

Southwest Corridor planners seek input on 99W between Portland and Sherwood

COMMENTARY

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

The Southwest Corridor team is seeking your input on what the future of this part of the Metro area should be, and what kind of transportation should serve it. This last includes a study of a potential new light rail line.

The multi-jurisdictional study is being led by Metro, and includes both Highway 99W (Barbur Boulevard) and the land around it out as far as Sherwood.

It is working in cooperation with local efforts such as Portland's Barbur Concept Plan, which is considering land uses, but the Corridor study is concerned primarily with transportation issues.

The project anticipates major growth in several designated "concept centers" between now and 2035, including Hillsdale and West Portland Park.

Currently, planners found, there is a lack of "a balance of housing choices" for students, families and the elderly.

"Challenges" include limited accessibility, lack of transportation options (including safe places to walk), traffic congestion, limited options for roadway expansion, air pollution and "environmental considerations."

To gain public input, staff has held

presentations at local community groups, held facilitated discussions, held two open houses, and had a mail and e-mail comment period for a month last year.

In "dot" exercises at public events, asked what areas of concern were most important in terms of objectives, the highest recorded level of concern was for parks, trails and natural areas, followed by safety and security and water quality.

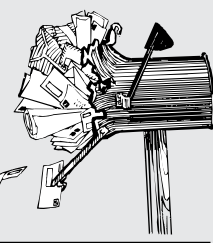
Other concerns, in descending order of importance, were jobs and economic development, commercial development, housing choices and public health.

Metro staff found that three quarters of the responses they received supported improved public transit, and two-thirds called for "high-capacity" transit. This is a key, since part of staff's assignment is whether to move forward on more detailed study of mass transit options.

These options, Metro planners say, include light rail, bus rapid transit, improved bus service, commuter rail and rapid streetcar, not necessarily on Barbur Boulevard. There was virtually unanimous support for improved pedestrian facilities along the corridor.

Metro staff said they were planning to do additional outreach at public events this month, including Sunday Parkways. For more information, visit www.oregonmetro.gov/southwestcorridor.

Letters to the Editor



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Multnomah Village dentist announces his retirement after 30 years

To my valued patients:

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you; we have laughed and cried together through the years. It is with a mix of joy and difficulty that I inform you today about my retirement from the practice of dentistry. I have always wanted to end my career when I am at the top of my game and when I am still healthy enough to enjoy my retirement.

I believe that time is now. I look forward to spending time with family and friends and enjoying the many interests I have had to postpone.

This, however, requires that I give up what I have valued the most about my profession—the many individual relationships that I have been privileged to be part of during

my 30 years of practice.

I have looked long and hard for my replacement, and am pleased to announce that Lisa K. Jensen, DMD, will take over my practice, effective immediately.

After interviewing other potential dentists, I happily met Dr. Jensen, who is friendly and funny and yet able to be serious about the practice of dentistry.

I believe she holds the high standards of ethics, honesty and excellence that I have always strived for. I urge all of you to begin your new patient-dentist relationships with Dr. Jensen, as I am confident she will continue to provide the highest standard of dental care possible.

To those of you who have been in recently, I want you to know that I have been unable to share my exciting news with you due to the nature of the sale of a dental practice. It is my pleasure to announce the transfer of my practice to Dr. Lisa K. Jensen.

Fondly,
John P. Shaw, DMD

Death Notice

Sherman Hess, longtime Multnomah and Hillsdale pharmacist, died in July at the age of 83. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, August 18, 2012 at Riverview Cemetery.

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