

Grant Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Fall 2014

Sewer and Stormwater Work Moves East in 2015

The City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services is designing projects in the Hollywood and Grant Park neighborhoods to improve sanitary sewer services and manage stormwater runoff east of 33rd. These improvements will increase public sewer capacity, reduce the amount of sewage flowing into the Sullivan Gulch Trunk Sewer, protect public health, property, and the environment, and reduce the risks of street flooding and sewage releases to homes, businesses and streets.

Here are a few facts about the Hollywood stormwater project:

- Area covered – NE Alameda to I-84, and from NE 33rd to 57th avenues
- Type of work – Sewer pipe replacement and stormwater retrofits
- Pipe age – Most of the sewer pipes in this area were installed between 1910 and 1914; they are over 100 years old
- Amount of pipe to be replaced – 21,300 ft., or a little over 4 miles
- Stormwater work – restricted to NE 46th, 47th and 49th avenues from Brazee to Hancock streets
- Stormwater elements – 12 green street planters and 6 sumps
- Total amount of stormwater removed annually – 203,000 gallons
- Construction – expected to begin summer 2015, and take about a year
- Watch for information on a public open house for this project in October (date, time and place to be determined)
- Find more information on this project at www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/hgp

There is another project being planned for the Hollywood-Grant Park area which is a pipe project. The boundaries are 33rd to 55 avenues and from Alameda Street down to I-84.

Rhetta Drennan with the City of Portland's Environmental Services will be at the GPNA September 9th meeting to present information on both projects and answer questions.

If you wish to be added to the email notification list for this project, contact Rhetta.Drennan@portlandoregon.gov with "Hollywood-Grant Park" in the subject line.



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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

The meeting schedule for the remainder of 2014 has not yet been set and will be posted on our web site. To see the 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

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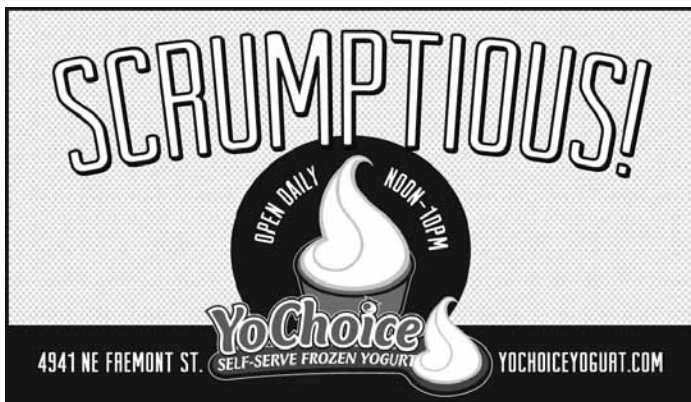
At Large:
Jane Comeault
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Contact the board at:
GrantPark@necoalition.org

We Need Your Help!

Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) is putting out a call for more volunteers to deliver the association newsletters. This could be your chance to get out, get some exercise, enjoy the neighborhood and meet some of your neighbors. You will be giving back to the neighborhood in an easy, fun, and social way. Plus you will get all the neighborhood news before anybody else!

GPNA produce four issues a year. The newsletters will be delivered to your porch and it generally takes about 20 minutes to deliver the newsletter in any designated area. If you or anyone you know would be interested, please contact our delivery coordinator Marianne Lynde at marianuelynde@msn.com.





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Our Local Cooling Center

When the forecast calls for temperatures 95 degrees or above for an extended period of time, four cooling centers are available in the Portland area. In NE Portland, our cooling center is the Hollywood Senior Center at 1820 NE 40th Ave, and a second location at the United Methodist Pioneer Church, 7528 N. Charleston Ave.

During a heat event, the Senior Center will extend its hours to 8 p.m. to provide relief from the extreme heat. Volunteers will be ready to help people seeking refuge from the heat.

Guests with well-behaved animals weighing 25 pounds and less are welcome to bring the pets. Anyone wishing to bring a pet to the Hollywood Senior Center cooling center, must call in advance. Capacity is limited and availability will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The phone number is 503-288-8303. Bring a cage if possible, a room has been set aside for animals.

A nightly movie may be shown. Snacks, drinks, games and reading material are offered, many of which are donated by the community. Volunteers run the center, and limited transportation assistance will be available. So if you or a neighbor runs into heat issues, remember this resource in our neighborhood.

The Multipurpose Hollywood Senior Center was founded in 1973 and is open six days a week to promote health, independence and well being for adults 55 and older.

Center Programs include:

- Health & Wellness
- Education
- Recreation and Crafts • Local Travel
- Transportation
- Social Services
- Support Services
- Nutrition
- Volunteer Opportunities
- A Community Meeting Place
- The Senior Center Thrift Store & Handcraft Store

For more information about the Hollywood Senior Center and the services they provide go to hollywoodseniorcenter.com/ or call 503-288-8303.

Neighborhood School Schedules

School starts up again on September 2nd, so stay alert as students will be travelling to and from school.

Local School Hours:

Grant High School | 2245 NE 36th

8 am - 3 pm | Lunch 11:37 am - 12:19 pm

Beverly Cleary Schools:

Fernwood Site | 1915 NE 33rd

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

Hollyrood Site | 3560 NE Hollyrood 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)

School of Experiential Ed. | 2728 NE 34th Ave

8 am - 5 pm | Lunch (closed campus)

Temporary School Campus

Due to overcrowding, Beverly Cleary K-8 School, will be adding a third campus this coming school year.

According to Portland Public Schools, the added third campus is expected to be temporary. The school district is in the process of a K-8 boundary review, the resulting new boundaries may be implemented as early as the 2015-16 school year. More information about the boundary review and it's preliminary recommendations is available at www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/enrollment-transfer/9522.htm.

The new shift in attendance areas could alter where Grant Park neighborhood children have traditionally attended elementary, middle, and/or high school.

The three Beverly Cleary campuses will be:

- **Hollyrood** (Kindergarten only),
3560 NE Hollyrood Ct.
- **Rose City Park** (1st and 3rd grades),
2334 NE 57th Ave
- **Fernwood** (2nd, 4th-8th grades),
1915 NE 33rd Ave

There will be increased am/pm traffic on some neighborhood streets, as 1st and 3rd graders will have the option of riding busses east to the Rose City Park School campus (2334 NE 57th Ave). Location of new bus routes/time can be found on the Beverly Cleary website.

2035 Comprehensive Plan Draft

Portland is in the process of revising our comprehensive plan out to the year 2035. Why should you care? The draft 2035 Plan is Portland's long-range tool to guide growth, change and improvements over the next 20 years. It includes components that help shape Portland's land use and infrastructure decisions.

More than simply a map or new zoning code, the 2035 Plan provides a framework for the City to create opportunities for more jobs, affordable housing, a low-carbon economy, a clean environment, increased mobility and greater equity among Portlanders.

The draft plan was developed with extensive research, technical analysis and an enormous amount of community participation and knowledge. It includes goals and policies that set specific directions for future decision makers. It includes an Urban Design framework (a map-based illustration of the vision for 2035) as well as a list of significant projects to direct major investments in public infrastructure -- like streets, sidewalks and parks that keep Portlanders safe, mobile and healthy.

The draft 2035 Plan hopes to continue the best of the many successful approaches from the 1980 Comprehensive Plan that Portland is known for internationally. It also considers new priorities and recommends.

The 2035 Plan is Portland's roadmap to the future. Your comments are critical for helping to create a healthier, more resilient and prosperous city and neighborhood for us and for future generations. So check it out and add your 2¢. You can find the draft at www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/65310.



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Grant Park Sewer Work Continues

The Grant Park Sewer Repair Project will replace or repair about 11,500 feet of public sewer pipes that are between 89 and 104 years old and failing due to age. This project will increase sewer capacity and reduce the risks of street flooding and sewage releases to homes, businesses and streets. Construction should be completed by March 2015.

The contractor is scheduling work on residential streets, including pavement restoration work on U.S. Grant Place and returning to complete the work started on NE Hancock Street. The work on neighborhood streets will likely occur after work in NE Broadway is complete.

What to Expect

- Work hours are 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, but the contractor may schedule work during the same hours on Saturdays.
- Construction will create noise, vibration and dust and will disrupt normal neighborhood activity.
- Traffic control signs will be set up, and flaggers may direct traffic on higher-volume streets.
- On-street parking in or near active work areas is prohibited during construction hours. Please plan to move your vehicle by 7:00 a.m. in work zones.
- Equipment and materials may be stored on nearby streets overnight.
- There may be periods of inactivity between construction phases.
- A city inspector will be on-site during work hours and may be able to assist you with construction concerns. Inspectors typically wear a green safety vest with "City of Portland" across the back and a hard hat.
- Please stay clear of all construction activities and keep children and pets out of construction areas.
- You should receive a door-hanger notice a few days before work starts on your street.

Go to www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/GrantPark for more information and to see a map of the area, or you can receive these project updates by email. Send a request to Kristen@jla.us.com with "Grant Park" in the subject line to be added to the email list.

Urban Forestry's Elm Program

Every summer, from May to October, the City's Urban Forestry Department sends out a Dutch Elm Disease Monitor to review the City's elms for Dutch Elm disease (DED) and facilitates the removal of infected trees, since the disease is invariably fatal. Once popular street trees, elms have largely disappeared nationwide due to Dutch elm disease.

Portland is lucky to still have many large mature elms including some in Grant Park. Urban Forestry has maps of all the elms in the City and where Dutch Elm Disease (DED) has been found. The Elm Monitor visits these locations looking for signs of DED. The typical symptom is brown, dry, curled leaves called flagging, usually where a bark beetle carrying the DED fungus has been feeding. The disease can also be spread from infected tree to nearby elms via interlocking roots, which makes prompt removal vital. Residents who suspect DED on a tree that has not already been posted should call 503-823-4489 to report the tree's address and location.

When the Elm Monitor finds symptoms of DED, a sample is taken. If the elm tests positive for Ophiostoma, it will need to be removed as quickly as possible to prevent the spread of the fungus to other trees. Urban Forestry currently removes all infected elms between the sidewalk and the curb. Elms that are on private property must be removed promptly by the property owner.

The wood from all infected elms diseased must be disposed of because the disease can be spread through the storing or transporting of elm logs.

To preserve tree canopy in neighborhoods losing their elms, the property owner will be required to replant a tree where the elm was located. Typically, the planting permit is issued at the time of removal and the City Tree Inspector provides the adjacent property owner with a list of approved trees. Non-resistant elms cannot be planted in Portland.

As tragic as losing an old elm is, it is also an opportunity to choose a new, large-canopy tree able to flourish in a narrow planting strip. For those insisting on an elm, there are promising cultivars and hybrids that show varying degrees of resistance to DED that can be planted.

Housing & Nuisance Conditions

We all like to live in a beautiful, comfortable, and safe neighborhood but sometimes there can be neighbor to neighbor issues that make this difficult. The City of Portland's Bureau of Development Services promotes safety, livability and economic vitality through efficient and collaborative application of building and development codes.

Types of code violations that are often reported include: vehicles, unpermitted construction, tree & vegetation issues, and noise. In most cases, investigation and enforcement action happens when a citizen reports a potential violation.

Some issues like abandoned cars, graffiti, and trash are clear violations and should be reported. On the other hand, some issues that one person may find objectionable do not, in fact, meet the standards of a code violation, or even violate general neighborhood standards.

If you are unsure whether an issue you see actually is a code violation, you can check online at: www.portlandoregon.gov/bds/34179. This page, "What is a code violation?" includes departments and numbers where the violation can/should be reported.

People are often unaware that something is a problem for others and are more than willing to correct the issue when made aware of it. Having code enforcement take action can negatively affect neighbor relations. You may want to consider first addressing your neighbor or another property owner on a personal, neighbor-to-neighbor basis or with the help of a neighborhood mediator from Resolutions Northwest www.resolutionsnorthwest.org/neighborhood_mediation_program

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What Can Grant Park Expect from the Bureau of Parks?

By Ken Peterson

On October 15, 2013, Parks Commissioner Amanda Fritz appeared at a Board meeting of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) of which Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) is one of twelve inner northeast neighborhoods represented. She advised that due to increased real estate development within Portland, the Parks Bureau unexpectedly had \$8 million to spend, derived from "System Development Charges" (SDCs) assessed on new construction to mitigate impact on parks facilities. Commissioner Fritz requested NECN input on identifying parks improvements needed in each neighborhood, and asked for a list of priorities.

In response, like other NECN neighborhoods, GPNA requested public input through articles in our quarterly newsletter and the online GPNA websites. I also personally spoke to park users in various locations within Grant Park itself, seeking opinions. Although there were a variety of suggestions, the single most often requested improvement was creation of a permanent, fenced dog off-leash area (DOLA).

Many reasons were given for prioritizing a DOLA. The two current unfenced off-leash areas change location depending upon season, one near the soccer fields, and a second near private residences. The soccer field area contains an imaginary line demarcated by several orange cones. Dogs are to remain on one side, and organized sports teams on the other. Unfortunately, neither the dogs nor the teams respect the boundaries, leading to frequent territorial disputes and confrontations. While once the primary users of the sports field were soccer players, now there are lacrosse and kickball teams as well, resulting in even more disagreements. The soccer field area abuts the Hollyrood Elementary School and a walking/bicycle path that runs the length of the park from east to west. There are frequent accidents and near accidents at the path involving small children, wheeled vehicles, and dogs on a daily basis. In the fall, the off-leash area moves to a location immediately next to several private residences, whose owners have complained about the unavoidable noise created by many frolicking dogs that like to bark, sometimes for extended intervals. The current system is remarkably confusing, governed by a large sign that features

different hours depending upon the day of the week, time of year, and seasonal location. As a result, it is largely ignored. Parks staff have attempted to create some order by posting smaller signs, but they are often removed by park users, or made unreadable by rain that causes their ink to run.

On March 18, 2014, Commissioner Fritz returned to NECN and announced certain grants within NECN boundaries. These included completion of the Grant Park Track and Field (a confusing grant in view of the formal dedication of the field on September 20, 2013, six months earlier). Fritz also indicated she would have Parks maintenance staff look into repairing a long-standing "sinkhole" in one of the park's tennis courts, which had been patched with temporary asphalt many years ago.

A delegation from NECN requested a follow-up meeting with the Commissioner and met at her office on March 24, 2014. At that meeting I made a renewed request for funding and approval of a DOLA at Grant Park, a project estimated informally by parks maintenance officials to cost about \$35,000 (a sum amounting to a veritable drop in a bucket, as you will see below). Commissioner Fritz responded that there was no funding for a Grant Park DOLA, and that all funds would need to be raised privately; that her staff had no time to devote to designing a DOLA at Grant Park, and that any design would have to be done elsewhere; and that in order to secure approval, not only would GPNA be required to raise all of the funds for a DOLA at Grant Park, but also for a DOLA at another park in a less economically advantaged neighborhood. I pointed out that the SDCs from the Grant Park Village development alone amounted to more than one million dollars, and that the

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development would add about 200 new households using Grant Park, to no avail. There are, of course, many new apartment developments in nearby Hollywood as well, all of which paid substantial SDCs and whose residents will use Grant Park.

Following this rather startling meeting with Commissioner Fritz, I decided to attempt to comply with her conditions, seeing little alternative. Shortly thereafter, the Parks Bureau announced it was reopening the process for citizen proposals for parks improvement projects. I quickly submitted a proposal for the DOLA on behalf of GPNA, and a resident near Grant Park submitted a similar one as well. Both proposals were approved as to content, leading to a second phase that required demonstration of community support and funding resources. That would require a well-publicized community meeting with an opportunity for citizen input. I was advised in mid-May that such a meeting should occur before school let out in June, and that the Parks Bureau would need to be involved. I quickly supplied several dates for such a meeting at the Grant Park Church, where GPNA customarily holds public meetings. Since then, I have communicated frequently with Parks staff about setting a meeting date without success. This is reportedly because Commissioner

Fritz continues to ponder the equity issue and how best to implement it. The resurrected project application process will apparently be replaced by a new procedure, and we will have to start all over.

To her credit, Commissioner Fritz is very concerned about equitable distribution of Parks resources and funding throughout Portland. She has earmarked \$12.4 million to create two new parks in outer northeast Portland, an area that has been historically under served and virtually ignored. However, it appears that her focus on equity has resulted in an almost complete elimination of support for projects in neighborhoods deemed economically advantaged, such as Grant Park, Irvington, Hollywood, Alameda, Rose City Park, Sullivan's Gulch, and parts of other neighborhoods for whom Grant Park is the nearest recreational facility. It would be one thing to require that more affluent neighborhoods engage in private fund raising. To also require that such neighborhoods fund projects elsewhere (without citing any authority or legal basis for such a requirement), create their own project plans, and do so with little or no assistance from the Parks Bureau makes no sense and ultimately discourages voluntary citizen participation in community improvement efforts.

Continued on page 8

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What Can Grant Park Expect - Continued from page 7

Those of us who engage in volunteer neighborhood work in Portland do so without compensation, and expect none other than a fair hearing and the reward of seeing some accomplishment that roughly justifies the time and effort spent on behalf of our communities. I love both of the Grant Parks, the neighborhood and the recreational facility, and I want them to be as good as they can be.

At this point, I am reminded of the infamous Circumlocution Office described by Charles Dickens in his novel *Little Dorrit*. "Whatever was required to be done, the Circumlocution Office was beforehand with all the public departments in the art of perceiving — HOW NOT TO DO IT." The Parks Bureau has mastered this process by requiring the use of complex project application procedures and then changing them seemingly just for the sake of change. Then, there is of course, *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, where "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others." It appears that Grant Park dogs (and their adoptive humans) are considerably less equal than others.

Commissioner Fritz seeks support for a renewed Parks Bond totaling \$68 million. It will not increase taxes and will fund deferred maintenance projects, reportedly including replacement of the swimming pool pump and filtration system at Grant Park. Supporting the bond makes sense, but Grant Park residents and those of nearby neighborhoods have a right to expect more from Commissioner Fritz. The sinkhole in the tennis courts has still not been repaired. I am considering calling the Pothole Hotline at the Traffic Bureau.

This was sent to Amanda Fritz' representative for review, and shared with Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association.

Grant Park Village Updates

Grant Park Village continues to make great progress, both in construction and in leasing. The crane is gone and scaffolding removed from all but one building. Trees are being installed in the courtyards and interiors in many of the apartments are on the way to being completed.


Capstone Partners is excited to announce that in addition to the anchor tenant, New Seasons Market, Grant Park Village will be bringing these vendors to the neighborhood: ZoomCare, which provides primary care & urgent care services; Mud Bay, healthy pet foods, supplements, and supplies; and Pieology, for custom pizza

Capstone is working on a few other leases that can hopefully be announced soon. The first residents, New Seasons Market and the other retailers expect to be open before Thanksgiving. On the residential side, there are already 100 people who have signed up on an interest list.

If you would like to join the interest list and receive more information on Grant Park Village, you can do so at grantparkvillage.com.

 <p>spark Arts Center</p> <p>Art Supplies & Activities for All Ages</p> <p>Visit our website for our after school class schedule. www.sparkartscenter.com</p> <p>1805 NE 39th Ave 503-281-6757</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Supplies Art Classes Adult Classes Birthday Parties Drop-In Studio Gallery Space
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