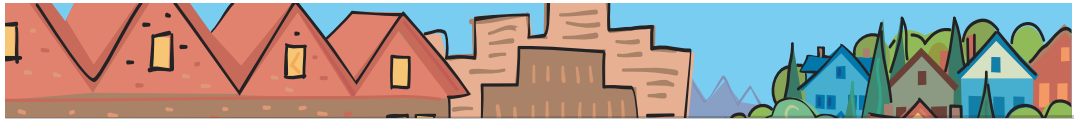


Carl Hosticka

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.



Partnerships and persistence

It wouldn't have happened without partnerships and persistence. I'm referring to the new Tualatin River bicycle and pedestrian bridge that will be celebrated on June 23 (see related article). As a regional government, Metro played a key role in this cooperative project that includes three cities — Tualatin, Durham and Tigard — the Oregon Department of Transportation and Clean Water Services of Washington County. Envisioned 20 years ago, it took years of commitment by all parties to make the new bridge a reality.

Metro's 1995 Open Spaces bond measure funded 526 acres of land acquisitions for the Fanno Creek Greenway Trail and Tonquin Geologic Area. The new bridge will provide a link between the Fanno Creek Trail and a proposed Tonquin Trail. Metro and its partners continued the work by funding the Fanno Creek Trail Master Plan.

All of this accomplishment provided impetus for the decision to cooperatively fund the Tualatin bridge. Further acquisitions for the Fanno Creek Trail and Tonquin Geologic area will be made as part of Metro's 2006 natural areas bond measure — demonstrating our continued commitment to natural areas and trails.

This bridge is also an important link in Metro's vision for a region-wide system of multi-use paths and greenways. Trails are an important part of our transportation system and quality of life. With the new bridge, you can ride your bike from downtown Tualatin to downtown Tigard faster than you can drive. It also addresses safety issues by keeping pedestrians off of the adjacent railroad bridge that will carry high-speed commuter trains.

I hope you will join me on June 23 to dedicate the bridge and celebrate our years of working together that made it happen.

— Carl Hosticka

I-5 to Highway 99W Connector – upcoming decision point

This summer, the I-5 to Highway 99W Connector Project Steering Committee will make a decision on a range of alternatives to improve transportation between I-5 and Highway 99W in the southwest portion of the region. Regional and local transportation plans have recognized the need for transportation improvement in this area for more than a decade. With more people and freight going to places in Tigard, Tualatin, Sherwood and Wilsonville, as well as people passing through these areas, the roads have become congested.

Last fall, ideas for solutions were gathered from the public at open houses and were compiled into five alternatives that will be further studied. Except for the no-build alternative, each of the other alternatives may include several different options. The list includes:

- transportation system management/ transportation demand management (TSM/TDM) — this would study ways to better use and manage the existing transportation system
- enhance existing system — this would examine adding lanes to or extending existing arterials, providing new transit

continued

I-5 to Highway 99W Connector

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services, and adding regional non-motorized trails

- one or more connectors within the urban growth boundary (UGB) — a connector is defined as a new, partially or fully limited-access highway or other high capacity parkway between I-5 and Highway 99W
- one or more connectors outside the UGB
- no-build alternative.

Briefings will be scheduled this summer with various civic groups to compare and discuss these five alternatives.

The Steering Committee — which includes Metro Councilor Carl Hosticka and representatives from Washington and Clackamas counties, the Oregon Department of Transportation and the cities of Tualatin, Sherwood and Wilsonville — is expected to make a decision by late summer about the range of alternatives to carry forward for more detailed study.

For more information about the project or upcoming meetings, check the project website — www.i5to99w.org — or call (503) 595-9915. You may also request a briefing for your community group.

Celebrate opening of new 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 to the Willamette River Greenway and downtown Portland. The bridge also has the potential to connect these

communities to Wilsonville and Sherwood via a proposed 16-mile Tonquin Trail.

The steel truss bridge, with a 380-foot span over the river and 240-foot approach ramps, accommodates both recreational and commuter needs, and is accessible to people with disabilities.

An existing older bridge, parallel to the new bridge, will continue to carry freight trains as well as the new Washington County Commuter Rail Service, which begins in September 2008.

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 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.

Natural areas open houses in June

Last November, voters of the region approved a \$227.4 million bond measure directing Metro to preserve natural areas and protect rivers and streams.

Residents of the region are invited to attend any of eight open houses in June or to log on to an online, or virtual, open house, to learn more about the 27 specific areas throughout the region where Metro plans to purchase land. Councilors and Metro staff will review plans and seek input at these meetings.

Meeting times and more information are posted online at www.metro-region.org/naturalareas. Residents can also call (503) 797-1741.

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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
Kathryn Harrington, District 4
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