

Bikes and Streetcars

(Continued from Page 1)

topography creates unique problems. For example, Southeast Portland's grid street pattern and naming conventions make navigating relatively easy. Street names in the Southwest often don't follow rhyme or reason. "If it's not your neighborhood, you have no idea where anything is going. So, if the only street you know is Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, for example, and that's scary to you, then you don't ride your bike," he said. "We need markings on the pavement and signs."

Robin Vesey, who lives on Southwest Corbett Avenue in the Johns Landing area, hopes new bicycle facilities avoid hills. She specifically questioned current bike route signs that point to Corbett

Avenue's steep southern section.

"I came to advocate for bicycle safe streets and lanes," she said. "We need one car lane and two bike lanes rather than two car lanes." While Vesey understands the attraction of bike facilities on quiet streets, she questions their usefulness in getting people out of their cars. "I want to get there the quickest way possible," she said. "You want the fastest way, especially if you're commuting."

Don Baack, chairman of the Southwest Trails Committee, commended the open house and the city's efforts. "They did a tremendous amount of work incorporating suggestions from Southwest Trails," he said. "They're listening carefully to everyone's comments."

City prepares for impact of pressure sewer line construction

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

The Portland Bureau of Environmental Services is preparing a work plan, including ways to minimize impacts, for the planned replacement of the Garden Home and Multnomah pressure sewer lines.

According to bureau spokesperson Stephen Sykes, the work could begin as early as October, although it is more likely to be early next year. The line will extend from Southwest 86th Avenue and Scholls Ferry Road through Garden Home to 69th Avenue and Multnomah Boulevard, and from there along Multnomah to 31st Avenue.

The Bureau's recommended construction plan calls for contractors to work on segments 300 feet long before proceeding to the next segment, Sykes told *The Post*. From 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. they will always keep one travel lane open. They may also work at night, he said, and if so might close the roads to all but local traffic; the bureau has planned four detour routes, he said.

At the suggestion of neighborhood volunteers, he said, the bureau will post signs warning of the work and detours well outside the construction area, as much as two miles away, to give motorists a chance to avoid the area. The contractor chosen may not adhere to the recommended plan in every detail, Sykes said, although he will have to keep the road open during the day.

BES representatives visited the Hillsdale and Ash Creek neighborhood associations last month. They will speak and hear comments at the Maplewood

Neighborhood Association June 8 at West Hills Friends Church, 7425 S.W. 52nd Ave., and the Multnomah Neighborhood Association June 9 at the Multnomah Arts Center, 7688 S.W. Capitol Highway. Both meetings are at 7 p.m.

Neighborhood News

(Continued from Page 1)

The Right budget retains the popular Neighborhood Grants program, with some cuts, as the OFA draft did not. The Right budget's deepest cuts are to the Graffiti Abatement Program, whose funds will be slashed by 50 percent and whose ability to remove graffiti independently of volunteer help will be eliminated. Council is expected to approve and pass the budget at month's end.

Stricker Remembered

(Continued from Page 7)

and she devoted herself to this increasingly after her retirement in 1989. She also took pleasure in crossword puzzles, scrabble, an occasional brew, and especially her extended family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was a strong and consistent advocate for the disadvantaged. Her last requests were that donations in her name be made to Sisters of the Road, and that a keg of beer be served at her Celebration of Life, which was held May 21, 2009 at the Multnomah Arts Center.



Proposed Southwest bicycle facilities attracted a lot of attention at the Open House. (Post photo by Polina Olsen)



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