

**NEWS BRIEFS**

*(Continued from Page 4)*

stances when matching funds apply. Fritz is eligible for \$144,815 in public funds. This calculation is made by subtracting the \$5,185 Fritz collected in verified qualifying contributions from the \$150,000 spending limit. Fritz collected no seed money contributions during the qualifying period. Fritz's principal campaign committee is scheduled to receive \$39,815 by February 4 and \$105,000 by February 27. According to Carlstrom, all Campaign Finance Fund certified candidates are subject to limitations on the use of Campaign Finance Fund revenues in City Code Section 2.10.090 as well as all State of Oregon campaign finance provisions.

**City announces courtyard design winners**

At press time, the city was set to award prizes in a contest for courtyard housing development design at a January 29 reception at Northwest Natural Gas.

Mayor Tom Potter and commissioners Randy Leonard and Erik Sten will award four prizes for projects intended to fit in with historic "streetcar era" communities, and four for more con-

temporary areas such as those found in east Portland, according to planner Bill Cunningham.

The winners were selected by a jury of nationally-known experts, Cunningham said. The commission members were also to bestow six "people's choice awards" to designs favored by residents who viewed them on a web site.

The competition is part of the city's efforts to find infill housing designs that fit in with established neighborhoods and appeal to the public. Increasingly, planners are looking at courtyard and cluster site projects.

Shared use of open space makes it economical for developers to offer large lawns and courtyards that could attract families, Cunningham said. The competition also challenged architects to provide multiple uses for vehicle storage and maneuvering areas, he said.

The city is working with the Portland Development Commission to seek opportunities to build courtyard projects as prototypes, he said. The winning designs and runner-ups can be viewed at [www.courtyardhousing.org](http://www.courtyardhousing.org).

**SWNI committee "firming up" bike plan**

The Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. Transportation Committee's bike subcommittee is "firming up" and refining

its proposal for "bike boulevards" in southwest Portland, according to chair Keith Liden.

Bike boulevards utilize relatively low-traffic streets where bikes can safely share the road with cars without the creation of exclusive bike lanes. Their progress so far can be seen – and critiqued – on the SWNI web page, <http://www.swni.org>.

**Neighborhoods near truce on Naito Parkway improvements**

Supporters and opponents of the long-sought South Portland Circulation Study may be nearing a truce. The study, now officially called the South Portland Improvement Project, was conceived in the late 1970s.

It calls for shrinking Southwest Naito Parkway between Arthur Street and Barbur Boulevard from its current status as a freeway back to a local two-lane street, with conventional intersections with east-west streets. The study also calls for simplifying access routes to the Ross Island Bridge.

This would not only remove some of the barriers that divide the South Portland neighborhood, but free up land that could be used for development and parks. City Council has endorsed the

plan, but lacks the money to implement it, or even do detailed engineering to bring it about.

South Portland volunteers Jim Gardner and John Perry have championed the project over the course of nearly three decades. Hillsdale Neighborhood Association chair Don Baack has been a consistent critic and opponent of it, charging that downgrading a major route to downtown and the east side would overload other roads, especially Barbur Boulevard.

Within the last month, Baack and Gardner have said that they believe they have a compromise position on the project that both can live with. Both declined to discuss the details of the proposal at this time, but both said they intended to present it to their respective boards for action this month.

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Julia Fitzgerald  
phone: 503-244-6905  
fax: 503-244-4569  
[julia@juliafitzgeraldcpa.com](mailto:julia@juliafitzgeraldcpa.com)  
[www.juliafitzgeraldcpa.com](http://www.juliafitzgeraldcpa.com)  
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