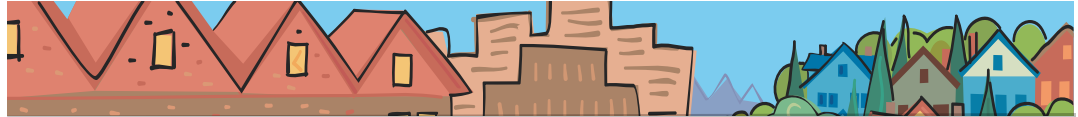


Rod Park

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 NEWS



METRO

PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

Rod Park represents District 1, which includes Fairview, Gresham, Happy Valley, Maywood Park, Troutdale, Wood Village, Damascus and portions of East Portland.



A message from Rod Park

I am pleased to announce that the Metro Council awarded more than \$560,000 to 27 local organizations for 32 projects to protect fish and wildlife throughout the region. I am proud to have sponsored the resolution that created this program, which provides \$1 million in grant funds over two years for nature-friendly projects and is part of the Nature in Neighborhoods initiative, the Metro Council's commitment to protecting habitat for fish, wildlife and people.

This program is creating new partnerships, resulting in the protection of sensitive areas, some of which have been or could be affected by illegal dumping. The program is providing education to communities about the relationship between protecting and ensuring the health of our natural areas through the proper disposal of solid waste by using franchised haulers.

The grants were awarded to a range of organizations, ranging from neighborhood associations and community groups to established conservation organizations and businesses. Some of the organizations that received funding in District 1 include the Wilkes Community Group to start building a Wilkes Creek Bridge and Path, SOLV to do some restoration work at Osborne and Beaver Creeks, and Johnson Creek Watershed Council to do some restoration work in the Johnson Creek Watershed.

To view a full list of region-wide grants go to www.metro-region.org/nature.

—Rod Park

Public comment sought on eastside transit alternatives

Should the streetcar line be extended to the eastside, or would bus service be a better alternative? To develop a recommendation for one of these options, the Eastside Project Advisory Committee reviewed technical analysis and shared evaluation results at an open house and public hearing in May. The committee is expected to recommend an alternative in July.

Once a recommendation is made, local jurisdictions will be asked to adopt a resolution in support. The Metro Council will consider public comment and resolutions from local governments before adopting a preferred alternative. The City of Portland, TriMet, Portland Streetcar Inc., Multnomah County and Metro are the project's partners.

The public can participate in the following ways:

- Visit www.metro-region.org/transportation and select transportation projects to learn more
- Send comments via e-mail to trans@metro.dst.or.us
- Send written comments to Eastside Transit Alternatives Analysis, 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232
- Record a comment on Metro's transportation hotline at (503) 797-1900, option 2
- Check city and county calendars for local jurisdiction adoption meeting schedules and plan to attend

For more information, call Transportation Planning at (503) 797-1756 or send e-mail to trans@metro.dst.or.us. The hearing impaired can call TDD (503) 797-1804.

Cool off this summer at Blue Lake's new water spray ground

Blue Lake Regional Park's new water spray ground opens in July, offering an alternative to non-swimmers, those under age five who are not allowed in the lake, and persons with limited mobility.

The action-packed 30' x 60' feature sprays, gushes, dumps and pours water from a variety of whimsical devices including oversized nozzles, buckets and even a large frog you can leap through. A re-circulating water system transports water from the park's wells and local aquifer. Water is recycled through an

on-site treatment facility to ensure safety. The park is located between Marine Drive and Sandy Boulevard, off Northeast 223rd Avenue. TriMet shuttle weekend service is available this summer from the Gresham Town Center Saturday and Sundays, Memorial Day through Labor Day.

The water spray ground is free to all park visitors with \$4 admission per car, \$7 per bus. In order to best protect people and wildlife, pets are not permitted here or at any of Metro's parks and natural areas.

Kids of all ages enjoy summer events at Oregon Zoo

It's time for picnics, music and summer programs at Metro's Oregon Zoo!

The Wells Fargo Summer Concerts at Oregon Zoo presented by Fred Meyer begins June 21. Discover artists from Senegal and Puerto Rico and dance along with crowd favorites like the Indigo Girls and Pink Martini. The Wednesday "Plus" Concerts feature the best of World Music. Admission is \$9.50, or free for zoo members at the "Plus" level or higher. Premium Concerts feature world-renowned artists.

Tickets (\$18-\$26 each) are available in advance at the zoo or through TicketsWest.

Summer educational programming includes the Winged Wonders butterfly exhibit; Summer Camp at the Zoo; and summer on-grounds programs for all ages.

For more details on these and other events, visit www.oregonzoo.org or call the Oregon Zoo at (503) 226-1561. The hearing impaired can call TDD (503) 797-1804.

Metro offers regional perspective on local health care debate

The Metro Council will examine how Metro might help address the high cost of health care in the region. Earlier this spring, Council passed a resolution that directs the agency to study the issue and report back in the fall.

Metro has been asked by regional constituents to develop a public process for siting health care facilities, claiming that unregulated hospital expansions are causing costs in the Portland area to rise, and are reducing certain needed services. Councilors think that given Metro's service area, a regional approach to

health care might be logical, using tools such as land use-planning and policy experts. Metro has agreed to involve health care consumers, physicians, businesses, hospital representatives and stakeholders in a broad community discussion regarding regional solutions to enhance access to health care. They will look at the scope of the issue to determine if Metro should pursue it further.

For more information, contact Reed Wagner at (503) 797-1584.

Events of note in District 1

6 p.m. Friday, June 9

Heron watching at Heron Lakes Golf Course
Urban naturalist Mike Houck and grounds manager Jesse Goodling will lead a stroll to the nesting colony of great blue herons. Free. Advance registration required; visit www.audubonportland.org.

9 a.m. Saturday, June 10

Elk Rock Island work day, Spring Park
Help clean up and remove invasive non-native plants at Elk Rock Island at a Portland park you may have never seen before. Bring gloves and drinking water. To register, call (503) 823-6131.

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 Rod Park contact information

Address 600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232
Phone (503) 797-1547
Fax (503) 797-1793
E-Mail parkr@metro.dst.or.us

Assistant Kathryn Sofich
Phone (503) 797-1941
E-Mail sofichk@metro.dst.or.us
Web www.metro-region.org

June 2006 dch/final
Printed on recycled paper.