

METROPOLITAN

Kids learn about city planning

by Robert Lothian

Urban designer Elijah Mirochnik came up with a unique method of teaching elementary school children about the city.

He had them draw their ideas for a future city on large plastic triangles. The triangles were put together and formed a dome 30 feet high. The dome was set up in the park blocks downtown and 200 of the children who contributed to the project were invited to take a look at their work.

"As the kids came in they started to look for their plastic triangle. . . they got very excited," he said.

Mirochnik is gathering ideas from children for the Central City Plan. The plan covers the inner city from Southwest over to Lloyd Center, including a big chunk of Albina up to Fremont, and from the Ross Island to the Fremont bridges. He outlined his

"kidmapped" project at a "Planning for Young People" workshop at Portland State University last week.

Among the ideas that youngsters came up with, said Mirochnik, was a sky bridge tilted between buildings for kids on skateboards. "There were a lot of ideas for skateboard parks," he added.

There were also a lot of ideas for playground equipment, including one for a large rainbow with stairs to the top. Boys were interested in technology and rocket ships for playground equipment. "Girls were very interested in shopping, in places they could be downtown where they felt safe in a recreational setting."

One little girl suggested a bank that gave out candy and money — "U.S. Bank, Candy and Everything." "The kids are very much interested in laces geared to their kind of taste,

and that means sugar, ice cream and pizza. They want places where they won't get the 'hairy eyeball' from adults and felt that most businesses were for adults. I think that's something to be considered by developers."

When they finished their dome pieces, Mirochnik said he had the children look up the mayor's phone number and then call him to talk over their ideas. The phone didn't have a cord, but Mirochnik said there was no reason the kids couldn't try it at home.

He described his "children's future dome" as a symbol of kids working together. "It's a program where kids are putting their two cents worth in — they're saying what they want."

Another way to gather ideas from youth is to take a survey. Jacquie Swabuck, head of the Urban Plan-

ning for Children Project in Sacramento, reported the results of an extensive survey there.

Children wanted safe streets where they can play, efficient bus or other transportation so they can get places without a car, bike lanes and walkways away from busy streets, and school or park-sponsored after-school recreational activities, she said. The children also suggested a logo to indicate businesses and agencies that encourage patronage by young people, and where they can go to get help.

Places and activities that youth like, she said, are malls, stores, parks, sports events, movies, fast food restaurants and video arcades — any place they can have fun and be safe. "All the way through the survey, kids wanted to be more independent, responsible and grown up than their parents think they are," said Swabuck.

Northeast Portland still in economic depression

by Robert Lothian

It's no news to residents of Northeast Portland that the "recovery" is happening somewhere else.

Oregon remains among the top states in the number of unemployed, Portland's unemployment rate is up to 9.8 percent, and the rate among Black people is 20 percent or more.

"Recession is when your neighbor is out of work, and depression is when you are out of work, and that is particularly true in Northeast Portland," said Rev. John Garlington, speaking at the "Bottom Line is Jobs" forum last week.

With unemployed youth on the street corners of major cities in large numbers, a "major explosion" could be expected. Garlington said he is surprised and gratified that there hasn't yet been one. "I am surprised that we haven't had any repeats of 1968," he said.

A valuable lesson taught by Jesse Jackson is that constantly reaffirming self-esteem helps overcome the grief of unemployment and poverty, said Garlington.

Church leaders need to sponsor forums to discuss ways that they can counsel the unemployed to raise their self-esteem, he suggested.

Garlington referred to the Old Testament when he suggested that workers be allowed to rest with a paid sabbatical during their seventh year on the job, to recoup their energies and allow other people to go to work. "There's enough in the world to meet the world's need, but not the world's greed," he said.

Garlington said he was pleased when ice descended on the president's inauguration ceremony in January, and much of the fancy food was donated to Washington's poor.

Convinced that the U.S. is undergoing the greatest revolution since

the Industrial Revolution, Garlington spoke of change coming under great pressure, bringing "a new time of blessing and health for our country."

"Until it happens," he said, "at least we've got each other."

Garlington, pastor of Maranatha Church and vice-president of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, spoke at the forum organized by the Job Opportunity Bank at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Norene Goplen, executive director of J.O.B., said the job referral agency has 375 people on its rolls, including a surprising number with masters and doctorate degrees. The agency has offices in Augustana Lutheran Church, 2710 N.E. 14th Ave.

Susan D. Limper, a "futurist" and editor of the magazine *Strategic Moves* in Portland, offered some tips on the future job market.

Custodians, fast food workers,

service workers, sales clerks, elementary school teachers and computer and electronics technicians are job categories that will see some growth by 1995, she said.

Oregon's lumber industry is on the decline and will have almost no job openings in years to come. She called for a diversification of Oregon's economy to get away from the wood products dependence which is the cause of Oregon's current economic problems.

Some emerging occupations of the 70s, solar energy for instance, are no longer good career bets even though they had bright futures at one time. "The alternative energy field is one that fizzled," she said.

Limper described the economy both locally and nationally as in a transition period. "Technology is taking us so far, so fast that our head is spinning. We haven't emerged yet from whatever we're in."

**PUBLIC ANNUAL REPORT 1984-85
as of June 30, 1985**

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Burnside Hobo Parade

by Nathaniel Scott

Controversy looms as the Burnside community prepares for its fifth annual Hobo Parade, Saturday, July 27.

The theme for this year's parade is "Hunger in our own backyard."

The assemblage area is the North Park Blocks and N.W. 8th and Everett Streets.

The parade is scheduled to begin at 12 noon, wind through the Burnside community and culminate at Tom McCall's Waterfront Park where speeches and entertainment will be held.

However, the parade precedes the banning of the sale of "fortified wine" in the Burnside community by four days.

Beginning August 1, the state and city has decreed that no fortified wines can be sold in the Burnside area, which includes Old Town, where the rich and the not so rich gather day and night to sip gallons of alcoholic spirits.

While being enthusiastic about this year's hobo parade, with Rambling Jack Elliot as the grand marshal, Michael A. Stoops, the founder-director of Baloney Joe's, 313 E. Burnside Street, is perturbed over the banning of fortified wines.

"Banning the sale of cheap wine is not going to keep an alcoholic from getting a drink," said Stoops, who is contemplating legal action to stop the ban.

The Burnside Community Board of Directors will decide this week what action to take, Stoops said.

Stoops said, "I am embarrassed at

the city for moving into a prohibition era (because) it's going to create (bootlegging) and increase the sale (of fortified wine) in other areas."

Stoops added, "If they are going to ban the sale of fortified wine; they should ban the sale of all alcoholic beverages in this area."

Stoops is also concerned with what he perceives to be a decrease in the visibility of police in the Burnside area.

Recently the area between Burnside and Davis on N.W. 6th Avenue has become a multi-entertainment center.

Jazz, blues, rock and punk music are concentrated in an area that is becoming one of the city's highest concentrated drug areas and there is an increase of shootings, knifings and muggings in the area.

Stoops assesses the problem this way: "There are masses of people coming down to the Burnside area at night and the residents, including myself, who live in the Burnside area, don't feel comfortable walking the streets at night."

"I hope in that multi-cultural training Chief Harrington is talking about, that it will include the homeless," Stoops said, adding, "Burnside is Oregon's Ethiopia."

Stoops said in October he will celebrate his eighth year in the Burnside area, and while he is not considering political office, he would support Ron Herndon's campaign for governor.

City Commissioner Dick Bogle will be the parade's guest speaker and the Kingsmen singing group will perform. Leading the parade will be the Just Seventeen Band.



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