



October 2020 Vol. 47, Issue 3

www.rcpna.org

At least 5 issues per year - The Official Newsletter of the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association - [Submissions Welcome](#)

Again published in both digital and hard-copy formats!

We are delighted to report that our delivery crew volunteers are ready to resume hand-delivering hard copies of the newsletter to every neighborhood home and business. The newsletter will continue to be published digitally and circulated via email, our website, on Facebook & Nextdoor.

Are you on our email list?

Sign up at www.rcpna.org to get our digital-only issues sent to you directly, as well as other announcements and notices from RCPNA!

YOU'RE INVITED—OCTOBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING!

October 21, 7-9 pm (video access available at 6:45)

◆ Candidates Forum and Discussion of Ballot Measures

◆ Portland City Council Position #4:
Chloe Eudaly and Mingus Mapps



◆ Metro Council Position #5:
Mary Nolan and Chris Smith



◆ Committee Reports

The full agenda was incomplete at press time but will be available on the RCPNA website (<https://www.rcpna.org>), on Facebook (www.facebook.com/rcpna) and on Nextdoor.



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CHAIR'S CORNER

By TAMARA DERIDDER, RCPNA Chair



These are challenging times. We have all been faced with a “new normal” with the impact of the COVID-19 virus. Major elections are happening soon. We then add the epic fires across the state, where smoke and upended lives of a relation or friend have reached into our very homes. It is a reminder, yet again, of how interdependent we are. I want to take this moment to share how very blessed I feel being in a community with neighbors who are willing to step up to help one another.

Just last month, the RCPNA Board voted to donate \$500 to the Oregon Food Bank, to help those having trouble making ends meet.

The Nextdoor news feed is filled with neighbors willing to help those in need with tasks (see https://nextdoor.com/help_map).

RCPNA's own Neighborhood Emergency Team volunteers have been called out repeatedly to assist the Portland Fire Bureau with downed lines due to high winds, and to manage traffic safety. They have freed up hundreds of hours of emergency personnel time, thereby making it possible for these professionals to respond to those most in need.

Within hours after flames devastated the City of Talent, Rose City Futsal coordinated a wildfire relief supply drive to be held only a few days later (see <https://rosecityfutsal.com>).

I, too, have been moved to act and have found donating funds to be the most efficient way for me to provide help. We have given money to Red Cross (<https://redcross.org/local/oregon.html>) and Fur Love Heaven (for displaced animals, <https://www.furlovehaven.org>).

Thank you to these individuals and organizations and the many others who have and continue to step up to help!

Now, as we face one of the most important elections in the past 60 years, we must steel our reserve and continue our good work. Together, we must help get out the vote in November. Thank you again for all you do for our community!

RCPNA is seeking a new Newsletter Editor.

Lynn Della, who has held the position for 2½ years and very much enjoyed the position, has moved out of the Rose City Park neighborhood and recently took on new work responsibilities that have significantly reduced her available time. She will remain in the position for a limited period of time or until a successor is found and oriented, whichever comes first, and hopes to maintain the friends she has made through RCPNA. We will miss Lynn's contributions and wish her well.

For more information, please contact editor@rcpna.org.

ABOUT RCPNA

Officers:

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

Board Members:

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Jay Griffith
Meg Griffith
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Terry Parker
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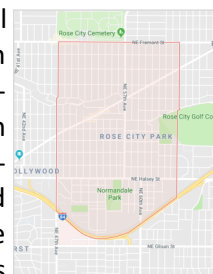
Website:

www.rcpna.org

The Rose City Park Neighborhood Association (RCPNA) is part of Portland's network of neighborhood associations, which represent their neighborhoods' interests in a wide variety of ways, including interfacing with public agencies and governing bodies. RCPNA's mission is to work to maintain and improve the livability of the neighborhood.

Membership in 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 (NE Fremont St. to I-84 and NE 47th to NE 67th Avenues). There are no dues or other requirements preventing a neighbor from becoming or remaining a member.

RCPNA is governed by a board of directors, unpaid volunteers who are elected annually at a general membership meeting, and it operates under the aegis of Central Northeast Neighbors, one of several area coalition offices that provide support to Portland's 95 neighborhood associations. Learn more at www.rcpna.org. For information about the wider Northeast Portland areas, check out www.cnncoalition.org.



LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

BY KELLY DAVIS, CO-CHAIR

The LU&T Committee meets regularly on the 3rd Thurs. of every month from 7-9. During the Pandemic, we are using Zoom meetings. Information on joining the meetings will be posted on Facebook, Nextdoor and on our website at <https://www.RCPNA.org>. The next Committee meetings are scheduled for October 15 and November 19. Interested? Please attend! All are welcome.

Residential Infill Project (RIP)

The Portland City Council voted on August 12, 3-1 to adopt the Residential Infill Project (RIP), which will increase housing opportunities for Portlanders across the city over the next several decades. RIP reopens Portland's residential neighborhoods to more housing types on a typical residential lot (triplexes, fourplexes, sixplexes and cottage clusters). Over the next 20 years up to 24,000 more households could be accommodated. The Residential Infill Project "right sizes" Portland's single-family homes by resetting the maximum square footage from 6,500 to 2,500 sq. ft. There are some provisions in the RIP to preserve historic properties and through incentives, to provide more affordable housing types. For more information: <https://www.portland.gov/bps/rip>

The Board considered submitting an appeal to this decision to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) but, based on the extraordinary cost, likely exceeding \$40,000, and our inability to identify a clear violation to a state regulation the Board decided not to proceed. The adoption of the Residential Infill Project must now be acknowledged by the State and implementation is expected in 2021.

PDX Shelter Forum

There is a proposal out of the Cully neighborhood association and Community First to encourage other neighborhoods to provide designated sites for campers that would be "immune" from sweeps. Portable toilet and showers would be provided. The RCPNA will wait for direction from the City and our neighborhood coalition (CNN) before proceeding further. We will keep the neighborhood informed.

Sandy Blvd. Civic Corridor Plan

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) is applying for grant funding from ODOT for a study of NE Sandy Blvd. from the Central City to I-205. This area of the city is experiencing major growth in housing and jobs. At the same time, the current roadway design of Sandy Blvd is largely auto-oriented, with four general purpose travel lanes and on-street parking, with widely spaced pedestrian crossings and a sidewalk corridor that is disrupted in many locations at large, skewed intersections. There is no accommodation for bicycle travel along Sandy Blvd and very few transit priority treatments for the frequent Line 12 bus. This study will provide direction for future public capital projects along the roadway as well as for private developments that occur along the corridor. The plan will include development and evaluation of multiple alternative design concepts for the corridor with a full investigation of benefits and drawbacks for different modes of travel as well as for safety, equity, access, and other criteria.

The LU&T Committee provided a letter of support for the study with several stipulations that were viewed as important to the neighborhood. That letter was subsequently rejected by PBOT as being overly restrictive to the process. RCPNA will continue to be actively engaged in the process and keep the neighborhood informed along the way.



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ROSE CITY BUSINESS PROFILE: TIERRA EDUCATIONAL CENTER

THIS IS THE SECOND IN A NEW SERIES BY ROSE CITY PARK NEIGHBOR NATE RAMSEY, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED TO THE AREA AFTER LIVING IN THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA FOR SEVERAL YEARS. NATE IS ALSO AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE RCPNA COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE.

As parents of school-age children are now well aware, educating students virtually is hard, and transitioning to a fully virtual learning environment quickly and effectively is close to impossible. Yet that is precisely what Norberto and Elyse Medina, the owners of the Tierra Educational Center, did this past spring as the Covid-19 pandemic wreaked havoc on Portland and the rest of country.

Over the course of two highly uncertain weeks in mid-March, the Medinas rapidly transformed their in-person Spanish language and culture teaching business to an all-online endeavor. Initially, they wondered if students would enroll in classes that had previously taken place in person at their Glisan Street center but they were comforted to discover that their mostly-adult clientele enjoys flexible class times, the freedom to not commute, and an appreciation for the thoughtful Spanish-language learning curriculum the Medinas have spent years refining.

The fact that Portlanders remain eager to participate in second-language courses despite the current uncertainty and anxiety of the American moment is heartening ... but it shouldn't be surprising. Tierra Educational Center offers something more valuable than an education in Spanish: a sense of community. And, with the normal mechanics of life disrupted—think work, travel, shopping, recreating, socializing—a strengthened sense of place and belonging by way of consistent, substantive interactions through online classes, is appealing to residents of Rose City Park and beyond.

Tierra's classes in Spanish language and cultural immersion serve a wide range of students, from complete novices to fluent speakers interested in reading and discussing famous works of literature by Latin American authors, in Spanish. While offering classes for kindergarten through fifth graders on Saturday mornings, Tierra primarily serves adult learners, with class times throughout weekdays and evenings. There really isn't a typical Tierra student; enrollees include teachers, nurses, health care workers, college students and would-be travelers looking to bone up on their Spanish prior to visiting Latin American countries or Spain. The characteristic nearly all students have in common is a predisposition for open-mindedness and an interest in expanding one's cultural awareness.

In addition to teaching, Norberto and Elyse also serve, respectively, as the center's director and academic director. The pair, who are married and have four children under the age of 10, met (where else?!) teaching Spanish in Portland in the mid-2000s. Seeking the autonomy that comes with running one's own business, they opened Tierra in 2009, with the aim of sharing their love of the Spanish language and culture with all who are interested. Initially, the couple grew the business (in part) by handing out flyers at Portland neighborhood street fairs, usually with children in tow. Nowadays, they're fortunate to land many new customers through word-of-mouth; a testament to their pedagogical effectiveness. Elyse and Norberto's qualities as both business owners and educators are the foundation of Tierra's success. Elyse coordinates class schedules with Tierra's instructors

and, in the classroom, she excels at fostering a comfortable learning environment conducive to student engagement. Norberto manages the company's website and handles its finances; in the classroom, he's methodical and philosophical as he guides students along the path of their unique learning journeys.

Community, culture, career advancement and a curriculum that translates well to online learning It almost makes one forget about the trip down the South American Pacific coastline cancelled due to Covid. Almost.





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Prepping Your Home for a Sale and Home Inspection

BY JENNY MOODY, MEADOWS GROUP INC REALTORS

Interested in selling for top dollar? Many of these items can be done with little cost and many are simple maintenance for a homeowner. I give this list to my clients who are considering a sale. In my 15 years' experience with helping buyers and sellers in Portland, these items are the most common issues that come up during a home inspection. (Please note that not all may be applicable to your home or condo.)

1. Clean out dirty gutters or any debris from the roof.
2. Divert all water away from the house; *i.e.*, downspouts, sump pump, condensation drains, etc. Grade should slope away from the structure. Clean out basement entry drains.
3. Trim trees, roots and bushes back from the foundation, roof, siding and chimney.
4. Paint weathered and chipped exterior wood and caulk around the trim, chimney, windows and doors.
5. Seal or repair masonry and chimney caps. Install metal flue/rain cap.
6. Clean or replace HVAC filter. Tune up furnace. Clean dirty air returns.
7. Address obvious failing mortar joints in brick or block.
8. Test all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to ensure they are in safe working condition. Make sure they are up to code and located where they need to be. Go to <https://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/sfm/Pages/Smoke-CO-Alarms.aspx>.
9. Update attic ventilation if none is present. Check that bathroom vents are properly vented out of home (not venting into attic) and working properly.
10. Have the chimney, fireplace or woodstove cleaned and save a copy of the cleaning record.
11. Ensure that all doors and windows are in proper operating condition, including repairing or replacing any cracked window panes.
12. Ensure that all plumbing fixtures are in proper working condition. Check for and fix any leaks. Caulk around fixtures if necessary.
13. Test (and install, if missing) all GFCI receptacles near water sources (kitchens, bath, laundry, etc.).
14. Check sump pump for proper operation.
15. Ensure the water heater is double strapped to an immobile structure.
16. Replace any burned-out light bulbs.
17. Remove rotting wood and/or firewood from contact with the house.
18. Caulk exterior wall penetrations.
19. Treat/check for pests: common are rodents and carpenter ants.
20. Check to ensure that the crawlspace is dry and install a proper vapor barrier if necessary/missing. Remove and treat any visible moisture from a crawlspace.
21. If windows are at or below ground level, consider installing window wells and covers.
22. Have clear access to attic, crawlspace, heating system, garage and other areas that will need inspection.
23. Consider testing your home for radon for your own health. A fan system can be installed to greatly reduce the amount of radon if it is above the EPA's recommendations.
24. A professional sewer scope can identify possible sewer line problems and or blockages before they become a potential issue during a sale.
25. Check your electrical panel and, if missing, add labels to identify all circuits.

Please contact me with any questions if you are considering a sale. Stay safe and be well!

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If you would like to get an estimate of your home's value or just talk through your buying or selling options, I'd love to hear from you.

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Voted a Five-Star Realtor by Portland Monthly for ten years in a row thanks to my clients.

COVID-19

(2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS)

BY LYNN DELLA, EDITOR

We continue to hope this finds you and yours all well and safe, and to take another moment to acknowledge those who have passed away due to COVID-19.

The good news is that Oregonians, by and large, and especially those of us who live in the Willamette Valley, have been fairly diligent about wearing masks, practicing physical distancing and washing our hands frequently, thus keeping the infection rate manageable.

The sad news is that too many people have (and continue to) become seriously and even fatally ill from COVID-19. The most recent figures for the local area as of press time, show Clackamas County with 2,256 confirmed cases, 61 deaths, and—encouragingly—56,853 negative tests; Washington County with 4,289 confirmed cases, 58 deaths, and 87,468 negative tests; and Multnomah County with 6,818 confirmed cases, 130 deaths, and 133,456 negative tests.

The bad news is that it appears we're going to have to continue in our modified behaviors for some time. It seems we have, indeed, arrived at a "new normal," even if only temporarily.

Multnomah County, along with the rest of the tri-county and surrounding areas, has been in Phase 2 for several months now, meaning that we can again gather in small groups, and support our local businesses and restaurants—which badly need it!—whether online or in person (which can now also be done safely by abiding by the rules, regulations and recommendations).

There are comparatively few shortages of goods these days and the supply chains seem to be working well. It's very easy to obtain hand sanitizer—in both liquid-gel and spray-on formulas—from drug, grocery and "one-stop" stores, gift shops and distilleries (what a clever way to utilize what was otherwise a by-product!), as well as affordable, mass-produced fabric face masks (for both adults and children).

The Oregon Health Authority (<https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>) continues to be the best source of information. Here are a couple of their recent infographics.

Is garden produce safe to eat after a poor air quality?

It is always important to follow simple steps to reduce exposure to toxic substances when gardening:

- Wash, soak or peel plants to avoid eating dust and soil particles.
- Don't allow kids to eat soil or dirt.
- Water plants near the bottom of the plants, to prevent soil from splashing up onto plants.
- Avoid overhead watering.
- Take off shoes and wipe down pets to avoid tracking soil or ash into your home.
- Wash your hands.



For more information visit
healthoregon.org/wildfires or call 211

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your sitting posture
while working from home

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while working, on the phone,
or watching TV



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#HealthyAtHome

The RCPNA Board has determined it is in everyone's continued best interests to refrain from live gatherings for the time being but we are delighted to be able to resume in-person delivery of the newsletter!

ROSE CITY PARK PLAYGROUND PROJECT (RCPPP)



Despite not being able to host its planned Play Day this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, the RCPNP continues in its goal of installing a new playground in the park. Its committee, along with the rest of us, is looking forward to when children and families will again be able to enjoy time in our parks, whether for Play Days, Picnic in the Park Concerts, National Night Out events, gathering with friends or just recreating close to home in the outdoors. The Project continues to accept donations toward its goal of establishing a safe modern structure. If you would like to donate or volunteer, or have any questions or concerns, or if you, please email rosecityparkplaygroundproject@gmail.com.



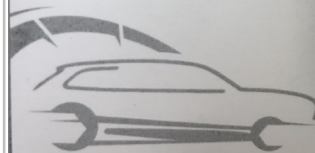
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
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
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RCPNA General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 21, 2020 - 7:00-9:00 pm

Virtual Public Meeting (opens at 6:45)

Conducted remotely, streamed online on YouTube

(to view the live stream or to access the recording afterward,
search YouTube for "rcpna video.")

PROGRAM (preliminary)

Welcome and preview of the proceedings

New Business and Public Comment

Committee Reports

RCPNA Business—Board elections postponed to the next in-person
meeting

Candidates Forum:

—Metro Councilor Position #5: Mary Nolan and Chris Smith

—Portland City Council Position #4: Chloe Eudaly and Mingus Mapps

Election Forum—Discussion of ballot measures

Adjournment

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

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



RCPNA CALENDAR

All RCPNA meetings are open to the public.

Rose City Park neighbors and business owners/operators are especially welcome.

***Until further notice, General, Board and the LUTC committee meetings will be held via Zoom,
and live-streamed (where viewers can ask questions) and recorded for later viewing on YouTube.***

Search "rcpna video" on YouTube to access both the live streams and recordings.

Communications Committee meetings will be conducted via Zoom but will not be streamed or recorded.

Oct. 5, 7-8:30 pm, Communications Committee	Oct. 15, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee
Oct. 21, 7-9 pm, GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING	Nov. 2, 7-8:30 pm, Communications Committee
Nov. 3, 7-9 pm, Board of Directors	Nov. 3, Election Day (ballots must be received by 8pm)
Nov. 19, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee	Nov. 30, 7-8:30 pm, Communications Committee
Dec. 1, 7-9 pm, Board of Directors	Dec. 19, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee