

Grant Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Summer 2015



2015 Cleanup Recap

Once again, thanks to the hard work of our dedicated volunteers and partners (and the weather) we had another successful cleanup event this year. Once again the weather was not too hot, too cold, or too wet. By the end of the event, we had served 157 households including cars, trucks, and vans. People also brought their waste by bicycle, wheelbarrow and on foot!



In the end, the Cleanup, which is our only fundraiser, netted approximately \$1,290 for the association. We took in four dumpster loads of trash, one dumpster of bulky wood waste, 2500 pounds of metal waste, 733 pounds of e-waste, four buckets of small batteries, a dozen large rechargeable tool batteries, and even one car battery. We also took in a bucket of CFLs, and a large quantity of reusable materials, both construction materials that went to the Rebuilding Center, and donatables for the Goodwill.

This year, the Free/Swap area also did a brisk business with people picking up and dropping off items all day long. For the first time that also included a variety of different house and garden plants. Nearly all of the plants went to new homes, and many of the items still in the Free area at the end of the day went to Goodwill rather than into the dumpsters.

Sadly, although we took in Styrofoam as promised, the last recycler in the City who had been accepting it stopped just weeks before the event. We had already made arrangements with them, and they were willing to honor that arrangement, but since they would also have to throw it away, we decided to just take what we received as waste and hope for better options next year.

Related story on page 2

www.grantpark-na.org

STAY IN TOUCH

Find us at Facebook:
[GrantParkNeighborhood](https://www.facebook.com/GrantParkNeighborhood);
Tweet us at [@GPNAPortland](https://twitter.com/GPNAPortland)
Join our discussion group at: groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/gpna-forum

GPNA MEETINGS

The Board of the Grant Park Neighborhood Association has voted to adjust the meeting schedule. Future board meetings will be quarterly on the second Tuesday of the month. General meetings will be held twice a year, in April and October. Special meetings, when needed, may be scheduled at any time.

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

NEXT MEETING & AGENDA

September 8, 2015

Meeting dates may change. To check the meeting schedule or the agenda for our next meeting, or to suggest an agenda topic, Please go to our web site at: grantpark-na.org/thehood/meetings.html

GPNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Contact the board at:
GrantPark@necoalition.org

You can make a difference!

Friendly Streets is a volunteer organization dedicated to promoting livability and friendly environments in Portland. Working with local residents, businesses, public and private agencies, and others, the goal of Friendly Streets is to create safe, attractive, pedestrian-friendly and vibrant urban neighborhoods, and to make the public a part of this effort.

Every neighborhood possesses its own unique characteristics, dreams, and realities, guided by numerous elements and details from needs and resources to schools, parks, traffic, transit services, local businesses, demographics, and more.

Regardless of its composition or character, many things and people are needed to develop and maintain a successfully functioning neighborhood. Friendly Streets' role is to stimulate, facilitate and nurture the coordination of efforts among the many stakeholders in the building of livable communities and to educate the public through research studies, forums, conferences and work groups.

For more information visit: www.friendlystreets.org/



Thank you!

Every year, because of the hard work of our volunteers and sponsors, we are able to hold successful and useful Neighborhood Cleanup events.

We want to thank our volunteers: Ken, Liz, Karyn, Angela, Mitch, Ernie, Don, Todd, Andrea, Doug, Kate, and especially MaryCal and Jane, for their hard work and commitment to making this a great event.

We also want to thank our donors and sponsors: Metro, the City of Portland, NECN, New Seasons, QFC, Starbucks, and The Grant Park Church for again letting us use their parking lot for the event. And finally to our partners who helped make the event a success: Goodwill (donatables), Interstate Batteries, Orchards Hardware (CFLs), the Rebuilding Center (construction materials), LJ's Scrap Metal, Heiberg Garbage (trash and woodwaste), Don & Ben Hawkins (E-waste & tires), and Cantel Sweeping for the final cleanup of the parking lot.

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Traffic Safety Concerns Residents

During the past several months, issues related to speeding vehicles and failure to yield to pedestrians have dominated the agenda of GPNA. Residents on Knott Street have repeatedly expressed concern about worsening conditions, and parents of school children have provided alarming examples of near misses between pedestrians and vehicles at locations along 33rd Avenue. GPNA Board President Brian Cefola and Vice-President Ken Peterson have worked together to address these issues with the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) and its Safe Routes to School Program, and have consulted with Beverly Cleary PTA leaders. GPNA has also collaborated with the Alameda Neighborhood Association (Knott Street is a shared neighborhood border with Alameda in some locations), and has received assistance from students at Portland State University studying urban planning.

As background, more than a year ago GPNA worked with Knott Street residents and successfully lowered the speed limit from 30 to 25 miles per hour on the stretch of Knott that approaches 33rd Avenue from the west. Unfortunately, it appears that lowering the speed limit has had little impact, and neighbors continue to complain of speeding vehicles that make crossing Knott perilous and unsafe. Moreover, Knott Street east of 33rd Avenue has seen increased traffic flow with a similar impact on pedestrian safety.

GPNA requested that PBOT conduct a traffic study on Knott Street and provide recommendations that will improve conditions. Currently under consideration are additional crosswalks, and recently residents have raised the possibility of installing speed bumps. Current efforts by GPNA include following up with PBOT and attempting to gauge the level of neighborhood support for speed bumps.

Meanwhile, on 33rd Avenue the possible installation of pedestrian activated flashing lights at the crosswalk on Thompson Street is under consideration. This crossing appears to be heavily used by school children and parents, and the crosswalk alone appears not to be a sufficient visual alert to motorists, especially during commute hours.

GPNA will continue to pursue solutions to these traffic safety issues and will keep Grant Park residents advised of any progress made.

www.grantpark-na.org

Summer underage drinking

Summer is here, with a ton of risks for teens. One of the most significant is underage drinking – an issue that increases exponentially during the summer. It's important for parents to remain actively involved.

"Studies repeatedly show that regular communication between parents and kids has a positive influence on the decisions that teens make," says OLCC Regional Manager, Shannon Hoffeditz. It doesn't have to be hard. Remind them that the goal is for them to have a fun, safe summer. If you think your child is drinking this summer, don't minimize the situation.



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Fourth Annual Broadway-Weidler Charrette

On Saturday, April 25th the Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association held its 4th Annual Charrette Event. The event was well-attended and included 46 attendees from the Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood, Eliot, Irvington, Grant Park, the Lloyd District and Hollywood Neighborhoods, the Northeast Broadway Business Association, and members of the NE Broadway-Weidler Alliance.

Speakers focused on planning of major corridors and parking as well as new tools being used for urban planning documentation and map making.



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Some of the recommendations include:

- Doing a comprehensive traffic study along I-84, Multnomah, NE Broadway/Weidler and Fremont
- A bike/pedestrian Bridge over I-84 at 9th Avenue
- A new Urban Diamond Interchange at I-84 and 33rd Avenue (4-way ingress and egress)
- A MAX Station between 28th & 33rd Avenues
- Include a designated Sullivan's Gulch Trail space
- Don't just talk about 20 Minute neighborhoods, do it.
- Connect NE Broadway to NE Weidler so the couplet works as a complete commercial network
- Give incentives to build parking structures
- Rethink how cars are parked on the street,
- Design bike network and bike parking as one unit rather than random systems to create an efficient and safe transit corridor
- Improve bus stops & north/south bus service
- Make sure trucks are considered in the planning and design of the corridors

There is a real and present concern for the slow and steady economic atrophy that is occurring along the corridor. Although we wish to walk to the goods and services near our homes, the goods and services we seek are not located along NE Broadway.

Overall, the participants noted that the lack of comprehensively planned transit networking contributes greatly to the declining economic well being of the corridor.

Fruit Tree Registry.

Do you have fruit trees that are going to waste? Why not register them With the Portland Fruit Tree Project? They'll work with you to determine when the fruit is ripe & arrange a harvest date & time. A group of volunteers will come and harvest your tree(s). You are encouraged to join the fun, but it's not necessary.

All harvest participants are trained in harvesting methods and sign waivers of liability. Half of the fruit is distributed to food banks, and the rest is distributed to the harvest volunteers. If you want us to leave fruit for you, we are happy to do so (up to 25%).

Hosting is a fun & easy way to share your fruit! For more information, to become a volunteer harvester, or to register your trees visit: www.portlandfruit.org

Broadway-Weidler Alliance = Powerful Business and Neighborhood Partners

The Broadway-Weidler Alliance (BWA), a consortium of business organizations and neighborhood associations, recently formed to create an innovative planning group like no other in Portland. The unique aspect of BWA derives from its collaborative structure, creating opportunities for two groups — business organizations and neighborhood associations — to discuss, agree upon, and support decisions that will enhance both.

The Alliance serves as one collective voice about economic vitality, land use, infrastructure, and transportation in the BWA commercial corridor between the Willamette River and the Hollywood District Transit Center. BWA's goal is to make the corridor more enjoyable and appealing to the public, while encouraging new activity to spur creative and varied business expansion.

BWA's mission is to transform Northeast Broadway into a destination for shopping and dining that will appeal to all Portlanders. In the spirit of Portland's commitment to multiple forms of transit, BWA also seeks to ensure that shoppers, diners, and visitors can travel comfortably and conveniently, regardless of chosen mode of transportation.

Group members include: Eliot Neighborhood Association, Go Lloyd, Grant Park Neighborhood Association, Hollywood Boosters, Irvington Community Association, Lloyd Center, Lloyd District Community Association, Lloyd EcoDistrict, Northeast Broadway Business Association (NEBBA), and Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association.

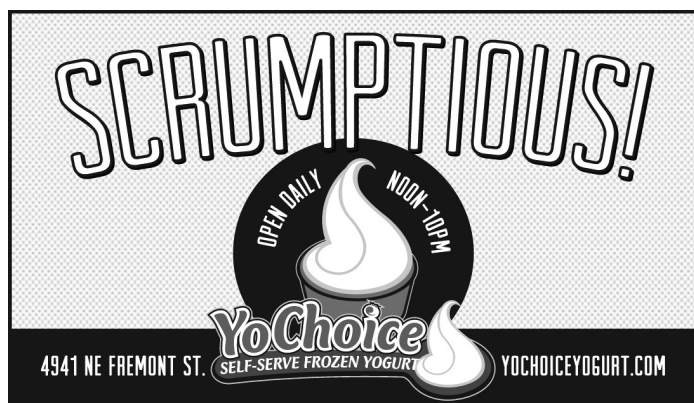
At its meeting on May 18, 2015, BWA formally approved by-laws to govern the group and elected officers. Carol Gossett, current Land Use Chair of

Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association, will serve as BWA Chair, building on a long history of successful public and private sector project development. Architect Nate Carter, a member of NEBBA and co-founder of Eleven Engineering and Design, will be Vice-Chair. Steven Cole, longtime community leader and current President of Irvington Community Association, was elected Secretary.

GPNA Board members Ken Peterson and John Prell serve as delegates to the BWA. Ken works on the Organization and Transportation Committees, and John on the Business Development Committee.

As its first formal action, BWA recently submitted a detailed letter to the Portland Bureau of Transportation that analyzes and comments on the Transportation Systems Plan component of the Portland Comprehensive Plan.

According to Gossett, "We expect that this will be only the first of many future planning and development initiatives sponsored by our group — all designed to enhance the vibrancy of Broadway-Weidler and quality of life for Portland residents and visitors."



Guitar Lessons

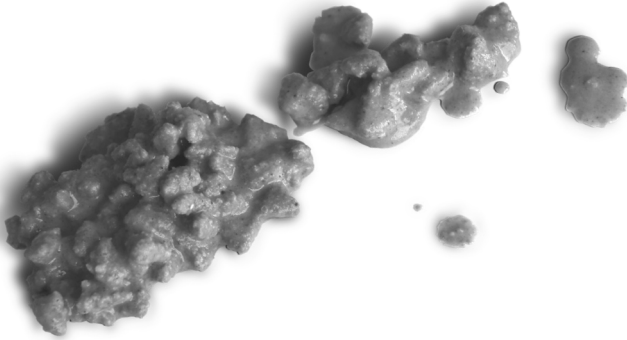
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Living with a miserable retch?



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If your cat throws up more then she should, stop by and tell us about your cat. From losing too much hair to feeling stressed by a new housemate, we can help you identify the cause, understand the science, and help you find an effective, natural solution.*

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Graffiti Abatement

In Portland graffiti is defined as "any unauthorized markings of paint, ink, chalk, dye or other similar substance which is visible from premises open to the public, and that have been placed upon any real or personal property such as buildings, fences, structures, or the unauthorized etching or scratching of such described surfaces where the markings are visible from premises open to the public, such as public rights-of-way or other publicly owned property."

The property owner is responsible to remove graffiti within 10 days of notification, or risk designation as a graffiti nuisance property, and be subject to administrative warrant, removal of graffiti by the City of Portland, fines, and liens against property.

- 10-12% of graffiti is GANG related (usually juveniles 17 and under)
- 85-90% of graffiti is TAGGERS (usually adults 18 and older)

Report it!

Pictures are useful for timely removal, so you can:

- **E-mail** pictures and locations to: graffiti@portlandoregon.gov
- **Text** pictures with location to 503-823-8700
- Use the PDXReporter app on your smartphone. PDXReporter is an excellent tool to report issues from potholes, to Parks maintenance, or graffiti. The app works for both iPhone and Android smartphones, and gives GPS to area you're reporting. It allows for one photo per report. The report goes directly to the program coordinator. Go to <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/53613> to get the app for your phone.
- **Online:** www.portlandoregon.gov/onj and select the Report Graffiti tab – you can attach multiple photos if need be. Please note that to use the online portal, you will need to have an account to report vandalism.

Remove it:

The quicker the removal, the better to avoid additional vandalism. Free assistance is available depending on certain criteria. Crime Prevention staff can also provide site survey for owners of chronically tagged properties

Most of these programs are complaint-based. So complain away!

Street lights are changing

The Portland Bureau of Transportation crews are converting 45,000 of the City's 55,000 street lights to environmentally-friendly LED (light-emitting diode) lights, a process that is expected to be complete by the end of 2016, and an interactive map allows the public to track real-time progress on their street. It may be found at <http://bit.ly/PDXLED>. Green dots show lights that have been installed; red indicates lights that will be. The map also allows the public to send questions and give feedback.

The new LED street lights are easy to identify: they cast a crisp light similar to moonlight, unlike the yellow-tinged light from the high-pressure sodium bulbs they replace. They should last 20 years and use half the energy of the old high-pressure sodium. That translates to a \$1.5 million annual savings in energy and maintenance, and about 10,500 tons less of carbon pollution each year. The City is also recycling the old high pressure sodium bulbs.

"We can all be proud of the savings that the new LED street lights bring to each neighborhood," said Commissioner Steve Novick. "This is a program that saves money, protects our environment and improves reliability by providing street lights that last longer and burn out less often."

"The new streetlights deliver benefits to each neighborhood, to our whole city, and to our efforts to address climate change," said Portland Bureau of Transportation Director Leah Treat. "We are making a difference street by street and light by light."

The new lights provide the same coverage as the old fixtures. They also cut down on light pollution by projecting more light downward and less upward, making it easier for people to star gaze.

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About Town Summer Camp

Education can be an avenue to an engaged, supportive community. CLASS (Community-based Learning and Service Sessions) develops curriculum for community involvement. Programs connect students to local people, places and service, create space for learning, and provide opportunities for the community to support students.

Classes dive in to the conversation about town, by getting about town. Every day includes an outing and a classroom experience. By noticing and listening to our environment during outings, students inspire ideas for classroom projects and learn how to say things through art, stories, games and food prep. Sessions are small to ensure full participation.

Welcome to greater participation in the community!

Who: Ages 6-11

When: One-week sessions run through August

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Questions? info@classpdx.org or (503) 459-2850

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More Than A Dream Run

On Aug. 1st & 2nd the North & Northeast Business Association (NNEBA) will hold a weekend celebration honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's "I Have A Dream" speech. With a 5k fun run/walk, a 10k chip-timed run and the Geoff Hollister tribute race, a 15k chip timed run. The event will also feature music, food, and other entertainment. The MLK Dream Run is a world class USATF sanctioned event.

For more information, to register online, or to volunteer, go to: <http://www.mlkdreamrun.org/>

MAX and/or Streetcar?

Among the issues under consideration to improve Broadway are whether to lobby for a new MAX station at or near the foot of 32nd Avenue by I-84, and for extension of the Streetcar line down Broadway-Weidler from its current terminus at NE 7th Avenue to the Hollywood Transit Center. The favored MAX station location would be at the foot of 32nd Avenue between Grant Park Village and the rear parking lot between Fred Meyer and New Seasons. Grant Park Village has already added over 200 new apartments to the area, and the second phase of construction there will likely add an equal or slightly greater number of living units.

Increased commercial activity and an influx of new residents equals greater demand for transportation options and burdens already overtaxed Broadway and 33rd Avenues. GPNA seeks neighborhood feedback concerning possible efforts to ask TriMet and Portland Streetcar for a new MAX station and/or extended Streetcar line. Please take the time to let us know your views on these issues at <http://www.grantpark-na.org/> or <http://groups.google.com/group/gpna-forum?hl=en>

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Family Fun in the Sun

As temperatures climb, Portlanders head outside – because the best season of the year is here. It's finally summer in Portland!

And once again, Movies in the Park, Summer Free for All, a beloved Portland tradition, bringing fun, free movies to the whole family in July, August, and September. So snag a good spot at one of several Portland parks, including Grant Park and several others in our area, for performances by local musicians, free popcorn, and great movies.

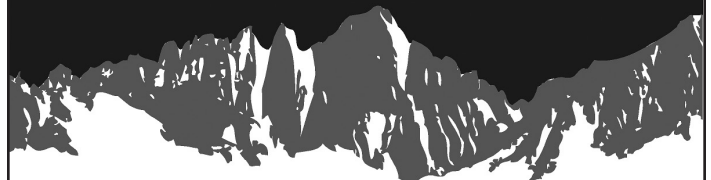
Pre-movie entertainment starts at 6:30pm, and movie begins at dusk. See you at the park!

Learn more and see the full schedule of movies and entertainment: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/489142>

This year, **Clean Energy Works** is sponsoring Portland Parks & Recreation's Summer Free For All. They will be tabling at several of the events, Stop by the Clean Energy Works table to say hi. And learn how they can help keep your home cool and your utility bills down this summer. For more: cewo.org/summer

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