



SAMPLE LETTER TO BELLEVUE PARKS FOR JANUARY 19th

Copy and customize. Please share this email template with your friends and **send by January 18th!**

Thank you for taking the time to send the City of Bellevue Parks your thoughts!

Subject: Support for aquatic center at Bellevue Airfield Park

Dear Pam Fehrman and Bellevue Parks Board Members,

My name is *[your name]* and I live in *[insert your city. 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. For non-Bellevue residents – note what brings you to Bellevue, e.g. work/play or how a new aquatic center would bring you to play and do more in Bellevue].*

[insert your tie to aquatics or passion for a new public aquatics facility. Tell your story. It is important for Parks staff and board members 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 city wants to hear from 'you'.]

52 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 supporters like me. It is time.

Please enable the City to **take the next step** to site and design a new comprehensive public aquatic center as recommended by SPLASHForward and the City staff at Bellevue Airfield Park. *[If you favor master plan alternative 1 or 2, add why here or simply state you favor either alternative. 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. State how you would use other park elements, e.g. trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, etc. [Learn more about the master plan process and alternatives.](#)]*

Let's continue to make Bellevue be the place you want to be with an aquatic center and master plan that will attract and retain our diverse and growing community, businesses that bring their workforces to Bellevue, and most importantly, provide health and wellness opportunities for generations to come.

With respect,

[Your name]

#StrongerTogether