



Grant Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Fall 2013

GPNA Meetings Schedule Changed

In our ongoing efforts to make Grant Park Neighborhood Association accessible to our community, GPNA is adjusting our meeting schedule.

Going forward, Board Meetings will be held quarterly, on the second Tuesday of the month. General Meetings will be held biannually, also on the second Tuesday of the month. However, if a topic requires it, a Special Meeting can be called at any time. All meetings are open and everyone is welcome to attend any meeting. However, if you have a topic to bring up, you are encouraged to email the board at GPNA@necoalition.org, or contact a board member to get onto the agenda.

GPNA's Online Presence

Are you confused about the Grant Park Neighborhood Association's online presence? Not sure where you might go to find or share neighborhood information? Below is a guide to the current GPNA web presence.

Our web site

(www.grantpark-na.org)

This is the official web site for GPNA. It hosts meeting schedules and minutes, the organization's charter and board membership, general information and select notices from third parties.

Facebook & Twitter

(www.facebook.com/GrantParkNeighborhood)

This is GPNA's Facebook page, for news and announcements. Residents are welcome to add content they think of interest to the neighborhood, or follow us to keep up with what's going on. People who "like" our page will also be able to post stories and/or pictures that might be relevant or interesting to the neighborhood. GPNA updates on Facebook are also automatically posted to our twitter feed at <https://twitter.com/GPNAPortland>.

Grant Park Discussion Forum

(<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/gpna-forum>) This is a Google Group designed to facilitate ongoing neighborhood conversations. This format is better suited to longer term discussions of specific issues, and it affords a greater degree of privacy than Facebook. A free Google account is required for access to the group.

At heart these sites are about providing space where Grant Park residents can keep each other informed about what's going on in the neighborhood, and discuss and identify our interests. Whether it is to follow, join, or start a conversation you are welcome to drop by.

www.grantpark-na.org

IN THIS ISSUE

Grant Park Village
Grant Bowl
Vandalism
Street Repair
PTA Fund Raiser
and more ...

NEXT GPNA MEETING

Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2013
7:00 pm - General
Grant Park Church
2728 NE 34th Ave
(at Knott)

Grant Park Neighborhood Association is open to ALL persons living within its boundaries. If something prevents you from participating, please contact a Board member and we'll make accommodations.

AGENDA

To see the agenda for our next meeting, or to suggest an agenda topic, please go to our web site at: <http://grantpark-na.org/thehood/meetings.html>

FUTURE MEETINGS

Second Tuesday of the month.

Sept 10, 2013 - Board Meeting
Oct 8, 2013 - General Meeting
Dec 10, 2013 - Board Meeting
Mar 11, 2014 - Board Meeting
Apr 8, 2014 - General Meeting
Jun 10, 2014 - Board Meeting

GPNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President:

vacant

Vice President:

Ron Laster

Treasurer:

KC Davenport - Newsletter

Secretary:

Mary Cal Hanson

Communications:

Brian Cefola - Webmaster

At Large:

Justin de Ruyter • Cliff Gibbs •
Stephanie Henstead •
Ken Peterson - Land Use

Contact the board at:
GPNA@necoalition.org

Grant Park Village Update

Construction is well under way at the old Albina Fuel site, renamed Grant Park Village. This first phase is scheduled to be finished in Fall 2014.

As a part of this project, Capstone Partners LLC obtained permission to install a light at the corner of 32nd Ave and Broadway. The signal will be timed to coordinated with other signals on Broadway. It will also have a left-turn from Broadway option. GPNA wrote a letter in support and testified in favor of the zoning change that will allow the signal after considering the issue at a regular meeting.

Current plans are to reconfigure NE Broadway between 32nd and 33rd so that there is a continuous turn lane between NE 32nd & 33rd. Currently, eastbound left-turn queues from the traffic signal at NE 33rd Ave often extend beyond the available storage, impeding eastbound through traffic. The reconfiguration should help eliminate this problem.

Whenever possible, the project contractor will inform nearby neighborhoods of possible disruptive activity (traffic, noise, etc). We will post the info at: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/gpna-forum>.



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Speed Reduced on Knott

As was noted in the summer GPNA newsletter, multiple neighborhood groups have expressed concerns about speeding cars on NE Knott St and the resulting risks to pedestrian safety and the degradation of the neighborhood. With few stop signs, and no traffic lights, this stretch of Knott is often seen by drivers as a much more efficient route than nearby arterial streets.

A petition to reduce the 30 mph speed limit on NE Knott St west of NE 33rd Ave was circulated by concerned neighbors, and widely supported in the affected area.

The issue was discussed at the June GPNA meeting where a letter of support for the proposal to decrease the speed limit to 25 mph on that stretch of NE Knott was unanimously approved. The issue was then taken before the NE Coalition of Neighborhoods Transportation and Safety Committee, where the proposed change was also unanimously supported.

With this support, the grass roots efforts of these neighborhood groups have convinced the Portland Department of Transportation (PDOT) to reduce the designated speed on this section of Knott. New 25 mph speed limit signs are already in place.

This is a small victory for safety and livability in our neighborhood, and it is a start, but it is clear that many vehicles still treat NE Knott St as a highway rather than a street in a residential neighborhood.

Efforts are being undertaken throughout the city to improve the quality of neighborhoods through traffic calming. Let's hope we can all continue to share our ideas and efforts, and working together we can make all of our neighborhoods more livable.



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Vandalism in the Neighborhood

Recently, in multiple eastside neighborhoods, including Grant Park, residents are reporting tire puncture vandalism. Most commonly, the street-side tires are punctured on the sidewall, making them impossible to repair.

Remember these tips to keep your vehicles secure:

- If possible, park off-street and/or in a garage.
- Keep your car locked and empty – a “showroom clean” car is much less likely to be broken into.
- Keep an eye on your neighborhood. If you are up early or late, take a look outside your windows.
- Leave your porch lights on at night.
- If you see suspicious persons or activity call the police non-emergency number at 503-823-3333, and try to get a good description of the suspect.
- If the person is presenting as a threat to you or neighbors, call 911 immediately.
- Always report any crime in progress to 911.

Your crime prevention coordinator can help with additional safety and security advice. Find the crime prevention coordinator who serves your area by visiting www.portlandoregon.gov/oni/cp or by calling 503-823-4064.

School is in Session for Fall 2013

Remember that schools are now in session, so watch out for kids of all ages travelling to and from school.

Schools in our neighborhood:

Grant High School | 2245 NE 36th

8 am - 3 pm

Lunch 11:37 am - 12:19 pm (open campus)

Beverly Cleary Schools:

Fernwood Campus | 1915 NE 33rd

8:30 am - 3 pm | Lunch (closed campus)

Hollywood Campus | 3560 NE Hollywood Ct.

8:30 am - 2:45 pm | Lunch (closed campus)

Lee Owens Pre-school | 2728 NE 34th Ave

8:45 am - 12 noon | Lunch (closed campus)

Save the Date!

Join City Commissioners, Amanda Fritz & Nick Fish, PPS, Nike representatives, and the Friends of Grant Football for the Grant Track & Field Dedication on Friday, September 20, 2013. The ceremony begins at 3:15 pm and will be followed by the Grant vs. Barlow, Varsity Football, homecoming game.



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QFC Bottles & Cans = PTA Money!

Under a newly created program the Beverly Cleary School's PTA can benefit from your bottle and can donations at our local QFC.

This will be a very easy program and potentially a great benefit to school programs. Every Saturday, between 4 pm and 8 pm, there will be a courtesy service person available at QFC to take your donated bottles and cans. Just go into the store and ask for assistance with your donation. The courtesy service person will come out to accept your donation. You can carry your donated bottles and cans to the Can Do spot outside of the south entrance or simply have the courtesy service person collect them directly from your car. They will count the bottles and cans and add it to their tally for the week. Then, the store will write a check to the school for everything returned through the program.

Special thanks to QFC Manager, Roger Dowell; Heather Leeks, President of the Beverly Cleary PTA; and neighborhood resident Steve Lemon, for putting this project together.

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Preventative Street Maintenance

This summer, the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) is planning to repair and seal several streets in NE Portland, including in the Grant Park neighborhood as part of its "Back to Basics" street maintenance program. The thousands of miles of streets in the City of Portland comprise an asset worth nearly \$5 billion. The PBOT maintenance program for 2013-14 intends to maintain more than 100 lane miles of city streets with a variety of treatments. With a new policy approved by the City Council, the Bureau plans to work on residential streets for the first time in four years.

Maintenance crews will first clean the streets, seal cracks in the pavement, and make minor surface repairs. In a later visit, crews will apply a "fog seal" to the street surface. Affected residents will be provided with direct notice before work begins, and streets will be closed while this work is being performed. Before work starts, vehicles parked on the street will need to be moved, and other obstructions such as piles of dirt or dumpsters will need to be cleared.

For more information and maps of which streets will receive work including a rough timeline of "Back to Basics" go to: www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/451483.

Contact PBOT to report street and traffic safety issues on City-maintained streets.

- **24/7 maintenance + repair** - 503-823-1700 or email BOMDispatch@portlandoregon.gov
- **Traffic safety issue** - 503-823-SAFE (7233)
- **Potholes** - 503-823-BUMP (2867)
- **Sidewalk repair issue** - 503-823-1711 or email sidewalkrepair@portlandoregon.gov
- **Street light issues** - 503-865-LAMP (5267)



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NE/SE 20's Bikeway Planning

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) will begin developing design recommendations this fall for the NE/SE 20's Bikeway, which extends 9.1 miles from N Lombard St to the Springwater Corridor. This is a major piece of the City's north-south bicycle network. Thanks to a \$2.5 million federal grant, the project will provide improvements that will interconnect the existing pieces of the route.

North of NE Broadway the route follows NE 28th/29th and 27th Aves which are local residential streets. Key issues here include potential need for traffic calming and how to improve crossing safety of the major east-west collector streets.

South of NE Broadway, the route uses 28th Ave to cross the freeway and makes its way south towards existing bicycle lanes on SE 26th Ave south of SE Clinton St. Higher traffic volumes in this section, point out the potential need for bicycle lanes or alternative alignments to avoid on-street parking impacts.

To help develop the recommendations, PBOT will be assembling a Stakeholder Advisory Committee made up of neighborhood and business representatives, along with other groups. PBOT is currently looking for a representative to serve on this committee from the Grant Park Neighborhood. This phase of the project is expected to run from early fall to winter, with 4 - 6 evening meetings. If you have questions or are interested in participating, please contact Rich Newlands at rich.newlands@portlandoregon.gov or at (503) 823-7780.

Go to the PBOT Bikeways Project web page for more information, project status, and to see maps of the route: www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/62816.

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Early Childhood Parks Programs

Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) is excited to be offering outdoor nature classes for children in N/NE neighborhoods. Early Childhood Programs include:

- Lil' Nature Kids - Ages 3-6
- Nature Recess! - Ages 5-7
- Nature School! - Ages 5-8
- Nuts About Nature - Ages 3-8

If you're interested in these and other great nature programs, head to www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/62972 where you can find more information and register online, call 503-823-3601, or email pkenviromed@portlandoregon.gov.

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L'Arche Portland's Benefit Concert

L'Arche Portland will host its third annual benefit concert, featuring renowned Northwest artists Julianne Johnson and Michael Allen Harrison. The concert is Saturday, October 5, 2013 at 7:30 pm at the Madeleine Parish at 3123 NE 24th Avenue.

"We are deeply honored and grateful to have the generous support of such extraordinary talent," says Tamara Yates, Director of Development and Communications, L'Arche Portland. "We're looking forward to a very magical evening!"

Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. The event will feature a raffle for a 7-day stay at a condo in Las Vegas, with 2 roundtrip Southwest Airlines tickets to anywhere they fly in the continental U.S. All proceeds go directly to support L'Arche Portland's work of building community for people with and without developmental disabilities.

This year's attendees will also enjoy a special guest performance by PHAME Academy, opening music by Portland pianist Robert O'Hearne, and an introduction to L'Arche Portland's new Executive Director, Andrew Noethe. For more information, visit www.larche-portland.org or call 503-251-6901.

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39th Annual Veterans Day parade

Mark your calendar for the annual Ross-Hollywood Veterans Day parade, held November 11 in the Hollywood District. Everyone is invited to attend and show support for active military members, veterans, and families. Vernon E. Ross, then owner of the Ross Hollywood Funeral Chapel, founded the parade to honor all veterans in 1974. Vernon, a veteran of both WWI and WWII, wanted to do something to honor veterans of all wars.

The parade begins at 9:45 am, at NE 40th Ave and Hancock St. and travels east on Sandy Blvd to NE 48th Ave, for a memorial flag raising ceremony.

Parade participants typically includes marching bands, the historic horse-mounted Buffalo Soldiers Moses William Chapter of the 9th and 10th Calvary, military veteran service organizations, and veterans motorcycle organizations. Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops also participate with parents and other military veterans. Last year featured 1,100 marchers.

This year's grand marshal will be the Portland USO Center which opens this November at Portland International Airport. "We support the development of a USO Center in Portland, to give active military, veterans and families a supportive place to gather while passing through PDX," says Angela McKenzie-Tucker, manager of Ross Hollywood Chapel, and parade chairperson.

Following the parade veterans and families also invited to attend a USO-style show and lunch at the Hollywood Theatre, 4122 NE Sandy Boulevard, Portland. Portland's entertainer Tony Starlight, Tony Starlight's Supper Club and Lounge, will perform music from the World War II years and later.

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Free EMSWCD Garden Workshops

The East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (EMSWCD) offers free weekend gardening workshops throughout the region that are led by experienced facilitators and landscape designers. Most include a visit to a neighborhood project to see design principles in action.

Rain Gardens 101

9/21, 9/28, 10/20, 10/26, 11/3, 11/10

Various locations in N/NE Portland

This workshop provides step-by-step details on how to plan, design and build a rain garden.

Naturescaping Basics

9/21, 9/29, 10/5, 10/12, 10/20, 10/26, 11/2

Various locations in N/NE Portland

Naturescaping is the practice of designing (or redesigning) your landscape so that it reduces water use and decreases storm water runoff while saving time, money and energy. Participants will also visit a nearby naturescaped project, and receive a comprehensive workbook and native plant.

Site Planning 1

10/27, 11/9, 11/17

Various locations in N/NE Portland

You will learn how to evaluate your site, map and measure your site, assess your garden style and needs, avoid common pit-falls and prepare a site plan. Participants must have attended the Basic Workshop first.

Advanced registration is required and space is limited. To register for this or other upcoming workshops and events go to: www.emswcd.org/workshops-events/register-for-a-workshop, or for more information, call 503-222-7645.

Pedestrian Safety Quiz

We are all pedestrians at times and we all want to get from here to there safely. But are you aware of your rights and responsibilities as a pedestrian? Do you know Oregon crosswalk laws? Do you know when and where most Portland pedestrian fatalities occur?


Take the Portland Bureau of Transportation's High Crash Corridor Pedestrian Safety Quiz to test your pedestrian safety awareness and know-how, and to learn more, at www.LookBeforeCrossing.org

The first 500 Portland residents (16 years and older only please) that complete the quiz will receive a FREE tote bag that features bold safety reflective material around the perimeter. Limit 1 per household.

Be proactive in your safety whenever walking, rolling, or driving in Portland and keep us all safer!

There are a total of 12 questions in the quiz which should take you about 5 - 10 minutes. If you have questions about this quiz or the City of Portland Bureau of Transportation's High Crash Corridor program contact Sharon White at (503) 823-7100 or sharon.white@portlandoregon.gov.

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Tips for Waterwise Gardening

The Regional Water Providers Consortium (RWPC) has some great free resources to help save water while keeping our gardens green and healthy in the dry summer months. The first step is knowing how much water your garden needs. The Consortium makes that easy by posting a "Weekly Watering Number" (www.conserveh2o.org) that tells you exactly how many inches of water you need for the week, based on the weather in your zip code. You can even sign up to receive the watering number by e-mail.

Here are the RWPC's "Top Five" waterwise tips:

1. Water lawns and gardens early (before 10 am) or late (after 6 pm) when evaporation is minimized.
2. Adjust your sprinklers so that they are watering your lawn and garden, and not the street.
3. Water in several short sessions rather than one long session to allow for better absorption.
4. Raise your mower height to shade to the roots and help retain soil moisture.
5. Group plants with similar watering needs together.

The RWPC is a group of 20+ local water providers plus Metro. For more, visit www.conserveh2o.org.

A Carrotmob Can Help Save Bees?

A Carrotmob is about showing appreciation to businesses that are doing the right thing. Garden Fever is a neighborhood garden shop that has agreed to take all neonicotinoid pesticides off their shelves. Neonics are highly toxic to bees because they are absorbed by the plant and accumulate in pollen and nectar. When bees collect the pollen or nectar, they are poisoned. This is what happened in Wilsonville recently, when 50,000 bumblebees died.

Garden Fever has agreed to stop selling neonics, so let's show our appreciation. Get on your bee colors and join our Carrotmob on October 6. We'll have information about honey bees, native bees and how to grow a bee-friendly garden.

WHERE: Garden Fever Nursery - 3433 NE 24th

WHEN: noon – 4pm, Sunday, October 6, 2013

WHAT TO WEAR: Yellow & black, or dress like a bee

Anyone interested in this or other projects to protect bees, contact Diane Benson, 916-402-5224, beefriendlyportland@gmail.com Find out more at: <http://www.beefriendlyportland.org>



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