



Spring 2020 Vol. 46, Issue 7

www.rcpna.org

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

Spring Digital-Only Issue

Are you on our email list?

*Sign up today to get our digital-only issues sent to you directly,
as well as other announcements and notices from RCPNA!*

**Note that our regular May issue will also be digital-only this year,
out of concern for the health and safety of our delivery crew volunteers.**

Schedule Changes. Additional information will be forthcoming in the May issue of the *Review*, as well as via Nextdoor and RCPNA e-mail “blasts,” and on the RCPNA website and Facebook page.

- **RCPNA General Meeting (May 26, 7-9 pm).** The meeting **will take place as scheduled**, but it will be conducted **remotely**. *More information on page 3.*
- **RCPNA/Hollywood Clean-Up (scheduled for May 30) has been cancelled.** In compliance with the COVID-19 guidelines and the Governor’s prohibitions against gatherings, CNN* cancelled all neighborhood association-sponsored clean-ups. It may be possible to hold the Clean-Up sometime after Labor Day but that is currently unknown. (*CNN, Central Northeast Neighbors, is the non-profit coalition of the nine neighborhood associations in the central northeast part of Portland. The NAs operate under and through CNN and are considered non-profit organization adjuncts of CNN.)
- **Rose City Park Playground Project’s 2020 Play Day (scheduled for June 6) has been cancelled.** In response to concerns about the COVID-19 virus, the committee felt this was the best way to proceed. The committee is still working to achieve its goal of installing a new playground in the park but will not host any events until it can be certain of the health and safety of our neighbors.
- **RCPNA/Hollywood Picnic-in-the-Park Concerts (July 18 & 25) are on schedule.** As of now, the concerts are still scheduled to take place as planned. LaRhonda Steele has been booked for the July 18 concert, and Norman Sylvester for the one on July 25.



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COVID-19

(2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS)

Oregonians have been so good about following the Governor's recommendations and orders that the state's contagion rate has remained at only about 5% of people tested, well below the national average of 19%, and our hospitalization and death numbers have been among the lowest in the country. According to a press release on April 12, new projections from health researchers, based on the latest actual COVID-19 infection, hospitalization and death data, estimate that Oregon's "aggressive" social distancing measures have prevented as many as 18,000 cases of the virus and 500 hospitalizations. The restrictions must, however, be maintained into May to prevent new cases from rising above current daily levels of active coronavirus cases.

It has been a challenging time for many, as schools and offices have closed, whether temporarily, permanently or "until further notice." We've had to adjust not only to being "stuck" at home ourselves but also having children and other adults around all day while trying to work remotely, for those whose work can be done from home. In addition, we've had to get used to new protocols for routine activities, such as something as "ordinary" as grocery shopping and having to get take-out or have prepared food delivered rather than dining out.

We've had to forego social gatherings and celebrate birthdays and anniversaries at home, with only our immediate family members. Travel has been restricted, resulting in cancelled business trips and seminars, major sporting events, spring break activities, graduations, weddings, funerals and other personal travel for many, as well as missed opportunities to visit family members who may be in poor health, whether or not virus-connected.

We extend our deepest condolences to anyone who has lost someone during this time, especially those who succumbed to complications of the virus.

We continue to encourage everyone to follow the guidance of the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) (<https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>), whether in terms of preventative measures, how to recognize the symptoms, what to do if one believes they've been exposed or become infected, and for other resources. They are the most reliable sources of up-to-date, accurate information. See also Multnomah County's information at <https://multco.us/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>.

A few reminders of ways to be good neighbors:

- For tips on proper handling of garbage and recycling, see <https://beta.portland.gov/bps/garbage-recycling/news/2020/3/25/covid-19-updates-related-garbage-recycling-and-compost-service>
- If you need help, dial 2-1-1 (7 days a week 8 am-11 pm) or visit <https://www.211info.org/> for basic COVID-19 questions and for social and health service navigation.

"Stay Home, Save Lives"



MAY GENERAL MEETING

Virtual Meeting

The meeting will be held as scheduled but will be conducted remotely and live-streamed online. The agenda and information about how to “attend” the meeting will be available in the *May Review*, on the [RCPNA website](#), our [Facebook](#) page and on [Nextdoor](#) (please join our group!).

2020-21 Board Election

The spring General Membership Meeting is when the RCPNA Board of Directors and officers are elected for the next year; however, there is a strong likelihood that this year’s elections will be postponed for several months. Updated information will be in the *May Review*.

Program

We're looking for RCP residents to share a personal story about how neighbors are helping neighbors through this difficult time. This could be about making daily calls to socialize, virtual games, finding ways to help with grocery deliveries, yard work, gardening, simply stepping outside to chat with others or leading a sidewalk exercise group! Please share your story—it just might inspire others.

To share your story, please email us at shareyourstory@rcpna.org by **May 15**. Include your first and last name, contact phone number, and your story—just a brief statement about how you are (or someone else is) helping others or activities you (or others) are doing to help cope through this difficult time. Responses will be reviewed for length and content and you may be contacted for additional information. We look forward to hearing from you!



RCPNA thanks its Community Partner for its service to the community during the stay home-stay safe order.

THANK YOU ROSE CITY PARK NEIGHBORS FOR YOUR SUPPORT! STAY HEALTHY OUT THERE.



WE'RE OPEN FOR TAKEOUT AND DELIVERY!
FOOD SPECIALS, GROWLERS, \$100 KEGS
ORDER ONLINE @ WWW.PORTLANDWINGS.COM

Also on the topic of elections

The deadline for registering for Oregon’s May 19 primary election is 11:59 pm on Tuesday, April 28. The fastest and most reliable way of registering is directly on the State’s [website](#). Alternatively, you can complete a Voter Registration Form and return it to the County elections office. For the form and more information (and a direct link to the registration page), visit the [Online Voter Registration webpage](#).

For more information about “open” and “closed” primaries, see the [Voting in Oregon webpage](#).

Remember that, in Oregon, major parties (currently only the Democratic and Republican parties) have the option of choosing to have either an “open” or “closed” primary. In an open primary, the party allows registered voters not registered with another party to vote for candidates in their party's primary; in a closed primary, only registered voters affiliated with that party can vote for candidates of the same party.

ABOUT RCPNA

Officers:

Tamara DeRidder, *Chair*
Ed Gorman, *Vice Chair*
Jennifer Santhouse, *Secretary*
Richard Crockett, *Treasurer*

Website:

www.rcpna.org

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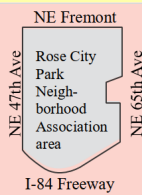
♦ Our Mission ♦

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

♦ Association Membership ♦

The Rose City Park Neighborhood Association (RCPNA) is open to all persons of voting age who reside, own property or operate a business, government agency or non-profit organization within the boundaries of the neighborhood (area shown in map at right). 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.

Ad Rates:

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

HEARD AROUND THE 'HOOD

Have you checked your license plates lately?

We've noticed recently (on Nextdoor) that neighbors in Rose City Park and surrounding neighborhoods (as well as elsewhere in the city) have been discovering (sometimes after having been stopped by police) that their vehicles are "wearing" mismatched license plates. It turns out that, in addition to breaking into and stealing vehicles, thieves are now also stealing license plates with current tags and replacing them with either plates with expired tags or simply plates from (likely stolen) cars to minimize the likelihood of detection. Accordingly, it would be a good idea to regularly confirm that your vehicles are carrying only their proper plates!

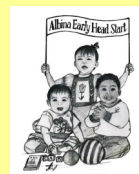


OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

♦ GOLD ♦



♦ SILVER ♦



Albino Head Start/
Early Head Start



♦ BRONZE ♦



Tamara DeRidder

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 scheduled meeting is May 14; as noted elsewhere in this issue, until further notice all RCPNA meetings are currently being conducted remotely. Agendas are posted on Nextdoor, on the RCPNA Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/rcpna>) and at www.RCPNA.org.

TRACKING NEIGHBORHOOD LU&T PROJECTS

Residential Infill Project (RIP)

As reported in the last Review, 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. Upon request, the Board made this recommendation to the City Council for its reopening of public testimony on RIP (originally scheduled for March 12).

The RIP is currently on hold given the current stay-at-home orders. The City Council may take it up again in a few weeks. We will keep monitoring.

1435 NE 62nd

Permit sought for 2-3-story residential building for household living with ~5 dwelling units (existing single-family residence/accessory structure to be demolished). Early assistance completed; public works/transportation, mechanical, and construction permits pending, at pre-issuance (since December).

5024 NE Fremont

Permit sought to remove existing structure and erect 1,000 SF of retail space and 10 one-bedroom units (2 buildings with shared stairway) (no density requirement in CM1 zone; proposed FAR is 1.5). There is a 10-ft. setback on the east and south with a 0-ft. lot line at the street level and west end. Early assistance completed; demolition permit pending, at pre-issuance since 3/18/20 (subject to 35-day demo delay appeal period—expired 4/17/20). Developer has shared plans and elevations with the LU&T Committee and will be posted with next meeting.

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

PBOT design progress continues, with a July 2020 completion. As far as we know, the design remains as earlier described, with the bike route on 61st.

Our Lady of LaVang Parish - 5404 NE Alameda St

The parish is hoping to close the purchase for its new site by the end of April. Remodeling is expected to take 12-18 months before the parish could move to the new location. We will continue to monitor.

Sandy 51 Apartments (2351 NE 51st Ave)

Construction has topped out at six stories. Completion still expected at the end of 2020.

Thompson 6 – Townhouses (4950-4968 NE Thompson)

Building permit has been issued. Project is awaiting financing.

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

Construction continues. Contractor requested noise variance for large concrete pour from 5:00 am to 6:00 pm on April 17. Reportedly, this was a one-time only occurrence.



ROSE CITY PARK PLAYGROUND PROJECT (RCPPP)



Rose City Park Playground Project launches *100 Families for \$100K* campaign

The Rose City Park Playground Project kicked off its new fundraising campaign in March, called *100 Families for \$100K*! The goal of the campaign is to build strong support from Rose City Park residents in support of building a new playground in the park.

The RCPPT is looking to find 100 families who are able to contribute \$1,000 or more to the campaign. Each family that gives at this level will be featured on the RCPPT Facebook and Instagram pages to celebrate their donation. This is also an opportunity for neighbors to come together to celebrate their contributions toward revitalizing the playground in Rose City Park and to help inspire others to give. Those that wish to stay anonymous can participate, as well.

Since the campaign was launched, two families have donated a total of \$4,000.

The first featured donor was Alison Taylor and her family, which donated \$3,000!

Alison and her family have lived in RCP for several years, and she is inspired by our community. When asked why she is supporting the RCPPT, Alison stated, "I'm fortunate enough to give both my time and money to a project that is so dedicated to improving our playground in RCP."



Karen and Gary Gitner donated \$1,000 to the cause! When asked why they donated, Gary and Karen stated, "We moved to Rose City Park neighborhood to be near our kids and grandson.

Rose City Park is our grandson's park and our park. It's a place to play together, a place to meet neighbors and friends to play, picnic, relax under trees, play sports, walk. But it needs a play structure to draw our neighbors and our neighborhood children there. Please give generously to our Rose

City Park Playground Project so a play structure can be realized at RCP."

Thanks to the Gitner and Taylor families for all your support!

If you would like to be one of the *100 Families for \$100K*, email rosecityparkplayground-project@gmail.com to learn more.

You can also help us spread the word! Follow us:

- Instagram [@rcppplaygroundproject](https://www.instagram.com/rcppplaygroundproject)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rcppplaygroundproject>



AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Take a Walk on the Wild Side

BY SUZANNE BRIGGS



Come discover one of our neighborhood's hidden treasures - the Rose City Bluff Trail. Hidden along the north edge of the Rose City Golf Course, below NE Sacramento Street, it is a half-mile long nature trail.

Since March 2018, a group of area residents have been working to reclaim this bluff from invasive brambles of overly successful non-native blackberries in order to expose and encourage native plants; and to encourage its use as a walking trail. The faithful group continues to meet every Sunday morning at 9:30 am at the 62nd Ave. and NE Sacramento stairway, while other volunteers work on weekdays. Trail patrons often pause to express their appreciation, which has created many new friendships. The Rose City Bluff weekly email now connects more than 50 trail advocates.

Two years later, the hillside has been transformed, with expanded views and uncovered precious native plants. In February, we began planting more native species of plants donated by volunteers and our neighbor, Greg Shepherd, co-owner of Xera Plants.

Also in February, Greg led the first of our native plant trail walks to help us learn about our native flora. More than 35 neighbors gathered for this event.

In addition, area resident Trask Coby, an avid birder, has helped us learn more about the bird species that inhabit the bluff. He tracks observed species on the Ebird website, <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L2499891>.

Two more Native Plant Walks were planned but are now on hold until further notice.

If you would like to be included on our email distribution list, please contact Suzanne Briggs at sbriggs@att.net. See you on the trail!



Greg Shepard, co-owner of Xera Plants, shares his knowledge of native plants on February 9.

A HEALTHY ASSOCIATION IS AN ACTIVE ASSOCIATION

RCPNA is an association of neighbors, for neighbors!

The Rose City Park neighborhood is not as diverse as some others, and the RCPNA Board and committees would benefit from having representatives who are renters, members of historically under-represented populations, and more women, but these gaps cannot be filled unless people come forward to engage them.

RCPNA has the following standing committees: Communications (communications@rcpna.org), Events (events@rcpna.org), Land Use & Transportation (landuse@rcpna.org), the Rose City Park Playground Project (RCPPP) (rosecityparkplaygroundproject@gmail.com), and Safety (safety@rcpna.org).

In addition, the Communication Committee is in search of someone to serve as media coordinator and the RCPNP needs a grant writer.

If you or someone you know would like to take a more active role in helping RCPNA be all it can be, let us know! Regarding Board positions, email info@rcpna.org or speak to a current Board member. For more information about, or to join a committee, email the committees directly.



RCPNA General Meeting—Virtual



Tuesday, May 26, 2020

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Conducted remotely, streamed online
(access information to follow)

BOARD ELECTIONS

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, the elections are likely to be postponed for several months. A decision will be made by the Board at a special meeting on May 5. Updated information will be published in the May, digital-only Review.

All current Board members are running for re-election; they are, in alphabetical order by first name; current officers are identified by role:

♦ Don Levine ♦ Ed Gorman (vice-chair) ♦ Geoff Gifford ♦ Jay Griffith
♦ Jennifer Santhouse (secretary) ♦ Joe Saraceno ♦ Kelly Davis ♦ Meg Griffith ♦ Michelle Neidiger
♦ Neil Chodorow ♦ Richard Crockett (treasurer) ♦ Tamara DeRidder (chair) ♦ Terry Parker

The Association's Bylaws permit as many as 25 Board members, so there are no contested positions and as many 12 new Board members may be elected at this General Meeting.

PROGRAM

The program has not yet been finalized but is expected to include one or more speakers and a presentation of stories from Rose City Park residents and business owners about how they have dealt with the COVID-19 stay-home orders. (See page 3 for more information.)

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

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

RCPNA CALENDAR

All meetings will be held remotely at least until the State again permits public gatherings.

May 4, 7-8:30 pm, Communications Committee

May 5, 7-9 pm, Board of Directors—Special Meeting

May 21, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee

May 26, 6-9 pm, GENERAL MEETING—Virtual
Live via Zoom, live streaming on Facebook

June 1, 7-8:30 pm, Communications Committee

June 2, 7-9 pm, Board of Directors

June 18, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee