

# Rex Burkholder

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 NEWS | October 2008

Rex Burkholder represents District 5, which includes Northwest Portland, North Portland, Northeast Portland, downtown Portland, a portion of Southwest Portland and a portion of Southeast Portland.



## A message from Rex Burkholder

There is a chill in the air this morning that presages cooler weather ahead. Oregon's glorious summer has ended. Did you get out into the woods for a stroll this year? Metro has, with your support, protected over 11,000 acres of special places, from the tops of ancient volcanoes to streamsides and the largest protected urban wetland in America. But the beauty and the fun doesn't end with the equinox. Find a place to explore this fall.

I've had the opportunity to travel in September, speaking at conferences on sustainable transportation in South America (Quito, Ecuador and Lima, Peru). I was asked to visit and tell the "Portland Story," with support from the World Bank and the World Health Organization. These cities face tremendous challenges yet I was inspired by the commitment and determination of the people I met, both in and outside of government, to make positive change. Like us, they struggle with providing transportation options and managing sprawl, they are worried about declining freshwater supplies due to climate change, disappearance of mountain snowfields and glaciers, as well as trying to make their streets safer. Issues much like the ones we face but with fewer resources and, frankly, governments that aren't as transparent or open to public involvement as ours.

While there I was reminded both of our advantages as well as our responsibilities. While Lima and Quito may be congested and polluted, and have let corruption and special interests drive urban development, the big issues, like climate change and energy shortages are not of their making, but of ours. With about 5% of the world's population, Americans consume about 26% of the world's resources and emit 25% of greenhouse gases.

Keeping this in mind is critical while we consider updating our regional land and transportation plans over the next year. You can find out more by checking out our website at [www.oregonmetro.gov/greatestplace](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/greatestplace). In October and November, we'll be hosting several regional forums to lay the groundwork for choices we will be making about what the future of our region will look like. To learn more about these forums, look on our online calendar.

For the first time, we will be comparing alternatives by their impacts on energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. While these won't be the only measures of success, we have a responsibility to the others who share our planet to minimize both. And, by reducing these we will reduce the cost of living for ourselves as well as cleaning up our air and water.

I hope that you will take a look at this important work and let me know how we can make this region ever more sustainable and livable.

Ciao,

- Rex Burkholder



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[www.oregonmetro.gov](http://www.oregonmetro.gov)

## **Celebrating 25 years of Salmon Festival and millions of years of salmon in the Sandy River**

Celebrating 25 years of Salmon Festival and six million years of salmon in the Sandy River, the annual Salmon Festival at Metro's Oxbow Regional Park celebrates the special connection between people and wild salmon and inspires us to value clean water and healthy watersheds.

The Salmon Festival provides activities and exhibits to help us better understand the challenges of managing the region's fish, wildlife and water resources while balancing the needs of a growing metropolitan region. The festival also features great entertainment, children's activities, horse-drawn wagon rides, a salmon bake, arts and crafts, environmental exhibits and a food court. Entertainment, exhibits, children's activities and food areas are all under cover.

New to the festival this year is the Sandy River Fall Chinook timeline, chronicling 400 million years of geologic activity and six million years of salmon in the Sandy River. The timeline provides visual representation of the story of the salmon and connects key events to sites in the park visitors can walk to.

Another new event, "Salmon bites: Ten minute tales from the Sandy River story," gives attendees a chance to learn more about the salmon's home in the Sandy River with a series of short presentations between 1 and 2 p.m. both days given by staff from environmental organizations, local utilities and federal agencies.

Festival-goers also have the chance to win a print of an original salmon painting by Roger Long, renowned local artist and salmon advocate. By completing and returning a pledge card that commits the holder to just one item from a list of "25 things you can do to protect our region's watersheds," participants qualify for the drawing.

Oxbow Regional Park is located in the Sandy River Gorge, 8 miles east of Gresham. Festival admission is \$8 per vehicle or \$12 per bus. Pets are not allowed. For more information, visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/salmonfestival](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/salmonfestival) or call 503-797-1850.

Festival Hosts: Metro, Portland General Electric, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Portland Water Bureau and Mt. Hood National Forest.

Sponsors: Bureau of Land Management, Western Rivers Conservancy, REI, Waste Management, Portland Tribune and Community Newspapers, AM 620 KPOJ and K103 FM, Portland Family Magazine.

## **Zoo welcomes baby elephant Samudra**

Rose-Tu, a 14-year-old Asian elephant and first-time mother, gave birth to a 286-pound male calf at the Oregon Zoo on Aug 23. More than 17,000 people cast votes to help keepers name the baby elephant. The winner,

with 35 percent of the votes is "Samudra," or Sam for short. Samudra is Hindi for "lord of the ocean." After zookeepers made some time for the Mother and baby to bond, zoo visitors have been able to see the healthy baby elephant trotting around the gallery, following his mother.

Rose-Tu, born August 31, 1994, was the most recent elephant born at the zoo. Rose-Tu is a popular elephant within the herd and with her keepers. She is always looking to tease her herd mates and shares a strong friendship with Chendra, who is nearly the same age. Rose-Tu is the second smallest elephant in the herd, weighing about 7,600 pounds. She conceived in late 2006.

The Oregon Zoo has a renowned breeding program for endangered Asian elephants. More than 25 elephants have been born at the zoo, beginning with Packy in 1962.

An endangered species, Asian elephants are represented by an estimated 38,000 to 51,000 individuals living in fragmented populations in the wild. Agriculture, deforestation and conflict with humans pose a constant threat to wild Asian elephants.

## **Public comment sought on 2010-13 Regional Flexible Fund Allocations**

Metro and the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation will be seeking public comment on the allocation of regional flexible funds to be programmed in the 2010-13 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.

The formal comment period will open at noon on Oct. 13, 2008 and close at noon on Dec. 1, 2008. A basic list of projects and programs will be posted on the Metro web site at [www.oregonmetro.gov/regionalflexiblefund](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/regionalflexiblefund) on Sept. 11, 2008. More detailed project descriptions with an online comment form will be posted on Oct. 13, 2008, when the comment period opens.

## **Public Listening Posts**

Metro is hosting the following listening posts in partnership with the Oregon Department of Transportation. At the same time that Metro is seeking public input on the regional flexible fund allocations, ODOT is seeking public comment on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. Dates and locations for listening posts follow:

**Gresham City Hall Building**  
**Wednesday, Oct. 15, 5 to 8 p.m.**  
Rooms 2A and 2B  
1333 NW Eastman Parkway  
MAX Blue line

**Hillsboro Civic Center**  
**Monday, Oct. 20, 5 to 8 p.m.**  
Room 113 B  
150 E. Main St.  
MAX blue line

**Oregon City, Pioneer Community Center**  
**Tuesday, Oct. 28, 5 to 8 p.m.**  
615 Fifth St. (at Washington)  
TriMet lines 33, 34, 35 and Express 99 Metro Regional Center

**Metro Council Chamber**  
**Thursday, Oct. 30, 5 to 8 p.m.**  
600 NE Grand Ave., Portland  
TriMet line 6, MAX red and blue lines to Oregon Convention Center, yellow line to Rose Quarter

Other ways to comment:

- Comment online at [www.oregonmetro.gov/regionalflexiblefund](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/regionalflexiblefund)
- Send e-mail to [trans@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:trans@oregonmetro.gov)
- Mail written comments to Regional flexible fund comments, Metro planning, 600 NE Grand Ave, Portland, OR 97232
- Fax comments to 503-797-1930

For more information about the regional flexible fund allocation process, visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/regionalflexiblefund](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/regionalflexiblefund) or contact Pat Emmerson, public affairs specialist, 503-797-1551 or [pat.emmerson@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:pat.emmerson@oregonmetro.gov).

## **Grant workshops offered by Metro help communities invite nature into neighborhoods**

Three upcoming workshops about Metro's Nature in Neighborhood grant programs hope to inspire innovative projects and partnerships in communities wishing to improve livability through greater access to nature at the neighborhood level.

Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants program funds projects that preserve or enhance natural features and their ecological functions on public lands in neighborhoods and help ensure that every community enjoys clean water and nature as an element of its character and livability. The Metro Council kicked off this new grant program in August, awarding approximately \$390,000 to three capital grants projects.

The Nature in Neighborhoods restoration and enhancement grants program is focused on helping individuals, community groups or schools in on-the-ground active watershed restoration or environmental education. This program has awarded \$1.25 million



over the past three years to projects throughout the region.

Schools, neighborhood associations, community groups and nonprofit organizations as well as cities, counties and public park providers that seek to create, enhance or restore natural areas are encouraged to apply. Find out more about the grant programs, and learn about the projects that are receiving grant funding from Metro by visiting [www.oregonmetro.gov/grants](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/grants).

### **Nature in Neighborhoods Grants Workshop I – Overview**

Saturday, Oct. 11  
9 to 11 a.m.  
Oak Lodge Fire District – Station 3  
2930 SE Oak Grove Blvd.  
Milwaukie, OR 97267

### **Nature in Neighborhoods Grants Workshop I – Overview**

Saturday, Nov. 1  
9 to 11 a.m.  
Clean Water Services training room  
2550 SW Hillsboro Highway  
Hillsboro, OR 97123

### **Nature in Neighborhoods Grants Workshop II – Project Review**

Saturday, Nov. 15  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Metro Regional Center  
600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232

To RSVP for one of these workshops, please contact Mary Rose Navarro, Natural Areas Grants Coordinator, at 503-797-1781, [MaryRose.Navarro@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:MaryRose.Navarro@oregonmetro.gov) or Janelle Geddes, Restoration Program Coordinator, at 503-797-1550, [Janelle.Geddes@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:Janelle.Geddes@oregonmetro.gov).

## **City of Portland recruiting for Portland Plan Community Involvement Committee**

Members for new community involvement committee are needed to advise on portland plan public engagement.

The City of Portland is accepting applications through October 31, 2008, for 12 community members to serve on the Community Involvement Committee (CIC) for the Portland Plan. The Portland Plan is a comprehensive, three-year planning project lead by the City's Bureau of Planning. The purpose of the Portland Plan is to develop policies and actions to guide Portland's growth and development over the next 30 years. The planning effort will result in an update to the city's Comprehensive Plan and the Central City Plan.

The charge of the CIC is to review and make recommendations on the public involvement efforts and accomplishments of the Portland Plan. The committee will review past involvement efforts and results,

preview upcoming involvement activities, and make recommendations to the Bureau of Planning on ways to continue or improve its public involvement activities to meet the overall goals of the public involvement strategy of the Portland Plan.

The CIC will be made up of three Planning Commissioners and 12 members of the community at large. CIC members should expect to meet quarterly over the three-year period of the planning project. However, in the beginning, the committee may need to meet more often.

**Additional information about the CIC is available at:**

<http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=203993>

**Link to Application Form on website:**

<http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=213413>

#### **Member qualifications and skills**

- Strong interest in and understanding of public involvement processes.
- Commitment to the city's goal for the CIC: To oversee and strengthen the community's involvement and capacity to participate with the Bureau of Planning, partner bureaus, agencies and other governments in the development of the Portland Plan.
- Ability to work collaboratively with people of diverse perspectives and experiences.
- Team player; ability to contribute to successful group work.
- Ability to commit 4-6 hours every three months, preparation for quarterly meetings; possible additional committee meetings; presenting at City Council, etc.
- Live and/or work in the city of Portland.

#### **Major responsibilities of the CIC members include**

- Review quarterly public involvement methods, activities and results over the next three years. (Approximate end date for Portland Plan project is Spring 2011.)
- Review and make recommendations for involvement methods and activities for the coming quarter.
- Participate from a citywide perspective.

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee consisting of Vision into Action Steering Committee members; Bureau of Planning, Office of Neighborhood Involvement and Office of the Mayor staff; and members of the Planning Commission. Final consideration and

appointments will be made by the Mayor and approved by City Council in November 2008. This application process will fill 12 positions on the Portland Plan Community Involvement Committee.

To apply to be a member of the CIC for the Portland Plan, please submit the following by Friday, October 31st, 2008, 4 PM:

- 1) Fill out a "City Boards and Commissions Interest Form" below.
- 2) Submit your responses to the supplemental questions (included in Interest Form).

Please keep answers to a maximum of two pages (single sided and single spaced), 12 point font.

Please return this form by October 31, 2008, 4 p.m. to:

Christine Appleberry, City of Portland | Bureau of Planning  
1900 SW 4th Ave, 7100, Portland, OR 97201-5380

Or email to [christine.appleberry@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:christine.appleberry@ci.portland.or.us)

To help ensure equal access to City programs, services and activities, the City of Portland will reasonably modify policies/procedures and provide auxiliary aids/services to persons with disabilities. Call 503-823-2030 or 503-823-4000 with such requests.

If you have trouble opening up this form, please go to:  
<http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=213413>



## Events of note in the District

For a complete list of events, check out our online calendar, <http://calendar.oregonmetro.gov>.

### *Together Green volunteer day* 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4

Help repair fences at Audubon's Colins Sanctuary. The work party will begin with a short program and continental breakfast. Lunch will also be provided. Interested individuals or groups should contact Deanna at 503-292-6855 ext. 108.

### *The Future Is Here: Is Business As Usual Good Enough?*

4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8  
Oregon Convention Center

Join local electeds, planning commissioners, members of the Metropolitan Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) and Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation, local government staff, and regional stakeholders in discussions and presentations on the future of our region.

### *Forest Park volunteer work party* 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18

Join the Forest Park Conservancy for a variety of small projects, including trail maintenance and invasive plant removal. No previous experience necessary. Equipment and snacks provided. For more information, call Stephen at 503-223-5449.



### *Ducks 101: waterfowl identification class* 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 21

In autumn, half a million ducks, geese and swans fly over the region's wetlands and tens of thousands stay to spend the winter. Waterfowl, among the region's most abundant and diverse groups of wintering birds, are easy to identify. Join Metro naturalist and expert birder James Davis to find out who's who in this large group of beautiful birds. Suitable for adults and teens. Meet in room 370 at Metro Regional Center in Portland. Registration and payment of \$10 per person are required in advance; call 503-797-1850 option 4.



## 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

Metro Councilors  
Rod Park, District 1  
Carlotta Collette, District 2  
Carl Hosticka, District 3  
Kathryn Harrington, District 4  
Rex Burkholder, District 5  
Robert Liberty, District 6

Auditor  
Suzanne Flynn

### **Councilor Rex Burkholder contact information**

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232  
503-797-1546 | 503-797-1793 fax  
[rex.burkholder@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:rex.burkholder@oregonmetro.gov)

Kathryn Sofich, policy coordinator  
503-797-1941  
[kathryn.sofich@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:kathryn.sofich@oregonmetro.gov)

[www.oregonmetro.gov](http://www.oregonmetro.gov)