

HOUSING The Portland Observer

New Mixed-Income Apartments First In Nation To Offer Car Sharing Program

Buckman Heights Apartments Accepts Delivery of First Vehicle

A remarkable partnership is developing in Northeast Portland that will make the new Buckman Heights Apartments the first in the United States to offer shared vehicles for tenant use. Buckman Heights offers 144 affordable priced apartments in a new urban neighborhood.

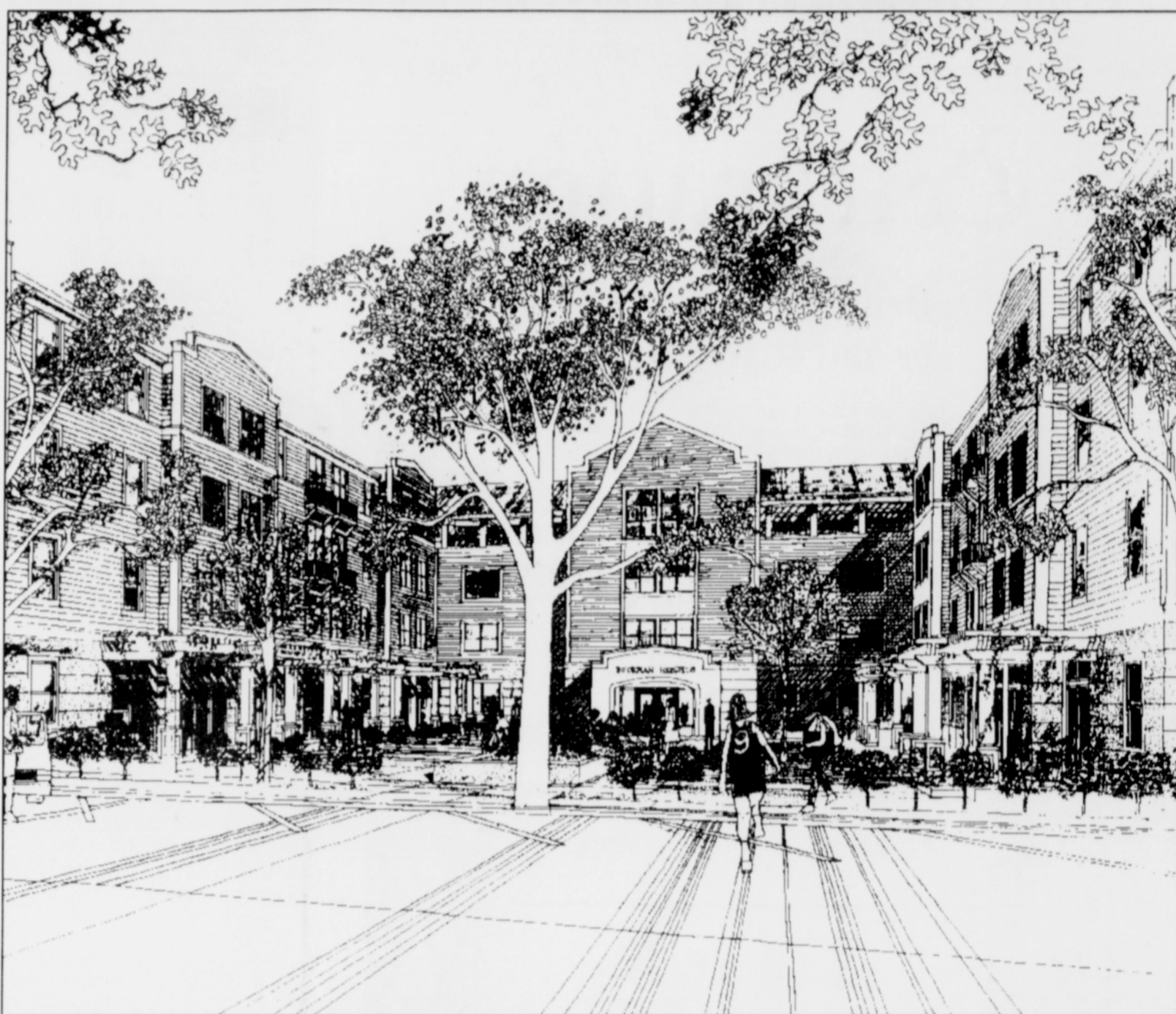
This unique partnership joins Prendergast & Associates, the developer of Buckman Heights, and CarSharing Portland, Inc., the first car sharing service in the United States. Since the complex is within easy walking distance of downtown, Lloyd Center, four major bus lines and Max, Buckman Heights is perhaps Portland's most transit-friendly neighborhood. CarSharing at Buckman Heights will provide residents who become members of the program with the use of a car without the cost and inconvenience of ownership. Members pay by the hour and mile only when they use the vehicle. All insurance, gasoline and repairs are included in the rates.

"We want Buckman Heights to be the easiest place to live in the city," says Pat Prendergast, Managing Director of Prendergast & Associates. "There are lots of places

to live that are convenient to downtown and to Tri-Met, but we recognize that there are times when folks really do need the use of a car. That's why we approached CarSharing Portland," says Prendergast. "While we have plenty of parking available for people with cars, we also want to do everything we can to accommodate people who walk, ride their bikes, or use Tri-Met for most of their trips. Having the three CarSharing vehicles right outside their door really makes it very convenient to live without a car."

Dave Brook, General Manager of CarSharing Portland, agrees. "CarSharing provides alternatives to individual vehicle ownership, making Buckman Heights Apartments a true transit-orientated development."

The Oregon Housing and Community Service Department (OHCS) will provide the permanent financing for Buckman Heights Apartments, and has been a big supporter of the partnership with CarSharing. "Buckman Heights is a great example of how the State of Oregon is trying to create livable communities with affordable rents and proximity to jobs and services," comments



Margaret Van Vliet of the Governor's Community Development Office. "The car sharing

partnership is an excellent complement to the range of transportation choices, and will make a

real difference to the people who will live her." The Buckman Heights Apartments

leasing office is open on NE 16th Avenue. The phone number is 232-4040.

Affordable Housing Financing Under "HousePortland"

More than 13,000 families benefit from affordable housing financing under "HousePortland;" U.S. Representative Hooley, Fannie Mae to Announce \$10 Billion Statewide Affordable Housing Plan

Building on its successful efforts to

provide affordable housing for more than 13,000 Portland families in the past three years, Rep. Hooley and Fannie Mae (FNM/NYSE), the nation's largest source of home mortgage funds, announced a new \$10 billion, five-year housing investment plan.

The announcement took place at Fannie Mae's day-long Oregon Housing Symposium. Fannie Mae's Chief Economist Dr. David Berson and Dr. Bill Conerly presented an economic report in the morning, and breakout sessions ran throughout the day.

Red Or Green

BY KEN KLAWITTER

Gardening in Oregon requires the choice, red or green, bark dust or grass. Bark dust is the most inexpensive ground cover, suppresses weeds and is a moisture retentive mulch. Grass is the only living thing that will take regular foot traffic.

Grass is easy. If nothing is done to a yard in Oregon, no planting, no anything, the weeds that grow will, if mowed eventually make some kind of lawn. The grasses take over. Grasses love to grow here. Oregon is the #1 exporter of grass seed.

Grass is hard. Grass, to look good, requires more hours of work per week than anything you can plant. Mowing, edging, fertilizing, weeding, thatching, watering. Some people

enjoy these chores.

Most of our yards are much too green. Cut down or eliminate the green.

You need grass in a children's play area, or major foot traffic areas, areas around pools or barbecues. If you have dogs, grass will keep them from tracking mud. Take a close look at your yard. Any area of grass that is not doing its job - Kill it.

Next time, mow only the grass you need. Try to run the mower in the most comfortable manner around the yard. Do not mow close to trees or bird baths or obstacles. Avoid corners. It's easier to push a mower around curves. Take a look at the pattern created. If it makes sense, the green not mowed should be red.

Be bold. When mowing around a tree, think three feet, not three inches.

Remove the grass by hand or kill it with Round-Up (salts of glyphosate) or equivalent. I normally take a four-inch strip by hand to create the new border, then use Round-Up, wait five days - apply Casoron to keep weeds out for one year.

Order your bark. Medium fir is normally the best buy. A 50 X 100 lot half green and half red with a two to three bedroom house will take one unit (7.4 cubic feet) of bark 2" thick. The bark dust people will help you figure out how much to order.

Ken Klawitter has been in the Nursery and Landscaping Business for the past 20 years. He is available for consultation. Call 777-4654.

Brownfields Project

Portland - Mayor Vera Katz and Commissioner Charlie Hales recently announced appointments for a policy committee which will oversee the activities of the Portland Livable Community Showcase on brownfields. The group will be charged with coordinating, prioritizing and seeking federal funding for potential brownfield redevelopment sites identified by the community. The policy committee will work in conjunction with a series of stakeholder advisory groups who will assist with identifying brownfield redevelopment opportunities.

redevelopment is complicated by environmental contamination. As of 1994, Portland had over 1,000

brownfield sites. The City is currently refining site data and mapping brownfield sites.

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"We have a wonderful opportunity to leverage federal dollars for our inner city neighborhoods and use the funds for developments that help revitalize the areas and bring in jobs," said Katz. "I look forward to working with Commissioner Hales and this group to ensure we earn our title as a showcase community."

Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial properties where expansion or

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Metro Recycling Information 234-3000

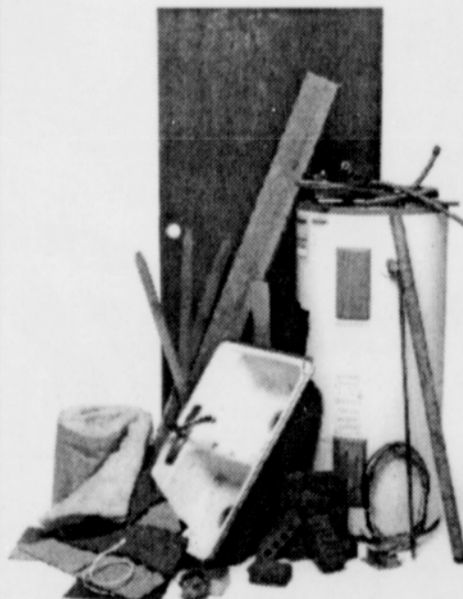
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Tip of the week: Don't call it "trash" before you call us.

Remodeling?

Metro has a data base of businesses that recycle and salvage wood, roofing material, plumbing, paint and more. Call 234-3000 for information. Visit Metro's web site at: www.metro-region.org



Call Metro Recycling Information when you need information about:

- recycling and reuse options
- garbage disposal
- ways to prevent waste
- composting and natural gardening
- safer alternatives for home and garden
- hazardous waste disposal

Metro Recycling Information is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Call us for a free refrigerator magnet so you'll always have our number handy. Also ask for our free Metro Summer Fun guide.



Metro Regional Services Creating livable communities

Metro is working to ensure that we have access to nature, clean air and water and resources for future generations. Waste prevention and safe disposal are ways you can create a more livable community.