

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

City Council approves South Waterfront projects

The Portland City Council approved two new major projects for the South Waterfront neighborhood last month.

One was a long-sought affordable housing project, to be located on Block 49 of the district, bounded by Southwest Lowell and Bancroft streets and Moody and Bond avenues.

The six-story building will have 209 units. Of these, 42 will be reserved for veterans earning 30 percent or less of median family income. The rest will be geared to people earning 60 percent of MFI.

The City Council approved a grant of \$30 million toward the \$49.8 million, of which \$7 million has already been committed in the purchase of the land.

The project will be built and managed by REACH Community Development, the city's largest non-profit housing agency based in southeast Portland.

The veterans housing was originally supposed to be part of a project by Homer Williams and Dyke Dame, two of the major South Waterfront developers, but they eventually withdrew from the project.

The City Council also approved \$27 million in urban renewal funds for the reconstruction of Moody Avenue between Southwest Gibbs Street and River Parkway, a distance of 0.6 miles.

This will include an increase in the grade of the street, necessary for it to fit with the new light rail station at Southwest Porter Street, project manager Chris Armes told *The Post*.

Citywide Tree Project reaches City Council

The Portland City Council will hold a public hearing on the Citywide Tree Project beginning at 6 p.m. February 2 at City Hall.

The Project will set new regulations for the planting, cutting and pruning of trees on all public and private property in Portland.

It will hopefully make such regulations more consistent and understandable, with better enforcement, than is now the case. For more information visit www.portlandonline.com/bps/treeproject.

Southwest sewer work complete but new water main is next

Good news for Multnomah and Garden Home residents: The sewer work that bedeviled these communities is complete. New sewers on Southwest Multnomah Boulevard and near the Fanno

Creek Trail were tested and found to be satisfactory, according to Bureau of Environmental Services spokesperson Stephen Sykes.

Now for the bad news – BES will need to relocate a water main on a section of Multnomah Boulevard, between Southwest 31st and 45th avenues. Work should begin in late December or early January and occur mainly between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., Sykes said.

Southwest coalition awards neighborhood grants

Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. announced last month the Neighborhood Grant winners for this year, to whom they allocated a total of \$10,647. The winners were (in alphabetical order):

- Ash Creek Neighborhood Association - \$1,100 for outreach for the Dickinson Park Community Garden.
- Crestwood Neighborhood Association: \$1,100 for a movie night at Dickinson Park.
- Hayhurst Neighborhood Association and Cedar Sinai Park: \$565 for Southwest Boundary Road traffic calming.
- Homestead Neighborhood Association: \$734 for outreach.
- Maplewood Neighborhood Association - \$1,000 for a summer social.
- Marshall Park Neighborhood Association - \$112 for outreach efforts such as a National Night Out celebration and tree stewardship.
- Multnomah Neighborhood Association: \$450 for Multnomah Village Park improvements and the Spring Garden Park playground.
- South Portland Neighborhood Association: \$998 for activities to build neighborhood identity, including Willamette Park summer concerts.

- Southwest Crime Prevention Committee: \$1,200 for public safety outreach activities, including the "Whoopin' It Up" youth basketball program.

- Tryon Creek Watershed Council: \$1,200 for an event, including hands-on restoration activities.

The annual grant program is funded by the City General Fund through the Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement, and distributed by Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. (SWNI) and the city's six other district neighborhood offices.

Grants are awarded for special projects by community groups that "increase their capacity," involve "under-represented communities," and encourage partnerships.

We ran out of room for our calendar!

Read "Community Life" online beginning January 1st.

Just click on our news website link at www.swportlandpost.com

Happy New Year from all of us at The Post!



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