

Some neighbors oppose 'halo' bicycle and pedestrian funding districts

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Based on community input received so far, by e-mail and at recent open houses, there is less than consensus support for four proposed Southwest "halo" local improvement district (LID) projects.

According to Southwest Neighborhoods Inc. land use specialist Leonard Gard, the vote is close for projects on Hamilton Street between 39th Avenue and Scholls Ferry Road, 35th Avenue between Arnold and Stevenson streets,

and Vermont Street between 30th and 37th avenues.

On the fourth project, Vermont Street between 45th and 65th avenues, there is a clear majority opposed to the project based on the recorded vote, he said. The halo projects are an experiment in spreading the cost of road improvements through LIDs over a wider area, rather than just the immediately adjacent properties.

The assessments would pay for bicycle and pedestrian-related improvements on the roads. "Some people have questioned the need for the projects, and some are just suspicious of government projects in general; it's fallout from the OHSU tram," Gard said. "Most people, though, said it was the cost, that they just couldn't afford this."

South Portland neighborhood park design nearly complete

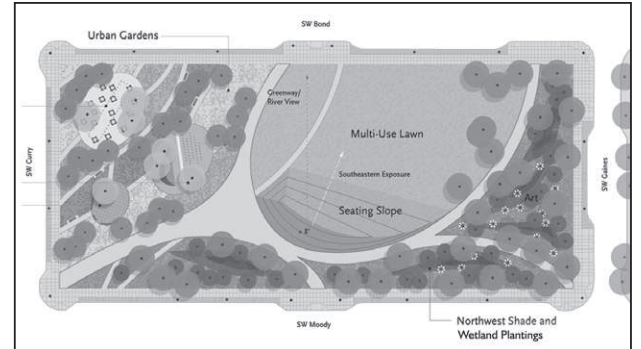
With a final public open house and committee meeting scheduled, the Portland Park Bureau is zeroing in on a design for a new South Waterfront neighborhood park.

According to project manager Sandra Buttzos, the bureau is leaning toward a so-called "hybrid" option for the two-acre park site bounded by Southwest Moody and Bond avenues and Curry and Gaines streets.

This would combine elements of three other designs: one featuring an event amphitheater, one

given over to open space and landscaping, and a third emphasizing features for community use.

At press time the final open house had been scheduled for April 22. The final committee meeting was scheduled for 4 p.m. May 13 at the Portland Building, 1120 S.W. Fifth Ave. The budget for the project is \$2.8 million, all of it from the North Macadam Urban Renewal District



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