Real Estate Report for

Westhill & Maywood

2023 YEAR END REVIEW & 2024 PREDICTIONS





ESTATE DONE RIGHT RFA

www.TheZehmTeam.com



# 2023 Bothell Market Review

WITH KAREN & AARON

Last year was tough for a lot of buyers and sellers. Between wrestling with the housing shortage and watching interest rates rise through most of the year, many would-be home buyers were priced out of their market or out-competed by others. At the same time, many sellers who wanted to move instead held back, further restricting our available inventory.

Will this gridlock ease in the coming year? There are several key issues to watch, and we have outlined them in our 2024 predictions on the next page. As the market develops, we will keep sending you information so you can stay in the loop.

Don't wait to start talking about your strategy with your friendly real estate professional. We are ready to help you determine the best move and strategies for YOU! *Give us a call for a complimentary market analysis of your Bothell home.* 



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## JUST SOLD IN BOTHELL

We follow every single listing and sale in Bothell. Here are some of the last sales of the year that we found interesting. Can you spot a neighbor or a house like yours?



LISTED AT \$997,000 BY JOHN L. SCOTT, INC. SOLD FOR \$997,000 BY HORIZON REAL ESTATE JUST 2 DAYS ON THE MARKET!

MLS# 2162447



2323 241<sup>st</sup> ST SE

LISTED AT \$1,495,000 BY WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE M2 LLC SOLD FOR \$1,635,000 BY RE/MAX INTEGRITY CLOSED \$140,000 OVER LIST PRICE!

MLS# 2168968



LISTED AT \$1,399,000 BY SKYLINE PROPERTIES, INC. SOLD FOR \$1,437,500 BY SHOPPROP INC. CLOSED \$38,500 OVER LIST PRICE! MLS# 2180251



23603 23RD AVE SE

LISTED AT \$1,894,000 BY JOHN L. SCOTT EVERETT SOLD FOR \$1,894,000 BY SKYLINE PROPERTIES, INC. CLOSED FOR 100% LIST PRICE! MI S# 2068973

# JUST SOLD IN Maywood Hills

## CLOSED OVER LIST PRICE



LISTED AT \$785,000 BY PROFESSIONAL REALTY SERVICES SOLD FOR \$795.000 BY REDFIN MLS# 2166587



LISTED AT \$775,000 BY WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE M2 LLC BY RSVP REAL ESTATE-ERA POWERED SOLD FOR \$793.500 BY WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE/HLC MLS# 2175513



9933 NE 204<sup>TH</sup> PLACE

LISTED AT \$850,000 SOLD FOR \$860.000

BY JOHN L. SCOTT MILL CREEK MLS# 2166525

### ON THE MARKET 14 DAYS OR LESS



#### 9510 NE 201<sup>st</sup> ST

LISTED AT \$675,000 BY WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE M2 LLC SOLD FOR \$675.000 BY KELLY RIGHT RE OF SEATTLE LLC MLS# 2178645



#### 19621 109TH PLACE NE

LISTED AT \$1,300,000 BY WILSON REALTY EXCHANGE SOLD FOR \$1.300.000 BY KELLY RIGHT RE OF SEATTLE LLC MLS# 2163788



20043 96TH AVE NE

LISTED AT \$765,000 BY JOHN L. SCOTT, INC. SOLD FOR \$750.000 BY REAL RESIDENTIAL MLS# 2168243

## **CLOSED OVER \$1 MILLION**



LISTED AT \$1,550,000 BY COLDWELL BANKER BAIN SOLD FOR \$1,480,000 BY SNOQUALMIE VALLEY REAL ESTATE MLS# 2156418



19603 109<sup>TH</sup> CT NE

LISTED AT \$1,385,000 BY WILSON REALTY EXCHANGE SOLD FOR \$1.335.000 BY WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE/EAST MLS# 2174837



#### 10209 NE 198<sup>TH</sup> ST

LISTED AT \$1,060,000 BY WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE/EAST SOLD FOR \$1,020,000 BY HALLMARK REALTY MLS# 2162091



## JUST SOLD IN Westhill

## SOLD FOR 100% LIST PRICE OR MORE



LISTED AT \$1,250,000 By Windermere Real Estate Co. SOLD FOR \$1,250,000 By Windermere Real Estate/East MLS# 2157383



LISTED AT \$875,000 By Keller Williams Downtown Sea SOLD FOR \$900.000 By John L. Scott, Inc. MLS# 2163011



8804 NE 185<sup>TH</sup> St

LISTED AT \$749,000 By Marketplace Sotheby's Intl Rty SOLD FOR \$815,000 By HomeSmart Real Estate Assoc MLS# 2174162

## ON THE MARKET 14 DAYS OR LESS



#### 19108 93<sup>RD</sup> Place NE

LISTED AT \$950,000 By John L. Scott, Inc. SOLD FOR \$895,000 By Kelly Right RE of Seattle LLC MLS# 2163507



LISTED AT \$1,345,000 By Armada Homes Real Estate LLC SOLD FOR \$1.355.000 By Windermere Real Estate Co. MLS# 2170283



LISTED AT \$959,950 By Keller Williams Realty Bothell SOLD FOR \$959.950 By TEC Real Estate Inc. MLS# 2140226

## **CLOSED OVER \$1 MILLION**



17823 88<sup>TH</sup> Ave NE

LISTED AT \$1,200,000 By Around the Clock Inc. SOLD FOR \$1.065.000 By Keller Williams Greater Seattle MLS# 2132017



17823 88<sup>TH</sup> Ave NE

LISTED AT \$1,168,000 By Windermere Real Estate M2 LLC SOLD FOR \$1.110.000 By Keller Williams Greater Seattle MLS# 2154162



18138 94<sup>TH</sup> Ave NE

LISTED AT \$1,899,950 By Windermere R.E. Northeast, Inc SOLD FOR \$1.850.000 By Bushnell Real Estate Solutions MLS# 2165187

## Our Clients' Success:



## 17617 NE 92nd Ct Unit #2 Avondale, Redmond

3 Beds | 2.5 Baths | 1,455 sq. ft. MLS: # 2163090

## Sold for \$825,000

Sellers represented by Karen & Aaron Zehm

#### OUTSTANDING REALTORS WHO EXCEEDED ALL EXPECTATIONS!

I cannot speak highly enough about the incredible job that the Zehm Team did in selling our home. From the very beginning of our journey to the successful sale, they exhibited a level of professionalism, expertise, and dedication that left us thoroughly impressed.

One of the standout aspects of working with the Zehm Team was their exceptional talent for home staging, which is included in their service. They transformed our property into a captivating and inviting space that showcased its full potential. Their keen eye for design and understanding of what appeals to potential buyers was evident in every corner of our home. The transformation was nothing short of miraculous!

~Cheryl Lilli



Downtown Bellevue

2 Beds | 1.75 Baths | 1,457 sq. ft. MLS: # 2139503

## Sold for \$1,100,000

Sellers represented by Karen & Aaron Zehm



Cottage Lake, Woodinville

4 Beds | 3.25 Baths | 4,600 sq. ft. MLS: # 2044870

Sold for \$1,350,000

Sellers represented by Karen & Aaron Zehm

# Our Real Estate Market

	King County	
New Listings	3,115	
Sold Listings	3,484	
Highest sales price	\$14,700,000	
Median Sales Price	\$878,000	
Lowest Sales Price	\$110,000	
Sale-to-List Price Ratio	99.6%	
🔊 Avg. Price per Square Foot	\$526	
Average Days on Market	27	

## Maywood 4<sup>TH</sup> Qtr:



17 Closed Listings \$1,020,000 Median Sales Price 13 Average Days on Market Stats from the NWMLS for King & Snohomish County, City of Bothell, and Area 610 - communities of Westhill and Maywood for residential properties.

Snohomish County	Bothell	
1,424	137	
1,629	163	
\$5,000,000	\$2,140,000	
\$705,000	\$1,135,000	
\$128,001	\$630,000	
99.7%	100.2%	
\$399	\$483	
26	20	

## Westhill 4<sup>TH</sup> Qtr:



16 Closed Listings \$929,975 Median Sales Price





Our decades of experience through all kinds of markets, including the Great Recession of 2008, allow us to focus on some of the most important factors as we enter the 2024 market. Here are our top 5 things to watch in Bothell this year:

## MORTGAGE INTEREST RATES

Mortgage rates have seen a dramatic increase in the last 18 months. It is amazing to think that just three years ago in 4th Qtr 2020 we had reached a historic low of 2.68%. According to FreddieMac.com, rates topped out in October of 2023 at 7.79%. Since then, we have seen a decrease with rates hitting 6.62% as of January 4th (a big shift over just a few weeks).

Furthermore, the Federal Reserve indicated that with inflation easing, they expect to cut their key interest rate three times in 2024, which may bring mortgage rates down further. We anticipate these factors motivating more sellers and buyers to return to the market. This may escalate market conditions quickly with pent-up demand.

## HOUSING INVENTORY

The US population is still growing. For well over a decade, builders have not been able to build the minimum number of housing units needed to keep up with our growing numbers and each year, the deficit has been increasing. We only get housing inventory from three sources: new construction, resale, and foreclosures. New construction numbers aren't keeping up, foreclosure numbers are very low (well below pandemic levels and 2008-2012 levels), so the only other place inventory can come from is resale.

Homeowners have been reluctant to sell and give up their low interest-rate mortgages and therefore, the number of sales has been low. There are many homeowners who would have moved sooner as their current living situation is not ideal. There is pent-up demand to sell. For that reason, we expect a flurry of listing and selling activity to follow future drops in mortgage interest rates.

Average interest rates as reported by FreddieMac.com for a fixed-rate 30-year mortgage. These predictions are an educated guess based on current conditions. There is no guarantee that the market will perform as predicted.

## HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

An anticipated flurry of activity and high demand will cause housing affordability to continue to be a challenge despite mortgage interest rate decreases. With demand staying high, we expect prices to continue to increase, which will to cut further into homebuying budgets. First time homebuyers are especially impacted since they don't have real estate equity to assist with their jump into their next home.

### **NEW CONSTRUCTION**

Interestingly enough, despite our inventory shortages, 32% of builders with product on the market are currently cutting prices or adding incentives. About a third of builders rely on floating interest rate loans to fund their projects. They must move standing product as the cost of carrying the loans for these products has been high with the rising interest rates over 2023. *This means there is opportunity to buy standing inventory right now.* 

Builders are concerned about new project costs and may wait to move forward on future projects in 2024. Although the price of materials has softened, labor costs have stayed steady. These factors will not help our inventory levels, but a decline in interest rates will raise buyer confidence.

### NUMBER OF SALES

2023 has shaped up to have the lowest number of sales since 2008, which was caused by resale gridlock. (You can check the stats to see how few listings sold this year over last year.) I expect to see an increase in the number of home sales in 2024 with frustrated sellers who wanted to sell in 2022 and 2023 enter the market with the decline in interest rates, but this will not be a substantial increase.

In summary, the 2024 real estate market will provide some relief to mortgage rate-wary sellers and buyers, but challenges with affordability will continue due to elevated demand for the number of homes available in the market.

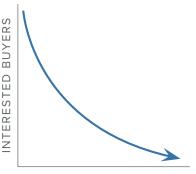
As the 2024 market develops, we'll keep sending you information so you can stay in the loop. Send us your questions about the market and timing, and we can tailor a plan to put you in the best position for 2024.

Services for Sellers Our Plan for a Successful Home-Selling Experience



Determining the right price for your home is one of the most critical aspects of marketing. It's true! A home that looks great and is priced along with other similar homes will be perceived as a good value, generating the most interested buyers.

We will help you set the price and position your property so it stands out in the market.



TIME ON MARKET



High resolution, professional photography will be used to attract the 95% of homebuyers who are searching for properties online. We always have professional photography for the properties we list. Since buyers are searching for homes online first, we want them to be wowed even if they aren't standing on the front porch. If warranted, we will also utilize drone photography.



When it makes sense to do so, we will employ open houses, both traditional and virtual. They can be very effective in getting potential buyers in the door. We also advertise open houses on the NWMLS.





Print Marketing

Buyers love to see visuals of your home and have something to take home with them. Print marketing is also a strong component of our marketing plan. We create house flyers, just listed postcards and a custom homebook.



Complimentary Staging (

Staging is the art of defining each space in your home. The goal is to make the function of each space clear and to make each room flow in an aesthetic way. The goal is also to have items that accentuate your home's best features.

When we list a home, we fully stage it from top to bottom so buyers are wowed through their entire home tour. *Our staging is complimentary!* 



Online Marketing 🎑

Our online marketing plan makes sure that online buyers searching for homes are reached. With advertising on dozens of sites from Zillow, Redfin, REALTOR.com, and more, your listing will be found.

Every property is unique, which is why we create a customized marketing plan to showcase your home's strongest features and make the listing process as stress free as possible for you.



Meet the Zehm Team

## Dedication, Honesty and Integrity

Open and honest communication, a tireless dedication to fulfilling the needs of their clients and a commitment to educating their clients about the real estate process that describes the foundation upon which Aaron and Karen have built their successful real estate business that has been flourishing since 1999.

## Trusted, Local Knowledge

Both Karen and Aaron are Washington natives and are not only familiar with why people want to live in the Pacific Northwest, but also why many of those who leave, eventually return. The Zehms work Seattle, the Eastside and Snohomish County, both condominium and residential markets. In addition, both have taken staging training and investment property analysis training. Aaron is E-Pro certified, a technical program that trains real estate agents to make the most of technology and the internet to best serve and keep in communication with their clients.

## Commitment to Action & Community!

Karen and Aaron share a very active lifestyle and the discipline and commitment required to sustain this lifestyle has them well-prepared for the rigors of real estate. The Zehms are active in their commitment to enriching the community in which they live and work Karen is currently on the board of the Northshore Little League, handling all procurement needs for the league. Both participate annually in the Windermere Community Service Day in which agents in every community served by a Windermere office work on several projects to improve their local neighborhoods.



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## Kind words from our clients:

"Karen and Aaron are Reliable Experts in Real Estate Sales. Their industry knowledge is Complete, Detailed, and Precise. They take Personal Care and Interest to benefit their clients well-being in matters of Real Estate by presenting clear choices and providing certainty where needed and wanted. I have known Karen and Aaron for more than 10 years and have used them in my own personal transactions. I recommend them highly and without hesitancy."

– Mike Derr

"Aaron & Karen make a fantastic team. They sold our old house in Mill Creek, WA after being on the market for a couple of days, and frantically helped us search and buy our new house in Renton, WA. After 2 years we still love it. They went above and beyond the call of duty. The were very professional is all aspects of the process, and knew how to work with us during the frantic moments. We would use them again, and have recommended them to others." "What sets the Zehm Team apart is their commitment to excellence. Within just one day of listing our home, they managed to secure an offer that exceeded our wildest expectations by going above the asking price. It was a testament to their deep understanding of the market, their strategic pricing, and their ability to attract the right buyers.

Throughout the entire process, Karen and Aaron demonstrated unwavering support and a genuine passion for their work. They were always available to answer our questions, provide guidance, and offer reassurance when needed. Their excellent communication and transparency gave us peace of mind during what can be a stressful experience.

Karen and Aaron Zehm are not just real estate agents; they are consummate professionals who go the extra mile to ensure the best possible outcome for their clients. Their results speak for themselves, and we couldn't be more pleased with the sale of our home."

— *bob3891* 

- Cheryl Lilli (Continued from page 7)

For more reviews, visit the website: www.thezehmteam.com/reviews/



Don't wait for the "perfect" market, because it will pass you by before you know it. Let's get ahead of the next wave and make a plan for the new year. Look inside for our 2024 market predictions!



Caren & Claron

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