

# Rod Park

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 NEWS | October 2008

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

Please join me in celebrating 25 years of Salmon Festival and six million years of salmon in the Sandy River at the annual Salmon Festival at Metro's Oxbow Regional Park October 11th and 12th. This festival 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.

– Rod Park

## 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.



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

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

**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

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. 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 II – Project Review

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



## Councilor Rod Park contact information

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