



THE EXCHANGE

Northwest

ExchangeNW.org

June 3, 2026 | Meydenbauer Center





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We're glad you're here. The Civic Innovation Exchange brings together people from all walks of life—community leaders, public servants, educators, technologists, business owners, start-ups, students, problem-solvers, and neighbors—who care about making our communities better. This event is a chance to exchange ideas, learn from one another, and explore new ways to tackle community challenges. Whether you're here to listen, speak, or build something new, we hope you leave inspired to build with the Exchange.

Agenda | Wednesday | June 3, 2026

Time/ Room	Description and Speakers
9:00 a.m. 404-406	Welcome to Bellevue Lynne Robinson, Council Member, City of Bellevue Claudia Balducci, Council Member, King County Bill Kehoe, Chief Information Officer, Washington State Diane Carlson, City Manager, City of Bellevue
9:15 a.m. 404-406	Opening Keynote Kicking off the day, Shannon Braddock charts a regional path to inclusive growth. Connecting innovation, talent and investment, Shannon will share how public-private collaboration can turn strategy into quality jobs and resilient communities, and how Greater Seattle's ecosystem welcomes "uncommon thinkers" to build what's next. Expect practical moves partners can apply immediately to amplify impact across the region. Shannon Braddock, President and CEO of Greater Seattle Partners
9:45 a.m. 404-406	Connecting Technology, Talent, and Community Impact This executive plenary brings together senior leaders from higher education, industry, and government to align on the region's next chapter of people-centered innovation. The conversation focuses on practical ways to connect technology, talent, and community impact while highlighting the Pacific Northwest's momentum and shared commitment to our communities. Facilitated by Rob Lloyd, Executive Director of Center for Digital Government David May, President of Bellevue College Michael Mattmiller, General Manager, Microsoft Arry Yu, Chair, Advanced Technologies Cluster, Washington Technology Industry Association (WTIA)
10:30 a.m. 404-406	Case Study Mobility Washington 2050: The Future in Motion Bart Treece, Director of the Mobility Innovation Center Andrea Figueroa, Data Scientist, Mobility Innovation Center

10:45-11:15 a.m. Networking Break



Breakout Sessions: 11:15 a.m.

Time/ Room	Description and Speakers
<p>11:15 a.m. 404-406</p>	<p>Enhancing Regional AI Leadership and Driving Civic Innovation Catalyzing a Culture of Innovation: A Regional Dialogue</p> <p>Government, industry, start-ups, and higher-ed leaders dialog to share what’s working, what’s missing, and the norms we need to scale inclusive innovation across the region. Observers capture insights, then the whole room co-creates a concise set of guiding principles and a “North Star” statement for the region.</p> <p>Facilitated by Gretchen Peri, Washington State Chief Technology Officer Pradnya Desh, Chairperson of Bellevue College Board of Trustees Joe Fain, President and CEO of Bellevue Chamber Emily Fletcher, Associate VP, Challenge Seattle</p>
<p>11:15 a.m. 407-408</p>	<p>Driving Civic Innovation Civic Innovation In Action</p> <p>Participants share inspirational examples of effective collaboration and innovation deployed to serve the public good. Case studies, followed by a moderated panel about commonalities of effective partnerships and QA with the audience.</p> <p>Facilitated by Stephen Heard, Chief Information Officer, King County John McLeod, Account Executive, Workday Anna Gonzalez, Account Executive, Google Callie Goldsby, Chief Information Officer, Department of Commerce James Galvin, AI and Emerging Tech Lead, WATech</p>
<p>11:15 a.m. 401-402</p>	<p>Building Business and Community Resources for Small Businesses from Cities, Counties, and the State</p> <p>Small businesses power our region, and strong support systems help them launch and grow. This panel spotlights regional leaders who will share key tools, training, advising, and financial resources. They will share practical guidance on accessing technical assistance, navigating permitting, and lowering barriers for new and emerging entrepreneurs.</p> <p>Facilitated by Jesse Canedo, Chief Economic Development Officer, City of Bellevue Corbin Hart, Business Development Manager, City of Bellevue Ashis Joshi, Economic Development Coordinator, City of Bothell Tammy Deets, Small Business Export Assistance, WA State Lynn Longan, Rural and Marketing Services, WA State</p>
<p>11:15 a.m. 403</p>	<p>Igniting Pathways for Regional Talent Growth Higher Education, Innovation, and Regional Talent Development</p> <p>Higher education is changing quickly as student expectations shift, workforce needs evolve, and new technologies reshape learning. This conversation explores how colleges and universities are adapting through innovative programs, improved transfer and career pathways, and stronger regional partnerships.</p> <p>Liz Hollerman, Faculty, Digital Media Arts, Bellevue College</p>

12-1 p.m. Networking Lunch

Breakout Sessions: 1 p.m.

Time/ Room	Description and Speakers
1 p.m. 401-402	<p>Enhancing Regional AI Leadership Thriving in Disruption: Actions and Insights</p> <p>Today's workforce is facing rapid change—from shifting technology to new economic realities. This conversation explores how organizations can turn disruption into resilience. Panelists will examine emerging jobs, skills, the impact of AI, and what it takes to lead teams through constant transformation.</p> <p>Facilitated by Tamara Davis, Chief Technology Officer, King County Jake Hesselgesser, Interim Director of Development Services, Bellevue Fatma Cemile Serçe, Dean of Science, Bellevue College Joydeep Hazra, Program Director South Seattle College</p>
1 p.m. 407-408	<p>Driving Civic Innovation Building Innovative Infrastructure, Human and Digital</p> <p>Successful AI in government depends on the infrastructure that supports them. This session highlights the essentials of a secure, scalable foundation: quality data, modern systems, strong governance, AI-ready cybersecurity, and a skilled workforce. Panelists will also underscore the most critical element, the people who make the work possible</p> <p>Facilitated by PJ Rodriguez Assistant Director IT, Bellevue Shannon Smith, Incoming Chief Technology Officer, Seattle Onur Bakiner, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Technology Ethics Initiative, Seattle University Boaz Ashkenazy, Senior Director AI Infrastructure, Redapt Inc. Blake Presswood, Director, CrowdStrike</p>
1 p.m. 403	<p>Building Business and Community AI for Small Business: The Human Side</p> <p>If you don't know where to start with AI in your business, you're in good company. Most small business owners are stuck at the same starting line. Join this practical workshop on the human side of AI most talks skip, and leave with five steps you can start taking in June.</p> <p>Nikki Belt, Anchor & Keel Small Business Advisors</p>
1 p.m. 404-406	<p>Igniting Pathways for Regional Talent Growth AI, Innovation, and the Future of Learning</p> <p>This panel brings together educators from local colleges and K-12 schools to explore how AI and innovation are reshaping teaching, learning, and student preparation. Panelists will discuss how emerging technologies are influencing classroom practices, shifting skill expectations, and transforming educational pathways. The conversation will highlight what students need now and how institutions are adapting for the future.</p> <p>Co-facilitated by Sara Farag, Faculty/Chair, Computer Science, Bellevue College Paul Churchill, Student, Computer Science, Bellevue College</p> <p>Panelists: Dr. Torsten Grabs, CS Faculty, Bellevue College Dr. Ben Pryor, Acting Provost, Bellevue College Neil Kumar, FindIT AI, Student at Bellevue High Dani Ward, Computer Science Developer, Bellevue School District Dr. Mike Potter, Vice President, Lake Washington Institute of Technology Dr. Peter Bang-Knudsen, National Executive K-12 Strategy, T-Mobile</p>

1:45-2 p.m. Networking Break

Breakout Sessions: 2 p.m.

Time/ Room	Description and Speakers
2 p.m. 407-408	<p>Enhancing Regional AI Leadership and Driving Civic Innovation Regional Challenges and AI</p> <p>Can AI help the region tackle some of it's biggest challenges? This fishbowl conversation explores emerging tools that support housing affordability, improve transportation flow, and enhance public-safety. Panelists discuss real opportunities, limitations, and responsible use—highlighting practical, community-focused innovations that can help cities move faster.</p> <p>Facilitated by Joe Todd, Deputy City Manager, Bellevue WA Steve Braaten, Chief Architect, Khasm Labs Saf Rabah, Founder and CEO of GovStream.ai</p>
2 p.m. 401-402	<p>Building Business and Community Lovable 101: Your First AI App</p> <p>New to Lovable? In this hands-on session, you'll build your very first AI-powered app — step by step, no experience needed. Bring an idea, follow along, and leave with something real. Laptops are required for this hands on workshop.</p> <p>Suha Turmizi, Lovable Ambassador and Founder of AIChai</p>
2 p.m. 404-406	<p>Igniting Pathways for Regional Talent Growth Industry Perspectives — Talent Needs, Emerging Trends, and Partnership Opportunities</p> <p>This panel discussion features educators talking about emerging technologies, and the skills needed for the future. This session connects the education conversation to regional economic development and employer needs.</p> <p>Co-facilitated by Lisa Harris, Faculty, Chair, Business and Technology, Bellevue College and Wen Yin, Student, President, TechBizClub, Bellevue College</p> <p>Panelists: Janice Zahn, State Representative 41st Legislative District Brian Biege, Executive Vice President, CBRE Olva Opedal, Full-Stack Data Scientists MTS, T-Mobile Emily Parkhurst, Founder and CEO, Formidable Media Louise Petruzzella, Executive Director of Workforce Partnerships, Bellevue College Cher Rowland Henton, Chief Business Development Offices, CostQuest Associates</p>

2:45-3:15 p.m. Networking Break



Time/ Room	Description and Speakers
3:15 p.m. 404-406	<p>View from the State</p> <p>Washington State CIO Bill Kehoe will reflect on the day's insights and highlight how statewide digital leadership can strengthen regional collaboration, responsible innovation, and public trust. He'll leave attendees with a clear call to action on how government, education, and industry can work together to ensure emerging technologies deliver meaningful, equitable impact for communities across Washington.</p> <p>Bill Kehoe, Chief Information Officer, Washington State</p>
3:30 p.m. 404-406	<p>Closing Keynote</p> <p>In a moment when AI is transforming every sector and raising real fears about jobs, disruption, and who will benefit, Dustin Li from Anthropic invites the region to imagine a future where technology expands opportunity rather than limits it. Dustin will explore how businesses, governments, educators, and communities can work together to ensure AI strengthens our workforce and economy.</p> <p>Dustin Li, Anthropic</p>
4 p.m. 404-406	<p>Closing Workshop Building the Exchange Together</p> <p>This collaborative session invites all attendees to help shape where the Exchange should go next. With many early goals already in motion, we'll explore emerging priorities and shared challenges and we want to hear your ideas. Together, we'll surface potential actions, partnerships, and areas where we can make a meaningful impact together. Your ideas build our community.</p> <p>Stephen Heard, Chief Information Officer, King County Gretchen Peri, Washington State Chief Technology Officer Sabra Schneider, Chief Information Officer, Bellevue</p>
4:30 p.m. 401, 402, 403	<p>Advising for Small Businesses and Start Ups</p> <p>Dedicated support for small businesses, startups, Lovable users, and those needing permitting guidance will be available during the late-afternoon reception. Participants can sign up for brief appointments with small-business advisors, startup specialists, and permitting experts in Room 403. An open lab for emerging Lovable skills will be offered in Rooms 401-402. Attendees are encouraged to use this support window to ask questions, gain insights, and connect with advisors who can help them navigate their next steps.</p>
4:30 p.m. 404-406	<p>Networking Reception</p> <p>Enjoy a relaxed opportunity to meet fellow attendees, connect with sponsors, exchange ideas, and build relationships, with light refreshments available on the balcony (weather permitting) and outside Room 405.</p>

Event concludes at 6 pm.

Sponsors



Thank you to our sponsors, speakers, and partners for championing equitable innovation across the region. Your support and engagement are making a meaningful impact in the civic technology community, and we're grateful for the thoughtful exchange of ideas you continue to inspire.