



SAMPLE LETTER TO BELLEVUE CITY COUNCIL FOR OCTOBER 18th

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Thank you for taking the time to send Bellevue City Council Members your thoughts!

Dear Mayor Robinson, Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis and City Council Members,

My name is *[your name]* and my address is *[insert your Bellevue or other address. For Bellevue residents - feel free to note how long you have lived in Bellevue, where you have moved to Bellevue from or what brought you to Bellevue or what attracts you to Bellevue].*

[insert your tie to aquatics or passion for a new public aquatics facility. Tell your story. It is important for the council to hear heartfelt and personal stories.]

[you may use the statements below in your letter, but we highly encourage you to customize them to fit your point of view and include the points that are most important to you. The council wants to hear from 'you'.]

50 years! It has been far too long that our community has been without a new public aquatic facility. Bellevue's population has grown nearly two and half times since 1970 when the Bellevue Aquatic Center was built. We must better serve our community's aquatics needs especially in a region surrounded by water. We continue to miss health and wellness opportunities for our diverse youth, active adults, and seniors year after year putting our community at risk around our waters and in mental health. Many are without affordable access to aquatics programming, including Learn to Swim, and our schools have long been underserved without an adequate training and competition indoor aquatics facility. The pandemic has only made access and our community's safety around water magnified with facilities closing and short staffed.

Let's capitalize on the great momentum that has been built by the efforts of the City, SPLASHForward and their supporters like me, and the King County Parks Aquatic Facilities Grant Program.

Please enable the City to **take the next step** to design a new comprehensive public aquatic center as recommended by SPLASHForward and the City staff on the recommended site. *[Add a personal statement around you, your family, or friends of what it would mean to have such an oasis as a part of your lives. How would it enhance your life and build connections.]*

Let's make Bellevue be the place you want to be with an amenity like no other that will attract and retain our diverse and growing community as well as businesses that bring their workforces to Bellevue. And most importantly, provide health and wellness opportunities for generations to come.

With respect,

[Your name]

#StrongerTogether