



# ROSE CITY PARK REVIEW

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[www.rcpna.org](http://www.rcpna.org)

3 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)

## Get the Scoop at RCPNA May Gathering

### May General Meeting

May 26, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**German American Society, 5626 NE Alameda**

We'll be kick things off with an ice cream social, so even if you can't stay for the whole meeting (especially those of you with kids on a school night), please drop in, grab a scoop, and meet a new neighbor. From there, we're thrilled to hear from the winner of our 4th/5th grade essay contest. Next, we'll hear from the Rose City Community Collective will share about their work investing in and serving our neighborhood. We will be hosting a silent auction, the proceeds of which will go to support their work. Lastly, all three of our District 3 City Councilors — Angelita Morillo, Tiffany Koyama Lane, and Steve Novick — will be joining us. With budget season underway at City Council, this is a great opportunity to hear about their priorities and ask questions of your own. We'll also be electing a new Board so come ready to vote.

### Agenda:

### May General Meeting Schedule, May 26

**6:30-7 p.m. Ice Cream Social! All are welcome, even if you don't stay for the whole meeting**

**7-7:15 p.m. Welcome + Essay Contest Winner!**

**7:15-7:20 p.m. Board Election**

**7:20-7:45 p.m. Rose City Community Collective Presentation**

**7:45-7:55 p.m. SE Uplift**

**7:55-8:50 p.m. District 3 Councilors**

**8:50-9 p.m. Committee Reports, Election Results, Announcements**

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## CHAIR'S CORNER

## ABOUT RCPNA

### BY ZACHARY LAURITZEN, RCPNA CHAIR

One of the things I love most about the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association is how many different ways there are to contribute. Each member of our Board picks something they're passionate about and rolls up their sleeves to make it happen.



Some host our spring and fall clean-ups. Others bring beloved events to life like the Concert in the Park, the 4th of July Children's Bike Parade, and the Fall Garage Sale. Still others dig into the issues facing our community, sharing feedback with the City on the decisions that shape our neighborhood. It takes elbow grease and it's our neighbors who make it all possible.

Speaking of which, this month's meeting is also our Board election. We're sad to be saying goodbye to two Board members, Todd Milbourn and Nick Putnam. Todd and Nick, thank you for your service, we are deeply grateful for everything you've contributed. With their departure, we have a few open seats and would love to welcome new members to the Board. If you're passionate about making this the best neighborhood it can be, please consider joining us. Reach out to [info@rcpna.org](mailto:info@rcpna.org) with questions and/or interest.

While we're on the subject of contributing, I want to give an enormous shout-out and thank you to Helene Farnen. For years, Helene has served as our Newsletter Delivery Director, and she has decided it's time to step away from the role. Helene, the energy, effort, and meticulous organization you've poured into getting our newsletter into every mailbox has been a gift to this entire neighborhood. We can't thank you enough.

This means we are looking for someone to fill this role! If you're interested — especially if you love logistics! — please let us know at [info@rcpna.org](mailto:info@rcpna.org). Our hand-delivered newsletter is one of the things that makes us a special place and we need your help!

As always, thank you for being part of what makes Rose City Park such a special place to call home. I hope to see you at the meeting... over a scoop of ice cream!



### Officers

Zachary Lauritzen, Chair  
Santiago Gil, Vice Chair  
Celeste Varner, Secretary  
Richard Crockett, Treasurer

### Board Members

Ian Davie	Nick Putnam	Graham Trainor
Don Levine	Todd Milburn	Kevin Kazala
Kelly Davis	Steve Rudman	Kip Pheil
Terry Parker	Marina Samaltanos	Victor Sanders
Beth Faris	Erik Mitchell	

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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 Southeast Uplift, one of several area coalition offices that provide support to Portland's 95 neighborhood associations. Learn more at [www.rcpna.org](http://www.rcpna.org) and social media. For info about partner Coalition members, check out [seuplift.org](http://seuplift.org).



## Rose City Community Collective Works Toward Inclusion, Service, Positivity

During this coming General Meeting, May 26, 2026 we will hold a silent auction to benefit the Rose City Community Collective (RCCC) located in the heart of RCPNA in NE Portland.

The RCCC is a community space for cooperation, collaboration, and connection. The collective houses many non-profit organizations including Rose City Neighborhood Preschool, Northwest Vocal Arts, the National Association for Black Veterans, and North-east Village PDX, and has space to grow their partnerships.

Their mission is to continue to build and support our neighborhood as well as all neighborhoods throughout Portland by providing a supportive collective of organizations reflecting the common values of inclusion, service to others, and positive community impact.

Elsa Johnson of the Collective provides some details regarding its history:

“Located inside the historic Rose City Park United Methodist Church (RCPUMC) building on NE 58<sup>th</sup> and Alameda, lives an exciting space of community focused non-profit activity, more broadly known as the Rose City Community Collective. Sensing the call to new ways of using space and supporting the neighborhood, RCPUMC committed to the creation of and participation in the Rose City Community Collective in 2018 as an extension of its historic mission of inclusion, service, hospitality and care for all people.

When churches open their doors to community programs it creates a larger positive effect for the whole community. At Rose City Community Collective, we want to thoughtfully use our building well by intentionally partnering with non-profit organizations and programs that align with the historic values of the church and that benefit Rose City Park and the larger community.

We find alignment in the building through our shared values of being an inclusive space welcoming all people; especially those who are vulnerable or have been marginalized, extending and nurturing community in our neighborhood, and striving to build a world of justice and peace.

**Continued on page 8**



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# Tracking Neighborhood Land Use and Transportation (LU&T) Projects

## BY KELLY DAVIS (CHAIR LU & T COMMITTEE)

The LU&T Committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month from 7-9 pm at the German American Society at 5626 NE Alameda. Information on the meetings and proposed agendas will be posted ahead of time on NextDoor and on our website at RCPNA.org. These are open public meetings, and all are invited to attend.

Just for clarification, neighbors can join the LU&T Committee without having to be a Neighborhood Association Board member. We have five committee members that are not Board members. We have openings on the Committee.

## Anamic Construction - Development on 62nd & Sandy/Stanton

The Development on four lots in RCP (2833 NE 62<sup>nd</sup> Ave, 2890 NE 62<sup>nd</sup> Ave., 6140 NE Stanton and 6201 NE Stanton) is for sale as an entire package. According to the listing, the current price is about \$7.4 million for all 20 units. We are not sure if that means the units will still be for sale or if they will become rentals.

## Hollywood HUB

The Hollywood HUB project, while not in Rose City Park, will certainly impact our neighborhood. The 12-story building with 224 units “topped out” on April 8, meaning the last concrete deck was poured. Cladding and window installation continues on the exterior with insulation and drywall continuing on the interior.

## NE 60<sup>th</sup> and Halsey Street Area Improvement Project – Schedule/Work Update

The project (now under construction) will repave and reconfigure sections of the street, replace outdated traffic signals, add turn lanes, improve sidewalks, and build and enhance pedestrian and bike crossings.

Note: Portions of Halsey will have one lane in each direction and a center turn lane.

Work continues at the 47<sup>th</sup> & Halsey intersection. There will be some detours and bus stop closures starting as the work progresses.

The northbound 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue closure is finally over. That work lasted much longer than planned. During excavation, crews made an unexpected discovery - a very old and large brick water vault was found against the curb at the southeast corner of NE 60th Avenue and NE Halsey Street.

Inside this water vault was an aging gate valve that the Portland Water Bureau needed to address. This water vault was not in existing street plans and was unknown until this project discovered it. It was successfully repaired and covered.



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To place an ad or for more information, email

[advertising@rcpna.org](mailto:advertising@rcpna.org).

# Summer Neighborhood Events

## May 30 - Portland Rose Festival Junior Parade 10 AM - Noon, Hollywood District, NE Sandy Blvd.

The 2026 Fred Meyer Junior Parade in Portland is scheduled on a Saturday this year, shifting from its traditional Wednesday to a weekend to increase family participation. As the nation's largest children's parade, it features children from all parts of Portland in marching bands, dance teams, costumes, and more.

## July 4 - Bike Parade 10 AM, Rose City Methodist Church, 5830 NE Alameda St.

Gather at 9:45 AM. Parade starts at 10 AM. Bring your wheels and join your neighbors en route from Rose City Park Methodist Church to Rose City Park Elementary--about 1.5 miles at a slow pace for any age—and enjoy some cool treats at the finish line!

## Aug. 14 - Concert in the Park 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM, Rose City Park, NE 62nd Ave & NE Thompson St. Visit [RCPNA.org/Summer-Concerts/](https://www.rcpna.org/Summer-Concerts/) to learn more.

## Sept. 12 & 13 - Neighborhood-wide Garage Sale Rose City Park Neighborhood Saturday 9 AM - 3 PM & Sunday 10 AM - 2 PM Don't miss this chance to sell things you no longer use—or shop around and discover new treasures! Registration to participate as a seller is required. Visit [RCPNA.org/Garage-Sale](https://www.rcpna.org/Garage-Sale) to learn more.

## Sept. 19 - Neighborhood-wide Clean Up 9 AM - 2 PM, St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 2727 NE 54th Ave.

Looking to get rid of items you weren't able to sell at the Garage Sale? Drop off approved items at the Neighborhood-wide Clean Up. We'll take your items to be reused, recycled, or disposed of at no charge. Visit [RCPNA.org/Clean-Up](https://www.rcpna.org/Clean-Up) for a list of approved items, our vendor list, and to learn more about what items are needed, and what can't be accepted.



Clean up crew from McDaniel High School at 2025 Cleanup event.

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## 4th and 5th grade essay contest winner announced

We are thrilled to share the results of our 2026 essay contest! This year's prompt asked our 4th and 5th graders, "What makes Rose City Park Neighborhood a great community?"

We received nearly 40 entries and are so appreciative of each and every one of them. Several themes echoed across the entries: how neighbors look out for one another, the joy of walking to school, what a special place Rose City Park Elementary is to attend, and all the wonderful restaurants we can walk or bike to. Thank you to every student who participated.

Congratulations to our winner, **Holden Cowdin!** We also want to recognize three wonderful runners-up, whose essays were personal, funny, interesting, and excellent: **Georgia Crick, Anna Kerr, and Bruno Thomas Eisenbrown.**

Please join us at the ice cream social on **May 26!** Holden will kick off the meeting by reading her winning essay. We can't wait to hear it!

ELIZABETH E. WELCH



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## The Rose City Bluff Seasons

The Rose City Bluff vibrant springtime growth highlights eight years of transformative year-round volunteer restoration work. To date Rose City Bluff Restoration has added over 3,500 new native plants in nine planting areas to the Bluff along NE Sacramento between 62<sup>nd</sup> and 72<sup>nd</sup>.

In 2018, the Bluff was a half-mile long blackberry bramble. Slowly and consistently, neighborhood volunteers developed a seasonal rhythm of clipping and digging invasive plants, spreading woodchips, and adding new Northwest native plants. Most rewarding over the years is the number of volunteers meeting other volunteers as they work together restoring this neighborhood treasure. Preparing future planting sites continues all summer long and into the next year.

Last February, 36 neighbors gathered on a cold Sunday morning for the third annual potting party. Six people around five tables potted up over four hundred bare root plants. Each volunteer took home plants to water and foster over the summer until the fall. Next November all the potted plants will be returned to their final Rose City Bluff home on the Bluff planting day. Last November 40 volunteers planted 750 plants.

In 2025, seventy-five individual community members worked to restore the Bluff. Though that is impressive, more volunteers are always needed to maintain momentum. Come meet your neighbors and feel the joy of contributing to the community with Rose City Bluff Restoration. Contact [rosecitybluff@gmail.com](mailto:rosecitybluff@gmail.com). 



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## The Collective

### Continued from page 3

Some groups share space on a regular basis, some monthly, weekly or just once. Regular building users represent diversity in many ways and ages ranging from young kids programming at NE Swap and Play, a community play space for infants and children, Rose City Neighborhood Preschool for 3-5 year olds, to youth programs at Portland Outdoor Explorers, afterschool programming for elementary school kids from RCPS, Northwest Children's Theater classes, Scout and Girl Scout troops, Vibe PDX, youth arts camps, and Coalition of Black Men, a youth mentor program. For adults there is a weekly Toastmasters group, AA groups, mental health support groups with NAMI and lots of programming with Northeast Village PDX, an intergenerational group whose members grow with and rely on each other to navigate the opportunities and challenges of aging. There are many music offerings including church choirs, Northwest Vocal Arts that offer a no cost youth choir, and many concerts open to the public to attend. Other public events have included emergency preparedness fairs, books and puzzle exchanges, a variety of workshops and special events around holidays.

Being part of the Rose City Park neighborhood has been incredibly important since the church first formed as a group in 1913, even before there was a building. And as we evolve in how we operate as a building, we continue to value our place right here in this community."

Friends, we look forward to seeing you at the meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> and look forward to your support of Rose City Park Community Collective through the silent auction that evening. Bring a friend, or three! Our General Meetings are such a great way to get involved with your neighborhood, to make friends, build community, and in this case support a great cause. We'll see you there!



## RCPNA CALENDAR

*All RCPNA meetings are open to the public. Meetings are 7-9 pm unless otherwise noted.*

### May 26, General Meeting

June 2, Board of Directors

June 16, Land Use

July 7, Board of Directors

July 21, Land Use

Aug. 4, Board of Directors

Aug. 18, Land Use

Sept. 1, Board of Directors

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