



March 2020 Vol. 46, Issue 6

www.rcpna.org

At least 4 issues per year - *The Official Newsletter of the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association* - [Submissions Welcome](#)

RCPNA CANDIDATE FAIR

—TWO EVENINGS!—March 31 and April 1, 6-9 pm

(special early start time)

- ◆ Candidates for Portland Mayor and
- ◆ City Council positions 1, 2 and 4.

Aside from the other elections happening this year, 2020 is a historic voting year in the city of Portland, with three of the four City Commissioner positions up for grabs, as well as the position of Mayor.

As of our publication date, 15 candidates have filed for the Mayor's position (including incumbent Ted Wheeler), 5 candidates have filed for City Commissioner Position 1, 8 candidates have filed for Commissioner Position 4, and 11 candidates have filed to fill the remaining term of Nick Fish in Commissioner Position 2. That brings the total to date to 35, with several more expected to file before the March 10 deadline.

In order to give the candidates a fair opportunity to express their positions and answer questions (submitted by the public via email to info@rcpna.org or on cards provided at the meeting), the decision was made to expand the RCPNA Candidate Fair into two successive evenings.

RCPNA has arranged for childcare to be provided, by trained, certified childcare workers.

See page 8 for more information, and [check our website \(www.rcpna.org\)](http://www.rcpna.org).

[Facebook page](#) and [Nextdoor](#) for the latest information.

RCPNA/HOLLYWOOD N.A. CLEANUP

The Rose City Park and Hollywood Neighborhood Associations are again partnering for our annual Spring Clean-Up event, Saturday, May 30, from 9am-3pm. St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, one of RCPNA's Silver-level Community Partners, has again made its playground available for the event.

Additional specifics are still under discussion; an update will be provided in the May newsletter.

More information, including a detailed list of items that are acceptable and unacceptable for disposal and links to our nonprofits' needs lists, will be available at www.rcpna.org and on RCPNA's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/rcpna). Additional information will be posted on the above websites and on Nextdoor.

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A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

By TAMARA DERIDDER, RCPNA Chair



Boy, howdy! No matter where I turn these days, the media has exploded with election propaganda. It would be another thing if each candidate could only use a field with the planting of flowering plants to describe their candidacy. No matter the type. Each candidate would show how they could bloom all at once while others care to use only native plants. Others would try to trick you into looking somewhere with the use of color. While still others, my preferred candidate, would first test the soil, check the drought cycle we are facing, then set about planting by the moon cycles with colors, textures, smells, and edibles that would last throughout most of the year. They probably would even think to bring in hives of bees to make sure the blooms bore fruit and that the foods produced by the flowers were properly tended all the way into the larder for next year. At least, in this way, we would better know how they could work with what they've got, if they research and elicit advice before taking action, and whether they plan to produce anything tangible.


After the loss of my friend Commissioner Nick Fish, I feel like even our own City Council has lost its bearing. Nick had a grace about him that he carried into everything he worked on. As Commissioner in charge of Parks, he was our champion in overcoming contaminated soils when establishing the Frazer Park Community Garden. Sure, there are things that I wish he had done better. This includes a much more robust dialogue about how our water bills will double to triple in order to repay the debt on the new water treatment facility. But, if I know Nick, he was working on a plan to soften that blow on the average household budget. The City did try to deviate from these federal clean water restrictions, including mitigating contamination by covering up the water reservoirs on Mt. Tabor. Nick always was available to take a minute to listen to concerns we experienced here in Rose City Park. He was excellent in putting me in touch with the right people, because he knew he couldn't do everything himself and surrounded himself with capable professionals

and contacts that he trusted could move the conversation forward. He led the discussions at the City Council by looking around the room and stating, "I want to make sure that everyone here has a chance to speak." Sadly, we lost this amazing civil servant to stomach cancer well before his time.

We can now turn this sorrow into the gift that it is. Nick provided an excellent example of what we should consider a standard for future City Commissioners. He was a collaborator and knew that governance was stronger when all the issues were on the table before a decision had to be made. Many of us, along with the City Club, know that Portland's current five-member city council form of governance is outdated for a city of our size but, to update the form of city government, we need to elect candidates who support an amendment to the City Charter. Each Commissioner is responsible for selecting three members of the Charter Committee. If the City Council members want the status quo, they will select Charter Committee members who support no change. Various forms of government work for cities of this size, including city commissioners elected by district, with a couple of at-large commissioners, and a city manager who manages the staff. With city commissioners not being placed in charge of departments, they likely should receive less compensation. A city manager could make sure that departments support each other and coordinate implementation, such as putting in new utility lines before paving the streets. It is high time we make sure that all of Portland is represented on the City Council and that those in charge of our city departments have adequate training for those positions, as is typically done during hiring. It is important for us to work together to get our own house in order. Four of the five City Council positions are up for election this year, which is historic.

Please submit your own questions for the candidates by email to info@rcpna.org, and come to RCPNA's Candidate Fairs on March 31-April 1, where the candidates will be asked the questions without having any prior notification of their content. Watch our website, Facebook page and Nextdoor for the most current information.

Best,




UPCOMING EVENTS



Mayor's Discussions about Homelessness

March 3, 6:30-8:30 pm, University of Portland Bauccio Commons, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd.

March 7, 9 am-12 pm, Multnomah Arts Center Gymnasium, 7688 SW Capitol Highway

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler will present his Homelessness Policy Agenda and hear citizen ideas and priorities for improving efforts to address homelessness. Events are free but reservations are encouraged; go to <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/wheeler/80228>. 




Friends & Allies Summit

March 14, 3-5pm, Holocene, 1001 SE Morrison St.

More than 100 different groups work together to keep our parks clean, accessible and thriving, by mobilizing volunteers, hosting movies and concerts, raising serious money and public support for improvements to parks they love, and more.


To help this important work continue, the Foundation will bring together friends and allies of Portland's parks, community gardens and nature spaces for a celebratory afternoon to highlight and honor the volunteerism, advocacy and programming of groups devoted to parks.

Among other events, the Summit will include success stories, learning opportunities, presentation of the Foundation's Champion Awards. The event is free but tickets must be reserved, which can be done online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/portlands-parks-friends-allies-summit-tickets-88919704229?utm-medium=discovery&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&aff=escb&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing> 



Aid for Fire Victims

Ongoing

Several families lost nearly everything and were displaced by a 4-alarm fire on Aug. 26 near NE 82nd and Siskiyou. The Lumberyard Bike Park, Grand Avenue Boxing Gym, another unoccupied gym, and 59 cars and vans were damaged in the blaze. A GoFundMe account has been established to help the displaced families, and its first payout was made in October. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/ForMadisonSouth> 

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Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated.

There are vacancies on the RCPNA Board of Directors and Committees.

Renters and members of other historically under-represented populations are especially welcome.

Email info@rcpna.org.

The RCPNA Events Committee seeks volunteers and local businesses interested in being involved with RCPNA and Community Partner associated events.

Email events@rcpna.org.

The Rose City Park Playground Project

is in need of a grant writer. Email

rosecityparkplaygroundproject@gmail.com.

ABOUT RCPNA

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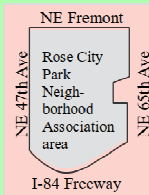
Our Mission -

The Rose City Park Neighborhood Association works to maintain and improve the livability of the neighborhood.

♦ Association Membership ♦

All persons of voting age who reside, own property or operate a business, or others who cause for interest in the area map at right, shall be eligible for membership in the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association (RCPNA). There are no dues or requirements imposed that would in any way prevent a person from becoming or remaining a member.

CNN is the coalition office for the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association and provides support and funding for this newsletter. For information about the wider Northeast Portland areas, check out www.cnncoalition.org.



Previous issues of the Rose City Park Review are available online at <http://www.rcpna.org/past-issues>.

There is also a collection of RCPNA-related public documents online at <http://www.rcpna.org/documents>.

Get Recognized!

Become an RCPNA Advertiser

Are you looking to get more out of your marketing budget? Here's your chance to have your organization's message delivered to the doorstep of over 4,000 local homes and businesses. The Rose City Park Review newsletter is published 4 times a year and ads can be purchased for an individual issue or for the entire year. Paid advertising enables the neighborhood association to publish the newsletter, provide grants to local organizations, and sponsor events such as the summer concerts and neighborhood clean-up.

To place an ad or for more information, email advertising@rcpna.org or connect with Jennifer Santhouse, Advertising Coordinator (and Board member), at the March 31-April 1 Candidate Fair.

Ad Rates:

Business Card Size (horizontal) = \$40/issue/\$150/yr
Double Size (vertical) = \$80/issue/\$300/yr

EDITORIAL

By LYNN DELLA, Editor

Portland has been called the whitest city in America. It has one of the largest homeless populations. Our rents are among the highest in the nation. The disparity in income levels continues to widen. We hear much about prejudice, diversity, exclusion and inclusion.

Most of us agree that there's a legitimate need for improvement but how we can achieve it often isn't clear. Sometimes the most well-meaning of us—especially those of us who are not members of under- or unrepresented populations—truly don't know what we can best do to serve or include those who are. From what I've seen, however, no matter how earnestly we may reach out, no progress can be made if those who feel ostracized, marginalized, overlooked, compromised, neglected, or invisible don't—or won't—reach back. Saying that things must change is important but so is joining the conversation about what, specifically, is needed and how those of us who don't live the problems can be relied on to provide the best fixes. The conversation must be a common one, with representatives from each side dropping their defenses in deference to a common goal.

I speak only for myself but I know that it is a goal of the RCPNA Board to increase the Association's inclusivity, and that means that the renters, the ethnic and cultural minorities and other populations who may not feel represented need to attend General and Board and committee meetings, to let their voices and positions be heard and known. Only together can we make RCPNA the best it can be.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this essay are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association or its Board of Directors.

Updated Speed Limit on NE 57th Avenue

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) has changed the speed limit on NE 57th Ave to 25 mph between NE Sandy Boulevard and NE Fremont Street, effective January 8, as part of the City's Vision Zero goal.

LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The LU&T Committee meets regularly on the third Thursday of every month from 7-9 pm at Head Start at Owen Blank School, 909 NE 52nd Avenue. The next meetings are scheduled for March 19, April 16, May 14. Agendas are posted on Nextdoor, on the RCPNA Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/rcpna>) and at www.RCPNA.org. Interested? Please attend!

The Land Use & Transportation Committee met on February 20 and outlined numerous Comprehensive Plan violations not addressed by the City's staff on RIP. These were forwarded to the Board for its review at a Special Board Meeting on March 3. The Board's goal is to be both precise about the ways RIP violates the already in-place Comprehensive Plan and hard-hitting about the ways that violation illustrates a much wider and more uncertain/dysfunctional policy. The Board was asked to make this recommendation to the City Council for its March 12 reopening of public testimony on RIP.

TRACKING NEIGHBORHOOD LU&T PROJECTS

Residential Infill Project (RIP)

The next Council hearing for the RIP is scheduled for March 12; public testimony is being accepted.

1435 NE 62nd

A three-story mixed use building with three units is proposed, reportedly to be 7,500 sq.ft. Information on parking and other details of the project are not yet known.

5024 NE Fremont

Proposal is for an apartment complex of 18 650-sq.ft. apartments in two three-story buildings, including an outdoor courtyard with lined rainwater planter, waste-recycling room and bike parking. No on-site parking is included (or required).

60th Avenue MAX Station Area Improvements - NE Halsey St (47th-60th); NE 60th Ave (Halsey-Glisan)

PBOT design progress is at 30%, with a July 2020 completion. The Committee prefers a bike route on 60th or 62nd to PBOT's proposed route on 61st (Snake Hill). On December 3, the RCPNA Board voted to formally oppose the proposed bike route on 61st (Snake Hill), with the recommendation that other routes, including those identified by the Committee, also be reviewed and considered.

Our Lady of LaVang Parish - NE Alameda between 54th and 57th

The church has announced its purchase of a larger facility and it expects to have the purchase of its new Clackamas facility completed by this summer and completion of the parish relocation by next summer, following extensive remodeling at the new facility.


Sandy 51 Apartments - 51st Ave. and Sandy Blvd.

Construction is underway, with completion estimated in late 2020.

Thompson 6 – Townhouses - 4932 NE Thompson

Project is in for a building permit.

Umpqua Bank Apartments - 47th Ave. and Sandy Blvd.

Construction is underway for a six-story, mixed-use building with 112 living units above ground-floor retail tenant space, bike/vehicle parking, mechanical and trash rooms; completion date has not been announced. 

PREVIEW OF COMING RCPNA EVENTS

RCPNA May General Meeting “We Love Our Neighborhood”— May 26

Showcasing and celebrating the best of the Rose City Park neighborhood, with information tables available for RCPNA and its various committees, our Community Partners, and others.

RCPNA & Hollywood Neighborhood Associations Clean-Up—May 30

This year's clean-up will again be at the St. Rose of Lima Church. Additional information is forthcoming. 

CITY ISSUES

Residential Infill Project—Update

The Residential Infill Project is updating Portland's single-dwelling zoning rules to better meet the changing housing needs of current and future residents. The project addresses increasing the range of available housing options while limiting the size of buildings and improving building design. For more information visit the project website at: www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/infill.

City Council will be holding two public hearings in January: January 15 at 2 pm and January 16 at 5 pm. Oral testimony will be accepted, limited to 2 minutes per person. Both hearings will be located in Council Chambers, 1221 SW 4th Avenue. Written testimony will be accepted prior to the meetings; it must be received by the time of the hearing and must include your name and address.

For more information, visit the website or contact Morgan Tracy, at (503) 823-6879 or by email to Morgan.Tracy@portlandoregon.gov.

City Council OKs Portland Street Response

In November, the Portland City Council unanimously voted to implement a pilot program, which will dispatch two-person teams staffed by civilians—a medic from the Fire Bureau and a crisis worker—rather than police, to 911 calls that are not specifically medical, such as reports of people lying in the street, yelling in a park or suspected of using drugs, camping on private property, or who need help accessing social services.

The first trial of the program will begin in the spring, in Fire District 11, which covers much of the Lents neighborhood, where calls to 911 have risen 20% over the last few years (compared to 11% citywide). In addition, the Lents neighborhood is geographically small yet diverse. The City hopes to add a second team later in the year; additional locations have not yet been announced. **Continue to use One Point of Contact:** reportpdx@portlandoregon.gov.

Proposed Revision of City Code Section 3.96—Update

On January 9, the City Council heard from 35 people who had signed up to testify at the November 14 hearing but were unable to do so. No additional testimony was taken and no other new information was presented.

A January 30 work session to review the November 14 Resolution was postponed. Since the record remains open, residents may still submit written testimony. Testimony should refer to City Council Item 1053 and may be emailed to cctestimony@portlandoregon.gov or mailed in hard copy to Portland City Council, 1221 SW 4th Ave., Portland, OR 97204.

For more information, see <https://swni.org/article/proposed-revision-civic-engagement-city-code-396>.

Rose (Sandy Boulevard Bus) Lane Project

The Rose Lane Project report was published in early February. For more information about the Project, see its [website](https://www.portlandoregon.gov/TRANSPORTATION/80076) (<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/TRANSPORTATION/80076>) or contact April Bertelsen, Transit Coordinator, at April.bertelsen@portlandoregon.gov or (503) 823-6177.





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Tamara DeRidder

RCPNA Community Partners are organizations and businesses wanting to make a positive impact in their neighborhood through ongoing support.

Their contributions help fund RCPNA events such as the summer concerts, and make this publication possible, as well as providing space for our annual clean-up event and places to hold our meetings.

Partnerships are available at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels, which provide the donors with increasing benefits commensurate with their level of contribution.

For more information, visit the [Community Partners](#) section of our website or email communitypartners@rcpna.org.

RCPNA WEBSITE UPDATES

The RCPNA website continues to receive improvements!

- The number of category menus at the top of each page has been expanded to minimize the number of levels one must “drill down” to reach the desired topic or page.
- More items now appear on each page, making it easier to access the most current ones.
- The Helpful Hints section has been completely redefined. It now contains a link to the Multnomah County List of Resources, which will always be the most current version.
- The Documents Archive section now has its own link on the home page.

Let us know what you think!



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RCPNA General Meeting

◆ *Candidate Fair* ◆

Tuesday, March 31 and Wednesday, April 1, 2020

The German American Society - 5626 NE Alameda Blvd.

6:00 - 9:00 pm

All candidates who have filed for Mayor or City Commissioner positions 1, 2 and 4 by the March 10 deadline will have been invited to participate. As of our publication date, more than 30 candidates had filed, with at least another half-dozen expected to file, so the decision was made to expand the Fair into two successive evenings so that the candidates have more time. In addition, it is not yet certain which candidates will appear at each session; that information will be available prior to the meeting.

In addition, **the events will start an hour earlier than usual.**

The candidates will be given the opportunity to make a very brief opening statement, then respond to questions from the Board and neighbors (provided in advance via email to info@rcpna.org or on note cards provided at the meeting) that will be presented to them.

The meeting will be live-streamed and recorded for later viewing.

Because of the large number of candidates and very limited time, there will be no questions taken from the floor.

RCPNA has arranged for childcare to be provided, by trained, certified childcare workers.

All neighborhood meetings are, by City Neighborhood Standards, public meetings and are open to all.

Parking will be available in the German American Society lot across NE Alameda.

Parking may also be available in the Our Lady of La Vang Church lot directly west of the German American Society building; check for a sign at the curb.

This lot will be locked at 9:30 pm.

Check our website, Facebook page or Nextdoor for the latest information.

RCPNA CALENDAR

March 2, 7-8:30 pm, Communications Committee Basics Market, NE 50 th Avenue & Sandy Boulevard	March 3, 7-9 pm, Board of Directors—Special Meeting German American Society, 5626 NE Alameda Street
March 19, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee Head Start at Owen Blank School, 909 NE 52nd Avenue	March 31, 6-9 pm, RCPNA CANDIDATE FAIR (PART 1) German American Society, 5626 NE Alameda Street
April 1, 6-9 pm, RCPNA CANDIDATE FAIR (PART 2) German American Society, 5626 NE Alameda Street	April 6, 7-8:30 pm, Communications Committee Basics Market, NE 50 th Avenue & Sandy Boulevard
April 7, 7-9 pm, Board of Directors German American Society, 5626 NE Alameda Street	April 16, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee Head Start at Owen Black School, 909 NE 52nd Avenue