

Carl Hosticka

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 NEWS



METRO

PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

Carl Hosticka represents District 3, which includes portions of Washington and Clackamas counties and the cities of Beaverton, Durham, King City, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin and Wilsonville.



A message from Carl Hosticka

Many people say that housing prices are too high because land is not available for development. In March, the Metro Council took a step in making more land available for development.

In 2002 and 2004, the Metro Council expanded the urban growth boundary by nearly 20,000 acres. More than 6,000 of those acres, however, remain unplanned for development, because local cities cannot pay for the concept and comprehensive planning Metro requires before development. So Metro responded to concerns raised by local cities, counties and developers, to find a more effective way to fund planning in the new expansion areas.

In an effort to make growth pay its own way, the Council approved a temporary 0.12% excise tax on construction permits issued by cities and counties throughout the region. The tax will be used to pay for planning in new areas brought into the urban growth boundary. The tax is estimated to raise \$6.3 million over the next three years. This amount is sufficient to pay for local planning efforts for the areas brought into the UGB in 2002 and 2004. The tax will expire once sufficient funds are collected. Metro will provide the funds in response to planning grant applications from local cities and counties.

This is a regional solution and an initial step in implementing planning. It will help assure that our expansion areas are designed to be livable, thriving communities.

— Carl Hosticka

Let's Talk Trash—updating the region's waste reduction plan

Are we doing enough to conserve resources for future generations? Can we do more to protect the environment? Tell Metro what you think.

Metro is revising the region's Waste Reduction Plan with strategies that will help the Portland metropolitan region address these issues. It is a component of the larger Regional Solid Waste Management Plan—a blueprint for coordinating solid waste and recycling programs.

This spring (through June 5), the Metro Council is asking residents to comment

on the draft plan. Later this summer, the Council will consider the plan for adoption.

Complete a survey to share your ideas about how the region should manage trash and protect the quality of our air and water—now and in the future. Go to www.metro-region.org/letstalktrash, or call (503) 234-3000 for a printed survey.

The Metro Council is committed to using your ideas and addressing concerns you raise to meet our region's needs. Thank you for participating.

Metro's Nature in Neighborhood program awards grants

Interested citizen groups, businesses, non-profit organizations, school groups, neighbors, government agencies and service organizations submitted more than 80 applications for \$560,000 in funds for nature-friendly projects through Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods grant program.

The grants, to be announced May 11, will be awarded for projects focusing on restoration, conservation education and other innovative ways to motivate communities to protect the nature of our region. The grant program is part of the Nature in Neighborhoods initiative, the Metro Council's commitment to protecting fish and wildlife habitat in the region.

Funding for the two-year program was provided by Metro excise taxes collected on solid waste disposal during the last several years.

Check the Metro website at www.metro-region.org after May 11 for grant winners and their projects.

Earth Day billboard art contest winners announced

Four students who won top honors in Metro's annual Earth Day billboard art contest were honored in a ceremony at the Metro Regional Center last month. Nora Mick, a kindergartener at the Portland French School; Lindsie La Bonte, grade 4, from Visitation School in Forest Grove; Claire McKinney, grade 7, from Lake Oswego's Waluga Jr. High; and senior Nicole Schuh from Canby High School were chosen as winners.

Eight other students earned honorable mentions from more than 2,800 entries from home schooled students and pupils in elementary, middle and high schools. The students' artwork illustrates how creating less garbage or using natural gardening techniques can conserve and protect the earth's natural resources.

The contest is part of Metro's waste reduction education program, which includes providing teachers with environmental education curriculum, making classroom presentations, performing puppet shows and working with students to reduce waste in their schools.

ClearChannel Outdoor will create full size billboards from the art, which will appear around the metropolitan area throughout the year.

Events of note in District 3

Hazardous waste collection events
9 a.m. Friday and Saturday, May 5 and 6
West Side Community Church
18390 SW Farmington Rd., Aloha

9 a.m. Friday and Saturday, May 19 and 20
Clackamas Community College
29353 Town Center, Loop E, Wilsonville
Dispose of your household's toxic trash at these free community collection events.

11 a.m. Sunday, May 7
Gotter Prairie tour
Join Metro naturalist Deb Scrivens to learn more about Gotter Prairie, a Metro natural area near the Tualatin River. Advance registration and payment of \$5 per adult required in advance; suitable for adults and children age 12 and older. Call (503) 797-1715 to register and for meeting location and directions.

10 a.m. Sunday, May 21
Tualatin River paddle tour and nature walk
Join Metro naturalist James Davis for a brief walk through the forested part of a Metro natural area before a three-hour paddle trip to explore the Tualatin River and its wildlife, including beaver, nutria, river otter and a variety of birds. Bring food and water, insect and sun protection, and waterproof binoculars if you have them. Advance registration and payment of \$5 for members of the Tualatin Riverkeepers includes free canoe use. Non-members pay \$10 to register for the trip with their own boat or rent a canoe for an additional \$20. Call (503) 590-5813 for meeting location and directions.

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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

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David Bragdon

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Carl Hosticka, District 3
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