



Grant Park

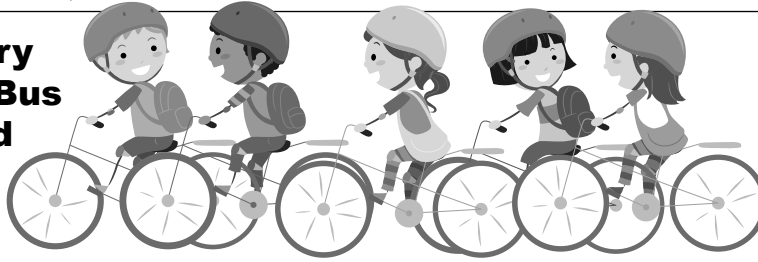
Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Fall 2024

Beverly Cleary School Bike Bus Hits the Road

By Liz Turnbull



The Grant Park neighborhood is

getting a bike bus! Bike buses are taking Portland and the nation by storm, and now Beverly Cleary School students (and their adults) are part of the trend and are enjoying an active, social way of getting to school.

The new BCS Bike Bus launched in September, and it rides weekly on Wednesday mornings between 8:00 and 8:40 am through the Grant Park neighborhood. Check out the noisy, joyful cycling phenomenon on local Neighborhood Greenways and popular cycling routes including Stanton Street, Brazee Street, 38th Avenue and Hancock Street. As interest grows, BCS Bike Bus organizers are hoping to add more routes to serve the entire Beverly Cleary School catchment area.

What Is a Bike Bus?

A bike bus is a fun, active way of getting to school. Students gather with their bikes at points along a fixed route, and adult volunteers lead the way to school. The concept of a bike bus isn't new, but it really took off a couple of years ago when Sam Balto of Alameda Elementary School gained national recognition for the bike bus he started.

What Are the benefits of a Bike Bus?

Bike buses have so many benefits! Students have a chance to be active and social before school begins, which can enhance learning outcomes. Bike buses reduce car traffic around school, increasing pedestrian safety and cutting air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Students learn road safety and an appreciation for active transportation, which are lifelong skills. Some bike buses have become important advocacy voices in their communities, successfully lobbying for safer pedestrian and cycling infrastructure around their schools. The bike bus can help build community and most of all, it's really fun!

How Can Grant Park Neighbors Support the Bike Bus?

First and foremost, please always practice safe driving around schools, along Neighborhood Greenways, and on any road where you as a driver might meet cyclists, scooter riders, or pedestrians. This includes adhering to the 20-mph speed limit on neighborhood streets, checking for cyclists in the bike lane when emerging from a parked car, and using extra caution when making turns.

Second, if you see the Bike Bus, say hi! We love having our families, friends and neighbors cheer us on.

Third, if you encounter the Bike Bus while behind the wheel, please have patience. Some of our younger riders are still learning how to ride predictably, and even with everyone moving together we are still a big group. Please wait until the entire Bike Bus has passed before moving through an intersection. You can use the intervening time to roll down the window and join in the joy.

If you have questions about the Bike Bus, email Liz Turnbull at BCSBikeBus@gmail.com.

www.grantpark-na.org

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- September 10, 2024
- November 12, 2024
- January 14, 2025
- March 11, 2025 (Annual Meeting)
- May 13, 2025

LOCATION:

We are now holding hybrid meetings. The in-person meeting location is Grant Park Church. To obtain the agenda and the Zoom meeting link, go to the meetings page on our website, grantpark-na.org.

MEETINGS:

GPNA holds elections at the Annual Meeting in March. Necessary special or emergency meetings may be scheduled at any time. Meetings are open to the public. If you need special accommodation, please contact a Board member.

GPNA

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President:

Molly Hamill

Vice President:

Ramona Perrault

Secretary:

Kara Caselas

Treasurer:

Kara Caselas

Land Use Chair:

Neon Brooks

Newsletter Editor:

Stacey Tipp

At Large:

*Mary Artz, Jill De Rosa,
Bikram Vaidya, Miro Wesener,
Jake Wicks*

Contact the Board at:

general@grantpark-na.org

Thank You for Supporting Our Neighborhood Newsletter!

Dear Neighbors,

We are excited to announce that our newsletter campaign has raised \$3,658.11 from 53 generous households! Your support is crucial in ensuring the longevity of our newsletter, which plays an essential role in keeping all Grant Park residents informed about important neighborhood updates, events, and community news.

As funding from the city remains limited, your contributions are especially significant. Thanks to you, we can continue producing and distributing the newsletter, helping to maintain a strong, connected community.

We deeply appreciate your generosity and commitment to our neighborhood!

Warm regards,

Molly Hamill - GPNA President
Kara Caselas - GPNA Treasurer

Grant Park Neighborhood Association Needs Fresh Faces as Board Members Retire

By Stacey Tipp

Your Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) board has undergone some recent changes, with the resignations of three highly valued at-large board members. The first of these is Laurene Mullen, who, despite leaving the board, has graciously agreed to continue her long-time job of collating our neighborhood newsletters into manageable delivery routes. The second is Linda Burch, who has done a stellar job as advertising coordinator for the newsletter. And last is Tom Fawell, who has done great work on land use issues and updating and maintaining our social media presence. Thank you all so much! You will be missed.

There are currently five open at-large GPNA board seats, and we need your help to fill them. Our current board members are stretched thin, and there's important work to be done. The GPNA serves as the official liaison between Grant Park residents and the City of Portland, working to keep our neighborhood a great place to live, work and play. We keep neighbors informed, address livability issues, and provide a forum for residents to voice their opinions on neighborhood matters, like the potential lighting of the Grant H.S. Bowl.

As an at-large board member, your main responsibility is to attend meetings and participate in board decisions. Once you're comfortable, you can then take on more responsibility in areas that interest you, such as an officer role or joining one of our committees (land use, livability, technology, or fundraising/events). We also need help with our quarterly neighborhood newsletter.

To join the board, you must be 18 years of age or older, live in Grant Park (as a renter or homeowner), or own property, operate a licensed business, or represent a local business, non-profit, school, or church. One at-large position is available for a student, and the age requirement doesn't apply to school representatives. If you are interested in learning more and potentially joining the board, the best place to start is to come to a meeting. Meetings are held in person at Grant Park Church and via Zoom. You will be warmly welcomed. And, if you are a past GPNA board member, and would like to rejoin the board after taking a break, we would LOVE to have you back! Your experience will be a great asset to us as we move forward.

Contributing to this Newsletter

For information on letters to the editor and how to submit an article to this newsletter, as well as newsletter advertising and advertising rates, please go to the newsletters page on our website:
www.grantpark-na.org



Grant Park
Neighborhood Association



SUBSCRIBE

Head over to www.grantpark-na.org to sign-up to receive future emails about GPNA updates, news, event information and more. (Scroll to the bottom of the homepage to sign-up.)

Your information will be kept confidential and never shared.

Land Use Updates

By Neon Brooks, Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) Land Use Chair

GPNA's land use committee meets quarterly at Grant Park Church and on Zoom! Our next meeting will be on October 30 at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. We also encourage input from all neighbors by email - please feel free to contact me with your thoughts on any of the issues below (or anything else) at gplanduse@gmail.com.

Grant Bowl and Upper Field Updates

Portland Public Schools is in the process of drafting a land use application to install lighting for the Grant Bowl. At our March 12th meeting, GPNA approved a position in support of lighting the bowl, with reasonable mitigations to potential impacts on the immediate neighborhood. Benefits of lighting the bowl include allowing students to miss far fewer instructional hours due to having to repeatedly travel away to practices and games. Also, being able to hold games in the bowl would bring the community together and provide a safe place for neighbors to recreate and exercise after dark. The full statement can be found on the "News and Events" page of the GPNA website.

On September 4th (after this newsletter had gone to press), GPNA held a special community meeting to discuss ways to mitigate potential negative impacts on the neighborhood due to the addition of bowl lights. These include reasonable restrictions on hours of use and noise, sufficient garbage facilities, clear school bus parking rules, and improvements to pedestrian safety on US Grant Place and other neighboring streets. GPNA may take further positions on this topic at upcoming board meetings. We

endeavor to continue to keep neighbors updated on this issue. Please sign up for our email newsletter at <http://grantpark-na.org/contact-us/> to ensure timely updates on this topic.

Transportation and Parking Updates

GPNA is actively working to address speeding and pedestrian safety issues on US Grant Place and Knott Street.

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) completed a detailed safety assessment of US Grant Place in June and has informed us that, pending approvals, they are recommending crosswalks be striped at both 35th and 36th Avenues. GPNA is actively following up on this and we are hopeful that crosswalks can be installed within the year. We also continue to advocate for PBOT to reduce the height of the vegetation in the traffic circles at each of these intersections.

The centerline of Knott Street has been restriped from MLK to Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard; the line will not be restriped East of Cesar Chavez. During this restriping, PBOT also installed a crossbike at the intersection at Knott and 38th Avenue. GPNA is advocating for further changes to Knott Street to improve pedestrian safety, including a crosswalk at NE 32nd Place. We have been told that funds are not available for this project in the current year, but we will continue to advocate and are hopeful that this and other projects can improve speeds and safety on Knott St. going forward.

Update on Gordon's

By Ramona Perrault

On June 12, the Portland City Council voted to foreclose the old Gordon's Fireplace building at NE 33rd and NE Broadway. There is a lien against the property of over \$20,000 for the many code and safety violations the developer has refused to address over the years.

The landowner has 90 days to pay the lien to nullify the foreclosure. Despite several attempts, the Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) has been unable to learn from the City if the lien is still pending. However, the City did disclose that should the foreclosure go through, it would likely sell the property to a new developer. The GPNA did discover a notice of foreclosure sale for the building listed in the Oregonian to take place on September 30. GPNA will provide an update to this ongoing situation in the next newsletter.

Portland Housing Production Strategy Approved

By Ramona Perrault

As regular readers of this newsletter will recall, the Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) has been working to get the word out about the City of Portland's Housing Production Strategy (see 2024 Spring and Summer newsletters at <http://grantpark-na.org/>)

As previously described, the City of Portland must provide the Housing Production Strategy (HPS) to the state by December of this year to encourage the development of over 120,000 housing units by 2045. On August 28, the City Council unanimously approved the HPS.

There are 35 action items in the HPS aimed at reducing barriers to housing. The major themes that run through the strategy include:

continued, page 6



10 years running

- Personal Training
- Group Classes
- Athletic Development

vivefitnesspdx.com

info@vivefitnesspdx.com

1969 NE 42nd Avenue
– Hollywood –

New clients, mention this ad for a free set of travel bands when you meet a trainer for a complimentary consultation*

*while supplies last



*SPECIALIZING IN
EARTHQUAKE ACTIVATED*
**GAS SHUT-OFF
VALVES**

By closing the gas line to your home and preventing a gas leak inside your home, an emergency earthquake shut-off valve is an affordable and efficient way to protect your family from a post earthquake fire or explosion.

Call for your free estimate:

503-282-4424

steve@earthquaketech.com




CCB# OR 106780 WA CC EARTH*863RR

Remember Our Feathered Friends at Halloween

By Carolyn Latierra

The Grant Park neighborhood certainly puts on a spooky display at Halloween. How lucky we are to live in a neighborhood that puts so much effort into decorating and making fabulous seasonal displays for us all to enjoy. But with Halloween just around the corner, do consider the hazard posed to birds by those fibrous fake spiderwebs that drape and dangle.

According to the American Bird Conservancy, these webs can act like a net trapping and potentially injuring unsuspecting birds. The solution is to keep these webs up against a surface where they are less likely to entangle flying birds, or even better, display the webs on the inside of your window rather than the outside. Our feathered friends will thank you for your consideration.

Guitar Lessons
Private Instruction in Grant Park

“A guitar master” – *The Oregonian*
ericskye.com/teaching
503.309.0422

Karen Farmer Landscape Architecture
Residential Landscape Design

KFLAdesign.com

Contact for a free estimate: Karen@kfladesign.com



OR LIC # LA-1088
CA LIC # LA-6152
CR: L552



*Be a Part of
Our Community*

**Attend an upcoming
Grant Park Neighborhood
Association meeting:**

- September 10, 2024
- November 12, 2024
- January 14, 2025
- March 11, 2025 (Annual Meeting)
- May 13, 2025

LOCATION:
We are now holding hybrid meetings.
The in-person meeting location is
Grant Park Church. To obtain the agenda and
the Zoom meeting link, go to the meetings page
on our website, grantpark-na.org.

Portland Housing Production Strategy, continued

- Produce more housing of all types to meet diverse housing needs
- Sustain and increase tax increment financing along with state and federal funding sources
- Continue to streamline the review process and remove code barriers to development
- Increase capacity in “high opportunity areas” in inner centers and corridors – Grant Park is identified as a high opportunity area

There is a very active group called Portland Neighbors Welcome (PNW) that is working to formally identify part of the city for increased capacity, along with its own strategy on how to increase capacity. According to PNW’s website:

Our vision is simple: it should be legal for any residential lot from roughly 12th to 60th, Fremont to Powell, to contribute to a thriving, mixed-income, mixed-use fabric of urban neighborhoods by allowing street-scale apartment buildings. (<https://portlandneighborswelcome.org/>)

Because Grant Park lies within these boundaries, the neighborhood association is actively monitoring developments, and invited PNW to its September 10 board meeting to receive a presentation and discuss their proposal. At this time, the GPNA has not taken a position on the HPS or the PNW proposal. There will be an update on the Portland Neighbors Welcome presentation in the next issue of this newsletter.

Think, Plan, Act Before Disaster Happens

By Molly Hamill

Board President Grant Park Neighborhood Association; Team Lead Grant Park Neighborhood Emergency Team

The definitions of a disaster all include words such as: sudden; unfortunate; unexpected; and destructive. All words that are unsettling and can cause anxiety. Disasters can happen to anyone at any time. The event may seem small to an unaffected individual, but extremely important to the affected person. However, another word that is often used in association with disaster is unprepared.

During my residency in Portland, I have personally been affected by three earthquakes and the eruption of Mt. St. Helens. The earthquakes were far enough away to not cause any damage here, but the shaking was frightening. During the May 18, 1980, eruption of Mt. St. Helens, the ash from the volcano was blown eastward away from Portland and caused adverse consequences to residents of Washington state. The wind did carry ash from later eruptions towards Portland, although the quantities of ash were luckily insignificant enough to not cause a major disaster. During those events, our family had not yet taken the time to plan what we would do in the case of an emergency.

In 2017, our neighborhood formed a Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET). As a trained member of the Portland NET, I learned about the importance of an emergency plan. The NETs have been called out to help with disasters ranging from downed power lines to helping at wildfire evacuation shelters. None of these disasters affected me personally but did adversely affect my community. Knowing that my family had a plan that we had agreed upon in advance allowed me to stay focused and able to help my community.

This is where **Think, Plan, Act** can help you, your family, your neighbors, and community be more prepared and resilient in times of disaster. **Think** about what is important to you and those you most often come in contact with. **Think** about where these people are found every day when they are not at home. **Think** about friends and family who live far enough away to have not been affected but could be the reunification contact for you all.

Next construct a **Plan** that will work for you and is not too complicated or expensive. There are many available templates for your **Plan**. From wallet cards with vital personal information to multiple page booklets with attached copies of all your important papers and photographs. The best **Plan** is the one that you could use if you needed to. It is not static but will change when your situation changes.

Then **Act**. Practice your plan with your family and friends. Make sure your community knows you have a plan. Let any contact know that you have included them. Make a copy of your plan for your Go Bag. **Act** as if planning for the unexpected is a normal part of being a family to ease the stress of the unknown.

For more information, September is National Preparedness Month. Portland’s NE Village (<https://nevillagepdx.org>) will be sponsoring on-line informational sessions for its members.

The Oregon Department of Emergency Management has a new workbook to be used by families, neighbors or communities interested in preparing their households

for possible disasters. It is entitled **Be 2 Weeks Ready** at www.oregon.gov/oem/Be2WeeksReady

Grant Park Neighborhood encompasses 1,366 households with 4,139 residents (2020 U.S. census). This number does not include the number of students, teachers, or day care attendees that are here during a normal school day. Grant Park NET currently has between 6 and 10 active members trained and ready to help when the need arises. Ready to be more involved and become a Portland Neighborhood Emergency Team Member? Go to <https://www.portland.gov/pbem/neighborhood-emergency-teams>.



Grant Park Church

Journeying deeper into the love and knowledge of Christ, and inviting all to join us

Sunday Worship 10:00AM
Minister, Rev. Ari Grubner

We're at 2728 NE 34th Ave.
Visit: www.grantparkchurch.com



WHAT IS YOUR HOME WORTH?

Mark is your experienced agent with in-depth market knowledge who has spent many years in the industry.

With over 1000 homes sold, Mark has the skills, experience, and expertise to sell your property at the best price!

For a FREE instant home valuation *Scan me*

Call Mark Today!
503-807-9911

or visit
www.markcharlesworth.com/homevalue



mark charlesworth
real estate team





@naturalfurniturepdx
**Solid wood.
High quality.**



1510 NE 37th Ave | 503-284-0655

pacificaudiologyclinic

Serving the greater Portland area since 2007

We pride ourselves on honesty, integrity, and serving our community.



Pacific Audiology Providers
Dr. Allison Bradley, Dr. Cris Adams,
Dr. Brittany Stevens, Dr. Oriana
Maldonado & Dr. Lindsey Hill

Woman-owned.

Services:

- Comprehensive Audiologic Assessment for Children and Adults
- Hearing Aid Evaluations and Fittings
- Hearing Aid Cleanings and Repair & Programming (all brands)
- Custom Earplugs for Musicians, Noise, and Sleep
- Assistive Listening Devices

30-Day Trial Period with New Hearing Aids
Most Major Insurances Accepted

3502 NE Broadway Street, Portland, OR 97232
503-284-1906 | pacoregon.com

Resources for Home Upgrades that Can Lower Energy Bills, Cut Climate Pollution, and Increase Home Values

By Will Musser, ElectrifyPDX Volunteer Advocate

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) was signed into federal law back in August 2022, yet still most adults are unaware of the specific benefits available to them from the bill. One of the strongest themes within the IRA is to help Americans upgrade and “electrify” their homes and vehicles through various financial incentives (i.e., federal tax credits and rebates). Simply put, electrification means replacing appliances and vehicles that currently use fossil fuels as their energy source with those that solely use electricity as their source. Examples of these appliances are heat pump systems for space heating and cooling, heat pump hot water systems, induction cooktops, and heat pump dryers. These appliances typically use less energy, and can potentially lower energy bills, reduce indoor air pollution, and increase safety and comfort, all while lowering climate pollution.

Rewiring America is a national nonprofit founded in 2020 to help consumers “Electrify Everything” and their online infographic at rewiring-america.netlify.app explains “why” and “how” to do so. Their homes.rewiringamerica.org portal has links for homeowners and renters to learn more about the various appliances and projects involved, an Incentive Calculator (homes.rewiringamerica.org/calculator) that calculates one’s eligibility for various incentives (tax credits and rebates), and a Personal Electrification Planner (homes.rewiringamerica.org/personal-electrification-planner) that helps households “make a plan” for undertaking these projects. The federal tax credits are available now, while the rebates will likely become available for Oregonians at the end of 2024.

ElectrifyPDX, a local nonprofit (ElectrifyPDX.org), is helping Portlanders electrify their households through several initiatives. Homeowners and renters alike can join ElectrifyPDX’s mailing list to receive electrification tips, resources, and invitations to local events. They also created an Information Sheet (available in English or Spanish) detailing many of the low- or no-cost options for electrification and energy efficiency for income-qualified households. Additionally, in an effort to make electrification efforts more visible in our neighborhoods, households can register online to receive a yard-sign that showcases milestone badges for their progress towards home electrification. ElectrifyPDX also provides contractor recommendations for the Portland area and engages in public outreach through presentations and happy hours in various venues. Please contact them to inquire about these events or support their initiatives.

Electrify Now (electrifynow.net) is another local organization that hosts online webinars about

electrification topics like heat pumps, induction cooking, and solar, and shares them via their YouTube channel (youtube.com/channel/UCqdWmkLFPx10Kz6_KqPt7MQ). Both ElectrifyPDX and Electrify Now are involved with Electrify Oregon (electrifyoregon.org), a grassroots organization comprised of other community organizations around the state with the common mission of helping Oregon households to electrify.

Lastly, Alameda (PDX) resident Will Musser started hosting Electrification Open Houses in August 2022 at his family’s home so that community members can see and experience the technologies of electrification and learn about their benefits up close for themselves. As a result of hosting these events, he has compiled a publicly available resource document for those who are curious about these home upgrades. The PDF can be accessed at tinyurl.com/EOHresources.

Editor’s Note: The material presented here is provided for informational purposes only. It does not constitute an endorsement of any of the programs or initiatives described here, nor an assessment or evaluation of the statements contained here.

BECOME A CULTURAL BRIDGE

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

7/11 to 7/25: Japanese High School Students
 8/11 to 8/31: Japanese & Various International University Students
 8/18 to 9/7 + 9/14: Japanese & Various International University Students
 10/25 to 11/14: Japanese High School Students

International students are coming to practice English, make friends, and experience life as part of an American family. Programs include weekday classes and activities at PSU. Students can commute on public transit. They are excited to spend time with their hosts!

Learn More   @acesportland
 facebook.com/ACESPortland

Apply Now 

Questions? Contact us at aces.org or aces.org exploretheworld.org. 503-675-6898