A Message to the Community

The Bellevue Botanical Garden invites and welcomes all to find respite and serenity during this time. Our hearts ache from the ongoing violence and pain felt by all people, especially those in the Black community, present at local protests and throughout our nation. We stand with those seeking change for a better future.

The City of Bellevue welcomes the world. “Our diversity is our strength. We embrace the future while respecting our past.” This City Council vision statement is the driving force behind the Diversity Advantage initiative. The initiative’s other guiding principles follow:

**Access:** Build an environment that values the abilities of all by proactively removing barriers and providing accommodations for full participation.

**Equity:** Create a fair and just community where equality is the outcome, by recognizing and correcting historic and systemic inequity.

**Inclusion:** Foster a welcoming city by providing a safe and gracious space where the entire community can engage in civic life.

**Opportunity:** Share prosperity by connecting residents, schools, businesses, faith and nonprofits to work together for the common good.

**Understanding Cultural Competency:** Produce equitable policies and practices, by developing skills and knowledge that facilitate effective interactions across diverse cultures.