

Community invited to contribute supplies, donations during Multnomah Days

The Multnomah Village Bloc's Initiative and Neighborhood House are inviting you to join us at this year's Multnomah Days Festival on Saturday, August 20, for a great celebration of our community.

Letters to the Editor



The Southwest Portland Post
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We are asking for donations of non-food items that are in short supply for those in need. Additionally, we are asking you to contribute a suggested \$2 donation that will be applied to installing lighting in Multnomah Village during the "Green Street" redevelopment of Capitol Highway between Southwest 35th and 36th avenues. Just think of the impact that we can

make to our community if each person or family could donate a box of diapers, paper towels, toiletries and or canned/boxed food goods. This will help those at most risk in our community.

Also think of how much better Multnomah Village would be with more and improved lighting. We have a unique opportunity to build out our lighting infrastructure at a very low cost with the pending Green Street redevelopment.

We won't have to tear up newly built roads or sidewalks as would be done during the sidewalk and street construction.

Donation collection points will be set up at the major entrances to the street fair prior to the parade start and we will also have a donation location near the center of the fair after the parade has ended.

Multnomah Village gets between 5000 and 8000 visitors during the Multnomah Days Festival. It is one of the longest-running street fairs in Portland and is hosted by the Multnomah Village Business Association.

Randy M. Bonella
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Maplewood slated to receive \$200,000 in ped/bike improvements

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

More than 90 folks attended a neighborhood meeting at the West Hills Friends Church on July 11 to find out about plans for a once-in-a-decade traffic-calming project in Maplewood. Mark Lear and Greg Raisman of the Portland Bureau of Transportation led the meeting.

The city has set aside \$200,000 to deal with a unique neighborhood with no sidewalks. For starters, the state legislature has agreed to allow individual cities to create new 20 mph zones to increase safety.

As part of the city's new neighborhood greenway program (formerly bike boulevards), they're planning to turn a ditch along the side of busy Southwest Maplewood Road, 52nd Avenue, and Vermont Street into a walkable/bikeable gravel trail with a culvert underneath.

The city is working with the Safe Routes To School folks, along with the Bureau of Environmental Services.

The City is trying to create a safe network for getting people in Maplewood to places like West Hills Montessori

School, Maplewood School, St John Fisher School, Garden Home Recreation Center, the Southwest Community Center in Gabriel Park and Multnomah Village.

There are some steep slopes involved that may make traffic calming trickier. But traffic speeds in Maplewood are consistently 5-10 mph higher than the city wants. And the new trails should make walking and biking more attractive options.

A number of new speed bumps are planned, as are new flashing beacons at crosswalks. There is the possibility of a new rubber curb along Vermont. Also, plans are in the works for an expanded trail to April Hill Park.

What's next? A follow-up meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 17, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Multnomah Center. Information about proposed improvements is available at www.portlandonline.com/transportation. Click on the link to Maplewood. If you'd like to comment on proposed plans contact Mark Lear via e-mail, mark.lear@portlandoregon.gov.

- Don Snedecor



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