

BC Urban Hive Introduces Civic Innovation Through You (CITY) to Help Communities Drive Change and Influence City Decisions.

*By combining gamification with civic dialogue, the tool encourages active community involvement and helps city leaders crowdsource innovative solutions.*

Bellevue, WA – May 2026 – BC Urban Hive has recently announced Civic Innovation Through You (CITY), a new civic innovation platform to prompt users to participate in improving the city! Being available on the web and mobile devices for on the go, the app is designed for citizens who want a more engaging and transparent way to collaborate on innovative ideas for the city of Bellevue. With easy accessibility and gamification, CITY turns civic engagement into an ongoing habit rather than a once-a-year event.

City officials and residents do not have an effective means of communicating and engaging together in community based problem solving. Garnering civic engagement from citizens is challenging. Citizens don't know what options they have or otherwise do not connect with these current options.

Our civic engagement portal aims to fix this by restructuring these interactions to be more casual and socially focused. At the heart of the platform is a forum where citizens can come together to discuss ideas and solutions to community identified challenges and improvement ideas. The portal includes an idea submission form, community voting, and Reddit-style discussions with upvoting for good ideas. Engagement will be further encouraged with gamification where users can earn and display badges based on the contributions they make on the platform.

*"Communities thrive when everyday voices are not only heard but celebrated. We built the Civic Innovation Idea Portal to transform civic engagement from a formal obligation into a social experience—one that feels approachable, rewarding, and fun. By combining open forums, community voting, and gamified recognition, we're giving citizens the tools to turn casual conversations into collective action. This isn't just about ideas; it's about building a culture where participation is second nature." — Morgan Patel, Head of Product Innovation*

To get started, a customer simply signs up for an account and begins contributing. At the core of the platform is a Reddit-style forum where community-submitted topics become the foundation for discussion. Citizens can share ideas, debate solutions, and upvote the proposals they support. The city can also post issues or initiatives, making participation as easy as clicking a few buttons. New ideas can be submitted for review and, if approved, added as forum topics for broader engagement. To encourage ongoing involvement, the platform awards digital merit badges—similar to "I Voted" stickers—that users can proudly display and share on social media, turning civic participation into a visible and rewarding experience.

*"The current City of Bellevue complaint app feels like filling out a form at the DMV—I have to double-check every detail, and it feels like I'm alone talking to a giant government machine.*

*Honestly, it feels more like tattling than contributing. With the Civic Innovation Idea Portal, I finally feel like I'm part of a community conversation. It turns civic engagement into something collaborative and motivating instead of isolating.* — Emily Chen, Bellevue Resident

To learn more, go to [Provide a URL or other information on the first place a customer should go to get access to the product/service].

## [FAQ \[Max 2-page\]](#)

### **External FAQ**

An external FAQ, which addresses questions that customers and other external stakeholders might ask (e.g. would Whisernet be available in all regions at launch?)

1. How do I start using Civic Innovation Through You?
  - a. First, you would have to sign up and there will be a button to start submitting ideas and opinions.
2. Is the Civic Innovation Through You free to use?
  - a. Yes, the platform will be free to use.
3. What languages are supported?
  - a. We currently have English as the default language, but we plan on adding other languages in the future.
4. How long will it take to hear a response?
  - a. It should take around two weeks or so for the city officials to review submissions.
5. Is the Civic Innovation Through You for residents only?
  - a. Yes, we highly encourage citizens of Bellevue to be the core of participation and collaboration in civic ideas.

### **Internal FAQ**

An internal FAQ, which addresses questions that internal stakeholders might ask (e.g. what's the estimated bill of materials for manufacturing this widget?)

1. What will customers like least about Civic Innovation Through You?
  - a. TBD
2. What are the privacy concerns?
  - a. The portal will only take information provided by the user, only using location to verify that the user is located within Bellevue. Posting will not require giving away any personal information.
3. What are the hosting requirements for this project?
  - a. The civic innovation portal will be a web application and therefore will be hosted on AWS, allowing for scalable hosting.
4. What will convince people to interact with the portal?
  - a. Users will be encouraged to interact with the portal by integrated gamification and the social aspect of interacting with other community users.
5. How will we verify that users are local to the Bellevue area?

- a. We will verify that users are local to the Bellevue area before they are allowed to post via location services and during account creation.
- 6. How much upkeep will this service require?
  - a. The portal will require light moderation to verify that posts are on task and related to civic innovation.
- 7. Is there already a similar service available to Bellevue Citizens?
  - a. Yes, there is a Bellevue complaint portal where you can report problems in Bellevue, however ours is more focused on civic innovation and has more of a social aspect.
- 8. How long will this take to be ready for the public?
  - a. We expect this to be ready for the public around May 2026