



Parkrose Community Plan

Final Report

June 2022



THE BUREAU OF
**PLANNING &
SUSTAINABILITY**

Historic Parkrose

Historic Parkrose led community work on the Parkrose Community Plan, with support from the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, the Portland Bureau of Transportation, and the Oregon Department of Transportation. Founded in 2012, Historic Parkrose is a Neighborhood Prosperity Initiative (NPI) that is committed to increasing social equity, economic opportunity, and safety in Portland's Parkrose neighborhood. Historic Parkrose offers storefront improvement grants, technical assistance and support to businesses located in our target area of 99th to 121st on Sandy Blvd, and fosters collaboration between our diverse neighbors, local businesses, and property owners.

The Historic Parkrose Board voted to accept the Parkrose Community Plan during their meeting on June 1, 2022.

LANGUAGE ACCESS

The City of Portland is committed to providing meaningful access.

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Traducere și interpretariat | Chiaku me Awewen Kapas |
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Acknowledgements

The Parkrose Community Plan was created through the contributions of community members, led by Historic Parkrose, and supported by the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, the Portland Bureau of Transportation, and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

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The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect views or policies of the State of Oregon.

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Parkrose Land Acknowledgement

We honor the Indigenous people whose ancestral lands we occupy: the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Clackamas, bands of the Chinook, Tualatin Kalapuya, Molalla and many other Tribes who made their homes along the Columbia River.

We thank the descendants of these Tribes for being the original stewards and protectors of these lands since time immemorial. We also acknowledge that Portland has the 9th largest Urban Native American population in the U.S. with over 380 federally recognized Tribes represented in the Urban Portland Metropolitan area.

We also acknowledge the systemic policies of genocide, relocation, and assimilation that still impact many Indigenous/Native American families today. It is important to always remember that colonialism is a current ongoing process, not only a historical artifact. We are honored by the collective work of many Native Nations, leaders and families who are and have always demonstrated resilience, resistance, revitalization, healing and creativity. We are honored to be guests upon these lands.

We also shoulder a responsibility to make sure Parkrose meaningfully includes Indigenous Parkrose community members and support making community programming relevant to their lives.



Parkrose Community Plan Area

The Parkrose Community Plan Area, which is the focus of the plan's actions, corresponds to the Parkrose neighborhood in Northeast Portland (shaded area above). The neighborhood is bounded by Interstate 84 to the south and Interstate 205 to the west. Marine Drive runs along the Columbia River at the northern edge. NE 122nd Ave runs along the eastern border of the neighborhood. Sandy Boulevard bisects the neighborhood. Some plan actions concern the Rossi Farms property located on both sides of NE 122nd Avenue at NE Shaver Street. Much of the Rossi Farms property is located outside the Parkrose neighborhood boundaries, within the Argay Terrace neighborhood, but it is included in the plan actions as it straddles the plan area boundary and is a key opportunity site for the area.

The Parkrose Community Plan is for all who live, work, go to school, or use the commercial or community services in this area. As used in this plan, the "Parkrose community" refers to all these people, not just residents of the neighborhood. The Historic Parkrose business district along Sandy Boulevard and the area's high school and middle school also serve residents of nearby areas outside the neighborhood boundaries and who are part of the mosaic of the Parkrose community. This inclusive concept of the Parkrose community also guided the community engagement for the plan.

Introduction

The Parkrose Community Plan was created by and for the Parkrose community to address topics important to the community, such as safe streets, affordable housing and displacement, access to jobs, small businesses, community spaces, and emergency preparedness. The Plan identifies solutions and actions to help solve issues confronting the Parkrose community, while building on the community's strengths.

The Parkrose neighborhood is a vibrant part of Portland with many community strengths, including a diversity of people and cultures, the Parkrose School District, and local organizations and businesses. However, there are also long-standing issues impacting the Parkrose community, including rising rents, the need for more living-wage jobs for students and their parents, unsafe conditions on Sandy Boulevard, the need for community gathering places, and the need to be better prepared for disasters and emergencies.

Communities of color and historically marginalized groups have often been most impacted by these issues, but were least involved in past plans. Historic Parkrose led community engagement for the plan, centering the perspectives and concerns of these impacted communities, while working toward actions that will benefit all of the Parkrose community. This community-led work was undertaken with support from the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS), the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT), and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Plan Objectives

The Parkrose Community Plan actions – the primary focus of this document – are intended to help achieve the following key objectives that emerged from community conversations about issues and needs, organized by the plan's seven major topics.

Affordable Housing and Displacement Prevention

- Create more affordable housing options, including family housing, that meet the needs of Parkrose's diverse households and communities.
- All Parkrose residents should be able to choose to remain in their neighborhood in healthy housing they can afford.

Access to Jobs

- Connect youth, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, to training, jobs and careers that serve as pathways to prosperity.
- Connect Parkrose residents to nearby job opportunities in the Columbia Corridor and elsewhere and to career paths that lead to middle-wage employment.

Home-Based Businesses and Small Businesses

- 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.

Sandy Boulevard Safety

- Make Sandy Boulevard a safe place to travel along or cross 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.

Neighborhood Transportation Needs

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

Community Spaces and Access to Nature

- 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.

Emergency Preparedness

- 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.

Plan Purpose – Moving Forward

The primary purpose of the Parkrose Community Plan is to promote actions to achieve these objectives. This is the community's plan and highlights actions they would like to see happen, but most of the actions are not funded and have not been approved by City decision makers or implementing agencies. Moving forward, the role of the plan will be to:

- Serve as a resource for community advocacy, action, and partnership building. Ultimately, it will be up to the Parkrose community to advocate and organize to make these actions a reality.
- Indicate to City bureaus and other public agencies what the Parkrose community would like to see happen in their community and help guide future projects and investments.

This is the Parkrose community's plan. Ultimately, it will be up to the Parkrose community to advocate and organize to make these actions a reality.

Creating the Plan

Historic Parkrose and its public agency partners worked with the community to identify issues and needs, discuss solutions, and to decide on implementing actions to include in the Parkrose Community Plan. Community engagement started with Parkrose youth – the future of Parkrose – and then moved on to a sequence of community engagement approaches that included in-depth discussions with people of color, focused discussions on each of the major project topics, public open houses that involved the broader Parkrose community, and community decision-making teams that decided what actions to include in the plan. The following summarizes these community engagement activities:

Youth workshops. A series of eight workshops were held March through May of 2021 that brought together Parkrose youth to discuss their concerns, needs, hopes, and ideas for the future. A final event was held in which youth presented their work to the community, attended by approximately 75 people.

Adult workshops. A series of five adult workshops were held from May through June of 2021. These workshops were focused discussions among people of color to discuss their experiences living or working in Parkrose, issues they faced, and improvements they would like to see in Parkrose.

Parkrose Film Screening was held on May 29, 2021, highlighting the art and aspirations of homeless youth.

Parkrose Community Plan Public Open Houses. An online public open house event was held on July 20, 2021, to engage the broader Parkrose community on sharing their thoughts on issues and opportunities they would like to have addressed in the Parkrose Community Plan. A sequence of two online public open houses were held April 2022 to share and invite feedback on the draft Parkrose Community Plan. Online surveys provided additional opportunities for the Parkrose community to provide input and informed refinements to the plan.

Community Working Groups. Five Community Working Groups (CWGs) met during the second half of 2021, organized around five major topics: Housing and Displacement, Jobs and Small Businesses, Transportation, Community Spaces and Access to Nature, and Emergency Preparedness. Each CWG focused on one of these topic areas, and were responsible for considering community input, discussing issues and opportunities, and making recommendations on solutions and implementing actions.

Community Decision Teams. A cross-topic Community Decision Team, composed of CWG participants, was convened to consider the CWG recommended actions and make the final decisions on what actions to include in the Parkrose Community Plan. A separate Sandy Boulevard Decision Team, composed of community members and transportation agency representatives, was convened to make recommendations on implementation actions for the Sandy Boulevard Safety topic.

Recommended Solutions documents, summarizing input from the workshops and other community engagement and providing more detail on the CWG's recommended solutions, are available online: <https://www.portland.gov/bps/planning/parkrose-community-plan/parkrose-community-plan-documents>

Issues

The following summarizes some of the major issues confronting the Parkrose community and that the actions in the Parkrose Community Plan are intended to help address. The actions sections of the plan include more about these issues.

- **Housing affordability and displacement.** The cost of homes in Parkrose has been rising faster than Portland as a whole, increasing by 68 percent over the past 10 years. During the same period, Parkrose has been losing many from its communities of color, with the percentage of people of color declining from 43 to 35 percent (the Black population declined especially steeply, from 16 to 7 percent).
- **Houselessness.** Nearly 9 percent of Parkrose High School students were homeless during the 2021-22 school year.
- **Incomes and economic opportunity.** The median household income in Parkrose is \$15,000 less than Portland as a whole, and median incomes for Black and Hispanic households are more than \$30,000 less. This is despite the proximity of the many well-paying jobs in the nearby Columbia Corridor employment district.
- **Sandy Boulevard safety.** Sandy Boulevard is designated as a high-crash street, with over 300 crashes reported over a recent five-year period – the majority of serious injuries involved people walking.
- **Neighborhood transportation.** Most local streets lack sidewalks and there are few bike facilities, limiting people’s ability to feel safe walking or bicycling to local destinations such as schools and businesses.
- **Community spaces and nature.** Half of Parkrose residents live more than a half mile from a public park and there is no improved access to a natural area.
- **Emergency preparedness.** The Parkrose neighborhood is bounded on three sides by freeways and the Columbia River with few connections through these barriers, potentially limiting the ability to access emergency services in the event of a major disaster. Many community members don’t know what emergency resources are available locally or how to access them.

Community safety is also a major concern for the Parkrose community, especially given recent gun violence in the area. Community safety is not a focus of this plan, as it is being addressed through broader community efforts. For the Parkrose Community Plan, community participants wanted to focus on root causes, such as improving youth access to opportunity and housing stability.

Detailed information on these issues can be found in a series of existing conditions reports available online: <https://www.portland.gov/bps/planning/parkrose-community-plan/parkrose-community-plan-documents>

Land Use Context

The following provides a brief overview of land uses and zoning patterns in the Parkrose Community Plan Area. These patterns play a key role in the issues and opportunities that are the basis of the plan’s actions. Parkrose zoning and land uses are divided into four major parts:

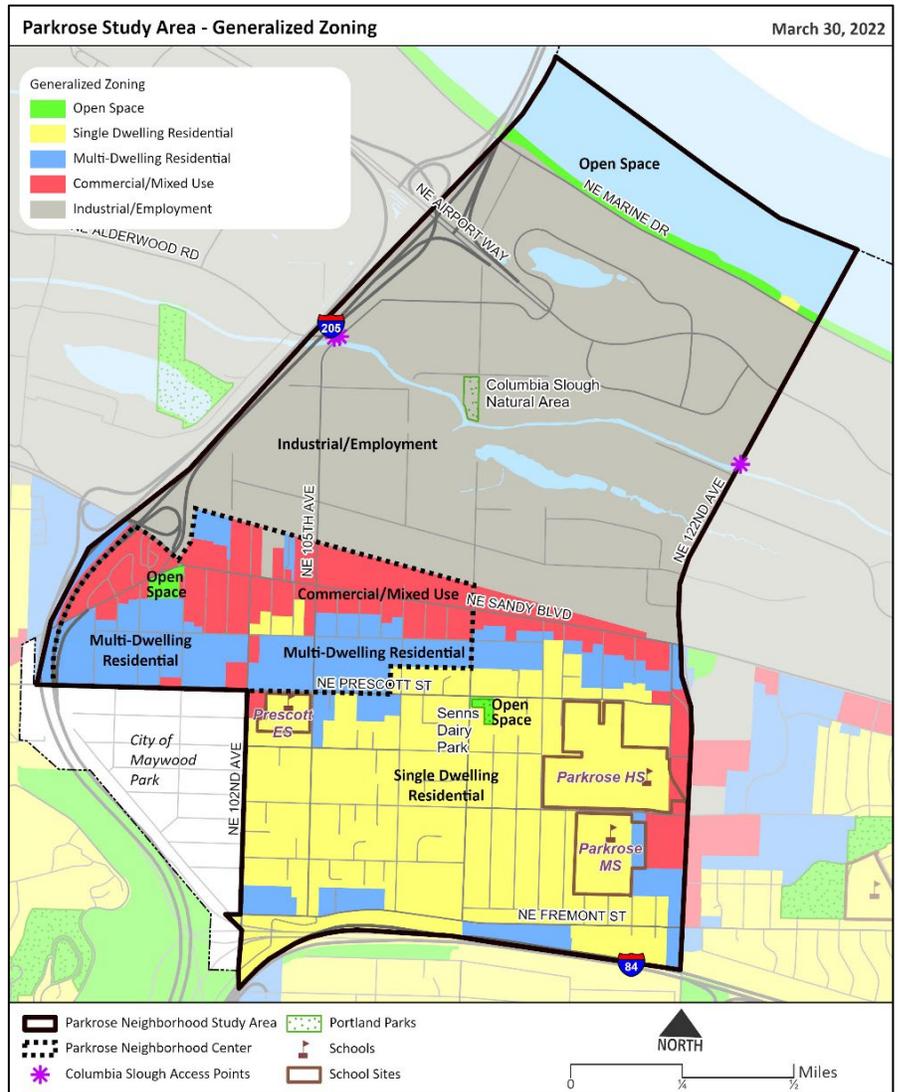
Industrial and Employment

zoning (gray) is located north of Sandy Blvd. This large area is located within the Columbia Corridor employment district and has the majority of the neighborhood’s jobs. Few other neighborhoods have so many jobs nearby.

Commercial/Mixed-Use zoning (red) is concentrated along Sandy Boulevard, with some also on 122nd. This includes the Historic Parkrose business district. This zoning also allows multi-dwelling residential uses.

Multi-dwelling zoning (blue) is primarily located north of NE Prescott, and is where most of the area’s affordable older apartment buildings are located.

Single-dwelling zoning (yellow) is mostly south of NE Prescott. This area primarily has detached houses, although recent zone changes allow small multi-unit buildings. This area also includes the neighborhood’s schools and its only public park.



A large portion of the neighborhood’s commercial/mixed-use and multi-dwelling zoning north of NE Prescott, including the business district along NE Sandy, is designated as the **Parkrose Neighborhood Center** (within dashed boundary on map). In Portland’s Comprehensive Plan, neighborhood centers are intended to serve as hubs for commercial and community services, to accommodate housing growth, and be places that are easy to get to by walking, biking and transit. This neighborhood center has concentrations of services, but lacks complete transportation infrastructure. Much of the neighborhood’s future growth is anticipated to take place in this center, although the center lacks parks to serve the future residents.

SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS

The following sections of the plan present actions to address issues and opportunities raised by the Parkrose community. The actions are organized by the plan's seven major topics:

- **Affordable Housing and Displacement Prevention**
- **Access to Jobs**
- **Home-Based Businesses and Small Businesses**
- **Sandy Boulevard Safety**
- **Neighborhood Transportation Needs**
- **Community Spaces and Access to Nature**
- **Emergency Preparedness**

Each of the topic sections first lists actions identified by the plan's community working groups as high priorities for implementation.

Early Implementation Actions

Most of the actions in this plan have not been funded and will require persistent community advocacy, organizing, and partnership building to turn into reality. The following, however, are early implementation actions that are likely to be implemented or started within the next 2-3 years. Most of these actions have received commitments from implementers or are part of ongoing work.

- Investigate possibilities for affordable housing, community spaces, and other development options at the Parkrose transit center area (TriMet, Better Red Station Area Planning). Related to Housing Action 4, Community Space/Access to Nature Action 5B.
- Provide transitional housing for houseless people near the Parkrose transit center (Multnomah County). Implements Housing Action 7A.
- Connect businesses with microenterprise, community organizations, and financial organizations who provide business Individual Development Accounts (IDA) and offer credit building loans. (Historic Parkrose/MESO). Small Businesses Action 2C.
- Work with property owners to develop and/or sustain a recurring pop-up marketplace and/or farmers market (Historic Parkrose). Small Businesses Action 4.
- Support Historic Parkrose Main Street businesses through education, networking, promotion, and business district improvements (Historic Parkrose). Small Businesses Actions 5 and 8.
- Build sidewalks on NE Shaver Street between NE 102nd Avenue and Parkrose Middle School (PBOT). Neighborhood Transportation Action 1A.
- Provide shuttle service connecting the Parkrose transit center to the Columbia Corridor employment area (Multnomah County). Related to Neighborhood Transportation Action 5.
- Work with community organizations and governmental partners to fund programs, slough improvements and maintenance (BES grant). Community Space/Access to Nature Action 2A.
- Engage youth in plantings of native species in the Columbia Slough and connect area youth to nature (BES grant). Community Space/Access to Nature Action 2B.



Left – Older apartment building north of NE Prescott. Right - One of Parkrose's few newer affordable housing developments.

Affordable Housing and Displacement Prevention

Issues

A strength of the Parkrose community has been the diversity of its people and the range of housing options that have allowed working-class people to afford to live in Parkrose. However, Parkrose has increasingly been losing its affordability and many residents are being displaced or left homeless. Housing costs have been rising faster in Parkrose than in Portland as a whole. The Parkrose neighborhood has very little regulated affordable housing (just 55 units out of a total of around 2,400 housing units in the neighborhood), leaving renters vulnerable to rent increases, and single-family rental houses are an increasingly scarce option for working class families. These changes have especially impacted Parkrose's Black community, which has plummeted from 16 to 7 percent of Parkrose's population over the past ten years. During the same period, the percentage of households that have children has slid from 31 to 23 percent. A stark indicator of the impact of the housing crisis on youth and their families, nearly 9 percent of Parkrose High School students were homeless during the 2021-22 school year (typically they are staying with relatives or friends).

Objectives

- Create more affordable housing options, including family housing, that meet the needs of Parkrose's diverse households and communities.
- All Parkrose residents should be able to choose to remain in their neighborhood in healthy housing they can afford.

Solutions and Actions

High-Priority Solutions

1. Partner with Community Development Corporations (CDC) and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) to fund, construct, and preserve affordable housing within Parkrose

Actions:

- A. Advocate for working partnerships with CDCs and CDFIs to create programs and opportunities to fund, construct, and preserve affordable housing within Parkrose.
- B. Create or partner with a CDC and/or CDFI to develop a Community Land Trust (CLT) to preserve or create affordable housing and provide homeownership opportunities.

2. Preserve existing market rate affordable housing

Actions:

- A. Research and identify apartment buildings with rents that already accommodate low-income families.
- B. Advocate for the Portland Housing Bureau to offer financial support for acquisition or rehabilitation of small rental projects, in exchange for commitments to retain affordability of units.
- C. Work with community organizations to purchase and manage larger apartment complexes as part of an affordable rental housing program.

3. Catalog and target underutilized or vacant land for affordable housing development

Actions:

- A. Identify properties that can be developed to create more affordable housing units.
- B. Identify and provide technical assistance and support to faith institutions interested in pursuing affordable housing development on their land.
- C. Work with Metro and the Portland Housing Bureau to create an inventory of publicly owned land and develop criteria for purchasing sites, if necessary.
- D. Engage CDCs to develop affordable housing in single-dwelling zones using Residential Infill Project allowances for more housing units when affordable units are included.

4. Build more affordable housing near transit

Action: Advocate to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and TriMet for developing the parking lots and other available land near the Parkrose Transit Center for affordable housing.

5. Fund an Affordable Housing Project Manager in Parkrose

Action: Obtain funding for a Parkrose Affordable Housing Project Manager who will:

- Work to increase the desirability of Parkrose to affordable housing developers.
- Create a hub for affordable housing resources, including:
 - a. Maintaining a catalogue of underutilized and vacant land for development.
 - b. Maintaining a list of affordable housing funding sources available in the area. Some potential sources of funding include the Portland Clean Energy Fund, Meyer Memorial Trust, Metro TOD, and Oregon Housing and Community Services.
- Establish and maintain relationships with local jurisdictions, non-profits and developers.
- Advocate for Parkrose to become Tax Increment Finance (TIF) district (if there is community interest) as a means for funding affordable housing.

6. Advocate for regulations and other actions protecting renters of color

Actions:

- A. Partner with renters' and community rights coalitions (such as the Community Alliance of Tenants, Anti-Displacement PDX, and Portland Tenants United) to press for housing policy changes to protect and benefit renters of color, such as:
 - Changing state laws to strengthen rent control and rent stabilization
 - Prevent renter harassment by landlords
 - Prohibit discrimination against people with criminal records
 - Limit move-in fees and deposits
 - Provide tax credits to low-income renters
 - Permanent ownership of vacated public rights-of-way for affordable housing development and/or community land banking
- B. Advocate for the Portland Housing Bureau to continue to obtain and distribute rent assistance funds to mitigate and prevent evictions.
- C. Encourage landlords and tenants to use mediation services to help bridge conversations and foster working relationships.
- D. Advocate for eviction legal assistance.
- E. Connect residents to Portland Housing Bureau foreclosure prevention funds, home buying resources, home repair programs, and other programs to help stabilize families of color in Parkrose.

7. Support locating a homeless shelter in Parkrose to provide a safe option for the area's houseless people.

Actions:

- A. Work with community partners to locate a shelter for houseless people in Parkrose, prioritizing arrangements that can serve to provide safe options for the area's houseless population.
- B. If implemented, work to incorporate supportive services into the homeless shelter program.
- C. Advocate for preference criteria for the houseless population in Parkrose, and for direct referrals with agencies, such as Central City Concern, that have facilities in the area.

D. If implemented, work on partnerships with homeless assistance and shelter-related agencies to ensure their services are available to the Parkrose community.

8. Explore creating a Parkrose Tax Increment Finance (TIF) district to provide funds for affordable housing and green jobs

Action: Undertake community-led conversations with organizations working with low-income Black and brown Parkrose residents (such as Historic Parkrose, Elevate Oregon, Your Street Your Voice--Camp ELSO, Parkrose School District) to discuss past impacts of urban renewal, ask if tax increment financing should be employed in Parkrose and how it can serve the community, and what measures to take to ensure it does not cause more displacement. This conversation should also be conducted with residents. In addition to funding affordable housing, any TIF funding should also support sustainable economic development investments that focus on living wage jobs in the Columbia Corridor employment district, with a strong emphasis on green jobs and innovation.

Other Solutions

9. Work with the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) to elevate its efforts to change code enforcement approaches to avoid displacement of low-income people of color who are homeowners

Actions:

- A. Advocate for changing code compliance approaches to avoid using fines and property liens that can result in displacement of low-income people of color who are homeowners.
- B. Work with Historic Parkrose staff to connect residents and business owners with resources if they encounter problems at BDS.
- C. Work with BDS to inform Historic Parkrose staff of program resources available.
- D. Advocate for BDS to heighten program visibility and accessibility in Parkrose.

10. Partner with Community Development Corporations (CDC) and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) to fund and acquire houses for homeownership opportunities for families

Actions:

- A. Advocate for working partnerships with CDCs and CDFIs to create programs and opportunities to purchase foreclosed homes to be made available to families in Parkrose.
- B. Explore with CDCs possibilities for development using the "half a house" ownership model. This model involves construction of a small "half" house with very basic finishes to provide an inexpensive housing option, but is designed to be improved and expanded incrementally by the homeowner as finances permit.

11. Advocate to property owners and developers for the development of affordable housing units that meet family-size housing needs, including duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, and accessory dwelling units (ADUs)

Actions:

- A. Support the ability of lower income homeowners of color to add ADUs as a way to build housing and equity.
- B. Educate single family homeowners and the community on affordable housing development opportunities created by the Residential Infill Project.

12. Employ zoning tools that prioritize the preservation and creation of affordable housing, and provide community benefits

Actions – advocate for the following zoning code tools:

- A. Encourage preservation of existing affordable apartment buildings by not allowing replacement development to be any larger unless the majority of units will be affordable.
- B. Prioritize housing affordability as the way buildings can seek greater scale - not allowing buildings to get larger through bonuses or density transfers unless they are providing affordable units.
- C. Advocate for bonuses for providing daycare space and spaces for community meetings and events.

13. Include affordable housing in a range of sizes in the Rossi Farms Development*

Actions:

- A. Advocate for the development of Rossi Farms to include affordable housing, especially larger family-sized units, given its proximity to schools and parks.
- B. Advocate for the City to include requirements for the development to build affordable housing as part of any public-private partnership.
- C. Propose a minimum level of affordability in which affordable units must be affordable to households earning no more than 60 percent of area median income (AMI) in exchange for the City contributing to building infrastructure, such as roads or sewer connections.

Rossi Farms property at NE 122nd and NE Shaver

**Note that the majority of the Rossi Farms property is located adjacent to Parkrose in the Argay Terrace neighborhood. This solution was identified by the Parkrose community as a key opportunity for new affordable family housing in the area, but does not necessarily reflect the Argay Terrace neighborhood's priorities.*





Youth career workshop and examples of Columbia Corridor businesses providing employment in the Parkrose neighborhood

Access to Jobs

Issues

Parkrose youth are optimistic about the future, but often don't know how to get started on pathways to the jobs and careers that will allow them to reach their full potential. Parkrose has the advantage of being close to the large numbers of jobs in the Columbia Corridor employment district, but there are no clear channels connecting Parkrose residents to these jobs. There are over 8,500 jobs located within the Parkrose portion of the Columbia Corridor (north of Sandy Boulevard) and over 40,000 jobs in the rest of this employment district. However, only a small portion of Parkrose residents have jobs in this nearby, job-rich area (only about 5 percent of Parkrose residents work within Parkrose's portion of the Columbia Corridor). Despite the neighborhood's proximity to so many job opportunities, including large numbers of middle-wage jobs, incomes in Parkrose are significantly less than Portland as a whole. The median household income in Parkrose was about \$57,000 in 2019, which was \$15,000 less than Portland as a whole, and median incomes for Black and Hispanic households were more than \$30,000 less than median Portland incomes.

Objectives

- Connect youth, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, to training, jobs and careers that serve as pathways to prosperity.
- Connect Parkrose residents to nearby job opportunities in the Columbia Corridor and elsewhere and to career paths that lead to middle-wage employment.

Solutions and Actions

High-Priority Solutions

1. Create a centralized, accessible location where all activities related to connecting people to jobs and training can occur

Action: Establish a Workforce Development Center at the Parkrose Transit Center.

2. Create more opportunities for internships, training, and work experience for youth

Action: Support Elevate Oregon, Mt Hood Community College, and similar programs to meet this need, and work to make programs available to youth as young as 14. This could entail hiring additional staff, incentives to employers, and expanding existing programs.

3. Increase mentorship opportunities for low-income youth

Action: Support Elevate Oregon and similar programs to meet this need.

4. Increase career counseling opportunities for low-income youth

Action: Support Parkrose School District, Portland Community College, Mt Hood Community College, and similar programs to meet this need.

5. Work with school district officials and nonprofit leaders to develop a program for youth interested in manufacturing, trades, and climate related jobs

Actions:

- A. Recruit speakers from Constructing Hope, Portland Youth Builders, Portland Community College, Mt. Hood Community College trade schools, and trades unions.
- B. Identify and partner with paid internship programs for summer work experience. Examples: Outside In, Oregon State Employment program, SummerWorks internships, and positions with City bureaus such as Parks and Recreation.
- C. Identify and provide or develop trades-specific career materials for school staff to reference and distribute to students who display interest in workforce opportunities outside of those requiring higher education.
- D. Develop career-focused curriculum, after-school activities, and integrate real-world work experiences into the school day. Examples: De La Salle High School's work study program, Benson High School career programs, Young Entrepreneurs Academy in Chicago.
- E. Increase funding for existing mentorship programs, particularly those that encourage career and job exploration.
- F. Work with the City, Worksystems Inc, and Prosper Portland to identify federal, state and local public and private funding sources to support and grow Elevate Oregon, SUN school programs, and Historic Parkrose efforts that support job and soft skills development.

6. Increase school support for whole-family economic mobility

Actions:

- A. Work with students to identify parents or other caregivers that might need or be interested in workforce supports or training.
- B. Integrate family workforce supports into wrap-around services for students who are struggling.
- C. Connect families of young children to county early childhood resources and housing supports that may allow them to pursue additional job training opportunities. Example: Community Schools model at Vancouver School District

7. Connect adult residents to living wage employment opportunities

Action: Strategize ways Portland Community College, Mt. Hood Community College, and other organizations can support the Columbia Corridor Association or individual businesses to create career pathways for lower-wage workers of color in Parkrose.

8. Build workforce development and employer partnerships, and a jobs pipeline that begins in middle school; and deepen relationships with Portland Workforce Alliance

Action: Fund neighborhood liaison positions at Columbia Corridor Association and other business associations to secure agreements with local employers for workforce development and provide opportunities for internships, training and promotion of local residents, with an emphasis on youth. Concentrate on employers with entry-level positions that do not require higher education but have a potential career ladder to middle wage jobs, such as health care; manufacturing, especially in growth fields like clean tech; construction, particularly in trades that are in high demand even in recessions.

(medium-high priority)



Parkrose High School



Parkrose Pop-up Marketplace



Small businesses along Sandy Boulevard

Home-Based Businesses & Small Businesses

Issues

The Historic Parkrose Main Street along Sandy Boulevard is Parkrose’s primary business district. It is designated as a “neighborhood center” in Portland’s Comprehensive Plan, serving as a hub for commercial services for the neighborhood and surrounding areas. The community would like this business district to continue to grow as a place that serves the community, provides opportunities for small businesses reflecting the neighborhood’s diversity to start and thrive, and become a place where people will want to spend time. Scattered throughout the neighborhood are home-based businesses, both those that are “formal” and officially registered as businesses, and others that are unregistered and “informal” (such as people who earn money through services such as hair styling on an informal basis). Both types of home-based businesses provide additional opportunities for Parkrose residents to run their own businesses. The Parkrose community would like to support the ability of home-based businesses to thrive and to reach more customers through opportunities such as public markets and growing into storefront businesses.

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.

Solutions and Actions

High-Priority Solutions

1. Support informal home-based businesses, with a priority on programs customized to their needs and establishing a trusting, safe and culturally/linguistically appropriate environment

Actions:

- A. Establish and hold home-based business resource sharing workshops that provide services and technical assistance to informal businesses in various languages. These workshops should be opportunities for various microenterprise service nonprofits, government agencies, and small business and taxes legal clinic providers to provide direct assistance to business owners who want to become formalized. It is essential to explain the legal and tax implications for informal home-based businesses so that business owners can make decisions on their best course of action.
- B. Host various ethnic/cultural group home-based business meetups (for example, Latinx Home-Based Businesses meetups).
- C. Provide financial assistance for business registration and permitting requirements.

2. Support formal Home-Based Businesses in building capacity

Actions:

- A. Establish a "buddy system" program for existing, successful small business owners to provide one-on-one technical assistance to businesses interested in transitioning to a commercial space.
- B. Host workshops to teach best practices and skill-building opportunities with bookkeeping, marketing, human resources, legal, and tax resources. An example is understanding the Zoning Code home-based business limitation of a maximum of 8 visiting customers a day.
- C. Connect businesses with microenterprise, community organizations, and financial organizations who provide businesses Individual Development Accounts (IDA) and offer credit building loans.
- D. Provide a marketing channel for businesses such as a community business registry directory (online and/or printed).
- E. Identify affordable commercial spaces to assist in transitioning home-based businesses to a storefront setting.

3. Create coworking spaces that provide affordable opportunities for multiple small tenants, serve as business incubation spaces, and support food entrepreneurship.

Action: Leverage storefront improvement grants and other resources to create affordable commercial space shared by small businesses. Different uses could include a commercial kitchen used by multiple food entrepreneurs, or small retail spaces that provide opportunities for home-based businesses to grow.

4. Work with property owners to develop and/or sustain a local BIPOC makers market, farmers markets, and pop-up markets

Actions:

- A. Create shared makers spaces (spaces for light industrial work) where they might also have pop up retail space or events.
- B. Support individual craftspeople, food vendors, and other entrepreneurs to scale up and show their products at pop-up markets (such as Historic Parkrose's 2021 Summer pop-up markets). Host outdoor pop-up markets in street space or on parking lots to activate locations in areas that are struggling commercially, while bringing more visibility to adjacent businesses.
- C. Support Lao Buddhist Temple on Sandy in growing their marketplace through technical assistance and funds to access materials, marketing, and interpretation services.

5. Support Historic Parkrose Main Street businesses through education, networking, and promotion

Actions (implemented by Historic Parkrose):

- A. Host holiday events and other promotional events and with fundraising for business district support.
- B. Provide classes on a regular basis for businesses owners on a variety of topics, based on need.
- C. Host happy hour and social events to facilitate information sharing, networking, and for business district cohesion.
- D. Visit with businesses to share information and provide support.

6. Create a small business information hub that provides connections to resources and customers

Actions:

- A. Create a small businesses resource center and/or online site that connects people to business resources, local businesses, and other community information. This could involve creating a small business technical assistance, navigation and resource guidebook for Parkrose.
- B. Support Historic Parkrose's role in holding weekly office hours to provide small business support services to help with accessing resources.

Other Solutions

7. Connect Home-Based Businesses and Entrepreneurs

Action: Connect with potential BIPOC entrepreneurs and home-based businesses through grassroots, informal, community, cultural and faith institutions.

8. Develop a Neighborhood Business Ambassador Program

Action: Recruit volunteers to get Parkrose communities involved in supporting and promoting district businesses. Word-of-mouth, social media campaigns, limited time offers, and promotional events such as hosting networking events at the various district businesses strengthen collaboration and bring more visibility to businesses. Community members with specific talents such as marketing and business backgrounds could volunteer to help existing businesses. Other community volunteer partnerships could include painting, clean ups, advocating for district amenities, and sharing promotional materials with the broader community.

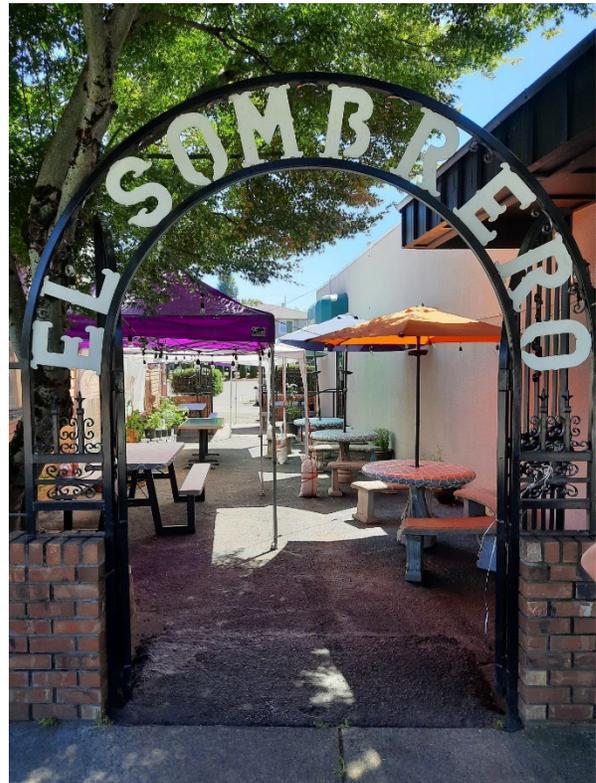
9. Improve the Sandy Boulevard Business District to support businesses

Actions:

- A. Encourage and build outdoor seating and associated amenities.
- B. Help existing businesses with graffiti abatement and painting buildings.
- C. Attract a wider variety of retail experiences on Sandy Blvd, such as culturally-specific services, coffee shops, ice cream shop, family friendly restaurants, a wider variety of restaurants and food related businesses, produce market, plant shops, bakeries, clothing and shoe stores, bike stores, pet stores, salons, and other gathering spaces.



Temporary plaza for the Parkrose Pop-Up Market



Outdoor seating at El Sombrero



Sandy Boulevard and memorial



Bicycling along Sandy Boulevard

Sandy Boulevard Safety

Issues

Sandy Boulevard serves multiple important roles for the Parkrose community and the broader region. It is a major transportation corridor, providing access to the I-205 freeway and industrial areas, but it is also the setting for the Historic Parkrose business district, with the neighborhood's largest concentration of commercial services. It is an important transit corridor and the location of the Parkrose transit center and has many community-serving destinations within walking distance of residential areas, but its heavy traffic and few safe pedestrian crossings discourage people from walking. Sandy Boulevard within the Parkrose neighborhood has three segments with gaps of 1,000 feet or more between signalized pedestrian crossings – equivalent to five downtown blocks. Sandy Boulevard is also one of Portland's high-crash streets, with over 300 crashes reported over a recent five-year period – the majority of serious injuries involved people walking. The community recognizes the important transportation role of Sandy Boulevard, but would like the Historic Parkrose business district to become a place where it feels safe and is easy to get around by walking, and where crossing the street and waiting for the bus does not feel like an ordeal. See the **Parkrose Community Plan Transportation Safety Solutions Report** for more information on existing conditions and the recommended actions.

Objectives

- Make Sandy Boulevard a safe place to travel along or cross 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.

Solutions and Actions

High-Priority Solutions

1. Add additional crossings of Sandy Boulevard to address the significant gaps between crossings and meet the City's PedPDX guidelines.

Actions: To meet the City's PedPDX guidelines, seven additional crossings are needed. To help address immediate safety concerns, five locations should be prioritized for additional analysis and funding:

- A. A mid-block crossing between NE 97th and Sandy/Killingsworth (*may not be feasible*)
- B. A mid-block crossing between NE 100th and NE 101st
- C. A mid-block crossing between NE 106th and NE 107th
- D. A crossing treatment or signal at NE 115th
- E. A crossing treatment or signal at NE 118th

These crossings have higher pedestrian activity, are near transit stops, and/or are near high-activity land uses such as the Grocery Outlet/Parkrose Hardware at NE 106th/107th avenues and food trucks at NE 118th Avenue. They should be enhanced with a signal or pedestrian hybrid beacon where warranted, or other type of enhanced crossing.

2. Improve pedestrian visibility and safety at signalized intersections.

Actions: Crosswalks at signalized intersections should be analyzed and, where feasible, upgraded to have continental bar striping and "pedestrian head start" phasing. "Pedestrian head starts" (otherwise known as "leading pedestrian intervals") give pedestrians an indication to enter the crosswalk a few seconds before the traffic signal changes, which allows for more visibility. Priority locations for further analysis include:

- A. NE 96th Avenue
- B. NE 102nd Avenue
- C. NE 105th Avenue
- D. NE 112th Avenue

3. Upgrade lighting throughout the corridor.

Actions:

- A. Add lighting on the north side of Sandy Boulevard between NE Killingsworth Street and NE 115th Avenue to meet current lighting standards.
- B. Add pedestrian scale lighting between NE 95th Avenue and NE 112th Avenue, prioritizing locations near crossings and transit stops.

Other Solutions

4. Improve transit service along Sandy Boulevard.

Action: Upgrade the Line 21 to frequent service as identified in TriMet's Service Enhancement Plan.

5. Improve transit amenities and access on Sandy Boulevard.

Actions: In several locations bus stops should be improved and/or relocated. These include:

- A. NE 102nd Avenue: Add space for a seat on the south side of Sandy Boulevard, and consider adding a stop and seat on the north side of the street.
- B. NE 105th Avenue: Relocate eastbound stop to the far side of the intersection and make it more accessible, consider seating at westbound stop.
- C. NE 107th Avenue and NE 109th Avenue: Consolidate stops with the new crossing at NE 108th Avenue.
- D. NE 115th Avenue: Improve ADA accessibility and consider upgrades to facilities.
- E. At/near NE 118th Avenue: Create space for a bench at the eastbound stop.

6. Improve active transportation along/near Sandy Boulevard.

Actions:

- A. Widen the I-205 multi-use path running along the east side of Sandy Boulevard between NE 95th and NE 96th avenues and improve the connection to NE 96th Avenue and the Parkrose Sumner Transit Center.
- B. Improve the I-205 multi-use path north-south connection near I-205/Killingsworth Street.
- C. Provide a connection from NE 102nd Avenue to the I-205 path by widening the sidewalk on the north side of the street.

7. Improve safety and comfort along Sandy Boulevard.

Actions:

- A. Determine locations for median islands to improve access management, reduce turning conflicts, slow traffic, and potentially create space for street trees and vegetation. Also consider access management at side streets as part of crossing improvements to reduce the risk of turning movement crashes.
- B. Determine locations for additional street trees and vegetation along the corridor.

8. Fill sidewalk gaps

Action: Fill sidewalk gap on the south side of Sandy Boulevard near NE 122nd Avenue.

9. Resurface Sandy Boulevard.

Action: Resurface Sandy Boulevard between NE Killingsworth Street and NE 122nd Avenue.

10. Redesign the intersections of Sandy Boulevard and NE Killingsworth/I-205, and NE Sandy Boulevard and NE 121st/NE 122nd Avenues to improve safety

Actions:

- A. Redesign the intersection of Sandy Boulevard and NE Killingsworth/I-205 to add continental crosswalks, increase the pedestrian/bicycle refuge area, and improve the I-205 multi-use path connection.
- B. Redesign the intersection of Sandy Boulevard near NE 122nd Avenue to add a bike facility from the 122nd Avenue ramp to Sandy Boulevard, add continental crosswalks, and assess whether the turn radius can be tightened.

11. Extend Sandy Boulevard improvements east of NE 122nd Avenue.

Action: Advocate for a future project to focus on improvements to Sandy Boulevard east of NE 122nd Avenue to address the lack of pedestrian and transit amenities along a corridor with a lot of multifamily housing.



Pedestrian crossing at Sandy Blvd and NE 109th Avenue



NE Shaver – a key route for students walking to school, and for cars

Neighborhood Transportation Needs

Issues

Parkrose has many destinations within walking or biking distance, such as public schools, commercial services, employers, and a light rail transit center. However, a lack of sidewalks on most streets – including along some higher-traffic streets, and few bike facilities, limit people’s ability to feel safe walking or bicycling to local destinations. Where sidewalks do exist, there are often few trees providing shade on hot summer days. Parkrose community members would like their streets to be safe places for getting around the neighborhood, and for children and youth walking or bicycling to school or parks. They would also like more trees and other green features along neighborhood streets to limit urban heat impacts and to provide a more livable environment.

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.

Solutions and Actions

High-Priority Solutions

- 1. Prioritize constructing sidewalks or filling sidewalk gaps on streets with high volumes/speeds of motor vehicle traffic, that are identified as important pedestrian connections, or have been designated by the Safe Routes to School program as “Primary Investment Routes”**

Actions – Add sidewalks to the following priority locations:

- A. Shaver Street between NE 102nd Avenue and Parkrose Middle School (very high priority)
- B. NE Prescott Street between NE 102nd Avenue and NE 121st Place
- C. NE Fremont Street between NE 102nd and NE 122nd avenues
- D. NE 105th Avenue between NE Sandy Boulevard and NE Fremont Street
- E. NE 112th Avenue between NE Sandy Boulevard and NE Fremont, and between NE Sandy Boulevard and the railroad

2. Add crosswalks or pedestrian crossings to address crossing gaps and deficiencies

Actions – Prioritize adding crosswalks or pedestrian crossing to locations with transit stops or that have been identified in the City’s pedestrian plan (PedPDX), including the following locations:

- A. NE Prescott Street between I-205 and NE 122nd Avenue
- B. NE Fremont Street between NE 102nd and NE 122nd avenues
- C. NE Shaver Street between NE 102nd and NE 115th avenues
- D. NE 102nd Avenue between NE Fremont and NE Sandy Boulevard
- E. NE 122nd Avenue between I-84 and NE Sandy Boulevard

3. Add or improve bicycle facilities to make it easier and safer to access destinations by bicycle, prioritizing improvements to facilities on low-traffic streets, as alternatives to having to bicycle on high-traffic streets

Actions:

- A. Prioritize adding neighborhood greenways on NE 115th Avenue between NE Fremont and NE Sandy Boulevard, on NE Skidmore Street between I-205 and Parkrose High School, and on NE Wygant between NE 95th and NE 115th avenues.
- B. Add bike lanes to NE 102nd Avenue between NE Prescott Street and NE Sandy Boulevard
- C. Upgrade the bicycle lanes on NE Fremont Street and NE 122nd Avenue to improve bicycle comfort and safety.

4. Improve lighting for pedestrians

Actions:

- A. Improve lighting for pedestrians, including on secondary streets and near schools and transit stops. Conduct a detailed lighting analysis on side streets in the neighborhood to identify other priority locations.
- B. Improve lighting and transit amenities at transit stops, particularly stops with high ridership such as NE 102nd and Prescott and NE 105th and Prescott.

5. Improve active transportation connections to the Columbia Corridor employment district and Airport Way

Action: Improve active transportation connections (transit, bicycle, transit) on streets in Parkrose that provide connections to employment areas, including the I-205 pathway, NE 105th, and NE 122nd.

Also advocate for improving nearby connections outside the Parkrose neighborhood, including NE 138th, NE 148th, and a potential Levee Active Transportation Route between 138th and 148th.

Other Solutions

6. Include trees and improve connections to natural areas

Actions:

- A. Add street trees as part of sidewalk or other transportation improvements.
- B. Improve access to the Columbia Slough and add directional/wayfinding signage throughout the neighborhood.

7. Install electric vehicle charging stations around businesses and to serve multifamily residents

Action: Advocate for installing electric vehicle charging stations close to businesses, at employment centers, and multifamily housing to support the ability of residents and workers to use electric vehicles.

8. Further improve safety and infrastructure

Actions:

- A. Add speed reader signs on high traffic volume streets, such as NE 102nd Avenue, NE Prescott Street, NE Fremont Street, and NE 122nd Avenue.
- B. Add "pedestrian head start" signal phasing that allows pedestrians to cross before cars at signalized intersections in the neighborhood, prioritizing intersections near schools and other high pedestrian activity locations.
- C. Improve the condition of the road on NE Killingsworth between NE 102nd and NE 109th Avenues
- D. Improve city/state coordination of maintenance and safety on the I-205 path.
- E. Add sidewalks on NE 115th Avenue between NE Shaver and NE Prescott streets, and on NE 118th Avenue between NE Prescott Street and NE Sandy Boulevard.



Parkrose Pedal event



Senn's Dairy Park



Youth volunteers at the Columbia Slough

Community Spaces and Access to Nature

Issues

Parkrose community members want nearby places where they can gather, recreate, connect to nature, and build community. During youth workshops, youth shared their desires 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 jobs and community opportunities. Currently, half of Parkrose neighborhood residents live more than a half mile from a public park, and this includes much of the Parkrose Neighborhood Center area around Sandy Boulevard that includes the majority of the area's higher-density zoning and existing apartments. The only public park located within the Parkrose neighborhood is the one-acre Senn's Dairy Park. The closest natural area is the Columbia Slough, but there are no public access points within the neighborhood.

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.

Solutions and Actions

High-Priority Solutions

1. Support more community events in Parkrose

Action: Work with community partners to hold more community events, such as neighborhood fairs, public markets, multicultural events, community concerts and movies, walking and biking events, and block parties.

2. Improve the Columbia Slough as a natural area that is nurtured and experienced by the community

Actions:

- A. Work with community organizations, companies, foundations, and the Columbia Slough Watershed Council and other governmental partners to fund programs, slough improvements and maintenance.
- B. Convene local and regional institutions, community based groups, adjacent property owners and neighbors to create an action plan on how to access the slough and prevent damage and pollution to the watershed.
- C. Engage youth in plantings of native species to help restore natural functions of the slough and connect area youth to nature, with a focus on youth from communities of color and other marginalized groups that have historically not benefited from such connections.
- D. Increase community awareness and develop educational curriculum about the slough. Use signage and art to increase community awareness of the slough.
- E. Organize opportunities for the community to visit the slough. Hold free public events, such as slough paddles, that strengthen the community's awareness and connections to the slough.
- F. Work with Indigenous communities to ensure the cultural significance of the slough is respected and to perpetuate the role of the slough and its native plants in cultural practices.
- G. Improve bicycle and pedestrian connections from Parkrose residential areas to the slough, such as by creating connections to NE 112th where it reaches the slough.
- H. Use habitat restoration as an opportunity to develop employment opportunities for youth of color and lower-income residents.
- I. Develop an educational and fundraising campaign to secure public support, champions, and elected officials who can prioritize community access to the slough.
- J. Ensure that the slough is kept maintained and safe.
- K. Advocate for including park space at a future slough entrance, making it more visible and inviting.
- L. Work with houseless neighbors to access housing so that they have options beyond camping near the slough and other outdoor areas.

3. Advocate for a new park to serve the Parkrose community

Action: Advocate and work toward creating a new public park for the Parkrose neighborhood to increase access to recreation and active living in an area with only a single small public park. A new park should provide recreation facilities that the area does not currently have, such as an outdoor basketball court and spray pad/water feature.

4. Create a new community center for the Parkrose community

Action: Work with community and public agency partners to create a community center to help meet the recreational and community gathering needs of the area. Consider opportunities for a full-service community center, or a smaller community-run center with programming determined by the community, potentially with an emphasis on serving the needs of the area's youth. A community center should be located to be easily accessible to the community, especially for youth.

5. Create community gathering places as part of the Sandy Boulevard business district

Actions:

- A. Work with community and governmental partners to create gathering places and amenities that make it enjoyable for Parkrose residents to spend time in the Sandy Boulevard business district and make it a hub for the community. Possibilities identified by community members include a plaza with fountain/splashpad, community space that could accommodate an outdoor market and community events, benches and trees, and murals.
- B. Advocate with TriMet and ODOT for including community space as part of the Parkrose Transit Center and in association with the I-205 pathway.
- C. Encourage business establishments that support family- and youth-friendly activities and gatherings, such as play spaces, youth-friendly cafes, food cart pods, or a bowling alley or movie theater.

6. Include a community gathering place as part of the Rossi Farms development

Action: Advocate for development of the Rossi Farms property to include a community gathering place that can be used by the broader Parkrose community.

7. Incorporate more trees and green elements in urban public spaces

Actions:

- A. Work with community and governmental partners and property owners in planting trees and vegetation along streets and other public spaces. This could include planting trees to screen Sandy Boulevard and the neighborhood from nearby railroad tracks.
- B. Link tree plantings to creating job opportunities for youth, such as through internships and summer jobs provided by Portland Parks and Recreation.
- C. Encourage the planting of native trees and plants on public properties, such as portions of school grounds not needed for sports fields or other activities.

8. Organize community cleanups in and around public spaces

Actions:

- A. Work with community partners, local businesses, and volunteers to undertake periodic cleanups in public spaces and along streets and other transportation facilities. Inform community members on the current resources available for addressing sanitation issues and advocate for expanding these resources for Parkrose.
- B. Clean up the I-205 pathway and increase community awareness of the opportunities the pathway provides for family activities such as bicycling, walking, running, and rolling.

Other Solutions

9. Expand community use of Prescott Elementary School grounds

Action: Work with the Parkrose School District on possibilities for expanding community use of Prescott Elementary School grounds. Explore ways of addressing vandalism and other security concerns.



Parkrose Fire Station

Emergency Preparedness

Issues

Parkrose community members want to be ready for whatever emergency events may come, whether extreme heat or cold, storms that knock out power, or a major earthquake. However, many community members indicate they do not know what emergency resources are available or how to access them, where they can go to recharge communication devices in the event of a power outage, or do not know who in the community they can turn to in a crisis. The Parkrose neighborhood is surrounded on three sides by freeways and the Columbia River, limiting evacuation routes and connections to resources in surrounding areas. Parkrose itself lacks hospitals or other substantial medical facilities, and has no heating or cooling shelters that can serve the community in the event of extreme temperatures. Also, many older commercial buildings along Sandy Boulevard are built with unreinforced masonry and would be vulnerable to a major earthquake. The area does have an active Neighborhood Emergency Team (the Argay-Parkrose NET) and community organizations that can continue to support the area's emergency preparedness.

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.

Solutions and Actions

High-Priority Solutions

1. Medical care facilities

Action: Promote the creation of medical facilities or urgent care centers in the Parkrose area that can respond to local emergencies.

2. Fire station improvement

Action: Work with City to get financial resources for needed improvements to the local fire station and so that it can survive a major earthquake. Consider a maintenance plan.

3. Emergency resources and information signs

Action: Work with community members and organizations, school districts, and the City to: identify and survey homes/businesses/institutions that have resilient power systems or other resources that could serve communities in an emergency and implement emergency information signs in multiple languages. Emergency signs include, but are not limited to signs for places with generators; signs for places where people can go during snowstorms, heat waves; signs for safe sites during power outages, etc.

4. Emergency wayfinding system

Action: Work with community members, community organizations, and the City to create an emergency wayfinding mapping system. Community members would receive support to create their own maps of how to find their way to access emergency services and resources. Prioritize using a range of languages and culturally appropriate material.

5. Cooling/warming shelters

Action: Work with the City, County, school districts, and apartment managers to identify sites that could work as temporary shelters during extreme heat and cold events. Also work to inform apartment residents and managers of public programs providing cooling units to low-income tenants.

6. Power sources during outages

Action: Look for grants or financial assistance for property and business owners to install community solar systems with battery storage for emergency back-up power. Potential fund sources: PCEF grants, Climate Resilience Fund grants, PGE Renewable Development Fund.

7. Reduce carbon emissions and urban heat island effects through green features and design

Actions: Work with the City to develop and implement programs focused on reducing urban heat island effects in Parkrose. Programs and activities include:

- A. Reduce dark surface, such as asphalt and roofing, that generate heat.
- B. Reduce exposed surfaces, such as sidewalks, streets, and parking lots, with shade structures and tree canopy.
- C. Promote tree planting, preservation, and maintenance along streets and on private property. Ensure that services are provided for leaf collection in conjunction with increasing tree canopy. Encourage trees and vegetation to be planted on the south and west sides of buildings to shade and prevent heat gain.
- D. Include trees and other green elements as part of development in industrial/employment areas, especially adjacent to residential areas and the Columbia Slough.
- E. Install urban water features, such as splash pads and fountains, that can provide cooling on hot days.
- F. Promote the creation of green/permeable parking spaces.
- G. Install efficient appliances to reduce the grid load during high heat days to avoid blackouts.

8. Emergency Preparedness Plan

Actions: Develop an Emergency Preparedness Community Plan that includes the following elements:

- A. Guidebook: Work with the City, community members, and culturally-specific organizations to create a printed guidebook in different languages with basic information on potential natural/climate risks and disasters, emergency resources, contact information, maps, cost of supplies, readiness checklist, etc., with a focus on resources in the Parkrose area. A printed guidebook would provide information to community members with limited digital literacy or internet access.
- B. Website: Work with community members and organizations to create a website that provides guidebook information in a digital format. A website would be helpful for community members who are more used to look for information through digital means.
- C. Community Skills Survey: Work with community members to identify languages, first aid, scout training, nurses, etc., that could be useful in the event of an emergency.

9. Ongoing emotional support services

Action: Work with community members to create a network that provides ongoing emotional support to neighbors who have had traumatizing experiences during disasters or other traumatic events, and trauma recovery groups with ongoing conversations about how the community can be emotional prepared for a disaster.

10. Community events

Action: Work with community members, organizations, neighborhood associations, and public agency partners to organize community events where neighbors get to know each other, share resources, and build resilience together.

11. Support existing emergency services

Action: Support existing structures and services, such as the neighborhood emergency teams (NET), making sure they are fully resourced and are supported with their outreach to recruit volunteers.

Other Solutions

12. Social media releases

Action: Create a social media strategy for the community to learn about resources available in case of emergencies, first aid training, community events, etc. The strategy would also aim to encourage neighbors to meet each other. A priority should be placed on announcements in different languages.

13. In-person information sessions and trainings

Action: In coordination with the Argay-Parkrose NET and the Bureau of Emergency Management, work with neighborhood and business associations to organize periodic emergency preparedness in-person information sessions, with a focus on reaching out to people and groups who do not have good access to online resources.

14. Meetings with apartment managers

Action: Work with neighborhood associations to organize meetings with apartment managers to explore ways to reach out to residents and request them to check on their at-risk residents during heat and smoke events.

15. Involvement of faith organizations

Action: Partner with faith organizations with sufficient indoor space to store emergency items, and to reach out to non-English speaking community members during emergencies.

16. Support for households and small businesses

Action: Work with community members, the City, and community organizations to create ongoing financial support programs for households and small businesses experiencing crises, even outside of an emergency.

17. Seismic retrofits for community resilience

Action: Seek funding for seismic retrofits of older commercial and residential buildings so they can survive a major earthquake, while avoiding displacement of small businesses and residents.



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About City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) develops creative and practical solutions to enhance Portland's livability, preserve distinctive places, and plan for a resilient future.



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