



May 2022 Vol. 48, Issue 4

ROSE CITY PARK REVIEW

www.rcpna.org

At least 4 issues per year - *The Official Newsletter of the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association*
[Submissions Welcome at Communications@rcpna.org](mailto:Submissions>Welcome at Communications@rcpna.org)

Spring General Membership Meeting

Theme: What is RCPNA's Role in this New World?

May 24th from 7:00-9:00 pm at Rose City Park United Methodist Church, 5830 NE Alameda St. (Basement Auditorium, Youngson Hall)

The Rose City Park Neighborhood Association will host its Spring General Membership meeting on the theme of "What is RCPNA's role in the new world?". Distinguished guest speakers include Certified Arborist Chad Honl and Portland's Charter Commission Member Melanie Billings-Yun. Also on the agenda are RCPNA Board Elections. See last page.

Chad Honl will speak on how to manage our urban forests (trees) during our increasing drought thus helping to reduce fire danger. *Is helping residents manage our neighborhood forests RCPNA's role?* Chad is the owner of Honl Tree Care Inc. As Friends of Trees' manager from 2000 to 2005, he helped Portlanders plant more than 8,000 street trees. In 1997 Chad played an integral role in creating an edible Portland by organizing a 20,000-fruit tree giveaway.



Melanie Billings-Yun will be speaking as a Portland Charter Commissioner on their proposal for a new governmental structure and voting system for the City of Portland. Ms. Billings-Yun is an international negotiation consultant, mediator and former adjunct professor at PSU's Business School. She is involved in the Charter Commission to help realign the city charter so all Portlanders feel they have a voice and their voice matters. The Charter Commission is supporting a package proposed for this November's ballot which would allow voters to rank candidates in order of preference using ranked-choice voting, create four new geographic districts which would expand the city council to a total of 12 members (*What is RCPNA's role in this new form of government?*), and a city council that focuses on setting policy *only* and a mayor elected to run the citywide day-to-day operations with the help of a *professional* city administrator.



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CHAIR'S CORNER

BY TAMARA DERIDDER, RCPNA CHAIR



How to adjust to a New World? We now are facing numerous changes happening all at once. It is hard for me to maintain footing and strain to fully understanding the impact of these events. So, I write and talk it out with friends in order for me to make sense of what to do next.

Climate Change Impacts

- Increasing drought throughout the west and northwest, impacting access to water;
- Increasing dust, pollution, and pollen, impacting health;
- Increasing heat, cold & wind extremes; Greatest risk to minorities, women, and the frail;
- Increasing food prices due to crop loss, scarcity, and supply chain issues.

Corona Virus Impacts (COVID-19 and variants)

- Disruption of in-person industry jobs and services, impacting income and housing for many poor, elderly, and least educated residents;
- Closure of in-person public school and daycare forcing majority of women out of work force.

I ask you to dwell on:

1. How should our neighborhood association continue to adjust to this New World while building equality and equity in everything we do?
2. How can we grow diversity on our Board and Committees when both parents are working one or two jobs while caring for their kids?

What I do know is that we are all in this together. As my extended family by the location, there is no better place I would rather make a stand than right here with you in Rose City Park.



ABOUT RCPNA

Officers:

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Vacant, Vice Chair
Jennifer Santhouse, Sec.
Richard Crockett, Treasurer

Board Members:

Kelly Davis
Geoffrey Gifford
Don Levine
Terry Parker
Stephanie Singer,
Joe Anderson,
Intern

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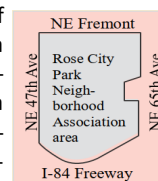
Michele Heile, website@rcpna.org.



SCAN ME

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 being 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 and social media. For info about partner Coalition members, check out www.cnncoalition.org.



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Helping the Friends of Trees

BY DAVID WHEELER, NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVE FOR FRIENDS OF TREES

I am not going to share any of my experiences in horticulture in this issue of the newsletter. Instead I am going to try and persuade you to take another look at a tree on your next walk, ride, run or drive. According to an op-ed in the April 3, 2022 issue of the Oregonian, the 14-year contract that Friends of Trees had with the City of Portland expires in June. Future funding from the City is uncertain at this time. I believe Friends of Trees (FofT) has done an amazing job trying to save existing trees and plant new ones, approximately 40,000 since 2008. They are working to save the tree canopy that has shrunk or plateaued for Portland and surrounding areas as one way to combat the current climate crisis. They have also encouraged the development of community partnerships.

Though many of us take trees for granted, they have the amazing ability to help us survive. We rely on trees to provide shade during the hot summer months, which can lower the earth's temperature. Trees can help with erosion control, give wildlife shelter and food, and convert carbon dioxide into oxygen. That alone is worth contemplating. They provide wood for housing and the tools to build them (although times are changing), and food for our tables. The well-researched underground communication network that is carried on between trees is staggering.

Trees do so much more, but I like to think of their more personal contributions. Trees help us with our sanity. For me, generous trees with their deeply rooted, graceful appearance help provide a healthy beautiful spirit. Conversely, think of areas devastated by wildfires in the last several years. People lost everything, including their trees.

I would simply ask people to be more aware and ask yourself, "How would your life be with fewer, or no, trees?"

Donations of any amount can be directed through: friendsoftrees.org/donation-form. Please check out their website if you haven't already. And let your elected officials know how you feel.



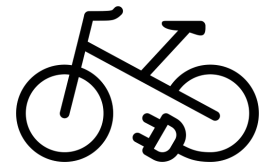
LEARN ABOUT E-MOBILITY

BY ZACHARY LAURITZEN, RCPNA LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEMBER

Did you know ebike and escooter rentals are available in Rose City Park Neighborhood? They are! This summer I am leading three rides to introduce neighbors to the joy and utility of electric mobility. The three dates are all on Saturdays: June 18th, July 16th, and August 13th. We will meet at 9:15am, depart at 9:30am, and return at 10:30am.

If you have not yet ridden one, let me tell you: ebikes and escooters are a ton of fun. They give that extra boost that flattens hills, allows you to carry more weight (groceries, children, etc.), and to do so without getting sweaty. There are a few goals to these summer rides:

1. Introduce people to the process of how to rent an ebike/escooter.
2. Tour some safer street routes in and around Rose City Park.
3. Experience the ease and joy of electric-assist travel.
4. Meet your friends and neighbors.
5. Get to know eco-friendly modes of transportation for getting around our community.



JOIN THE RCPNA BOARD!

We are looking for additional Board Members and Officers for the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association. There are also openings in various committees. We encourage you to volunteer. May is the month we hold elections for Officers and Board members. Go to our website to learn more at rcpna.org.

I am working to secure vouchers from vendors, which would make participation free. Anyone who can ride an adult-sized bike and/or electric scooter is welcome. Bring a helmet if you have one, though some will be provided. If you want to participate, please email me at bethegreenorg@gmail.com. As event dates near, I will send out the details for each ride.

I look forward to riding with my neighbors!



ROSE CITY PARK GARAGE SALE!

BY STEPHANIE SINGER, RCPNA BOARD MEMBER

Getting tired of the same old dishes, puzzles, artwork, and clothes you've had since before you ever heard of COVID 19? Refresh your home without spending a lot or even leaving the neighborhood at the first-in-ages Rose City Park Neighborhood Garage Sale!

When: Saturday, May 21 (9am - 4pm) and Sunday May 22 (10am - 2pm)

Where: All over the neighborhood!

More info: Look for posters in local businesses or go to rcpna.org/garage-sale/



Land Use and Transportation (LU&T) Projects

BY KELLY DAVIS, CO-CHAIR LU & T COMMITTEE

The LU&T Committee meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 7-9 p.m. To join the Zoom meeting, see details on rcpna.org. The next meetings will be May 19 and June 16. They are open to the public and all are invited to attend.

Slow Streets

On April 5, the RCPNA Board made these recommendations on the Slow Streets project on NE Sacramento:

- Install the two westerly concrete garden bollards without signage mounted inside at NE 64th and Sacramento. No easterly bollard would be installed as it would interfere with the established view corridor. Slow Streets signage would be installed behind the curb.
- RCP Neighbor Ben Joy will craft a design, fund-raising, and installation for a PBOT-approved modified design for the crosswalk and candlesticks at NE 64th and Brazee.
- Recommend installing raised reflective pavement markers (RRPM) at the new crosswalk at NE 62nd and Sacramento. Recommend PBOT hold off installing concrete garden bollards there. PBOT would assess the safety efficacy of the crosswalk with improvements to confirm that the bollards would not be needed to slow traffic.


Completing Sidewalk Infrastructure

PBOT reps Mauricio Leclerc and Andrew Aebi spoke at our March meeting on sidewalk infrastructure. They maintained that about 87.7% of RCP has sidewalks compared to 63% city wide. They outlined some of the process to getting sidewalks added, including forming a Local Improvement District (LID) and the City Engineer compelling sidewalk installation due to safety or other reasons. Much of the sidewalk deficiency is along Normandale and Rose City Park. The Parks Bureau would need to pay for those improvements which could be unlikely. We have written another letter to the City Engineer with questions and will update you when we know more.

Traffic Changes at Sandy/Alameda/57th

PBOT plans to make Alameda at 57th and Sandy one-way westbound. We asked for a traffic study to be completed before we meet with them to discuss the change. We will update neighbors as we know more.

Cully Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

Roger Gonzalez and others from Prosper Portland outlined the Cully TIF process at our February meeting. It includes only two properties within RCP – the Fire on the Mountain restaurant and the nearby gas station. We'll learn more to see if TIF could be something RCP entertains in the future. 



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VOLUNTEER FOR CHIP-DROP BRIGADE!

BY TAMARA DERIDDER, RCPNA CHAIR

Our urban forests are dying at an alarming rate due to increasing drought caused by Climate Change. Within a one-block radius of my home I can count five dead or dying street trees along parking strips. This is a wildfire disaster waiting to happen and I am calling on you as neighbors to help prevent it.

On April 5th the RCPNA Board unanimously approved to start a “Chip Drop Brigade” that would bring volunteers together to distribute wood chips on all the remaining street trees in our neighborhood. Chad Honl, owner of Honl Tree Care, says it is scientifically possible for trees to generate six times the root structure if they are properly mulched compared with typical turf. To make this effort happen, we will be coordinating with Friends of Trees, Urban Forestry, and the RCP Neighborhood Emergency Team.

My proposal is fairly inexpensive and could be funded by a Go Fund Me account, using donations. [Chip Drop \(https://getchipdrop.com/\)](https://getchipdrop.com/) says they will provide a dump load of wood chips for free. But in reality, a \$20 “donation” insures the order turnaround and delivery of hardwood (preferred) chips within 24 hours. I have no idea how many loads will be needed to cover the RCPNA area nor how much time it will take. But I do know I already have five volunteers ready to help, and we need to get this done before the heat of summer sets in. Want to help me find funds?

First event: Frazer Park (tentatively). I have been speaking with Frazer’s Park Manager at PPR Bureau about placing wood mulch around all the trees in this park. The back half of the park historically was called the Orchard and was planted back when basketball backstop served as the foundation for the Boys Home that existed on that site. One 60-foot white pine has already died and was removed last fall. The two remaining are in sad shape. All of the trees were shocked in the heat-bath we all sustained for five days last summer. The remaining chestnuts, filbert, and cherry trees still produce long after the ancient apple gave up just before the Community Garden was built, 10 years ago. The Douglas firs now have thinned due to the heat, preserving their moisture.

While the first event is getting set up, I need volunteers to help deploy door hangers to all the residences in the Rose City Park Neighborhood in a phased manner. The flyer will explain the “what and why” of the project and ask residents permission to place 4-inches of wood chips on their street trees, starting 6-12 inches from the tree’s base out to the drip line, e.g., the outer edge of the tree’s branches, as determined by an arborist/Friends of Trees/ Urban Forestry educator for each drop. Responses from the door hangers will drive the chip delivery schedule. They will be logged on a digital neighborhood map. Once there is a critical mass of respondents in an area, then site visits and Chip Drop locations will be negotiated with neighbors, materials readied, and volunteers notified.

Are you interested in helping save our urban forest? Want to help plan rather than haul wood? If yes, please email “events@rcpna” and put in the title “Chip-Drop Brigade”. In the text, state “Help Plan” and/or “Deliver chips, (number) of people, (ages)” and/or “Chip drop here at (address)” and/or “Loan Tools, including: (wheel barrows, shovels, garden rakes, and garden forks/spades)”.





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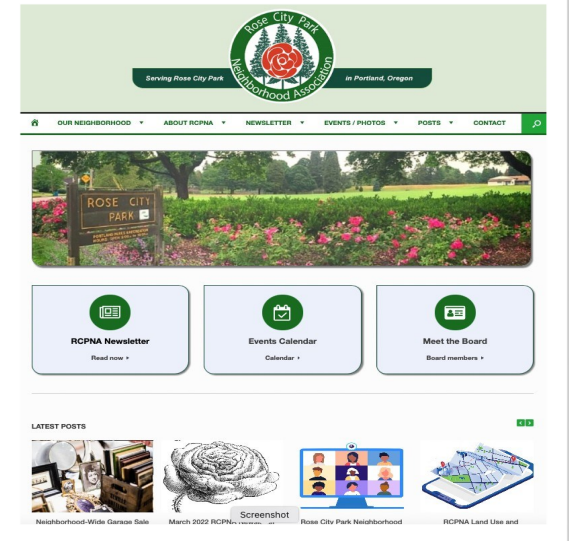
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WE'VE GOT A FRESH NEW LOOK!

We are excited to announce the launch of our redesigned Rose City Park Neighborhood Association website! Our site, rcpna.org, features all the same great content, but is now up-to-date with today's design trends. It's clean, responsive, easier to read and navigate, and features some cool design elements. Kudos to our newest **RCPNA volunteer, Michele Heile**, who contacted us with interest in volunteering and offering her web design skills to the Association. We are pleased she has joined the team, and very happy with the results. The site is a work-in-progress with updates to content, photos, and features.

Speaking of photos. Do you have a great photo of the neighborhood? We would love to present it on the site. Historical or current photos are welcome. Your photo could be featured on the home or gallery page with credit to the photographer. If interested, please send your photo to website@rcpna.org.

We hope you love our new design and will take a moment to explore the site and let us know what you think!



ROCKIN' IN THE PARK

BY JENNIFER SANTHOUSE, RCPNA SECRETARY

On **July 23rd from 6-8pm**, RCPNA will host [Lil' Queenie](http://www.lilqueenienet.net) for our annual Picnic in the Park Concert at Rose City Park. The concert will be set amphitheater-style in the northwest corner of the park near the playground and neighbors are encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs, and picnics to the show.



Source: <http://www.lilqueenienet.net/>

While you may think Lil' Queenie is a reference to Linda LeClair and her baritone saxophone, it's actually a reference to the Natchez trace variety of blues developed in New Orleans which permeates the band's set-list to guarantee that every show has folks dancing – or at least bopping their heads. The seven fellas that join Linda on stage, Mark La Rue Todd, Eldo Caddy, Bill Lamb, Tim Helm, David Mitchell and Max De Sax, supply the vocals, guitars, keyboard, trumpet, drums, and saxophone for the 1960's hits and original songs, too. You can learn more about Lil' Queenie and get a preview of their sound on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/lilqueenienet), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqj8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K) or their homepage: www.lilqueenienet.net.

RCPNA's 2022 Picnic in the Park Concert was made possible because of a Central North-east Neighbors (CNN) Small Grant award faci-



tated through the City of Portland Office of Community and Civic Life. We are thankful to live in a neighborhood and City that supports bringing music and events to our residents and their guests. RCPNA is acquiring a Noise Variance Permit to provide amplified music in a public space and while we would like to jam all night, the show will end at 8pm to respect our neighbor's evening quiet time. Members of the RCPNA Board of Directors and various committees will be on-hand to answer questions and share Association updates.

We can't wait to sing, dance, and mingle with you on **July 23rd**!





RCPNA General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, May 24, 2022 - 7:00-9:00 pm

In-Person Public Meeting

New Location: [Rose City Park United Methodist Church,](#)
Basement Auditorium, Youngson Hall
5830 NE Alameda Street

PROGRAM

- 7:00 pm Welcome and Announcements
- 7:10 pm **Speaker Chad Honl**, Owner of Honl Tree Care
- 7:40 pm Board Elections <Action Item>
- 8:05 pm **Speaker Melanie Billings-Yun**, Member of Portland's Charter Commission
- 8:35 pm Committee Reports
- 9:00 pm Adjournment

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



RCPNA CALENDAR

All RCPNA meetings are open to the public

May 19, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee	Jun 27, 7-8:30 pm, Communications Committee
May 24, 7-9 pm, GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING	Jul 4 Independence Day
Jun 7, 7-9 pm, Board of Directors	Jul 5, 7-9 pm, Board of Directors
May 30, Memorial Day	Jul 21, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee
Jun 16, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee	Jul 25, 7-8:30 pm, Communications Committee

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