



CONCORDIA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 11194 / PORTLAND, OR 97211

CONCORDIA NEWS

A free publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association | concordiapdx.org September 2014



Trail Blazers, 1977, Oregonian



Joe's Place, 1988, Oregonian
Community Cycling Center, 1994, Bike Portland.org



By this time “Last Thursday” had begun as a small art walk. Many saw this as an improvement from just a few years previous when gangs ruled Alberta. However, at the same time many black business were closing, low-income housing units were being sold off to developers who'd flip the properties as higher end condos. Rents and taxes rose and soon many families of color, including many personal friends, were unwillingly forced out just when things were turning around.

For better and worse, my 'hood was drastically changing. In many ways, things are better now: The apartments across the street from my kids' school are no longer controlled by gang members, former crack houses are now historically renovated homes, and the main streets and parks of our neighborhoods are safe enough for evening strolls.

Unfortunately, the erosion of the black community is clearly evident as well. Between 1990 and 2010 over 60% of the African-American population left (or were forced out) N/NE Portland, never benefitting from the government funded boom. This does not place blame on those who have inadvertently displaced the people that lived here before. However, much of the economic upswing that has led to the displacement was funded by the government. Federally funded programs, regardless of intent, have had a disparate impact on N/NE Portland's African-American community.

Moving forward, this is the history we must understand so we can remedy the ills that have already occurred and avoid similar problems in the future. Decision makers must be held accountable, policies must be proactive, and conversations in our community must come from a place of deeper understanding of systemic racism, Portland's own troubled history, and what makes this neighborhood, my neighborhood, so special.

Growing up in Northeast Portland

By Luke Griffin

I was born in 1975 at Bess Kaiser Hospital on N. Greely Ave in NE Portland. I grew up in Irvington, one of many inner NE neighborhoods that were home to lower and lower-middle class residents of Portland of mixed race. By the time I was a young child in the early 1980s, Portland was pretty run down. The national recession had hit the area hard, the timber industry had bottomed out, and the rest of the country still had little to no interest in our city.

But despite the economic woes and perpetual drizzle, a strong and diverse community thrived here, one that recognized the potential of a positive partnership that could be had with African-American and white community members. There was an awareness of each groups unique identity without being strangers to one another. Serious discussions of race were had but primarily people just wanted to be good friends and neighbors.

Throughout the 1980s and into the 1990s the economic stagnation led to increased poverty and with it, drugs and violence. Law enforcement seemed inclined to “help” our neighborhoods by locking up young petty criminals who were predominantly black and little positive investment came from the City. Local businesses begged for assistance to renovate, beautify, or otherwise improve but no money came, with the exception of predatory lenders. This was due in part to persistent red-lining and the City's general disinterest in what they deemed an area of “urban blight”.

For us youth, we were proud to be from NE Portland. Here you could find historically separated groups of people coming together for barbeques, hoops, school and church. By high school, in the early 90s, many of us became aware of racial profiling by police, of the Aryan Nation presence in the Northwest, and greater signs of race inequality such as Rodney King's tragic beating. We were angry about the ignorance, the violence, the police brutality, the economic inequality, and yet still we all saw each other as brothers.

In the late 90s, that brotherhood began to change. Urban renewal money started coming in to revitalize the worn down streets. Roads, businesses and houses were being improved. But some civic leaders were concerned that the boom would not benefit the locals who were disproportionately black, who had struggled through the hard times, who may be forced out due to the new prosperity. They met with city leaders and made recommendations that would mitigate those predicted negative impacts. Sadly, the political leaders ignored their recommendations.

- This Issue
- Growing up in Northeast Portland
 - CNA Board News
 - Tri Met Feedback
Tree in our Neighborhood
 - Welcome Back to School
Vernon & Faubion
 - Meals on Wheels
 - Biking in Portland
Apples
 - Suicide Prevention
Suicide Calls on the Rise
NE 47th Improvements
 - Local Events



Horse Project, 2005
Last Thursday, Alberta Street, 2013



Concordia Neighborhood Association

Meetings & Updates

Get the latest news at ConcordiaPdx.org

These committees have direct results on the Livability of our neighborhood- with your participation.

Board Meeting

Second Tuesday of the Month
September 9th @ 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
McMenamin's Kennedy School
Community Room

General Membership Meeting

First Tuesday Bi-Monthly
October 7th @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
McMenamin's Kennedy School
Community Room

Finance Committee

For Meeting times and location visit our website or email: ContactCNABoard@yahoo.com

Policies/Procedures

Contact Katie Ugolini (Chair)
503-449-9690 for meeting time & place

Media Team

Newspaper and Website
Email: ConcordiaNews@yahoo.com

Social Committee

Contact Katie Ugolini (Chair)
503-449-9690 for meeting time and location.

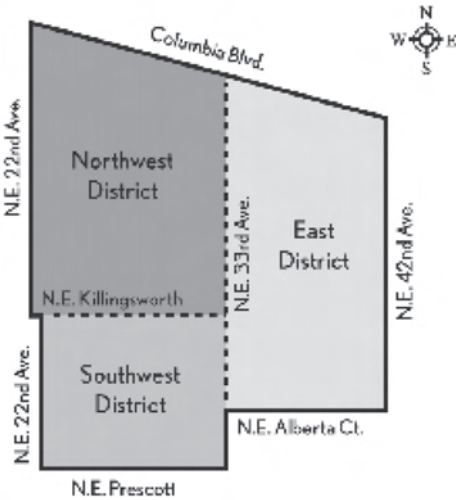
Land Use, Livability and Transportation Committee

Third Tuesday of the Month
September 16th at 7:00 pm
McMenamin's Kennedy School
Community Room

The land use committee grants approval for neighborhood projects.
To hear about and try to solve issues affecting quality of life in Concordia brought to us by community members.

Tree Team Meeting

First Thursday of Every Month
September 4th at 6 pm
Dining Area at New Seasons
www.concordiatreeteam.wordpress.com



CONCORDIA NEWS

Concordia News is a free monthly publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association. Newspapers are delivered to all residences and many community locations in the Concordia Neighborhood.

Mission Statement

To connect Concordia residents and businesses- inform, educate, and report on activities, issues, and opportunities of the neighborhood.

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Portland, OR 97211

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Submissions

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Concordia News may edit for form and length.

Advertising/Business Manager

Please send ad inquiries to:
Mary Wiley (advertising)
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Please send article submissions to:
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Concordia News is printed on 40% post-consumer or better paper, manufactured at a local mill.

www.ConcordiaPdx.org
Visit the website of the Concordia Neighborhood Association for:
Community Events &
News Neighborhood Information & Blog
www.ConcordiaPdx.org

2014 CNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Current Board	Title
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Tonda Liggett	At-Large #5
Truls Neal	At-Large #6
Tracy Braden	At-Large #7

Give feedback on the Comprehensive Plan

The Bureau of Planning & Sustainability (BPS) has released a draft of its Comprehensive Plan, which sets the framework for Portland’s development over the next 20 years.

How will the proposed plan impact North and Northeast Portland – how we live, work and get around?

Between August 25 and September 15, Nan Stark, NECN’s District Liaison for BPS, will hold workshops and one-on-one office hours to review the plan with neighbors, answer questions and receive comments and suggested plan revisions. Workshops will include instruction on using an online “Map App” tool to submit feedback.

Dates and locations:

Thursday, September 4

NECN (4815 NE 7th Ave.)

Drop-in office hours: 5-7 p.m.

Thursday, September 11

Hollywood Library (4040 NE Tillamook St.)

Drop-in office hours: 3:30-6 p.m.

Workshop: 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 15

Alberta Main Street (1722 NE Alberta St.)

Workshop: 7:00 p.m.

Questions? Contact Claire at NECN: claire.adamsick@necoalition.org



Neighborhood Community Room

Rent it for your next gathering, book club, celebrate a special occasion, birthday, baby or wedding shower?

CNA manages the rental space & benefits from the proceeds.

Non-Profit Organization for \$15 an hour

All others for \$25 an hour

CNAroomKennedy@gmail.com

Feedback on TriMet Bus

By Garlynn Woodsong, Chair of the CNA Land Use & Transportation committee

Feedback Sought on Neighborhood TriMet Bus Service

This fall, TriMet will be asking for feedback and ideas for improving bus service, bus stops, and street crossings in Northwest Portland, North Portland, Downtown Portland, Southeast neighborhoods north of Division and extending east to I-205, and Northeast neighborhoods extending east to I-205. As part of its North/Central Service Enhancement Plan, TriMet will be holding a series of community conversations and conducting surveys to gather feedback from riders, community groups, businesses, and other stakeholders.

For the transit routes that are relevant to visitors to and residents of the Concordia neighborhood, we're interested in finding out what the needs are for TriMet (bus, MAX) service, including:

- a) Where are routes located?
- b) How frequent is service?
- c) Ease of access to the nearest bus stop?
- d) Other service needs?

One example of a service need in the neighborhood might be to improve access and decrease travel time from Concordia to downtown, perhaps via a new frequent service bus route to serve Alberta Street and the newly developing Vancouver/Williams corridor. Another might be to focus on ways to fix the 72 route, which often suffers from bus bunching and unpredictable schedules; for instance, could it be split into two bus routes, one serving 82nd and the other, Killingsworth?

Concordia residents interested in discussing this or any other issue related to land use and transportation, are invited to attend the next Concordia Neighborhood Association Land Use and Transportation (CNA LU&T) Committee meeting, the third Tuesday of the month, 7pm, in the Community Room in the SE corner of Kennedy School. To join the mailing list, send an email to: pdx_cna_lu_and_t_committee@googlegroups.com

Trees in our Neighborhood

By Ken Forcier, Guest Opinion

It's been hot in Concordia lately and it's likely that you have appreciated the shade of one of our large trees. They have a microclimate of cool which they share with you on the breeze when it's a hot day. They catch rain water, harbor wildlife and generally make you feel great about the forested neighborhood that you live in. Why then you may wonder, are they being felled left and right all over our neighborhood? I've watched two great, old growth Cedar trees get taken down in just this past week. Those who are perpetuating this assault on our urban forest are the construction industry. I invite you to visit the sites at 6208 NE 22nd Ave and at 6027 NE 27th Ave. A Google drive by will show you the now missing trees and a shoe horn will help you to imagine what will be built in place of those trees.

Let me nut shell for you what is happening in Concordia. These beautiful R-5 (minimum 5000 square foot lot size) neighborhoods were originally surveyed as 25 ft wide and 100 ft deep plots of land with thoughtful alleys separating and providing for access from the rear. In an historic period 100 years ago, new home owners bought up this neighborhood by purchasing two, three, and sometimes four or more contiguous plots. These original owners built out a beautiful neighborhood and set about planting what would become grand trees in their yards.

Fast forward 100 years and imagine that you want greater density of housing all around the city core. From the perspective of the city and the infill advocates, an open, well treed neighborhood is inner city space that could be generating more tax dollars, shorter commutes, and best of all, pre existing infrastructure where no city investment is involved at all. The Bureau of Development Services (BDS) sits back and collects development fees as well as the new home owner's tax revenues. This is how a new, high density residential, treeless environment is being perpetrated on Concordia. BDS and development interests got together and decided that every little 25x100 ft plot that was surveyed 100 years ago can now be considered a Primary Structure site. They call them "grandfathered" Historic Plats. Every old growth tree in every side yard is now a new home site, and they are falling as

CONCORDIA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PRESENTS
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



fast as the developers can move in and snap up a home for sale with a nice 25 ft yard next to it.

Why you should be angry is that this is tantamount to telling us that we now live in an R2.5 neighborhood. We have been down-zoned as they call it, but without any judicial process. Our neighborhood attracts the most construction because it is the most beautiful and has the nicest trees and offers the opportunity to live in an R-5 neighborhood while only paying for the footprint of an R-2.5 home. Those who live in R-5 neighborhoods with historic underlying 25x100 lots have been targeted by the City, BDS, and construction interests as the most profitable place to build a skinny house in Portland! Sadly, their profits are at the expense of your own homes value. Good bye trees and wildlife, hello infill.

I am doing my level best to slow the chain saws and the R2.5 development by partnering with the Concordia Neighborhood Association and advocating to BDS and the City commissioners that their policy needs to change. What you can do as a conscientious neighbor is join the CNA and help with this fight to save your neighborhoods "character." Also people, be aware if you see a house with a side yard up for sale, ask that homeowner to do a "lot consolidation" before the house sells. That makes their lots one and removes the underlying historic plating permanently. I have proposal in front of the CNA that all of our neighborhood be treated to a sweeping lot consolidation, free of charge. Anyone who wanted could contact BDS to opt out. A "sweeping lot consolidation" of our entire neighborhood will embrace our current zoning. It will effectively end the skinny house construction here because then a "land division" would be required of a builder to re-divide the lot and that leads to restrictions disallowing the "skinny house." Let's take back our R-5 neighborhood and maintain the open, treed character that we fell in love with when we moved here!



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No one travels
Along this way but I,
This autumn evening.

- Bashō

Terrill Photography 2008



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Welcome Back to School

By Mary Wiley

Back to school is an exciting time for students, teachers and parents. New classroom, new teacher, new friends can also be a little scary for student and getting back into the routine of the school year can be a bit of a challenge for students and parents. Here are some helpful tips for starting the year right.

1. Sleep.

Children require a proper amount of sleep in order to grow to their full potential. School-age kids need 10 to 12 hours of sleep a night. Lack of sleep can cause irritable or hyper types of behavior and may make it difficult for kids to pay attention in school. It is important to have a consistent bedtime, especially on school nights.
2. Eating.

Healthy eating can stabilize children’s energy, sharpen their minds, and even out their moods. As children develop, they require the healthy foods to support growing bodies. A great way to encourage good eating habits is to start at home. Have regular family meals at a consistent time. Get kids involved in grocery shopping and preparing meals. Have healthy snacks around and easily accessible.

3. Exercise.

Everyone can benefit from regular exercise. Kids who are active will: have stronger muscles and bones, leaner body and be less likely to become overweight, decrease medical issues, sleep better and have a better outlook on life.

4. Schedule.

Children need predictable and consistent schedules and routines. Children will do better when they understand what is expected of them; create a calendar, talk about the schedule, outline times and tasks. Acknowledge when they are accomplishing the goals and reward them with praise.

a. Morning Routine

- Getting any child up and out the door in time for school can be a trying experience. Define a routine that works for your family, assign children to tasks they can reasonably achieve and give them a warning before things happen. For instance, "We are leaving in 3 minutes. Are you ready?"

b. Extra Activities

- After school and on the weekend, school children are often busy with activities that can be very rewarding and help your child succeed in life. Children who are involved in sports get higher school grades, generally healthier due to their increased activity, have an increased sense of self-worth and stronger social networks. Children involved in music activities are often better adjusted, with increased academic performance, ability to think creatively, and have better memory skills.

c. Time to relax

- Be careful not to over schedule. We all need time to relax, time to wonder, time to explore our own interests. Too many activities are just as bad as too much time watching television or playing video games. Remember, life is a balance.



Vernon K-8th

School will begin for 1st-8th grade students on Tuesday, September 2nd. Kindergarten students will begin on Friday, September 5th.

Building Access Before and After School: Use the Cafeteria entrance on the NE 22nd Avenue side of the building as our main entrance between 8:15- 8:45 a.m. Breakfast is served from 8:15 - 8:45 am, Tardy Warning Bell is 8:40 am, Tardy Bell is 8:45am, Dismissal Bell for K-5 is at 3:00 pm, Dismissal Bell for 6-8 is at 3:05.

The main entrance should be used to access the building during school hours.

Students may re-enter the building at 3:00 pm to go to SUN School through the Cafeteria entrance. Parents who are picking up their 1st-8th grade students are asked to wait on the Playground for their arrival.

YMCA Before/After School Care: The YMCA is in Portable 303, directly across from the play structure. YMCA will also be using the Cafeteria when necessary. If your student will attend the YMCA, please park at the gate entrance on NE Emerson for drop off and pick up. This will give you direct access to the classroom. If you have questions regarding signing up for before or after school care, please call Dan Umbenhower at 503-327-0012.

PTA Kinder Parent Social: Welcome new parents! Join the Vernon PTA for coffee and donuts in the Multipurpose Room on Friday, September 5th, after you drop your child off for his/her first day of Kindergarten. Current Vernon parents will be there to welcome you and answer any questions you might have about the Vernon School community. We know the first day of Kindergarten is an exciting and sometimes emotional experience for both kids and parents.

Extra: Vernon is excited to announce the addition of a Mandarin Chinese Teacher from China. This year Kindergarten and 1st grade will have exposure to Mandarin instruction and Middle School Students will be able to choose their International Baccalaureate Language B classes, either Mandarin or Spanish.

Faubion PreK-8th

School will begin for 1st-8th grade students on Tuesday, September 2nd. Kindergarten students will begin on Friday, September 5th.

Building Access Before and After School: Grad and Go Breakfast is served from 8:30 - 8:40 am, Tardy Warning Bell is 8:35 am, Tardy Bell is 8:40 am, Dismissal Bell is at 3:00 pm.

The main entrance should be used to access the building during school hours.

Students attending SUN School can be picked up through the Gymnasium entrance from the Dekum Street parking lot.

SUN Programs: Faubion SUN is a program that extends the school day and is free for all students (Gr K-8) attending Faubion. *Faubion SUN is looking for a volunteer Lego Robotics coach for the upcoming school year! Hours are Monday/ Wednesday from 3-4:40 pm.* Faubion SUN is managed through Portland Parks & Recreation. Contact: Charli Krause for more information at 503-916-5694, charli.krause@portlandoregon.gov

YMCA Before/After School Care: YMCA programs are available from 6:30 - 8:45 am and 3:00 - 6:00 pm daily. If you have questions regarding signing up for before or after school care, please call 503.327.0007 or email.ychildcare@ymcacw.org.

Faubion PTA: If you are interested in being a member of the Faubion PTA Board please contact, Shamekia Weatheroy. Open positions for the upcoming year include, Vice President, Treasurer, Volunteer Coordinator, and Popcoorn Coordinator. Be a member and support Faubion children.

Faubion Facility: The new Faubion PK-8 leverages a major capital partnership with Concordia University in a new facility scheduled to begin construction in 2016 and open in September 2017. The new facility will serve as a new public/private model for higher education and K-12 sharing space as well as leveraging resources to create a new teaching model for the Cully/Concordia community. Learn more at: <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/bond/8497.htm>

SUMMER IN SEPTEMBER
JAMBALAYA
FESTIVAL & BBQ



Saturday, September, 6th

Buy your Tickets online @ mealsonwheelspeople.org

Dignity Memorial presents: The Meals on Wheels People, Martin Luther King, Jr. Ninth Annual Summer In September BBQ & Festival on Saturday, September 6th at Dawson Park. This unique neighborhood event features an authentic Creole Jambalaya meal created by Teletha Benjamin, a Northeast Portland resident, Loaves & Fishes Centers Board Member and a native of Louisiana. The menu will include ribs and a variety of picnic food along with entertainment and a Kid's area with prizes and activities for the whole family!

All proceeds support meals for seniors in the Northeast Portland community.

Summer in September Tickets are on sell now at: mealsonwheelspeople.org - \$15 Single and Group tickets \$45 up to 4 people

Volunteers are needed visit our website: mealsonwheelspeople.org



Presenting Music by:
Randy Starr & the Players

NO Limit (Parliament
Funkadelic) Tribute Band

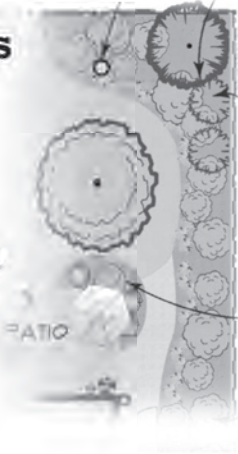
Cool Breeze



SITE PLANNING
WORKSHOP

After *Naturescaping Basics*, this class walks you through how to prepare a site plan for your landscape or garden project.

Step-by-step you will learn how to evaluate & map your property, and assess your garden style and needs, as well as ways to mix naturescaping practices into your new plan.



Site Planning 1

Sunday, September 21

1:00 – 5:00pm

Kennedy School

5723 NE 33rd Ave, Portland, 97211

Register online at: www.emswcd.org

Information: 503-222-7645



East Multnomah
Soil and Water
Conservation District

Hosted by:
Concordia Neighborhood
Association

mc mark charlesworth

kw PORTLAND
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Portland, OR 97232

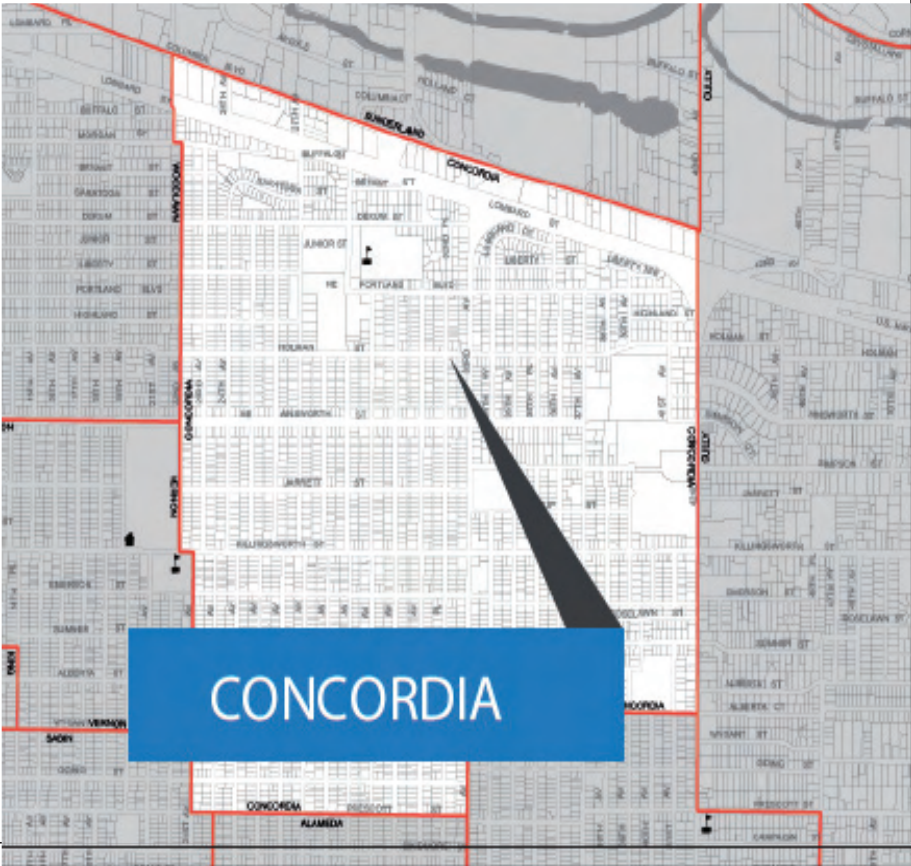
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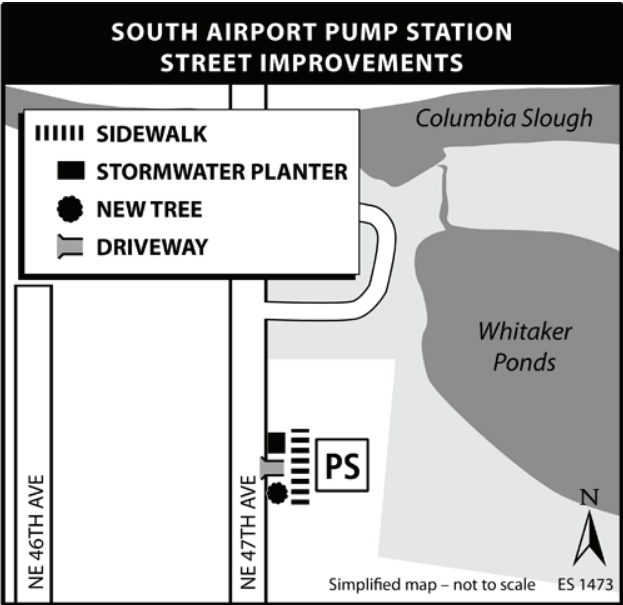
Suicide Prevention Month

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. Know the warning signs and take action!

The following signs may mean someone is at risk for suicide. The risk of suicide is greater if a behavior is new or has increased and if it seems related to a painful event, loss, or change. If you or someone you know exhibits any of these signs, seek help as soon as possible by calling the Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

- Talking about wanting to die or to kill themselves.
- Looking for a way to kill themselves, such as searching online or buying a gun
- Talking about feeling hopeless or having no reason to live.
- Talking about feeling trapped or in unbearable pain.
- Talking about being a burden to others.
- Increasing the use of alcohol or drugs.
- Acting anxious or agitated; behaving recklessly.
- Sleeping too little or too much.
- Withdrawing or isolating themselves.
- Showing rage or talking about seeking revenge.
- Displaying extreme mood swings.

NE 47th Improvements



South Airport Phase 4 - NE 42nd and NE 47th Pump Station Project

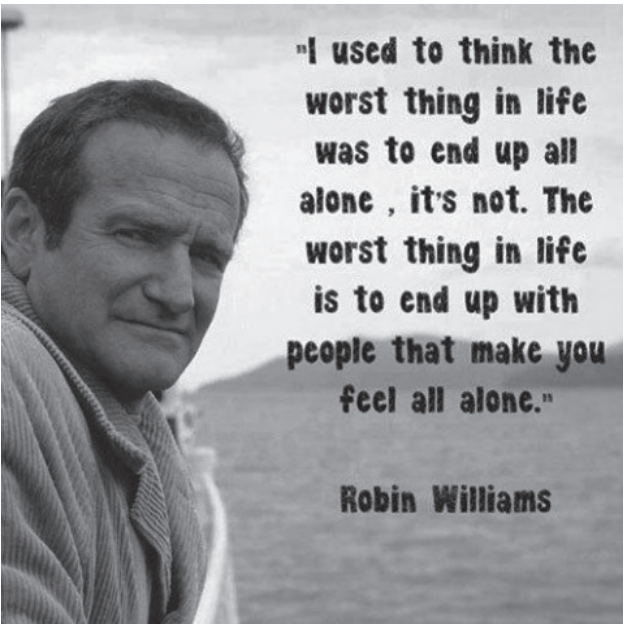
Construction of two sewer pump stations at the north end of NE 42nd Avenue and on the east side of NE 47th Avenue is nearly complete. In the project's final phase, Environmental Services will plant a street tree and construct a sidewalk, curb and green street planter on NE 47th Avenue (see map). Construction will start the week of September 15 and will take about a month to complete.

The work will restrict traffic lanes on NE 47th. Motorists should expect delays during work hours, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on weekdays.

The South Airport Project will connect about 100 homes and businesses that have been using septic systems to the public sanitary sewer and will protect public health, property and the environment.

- WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION
- Work hours are 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
 - Parking is prohibited in work zones during work hours.
 - There will be lane restrictions during specified work hours. Please expect delays.
 - The on-site city construction inspector should be able to help you with construction concerns during work hours. Inspectors

Suicide Calls Increase



Robin Williams' Death Prompts Record Phone Calls to Suicide Line

Lines for Life's Suicide Lifeline call volume doubles, most from concerned friends and relatives.

Following Robin Williams' death there has been a near doubling in calls to the Lines for Life Suicide Lifeline from friends and family members concerned about a loved one's risk for suicide. This reflects the national trend this week.

"The rise in phone calls is coming mostly from those who have been concerned about another person for a while and have been prompted to act now", said David Westbrook, former crisis line Director, now Chief Operating Officer, at Lines for Life. "This is exactly what we urge people to do – to start a conversation and take action so we can help prevent suicide."

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800-273-TALK) and its national network, including its only Oregon affiliate, Lines for Life, answers more than 1 million calls a year, providing help, hope, support and recovery to callers in emotional distress and suicidal crisis. On Aug. 10, just one day prior to Robin Williams' death by suicide, Lifeline answered over 3,000 calls. Within 24 hours after his death on Aug. 11, 2014, Lifeline's call volume more than doubled. On Aug. 12, 2014, Lifeline received 7,375 calls nationwide, the highest number of calls on one given day in the history of the Lifeline. Independent evaluations of this service funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration have shown that callers to Lifeline's centers typically experience significant reductions in emotional and suicidal distress. As awareness of this vital service grows, more lives are being saved.

Trained to listen and not to judge, the crisis intervention specialists establish rapport with callers and help them reconnect with their reasons for living.

Increased public awareness and actions taken towards suicide prevention is perhaps the one good thing to come out of this tragedy. The 24/7 phone number for the Lines for Life Suicide Lifeline is (800) 273-TALK (8255)

- typically wear a green City of Portland safety vest and hard hat.
- Construction will not interrupt your sewer service or other utilities.
 - Let us know if you have concerns such as maintaining driveway access, business operations, or medical deliveries.

The City of Portland complies with all non-discrimination laws including Title VI (Civil Rights) and Title II (ADA). To request a translation, accommodation or additional information, please call 503-823-7740

PURCHASE

With \bar{A}

PURPOSE

New Seasons Market is part of a community of more than 1,000 companies across 60 industries with one unifying goal: redefining success in business. Thank you for supporting us and our fellow B Corps.

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May you have warm words on a cold evening,
A full moon on a dark night,
And the road downhill all the way to your door.

