

The Office of  
Neighborhood Involvement  
Neighborhoods Now!  
Organizing Our Future Together  
2<sup>nd</sup> Neighborhood Association Summit

Summary Packet

Saturday, March 3, 2001  
Parkrose Community Center



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**PORTLAND, OREGON**

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April 10, 2001

Dear Neighborhood Leader:

Thank you making the second annual Neighborhood Association Summit a great success! Over 175 neighborhood activists attended *Neighborhoods Now! 2001*, representing 65 neighborhood associations, nine local community groups, nine Portland bureaus, three Commissioners offices, and three local governmental jurisdictions. Over two-thirds of the attendees were attending the Summit for the first time, a good sign of our efforts to reach more neighbors with our trainings and technical support. We received tremendous positive feedback about the 16 workshops—most of them led by neighbors. There were many reasons for the success of the Summit, but the main reason is your dedication and enthusiasm.

We will be using the information in this summary to implement the Office of Neighborhood Involvement's "Re-Examine, Re-Connect" effort that I announced at the Summit. The goals of this important re-assessment of our neighborhood system are to strengthen our neighborhood structure, improve participation, and increase partnerships with other bureaus to improve Portland's livability.

We look forward to working with you on "Re-Examine, Re-Connect" and on issues identified in the Summit. Please call your Coalition Office or Brian Hoop (823-3075) or Joleen Jensen-Classen (823-3203) from ONI if you would like any additional help or information.

Thank you again for your attendance and support. I am excited about continuing to build on the success of the Summit and make ONI and our neighborhood associations even stronger.

Sincerely,

Dan Saltzman  
Neighborhood Commissioner

## **Thanks to Summit planning committee**

*Thank you to the following neighborhood leaders who assisted us this fall developing ideas and agenda for the summit. Their creativity and input helped make the summit a great success.*

- Clark Hansen, Forest Park Neighborhood Association
- Ed Jordan, Lents Neighborhood Association
- Don MacGillivray, Buckman Community Association
- Wes McMullen, Crestwood Neighborhood Association
- Elizabeth Ussher-Groff, Woodstock Neighborhood Association
- William Warren, Central Northeast Neighbors

## **AGENDA**

**9:15 AM**                      **Welcome:** Dr. David Lane, Director ONI and Dan Saltzman, Commissioner

**9:45-10:30 AM**            **Small Group sessions:**  
Participants join individuals from other neighborhoods throughout the city to discuss what's working/not working in your neighborhood? Identify top priority issues for neighborhood coalitions to work together on in future.

**10:45-11:45AM**        **Session I Workshops**

**Track One: Fundamental skills:** Neighborhood leaders share their ideas and skills on these topics.

### **Recruiting New Leadership for your Neighborhood Association**

Discussion with neighborhood leaders about successful strategies on how to recruit and orient new leaders for your neighborhood association.

### **The role of the Neighborhood Coalition**

Discussion with neighborhood coalition leaders on the purpose and function of the coalition system in Portland and how they work with neighborhood associations.

### **Block Watches and Other Neighborhood-based Crime Prevention and Anti-Violence Efforts**

Learn about neighborhood based efforts to combat crime in your community. Block watches are a city-wide program that are initiated and organized by residents. The Youth Violence Prevention Advisory Council shares an anti-violence initiative targeted at youth in NE.

### **Public Place Master Plan 2005: A Public Square for Every Neighborhood**

Learn about a new city ordinance which now permits every Portland neighborhood to convert selected street intersections into public gathering places and how civic involvement can make it happen.

**Track Two: Hot topic issues**        Neighborhood leaders share their experiences on these topics and lead discussion about neighborhood association activism on the topic.

### **Balancing the needs of neighborhoods and special needs housing**

Discussion with citizen leaders of the new Community Residential Siting Program to discuss the siting process, how it works and how neighborhood associations and providers are attempting to work together.

### **Air traffic noise: Balancing Commerce with Neighborhood Livability**

Discussion with neighborhood leaders of positive strategies neighbors can use to reduce the aircraft noise impacts related to the PDX airport and helicopter traffic.

### **Urban Renewal Districts: Do they foster neighborhood livability?**

Discuss neighborhood experiences with public involvement efforts to include diverse neighborhood voices in the development of new urban renewal districts. How are neighborhood leaders viewing the long-term impact on neighborhood livability?

### **Parks Vision 20/20 Plan**

Learn more about the Parks and Recreation Bureau's long range planning effort to get neighborhood feedback on your ideas for how Portland's park system can better serve the community's needs.

**Noon-12:45PM**      **Lunch:** Discussion with commissioners Francesconi, Hales, and Saltzman.

**1:00 PM-2 PM**      **Session II Workshops**

### **Track One: Fundamental Skills**

#### **New Rules for Liquor Licenses in your Neighborhood**

How neighborhood associations are dealing with new guidelines for liquor license applicants in neighborhoods, passed by the '99 legislature, as well as using good neighbor agreements.

#### **Keeping up the neighborhood and fighting neighborhood nuisances**

Creative solutions to stopping neighborhood property nuisances including drug houses, commercial and auto sales in yards, and junk piles that won't go away.

#### **How to lobby officials and get results**

Neighborhood leaders share their experiences with advance research, message development, preparing testimony, working with aides, and lobbying tips at the local, state, and national level.

### **Track Two: Hot topic issues**

#### **A Neighborhood Congress for Portland?**

Talk with neighborhood activists about organizing a community effort to develop a common agenda for neighborhood associations.

#### **Transit Oriented Development: What have we learned?**

Talk with neighborhood activists about the role of transit oriented development, the pros and cons and where we should go from here?

#### **Rising housing costs and stopping the cycle of displacement**

Learn about new community efforts to help stabilize neighborhoods by reaching low-income residents with information about resources to prevent displacement due to rising housing costs.

#### **Turning Down the Volume in the Neighborhood: Summary from the Noise Review Task Force**

Learn about draft proposals from citizen members of the Noise Review Task Force charged with proposing rule changes for how the city deals with nuisance noise.

#### **State of Portland's Transportation System**

Hear from Portland Office of Transportation Director on key long term funding issues for transportation issues in Portland and discuss your priorities for neighborhoods.

**2:15 -3:00 PM**      **Plenary Session: A Vision for action on citywide issues**

Was an open discussion about the days event and other hot topics.

## **Morning Small Group Sessions**

*The goal of this session was to have participants join individuals from other neighborhoods throughout Portland to exchange ideas about what is working and what is not working in their neighborhoods and to identify top priority issues the neighborhood coalitions and associations should work together on over the next several years.*

## **Neighborhood Association Successes and Achievements:**

The group discussion identified many neighborhood achievements during the past year. Examples included:

- Successes in the areas of land use such as the good neighborhood agreement between PGE Stadium and Goose Hollow, Pearl District and NWDA; working with PDC on urban renewal in Lents and North and NE Portland; continuing work on the SW Community Plan and the Hollywood and Sandy Plan.
- Successes with plans for and actual development of more parks and opens spaces such as the Urban Trails Plan in SW; plans for new parks in Cully, Brentwood Darlington, Sullivan's Gulch and Centennial neighborhoods and the dedication of a new park in the Woodlawn neighborhood; opening of a new community center in Mt. Scott-Arletta.
- Successes in the area of traffic management and improved pedestrian improvements on Woodstock Blvd., plans for light rail in North and NE Portland.
- Successes with neighborhood special events such as the annual Central NE Neighbors Multicultural Fair; Sabin Multicultural Festival, Lents Founder's Day; Fremont Festival; Brentwood-Darlington Saturday Fair; many neighborhood picnics, potlucks and tree plantings.
- Successes in the area of environmental protection and awareness with many annual neighborhoods clean-ups; the Central NE Neighbors bulky waste removal program; increased support for Columbia Slough clean-up and maintenance; Naturescaping programs in SW and Lents; cleaning up an old gas station site in Hillsdale; increasing support for work in Johnson Creek.
- Successes in the area of outreach such as increasing business participation Old-Town /Chinatown, improved newsletter circulation in Woodstock; increased neighborhood involvement in Beaumont-Wilshire, Pleasant Valley, Brooklyn and Laurelhurst.
- Additional successes included the creation of the Airport Issues Roundtable to address air traffic noise; numerous good neighborhood agreements with liquor outlets; retention of existing and plans for new neighborhood fire stations; increased partnerships between neighborhood associations and city bureaus such as the Police Bureau Fire Bureau, Water Bureau, Bureau of Environmental Service, Parks Bureau, and the Office of Transportation.

## **Challenges and Roadblocks**

The group discussions also identified similar challenges faced by all neighborhood associations. Examples included:

- Challenges in the area of involving people in the work of the neighborhood associations. The most consistent concerns revolved around the need for increased resources to do consistent outreach to all neighbors with emphasis on members of minority communities, non-English speaking neighbors, and renters. Neighborhood associations make good use of newsletters but need more

funds to expand their distribution. There is an increasing need to find ways to help neighborhood use new technology for outreach such as the creation of web pages and list serves.

- Another common challenge across the neighborhood system was finding ways to deal effectively with increased traffic congestion, gentrification, loss of affordable housing and neighborhood businesses. Many activists expressed concern that adapting to change and preserving neighborhood uniqueness is a difficult balance to find.
- Noise from air traffic, garbage haulers, car stereos, and construction pose increasing threats to neighborhood livability.
- Another consistently identified challenge was finding ways to improve the working relationship between neighborhood associations and their respective coalitions.
- Activists wanted more communication with City Hall and bureaus. A popular suggestion was to have a neighborhood association representative on the Portland Development Commission Board of Directors.
- Neighbors are also concerned about public safety with emphasis on eliminating drug and gang activity, increasing the number of Neighborhood Emergency Teams and eliminating graffiti.

## **Top priority issues identified**

This only reflects notes taken in the small group discussions and is a summary of themes that came up the most often. This does not represent a vote of the whole body.

- Develop methods and funds to help neighborhoods do more and consistent outreach to their members with special emphasis on people of color, non-English speaking people, people with disabilities and renters.
- Have ONI work with the coalitions to empower neighborhood association and increase communication. Improve the visibility and relevance of the coalitions.
- Increase communication, information sharing, and cooperation on issues between neighborhood associations.
- Encourage proactive efforts to preserve neighborhoods and prevent displacement of residents and businesses.
- All neighborhoods should have web pages linked to each other.
- Focus on ways to raise additional dollars for neighborhood projects.

# **Summaries of workshops**

*Following are summaries of workshops. Summaries were written primarily by presenters or from notes taken during the workshop and edited for breadth by Brian Hoop or Joleen Classen.*

## **Recruiting New Leadership For Your Neighborhood Association**

**Presenters:** Joe Annett, Kenton Neighborhood Association  
Linda Hoover, Cully Association of Neighbors  
Mike Sublet, Sylvan-Highlands Neighborhood Association

Neighborhood leaders discussed successful strategies for recruiting and orienting new leaders for neighborhood associations. There was agreement that one-to-one contact was very important when recruiting new people. Personal contact helps the current neighborhood activist better understand what skills and interests the potential volunteer brings to the organization and begins the important process of building relationships that glue neighborhood associations together. New people need to be given specific roles and as much support as they need to succeed. It doesn't work to recruit someone to run the annual neighborhood clean up, give them the outline from last year, and disappear from view. Continuous contact throughout the duration of the project is important.

If neighborhood associations have specific projects they do each year, it helps to start thinking about who will take the lead at least six months in advance and develop a list of potential recruits. New volunteers need the following:

- To be asked.
- A clear job description and list of tasks
- A timeline.
- Where to go for help.
- Lots of encouragement
- Public recognition and thanks

Make the job easier by dividing responsibilities into discrete tasks that can accommodate members' schedules. For example, divide the Secretary position into several new positions. A Recording Secretary might just have responsibility for attending the meeting and doing the minutes. A Corresponding Secretary could prepare association letters or process mail at any time. A Media Secretary could update the web site as their schedule allows

Team-Recruiting for multiple positions at the same time can create a team atmosphere that raises community spirit and makes volunteers feel a lighter burden. Either assembling a slate for association elections or staffing one committee at a time can go a long way toward creating a critical mass of volunteers that form a neighborhood team.



## **The Role of the Neighborhood Coalition**

**Presenters:** Wes McMullen, Southwest Neighborhoods Inc.  
Len Stevens, Neighbors West-NW  
Bob Ueland, Central NE Neighbors

The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the role of the coalition system in Portland and how the coalitions can best work with neighborhood associations. While there was general support from the attendees for the coalition system, it became clear during the discussion that some neighborhoods believe the coalition they are affiliated with dilutes their influence and contradicts their message to the community and City Hall. In order for citizens to become more effective at communicating with city government they need to realize that Portland bureaucrats recognize a flow of information and process of engagement that is three steps in nature: (1) ONI to (2) Coalitions to (3) Neighborhood Associations. If citizens and their neighborhood associations want to become a more effective influence on city matters, they need to realize how the system operates and how best to join with the coalitions in advocating for their causes. Coalitions in turn need to do a better job of marketing themselves and their services to neighborhood associations. Coalitions could improve their effectiveness by:

- improving representation of people of color and disenfranchised people's concerns
- facilitate better communication between neighbors and the city
- improve allocation of resources to neighborhood associations
- work to improve the notification system from city bureaus to neighborhood associations and get agendas out in a more timely manner.

## **Block Watches, Neighborhood Crime Prevention and Anti-Violence Efforts**

**Presenters:** Robyn Pfeifer, King Neighborhood Association  
Deanna Calef, Jefferson Caring Community, Youth Violence Prevention  
Advisory Council (YVPAC)  
Donna Purdy, Jefferson Caring Community, YVPAC  
Art Hendricks, Office of Neighborhood Involvement, Crime Prevention Center

The discussion covered the efforts of one Block Watch to organize neighbors in weeding out undesirable elements from their community. The group discussed how community networking and action plans such as the Jefferson Caring Community works. The group talked about how neighborhoods are not safe. To move to a safer community all the following components need support and need to work together: Youth programs, neighbors, police, and offenders in and out of prison.

Many top issues/action steps for neighborhood associations were considered:

- Neighborhood assoc. leaders need training on how to do inclusive outreach. Other organizations need to do outreach to notify folks of available services.
- A study needs to be done to understand what are the root causes of violence in the community.
- Neighborhood assoc. need to connect with: Caring Community, Public Schools, Business Assocs, Community Gardens, Extension services, youth & offender groups.
- If Weed and Seed goes into a neighborhood, there needs to be an honest will to do the Seed part of the program too.

- Web page that lists where Neighborhood Assoc. are, when and where meetings are, what Neighborhood Assoc. are working on, and annual Neighborhood citywide goals.
- Do a city wide mapping of services to show who is doing similar services and to promote collaboration. SUN schools seems to be an exemplary model.
- Portland Public Schools programs, like Green Thumbs, create a strong bond with the Neighborhood Associations. Need a PPS Liaison to Neighborhood Associations.
- Give police officers and all public servants public service credits for attending the neighborhood association meetings where they live.
- Neighborhood associations need youth to participate in their communities. Examples:
  - Jefferson Caring Community, a Whole Family Domestic Violence Early Intervention program involves the entire at risk family at preschool/head start age.
  - Fernhill School is creating play structures for their Concordia Neighborhood to get the at risk families and children of the neighborhood involved.
  - Get Extension services and community gardens to network and obtain support to serve neighborhood youth and at risk families.
- We need translators to volunteer to attend meetings so that deaf folks and non-English speaking folks will feel that it is worth their time to attend the meetings.
- Do outreach to offenders in and out of prisons so that they will get the support they need to be our neighbors once more, instead of still "IT" when they get out.

## **Public Place Master Plan 2005: A public square for every neighborhood**

**Presenters:** Mark Lakeman, City Repair Project  
 Daniel Lerch, City Repair Project  
 Lee Leighton, Sellwood Neighborhood Association

The purpose of the workshop was to show community leaders how citizens can now legally create shared public squares in street intersections in their neighborhoods. Key themes included:

- The importance of historical perspective on the physical characteristics and social functions of successful public squares.
- The importance of re-introducing public squares and their functions in a neighborhood context.
- An overview of the citizen process that created Portland's first street intersection public square and set the legal precedent for future projects. The workshop also covered informal community gatherings that lead to the re-making of the intersection and how this process moved from civil disobedience to become a community-building tool.

Neighborhood association leaders were encouraged to take the following "next steps":

- Contact The City Repair Project, (505-235-8946 or <http://www.cityrepair.org/>) a volunteer-run nonprofit organization that facilitates the creation of neighborhood public gathering places.
- Establish broad-based neighborhood outreach at the grassroots level to engage people in forming a vision for a potential square.
- Form a structure for participation and decision-making.
- Use participatory, hands-on workshop events as tools for forming ideas and achieving support.
- Establish dialogue with key City of Portland bureau staff to address technical issues (such as traffic safety at the selected site, etc.)

## **Balancing the needs of Neighborhoods and Special Needs Housing**

Presenters: Tom Johnson, Woodstock Neighborhood Association  
Anita August, Pearl District Neighborhood Association  
Don MacGillivray, Buckman Neighborhood Association

The purpose of this workshop was to discuss perspectives of siting residential social services in neighborhoods. The themes discussed were:

- Saturation and the need for better planning of residential social services
- Lack of information to a neighborhood prior to siting
- Reassurance, if difficulties arise, recourse is available (good neighbor agreements, enforcement of good neighbor agreement, etc...)
- Licensing requirements
- Working within the complex laws of confidentiality
- Zoning regulations
- Having access to the knowledge of those regulations
- What can be done to change and control situations of siting practices that are offensive to a neighborhood

Participants of this workshop expressed frustrations about the siting of residential social services, and the lack of neighborhood involvement. When neighbors aren't involved or included in the process, they are left to feel angry and powerless. Having information of the licensing agencies, what can be done to establish and enforce good neighbor agreements was discussed. The question of saturation of certain areas of social service sitings led to the challenges of how "saturation" is defined. The group discussed the need for better planning of services to address this issue. Zoning and layers of local state and federal regulations requiring confidentiality were discussed as ambiguous and subject to interpretation. One participant explained that facilities sited in a neighborhood that are more permanent residences, allowed those people to become part of the community, while those facilities that had a transient population did not contribute to the stability of the neighborhood.

The City/County Community Residential Siting Program addresses issues of of citizens, neighborhood associations, service providers, and service recipients related to the siting and operations of residential facilities and group homes in Portland and Multnomah County. Contact Eric King at (503) 823-2030 or [eking@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:eking@ci.portland.or.us).

## **Air Traffic Noise: Balancing Commerce with Neighborhood Livability**

Presenters: Ann Bonner, Wilkes Neighborhood Association  
Katy Jenkin, Wilkes Neighborhood Association  
Fred Stovel, Rose City Park Neighborhood Association  
John Weigant, Bridgeton Neighborhood Association

The purpose of the workshop was to share positive strategies neighbors can use to reduce the aircraft noise impacts related to the Portland Airport and helicopter traffic. The leaders of the workshop are members of the Air Traffic Issues Roundtable (AIR), a citizen advisory group organized under the City of Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement. AIR functions as a liaison between the

Portland neighborhoods, City Bureaus, the Port of Portland, the Federal Aviation Authority, the airlines, the CNAC (the Port of Portland hosted Noise Advisory Committee), and other groups concerned with urban livability and land-use issues. AIR members have done considerable research on solutions to air traffic noise and found a common difficulty in that federal regulations of air travel pre-empt local authority. AIR is currently involved in the process for revising the Port of Portland's conditional use master plan for the airport. Attendees were encouraged to participate in Air and keep track of noise related problems.

## **Urban Renewal Districts: Do they foster neighborhood livability?**

**Presenters:** Eva Hampton, Lents Neighborhood Association  
Glen Taylor, Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association  
Larry Mills, Kenton Neighborhood Association  
Joey Lyons, Coalition for a Livable Future

The discussion covered several key themes including what people want from Urban Renewal Districts (URD's), creating a more inclusive citizen involvement process, the role of the city, issues around condemnation, and specific neighborhood experiences. Many people do not want URD's to change the character of their neighborhoods or at least reflect existing characteristics. Urban renewal needs to balance between the macro and micro development needs for mixed-use, groceries, housing, jobs, etc. to maintain livability and quality of life. The city needs to support programs to prevent displacement of housing and small business. Existing neighborhood plans should be used as part of the decision-making process. More cross communication is needed for community activists to share lessons learned from various URD experiences.

Perhaps the strongest citizen involvement call was for a neighborhood representative position on the Portland Development Commission. Citizen volunteers were urged to pick and choose their commitments wisely and not get overwhelmed. Urban renewal will only work if we stay involved, informed and be representative of a broad neighborhood constituency. People feel planners need to get into neighborhoods more, URD boards seem heavy with staff and the city needs to be accountable.

Outreach efforts need to be designed to reach multiple constituencies including low-income people and people of color. Notification efforts need to include renters as well as property owners. Immigrants and non-English speaking citizens share concerns so we need to seek out immigrant leaders, translators are needed, notices need to be sent out in multiple languages. Flyers don't help if people can not read. One on one contact needed.

Concern about acquisition and condemnation were a priority. History of eminent domain is not good. People want the city to replace like for like. There needs to be more education about hostile and friendly condemnation. The goal is to find willing sellers rather than condemnation and treat people fairly in acquisition. There needs to be more citizen involvement before acquisition. Community participation can help prevent bad design too. It is such a big issue the Lents Acquisition Committee has had 40 meetings developing guidelines. Condemnation removed from Kenton because people wanted that. But some fear neighborhood will be held hostage by strip club owner property.

Several site specific issues were raised. N/NE Portland is saturated with economic development programs. Concern raised that the Albina neighborhood Plan had a problem with people being told what neighborhoods can not have in a location. Concern raised about property values around PCC, that they still have eminent domain, and displacing apartments and homeowners along Alberta.

## **Parks Vision 20/20 Plan**

**Presenters:** Jim Francesconi, Commissioner, City of Portland  
Kirky Doble, SW Neighborhoods, Inc. Parks Committee

Commissioner Francesconi discussed the current state of the park system and talked about the problems and issues facing the system and potential recommendations for addressing them. Participants were referred to read Discussion Draft of the Parks 20/20 Vision Plan and to forward comments to Parks Bureau by April 15.

Kirky Doble described the success of the the Southwest Neighbors, Inc. Parks Committee to develop a process for neighborhood outreach and long-range planning to benefit the parks in the area. She agreed to help neighborhoods that want to organize groups advocating for neighborhood park needs. She suggested that each neighborhood association form a stewardship group to champion individual parks.

The group recommended: Each District Coalition would be well served to develop a Parks and Recreation Committee to address and advocate for its area's park and recreation needs and further that each Neighborhood Association within a District should be approached to select a strong delegate to the District Coalition Parks and Recreation Committee to ensure that all areas of the City are represented in the planning and delivery of park and recreation needs.

## **New Rules for Liquor Licenses in your Neighborhood**

**Presenters:** Joane Ferrero, Central Eastside Industrial Council  
Mira Ames, Kerns Neighborhood Association

The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the recent changes to the liquor licensing process and how neighborhood associations are responding to the new timeline. Issues discussed included:

- an overview of the 30 day City process.
- brief review of status on legislation relating to noise and liquor establishments (House Bill 2456).
- presentation of overall process and giving testimony at the OLCC.
- discussion on the mixed results seen on the impact testimony/neighbor opposition has on a license.
- statement that the OLCC does not officially recognize the impact areas designated by the City.
- discussion of good neighbor agreements and their positive or negative impact.

The group was interested in further discussion on the issues presented and particularly how the neighborhoods can have an impact on the process. There was discussion on the positive impact of establishing an alcohol subcommittee in the neighborhood associations and how it can benefit prompt response within the 30 day time limit. Would like to see further development on how to effectively use good neighbor agreements and how to get the OLCC to designate alcohol impact areas.

## **Keeping Up the Neighborhood and Fighting Neighborhood Nuisances**

**Presenters:** Gayland German, Hazelwood NA  
Arlene Kimura, Hazelwood NA

The purpose of the workshop was to share some of the creative solutions to stopping neighborhood property nuisances, including drug houses, junk piles and commercial and auto sales in yards developed by the Hazelwood Neighborhood Association.

The neighborhood association created two documents. The first was the Neighborhood Upkeep Resources document for neighbors to use in obtaining assistance on nuisance issues. This sheet educates people on bureau functions, provides phone numbers, and some advisory comments from the citizen point of view. Examples included contact numbers for reporting abandoned autos, code violations, housing inspections and parking violations. Neighbors were encouraged to give city bureaus accurate and timely information, to follow-up and to be politely insistent. The second document, the Neighborhood Upkeep Issue Record, was created to help neighbors track relevant information about a typical upkeep issue they are seeking to clear up in their neighborhood. It can be faxed to the appropriate city bureau to begin the inspection process. Copies of the documents can be obtained from Peter DeYoe at (503) 252-1594.

## **A Neighborhood Congress for Portland?**

**Presenter:** Bruce Sternberg, Eastmoreland Neighborhood Association

This workshop drew the most people and most attention at the summit. Some of the key issues that arose regarding why have a Neighborhood Congress included:

- Provide a unified voice to speak to city.
- Strengthening our connection to city government.
- Providing political advocacy.
- Be a voice on funding issues.
- This could integrate neighborhoods and business associations.
- Builds unity among coalitions to focus on 3 or so top priority issues each year.
- An opportunity to share info with each other and act together for more power.
- Focus on long-term view of city wide policy issues.
- Use as a tool to get more citizens involved.

Some logistical issues that were raised include:

- How often would it meet? Quarterly, once a year, etc.
- What would voting membership look like?
- How to make it truly inclusive of neighborhood residents.
- What would committee structure look like?
- Not overloading citizen time commitment.
- The role of neighborhood coalitions viz a viz congress.

- What are technical tools, group website/list serves to facilitate communication.
- Sub-committees develop positions. Publicize position papers via city-wide circulation.
- How to involve other governments – Metro, County, State, etc.

Discussion included viewpoints about how close to be related to ONI. Some felt there needed to be absolute independence/independent political force to be influential to city government. There was disagreement over whether city funding would be important or not. Perhaps ONI can act as secretary office only to remove burden of conflict.

Other issues raised include how to build off of existing institutional structures that are working such as the coalitions and resources. Representatives would likely be elected at the neighborhood level. We need to allow for non-coalition neighborhoods too. Need to recognize existing communication and organizational problems will still likely exist. Commissioner Saltzman said he was interested in the idea of the congress.

## **Transit Oriented Development: What Have We Learned?**

**Presenters:** Pamela Alegria, Willamette Pedestrian Coalition  
 Jim Howell, Hollywood Neighborhood Association  
 Guenevere Millius, Pearl District NA.

The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the role of transit oriented development in Portland and determine if it is working out as described. There was agreement about the need to find ways to encourage developers and business owners to invest in poor neighborhoods slated for transit oriented development. Some felt that transit oriented development in Portland was done too haphazardly and that it is important to strike a balance between attracting development and meeting neighborhood needs such as grocery stores.

Other concerns expressed included:

- The need for positive design guidelines to ensure compatibility with the existing neighborhood.
- Improving bus service in conjunction with light rail.
- The need to make mass transit less polluting.
- Find ways to make big box stores transit and neighborhood friendly.
- Make transit centers easy and safe to use.
- Protect transit lines from surface parking.
- Increase hours of service for all mass transit and improve connections between MAX and buses.
- There need to multiple centers of service. Not everyone wants to go downtown.

## **Rising Housing Costs and Stopping the Cycle of Displacement**

**Presenters:** Amy Dudley, Kerns Target Area Project & SEUL  
Hop Hopkins, Community Alliance of Tenants  
Sylvia Evans, POWER and Humboldt Neighborhood Association

The purpose of the workshop was to provide information on current efforts to stabilize communities and help empower low-income residents to prevent displacement as housing costs continue to rise and wages remain low. The discussion acknowledged the many complexities that the topic of gentrification and displacement encompasses, including disparate impacts relative to income, race, and age. Efforts to stop displacement range from educating low-, middle- and high-income people to advocating for particular policies. It was agreed that an essential step in stopping displacement is the organization of communities to develop individual strategies appropriate to their neighborhood and their needs. Participants in the workshop expressed a desire to learn more about particular strategies that could stop displacement. Individuals felt that though they wanted to encourage efforts to stop displacement and support low-income people, they were not aware of how they could do this and what policies or activities they should be advocating for.

### **Resources:**

- "Displacement Prevention in the Interstate Urban Renewal Area" outlines strategies for preventing and coping with displacement and strategies for preserving and increasing affordable housing. Community Development Network (CDN), 503-335-9884.
- Renters' Rights Hotline: 503-288-0130, Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT)

## **Turning Down the Volume in the Neighborhood: Summary from the Noise Control Task Force**

**Presenters:** Aviva Groner, Northwest District Association  
Susan Pearce, Hosford-Abernathy Neighborhood Association  
Betsy Radigan, Piedmont Neighborhood Association

The workshop provided an opportunity for people to meet with neighborhood representatives who are serving on the Noise Control Task Force, appointed by City Council to explore the issues related to noise in the City of Portland and provide recommendations to the Noise Review Board and City Council for updating the city code. Draft copies of the task force report and recommendations were available.

Some people had questions concerning the process for making complaints about noise and the city's response. Currently noise control in Portland is complaint driven and there is only one noise officer for the entire city. Neighbors were encouraged not to give up but to continue filing complaints. One of the draft recommendations would change to code to make the police responsible for responding for neighbor-to neighbor complaints (car stereos, music from homes or businesses, car alarms etc.) in hopes of improving speed of response and enforcement.

Attendees also expressed concern that the process for accelerated variance hearings does not allow sufficient time for neighborhood boards to receive notice and provide input; and questioned whether variances should even be allowed. The noise code is reasonable so why allow exceptions? Copies of the Noise Control Task Force Report can be obtained by calling (503) 823-7350; email at [noise@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:noise@ci.portland.or.us) or check the web site at [www.opdr.ci.portland.or.us/noise/taskforce.htm](http://www.opdr.ci.portland.or.us/noise/taskforce.htm).



## **The State of Portland's Transportation System**

**Presenter:** Vic Rhodes, Director of Portland Office of Transportation

Vic Rhodes, Director of the Portland Office of Transportation (PDOT), led a discussion with neighborhood activists on key long term funding issues for Portland's transportation system. PDOT is considering a street maintenance and improvement fee based on a nationally recognized model. It contains estimates of the average number of vehicle trips generated based upon how a property is used and its size. A single-family residence would be assessed a monthly fee of \$2.00. Multifamily residences would be assessed \$1.21 a month. Assessments for non-residential structures would range from \$40.00 a month for a school to \$1600.00 a month for a large hotel. Over a five-year period, about \$65 million would be raised. These resources would be used to fund a multitude of services and projects all across the city that Portland residents and businesses have identified.

Portland's transportation system is stressed by heavy use as vehicle miles traveled have increased and the infrastructure is in need of repair. Portland's share of state gas revenue has decreased over the past five years. This combination of heavy use and inadequate gas tax revenues has led to deterioration in the condition of Portland's streets, signal systems and bridges. PDOT believes the Street Maintenance and Improvement Fee system is the fairest way to raise the resources needed to take care of our transportation system.

# **Summary of Evaluations**

90% felt the workshops and topics were good to excellent.

90% felt the facilities were good to excellent.

80% felt the food and beverages were good to excellent.

80% gave the event a rating of good to excellent.

## **What did you like best about the summit?**

The most popular aspect of the summit was the networking opportunities that allowed neighborhood activists to meet each other and share experiences. The second most popular aspect was the ability to talk with the City Commissioners. Attendees also liked the variety of workshops, the upbeat atmosphere and the information tables.

## **What could have been improved about the summit?**

The majority of attendees wanted more time for networking and group discussions. There was a preference expressed to have training on how to involve youth and schools in the neighborhoods. Attendees also wanted more time for Q &A with the Commissioners, fewer workshops because it made choosing too hard, and more specific instruction for workshop facilitators to help keep the workshops focused and on topic. Many people expressed concern that the plenary session was truncated. They wanted to finish up with citywide goals.

Several people felt the location was not central enough and was not easy to access by transit. Many agreed that it was too cold in the morning. There were several suggestions to tape all the sessions. Other suggestions included: bags to put handouts into; have paper and pencils available; improve the sound system, and maps of the neighborhood system available.

## **What topics would you like to see addressed in the future?**

Again, training to improve youth and school involvement in neighborhoods topped the list. Other topics considered important were: asset mapping, building web sites and other e-based communication; developing partnerships with business districts, more information on urban renewal, homeless issues, fundraising techniques, improving the connections between neighborhoods, coalitions and ONI.

## **Other comments suggestions**

Increase diversity, ethnic, age etc.; conduct an all day session to accommodate more workshops and networking opportunities; get more people involved; have a wrap-up session and develop citywide goals; pre-register for workshops; have informal time for people to talk with the commissioners; have a panel discussion of neighborhood folks.

# Contact List of Participants

*Participants at the Neighborhood Summit on March 3, 2001. Some people did not sign in.*

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Pool	David	Kerns Neighborhood Association	949 NE 31st Ave. Portland OR 97232	H:(503) 233-4643		pooldavid@hotmail.com
Powell	Jerry	Goose Hollow Foothills League	1441 SW Harrison St. Portland OR 97201	H:(503) 222-7173	(503) 222-6026	psu01696@pdx.edu
Pung	R.H. Rob		PO Box 37 Gresham OR 97030	H:(503) 491-9600		bobmo@hevanet.com
Purdy	Donna	Jefferson Caring Community	P.O. Box 11452 Portland OR 97211	W:(503) 284-0929	(503) 916-2698	dmpurdy@teleport.com
Radabaugh	Jack	Eugene Neighbors, Inc.	1361 Luella St. Eugene OR 97401	H:(541) 344-9220		jradabaugh@home.com
Radigan	Betsy	Piedmont Neighborhood Association	37 NE Morgan Portland OR 97211	H:(503) 286-4011		bjr86@juno.com
Redlich	David	Homestead Neighborhood Association	3944 SW Condor Ave. Portland OR 97201	H:(503) 228-1948	(503) 228-8447	
Rhodes	Victor	City of Portland, Office of Transportation Eng & Dev	106/800	W:(503) 823-7678		vic.rhodes@trans.ci.portland.or.us
Rice	Harvey	Vernon Neighborhood Association	5050 NE 14th Avenue Portland OR 97211-4402	H:(503) 331-6922 W:(503) 287-3135		hrrare2@uswest.net
Riis	Anne-Elizabet	City of Portland, Bureau of Planning	299/4100	W:(503) 823-6029		ariis@ci.portland.or.us
Roberts	Everett	Hayden Island Neighborhood Network	612 N Hayden Bay Portland OR 97217	H:(503) 285-8802		
Rossi	Paulette	Parkrose Neighborhood Association	3710 NE 147th Ave. Portland OR 97230	H:(503) 253-6303		
Saltzman	Dan	City of Portland, Office of Commissioner Saltzman	131/230	W:(503) 823-4151		dsaltzman@ci.portland.or.us
Sardo	Jordana	Parkrose Neighborhood Association	4320 NE 88th Portland OR 97220	H:(503) 255-5776		jsardo60@hotmail.com
Shepard	Amanda	City of Portland, Office of Neighborhood Involvement	131/110	W:(503) 823-5136		ashepard@ci.portland.or.us

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company/Neigh Assoc</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Fax</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	
Sieber	Mark	Neighbors West/Northwest	1819 NW Everett, Room 205 Portland OR 97209		(503) 223-5308	mark@nwnw.org
Slapikas	Ellen	Corbett/Terwilliger/Lair Hill Neighborhood Associa		W:(503) 223-3331		
Slapikas	Marty	Corbett/Terwilliger/Lair Hill Neighborhood Associa	PO Box 69567 Portland OR 97201	H:(503) 228-5993 W:(503) 228-6101	(503) 228-6101	slapikas@uswest.net
Small	Dan	South Tabor Neighborhood Association	8105 SE Powell, Apt. 30 Portland OR 97206	H:(503) 771-7368		dsmall@teleport.com
Smith	Chris	Northwest District Association	2343 NW Pettygrove St. Portland OR 97210	H:(503) 223-3688 W:(503) 685-3020	(503) 213-5925	chrisrm@easystreet.com
Smith	Fred	Sabin Community Association	3728 NE 18th Ave. Portland OR 97212	H:(503) 281-2600		sfred3@qwest.net
Sternberg	Bruce	Eastmoreland Neighborhood Association	7134 SE 34th Ave. Portland OR 97202	H:(503) 788-6846 W:(503) 224-5206	(503) 243-4620	sternarc@realarc.com
Stevens	Len	Goose Hollow Foothills League	834 SW St. Clair Ave. Portland OR 97205	H:(503) 295-2166		lsshart@ix.netcom.com
Stewart	Paul	City of Portland, Office of Neighborhood Involvement	131/110		(503) 823-3050	pstewart@ci.portland.or.us
Stoll	Alison	Central Northeast NeighborsArgay Neighborhood Association	5540 NE Sandy Blvd. Portland OR 97213-3430		(503) 823-3159	cnn123@teleport.com
Stoll	Wayne	Argay Square Century Associates	PO Box 13327 Portland OR 97213	W:(503) 284-1921	(503) 284-9599	
Stovel	Fred	Rose City Park Neighborhood Association	3125 NE 52nd Ave Portland OR 97213	H:(503) 281-5589		stovel@aol.com
Sublett	Mike	West Hills Intermodal MagicSylvan-Highlands Neighborhood	1244 SW Upland Dr. Portland OR 97221	H:(503) 226-3839 W:(503) 226-3839		sublett@hotmail.com
Sumner	Ron	Brentwood/Darlington Neighborhood Association	7211 SE 62nd Ave., Portland OR 97206	(503) 774-7291	(503) 771-9327	rmsumner1@juno.com
Swafford	Karen	Collins View Neighborhood Association	9220 SW 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. Portland, OR 97219-4812	H:(503) 245-7858 W:(503) 245-8093		kswaff@agora.rdrop.com
Taylor	Glenn	Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association	12335 SE Steele Portland OR 97236	H:(503) 761-2855	(503) 257-4333	
Ueland	Bob	Hollywood Neighborhood Association	12001 NE Stanton Portland OR 97220	H:(503) 257-6503 W:(503) 249-6921	(503) 288-9955	

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company/Neigh Assoc</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Fax</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	
Ussher-Groff	Elizabeth	Woodstock Neighborhood Association	4205 SE Ramona Portland OR 97206	H:(503) 774-2397		egroff@linfield.edu
Vuch	Bill	Community Association of Portsmouth (The)				
Walker	Betty	Sabin Community Association	3124 NE 17th Ave. Portland OR 97212	H:(503) 281-1768		
Weigant	John	Bridgeton Neighborhood Association	429 N. Bridgeton Rd. # B Portland OR 97217	H:(503) 289-7470 W:(503) 231-6565	(503) 231-6573	jaweigant@aol.com
Westgate	Martha	CENTER Neighborhood Association	233 SE 45th Portland OR 97215	H:(503) 233-0147		
White	Chris	Port of Portland	121 NW Everett Portland OR 97209	W:(503) 944-7056		whitec@portptld.com
White	Jeffrey		7404 N. Wayland Ave. Portland OR 97203	H:(503) 703-7581		jswexpress@aol.com
Wilson	Joanna	Montavilla Community Association	8045 SE Morrison St. Portland OR 97215	H:(503) 253-3845		
Woo	Christopher	Neighbors West/Northwest	1819 NW Everett Street, #205 Portland OR 97209-2189	W:(503) 223-3331	(503) 223-5308	chrisw@nwnw.org
Woodruff	Aleta	Madison South Neighborhood Association	2143 NE 95th Pl. Portland OR 97220	H:(503) 252-8564		