

Brooklyn NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

November / December 2025

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Community Meeting Recap: The People's Depot Proposal

On October 7th, residents and businesses from both Brooklyn and Hosford-Abernethy gathered for a community discussion of The People's Depot (TPD)'s proposed relocation from under the Morrison Bridge to 1109 SE Brooklyn Street (SE Milwaukie & SE Powell). TPD is a nonprofit beverage container redemption center operated by Ground Score Association (GSA). In addition to recycling, TPD offers wrap-around services to improve the lives of its clients.

Designed as an educational forum, the meeting enabled attendees to hear directly from panelists, ask questions, and raise concerns about potential impacts on residents, businesses, and the community. Neighborhood panelists led a Q&A focused on operations, geography, traffic, and community impacts, followed by audience questions/comments. Panelists included spokespeople from both Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) and GSA/TPD spokespeople, plus two representatives from each neighborhood. The following notes were provided by an attendee:

Convenience Zone: The proposal creates a 3-mile zone around the site where retailers could stop or reduce hand-count container redemption. Additionally, 23 large retailers would stop accepting hand-counts and direct the community to TPD instead.

Hours & Volume Increase: Proposed operating hours would double to 5 hours per day. TPD estimates the number of canners served will increase from approximately 165 to 300 per day and to nearly triple its annual collections from the current 9 million to 25 million.

Site Risks and Proximity: The proposed location is at a busy intersection (35,000+ vehicles/day), next to an active railroad, and near schools, businesses, and residences. Some attendees raised safety and accessibility concerns for both canners and the community.

Security Mitigation: OBRC plans to add security cameras to the building, and there will be an additional \$500k annually to Portland Police Bureau's Behavioral Health Unit for outreach, and \$75k annually for litter and graffiti removal. No other commitments were offered for the community, though OBRC is open to a Good Neighbor Agreement. OBRC and GSA said it's neither required nor planned to conduct safety/livability assessments, but they do not expect conditions to worsen.

OBRC expects to submit its application to OLCC (the governing body) soon, which will trigger a 30-day public comment period. For details and to submit feedback scan the QR code or visit:
tinyurl.com/BottleDropTakeAction



Did You Notice...

Volunteers continue to maintain and beautify the 9th Avenue Overpass, which is a vital connection for the Brooklyn neighborhood by providing safe passage over the traffic-laden Powell Boulevard. Nearly two years ago, a fire consumed the area around this overpass. Neighbors came together to clean the remaining trash, and were then inspired to remove the blackberries and seed native flowers. The overpass saga also tested the newly reformed Portland city government, which required different bureaus to work together for the first time (PBOT, Parks Dept., PEMO, et al) and ultimately led to overpass stewardship being given to BAC. Come and join the fun, email: 9thstreetoverpass@bacpdx.org



Brooklyn Action Committee (BAC) Meetings

BAC meetings are usually held in the Sacred Heart Villa Activity Room located at 3925 SE Milwaukie Avenue (virtual options available), and there are two types of public meetings.

General meetings occur bi-monthly on the 4th Wednesday; Board meetings occur on the 2nd Wednesday each month.

Brooklyn Land Use and Transportation Committee (BLUTC)

BLUTC generally meets the first Wednesday of every month.

The Portland City Council Transportation Committee received BLUTC's pedestrian crossing study of Holgate Boulevard.

Thank you to those that participated. ❤️

BLUTC continues to advocate for Brooklyn's access to the river from the neighborhood, access to Ross Island, and correction of the issues that have resulted in toxic algae blooms. Current negotiations between the City and RISG remain confidential.

Brooklyn Climate Action Team (BCAT)

In September, the Brooklyn Climate Action Team (BCAT) finished its three-part series on creating Go-Bags with a presentation from the Portland Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET), a program of the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM). Two quotes from the series reinforced the importance of the neighborhood's preparedness for emergencies:

"The strongest communities aren't those with the most resources; they're the ones that know each other best."

Jeremy Van Keuren, Community Preparedness Manager, PBEM

"During a disaster, 95 percent of people are rescued by their neighbors." Portland Neighborhood Emergency Team presentation

Enthusiasm for the Go-Bag series was so strong that BCAT hosted a follow-up session in October to review the neighborhood's assets and the skills and resources that neighbors have. This will remain a focus of BCAT's resiliency efforts. Resources from all sessions, including PBEM's budget-friendly plan to build a family disaster supply kit in 24 weeks, can be found at <https://bit.ly/BCATEmergencypreparedness> or by following the QR code:



For more information about the Go-Bag series, BCAT, or to get involved in neighborhood emergency preparedness efforts, email climate@bacpdx.org.

New apparel! This exclusive merch celebrates Brooklyn's apple orchard history with a unique apple blossom. Order online:

<https://BACMerch.printful.me>



Various colors, sizes, & fits!
Front (left) and back (right) →



EVENTS CALENDAR

BLUTC

11/5 @ 7pm
TBD

BAC: Board Meeting

11/12 @ 7pm
Sacred Heart Villa

BCAT

TBD

BAC: General Meeting

11/19 @ 7pm
Sacred Heart Villa

BLUTC

12/5 @ 7pm
TBD

BAC: Board Meeting

12/10 @ 7pm
Sacred Heart Villa

BCAT

TBD

**Scan and subscribe
for more events and
up-to-date
information:**



⚠️ URGENT: Brooklyn Park ⚠️ Summer Youth Program at Risk for 2026

SINCE 2018, Friends of Brooklyn Park (FOBP) has kept summer alive for neighborhood kids—after Portland Parks & Rec discontinued its longtime program.

For 8 summers, this volunteer-run initiative has brought: 🧡 Joy
🧡 Structure
🧡 Community

**But now, the program's future is in
EXTREME DANGER**

🧡 Fundraising
🧡 Operations
📁 Compliance paperwork
🧡 *The infrastructure is ready—
we just need fresh energy!*

💚 **HELP KEEP BROOKLYN PARK VIBRANT AND
KID-FRIENDLY IN SUMMER 2026**
Email: fobrooklynpark@gmail.com
Without YOU, there will be no Summer Youth Program
next year.

Gone, But Not Forgotten

The historic Gravenstein Apple tree (*Malus x domestica*), which was located on 9th Avenue at Center, was felled. The tree is believed to be the last tree from Gideon Tibbets Orchard, which operated from 1847 until approximately 1887. This magnificent apple tree grew to be well over 65 feet tall with a spread of 68 feet. Though the tree is no more, the flower blossoms were immortalized earlier this year via the sign toppers designed by Brooklynite Ashley Plauché. In 1999, Portland City Council recognized this tree as the 204th Heritage Tree of Portland. The trees on this list are recognized for their unique size, age, historical or horticultural significance. Rest in peace gentle giant. Brooklyn well remember you.

November Pet-of-the-Month

Meet Howie! Mister, Mr. Man, Stinky, Pinto Bean, or Howard...it's a mood thing!

This one-year-old staffy mutt is a blur of joy who lives for cuddles, long walks, and making new dog friends. And by "making friends," we mean enthusiastically insisting on a playdate with every pup in sight. If your dog has ever been invited to an impromptu party on the sidewalk—chances are, it was Howie.



December Pet-of-the-Month

Figgy Pop, an 8-year old Siamese mix rescue, is a loyal member of the neighborhood watch via patrols from the window. Figgy brings her toys to bed at night (lined up in a row), and gets jealous of the laptop - those hands are for petting, not typing! Playful and sweet, she lives by the clock, reminding everyone when it is breakfast and dinner time. Figgy just wants to cuddle or hang with her people.



BROOKLoveYourNeighbor

A decade ago, Stephen Bachhuber found his love for the Brooklyn neighborhood. Before moving to Brooklyn in 2015, Stephen rehabbed a house in the neighborhood for their daughter. During that time, Stephen discovered, as he describes, *hidden gem Brooklyn*. Like many of us, Stephen values Brooklyn's centered proximity to Portland, the private feel of the neighborhood, and the sidewalks. During his family walks, Stephen quickly made friends with neighbors, often by chatting about yard projects. Stephen attends and volunteers for many of the neighborhood events. Stephen also loves to watch the birds, and, presumably, the birds love Stephen's vegetable garden, Backyard Habitat Certification, and efforts on the 9th Avenue Overpass beautification.

In 2019, the South Reach River Plan sparked a flame. Ignited by the vision of the neighborhood regaining connection to the waterfront, Stephen started to attend city meetings to learn more about how Portland operates. Stephen then joined the Brooklyn Land Use and Transportation Committee (BLUTC). Side-by-side with other neighbors, such as Josh and Andrew, the BLUTC has been operated collaboratively for several years now. Stephen often leads the BLUTC meetings. With Stephen's leadership, BLUTC elevates the neighborhood discussions on land use and transportation. Stephen's love for his family, neighbors, and nature is apparent through their actions.

♥ Brooklyn Loves Stephen ♥



Adopt-a-Block: Welcome New Adopters!

At the Ice Cream Social, four neighbors adopted-a-block: Ned H., Lauren J., The Crashley family and Jocelyn M. That is a total of 57 Adopters for Brooklyn! Thank you, neighbors.

Blocks are available: Rhone to Center/Milwaukie to 13th; Center to Mall/Milwaukie to 15th; East Brooklyn and from Holgate to Schiller. If any of these work for you, contact: Kathy Orton at kt_orton@hotmail.com.

Brooklyn Community Garden (BCG): Closing the 2025 Season

As the leaves begin to fall and the air grows crisp, the Brooklyn Community Garden closes its gates for another season — a season that has been nothing short of extraordinary.

This year, our garden was not just a place where vegetables grew — it was a place where community took root. Together, we built something beautiful: the foundation of a donation program that now supports families in our own neighborhood who struggle to put fresh food on their tables. Through your hands, hearts, and hours of care, we turned soil into hope.

Each tomato, cucumber, and herb grown for donation carried a story — one of kindness, collaboration, and the quiet strength of people who still believe that small acts can change lives. Our partnership with local food pantries has already made a difference, and it's only the beginning.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to every one of our members and volunteers — for your sweat, your smiles, your patience, and your spirit. You showed what it means to belong, to give, and to stand together.

Let's never forget: community begins with noticing. When we pause and look left and right — when we ask, "Does my neighbor have a warm meal tonight?" — we honor the true spirit of humanity. There is no shame in asking for help, and no greater joy than offering it.

That is the heart of the Brooklyn Community Garden — a garden not only of plants, but of people. Thank you for another incredible year of growth, connection, and compassion.

With appreciation and warmth,
Konstantinos Chrysovergis
Garden Manager, Brooklyn Community Garden

Thanks to everyone for a successful 2025 Ice Cream Social: volunteers, Fred Meyer for gift certificates, St. Vincent dePaul for freezer space, Sacred Heart Church for tables and chairs, and D&H Flagg for loaning the free cones, neighbors for electricity, and everyone else!

Pictured: The Yamhillbillies, face paintings, bubbles, and a slide!



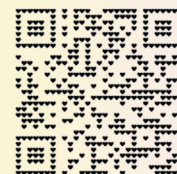
Brooklyn Historical Plaques

The Brooklyn Historical Society provides plaques for \$32 each. The plaques are identical in design and color to those already in existence with the addition of construction date, a custom script, and a weather resistant material.

Questions? Email the BAC Treasurer at treasurer@bacpdx.org



Order Online!



This bi-monthly newsletter is published by the BAC, and distributed by many dedicated volunteers. Community announcements, events, pet-of-the-month nominations, etc., are accepted as space is available and subject to BAC approval. Please submit items by the 1st of even-numbered months.

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Email: brooknews@bacpdx.org



BEST OF BROOKLYN BUSINESS BULLETIN

Supported by your Brooklyn Business Association (BBA)

Welcome to the business insert of the Brooklyn News! This insert is meant to **familiarize neighborhood residents** with our Brooklyn area neighborhood businesses. This is a place for **Brooklyn businesses** to advertise, inform, and share their products and services. This insert supports our local small businesses, which are vital to the unique character and vibrancy of our neighborhood. If you are a Brooklyn small business or know any Brooklyn based business interested in having a **feature space on this page or an ad**, please reach out to us at the BBA at GreaterBrooklynBA@gmail.com for more information.

Brooklyn Business Member News and Events

BBA Expresses Concern Over Proposed People's Depot Relocation

The BBA Board has posted a statement on their website regarding their relocation to the Brooklyn area. Many of the businesses in the immediate area are concerned about the potential negative impact on their businesses and their customers. Please check out our official statement at BrooklynBA.com >About >News

Rose City Coffee to be Open 24 hours!

Getting on an early morning or late-night flight? Pulling an all-nighter for work or school? Working the night shift? Rose City Coffee has you taken care of! As of **November 18th**, they will be **OPEN 24 HOURS!** So now you can get your caffeine fix literally any time of day!

2025 Coolest Thing Made in Oregon!

It's Rugged Trucks vs. Art Glass! Oregon Business and Industry and Here is Oregon is hosting the competition. **Bullseye Glass** is in the final championship round against Daimler Trucks! We'll know the winner by the time this delivers, but not before it prints. ☺ Check out their competition below and congratulate them on their success getting past at least 14 other amazing Oregon products! Check their social media today to see if they won! *Hooray for Brooklyn Business!*

The 2025 Coolest Thing Made in Oregon Top Sixteen products:

Garmin GTN 750Xi Touchscreen Flight Navigator, **Daimler Truck** North America Western Star X-Series Trucks, DSD Strutter Turkey Decoy, **Kingsford Charcoal**, Keith Manufacturing Walking Floor Truck Unloading System, **Deschutes Brewery** Black Butte Porter, NIC Industries Cerakote, Oshkosh AeroTech LEKTRO Electric Aircraft Tugs, **Tillamook Cheese**, Studson Safety Helmets, **Pendleton Blankets**, Kawak Aviation Technologies Cascade Helicopter Firefighting Bucket, **Beaver Brand Mustard**, Kratos Fly Fitness Quest Station Flywheel Trainer, **Bullseye Glass**, A-dec 500 Pro Dental Delivery System

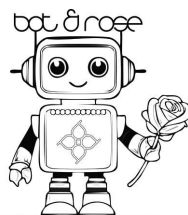
Upcoming Brooklyn Business Assoc Events: Open to all Brooklyn area business owners/managers.

Member-Hosted Thanksgiving Lunch
November 14th – 11:45am-1pm @ TBD
(RSVP highly encouraged on BBA website)



Artist & Craftsman Supply, Portland SE
NEW BBA 'Neighborhood Partner'!
Store at 3393 SE 21st Ave

Artist & Craftsman Supply has been providing artists with excellent creative materials at competitive prices since 1985. Our SE Portland location carries a wide variety of supplies for all types of arts and crafts, plus puzzles, games, and gifts. We offer monthly sales and promotions, as well as our free A&C Rewards Program, where members earn rewards on most in-store purchases for savings on subsequent visits. Any questions can be answered by our helpful, knowledgeable staff of artists. Visit us in-store at 3393 SE 21st Ave or browse our website to shop online anytime!



Bot and Rose Design

BBA 'Growing Partner'!

Home-based business

Bot and Rose Design is a full-service design and development web studio that's been in the Brooklyn neighborhood for the past 10 years.

B&RD's president and co-founder, **Michael Gubitosa**, has a degree in architecture, but early in his career found his passion in web design and front-end development. B&RD specializes in building custom content management systems for both local and national clients and has worked with companies like Nike, Intel, Johns Hopkins, and the Texas Ranger. Check out their website at botandrose.com.



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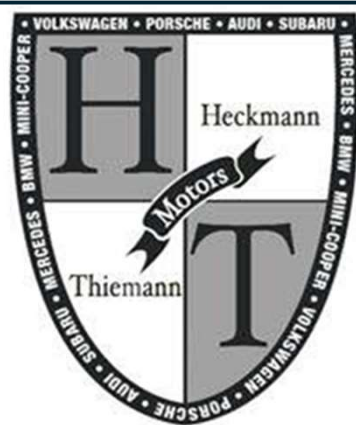
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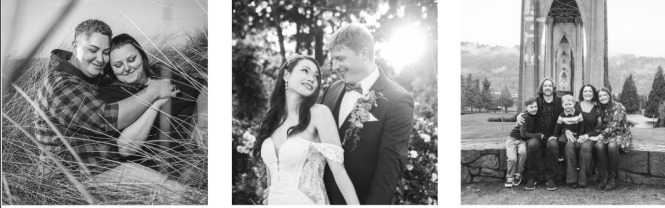
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 TEQUILA FOOD BEER

New for 2025!

Brooklyn

BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Holiday Gift Guide

First annual Brooklyn Holiday Gift Guide coming Nov 15th!

The BBA is printing and distributing a special holiday gift guide throughout the Brooklyn Neighborhood this year! It'll have holiday offers, coupons, ads, and some fun pages to serve as introductions to who is who in the neighborhood.

Pick your copy up at your favorite BBA member business or find it online at:
holiday-guide.brooklynba.com

This space is available for a single-issue, paid advertisement. Any business interested in purchasing ad space in an upcoming issue of the Brooklyn Newsletter please email GreaterBrooklynBA@gmail.com