Plan  
210 Lottie St  
Bellingham, WA 98225*

NOTE: There are 9 topics, plus a bonus question. Topic titles with an asterisk (\*) indicate a potential expansion of the chapter title from the 2016 Comprehensive Plan.

Provide your name and email below to be entered into the gift card drawing:

Name:

Email (or Phone Number):

**Questions?** Contact The Bellingham Plan team at (360) 778-8310 or [thebellinghamplan@cob.org](mailto:thebellinghamplan@cob.org)

**Topic: Land Use – What can be built and where**

The Land Use section of the Comprehensive Plan guides the future use of land in Bellingham, ensuring the City's high quality of life is retained and enhanced as the community grows and changes.

**Task:** Go visit a business or public space in your neighborhood. Take a picture of the place you visited (attach your photo).



**Question:** Which place did you visit?

**Question:** What businesses, place or amenities do you wish were closer to your home? (For example, grocery stores, medical facilities, parks, etc)

**Trivia Time!** Which of the following would NOT be a type of infill development?

- Transit-Oriented Development
- Brownfield Redevelopment
- Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)
- Annexation

Topic: Community Design - How things look and function in the community

Urban design is concerned with the arrangement, appearance, and functionality of the community. It focuses on the shaping and uses of urban public spaces— the public realm—and the way these public places are experienced and used.

**Task:** Take a photo of a building design or an architectural feature that you admire. It could be a historic building, a piece of artwork, a public space, or other (attach your photo).



**Question:** What is it that you like about this design?

**Trivia Time!** Where is this mural located?

- Old Fairhaven Pkwy
- W Bakerview Rd
- Northwest Ave
- Cornwall Ave



**Topic: Housing and Human Services\* - Where and what forms of living spaces for all of us**

The Housing section of the Comprehensive Plan provides a framework for promoting a diverse housing supply, protecting and improving the health and livability of the City's neighborhoods, and making adequate provisions for the current and projected housing needs of all economic segments of the community.

**Task:** Find an example of “middle housing” in your neighborhood or elsewhere in Bellingham that you like. *Middle housing types include but are not limited to: accessory dwelling units (ADUs), duplexes, tri- or fourplexes, townhouses, shared court housing, and more.*

**Question:** Describe the example you chose and what you like about it.

**Trivia Time!** Per the Office of Financial Management, what is the 2023 population estimate for Bellingham?

- 65,800
- 89,860
- 95,960
- 105,130

**Another Trivia!** What is the approximate expected population for Bellingham in 2045 (20 years from the adoption of The Bellingham Plan)?

- 115,000
- 125,000
- 135,000
- 145,000

**Topic: Multimodal Transportation – How we move in and through Bellingham**

Transportation planning is intricately tied to land use, the pattern of development, and the local economy that evolves as an urban area grows.

**Task:** Walk, ride a bike, take the bus or use a form other than a single occupancy vehicle to get to work, school, or run errands.

**Question:** What type of transportation did you use?

- Bus
- Carpool
- Bike
- Walk
- Other:

**Question:** What did you enjoy most about this form of transportation?

**Question:** What barriers do you encounter to using this form of transportation? Select all that apply.

- Takes too long
- Weather
- Cost
- Safety
- Lack of gear
- Physical effort
- No barriers for me
- Other:

**Question:** How likely are you to use this form of transportation for future trips?

- Less likely
- About the same as before
- More likely

**Trivia Time!** About how many miles of multiuse trails does Bellingham have?

- 10
- 20
- 30
- 40
- 50

**Topic: Economic Development - Where we work and what we do**

The City of Bellingham has long recognized the benefits of a strong and diverse local economy. Economic development is typically described as the creation of jobs and wealth and the improvement of quality of life for all residents.

**Task:** Take a photo of an industry that you think represents Bellingham (attach your photo).



**Question:** If you work part-time or full-time, do you have the ability to work remotely (at home or outside the workplace) for any portion of the week?

- Yes
- No
- Do not work (student, unemployed or other)

**Trivia Time!** Of the following, who is Bellingham’s largest employer?

- Western Washington University
- St. Joseph Medical Center (hospital)
- City of Bellingham
- Bellingham Public Schools

Topic: Climate and Environment\* - Protecting our natural surroundings, and responding to climate change

This section of the Comprehensive Plan addresses the key environmental features and values of Bellingham and implements the vision of Bellingham as a city with treasured natural features.

**Task:** Street trees and other environmental features provide many benefits to our community. Take a photo of a street tree, bioswale, greenbelt, or other environmental feature in your neighborhood and name one benefit it provides (attach your photo).



**Question:** What benefit does this feature provide?

**Trivia Time!** How much more park space do predominantly white neighborhoods in the largest US cities have compared to neighborhoods where mostly people of color live?

- 15% more
- 26% more
- 31% more
- 44% more

**Another Trivia!** Which sectors of the Bellingham community contribute the most carbon pollution?

- Commercial energy
- Residential energy
- Transportation
- Solid Waste
- Industrial Energy

**Topic: Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan - Our outdoor play spaces and connections**

The City's Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PRO Plan), an element of the City's Comprehensive Plan, is the overarching document that guides the preservation and expansion of the park, recreation and open space system as the community grows.

**Task:** Visit a park within City limits. It can be one that you've been to before or are visiting for the first time.

**Question:** What park did you visit?

**Question:** Describe or list three features that make it an enjoyable and attractive place to visit.

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**Trivia Time!** According to the City of Bellingham's policies, dogs in parks must be on leash at all times unless:

- Other individuals are not present in the park
- The dog is cute and friendly
- The area is specifically signed for off leash exercise/training and the dog is able to follow voice, signal or other effective controls
- The dog is able to follow voice, signal or other effective controls



Topic: Capital Facilities - Our sidewalks, roads, pipes, libraries, museums, etc.

Capital facilities and utilities contribute to Bellingham's quality of life. Delivering and maintaining public facilities and utility services are essential to providing the citizens of Bellingham with a vibrant place to live, work, and play.

**Task:** Visit a public building. Here are a few examples to choose from: Whatcom Museum, City Hall, Bellingham Public Libraries, Arne Hanna Aquatics Center, and more (challenge yourself and pick one you haven't been to before).

**Question:** What building did you visit?

**Question:** What would have made this space more accessible and inclusive for everyone in our community?

**Trivia Time!** How many fires stations are within City limits?

- 4
- 6
- 9
- 12

**Topic: Community Engagement\* - Connecting with and hearing from the public**

Community engagement is an essential part of The Bellingham Plan and the public process in general. Community engagement means that the public has an opportunity to provide input on growth options and other elements of The Bellingham Plan.

**Task:** Take part in The Bellingham Plan Scavenger Hunt...You're doing it! Thank you for participating, and we look forward to your participation in future engagement activities.

**Question:** Do you have an idea for a future community engagement activity?

**Question:** How do you like to receive information from the City? Select all that apply.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Posters/flyers in the community | <input type="checkbox"/> Emails  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tabling at events               | <input type="checkbox"/> E-Newsletter  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social media                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Through your neighborhood association or other neighborhood group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> News outlets                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |

**Trivia Time!** In the fall of 2023, City staff mailed out a Bellingham Plan vision survey to every household in the city. How many responses did we receive back?

- 0 - 500
- 500 – 1,000
- 1,000 - 4,000
- 4,000 +

## Bonus Question!

Task: Share a photo that you have taken that feels quintessentially "Bellingham". We are looking for community images to use as we develop our plan. Submit your photo for a chance for it to be featured in upcoming events, documents and other City material (attach your photo).



### **Bonus Question Photo Agreement/Release\***

I hereby grant permission to the City of Bellingham, its officers, employees, contractors and agents (the "City"), upon the terms herewith stated, for the following:

a) The unrestricted right and permission to use, re-use, publish, and republish those certain photographs submitted in this survey, taken by me, or of me, or to which I own all rights, without restriction as to changes or transformations in conjunction with reproduction hereof in color or otherwise, made through any and all media now or hereafter known for illustration, art, promotion, advertising, trade, or any other purpose whatsoever.

b) I also permit the use of any printed material in connection therewith.

c) I hereby relinquish any right that I may have to examine or approve the completed product or products or the advertising copy or printed matter that may be used in conjunction therewith or the use to which it may be applied.

d) I hereby release, discharge and agree to save harmless the City, and all persons functioning under the City's permission or authority, or those for whom the City may be functioning, from any liability by virtue of any blurring, distortion, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking of said picture or in any subsequent processing thereof, as well as any publication thereof, including without limitation any claims for libel or invasion of privacy.

e) I hereby affirm that I am over the age of majority and have the right to contract in my own name. I have read the above authorization, release and agreement, prior to its execution; I fully understand the contents thereof. This agreement shall be binding upon me and my heirs, legal representatives and assigns.

I agree

Photo Description/Title:

Name:

Email:

Phone (Optional):

**General Comments: Do you have any general comments or input related to The Bellingham Plan that you would like us to know?**

## Trivia Time! Answer Key

### Land Use:

Q: Which of the following would NOT be a type of infill development?

**Correct Answer:** Annexation. Annexation is NOT a type of infill development because it involves bringing unincorporated areas of a county in an adjacent city. This expansion does not constitute "infill" into existing city limits.

### Community Design:

Q: Where is this mural located?

**Correct Answer = Cornwall Ave.** This mural is located at 915 Cornwall Ave by artist Gretchen Leggitt and is the largest mural in Washington State at 21,800 sq ft!

### Housing and Human Services:

Q: Per the Office of Financial Management, what is the 2023 population estimate for Bellingham?

**Correct Answer = 95,960.** Per the Office of Financial Management (OFM), the official April 1, 2023 population for Bellingham is 95,960.

Q: What is the approximate expected population for Bellingham in 2045 (20 years from the adoption of The Bellingham Plan)?

**Correct Answer = 135,000.** The expected population in 2045 is 135,000. The Washington State Department of Commerce provides counties across the state with 20-year population projections. Their projection for Whatcom County means that Bellingham's population is expected to be around 135,000 by 2045.

### Multimodal Transportation:

Q: About how many miles of multiuse trails does Bellingham have?

**Correct Answer = 50.** There are 50 miles of multiuse trails in Bellingham. Visit the Bellingham Trail Guide to explore trails in Bellingham!

### Economic Development:

Q: Of the following, who is Bellingham's largest employer?

**Correct Answer = St. Joseph Medical Center (hospital).** Per Western Washington University's Center for Economic and Business Research, St. Joseph Medical Center was the largest employer in 2022. However Western Washington University, Bellingham Public Schools and the City of Bellingham also employ a large number of people. Check the WWU Center for Economic and Business Research website for updated reports.

## Trivia Time! Answer Key (Continued)

### Climate and Environment:

Q: How much more park space do predominantly white neighborhoods in the largest US cities have compared to neighborhoods where mostly people of color live?

**Correct Answer = 44% more.** The Trust for Public Land, a park-focused nonprofit, looked at the 100 most populated cities in America and found that predominantly white neighborhoods in US cities have 44 percent more park space per resident compared to neighborhoods where mostly people of color live. Lower income neighborhoods also tend to have less park space. According to urban ecologist Madhusudan Katti, "Past discriminatory practices, such as redlining, and existing racist policies have likely shaped the disparity." See the article here, which also links to the full report.

Q: Which sectors of the Bellingham community contribute the most carbon pollution?

**Correct Answer = Transportation.** Our last greenhouse gas inventory showed that carbon pollution from the transportation sector accounted for 32% of all community emissions, followed by industrial energy (23%), commercial energy (23%), residential energy (20%) and solid waste energy (2%). Learn more about the City of Bellingham's climate emissions and goals on our website.

### Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan:

Q: According to the City of Bellingham's policies, dogs in parks must be on leash at all times unless...

**Correct Answer = The area is specifically signed for off leash exercise/training and the dog is able to follow voice, signal or other effective controls.** Per City code, dogs may only be off leash in designated (signed) dog exercise and training areas. Even in these designated areas, dogs must be within the responsible person's view and under control by means of an audible command or signal. Learn more about animal regulations within the City of Bellingham Park facilities on the City's website or by contacting the Parks Department.

### Capital Facilities:

Q: How many fire stations are within City limits?

**Correct Answer = 6.** There are 6 fire stations within City limits, but an additional 6 outside the City serve some areas within the City. Take a look at our fire response area map online to see where these are located.

### Community Engagement:

In the fall of 2023, City staff mailed out a Bellingham Plan vision survey to every household in the city. How many responses did we receive back?

**Correct Answer = 4,000 +.** In phase one of the Bellingham Plan (Fall 2023), over 4,000 Vision Survey responses were received! City staff also promoted the survey at a number of in-person events such as our public open house, the Farmers Market, Noisy Waters festival, SeaFeast, and more. To all those that participated, we value your feedback! This feedback will help inform the topics to be covered in the next phase of The Bellingham Plan.