

April 30 NWDA meeting

*health + env. committee*

In general, the meeting was held to discuss the status of our grassroots "bucket brigade" project during which residents will take air quality samples when they smell bad smells. The samples will be sent to independent labs. In addition, we will be working with the DEQ on a related air quality monitoring project during which the DEQ will install monitors in the neighborhood.

Bob Admunson described his "bucket brigade" project. He is waiting to hear the status of his grant proposal.

We'll get enough information out of this project to identify the chemicals we are exposed to when we smell the bad smells, Bob said.

Sharon described a meeting with the DEQ at which the committee members and DEQ chose sites for monitoring with the DEQ monitors. This project we hope will take place at the same time as the bucket brigade project so we can compare results.

EPA has 30 samplers that we might be able to use in our monitoring project.

Sharon said the committee plans to work with the DEQ's title Five permit granter to ensure we can provide input into Esco's Title V permit application.

We have at least two new members who have lived in the neighborhood for nearly 30 years and tell us the smells and the noise have been a problem for as long as they have lived here.

NORTHWEST DISTRICT ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA  
MAY 21, 1974

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call: verification of quorum present  
required for conduct of business at annual meeting
3. Reading of minutes from April 1974 General Meeting
4. Reports and Announcements
  - A. Treasurer's Report
  - B. Annual Report
  - C. Nominating Committee Report
  - D. Other Reports: TRI-MET, N.W. Fair
5. New Business: Election of Officers and Board Members
6. Old Business: Report on Northwest Comprehensive Plan  
Alternatives
7. Program: Discussion on Tax Ballot Measure #2  
by Rep. Vera Katz and Jack Kalinoski,  
Public Affairs Mgr. for A.G.C.
8. Adjournment

It was resolved by the Board of Directors to produce a documentation, reporting the status of the Association to the General Membership covering the period of tenure from June 1973 to May 1974, in order to enumerate the accomplishments of the Northwest District Association during the past office year, and to identify the issues and directions which the outgoing Board considered to be meritorious for continued consideration and pursuit, thereby providing a summary which might prove helpful to the incoming officers and Board for the following year. This document is the result of a collective effort, prepared with the hope that it may set a precedent for other Executive Boards in the following years of our neighborhood association.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Currently Active Projects and Issues

THE NORTHWEST COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Maximum energy and effort has been and should continue to be directed towards the adoption and implementation of ALL of the elements of THE PLAN. Thus far, too much emphasis has been directed to zoning aspects, to the detriment of other elements such as Human Resources and Housing goals. Although the Portland City Planning Commission has related favorably to THE PLAN, it has elected not to consider the Human Resources goals. Yet it is from the wellsprings of these goals that the <sup>rationale of the</sup> rest of the Comprehensive Plan is formulated, as it defines the desired life style of the Northwest District, thereby setting the stage for the <sup>derivation of the</sup> remainder of our plan for community livability. Subsequently, every effort should be made to have the Human Resources goals adopted and implemented.

I-505

Unfortunately, the freeway issue has not been finally settled, although the Portland City Council did vote unanimously to accept the Alternative #4, Short Yeon, corridor. Since then, the State of Oregon Transportation Commission has given favorable consideration to Alternative #3, Long Yeon, as an elevated passageway and has asked the City Council to reconsider its decision. It is recommended that the NWDA give continued support to the Long Yeon corridor, as was our original intent, on the basis that it would be the best transportation solution on a long-term cost basis and would have the least detrimental impact on the community at large. NWDA suggests the following policy recommendations with respect to the final design of I-505:

- 1) The corridor should be routed north from the Fremont Bridge to Nicolai Street and Yeon Avenue so that in no way the traffic be deposited inside the northwest residential area en route.
- 2) Up-to-date progress communication should be maintained with the City Transportation Coordinator, Mr. Bill Dirker.
- 3) Insistence on adherence to "Northbound Decision" passed by Portland City Council on January 31, 1974.
- 4) Support for elevated (if feasible) construction of the Long Yeon corridor, in order to:
  - a) relieve traffic pressure on residential neighborhood areas, such as Chapman School;
  - b) improve direct access of trucks and explosive carriers to circumvent the Guild's Lake area;
  - c) build the COMPLETE LINK to Kittridge Avenue;
  - d) create the safest physical facility against vehicular and pedestrian traffic hazards.

## REHABILITATION OF THE THURMAN-VAUGHN CORRIDOR

It is strongly recommended that this project become a priority concern for the Association during the coming year, with housing and city beautification as the major issues for this area, which is an integral part of the Northwest District as included in the Draft Northwest Comprehensive Plan. It is recommended that the NWDA endeavor to work closely with the agencies existing in the community and the city in bringing about a rejuvenation for the area. Consequently, direct and continuing contact should be maintained with Friendly House, The Northwest Pilot Project, The Housing Authority of Portland, The Portland City Planning Commission, The Portland Development Commission, and the Departments of Housing and Urban Development, Health Education and Welfare, with special attention to the social service organizations engaged in the pursuit of better livability in the Northwest District. A coalition of private interests and governmental agencies would be most helpful to the redevelopment of this area and should be actively personal, since the success of redevelopment will depend in large part on the initiative of private capital as the dependence upon Federal aid has become increasingly more difficult.

## TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION

The traffic problem in the Northwest District needs constant attention and vigilance so long as city, county and regional policies permit land use decisions inducing people to live at great distances from their places of employment, and is fast resulting in our community resulting in a conduit for suburban traffic from home to office, especially to employment centers located in Guild's Lake, Linnton and Industrial Northwest Portland. There is a growing realization that if the Northwest District is to survive as a

residential and small business area serving families and residents of all ages, it cannot continue to bear the brunt of through traffic in ever increasing volume, which would ultimately result in the destruction of A NEIGHBORHOOD, in the splitting apart of a communal group of citizens who for years have taken pride in their community and their city, reducing them to a "stop-in-the-road" status dangerous to pedestrians.

It is recommended that the Trafficways section of the Northwest Comprehensive Plan be implemented with the following recommendations:

- 1) Hold fast to the goals which protect and enhance the living and working conditions for the Northwest area residents and business people.
- 2) Maintain vigilant communication with the City Traffic Engineering Office.
- 3) Be affirmative in reducing through traffic flows by providing periferal routes such as I-505, I-405, 14th and 16th Avenue couplets, and Nicolai and Vaughn with local truck access.
- 4) Maintain affirmative communication with Good Samaritan Hospital staff for mutual aid in resolving traffic flow.
- 5) Retain ON-STREET parking on all NW area streets.
- 6) Monitor traffic increases on Cornell Road as a result of 29th Avenue closure, thereby encouraging turn lane arrangements on Lovejoy Street.
- 7) Pressure installation of stop signs on 25th Avenue at Pettygrove and Raleigh Streets.

TRI-MET: Continuous community support of EAST-WEST Transfer and other lateral bus lines.

NWDA Board Member and other members of NW community should be present at all Tri-Met meetings to encourage total concept of lateral bus lines as a continuing benefit for mass transportation.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Projects and Issues of Continuing Importance

THE CHICHESTER CASE

The NWDA has joined the Courthouse Condominium Home Owners' Assn. in a legal suit against the Portland City Council centered around the Council's decision to grant a Conditional Use Permit allowing a C2 usage in an AO zone located on the Southeast corner of 17th Avenue and Irving Street. The case, pending court action at this time, is an example where the Association did not take "family action" and appear before the Council when the request was being considered. It must be remembered, however, that the NWDA did take action in the SECURITY BANK zone change request in the area of NW 21st Avenue, Davis and Couch Streets and was successful in preventing a zone change from Residential to Commercial, thereby saving approximately 50 dwelling units for residential use, preventing desecration of a predominantly residential and tree-laden area in the heart of the community.

GOOD SAMARITAN REDEVELOPMENT

This program requires continuous monitoring. Principal areas of concern are pedestrian access across the Marshall Street closure and the impact of the new hospital facilities on the pedestrian environment along 23rd Avenue and Lovejoy Street. Contact should be maintained with Clare Siddall, Assistant Admstr.

ZONE CHANGE REQUESTS TO BE MONITORED

- 1) Forest Park Estates, with respect of the impact of an additional traffic load on Northwest streets, particularly from a flow from Cornell Road creating a possible bottleneck on Lovejoy.
- 2) Development of the old St. Vincent's Hospital site, with regard for support from the NWDA for a zone change on one corner of the property by the Westover Land Corporation controlled by Mitchell Drake and Robert Aldag.

- 3) Request from AO Residential to C2 Commercial on a portion of land for expansion of offices of the Donald M. Drake Construction Company. NWDA has been notified by the Portland Planning Commission Committee that the request has been deferred until adoption of the NW Comprehensive Plan

NORTHWEST TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

1974 marks the second year of street tree planting by the City of Portland for neighborhood beautification. All efforts should be made to expand the program for the following year, as there should be more trees available. The trees are free with a minimum charge for cases where concrete cuts must be made. Vic Sabin should be contacted for 1973-1974 records.

NWDA GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT:

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS PROGRAM

The Northwest District Association has been designated as one of seven neighborhood organizations in the Northwest District and Goose Hollow Area to receive funding from the City of Portland to defray maintenance expenses. There are plans for a full-time coordinator and communications assistance. Details of the program are being worked out and the organizations in question should be notified in the near future. Any questions should be directed to the Director of Neighborhood Organizations, Bureau of Public Affairs, City Hall.

Much of the future of the NWDA as to the management of internal AND external affairs rests with the implementation of the Neighborhood Associations Program. The Association will have to plot a new course in light of the provisions of the newly formed program, and at this point, the task will fall upon the incoming officers and Executive Board. At the



present time, the neighborhood organizations from our community have been recognized by the Bureau of Neighborhood Organizations:

- Friends of Forest Park
- Goose Hollow Foothills League
- Hillside Neighborhood
- Northwest District Association
- Northwest Improvement Committee
- Northwest Industrial Neighborhood Association
- Willamette Heights Neighborhood Association

#### NWDA VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

At present, about two dozen people are actively engaged in this program, keeping our office at 817 NW 23rd open from 10AM to 2PM six days a week. None of them get paid. All of them are devoted to our community, and give what time they have to answer questions by telephone or in person to people with problems who just drop in.

A volunteer coordinator is needed to insure that the staffing level is maintained and that the volunteers are instructed properly in office procedure. The coordinator should be able to have the time and patience to help reorganize the office files, to help the NWDA Secretary, and to have a natural inclination towards Public Relations. Hopefully, staffing of the office will be able to carry on through June 22nd. It should be understood that even with NWDA funding, the volunteer program is a necessary part of the Association. The NWDA wants people who have the time and want to help carry on our neighborhood association. Without the people of the community, the NWDA is nothing; it is the people who make it work.

Respectfully submitted,

Edgar E. Storms  
President, 1973-1974