

Design Commission

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The South Portland Neighborhood Association opposed the project; in a letter, chair Jim Davis called it "nothing more than a high-class rest home for the nation's well-to-do." He opposed the 325-foot height, long a sore point with the neighborhood, and said it was unnecessary.

He also charged that OHSU was transferring density to the project without specifying where it was coming from. City Planner Kara Fioravanti disputed this, saying that of the project's nine to one floor area ratio (a measure of project density), three to one is transferred from OHSU's planned riverfront campus. "At this point, it's one big 19-acre site," Fioravanti told *The Post*.

At both hearings commission members praised both the project's content and architecture. "This is an extraordinarily beautiful project," commission chair Lloyd Lindley said. "The orientation, the massing, the width make it extraordinary."

By comparison, the nearby John Ross tower "looks a little chubby," he said. The concept of solar water heating "desperately needs an example that works," he said. Commission member Jeff Stuhr said, "This is an elegant building that will add to the skyline of this district. It will be one of the most slender buildings in Portland."

Former commission chair Mike McCullough said that a guiding principal involved with construction of such tall buildings is that the commission would grant additional height if the development would do something extraordinary for the neighborhood it was in.

"There's a huge missing piece here," said McCullough. "So far we have no park and the pedestrian bridge is a ways off." In addition to a lack of parks, McCullough was frustrated by a lack of ground floor retail. "We have one café to serve this neighborhood," he said.

Multnomah Villager

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than other facilities but then again, I'm a bit larger than your average Maplewood student.

We've visited the new playground several times since it's gone up and Jr. V is looking forward to many future recesses on this gear. There are benches for the adults.

Rieke Playground

A visit to the Hillsdale Farmers' Market is not complete, in our house, without a lengthy side trip to the playground here at Mary Rieke Elementary School. There's a good "modern" play structure and some old-school gear including a long slide and one of those Buckminster Fuller-like dome climbing bars.

It's a nice long walk from our house to Rieke, and the playground is a good place for the parents to catch their breath while the kids work out some energy of the structure. Plus, you can always take the "long way" back and hit Baskin-Robbins for a cone afterwards, and the combination of a playground AND ice cream is pretty hard to beat.

There's also some really great play areas around the Village that I refer to as "semi-private" such as the one at St John Fisher right across from Gabriel Park, which we've snuck onto before...Sshhh!

Jr. V enjoys the excellent playground facilities at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center as well, since he goes to Kid's Corner there, after school. West Hills Learning Center has excellent facilities, if you go to day care there.

The Multnomah Villager is an online web log of one resident's experience of life in and around our Village. You can find the Multnomah Villager blog at www.multnomahvillager.com.

A New Neighbor In The Armory?

In a few short years a face in your neighborhood will change. The current Sears Armory will transition to house a new neighbor. Westside Christian High School would like to be that neighbor.

While our students have experienced a great deal of success in academics, arts, and athletics over the past 26 years, our mission is much deeper. We encourage our students to cultivate meaningful relationships and inspire them to learn and discover their passions and purpose. Through a unique program, Westside Outside, our students have the opportunity to serve the homeless in Portland, help the needy

throughout our valley, and change the future for children around the globe. The result? Westside students graduate with transformed hearts, equipped as leaders who can make a difference.

The Armory is ideally located for a permanent school site. It is adjacent to West Hills Christian School, a primary feeder school for our high school, and is centrally located for the geographic region we serve. More importantly, it is nestled in a neighborhood that values children.

Westside would be a wonderful addition to the neighborhood. Once you get to know us, I'm sure you'll agree.

Sincerely, Andy Sears, Administrator



For more information, call 503.697.4711 www.westsidechristianhs.org

Voice Your Opinion on Armory Reuse Proposals
Neighborhood meetings slated for mid-September and October
Decision made November/December

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FREE Movies on First Fridays!

Multnomah Outdoor Cinema 2007
 presented by Multnomah Neighborhood Association & SouthWest Neighborhoods, Inc.

Friday, September 7th

- Coen Brother's classic "Bluegrass" film starring George Clooney

(Join us for a Live Bluegrass Music Open Jam @ 7:00)*

**All bluegrass pickers welcome. Film begins at 8:30.*

Multnomah Arts Center (outside), 7688 SW Capitol Hwy, in the Village - Movies begin @ Dusk

For more information: www.multnomahoutdoorcinema.org
 Contact SWNI (503) 823-4592 or Email: multnomahoutdoorcinema@yahoo.com

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