

# Brooklyn NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

January/February, 2019



**Thank you  
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for printing our newsletter  
these many years.**

## **Brooklyn Neighborhood General Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 23, 7 pm**

Sacred Heart Villa Hall  
Corner of SE Milwaukie Ave. & Center St.

## **BAC SEEKS NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT**

*"The BAC Board will hold a focusing session annually in order to garner general recommendations to pursue for the following year." BAC Bylaws*

**The Neighborhood Board would like to  
hear your ideas, concerns and vision  
for the neighborhood.**

**If you are not already included in the neighborhood "Brooklyn Happenings" email,  
contact us at  
[board@brooklyn-neighborhood.org](mailto:board@brooklyn-neighborhood.org)**

**Go to [www.brooklyn-neighborhood.org](http://www.brooklyn-neighborhood.org) for the  
latest updates and this newsletter in full color.**

## **We need your support!**

Brooklyn is the only neighborhood in the River Plan/South Reach project area without direct access to the river. Fill out the enclosed comment card to let the city know why you want to see Brooklyn's historic river access restored. You can mail your completed card or drop off your postcard at the following businesses and we will deliver them all to the city!

**Brooklyn Pharmacy  
Rose City Coffee House  
Heckman Thiemann Motors**

Check out a historical perspective of restoring Brooklyn's access to the river on Page 4.

At our Neighborhood General Meeting, Jeff Caudill from Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) gave an overview of the River Plan/South Reach project, which will update the City's plan for the Willamette River and adjacent areas ([portlandoregon.gov/bps/42548](http://portlandoregon.gov/bps/42548)).

The South Reach project area starts south of the Ross Island Bridge and considers access, trails, viewpoints, natural areas, in-water recreation, and more. The project held a series of open houses this past autumn, and they are now developing an initial draft plan.

## Calendar of Events

### **BAC Board Meeting**

Wednesday, January 9, 2019  
7 pm

Sacred Heart Villa Hall  
Milwaukie & Center

### **Neighborhood General Meeting**

Wednesday, January 23, 2019  
7 pm

Sacred Heart Villa Hall

### **BAC Board Meeting**

Wednesday, February 13, 2019  
7 pm

Sacred Heart Villa Hall

## **Friends of Brooklyn Park Gala**

Friends of Brooklyn Park hosted its first Winter Gala in support of their Summer Youth Program on Sunday, December 2nd at Trackers Earth.

Community members gathered with Craig Montag (longtime Summer Program Director) and listened to the Eric Ching Jazz Trio and enjoyed Reindeer/Hunger Games themed foods while shooting archery at the range.

The event and raffle raised over \$1000 for the program. Prizes included a Best of Brooklyn Beverage (neighborhood made), an Amazon Tech Set (Alexa and Fire TV), and a Entertainment Set (Oregon Symphony & Aladdin tickets and dinner.)

Funds for the Brooklyn Park Summer Youth Program were cut by Portland Parks & Rec in 2017. Friends of Brooklyn Park was formed as a non-profit and with community and local business support brought the program back to life in the summer of 2018. They have already reached 20% of their goal of \$25k for next summer.

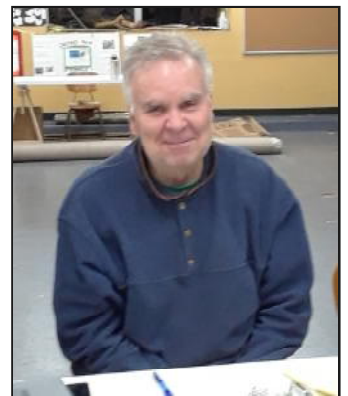
Please be on the lookout for their family friendly concert & fundraiser this spring. The Summer Youth Program will be back in June-August, 2019. Check out their web page at [www.facebook.com/fobrooklynpark](http://www.facebook.com/fobrooklynpark).



*The Eric Ching Jazz Trio donated their time and talent to this event*



*Organizers of the Gala: Ben Tarne, Melany Dittler & Caroline Dunn*



*Craig Montag*

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Our Neighborhood Response Team Officer is Office Shaun Sahli, 503-823-0097. The Non-emergency phone number is 503-823-3333. Central Precinct is 503-823-0097. For emergencies happening right now, call 911.

Teri Poppino, from the Office of Community and Civic Life (OCCL) is our neighborhood representative. Her contact information is 503-823-0540 or email: [teri.poppino@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:teri.poppino@portlandoregon.gov)

## **BROOKLYN HELP LINE**

**971-222-9454**

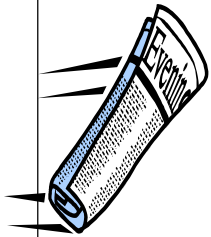
The Helpline is always available for the Brooklyn neighborhood to voice their concerns or pass on information to the Brooklyn Action Corps.

Check out the **Brooklyn Neighborhood Website**  
[www.brooklyn-neighborhood.org](http://www.brooklyn-neighborhood.org)

**Brooklyn Neighborhood News** is published bi-monthly by the BAC. To contact the Brooklyn News, call the helpline or email the newsletter at [brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org](mailto:brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org)

Community announcements, local events and press releases are accepted on a space available basis. Closing date for the newsletter is on the 15th of even-numbered months. This newsletter is designed and edited by Marie Phillippi.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to the following volunteers who deliver this newsletter to your door, come rain or shine, hot or cold! The neighborhood saves thousands of dollars every year by hand delivering instead of mailing. Also, thanks to **Emily McKinnon** for always being available for proofreading.



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If you are interested in delivering newsletters, please call the Help Line or email [brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org](mailto:brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org)

## Adopt A Block

Becoming a Block Adopter:

Two years ago, Brooklyn neighbors began to "walk their blocks." At least once a month, folks would walk, pick up litter, call city agencies if problems arose and generally became an "eye on the street" in a positive way. Some folks go out daily, as they walk their dogs; some weekly; some just once a month. Recently, issues like homeless camps, strangers wandering in yards and large litter items have become issues to follow up with city agencies. Regardless, Block Adopters continue to be a positive force as they patrol their blocks.

Anyone can become an 'adopter', individuals, families, teens and kids. Obtain a form at Bob's Handy Pantry, pick one up at a BAC meeting or call and request a form from Kathy Orton. It will have a list of resource numbers to use as needed, detach this list, select a block not yet covered and you have become an 'adopter'. Low pressure, no one tracks your number of times going out. We do it because we have pride in Brooklyn and want it to become a safe and caring place for all of us. Sounds like something you'd like to do? Contact: Kathy Orton; 503-236-5037 or [kt\\_orton@hotmail.com](mailto:kt_orton@hotmail.com)

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## Diesel Air Quality Update

by Don Stephens

The coalition of neighborhoods known as Portland Neighbors for Diesel Action (PNDA), of which Brooklyn is a founding member, met with city staff in October as they were in the process of drafting a resolution to regulate diesel emissions from construction sites. PNDA provided input about the need to control these emissions including who, where and when regulation is most important. As a result, when the draft version was presented to City Council on December 13th, a stricter version was unanimously adopted by the Council.

Before its adoption, PNDA held a rally in front of City Hall with signs and speakers, then during the hearing, PNDA provided testimony urging strict controls on construction site diesel equipment. Sixty five percent of diesel emissions in the city are from construction. The new regulations, after a phase in a period of seven years, will reduce diesel emissions from city-contracted construction sites by 90-95%. The PNDA position on the new regulations has limited applicability and is stretched over a long implementation time, but is a step in the right direction.

Assuming it is followed by industry (there is limited enforcement), our air should eventually be a little healthier!

## Attention: All Brooklyn Business Owners, Small and Large

by Melaney Dittler

Are you a business owner or manager of any size in the Brooklyn area? Do you know a neighborhood business that is struggling or wants to grow? If so, the Greater Brooklyn Business Association would like to help!

Connect with local residents, network with area businesses and assist with other business goals in 2019. They have a welcoming membership and would like more businesses to join them for monthly networking opportunities and special events they host throughout the year.

Already in the works is their 3rd Annual St. Patrick's Day party sponsored by Classic Pianos. The Monthly Networking events happen on the 1st Wednesday of odd-numbered months for Happy Hour networking, and the 1st Friday of even-numbered months for Morning Coffee networking. All the location and time details are posted on their Facebook page and website.

Membership is only \$100 a year and offers many benefits. For more information, please visit the GBBA website at [GreaterBrooklynBA.com](http://GreaterBrooklynBA.com), LIKE the Facebook page, or email at [greaterbrooklynba@gmail.com](mailto:greaterbrooklynba@gmail.com) to be included on their email list.

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## Historical Perspective of Restoring Brooklyn's Access to the River

by Don Stephens

The Brooklyn Action Corps is closely monitoring the City of Portland's River Plan project. This last segment, called the South Reach, follows the already completed North and Central Reach Segments. A series of workshops and open houses have been held over the summer and fall to educate neighbors and to gain input on what needs to be done. BAC Board members and other Brooklynites have attended these meetings to promote Brooklyn's interests in this project.

The primary goal is to restore access to the river we once had, but lost when McLoughlin Blvd was widened in the 1970's. City Council promised to restore our access in 1979, then did the necessary preliminary studies, and voted to use cancelled Mt. Hood Freeway funds to build it. Delays from the railroad and state caused the project to be delayed for two years, at which time the new City Council voted to cancel it.

Twice this commitment has been revisited in the intervening years (the last one in 2000) showing its feasibility, but each study has concluded that there is no funding for it. In the meantime, in 2013, the City came up with a similar amount of funding for access to the river for the more upscale University Park Neighborhood, which is near the University of Portland campus (see <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/PARKS/61019>).

Brooklyn now wants the City to make good on its promise to restore our access to the river using the University Park access as the model.

The South Reach Plan is asking for neighborhood input. Please fill out the postcard included in this newsletter and let the City know your concerns.

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## November General Meeting Update

Amy Roberts, from the Bureau of Transportation, addressed the concerns of the neighborhood regarding Sidewalk Repair. She gave the attendees the following links for more information about this problem to many in the Brooklyn Neighborhood.

FAQ for sidewalks: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/63313>

Sidewalk repair manual: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/443054>

If you are a property owner who wishes to voluntarily repair your sidewalks, please call 503-823-7002.

For additional questions on sidewalk repairs, please call 503-823-1711 or email [sidewalkrepair@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:sidewalkrepair@portlandoregon.gov)

Brenda Martin from TriMet, gave updates on a couple of projects in the neighborhood.

The Gideon Overcrossing is a pedestrian and bicycle bridge being planned near the Clinton Street MAX Station. It will be similar to the Rhine and Lafayette bridge, with some improvements for elevator reliability. Once completed, people on foot or bike will have a quick and safe alternative when trains are blocking the intersection. The project is at 60% design completion, with a finished bridge estimated in 2020.

The vacant property at the corner of Holgate & 17th is owned by TriMet. Though they have looked for buyers in the past, it is not currently on the market and there are no development plans at this time. If you see construction materials on that lot in the near future, they are just using the space to stage materials for other nearby projects.





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