

Carlotta Collette

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 NEWS | November 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.



A personal message from Councilor Collette

Here in the Portland Metropolitan region we like to think we are global leaders in sustainability and environmentally forward policies. We take pride in the fact that we've generally contained urban sprawl, preserved much of our adjacent farmlands and forest habitats, and enabled our citizens to rely less on fossil fuels than many regions. We recycle more than half our garbage and have become much more efficient, out of necessity, with how we use electricity and water. We're securing parks and building

trails throughout our region because we recognize the irreplaceable value of open spaces. We're recruiting sustainable industries like Solar World to come to the Northwest and create green-collar jobs here.

We've managed to keep our greenhouse gas emissions at about the same level they were in 1990, in part because we've invested in one of the nation's best bus and light rail systems. And we are a clear leader nationwide in green buildings, with the world's largest LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) platinum building – Oregon Health and Science University's 400,000 square foot Center for Health and Healing in South Waterfront – among many great examples.

But other communities are doing more, and we need to be even bolder.

In San Jose, California, the city has a "Green Vision" with some of the most far-reaching goals in the nation. Here is what San Jose plans to accomplish working in collaboration with its citizens and businesses over the next 15 years:

- Create 25,000 Clean Tech jobs as the World Center of Clean Tech Innovation
- Reduce per capita energy use by 50 percent
- Receive 100 percent of its electrical power from clean renewable sources
- Build or retrofit 50 million square feet of green buildings
- Divert 100 percent of the waste from its landfill and convert waste to energy
- Recycle or beneficially reuse 100 percent of its wastewater (100 million gallons per day)
- Adopt a General Plan with measurable standards for sustainable development
- Ensure that 100 percent of public fleet vehicles run on alternative fuels
- Plant 100,000 new trees and replace 100 percent of streetlights with smart, zero-emission lighting
- Create 100 miles of interconnected trails

It's easier for a single city, particularly an affluent one like San Jose, to establish its vision and accomplish it. Here in the Metro Region, we'll need a much higher level of collaboration to achieve similar goals.

But that's what really distinguishes our region from all others – we have a sterling history of regionwide collaboration toward common goals. We are on track to make this the healthiest region in the country – environmentally, economically and socially. Many Metro area cities have adopted the Mayors Agreement on Climate Protection. Clackamas and Multnomah counties have both adopted the "Cool Counties" climate protection initiative. Metro is working with our regional partners to become the first "Cool Region" in the country by

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adopting a regionwide climate action plan. I think we can do more. All our new and retrofit buildings should be green and sustainable. We should be mining our garbage and using it to generate electricity, not hauling it 150 miles upriver. We should be investing in better and faster transit options to link all our communities.

The list of opportunities is long, and it may be some time before we see any federal investments to help us. Let's take this time to build our regional strategy and create the partnerships we'll need to implement it.

– *Carlotta Collette*

Stop Illegal Dumping in your Neighborhood – Call Metro's RID Patrol

Did you know that Metro cleans up more than 1,500 illegal dumpsites throughout the region each year? Illegal dumping of household garbage, old tires, hazardous waste and other refuse threatens human health, wildlife and the environment. Metro's Report Illegal Dumping (RID) Patrol partners with local government agencies, law enforcement and community members to ensure that illegal dumpsites on public land are quickly cleaned up and investigated.

RID Patrol operates two trucks, staffed by correctional officers and inmate cleanup crews, to pick up garbage dumped on public lands. Investigating officers will try to locate the owner of the trash and track down the illegal hauler. Depending on the situation, the owners of the trash may be fined or cited, along with the hauler who dumped illegally.

Fines are issued to cover the cost of cleaning up and properly managing waste from dumpsites.

Metro's RID Patrol can provide tools to prevent illegal dumping and help keep your neighborhood clean and green. For more information, call Metro Recycling at 503-234-3000, send e-mail to ridpatrol@oregonmetro.gov or visit www.oregonmetro.gov/ridpatrol.

In unincorporated Washington County, please call 503-846-8609. If you would like more information about how the RID Patrol can work with your community organization to prevent illegal dumping call Tiffany Gates at 503-797-1867.

Grant workshop offered by Metro helps communities invite nature into neighborhoods

An upcoming workshop about Metro's Nature in Neighborhood grant program hopes 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 helps 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.

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.

Nature in Neighborhoods Grants Workshop II—Project Review

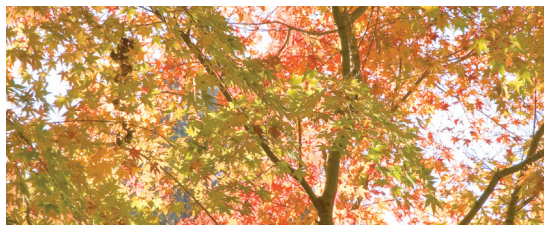
Saturday, Nov. 15

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Metro Regional Center

600 NE Grand Ave., Portland

To RSVP for this workshops contact Mary Rose Navarro, at 503-797-1781 or e-mail maryrose.navarro@oregonmetro.gov or Janelle Geddes at 503-797-1550 or e-mail 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
Rod Park, District 1
Carlotta Collette, District 2
Carl Hosticka, District 3
Kathryn Harrington, District 4
Rex Burkholder, District 5
Robert Liberty, District 6

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Suzanne Flynn