

January 19, 2005

Executive Summary of Public Comments on proposed changes to: City Code 3.96, Office of Neighborhood Involvement and Standards for Neighborhood Associations, District Coalitions, Business District Associations, and the Office of Neighborhood Involvement

Introduction

This report highlights suggestions and comments received from the public on the draft changes to *City Code 3.96, Office of Neighborhood Involvement and Standards for Neighborhood Associations, District Coalitions, Business District Associations, and the Office of Neighborhood Involvement* from September through December 2004.

City Code refers to the establishment of Guidelines setting forth the roles and responsibilities for Neighborhood Associations, District Coalitions, Business Associations and the Office of Neighborhood Involvement as components of Portland's 30-year neighborhood system. The ONI Guidelines, last adopted by City Council in January 1998, are to be reviewed and updated every four years by a citizen committee.

The committee of neighborhood leaders – the Guidelines, Review, Empowerment, and Assessment Taskforce (GREAT) – have been working on this effort since the spring of 2001. The committee is proposing to rename the document as “Standards” to reflect language in existing Code 3.96.030. In addition, the committee is proposing changes to Chapter 3.96 of City Code, the authorizing language for Portland's neighborhood involvement system. Chapter 3.96 has not been updated since 1987.

You can view all documents relating to the development of proposed language at:
<http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=29023&>

What public outreach was done?

Public comment provided this fall was only the culmination of four years of continuous outreach to the community. Outreach in the fall of 2004 included:

- 56 people identified whom provided comment

- ❑ Presentations to 27 neighborhood and community organizations
- ❑ 466 people attended those presentations
- ❑ Over 4,000 summary fact sheets were distributed
- ❑ Over 1,000 copies of the full text were distributed

Outreach over the past four years has included:

- ❑ Three early public workshops, March 2002, November 2002, and June 2003. See at <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=31491>.
- ❑ Distribution of 300 copies of the draft language at the November 2003 Neighborhood Summit.
- ❑ Committee members providing updates to their District Coalition boards of directors.
- ❑ Continual update fact sheets distributed to Neighborhood and Business Association leaders. See at <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=31490>.

What happens next?

The Guidelines committee (GREAT) will meet to review the comments and consider appropriate changes. Those meetings are open to the public and will be held:

Tuesday, January 25

8:30 AM to 10:30 AM

City Hall, Pettygrove Room

Tuesday, February 8

8:30 AM to 10:30 AM

City Hall, Pettygrove Room

Task Force participants are charged with recommending to the Commissioner-in-charge and full Council suggested changes, revisions, additions, and/or deletions to the Guidelines. We will provide 45 days for public review before a final draft is presented before Council most likely in late March or early April 2005.

How is the Summary Organized?

There are two separate summary documents with comments relating to proposed draft changes to City Code 3.96 and the Standards for Neighborhood Associations, etc. Comments are summarized followed by highlighted quotes pertaining to the topic in that section.

You can view summary of comments on City Code 3.96 at:

<http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=70394>

You can view summary of comments on Standards at:

<http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=70393>

What did we hear?

Key issues that received the most comments reflected in the summary include (received three to nine comments):

Neighborhood Associations

- ❑ Minimum number of household requirement poses problem for Associations that are commercial and industrial in nature.
- ❑ Need clarification on how businesses can be represented as members in an Association.
- ❑ Some advocated we need to require minimum number of general membership meetings per year.
- ❑ Split opinion on whether or not to allow dues payment for membership.

District Coalitions

- ❑ Minimum size of new District Coalitions. Inner city neighborhoods want a central city coalition of 2-3 neighborhoods.
- ❑ Taking positions on ballot measures and elected candidates and whether those positions can be printed in newsletters.

Responsibilities of the Office of Neighborhood Involvement

- ❑ Types of services ONI should be providing to Neighborhood Associations as well as other City bureaus.

Business District Associations

- ❑ Allowing Business Associations to charge dues and following same rules of engagement required of Neighborhood Associations.

Communities Beyond Neighborhood Boundaries (Inclusion and Participation)

- ❑ How to move the neighborhood system towards doing more outreach to diverse constituencies and making our meetings and activities more accessible.
- ❑ How to pay for efforts to do more outreach to diverse constituencies. Seems like an un-funded mandate.

Grievances

- ❑ Proposal would place too many limits on what types of conflicts can be grieved.
- ❑ Authority of ONI Director to make final decisions on Neighborhood Association boundary disputes, grievances and other conflicts.

Open Meetings and Public Records

- ❑ Appearance that proposed quorum language is too prescriptive. Some read it as ONI setting fixed quorum requirements.
- ❑ Some are advocating for provisions to allow electronic meetings in cases of emergencies. Currently its not allowed.
- ❑ Desire to allow wider range of minimum public notice options for meetings such as via the web, calendar listings in community newspapers, etc.

- ❑ Expectations for public notice of emergency meetings are unrealistic to accomplish in short time period.
- ❑ Authority of chairperson to stop disrupting participants seen as too broad.

Commenters on the draft language

Below are people who either provided written comments or were identified as providing comments at a presentation this fall. Some comments were made at the neighborhood meetings listed below without being able to identify who the person was.

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ❑ Richard Bixby | ❑ Erika Silver |
| ❑ Timme Helzer | ❑ Jennifer Nolfi |
| ❑ Josh Plager | ❑ Ethan Dunham |
| ❑ Patty Lee | ❑ Dean Marriott |
| ❑ Pasquale Pascuzzi | ❑ James Olheiser |
| ❑ Katherine Knotsen | ❑ Mrs. Henry |
| ❑ Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong | ❑ Paula Casner |
| ❑ Pamella Settlegoode, Ph. D. | ❑ Scott Jensen |
| ❑ R. Lee Smith | ❑ Kristen Erbes |
| ❑ Laura Campos | ❑ Patt Opdyke |
| ❑ David Fenske | ❑ Jim Karloc |
| ❑ David Brook | ❑ Elizabeth Ussher Groff |
| ❑ Jacob Brostoff | ❑ Michelle Ovando |
| ❑ Lisa Horne | ❑ Christine Germaine |
| ❑ Zari Santner | ❑ Michael Mock |
| ❑ William Barnes | ❑ Jeff Cogen |
| ❑ Richard Ellmyer | ❑ Aaron Johnson |
| ❑ Ellen Eaton | ❑ Paul Leistner |
| ❑ Steve Hoyt | ❑ Mary Ann Schwab |
| ❑ Dan Payne | ❑ Linda Nettekoven |
| ❑ Scott Vala | ❑ Alesia Reese |
| ❑ Ellen Eaton | ❑ Don MacGillivray |
| ❑ Bill Markwart | ❑ Bonny McKnight |
| ❑ Chris Eykamp | ❑ Craig Kolell |
| ❑ Michael Roth | ❑ Jeff Champion |
| ❑ Kevin Montgomery-Smith | ❑ Paul Pope |
| ❑ Diane Redd | ❑ John Frye |
| ❑ Tom Carney | |

Neighborhood organizations where presentations were made fall '05

City-wide or District Coalition wide presentations

- ❑ Central NE Neighbors
- ❑ SE Uplift Neighborhood Program

- ❑ North Portland Neighborhood Services
- ❑ SW Neighborhoods, Inc.,
- ❑ East Portland Neighborhoods
- ❑ ONI Bureau Advisory Committee

Neighborhood presentations:

- ❑ Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Brentwood/Darlington Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Buckman Community Association
- ❑ Corbett/Terwilliger/Lair Hill Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Downtown Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Eastmoreland Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Gateway Area Business Association
- ❑ Goosehollow Foothills League
- ❑ Hayden Island Neighborhood Network
- ❑ Hayhurst Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Lents Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Lloyd District Community Association
- ❑ Markham Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Marshall Park Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Old Town/China Town Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Pearl District Association
- ❑ Rose City Park Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Roseway Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Sabin Community Association
- ❑ SW Hills Residential League
- ❑ Woodlawn Neighborhood Association

Neighborhoods where we know the Guidelines were discussed without a committee representative:

- ❑ Concordia Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Irvington Community Association

Members of the Guidelines committee, GREAT

Chairpersons:

- ❑ Moshe Lenske, Woodstock Neighborhood Association, Southeast Uplift
- ❑ Patricia Gardner, Pearl District Neighborhood Association, Neighbors West/Northwest

Committee members:

- ❑ Kathy Bambeck, Bridlemile Neighborhood Association
- ❑ Nancy Chapin, Alliance of Portland Neighborhood Business Associations

- ❑ Catherine Crawford, University Park Neighborhood Association, North Portland, stepped down in 2003
- ❑ Leonard Gard, Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.
- ❑ Raymond Hites, Lents Neighborhood Association, East Portland Neighborhood Office
- ❑ Stanley Lewis, Downtown Neighborhood Association, Unaffiliated Associations
- ❑ Michael O'Malley, Irvington Community Association, NE Coalition of Neighborhoods
- ❑ Jerry Powell, Goose Hollow Foothills League, Neighbors West/Northwest
- ❑ Charles Shi, Communities Beyond Neighborhood Boundaries, stepped down in 2003
- ❑ Mark Sieber, Neighbors West/Northwest, District Coalition directors
- ❑ William Warren, Central Northeast Neighbors, stepped down early 2004.

City of Portland staff:

- ❑ Brian Hoop, Office of Neighborhood Involvement
- ❑ Jimmy Brown, Office of Neighborhood Involvement
- ❑ Ruth Spetter, City Attorney

For more information, to have paper copies mailed to you, or questions contact:

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