

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.

Metro Council awards \$421,000 in Nature in Neighborhoods grants

Interested citizen groups, businesses, non-profit organizations, school groups, neighbors, government agencies and service organizations submitted 30 applications for \$420,685 in funds for nature-friendly projects through Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods grant program.

The grants, announced May 24, were awarded to 19 groups for 21 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.

Grants in Councilor Newman's district:

- Portland Community College Sylvania Campus: \$5,855.55 for restoration and environmental education on Mt. Sylvania
- SOLV: \$19,106 for its Team up for Watershed Health program on Abernathy Creek to restore native vegetation
- SOLV: \$24,850 for its Team up for Watershed Health program on Goat Island (in Gladstone)
- Willamette Riverkeeper: \$13,303 for the restoration of Rinearson Ravine (south of Rinearson Road in Gladstone)
- Friends of Tryon Creek: \$18,240 invasive species outreach and education project
- Johnson Creek Watershed Council: \$6,000 for restoration of Johnson Creek at Lovena Farm, community member education, establishment of a tool lending library, and support of field trips and service learning projects for students at Lewelling Elementary School.

For a complete list of grants awarded or for more information on grant recipients and their projects, check Metro's website at www.metro-region.org/nature or call (503) 797-1550.

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

Celebrate opening of Tualatin River bridge connecting three cities

A community celebration to dedicate the bike and pedestrian bridge spanning the Tualatin River will take place Saturday, June 23 at 11 a.m. Take a walk over the new bridge, learn about other parks and trails in the area, and celebrate the fulfillment of a 20-year dream with citizens and community leaders. Ice cream will be provided at Tualatin Community Park after the bridge crossing.

The bridge brings together 200 acres of parks and natural areas including Tualatin Community Park, Cook Park and Durham City Park. It is also a key link in local and regional trail and transportation plans and is the southern trailhead for the 15-mile Fanno Creek Greenway Trail. This regional trail connects the cities of Tualatin, Tigard and Durham through southwest Portland to the Willamette River Greenway and downtown Portland. The bridge also has the potential to connect these communities to Wilsonville and Sherwood via the proposed 16-mile Tonquin Trail.

Funding to design and build the bridge was secured through a Transportation Enhancement Grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation and local contributions from the cities of Tualatin, Tigard and Durham, and Clean Water

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Tualatin River bridge

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Services of Washington County. The total project cost was \$2.9 million. The City of Tualatin served as the project manager for the bridge design and construction.

Junior ranger program at Tryon Creek

1 p.m. Sunday, June 10

Junior ranger program at Tryon Creek State Natural Area

Children age 6-12 are invited to join a park ranger to learn how to help protect our natural resources, plants and animals. Participating in nature games, nature crafts and park explorations will help junior rangers earn their badge. Free. For more information, call (503) 636-9886 ext. 25.

Public invited to discuss options to improve transportation between Lake Oswego and Portland

Should rapid bus or streetcar be considered on Highway 43 and the Willamette Shoreline right of way? Should a pedestrian and bike trail be built between Lake Oswego and Portland?

These and other questions will be considered at an open house meeting to discuss ways to improve transportation between Lake Oswego and Portland. The Project Advisory Committee, made up of community members, has been studying possible transit and trail alternatives in the corridor since July 2005. The public is invited to review alternatives identified to improve transportation in the corridor.

After defining a wide range of transit and trail alternatives, Metro staff analyzed several options before three committees – one comprised of citizens, another of technical advisors, and one of elected officials – narrowed the wide range to a few that best address transportation needs in the corridor.

One of three alternatives or combinations of alternatives will advance for further study in the next phase of the project. They include a no-build option, a Bus Rapid Transit line on Highway 43 and a streetcar on the Willamette Shoreline right of way, Macadam Avenue or parts

of both. Information will also be available on the project timeline and future public involvement opportunities.

The open houses will follow a flexible, drop-in format so residents can arrive at any time and spend as much time as necessary talking with staff or reviewing maps and materials. A feedback form will allow Metro to capture written comments.

Open houses will take place on the following days:

Wednesday, June 27, 6 to 8 p.m.

US Bank Building

120 N State St., Lake Oswego

Park at the US Bank lot or across State St. in the city-owned lot.

Thursday, June 28, 5 to 7 p.m.

David Evans and Associates

2100 SW River Pkwy., Portland

Park at the lot just southeast of the Marriott Residence Inn under the Marquam Bridge.

A 45-day public comment period for the project will open June 27 and continue through August 17. During this time anyone can submit comments by:

- Attending an open house
- Sending e-mail comments to trans@metro.dst.or.us
- Recording comments on Metro's transportation hotline at 503-797-1900, option 3
- Mailing comments to LOAA, 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232.

After the open house meetings, the citizen advisory committee will make its recommendation on which options to study further. To learn more, visit www.metro-region.org/lakeoswego or call (503) 797-1756.

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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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June 2007 dch/final

Printed on recycled paper