

Citizens give Metro feedback on Southwest Corridor Plan; 45 out of 60 in favor of light rail

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

About 60 people attended and gave input at a public open house on the Southwest Corridor Plan (SWCP) at the Multnomah Center, April 25.

The Plan, under the direction of Metro, is an examination of a possible "a high capacity transit" improvement, either light rail or "bus rapid transit" extending from downtown Portland to as far as Sherwood utilizing either Highway 99W or adjacent streets.

Those who came were asked to show their preference for one of five transit options, and support for 46 transportation-related projects adjacent to the potential routes.

Portland recently completed the Barbur Concept Plan, showing the kind of future development desired on Southwest Barbur Boulevard and adjacent streets, and suggesting the type of zone changes and public improvements needed to make them happen. Other jurisdictions have had similar processes.

Metro Councilor Bob Stacey told those present that the process's end result should be "not just high-capacity transit, but a great community through a coordinated plan. We're taking these great visions and deciding what transit improvements we can do to make them

all happen. Your level of interest will be crucial."

Metro planner Malou Wilkinson said that the area covered by the SWCP comprised 11 percent of the Portland metropolitan area. "It's a really big area with a lot of opportunity," she said.

By July, Wilkinson said, "We want to narrow down the alternatives, and have a small list of improvement priorities. We want to know how we can serve the community with local transit projects."

During the open house, 45 people expressed a preference for light rail as

opposed to bus rapid transit. For the northernmost part of the route, 47 said a tunnel would be preferable, while 11 called for a surface route. There were 26 people who voted for Barbur Boulevard and 16 for Naito Parkway, as potential surface routes.

On the other end of the line for Portland, the vote was 31 to three in favor of access to Portland Community College's Sylvania Campus by Barbur instead of Capitol Highway. Only one person voted for access via Southwest Haines Road, while 34 said you should use existing routes.



Barbur Concept Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

As city planners Jay Sugnet and Morgan Tracey told the City Council, the public input was strongly for encouraging mixed-use development of four to six stories.

Sugnet and Tracey noted the need for significant public investment to make the area safe and accessible to pedestrians and bicyclists, especially in the "Crossroads" area at the junction of Barbur Boulevard, Interstate 5, Capitol Highway, and Taylors Ferry Road.

Regarding this point, Andre Baugh, chair of the Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission, told the

City Council, "There's an important question regarding the [Barbur] Crossroads: How does it fit into the matrix of equity?"

He said that before making the kind of investment in the area the Plan called for, "I recommend reviewing our funding priorities, and how this investment meets those citywide priorities."

Commissioner Steve Novick said that he lived near Multnomah Village but that "I would feel guilty about having high capacity on Barbur (Boulevard) before attending to (Southeast) Powell Boulevard and 122nd Avenue."

Commissioner Amanda Fritz had a different reaction. "West Portland Park has one of the highest concentrations

of Section Eight housing in the city," she said. "I don't accept the premise that this has to be either/or. We should figure out a way to do both."

Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. president Marianne Fitzgerald said that this corridor "has the greatest potential to increase transit ridership of anywhere in the region" - if improvements are made. "Help West Portland Park realize its potential as a town center in more than name," she said.

Several residents from Southwest Haines Road testified to their concern that their street could be part of the route for a future High Capacity Transit project, and the effect that would have upon their livability.

POST A TO Z BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY 503-244-6933

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD HANDYMAN
20 years in Multnomah Village!

"Call Kenny!"
Kenneth S. Morse CCB License #195820

 **503-939-5452**
morseks@aol.com
Excellent SW Portland references

Tree pruning & preservation
Tree & stump removals
Arborist reports & Consulting

MULTNOMAH Tree Experts, LTD.



Peter Torres, M.F.
ISA Certified Arborist (PN-650B)
CCB #154349
Southwest Portland, Oregon

(503) 452-8160
Peter@MultnomahTree.com
www.multnomahtree.com



Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
503-246-2564

www.mvdentalcare.com

7717 SW 34th Avenue • Portland, OR 97219
(Multnomah Village • SW Capitol Highway & 34th Ave.)

Summer Theater Camp 2013 with PORTLAND YOUTH PERFORMANCE ACADEMY
Aug. 4-9, 2013 • CAMP ARRAH WANNA

Overnight camp near the foothills of Mt. Hood
Camp Director: Jules Moorhouse, PPS Theater Director
Improv Theater Games - Performance Fun - Adventure
Zip Lining - Archery - Swimming
Transportation to & from camp available

more info: 503.709.5629 • www.portlandyouthacademy.com

PRECISION HOME REPAIR & DRYWALL
JON A. GOSCH



Phone: 503-643-3517
E-mail: precision17@frontier.com

Quality work at affordable rates!
Mention this ad and receive 10% off your next job!

Licensed • Bonded • Insured • CCB #77073

Hours: 12pm - 8pm: Thurs. - Sun.

Rattikran
Thai Cuisine



503-973-5907

Hot Pot 

907 SW Gibbs, Portland, Or (above OHSU next to Plaid Pantry)


ROBERTSON CONSTRUCTION & PAINTING LLC

- Interior/Exterior
- Commercial/Residential
- Powerwashing
- Wallcovering
- Patina Stained Concrete
- New Construction & Remodels
- Fences & Decks



James Robertson
PO Box 80897
Portland, OR 97280
(503) 516-1223
(503) 293-6586 (FAX)
robertsonpainting@gmail.com

CCB# 169852 Insured • Bonded



Now you can read the latest edition of The Post on any computer, anytime you want.

Just click on the home page at www.SWPortlandPost.com

SIGNS BY TOMORROW
SIGNS & GRAPHICS NATIONWIDE

The IDEA Today ... The SIGN Tomorrow!

- SIGNS
- BANNERS
- GRAPHICS
- MAGNETICS
- LETTERING
- LOGOS & MORE

503.244.0980

9220 SW Barbur Blvd. #111 - Portland - OR - 97219

Cultivating healthy gardens for over 20 years

Smiling Gardens

**maintenance • design
consultation • renovation**

• SmilingGardens.com • 971-275-4204 •

SUN DOG CONSTRUCTION.COM

Remodeling - Restoration
Basement / Attic Conversions
Additions, Kitchens, Bathrooms
Moisture / Dry Rot Repair
Home 4 Sale Prep/Inspection
Maintenance/Handyman service



Licensed
Bonded / Insured
CCB #173347

503.957.7559 AUTUMN SUN PARDEE
Owner / Contractor / Carpenter

WEST HILLS COLLISION CENTER

8300 SW Barbur Blvd.
Portland, OR 97219
Ph: (503) 245-9030

www.westhillscollision.com

FREE LOANER CARS