



Grant Park

Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Winter 2024

Grant Park Neighborhood Association Delighted to Announce Community Partnership with COOPER Design Build

By Stacey Tipp

The Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) is thrilled to share some positive news! Recently, we've been facing financial challenges due to our transition into the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN), a much larger coalition under the new city government structure. This shift has been both stressful and time-consuming, and it came with a significant budget cut – about two-thirds less than we previously received from the city.

As many of you know, we reached out in recent newsletters asking neighbors for donations to help us continue our activities, events, and the publication of this quarterly newsletter. We have been deeply moved and are incredibly grateful for the generosity of those who responded. Thank you all so much!

In addition to the amazing support from our neighbors, we are delighted to announce a new community partnership that will further help sustain our work. COOPER Design Build, a premier luxury home remodeling company, has stepped up to provide an annual gift of \$2,000 to support the GPNA's newsletter and community events.

Founded in 1991, COOPER Design Build is an award-winning, full-service Design Build Remodeler. They handle every part of the remodeling process, from design through construction, specializing in whole-home remodels, gourmet kitchens, primary suites, attics, basements, integrated additions, historic homes, and outdoor living spaces. They've beautifully remodeled several homes in Grant Park, and they pride themselves on their innovative designs, expert craftsmanship, and a collaborative approach that prioritizes transparency and personalized service.

Working with COOPER Design Build—and particularly with their marketing manager, Nicole Baker—has been a pleasure. We're genuinely excited about this partnership and can't wait to see what we can achieve together for our neighborhood!

URGENT: Help Make NE Knott St. Safer for Everyone

By Susan Weedall, Grant Park Neighbor and Member of the
Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) Land Use Committee

THE ISSUE

A dangerous stretch of NE Knott Street between NE 26th and NE 33rd Avenues needs our immediate attention. Current safety concerns include:

- Excessive speeding
- Drivers failing to yield to pedestrians and cyclists
- Multiple reported crashes at side street intersections
- Illegal left turns from northbound NE 33rd onto Knott
- No traffic calming measures or protected crossings for nine blocks

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS IN PROGRESS

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) is considering:

continued page 6

COOPER
DESIGN BUILD

Proud Sponsor of the Grant Park
Neighborhood Association

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- 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:

Vacant

Treasurer:

Kara Caselas

Land Use Chair:

Neon Brooks

Newsletter Editor:

Stacey Tipp

At Large:

Mary Artz, Jill De Rosa,
Ari Grubner, Bikram Vaidya,
David Richardson,
Miro Wesener, Jake Wicks

Contact the Board at:

general@grantpark-na.org

Board Updates

By Stacey Tipp

There have been some recent changes to the composition of the Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) Board. First, Kara Caselas, who has for a long time done heroic double-duty as both board Secretary and Treasurer, recently resigned the Secretary position. We would like to applaud Kara for her hard work and are delighted that she is willing to stay on the board. Thank you, Kara!

We also had two new at-large members join the board. The first is Ari Grubner, the new pastor of Grant Park Church. Ari, seen here trying to wrangle a vocal Irish terrier called Sullivan at the church's annual Blessing of the Animals, was profiled in our Summer 2024 issue.

David Richardson also joined the board at our November meeting. David and his wife Debbie recently moved from Phoenix, AZ and settled into their Grant Part home in late July. He is the proud father of an adult daughter and an adult son and is excited to be closer to his first grandchild. David is a retired CPA and served the last 28 years of his career in the non-profit sector. David has worked with and served on numerous non-profit boards. He enjoys hiking, travel, and spending time with family. He enjoys living in the neighborhood and exploring the many shops and restaurants that are within walking distance. He looks



Ari Grubner (right), with
Sullivan and Sullivan's mom
Lisa Horowitz



David Richardson

forward to contributing to the GPNA board and hopes to help enhance the lives of his new neighbors.

If you are interested in learning more about the GPNA board and the work we do, the best place to start is by coming to a meeting. All our meetings are open to the public. We meet in person at Grant Park Church, and our meetings are always hybrid with a Zoom option. Please remember, the GPNA is NOT a homeowner's association. Neighborhood renters and homeowners alike are welcome to be members of the GPNA. There are no dues or initiation fees. All that's required is a desire to make our neighborhood great. Come join us!

Are Owners Responsible for Sidewalk Maintenance and Clearing?

By Matt Morrissey, Grant Park Neighbor



People of all ages and physical abilities need to be able to walk or use wheelchairs or other assistive devices safely, no matter the weather, on our sidewalks. Keeping sidewalks in good condition is the neighborly thing to do. The property owner is responsible, and liable, for maintaining their sidewalks according to Chapter 17.28.020 Responsibility for Sidewalks and Curbs of the City Code (<https://www.portland.gov/code/17/28#toc--17-28-020-responsibility-for-sidewalks-and-curbs>). Let's make our neighborhood as walkable as possible!

Editor's Note: The opinions expressed here are those of the author.

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.

Winter Home Tips From COOPER Design Build



With the temperatures starting to dip, now is the time to get your home winter-ready! Our home experts offer the following tips to help you avoid weather-related home damage:

1. **Winterize your sprinkler** - Drain the pipes and shut off the water supply to prevent freezing.
2. **Clear the perimeter** - Make sure soil and plants are away from your home to prevent water from pooling and splashing against the siding.
3. **Check for drafts** - Use a candle next to doors and windows to check for gaps.

Are you thinking about a home remodel?

Let's Connect!

CooperDesignBuild.com
info@CooperDesignBuild.com
503-282-0545



Potential Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) Bylaw Changes on the Horizon

By Stacey Tipp

Most people, when you mention bylaws, immediately feel tired, thinking that bylaws are a dreadful snoozefest. But actually, bylaws are important! Clear bylaws that are consistently followed are a key component of a well-run nonprofit like the GPNA.

At our November 2024 meeting, the GPNA board discussed several potential changes to our bylaws. We will discuss these potential changes again at our January 14, 2025, meeting, and vote on them at our annual meeting on March 11, 2025. Please note that ALL members of the GPNA, not just board members, can vote to approve changes to our bylaws.

The most important changes we are discussing are:

1. Expanding the definition of membership in the GPNA to include people who work, but do not live, within our neighborhood boundaries. The purpose of this change is to increase participation on the GPNA board and in our events and activities.
2. Elevating the land use chair to an officer position, deemed appropriate because of the sheer volume and importance of land use issues that affect our neighborhood.
3. Revisit and reword the non-discrimination section of our bylaws to be more welcoming to renters and to add categories that should have been included but for some reason haven't been (ethnicity, gender identity, legal citizenship, housing status).

If you would like to hear more about these bylaw changes and share your thoughts, be sure to come to our next meeting!





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

Land Use Updates

By Neon Brooks, GPNA Land Use Chair

GPNA's land use committee meets quarterly at Grant Park Church and on Zoom! Our next meeting will be in January 2025 - details will be available on our website. 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 has drafted a land use application to install lighting for the Grant Bowl; a pre-application meeting was held on December 3rd, beginning the Type II land use process. If you are interested in being alerted of public comment opportunities on this topic, please sign up for our email newsletter at <http://grantpark-na.org/contact-us/>

On September 10th, the GPNA board voted in favor of a consensus position supporting the lighting project, with specific mitigations on topics including hours of use, noise, garbage and maintenance, large events, parking, and responsiveness to neighborhood concerns. This position was the result of sustained neighborhood outreach and community meetings, and can be found at the top of the "News and Events" page on our website: <http://grantpark-na.org/news-events/>

Other Land Use Updates

Other active issues the GPNA land use committee has been exploring include traffic safety on Knott Street (see article in this issue by land use committee member Susan Weedall) and US Grant Place, as well as pedestrian crossing at NE 36th and Hancock. We are also monitoring drainage and water issues in Grant Park and will be reaching out to Portland Parks and Recreation about our concerns regarding the ability for neighbors to safely use these paths.

Update on Gordon's

By Ramona Perrault, GPNA Livability Committee Chair

On June 12, the Portland City Council voted to foreclose on the old Gordon's Fireplace building at NE 33rd and NE Broadway. However, before the city-foreclosure auction could take place, a court-appointed receiver paid off the liens the city had placed on the property. The receiver intends to sell the property through an online auction scheduled to start Dec. 16 and end Dec. 18. The starting bid is \$225,000, and interested parties can learn more at the real estate platform Ten-X.

Ever since Gordon's Fireplace closed for business, the building has become a highly visible and dangerous blight on our neighborhood. Maybe the new year will bring some good things for this once beautiful building.



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:**

- 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.

Help Make NE Knott Safer, continued

1. Installing speed bumps from NE 21st to 33rd (proposed for 2025-2027)
2. Adding marked crosswalks
3. Implementing a Safe Routes to School crossing at NE Knott St. and NE 32nd Place

TAKE ACTION NOW

Your voice matters! Here's how you can help make these safety improvements happen:

Contact PBOT:

- Call PBOT's 503-823-SAFE hotline or 311
- Report your safety concerns
- Share specific suggestions (e.g., protected crosswalks)
- Describe any incidents you've witnessed

Key Points to Mention:

- Speeding concerns on NE Knott
- Difficulties crossing safely
- Support for proposed speed bumps
- Need for protected crosswalks
- Personal experiences with safety issues

WHY IT MATTERS

PBOT relies heavily on community input when prioritizing projects. While changes take time, documented community concerns directly influence which projects move forward.

The GPNA continues to advocate for these improvements, but resident participation is crucial for success.

Together, we can make NE Knott Street safer for everyone in our community.

Rezoning Proposal for Inner East Portland Gains Traction

By Ramona Perrault, GPNA Livability Chair

As regular readers of this newsletter will recall, GPNA has been working to get the word out about the City of Portland's Housing Production Strategy and its potential ramifications for our neighborhood (see articles about the topic in our 2024 Spring, Summer, and Fall newsletters at <http://grantpark-na.org/>). Portland is required by state law to provide a Housing Production Strategy (HPS) to support the development of over 120,000 housing units by 2045. On August 28, the City Council unanimously approved the HPS, which includes zoning code and map changes, regulatory reforms, financial incentives, funding, land acquisition and preservation, and partnerships that address the housing production needs of the next five years.

The group Portland Neighbors Welcome (PNW) is working through the HPS process to advocate, via rezoning, for significantly increased capacity in certain parts of the city, including Grant Park. PNW endorsed 13 city council candidates who support PNW's vision, known as Inner Eastside for All, and 9 of their candidates won. It is clear PNW's vision will be supported by city staff and the incoming City Council, so it behooves neighbors to be aware of changes that may be coming to Grant Park.

To better understand the PNW vision, we hosted their representative Heidi Heart at our September 10 board meeting. One set of concerns is the potential effect of the proposal on neighborhoods' infrastructure. Before rezoning large parts of east Portland, the City will conduct an Infrastructure Capacity Analysis to

determine whether the existing infrastructure in the inner eastside neighborhoods can support increased housing densities beyond current allowances. As Patty Nelson, the immediate past president of the Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association, explains, "Cities develop master plans for their infrastructure, like water, sewer, storm, and transportation. These public improvements are planned using zoning in the city's comprehensive plans, which inform the type of use of the land within the city that influences the demand or need on the specific infrastructure. The Portland Neighbors Welcome proposal would increase the amount of people, or housing units, in east Portland, beyond what has been identified in the comprehensive plan. As an engineer, I believe it is important that the city evaluate the impacts of the proposed changes prior to considering the Inner Eastside for All proposal. Is the infrastructure adequate to handle the increased demand? If not - what is needed to accommodate the change, can it be accomplished, and how much will it cost?"

GPNA has not taken a position on the Inner Eastside for All proposal, but as residents of the city and Grant Park, we believe this capacity analysis is a necessary and important part of the process. Neighbors can learn more about the city's plans at <https://www.portland.gov/bps/planning/housing-production/about> and about the PNW proposal, Inner Eastside for All, at <https://portlandneighborswelcome.org/>.

Grant Park Residents Far Outnumber Grant Park Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) Members

By Molly Hamill, Grant Park Neighborhood Association Board President and Grant Park NET Team Member

For those of you not in the know, Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NETs) are Portland residents trained by the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM) and Portland Fire & Rescue to provide emergency disaster assistance within their own neighborhoods.

On a cold, wet evening recently the Grant Park NET got the call to deploy to the pavilion at Grant Park. The three hearty volunteers surprised a tai chi group in practice as the NETs set up. The Citywide Disaster Exercise sponsored by PBEM and Friends of Portland NET started at 6:30 pm, a rare evening drill. The scenario was that a major earthquake, "the Big One," had happened five days ago. New prompts were supplied as "neighbors" asked for help to find missing family members, for first aid, to build shelters, and to supply radio communication to other emergency personnel.

Grant Park Neighborhood encompasses 1,516 households with 3,937 residents (2023 update to 2020 census).

This number does not include the number of students, teachers, or day care attendees that are here during a normal school day. Could a few NET volunteers make a difference? YES, they could because NET volunteers are trained to help other spontaneous volunteers decide on priorities until more permanent solutions are in place. But how many volunteers would it take to respond to an emergency in Grant Park Neighborhood so that those residents needing help would even see a trained volunteer? Many, many more than the current ten to twelve Grant Park NET team members.

The mismatch between numbers of residents and trained NET volunteers is enormous. Would you like to help fill that gap, join NET, and be trained to respond when your family and neighbors need help? More information is available at www.portlandoregon.gov/net or email us at grantparknet@gmail.com



Grant Park Church

Where All Are Welcome



Join us for a candlelit Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00pm

2728 NE 34th Avenue

503-282-5596

www.grantparkchurch.com



NFPDX.com



Natural Furniture



1510 NE 37th

503-284-0655



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

Support Local Businesses This Holiday Season

By Kara Caselas, GPNA Treasurer

This holiday season let's come together as a community to support the small businesses that make our neighborhood special. Recent vandalism at local stores like Jackson's and the Broadway Cigar Co. has highlighted how vital our patronage is to keeping these businesses thriving. Now, more than ever, they need our support.

Fortunately, we have an abundance of wonderful shops and businesses right here in our neighborhood, many within walking or biking distance. By choosing to shop locally, you're not only finding unique and meaningful gifts but also helping sustain the vibrant local economy we all enjoy.

Check out this list for ideas on where to shop small this holiday season. Let's show our local businesses some love and keep our community strong!

LOCAL GEMS IN GRANT PARK

Broadway Cigar Co.
3615 NE Broadway

Dana Herbert Accessories
3525 NE Broadway

EXPLORE NEARBY: WALKABLE OR BIKEABLE BUSINESSES

Merci Milo Toy Shop
2438 NE Broadway

Plants on Broadway
2755 NE Broadway

Puddletown Games & Puzzles
4120 NE Fremont St

The Arrangement
4210 NE Fremont St

Sunrise Books
4605 NE Fremont St, Unit 208

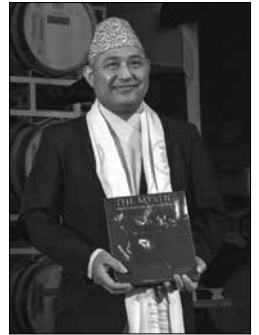
Cosmic Monkey Comics
5335 NE Sandy Blvd

Moments Have You
1724 NE 40th Ave

Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) At-Large Board Member Celebrates New Book Publication

By Stacey Tipp

Bikram Vaidya, a Grant Park neighbor, friend, and at-large board member of the GPNA, recently published a Nepali cookbook, "The Mystic Kitchens of Nepal." A native of Kathmandu, Nepal, Bikram is a hospitality business entrepreneur, culinary educator, and author. He was a culinary instructor at Le Cordon Bleu, and later at the Oregon Culinary Institute, where he taught flavors of the world and the fundamentals of cookery. Bikram follows his family's belief in Ayurveda, "Food as Medicine," by teaching classes at various public events and lecturing on food and spices with CocuSocial.

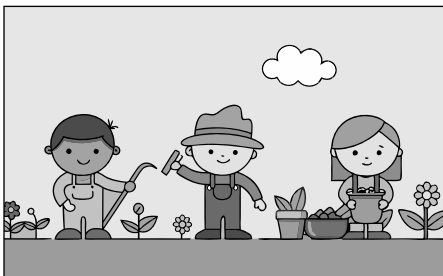


According to Bikram, his new book is more than just a cookbook. It is rather a "fusion of cooking and tourism, designed to enchant adventurous travelers seeking authentic experiences and home cooks eager to explore new flavors and traditions." With over 140 recipes showcasing various everyday and exotic dishes from across Nepal, engaging stories and travel narratives, and stunning photographs of the beauty of Nepal's culinary and geographic landscapes, the book is a literal feast for the senses. It would make a great gift! Go to bikramvaidya.com for more details and ordering information.

Congratulations Bikram!

Inch by Inch, Row by Row, all it Takes Are Seeds to Sow

By Lisa Horowitz, Northeast Village PDX Volunteer and Grant Park Neighbor



Northeast Village PDX invites you to mark your 2025 calendar for a SEED SWAP and gardening workshop on **Saturday, January 25th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, at the Rose City Park United Methodist Church (5830 NE Alameda St.).**

This is a free event open to the public. Come swap non-GMO seeds, rhizomes, roots, and tubers with other local gardeners. Learn, network, and prepare for the spring gardening. Envelopes, labels, and markers provided. Bring your opened or unopened seed packages to share and swap. Don't have seeds? Come anyway. We'll have all sorts of seeds to share. February will be a great time to get your seeds started, so come to the seed swap in January!