

# Carlotta Collette

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 NEWS | October 2008

**Carlotta Collette**  
represents  
District 2, which  
includes the cities of  
Gladstone, Johnson  
City, Lake Oswego,  
Milwaukie, Oregon  
City, Rivergrove and  
West Linn and a  
portion of Southwest  
Portland.



## **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.

## **Metro supports state's greenhouse gas reduction targets with first phase of Regional Climate Change Action Plan**

The Metro Council responded to the state's call for reduction in greenhouse gas emissions with the launch of the first phase of a regional climate change action plan.

The climate change action plan, part of Metro's sustainability initiative unveiled in April, is one of several strategies that support the overall goal of achieving economic, environmental and social sustainability in the region.

Metro's role, outlined by Councilor Rex Burkholder, is to provide regional leadership in coordinating the efforts of local governments, civic groups, university systems and business representatives to meet Oregon's greenhouse gas reduction goals set in 2007 by the state legislature. The state's greenhouse gas reduction targets call for a halt to emission increases by 2010, a 10 percent reduction in emissions below 1990 levels by 2020 and a 75 percent reduction in emissions below 1990 levels by 2050.

Elements of the first phase of the climate action plan include conducting a regional greenhouse gas inventory to establish baseline information; surveying existing goals, programs and activities in the region; creating a Climate Change Steering Committee to set regional priorities; and hosting a regional climate change summit to engage the public.



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Metro has allocated \$75,000 toward an estimated \$185,000 total cost for the first phase of implementation. Additional funding will be sought with regional partners and the Governor's office.

The actual climate action plan will be developed during the second phase by a task force of representatives from local governments, businesses, environmental advocacy groups and residents who will be responsible for setting greenhouse gas-reduction goals and identifying the programs that will help meet those goals.

An optional third phase would run concurrently with the first and second phases and include small "Climate Solutions" projects funded by a grant program.

## 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, Nov. 1

9 to 11 a.m.

Clean Water Services training room  
2550 SW Hillsboro Highway, Hillsboro

### 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

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).



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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

Metro Council President  
David Bragdon

Metro Councilors  
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Carlotta Collette, District 2  
Carl Hosticka, District 3  
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