



PARKROSE COMMUNITY PLAN

Plan Overview

Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission

July 26, 2022

Funding from an ODOT TGM Grant



THE BUREAU OF
**PLANNING &
SUSTAINABILITY**

PBOT
PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION



Plan Background

- State TGM Grant – Sandy Blvd a state highway
- Context of residential displacement and lack of economic opportunity for BIPOC residents
- Community interest in going beyond transportation to address a range of community issues
- Use community-led approaches that center communities of color



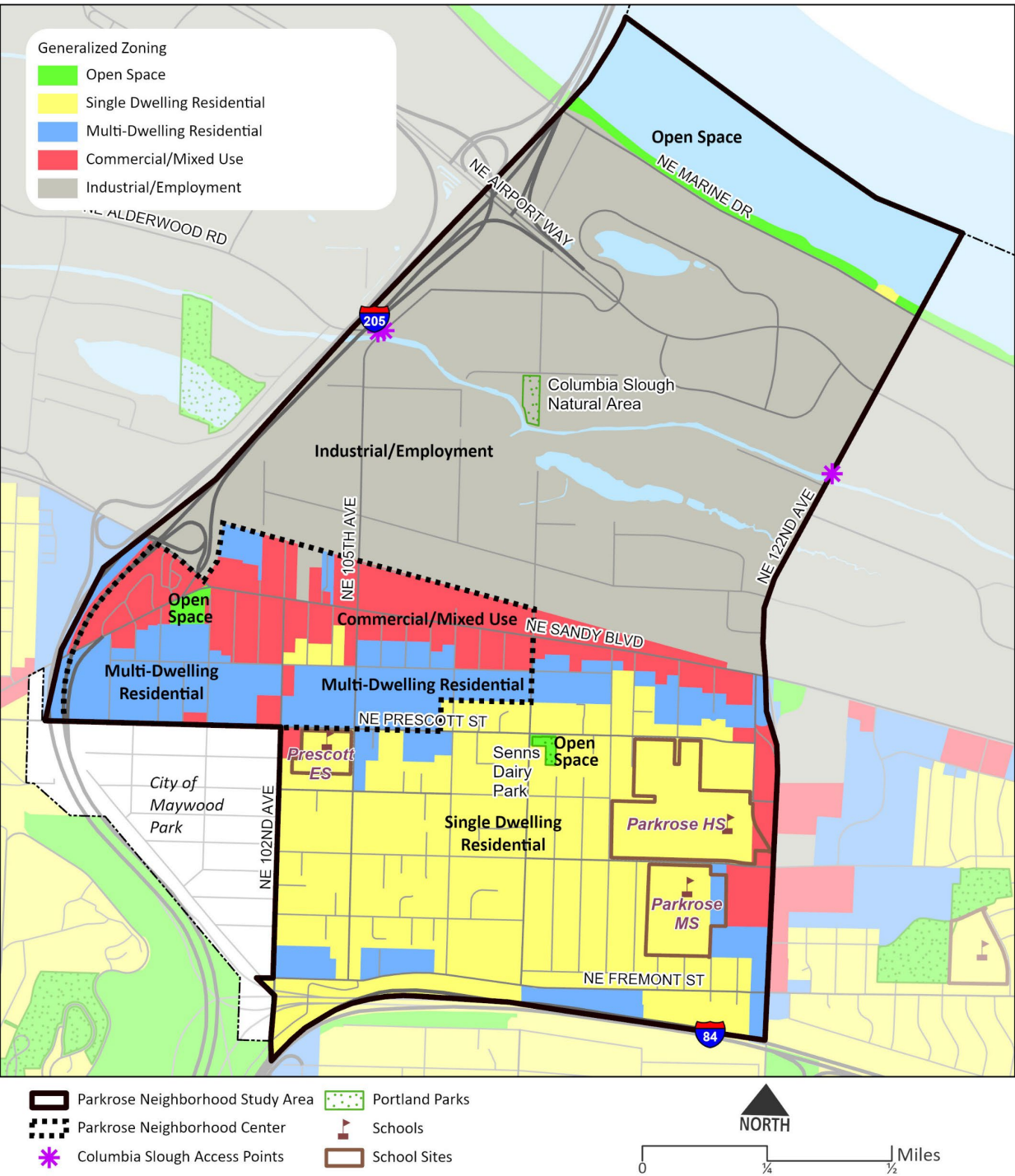


Purpose of the Plan

- Community led-effort to address Parkrose issues:
 - Housing affordability and displacement
 - Access to jobs
 - Small business opportunities
 - Transportation safety
 - Community spaces and access to nature
 - Emergency preparedness
- Make clear to City what actions the community would like to see happen
- Resource for community advocacy, action, and partnership building

Zoning & Land Uses

- Half of area has employment/industrial zoning (8,500 jobs)
- Parkrose Neighborhood Center focused on Sandy Boulevard (broad area of commercial and multi-dwelling zoning).
- Rossi Farms – large future development site (30 acres) to east of Parkrose Middle School.



Community Engagement

Led by Historic Parkrose



The poster features a large green film reel icon on the left. At the top right, there are three logos: a green circular logo with three dots, a logo for 'OUTSIDE THE FRAME' with a camera icon, and a logo for 'PARKROSE' with a horse head. The main text is in large green letters: 'PARKROSE FILM SCREENING'. Below this, it says 'ft. Outside the Frame: Raising Awareness on Homelessness, Community Care, and Youth Programs'. At the bottom, it says 'RSVP & TO FIND MORE INFO: TINYURL.COM/PARKROSEFILM'. On the left side, there is a vertical list of details: 'SAT, MAY 29', '7 PM TO 9 PM', 'AT PARKROSE HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER FIELD', and '60 FREE TICKETS AVAILABLE'.

SAT, MAY 29
7 PM TO 9 PM
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PARKROSE FILM SCREENING

ft. Outside the Frame:
Raising Awareness on
Homelessness, Community
Care, and Youth Programs

RSVP & TO FIND MORE INFO:
[TINYURL.COM/PARKROSEFILM](https://tinyurl.com/parkrosefilm)

- Youth Workshops and houseless youth film screening
- Adult Workshops
- Community Working Groups – separate groups for each plan topic
- Public Open Houses
- Community Decision Teams

Affordable Housing and Displacement

Issues

- **Housing costs** in Parkrose rising faster than Portland as a whole (up by 68 percent over the past 10 years)
- Renters having a hard time affording **family-sized housing**, creating family instability
- **Parkrose losing many of its people of color** (dropped from 43 to 35% over past 10 years)
- Nearly **9% of Parkrose High School students were houseless** during the 2021-22 school year



Affordable Housing and Displacement



Plan Objectives

- **Create more affordable housing options that meet people’s needs, including family housing.**
- **All Parkrose residents should be able to choose to remain in their neighborhood in healthy housing they can afford.**

Affordable Housing and Displacement



Plan Actions

- Work with affordable housing providers to **build new affordable housing**, including **ownership housing**
- Advocate for building **affordable housing on vacant lots and near the Parkrose Transit Center**
- Work with partners to **keep existing apartment buildings affordable**
- Include **affordable family housing in new development**, such as the Rossi Farms redevelopment
- Advocate for **regulations protecting renters**, especially renters of color
- Provide **safe shelters for houseless people**

Access to Jobs



Issues

- **Median income** in Parkrose is \$15,000 less than Portland as a whole, and median income for Black and Hispanic households are more than \$30,000 less
- **Parkrose youth** often don't know how to get started on pathways to jobs and careers
- There are many **middle-wage jobs in the nearby Columbia Corridor** employment district, but few Parkrose residents have jobs in this area

Access to Jobs



Plan Objectives

- **Connect youth to training, jobs and careers that serve as pathways to prosperity.**
- **Connect Parkrose residents to nearby job opportunities in the Columbia Corridor and to pathways to middle-wage employment.**

Access to Jobs

Plan Actions



- Create a **workforce development center**, providing training and connections to jobs
- Work with community partners on **connecting youth to job opportunities**, such as through:
 - Internships, mentorship, career counseling, and job connections
 - Programs for youth interested in manufacturing, trades, and climate related jobs
- **Connect adult residents to training and living wage employment opportunities**, through partnerships with schools, colleges, and area businesses

Home-Based and Small Businesses



Issues

- **Access to economic opportunity** in Parkrose lags Portland as a whole, especially for people of color.
- Assistance often needed in **starting and growing home-based businesses and other small businesses.**
- Parkrose residents want the **Historic Parkrose Main Street** to be a thriving place with a diversity of local businesses.

Home-Based and Small Businesses

Plan Objectives

- Support Parkrose residents in **starting and growing home-based businesses.**
- Support a **thriving Historic Parkrose business district** that serves the area's diverse communities and provides opportunities for local businesses to grow.



Home-Based and Small Businesses

Plan Actions

- Provide **services and resources for informal and formal home-based business owners** in a diversity of languages
- Create **shared, affordable rental spaces** for multiple small business owners
- Support **farmers markets, pop up marketplaces, a shared commercial kitchen** for food entrepreneurs – minority-owned businesses should be a key part of these initiatives
- Support **Historic Parkrose Main Street businesses** through networking, promotion, and a small business resources hub



Sandy Boulevard Safety



Issues

- Sandy Boulevard has many businesses and other destinations, but has **high amounts of traffic and few safe pedestrian crossings**, discouraging people from walking
- Sandy is one of Portland’s “High Crash Corridors”, with more than **300 crashes reported over a recent five-year period**. Many of the serious injuries involved people walking.

Sandy Boulevard Safety

Plan Objectives

- **Make Sandy Boulevard a safe place to travel for all modes of transportation**, with safe and convenient pedestrian crossings, improved intersections, better lighting, and other safety improvements.
- **Help Sandy Boulevard evolve into a Civic Corridor** by improving infrastructure to support businesses and other adjacent land uses and enhancing transit frequency, bus stop locations and amenities.



Sandy Boulevard Safety

Plan Actions



- **Add more signalized pedestrian crossings** to make it easier to cross the street, such as near NE 106th (at Parkrose Hardware) and at NE 115th
- **Improve dangerous intersections**
- **Upgrade street lighting**
- **Make it easier to get around by bus** by improving transit service, bus stop locations and amenities

Neighborhood Transportation Needs

Issues

- Parkrose **lacks sidewalks on most streets**, has several high-traffic streets (such as 102nd, Prescott, and Fremont) and **few bike facilities**. This limits people's ability to feel safe walking or bicycling to local destinations.
- There are **few trees along streets** providing shade on hot summer days



Neighborhood Transportation Needs

Plan Objectives

- **Make it safer and easier for people to walk or bicycle to community destinations**
- **Add trees and other green elements to streets to help reduce urban heat effects and improve the pedestrian environment**



Neighborhood Transportation Needs

Plan Actions



- **Construct sidewalks and pedestrian crossings and improve lighting** on busier streets, especially connections to schools, such as NE Shaver
- **Add or improve bicycle routes** on low-traffic streets to make it easier and safer to access places
- **Include street trees and other green features** as part of sidewalk improvements
- **Improve transit, bicycle, and pedestrian connections** to nearby employment areas north of Sandy Boulevard

Community Spaces and Access to Nature

Issues

- Half of Parkrose residents live more than a half mile from a **public park**
- The closest natural area is the **Columbia Slough**, but there are no public access points in the neighborhood
- Youth would like to have a **community center** or other safe community space where they can go after school, do homework, participate in activities, and get connected to job opportunities



Community Spaces and Access to Nature

Plan Objectives

- **Create community places** where people can recreate and gather close to where they live.
- **Foster connections to nature** through more trees and green elements and improving the Columbia Slough as a natural area that is accessible to the community.



Community Spaces and Access to Nature

Plan Actions

- Advocate for the creation of a **new park and a community center** for the Parkrose community
- Improve the **Columbia Slough** so that people can get to and use it and to improve habitat
- Create **community gathering spaces in the Sandy Boulevard business district** and as part of the Rossi Farms development
- Plant more **trees and green elements** along streets, and organize **community cleanups** in public spaces



Emergency Preparedness Issues



- The **Parkrose neighborhood is bounded on three sides** by freeways and the Columbia River with few connections through these barriers, potentially limiting access in a major disaster
- Many community members don't know what **local emergency resources** are available or how to access them
- **Parkrose community members want to be ready** for whatever emergency events may come, whether extreme heat or cold events, power outages, or a major earthquake

Emergency Preparedness

Plan Objectives

- **Foster Parkrose as a resilient community** that is prepared for extreme weather, earthquakes and other emergencies.
- **Connect Parkrose community members to emergency information and resources**, in ways that are accessible to people in a diversity of languages.



Emergency Preparedness Plan Actions



- **Improve infrastructure for emergencies**, including urgent care centers, fire station improvements, emergency information signs, cooling/warming shelters, and public power sources
- **Develop emergency communication resources**, such as an emergency preparedness plan, and support existing emergency services, such as the Argay-Parkrose NET team
- **Plant trees and other urban greenery** to reduce urban heat impacts
- Create a network that provides **ongoing emotional support services** for neighbors who have experienced trauma



Next Steps

- **Historic Parkrose / Community**

- Historic Parkrose initiatives
- Community advocacy

- **City / Government Agencies**

- Early implementation actions
- TriMet's Better Red project
- Guidance for future City projects, such as transportation projects when funding becomes available
- Lessons for community engagement, partnerships



How to view the plan

Go to the Historic Parkrose website

<https://historicparkrose.com/community-initiatives/community-plan/>

- Full Parkrose Community Plan
- Plan Summary (in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Lao, Amharic, Tigrinya)
- Transportation Safety Recommendations

Contacts

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