

At least 4 issues per year - The Official Newsletter of the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association Submissions Welcome at Communications@rcpna.org

January 25th General Membership Meeting

Climate Change Discussion in New Meeting Format

Climate change is here and isn't likely to stop any time soon. We may face damaging winds, rain, heat, cold, and smoke. What can we do now to prepare ourselves, our families, and our neighborhood? And how can we work together? The January 25th General Meeting is designed to foster conversation. Yes, it will be on Zoom but there will be two break-out rooms so that you can join a smaller conversation on what interests you most related to extreme weather events. At the conclusion of the breakout sessions, we will reconvene for the group-selected spokespersons to share their priorities and possible next steps prior to the end of this meeting.

Emergency Preparedness, led by Alice Busch, Emergency Management Analyst for Multnomah County Emergency Management. Alice serves as training and exercise Duty Officer for MCEM's public information and community resilience programs. She is also responsible for helping ensure operational readiness and staffing and coordination of the Emergency Operations Center. Previously, she worked as an Emergency Manager for the Department of Human Services, as well as 21 years in the Fire department as an Emergency Manager, EMT, and other roles.



OR

Soil and Water Conservation, led by Whitney Bailey, Senior Urban Conservationist at the East Multnomah County Soil and Water Conservation District. Whitney specializes in rain gardens, stormwater management, invasive plants, pollinator habitat, and nature-scaping. Whitney has an M.S. in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology. She has 18 years of experience in land management, planning, and ecological restoration. She works with private landowners, schools, businesses, and other organizations to develop unique conservation solutions for their properties. Whether by capturing stormwater, reducing erosion, planting native plants, or creating pollinator habitat, she believes conservation begins at home and everyone can be part of the solution.

Never let a serious crisis go to waste, as the saying goes. By working together to prepare for climate change, we can alleviate some of the COVID-era loneliness, get to know each other, and build the civic fabric of Rose City Park. We hope to see you there! The Agenda is on the last page of this Newsletter. Find the link to join the meeting at www.rcpna.org, on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 from 7:00-9:00 pm (video access via ZOOM opens at 6:45 pm).

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CHAIR'S CORNER

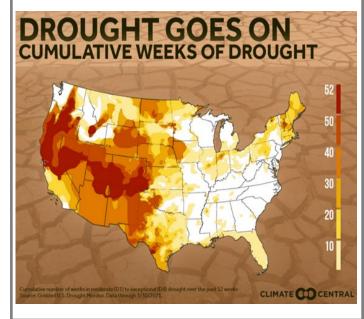
By TAMARA DERIDDER, RCPNA Chair



Is it January 2022 – already?! These past couple of years have felt like one -long-extended-month-of-March-2020. I made a few more excursions in 2021, got to know our neighbors even better, ventured to a couple Portland Thorns games, and even

sang with our choir (fully masked) for Lessons and Carols around Christmas. I am so heartened that, together, we keep making strides with our vaccines and ever-changing safety protocols to address the latest COVID variant. I am challenging myself to continue to work from home as long as I can for both the sake of mitigating this virus as well as to reduce our contribution to Climate Change, since at least 40% of the climate-altering emissions are caused by transportation. Besides doing our personal best to buy/trade locally, use only renewable energy, work from home, and weatherize our home, the incoming drought over the west/northwest has only increased.

This drought, coupled with unseasonably warm weather, needs to serve as a wake-up call for each one of us. Snowmelt-dependent communities are already in crisis and Bull Run is not far behind. The wildfires in 2020 caused smoke that smothered Portland. The fire in Estacada came within only 17-miles of our neighborhood.



At this meeting we turn the tables to listen to you as neighbors. As with any crisis, both neighbors and family are often the first responders. So how can we be prepared to do this? What can we do to best prepare for and mitigate extreme/scalding heat, drying winds, and torrential rain events? How can I garden and maintain trees with limited rainfall? With a humble heart, I am asking you and/ or a member of your household to join me at this important General Membership meeting. Together, we can keep making a difference.

min Dita



ABOUT RCPNA

Officers:

Tamara DeRidder, Chair Zoe Ezechiels, Vice Chair Jennifer Santhouse, Sec. Richard Crockett, Treasurer **Board Members:** Kelly Davis Geoffrey Gifford Alison Taylor Don Levine

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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 65th 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 info about partner Coalition members, check out www.cnncoalition.org. Ø

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LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

BY KELLY DAVIS, CO-CHAIR LU & T COMMITTEE

The LU&T Committee meets regularly on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 7-9 p.m. During the pandemic, we are using Zoom meetings. Information on joining the meetings will be posted on NextDoor and on our website at <u>rcpna.orq</u>. The next Committee meetings are scheduled January 20 and February 17.

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

The Developer proposed adding 6 ground floor units in place of the required retail. They also proposed reducing the parking requirements by one (from 17 to current 16). Our Committee sent in a letter outlining the current parking/ traffic/safety issues and requesting denial. The City ruled with the Developer and approved the additional six units. Given the housing crisis in Portland, the City felt the additional units were warranted.

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

These studios and one bedroom units are complete and are about 33% leased. We have asked how many of the new residents have cars. As most of you know there are some 119 units in this complex and no resident parking stalls. Our Committee is planning on a tour of the building and having ongoing discussions about parking/traffic and any safe-ty issues.

SE Asian Vicariate – Our Lady of La Vang

You may have read that the earlier deal for purchase of the property by Columbia Capital Group for development of 200-300 apartments fell through. The Archdiocese has promised to keep the neighborhood association informed of future updates.

Slow Streets

Scott Cohen from the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) attended our November LU&T Committee meeting to discuss impacts from this project on intersections in our neighborhood including the addition of signage, traffic calming devices or other improvements with the overall intent of slowing traffic. The following intersections are proposed for improvements:

- NE Sacramento and 70th
- NE Sacramento and 64th (alternative without "candlesticks" under review)
- NE Sacramento and 62nd (possible addition to the project)
- NE 53rd and Halsey
- NE 53rd and Irving
- NE 53rd and Glisan
- NE 57th and Sandy/Alameda (design not yet completed)



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Welcome to the Year of the Tiger!

By Jennifer Santhouse, RCPNA Secretary

January 31st is the official start of the Lunar New Year also referred to as Spring Festival, <u>Chinese New Year</u>, <u>Têt (in</u> <u>Vietnam)</u>, and <u>Losar (in Tibet)</u> and is considered the largest holiday celebration in the world. This year we celebrate the Year of the Tiger. Some fun facts about this very important holiday:

- 1. The entire celebration lasts 15 days; The fifteenth day is called the Lantern Festival and it marks the end of the celebration.
- 2. The festival dates change every year because it follows the lunar calendar, but it usually falls between mid-January and mid-February.
- 3. There are 12 animal zodiacs; The animal zodiac this year is the Tiger.
- 4. One-Sixth of the world's population celebrates the Lunar New Year.
- 5. Children receive red envelopes with lucky money instead of wrapped gifts.
- 6. Decorations are mostly in red because it is the symbol of happiness, wealth, and prosperity.



Did you know that Rose City Park Elementary, Roseway Heights Middle, and in the future, McDaniel High, are home to a Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion (VDLI) Program? The VDLI Program has been recognized nationally for its creative and well-rounded curriculum that intertwines Oregon's Common Core Standards with academic lessons and cultural enrichment developed and taught by native Vietnamese speakers. Elementary students spend 50% of each day learning in Vietnamese with the balance of lessons in English. When students reach middle school, they learn in Vietnamese 33% of the day, and in high school it's 25%. Upon graduation from the program, students achieve Intermediate High to Advanced level lan-

guage proficiency and qualified students are awarded the Oregon Seal of Biliteracy. You can learn more about the VDLI program through the Hội Phụ Huynh (VDLI parent volunteer organization) webpage at <u>https://hphpdx.org/en/about-vdli/</u>.

Learning about Vietnamese culture - including a grand celebration for Têt - is an important element of the VDLI program so each year students and staff in the VDLI program celebrate with songs, dances and skits and a feast of traditional Vietnamese foods. The students practice for weeks to learn the words to traditional Têt songs, and each grade showcases their skills before hundreds of friends and family. Due to pandemic restrictions last year, the 2021 performance was streamed online so *everyone* could see the performance including all the grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. You can watch the 2020-2021 RCP Tet Celebration <u>here</u>.



Depending on current health and safety guidelines, the VDLI program is planning their performance for the Year of the Tiger on February 4, 2022. No matter what, we will celebrate! Please check the Hội Phụ Huynh website for additional details. Happy New Year!!!!!

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY RESOURCES

BY DON LEVINE, RCPNA COMMUNITY SAFETY CHAIR

The darker, colder and wetter days of Fall and Winter can increase any stresses we're experiencing, both for ourselves and our neighbors. Knowing our neighbors and providing what help we can are the best things we can do to help keep our community safe. Here are a couple of resources that can help:

- 1. Folks needing information for emergency help can call **211**. Operators staffing this number can connect callers with a number of community resources, including housing assistance, social services, emergency utility payments, and other help for those in need.
- Those in our neighborhoods experiencing houselessness have their own needs, as well as increasing need for services in the neighborhoods where they are located. The following information is provided by John Lewis, the lead person for PDX Homeless Response:
 - a. Folks with questions or reports concerning homeless events should call **311**, or file a report online at <u>reportpdx@portlandoregon.gov</u>. A report creates an order for a team to respond to assess the situation, who can then make a plan for additional actions and/or offer service contacts to the individuals involved.
 - b. Site clean-up and vehicle removal services have been severely curtailed due to COVID precautions. However, those services are beginning to increase. There are currently nine **Clean Start** trucks and crews in the field. The budget has been increased to include 14 trucks and crews, and will occur as soon as staff can be hired and trained. Talks are underway with the City to increase the budget for rapid response and primary clean-up.
 - c. It is advised to continue reporting houseless camps or ongoing issues in order to keep the situation updated and increase priority for remediation.
- For other neighborhood resources not including a police response, a contact list has been created and is available on the RCPNA website, <u>https://www.rcpna.org</u>.

With Winter coming, we need to be even more aware and more considerate of ourselves and others. Let's work together to keep our neighbors and our neighborhoods safe!

If you have other questions or community safety concerns, please contact us at info@rcpna.org



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RCPNA Social Media Update

In the time since our last newsletter issue, we worked to bring our YouTube and Instagram accounts up to par. Our YouTube, RCPNA Video, has been completely overhauled and now allows you to quickly watch a recorded or live version of any General meeting, Board meeting, some committee meetings, or special event.

In January, we (@rosecitypark) will be starting a new series featuring Little Free Libraries across the neighborhood. Be sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook to check it out!

You can find links to all our digital pages by visiting <u>http://linktr.ee/rcpna</u>.

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PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS APPROVED

By JOE SARACENO, RCP PLAYGROUND PROJECT



The Rose City Park Playground Project (RCPPP) has worked for over three years to advocate and fundraise for a new playground in Rose City Park. The RCPPP is very excited to announce they have successfully forged a partnership with the Portland Parks Foundation (PPF) and Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) to upgrade the playground in 2022!

The improvements will include a new playground structure and the necessary accompanying upgrades to the park to improve safety, usability and access--and, most of all, fun for the young people and young at heart in our neighborhood.

"We're elated to be partnering with the wonderful--and tenacious--RCPPP," says Randy Gragg, executive director of PPF. "Our motto is, 'We help people help their parks.' We look forward to fulfilling RCPPP's vision for the playground." PPF is still finalizing details on the budget, but a private donor has stepped forward with a significant gift to prime the final fundraising push. Gragg adds, "Combined with great contributions RCPPP gathered so far, we're no more than \$50,000 from getting the playground funded and installed."

This is where the Rose City Park community can help to play a big role toward making this dream a reality! Please help us fund the remaining amount needed by making a tax deductible contribution to the Portland Parks Foundation by going to <u>https://www.portlandpf.org/</u> <u>rosecityplayground</u> today!

If you'd like to donate by check put "Rose City Playground" in the memo line and please mail to:

Portland Parks Foundation 1500 Southwest First Avenue, Suite 760 Portland, OR 97201

If you have questions or comments, please email them to:

rosecityparkplaygroundproject@gmail.com



Rendition of possible design improvements

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FRIENDS of TREES UPDATE

By David Wheeler, Neighborhood Representative for Friends of Trees

It has been a challenging year all around. It has been difficult for those who have an interest in the on-going work of Friends of Trees and the neighborhood tree planting.

"Without the City of Portland's financial support, F of T may have a very limited scope of planting, pruning and engagement in Portland next season." said Yasher Vasef, Executive Director. "Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) has decided to provide funding for the upcoming planting season so that Friends of Trees could continue planting trees. The program may look different and be more limited this year." said Jenny Bediall-Stiles, Volunteer/ Outreach Manager.

Quite frankly, I am a bit confused myself. So, to avoid any miscommunication I would like to suggest to those who may want further information to contact Friends of Trees via:

Yashar Vasef - <u>YasharV@FriendsofTrees.org</u>, Jenny Bediall-Stiles - <u>JennyB@FriendsofTrees.org</u>, Armani Thomas - Neighborhood Tree Specialist - <u>ArmaniT@FriendsofTrees.org</u>, or City Commissioner Mapp's Office (Bureau of Environmental Services) or Commissioner Rubio's Office (Portland Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry).

Good luck and please stay well!



RCPNA General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 - 7:00-9:00 pm

Virtual Public Meeting (opens at 6:45)

Conducted Remotely on Zoom

PROGRAM

7:00 pm	Welcome and Announcements	
7:10 pm	Breakout #1 Topic: Emergency Preparedness; Speaker Alice Busch, ORCEMS, CEM, EMT, Senior Emergency Management Analyst for Multnomah Co. Emergency Management	
7:20 pm	Breakout #2 Topic: Soil & Water Conservation; Speaker Lindsay Bailey, EMSWCD	
7:30 pm	Logistics for Breakout Rooms into two groups	
7:35 pm	Begin Breakout Sessions	
8:15 pm	Reconvene & Group Summaries	
8:35 pm	Wrap-up & Next Steps	
8:40 pm	Committee Reports	
9:00 pm	Adjournment	
a latest information including datails to register for the Zoom videoconformers or shows soon by		

The latest information including details to register for the Zoom videoconference or phone access can be found on the RCPNA website (www.rcpna.org), on FaceBook (www.facebook.com/rcpna.com) and on NextDoor Events Calendar by January 20, 2022. To view the live stream or to access the recording afterward, search YouTube for "rcpna video".

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

RCPNA CALENDAR

All RCPNA meetings are open to the public. Until further notice, meetings will be held via Zoom

Jan 20, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee	Feb 28, 7-8:30 pm, Communication Committee
Jan 25, 7-9 pm, GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING	Mar 17, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee
Jan 31, 7-8:30 pm, Communication Committee	Mar 21-25 PPS Spring Break
Feb 2, 7-9 pm, Board of Directors	Mar 28, 7-8:30 pm, Communication Committee
Feb 17, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee	Mar 29, 7-9 pm, GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



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