

Susan McLain

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 NEWS



METRO

PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

**Susan McLain
represents
District 4, which
includes Northern
Washington
County, Cornelius,
Hillsboro, Forest
Grove, Northwest
Beaverton, Aloha,
Rock Creek, Bonny
Slope, Raleigh Hills,
West Slope, Cedar
Mill and Cedar Hills.**



A message from Susan McLain

As the winter gets colder and energy prices go up, many of us start thinking of ways to cut energy use to lower our heating bills. This is also a good time to learn about techniques to use sustainable energy practices all year long.

Sustainable energy use is about three ingredients: 1) using your fair share of energy today, 2) ensuring there will be energy for future generations and 3) using energy whose production does not harm the environment.

We need to look at opportunities to use much less energy through transportation choices, energy-efficient home operations and recycling while trying to use energy that comes from renewable and sustainable sources, such as wind, solar and biomass.

Here are some ways Metro facilities have reduced their energy use:

Oregon Zoo

300,000 lights used at the Zoolights festival have been replaced by energy-saving LED lights, which use only 10% of the energy of the former mini-lights.

Oregon Convention Center

As a LEED-certified green building, it meets a high standard for energy efficiency.

Metro transfer stations

Installed natural day lighting that avoids the purchase and operation of hundreds of lights.

We can all find ways to reduce energy use *and* support renewable energy through utility purchases or on site use.

— Susan McLain

Metro hosts public forums on bond measure proposal

This spring, the Metro Council will develop and refer to voters (for consideration at the November 2006 election) a bond measure proposal for the protection of natural areas, clean water, and fish and wildlife habitat. Through a 1995 bond measure, Metro successfully acquired more than 8,100 acres and 74 miles of stream and river frontage from willing sellers in order to preserve these natural areas for future generations to enjoy. A 'Blue Ribbon' committee of local business and civic leaders recently recommended that the Council develop a new \$220 million package to continue

our successful efforts and preserve critical wildlife habitat, protect water quality, and provide opportunities for future generations to enjoy natural areas as our region continues to grow.

Now it is your turn to weigh in. Metro will host public forums throughout the region in January and February to explain the bond measure proposal and to receive your ideas on what elements should be included.

- 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, Light and Power Building Auditorium, 1818 B Street, Forest Grove

continued

Nature in Neighborhoods grant pre-applications due Jan. 12

Are you a private property owner, non-profit community group or local government agency that would like to initiate or continue restoration efforts in your neighborhood or watershed? Metro's new Nature in Neighborhoods grant program will provide financial support for nature-friendly projects in neighborhoods throughout Metro's service area. Through this program, individuals and communities will be actively participating in making a positive difference in their watershed.

Metro is inviting pre-applications from citizen groups, businesses, non-profits, school groups, government agencies and service groups. Grants from \$1,000 to \$25,000 will be awarded to projects related to restoration, protection of water quality or education. They must either link participants and citizens to their watershed through education and active restoration, develop partnerships and possibly

foster innovative public/private enterprise, or focus on expanding existing restoration projects or developing new projects that become anchor sites for future restoration.

Projects must be within Metro's jurisdictional boundary. Pre-applications are due at Metro by 4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12.

Funding for this two-year program was provided by Metro excise taxes collected on solid waste disposal during the last several years. In this funding cycle, there will be approximately \$500,000 available.

For more information, call Janelle Geddes, restoration grants coordinator, at (503) 797-1550 or send e-mail to NINrestore@metro.dst.or.us. The hearing impaired can call TDD (503) 797-1804.

Earth Day billboard art contest invites student entries

Students from Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties are invited to create a design for a billboard that encourages people to conserve and protect resources through waste prevention, recycling, composting or using fewer toxic products.

Metro's Earth Day billboard art contest judges will select one winner from each grade-level category: K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12. The four winners will have their artwork, their name and the name of their teacher and school displayed on billboards that are rotated around the Portland-metropolitan area throughout the year.

Approximately 200 entries will be selected as finalists and will be displayed in the lobby at Metro Regional Center the week after the deadline of Feb. 10. Winning and honorable mention artists will have their original artwork framed and returned to them at the art show and unveiling ceremony on April 8.

View contest rules and application instructions at www.metro-region.org. For more information for elementary schools, call Freda Sherburne at (503) 797-1522 or send e-mail to sherburnef@metro.dst.or.us. For more information for middle and high schools, call Amy Wilson at (503) 797-1521 or send e-mail to wilsona@metro.dst.or.us.

Metro hosts public forums

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- 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25, Metro Regional Center, 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland
- 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, Athey Creek Middle School, 2900 SW Borland Rd., West Linn
- 7-9 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 2, Tualatin Hills Nature Park, 15655 SW Millikan Blvd., Beaverton
- 9-11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 4, Deep Creek School, 15600 SE 232nd Drive, Boring

For more information, please visit www.metro-region.org or contact Ken Ray at 503-797-1508 or rayk@metro.dst.or.us.

About Metro

Clean air and clean water do not stop at city limits or county lines. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy and good transportation choices for people and businesses in our region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges that cross those lines and affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to protecting open space, caring for parks, planning for the best use of land, managing garbage disposal and increasing recycling. Metro oversees world-class facilities such as the Oregon Zoo, which contributes to conservation and education, and the Oregon Convention Center, which benefits the region's economy.

Your Metro representatives

Metro Council President
David Bragdon

Metro Councilors
Rod Park, District 1
Brian Newman, District 2
Carl Hosticka, District 3
Susan McLain, District 4
Rex Burkholder, District 5
Robert Liberty, District 6

Auditor
Alexis Dow, CPA

Councilor Susan McLain contact information

Address 600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232
Phone (503) 797-1553
Fax (503) 797-1793
E-mail mclains@metro.dst.or.us

Assistant Amelia Porterfield
Phone (503) 797-1543
E-mail porterfielda@metro.dst.or.us

Web www.metro-region.org

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