

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Russell to replace Bridger as SWNI board chairman

As the Post went to press, a proposed slate of officers would make former Multnomah Neighborhood Association chairman Brian Russell chair of the Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. board. He would replace Glenn Bridger of Hillsdale, who is stepping down after five years in the post. SWNI's other incumbent officers – first vice president Ken Love, second vice-president Tye Steinbach, secretary Susan Egnor, and treasurer Tom Schaper, are all seeking re-election. These positions were scheduled to be voted on by the SWNI board at their May 28 meeting.

As chairman, Bridger ran the monthly SWNI board meetings efficiently, but with a light, avuncular style of

leadership. His conciliatory manner helped convince the Southwest Hills Residential League to overcome years of independence – and sometime suspicion and hostility – to join the coalition of neighborhoods

South Waterfront completes concert series

The South Portland Neighborhood Association has finalized its schedule of a second season of free concerts in Willamette Park. The musicians will be Michael Manning and the Pump Station Gang on July 9, the buckles on July 16, the Touchables on July 23, and the Free Mountain Ramblers on July 30. All concerts are from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

City reviews latest South Waterfront tower

The Portland Design Commission last month gave its second informal Design Advisory review to a South Waterfront project by the Prometheus Corporation on Block 45A, a half-block

parcel bounded by Southwest Bond Avenue, River Parkway and Abernethy Street. Here the corporation, which owns six square blocks at the south end of the district, plans to build a 31-story, 320-foot tower with small floor plates of 10,000 square feet. The corporation will build a seven-story structure im-

mediately to the south, with a public walkway between them.

Commission members were generally supportive of the plans, and several said they would like to see the tower go even higher, if the code allowed it, to form the southern boundary of the district.

Give me a break!

Here are my thoughts on the not-so-bright idea of the "halo" LIDs [local improvement districts] which are being shoved down our throats right now: Give me a break!

Why are we being asked to pay a new tax for local street improvements while the city, county, and state already have a steady stream of moneys we taxpayers provide them to take care of the basic safety and maintenance needs of these very same streets?

The stench of denial, ignorance, and arrogance is palatable way out here in the far reaches of the potholed and sidewalk-less Southwest.

City Hall aggressively wastes time debating about spending millions of

those tax dollars to move a worn out and broken down bridge from Sauvie Island to the middle of the Pearl District for no other apparent reason than it seems like a good idea to Sam Adams. And, need I mention the tram? Give me a break!

I encourage all who will be affected by these proposed halos to get informed and let City Hall and Southwest Neighbors, Inc. know what you think.

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Southwest 39th Avenue

Letters to the Editor



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