

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

District 1 has added 49 acres of protected natural area. The Metro Council approved the acquisition of the north face of Clatsop Butte, one of the largest remaining intact habitats within the city limits of Portland. This property includes densely forested hillsides and creek frontage along Johnson Creek and is located south of Foster Road and west of Barbara Welch Road. Acquisition of the site will retain important habitat, maintain scenic views and protect water quality in Johnson Creek.

The Johnson Creek watershed is a unique, valuable habitat, home to a mix of native plants and trees, and it supports a wide variety of wildlife including deer, coyote, pileated woodpecker and other local and migratory birds. It flows 26 miles from its headwaters near the Sandy River to the Willamette, so maintaining its value as a wildlife corridor and natural area will greatly add to investments made in the region by the many community partners focusing on these natural resources.

This parcel is the fifth in District 1 to be purchased under the 2006 natural areas bond measure. We have also acquired:

- 10 forested acres near Powell Butte Nature Park south of Foster Road and east of Barbara Welch Road near Johnson Creek.
- 92 acres owned by Persimmon Development Group.
- 37 acres on Gabbert Hill.
- 1.2 acres off Southeast Hogan Road and Ambleside Drive.

I'm looking forward to the work ahead and will keep you updated on future acquisitions.

— Rod Park

Metro announces Integrating Habitats design competition

The Portland metropolitan region is world-famous for its unique natural habitats. Like many urban areas around the country, Portland is experiencing rapid growth, triggering the need for thoughtful, environmentally sound building designs that protect or enhance our environmental assets.

In order to promote the use of nature-friendly designs, Metro is sponsoring an international competition that will inspire developed and natural spaces that maximize biodiversity and water quality.

This June, Metro unveiled "Integrating Habitats. A Design Competition" to challenge participants to balance

development in the region with conservation of our much-loved natural areas.

Sponsored by Metro's Nature In Neighborhood program, Integrating Habitats will generate greater awareness and implementation of designing the built environment with nature in mind. The competition is open to individuals from a variety of disciplines including landscape architecture, urban design and planning, stormwater management, architecture, engineering, water quality, ecology, wildlife biology and development. Three site plans typical of the Portland metropolitan region have been chosen. They include:

continued

Integrating Habitats

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1. A mixed-use development adjacent to a creek and riparian corridor. A light rail transit stop and multimodal trail are proposed for the area.
2. A large-scale commercial development adjacent to a wetland complex.
3. A residential infill development with restoration of a contiguous oak habitat corridor.

A world-renowned, international jury from a wide range of disciplines will select the best designs, which will be included in a Design Guide to be published as the definitive resource on protecting and restoring nature in new and re-developments. In addition, citizens and communities will select their favorite designs through the People's Choice Awards, a web-based gallery voting system.

An online registration form and further information are available at www.metro-region.org/integratinghabitats. Interested organizations and businesses can take the opportunity to be part of this unique competition by joining as a sponsor. A copy of the sponsor registration form can also be found on the webpage.

Zoo attendance is highest in 120-year history; conservation programs enjoy success

The Oregon Zoo has reached an exciting milestone. For the first time ever, annual attendance has topped 1.5 million people. This is the highest attendance in the zoo's 120-year history — and broke the 2000-2001 record — when the zoo attracted 1,367,940 visitors. A number of factors this year, including good weather, new exhibits, camps, concerts and family-friendly events, have contributed to the record-breaking growth in attendance.

In addition to summer concerts and popular exhibits, the zoo is proud to be participating in conservation projects for endangered species. The Oregon Zoo is one of four California condor breeding facilities in the country. Three chicks have hatched this year alone, bringing the total to 15 since the program was established.

The zoo has also achieved notable progress in its Oregon silverspot butterfly and western pond turtle programs. For the first time, silverspot caterpillars raised in the zoo's butterfly conservation lab were released into the wild.

Western pond turtles have nearly disappeared from Washington, largely due to predation by non-native bullfrogs. Working collaboratively with Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Oregon Zoo "head-starts" newly hatched turtles gathered from wild sites, and releases baby turtles into the wild yearly. To date, nearly 250 have been released.

Events of Note in District 1

For a complete list of events look online at calendar.metro-region.org.

Oxbow Regional Park campfire programs

You don't have to camp to enjoy these fun activities, which take place at 8 p.m. in the forest amphitheater across from the campground. Park in the designated area near the boat ramp. Programs are free with a \$4 per vehicle park entry fee. No registration required. For more information, call Metro at (503) 797-1850.

Friday, Aug. 3: Campfire songs and sing-along with Brad Price

Saturday, Aug. 4: Yvonne shares her rich voice and Cajun accent

Friday, Aug. 10: Sing energetic and folksy songs with Dave Orleans the Earthsinger

Saturday, Aug. 11: Learn about the amazing life of bats with naturalist Kim Wilson

Friday, Aug. 17: Old-time music with father and son duo Dave and Will

Saturday, Aug. 18: Discover the fascinating world of snakes, lizards and turtles with Metro naturalist James Davis

Friday, Aug. 24: Old-time bluegrass tunes by Greg Stone and Lon Jones

Saturday, Aug. 25 (8:30 p.m.): Oregon Shadow Theatre tells a story about a boy who is transformed into a fortune-telling bird by a magician

Friday, Aug. 31: No Time 2 Lose blues and bluegrass music

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.

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