



February 2011

Have a Car in the Driveway? Rent it to Your Neighbor!

[Getaround](#), a peer-to-peer car sharing company based out of California, should be up and running in Portland this month. If your car spends more time in the garage than on the road, you can now sign up to rent it by the hour or day with this new personal car sharing service.

Thanks to Gov. Kitzhaber's signature on a bill last summer, insurance rules have changed, allowing everyday vehicle owners to rent their cars without being liable for accidents or threat of damage to their personal coverage. A federal grant of \$1.7 million dollars helped fund Getaround's Portland launch, making it the first grant ever awarded for peer-to-peer car sharing.

Social media connects users, and an iPhone car kit allows renters unlocking capabilities without having to exchange keys. Rental fees can range upwards of \$3 per hour (A Tesla Roadster is currently available for \$75), and all vehicles must be models 1995 or newer.

Check out [their website](#) to rent or share those cars currently gathering cobwebs in the garage!

Every Body Walk! App: Does Everything But the Walking

Fitness and exercise continue to connect with technology faster than you can blink. We are especially excited about a recent app from our friends at [Every Body Walk!](#)

Like a personal health coach, the new Every Body Walk! app enables you to personalize your walking plan, connect with walking communities, learn about the latest fitness trends, tips and more. You can track and save your own walking routes, build your walking history—then share your progress on Facebook; discover walking groups and walking paths near you with an interactive map, watch videos that include walking tips, and more. Did we mention it's FREE?

To download this free app, follow the links to either the iTunes or Android marketplaces:

- iTunes (opens iTunes application) <http://pdx.be/EBWitunes>
- Android Market <http://pdx.be/EBWandr>



Looking to the Future: Barbur Boulevard

How do you envision SW Barbur Boulevard in 25 years? That's what the Barbur Concept Plan, a partnership between the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS), Bureau of Transportation (PBOT), and a [Community Working Group](#) is trying to answer in order to craft the vision for Barbur's six-mile stretch from Portland's City Center to Tigard's city limits. Barbur's improvements are a portion of Metro's [Southwest Corridor Plan](#), a comprehensive planning effort to create livable and sustainable communities along the corridor between Portland, Tigard and Sherwood.



Looking south on Barbur from SW 4th and Sheridan, circa 1937.

In December of 2010, Metro received \$2 million dollars in federal grants to analyze the options for improving transit along the corridor, including Barbur/Highway 99 and Interstate 5. The analysis is looking largely at which mode of [high capacity transit](#) (transit vehicles that make fewer stops, travel at higher speeds, have more frequent service, and carry more people) would best fit with the local and regional goals of the corridor and all parties involved. Metro will be measuring the success of the transportation project against elements of a successful region, such as vibrant communities, economic prosperity, clean air, and water equity in order to make a fully integrated approach.

The Barbur Community Working Group began an 18-month process of brainstorming and concept exploration in the summer of 2011, and recently closed a public survey looking for comments and suggestions. Along with transportation investments, the group is exploring a variety of land use ideas in order to recommend stormwater solutions and changes to the City policy and zoning.

** If you would like to get involved and attend an open house, receive updates, or just read further, check out the [Barbur Concept Plan](#) and [Southwest Corridor Plan](#) web pages.

St. Johns: Disc Golf, Dog Parks and Racquets... Oh My!

For those seeking active, healthy, family friendly spots in St. Johns, look no further than the trio of Pier Park, St. Johns Community Center and the St. Johns Racquet Center. Catering to indoor and outdoor enthusiasts these are your quick connections to healthy fun!

[Pier Park](#)

Spanning 87 acres in the northwest corner of St Johns, Pier Park offers walking paths, basketball court, soccer pitch, an extensive skateboard park, [18 hole disc golf course](#), and more. Pack a picnic to spend the day exploring! For dog owners, head over to [Chimney Park](#), 18 acres of fully fenced off-leash doggie goodness.

[St Johns Community Center](#)

Located at 8427 N Central St amenities include indoor basketball court, gymnasium, rock climbing wall and tons of active and educational family programming. Check out the [catalog](#) for the schedule of winter long fun.

[St. Johns Racquet Center](#) (SJRC)

Beginners and racquet enthusiast alike will find an ample serving of net play here. Offering three indoor tennis and two racquetball courts, 7 days a week, reserve courts by the hour or become a member. If you need a net partner, check out the weekly [tennis mixer](#)!