

Kathryn Harrington

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 NEWS | November 2008

Kathryn Harrington represents District 4, which includes Northern Washington County, Cornelius, Hillsboro, Forest Grove, Northwest Beaverton, Aloha, Rock Creek, Bonny Slope, Bethany, Raleigh Hills, West Slope, Cedar Mill and Cedar Hills.



25th Anniversary of Salmon Festival at Metro's Oxbow Regional Park inspires people to value and protect wild salmon and their habitat

More than six thousand people celebrated 25 years of Salmon Festival and six million years of salmon in the Sandy River at Metro's Oxbow Regional Park in October. The annual event celebrates the special connection between people and wild salmon and inspires us to value clean water and healthy watersheds. Co-hosted by Metro, Mt. Hood National Forest, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, the

Portland Water Bureau, PGE and the Bureau of Land Management, the festival offered an exciting opportunity to welcome home the salmon that have long been central to the culture and daily life of people in our region.

This year's festival offered 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. It also featured children's activities, horse-drawn wagon rides, a salmon bake, arts and crafts, environmental exhibits and a food court. Visitors came to the festival from all over the region with a large percentage attending from central Portland neighborhoods.

New to the festival this year was 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 provided a visual representation of the story of the salmon and connected key events to sites in the park visitors could walk to.

Every fall the Chinook salmon make their way upstream, coming home to spawn in the Sandy River. We look forward to celebrating another 25 years of returning salmon and healthy watersheds throughout the region.



Green building expert Larry Coffman visits Metro

Larry Coffman's resume provides insight into why Metro invited him to speak at the most recent "Green From the Ground Up" series seminar. Coffman is considered one of the nation's leading experts on low impact development technology for water resources and ecosystem restoration. Coffman spoke to builders, developers, designers, stormwater engineers, practitioners and jurisdictional staff from around the region. Demonstrating low impact business practices, he showed participants how to lower development costs while raising value.

Coffman hails from Chesapeake Beach, MD, where he pioneered the innovative stormwater management practice of bioretention or "rain gardens." He was also the principal author and architect of Prince George's County, Maryland's national award winning "Low Impact Development Design Strategies, An Integrated Design Approach," an alternative "decentralized at the source" approach to urban stormwater management. In 2004 he was one of the top 50



www.oregonmetro.gov

“trendsetters” by Public Works magazine, and has over 33 years of experience in stormwater management, water resource protection, and environmental restoration. Coffman has conducted hundreds of Low Impact Development workshops and training seminars across the country and around the world.

On October 29th at the Home Builders Association offices in Lake Oswego, Coffman gave a presentation based from a case study on a residential project that used low-impact development practices. By presenting this project, he illustrated multiple practices that translate directly to current and future developments for participants from the Metro region.

Other “Green from the Ground Up” seminars in the series include advice from marketing experts, information on the basic principles behind low impact development, and the benefits and costs associated with these practices. The seminars intend to show interested audiences that “green” development practices conserve fish and wildlife habitat and environmental health while also adding value to properties.

For more information on “Green from the Ground Up” seminars contact Corie Harlan, Nature in Neighborhoods coordinator, at (503) 797-1764 or Corie.Harlan@oregonmetro.gov. For more information about Larry Coffman, visit his website at Larrycoffman.com.

Sustainable Metro Initiative launched in October

With the goal of continuing Metro’s mission to make the Portland metropolitan area an extraordinary place to live, work and play, the Metro Council launched the Sustainable Metro Initiative (SMI) on October 1st. The initiative reorganizes Metro’s internal operations to increase productivity, facilitate the implementation of standardized management practices and align business and operational functions organization-wide.

Metro has long been recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in civic innovation. With one million additional residents expected in the next 30 years, plus climate change and a globalizing economy, it’s time to raise the bar. Through the SMI, Metro will increase effectiveness by integrating related functions, elevating sustainability goals and increasing transparency.

“The Sustainable Metro [Initiative] is more than a shuffling of deck chairs,” noted Ethan Seltzer, director of the Toulan School of Urban Studies and Planning at Portland State University, in his Oregonian editorial on August 29. “It’s a promise that our desire to create the most livable metropolitan region in North America will be effectively and thoughtfully supported in the years to come.”

The Metro Council strives to provide leadership from a regional perspective through civic engagement, conservation stewardship and innovative planning to maintain a high quality of life for everyone living and working in the region. Successful programs like Nature in Neighborhoods and the award-winning Transit Oriented Development program reflect the agency’s commitment to achieving these goals. Through the launch of the SMI, Metro will position itself to meet the increasingly complex challenges of the future.

While some of the agency’s work teams and directors have changed as a result of this initiative, the services Metro provides will continue and improve. For more information about these changes, go to www.oregonmetro.gov, type the word “management” into the web site’s search engine and click on the “Management and work teams” page. That page features the members of the new senior leadership team, a Metro-wide organizational chart and the link to Ethan Seltzer’s opinion editorial.



Councilor Kathryn Harrington contact information

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232
503-797-1553 | 503-797-1793 fax
kathryn.harrington@oregonmetro.gov

Veronica Valenzuela, policy coordinator
503-797-1939
veronica.valenzuela@oregonmetro.gov
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

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