Carlotta Collette

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 NEWS





OPEN SPACES

Carlotta Collette
represents
District 2, which
includes the cities of
Gladstone, Johnson
City, Lake Oswego,
Milwaukie, Oregon
City, Rivergrove and

West Linn and a

Portland.

portion of Southwest



A message from Councilor Collette

I grew up in a neighborhood in a northern Minnesota city. Our hillside community overlooked an industrial harbor. My dad worked down there. He and most of our neighbors walked or bused to work each day, and I remember watching them converge from various directions to walk back up the hill after work, all of them carrying their empty lunch boxes. A few blocks away was our "West End Downtown." Not the "real" downtown, that was a few miles further,

but our downtown had a grocery, a dress shop, a men's clothing store where Dad got his work clothes, drugstores, banks, newsstands, a hardware store, a furniture store and a few restaurants. It was all we usually needed, and it was close enough to walk to. So was my school and our church. So was the big park at the top of our hill.

I mention this not out of nostalgia, although I'm sometimes gripped by that, but because that was a model of community that really worked. And I want it back.

I didn't know it at the time, but that neighborhood was sustainable. My West End is still there today, changed by time, but recovering and regaining its vitality. It is a model, in fact, for what we now consider "complete" or "vibrant" communities. These are places where people can walk to work, to play, to shop and to school. They are places where people know each other, hang out on each others' front porches or in neighborhood parks and plazas. They are places that are linked to "real" downtowns and to other communities by transit, bike paths and pedestrian walkways. They have working grids of safe streets and roads, but having and driving a car are not requirements for thriving there.

Communities like this can be near urban centers or in small towns. They can exist in the heart of Portland or at the edge of our Metropolitan region. They are sustainable because they are people-oriented, not auto-dependent. Over the next few months, Metro and our partner counties – Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington – will be holding open houses across the region to begin a dialogue about how to sustain the quality of life we cherish in our region. The schedule is in this newsletter and at our web site: www. oregonmetro.gov/reserves. Join us.

—Carlotta Collette

Open Houses help shape our region for the next half century

Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties, and Metro, are collaborating to protect valuable agricultural and natural areas, and enable great communities to develop, by designating reserves – areas that may or may not be used for urban growth in the next 40 to 50 years.

A Regional Reserves Steering Committee represents stakeholders from throughout the region and also includes one commissioner from each of the three counties and one Metro councilor. The committee will assess which areas are most suitable for future urban

continued

development and what areas should be preserved for their natural features, working farms or forests. The result will be the designation of urban and rural reserves.

The committee approved an initial study area – approximately five miles outside the current Metro urban growth boundary – for considering areas to be designated as reserves. At open houses throughout July, residents can learn more about the project and the reserves designation process, weigh in on whether the study areas are appropriate, and share their values and ideas on the development of reserves.

Check the Metro Reserves web site (www. oregonmetro.gov/reserves) for updates, additional meetings and more information.

5 to 8 p.m. Monday, July 7 Multnomah County East Building 600 NE Eighth St., Gresham

5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, July 10 Tualatin High School Commons 22300 SW Boones Ferry Road, Tualatin

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 12 Metro Regional Center Lobby 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland

5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 16 Clackamas County Public Services Building, rooms 369 A and B 2051 Kaen Road, Oregon City

Lake Oswego to Portland transit project comment period

Metro is taking public comment and suggestions on the proposed transit options that will be studied and reported on in the 2009 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the Lake Oswego to Portland transit project. Comments will be accepted until Friday, July 18.

The study will be led by Metro in cooperation with the cities of Lake Oswego and Portland, Clackamas and Multnomah counties, TriMet and the Oregon Department of Transportation. Work is expected to begin in 2009 and conclude in 2010 with the selection of a single preferred alternative to be advanced into Preliminary Engineering and a Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Alternatives to be studied in the DEIS include an extension of streetcar from South

Waterfront on the Willamette Shoreline right of way, Macadam Avenue or parts of both, or enhanced bus service. The DEIS will also evaluate a no-build option.

Send comments via e-mail to trans@ oregonmetro.gov or mail comments to Lake Oswego to Portland Transit Project, Metro, 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232.

District 2 events

Wednesday evening hikes 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays,

July 9, 16, 23, 30

Join a park naturalist for a guided hike through the Tryon Creek State Natural Area night forest. All ages welcome. The cost is free. For more information, call 503-636-4398.

Guided nature hikes

10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. Sundays July 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27

Join a park naturalist for a guided nature hike to explore the forest and stream ecosystems and natural history at Tryon Creek State Natural Area. The cost is free. For more information, call 503-636-9886 ext. 225.

Bat Chat Night Hike

8 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 12

Enjoy a night hike led by a park ranger to experience the bats of Tryon Creek State Natural Area up close and personal. Free and suitable for all ages; parents must accompany kids. For more information, call 503-636-9886 ext. 225.

For more events in District 2 and around the region, visit Metro's online calendar at www.oregonmetro.gov/calendar.

Councilor Carlotta Collette contact information

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www.oregonmetro.gov

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

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