

# Brian Newman

## METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 NEWS



**METRO**

PEOPLE PLACES  
OPEN SPACES

**Brian Newman**  
represents District  
2, which includes a  
portion of Southwest  
Portland and much  
of urban Clackamas  
County including  
Gladstone, Johnson  
City, Lake Oswego,  
Milwaukie, Oak  
Grove, Oregon City,  
Rivergrove and  
West Linn.



### Portland-Milwaukie light rail project kicks into gear

Communities in the area selected light rail through an extensive public process during the South Corridor Project between 1999 and 2003. Metro will conduct an environmental analysis of the proposed light rail line beginning this spring, and will finish in summer 2008. The analysis will study design, cost, land use and travel time. A citizen committee will advise Metro throughout the analysis.

The six-and-one-half mile alignment between Milwaukie and Portland would provide additional transportation options for fast-growing communities with high traffic congestion in north Clackamas county and southeast Portland. It would connect an estimated 20,000 daily riders to the existing MAX system, and create access to the central eastside, south waterfront, downtown Portland, Hillsboro, Gresham and the Portland airport. Nine to ten stations and a new bridge across the Willamette River would be part of the line.

Project partners include the Oregon Department of Transportation, TriMet, Clackamas and Multnomah counties and the cities of Portland, Milwaukie and Oregon City.

For more information, visit [www.metro-region.org/transportation](http://www.metro-region.org/transportation). To ask a question or share a comment, send e-mail to [trans@metro-region.org](mailto:trans@metro-region.org), or call (503) 797-1756.

### Oregon Zoo's Black Bear Ridge rounds out Great Northwest Exhibit

The last two components of the Oregon Zoo's Great Northwest Exhibit are set to open March 10, completing a decade-long journey to bring the beauty and natural wonders of the Great Northwest to zoo visitors. The final stages add black bears and bobcats to the crest-to-coast adventure.

The exhibit begins at Cascade Crest's mountain goat environment, and moves deeper into the forest via a 100-foot-long suspension bridge with a bird's-eye view of Black Bear Ridge, a naturalistic habitat for three American black bears. Past the bridge, visitors can get a close-up peek at the reclusive bobcats.

The trail then winds through the forest to Eagle Canyon, a bald eagle flies free over a salmon-filled stream. Following the stream, the trail continues into a stream-and-marsh environment where beavers and river otters are found.

Just outside this area, wildlife meets the growing human population at Cougar Crossing and Trillium Creek Family Farm. Cougar Crossing, which opened last summer, provides visitors with a chance to see Oregon's largest cats, and Trillium Creek, a unique teen-run exhibit, hosts rare breeds of farm animals while providing information on Oregon's agricultural heritage.

The final leg of the journey takes visitors to the final part of the exhibit—Steller Cove, which represents the Oregon Coast. This area is home to two magnificent Steller sea lions, the endangered southern sea otter, kelp beds and tide pools.

A number of Great Northwest activities have been planned for the Black Bear Ridge grand opening. Activities run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information visit [www.oregonzoo.org](http://www.oregonzoo.org) and click on "Black Bear Ridge Grand Opening."

## Studies help Metro, partners work toward New Look goals

In its ongoing work on New Look at Regional Choices, the Metro Council, along with its partner governments, released research results at a regional symposium on January 19. The research considered how the agricultural economy, natural features and urban areas contribute to the region, and identified new factors for determining how growth should occur while maintaining the livability of our region. The research was jointly conducted by Metro, Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties, the Department of Land Conservation and Development and the Oregon Department of Agriculture. The work was funded by a grant from the Department of Land Conservation and Development.

The agriculture study, undertaken by the Oregon Department of Agriculture, included an inventory and assessment of agricultural land close to and outside the urban growth boundary to determine the land's feasibility and viability for commercial agriculture. The study identified factors that affect agriculture in addition to soil quality and water availability, including adjacent land use and agricultural use patterns, parcel size and location, and transportation.

The natural landscape features study, conducted by Metro staff in association with biologists, ecologists and other experts in the field, was meant to answer three issues—which natural resources are essential to the health and welfare of the region, which define the sense of place for the region and which are essential to creating an ecologically sustainable region as well as preserve biodiversity. The study team identified 27 areas in the region that should be considered when making growth decisions.

The third study, focusing on urban issues, was undertaken to define and describe characteristics necessary to create great places to live, work and play. The work was completed by a consultant team led by the firm Cogan Owens Cogan, Inc. The study defined a set of eight characteristics that relate to community design and land use, governance, urban services and finance.

Information about the outcomes of the forum can be found on the Metro website: [www.metro-region.org](http://www.metro-region.org).

## Businesses Partner with Metro to Recycle at Work—Thank You!

More than 175 businesses joined Metro and local governments this fall to increase recycling in the workplace during the Recycle at Work campaign. An additional 300+ businesses signed up to receive regular e-mail tips about how to increase recycling in the workplace.

Participating businesses agreed to a few simple steps to make it easier for employees to recycle and to inform employees of what can and cannot be recycled (staples and paperclips are ok!). They took steps such as ensuring that every employee has a desk-side recycling box, posting informational posters in work areas and talking about recycling at a staff meeting.

It's never too late to join us, just e-mail our recycling specialists at [info@recycleatwork.com](mailto:info@recycleatwork.com), call (503) 234-3000 or visit [www.recycleatwork.com](http://www.recycleatwork.com). Metro Council and local governments continue its commitment to providing recycling services year-round.

### Events of note in District 2

**9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 17**  
**Potting party at Metro's native plant center**  
*Help pot up native bare root plants for planting at Metro natural areas. Prior plant experience not necessary. All ages welcome. Come prepared to get dirty and dress for the weather. Gloves, tools, snacks and water provided. Free. Advance registration required. Call (503) 797-1715.*

**9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 31**  
**10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 1**  
**Trillium Festival at Tryon Creek**  
*Celebrate spring at the annual Trillium Festival at Tryon Creek State Natural Area with a weekend of activities and events including guided nature hikes, children's crafts, live music performances, storytelling, photography, and a native plant sale. Free. Call (503) 636-4398.*

### Councilor Brian Newman contact information

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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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