Citizen Participation Organization 4K

There will not be a CPO 4K meeting in December

The next CPO 4K meeting will be Monday, January, 17, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Highlands Club House
12930 SW Peachvale

West Bull Mountain Concept Plan Adopted

The Washington County Board of Commissioners, after considering public comment at their November 23rd meeting, voted 5-0 to adopt the West Bull Mountain Concept Plan by Resolution & Order (R&O). A complete copy of the R&O with attachments is available on the website at: http://www.co.washington.or.us/LUT/PlanningProjects/westbullmt/index.cfm.

In approving the R&O the Board recognized that the Concept Plan was the first step in planning for the future of West Bull Mountain and that it provides the vision for how the area should be developed. The Board also acknowledged that the development of the community plan and funding strategy will be addressed in the next planning phase.

This milestone was reached after a lengthy planning process that included input from County staff, the Technical Advisory Committee and the Stakeholder Work Group and the public. The project team appreciates the interest and efforts made by all who participated in developing the Concept Plan.
From your Washington County Board of Commissioners:

**Washington County’s Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness**

Like many communities across the nation, a growing number of our friends and neighbors are facing financial hardships. For some, the result can be an unstable housing situation or even homelessness. Washington County saw an 11 percent increase in the number of homeless last year. Nearly 1,400 people experience homelessness on any given night in Washington County, and unemployment is their most frequently-cited reason for being homeless.

On June 3, 2008, our Board of Commissioners approved the Ten-Year Plan To End Homelessness. The Ten-Year Plan, which represents a partnership among organizations and jurisdictions across Washington County, is the cornerstone to developing strategies, programs, and activities that can best assist homeless families and individuals in their move toward housing and self-sufficiency.

The first two years of the Plan’s implementation has resulted in a $6 million investment of federal, state, and local resources to support our community’s homeless services. As we begin Year Three, $4 million of the $5.5 million targeted by the Plan has already been funded. This includes $700,000 in new federal funds to support mortgage and rental assistance, veteran services, mental health services, and employment support.

We can see many concrete examples of the Plan’s positive impact. One difficult, and sometimes deadly, aspect of homelessness is finding safety during extreme weather conditions, especially for children and seniors. Under the auspices of the Plan, community partners in Washington County developed a collaborative solution to address this problem. In partnership with faith-based organizations, Washington County coordinates a Severe Weather Shelter program to provide temporary emergency shelter to homeless persons during inclement weather. During the winter of 2009-10, six church shelters provided 3,221 bed stays and hot meals to homeless individuals.

When the Board of Commissioners approved the Ten-Year Plan, Chairman Brian said the following: "The collective capacity of our compassion and commitment is greater than the depth of this challenge. We believe a reduction of homelessness is an achievable goal in Washington County through this Ten-Year Plan.” Three years into the Plan, we see concrete signs that this compassion and commitment are making a difference for those facing homelessness in our community.

For information on how to get involved, please go to: [http://www.co.washington.or.us/Housing/10-year-plan-to-end-homelessness.cfm](http://www.co.washington.or.us/Housing/10-year-plan-to-end-homelessness.cfm).

**Chairman Tom Brian**
Commissioner Andy Duyck
Commissioner Roy Rogers
Commissioner Dick Schouten
Commissioner Desari Strader

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**Neighborhood Watch Advisory Board Training**

*What types of activities might you get involved in through your Neighborhood Watch group?*

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) educate people about disaster preparedness and train them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operation. Come and learn how Neighborhood Watch is related to CERT.

The training will be on **Tuesday, January 25, 2011, 6:30-8:00PM** at the Washington County Sheriff’s Office Law Enforcement Center, Training Room B, 215 SW Adams Ave, Hillsboro.

For more information or to register for this class, please call 503-846-2774 or email Darlene_schnoor@co.washington.or.us.
I'd like to remind you that there are quite a few opportunities to get involved with Metro this month. Whether you decide to participate in one of our upcoming public hearings on a potential capacity ordinance or simply want to enjoy Metro’s natural areas, you’ll undoubtedly find something of interest. The best part is, most events are free or low-cost and registration can be completed online. Follow the links below for more information.

To stay in touch with news and events, subscribe to e-mail updates, RSS feeds, old-fashioned mailings and more on Metro's website www.oregonmetro.gov/connect.

**December Activities:**

**Public Hearing: Metro Capacity Ordinance.** 2 p.m. Thursday December 16, 2010 at the Metro Regional Center, 600 NE Grand Ave, Portland. Metro is evaluating proposals to create stronger protections for industrial land to ensure it remains available for large manufacturers; to focus public investments to support existing businesses, cities, town centers and transportation corridors; and to provide more affordable housing, among other areas. Four public hearings will be held throughout the region over the next three weeks. To learn more go to http://news.oregonmetro.gov/1/post.cfm/metro-council-to-focus-on-efficiencies-inside-ugb-this-fall?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+OregonMetroNews+%28Metro+news%29

**Native Plant Center volunteer venture:** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, December 18, 2010. Volunteer at the Native Plant Center , 2661 SW Borland Rd, Tualatin and help care for the rare native seeds and plant stock that support Metro's restoration projects. This year's projects include Clear Creek and Gotter Prairie Natural Areas. Fall activities vary and will include transplanting seedlings, harvesting and cleaning native seeds, planting native plugs for prairie habitat seed production, harvesting bulbs for restoration plantings and fall seed planting. To learn more go to http://calendar.oregonmetro.gov/events/index.php?com=detail&eID=2655

I hope to see you at one or several of these events.

More things to do, brought to you by GreenScene

Metro GreenScene provides a comprehensive calendar of free and low-cost nature activities, gardening workshops, volunteer ventures and community events offered all around the region by Metro and dozens of other organizations.

To view the online calendar go to http://calendar.oregonmetro.gov/events/
To Visit the GreenScene page go to http://www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=24231
Follow on Facebook or follow on Twitter

Carl Hosticka
Metro Councilor, District 3
carl.hosticka@oregonmetro.gov

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**Inclement Weather and CPO Meetings**

CPO meetings will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather when driving conditions may be hazardous. Our decisions will match those of PCC which generally posts cancellations of evening events/classes after 3 pm. to the PCC homepage: www.pcc.edu. An alert will be displayed in red near the top of the page. Depending upon your browser's settings, you may need to refresh the page periodically to see the most up to date information.

If your CPO is scheduled to meet and the weather is bad, check the PCC website. If you see the red alert band at the top of the page, this means your CPO meeting is cancelled. If additional information is available, the alert may include links to other documents. The PCC operator voice recording will be updated to include closure notifications. This recording can be reached at (503) 244-6111, or toll free at 1-866-922-1010. We will also have a recording at the CPO Program telephone number (503) 821-1128.
Washington County Response to LCDC Action on Urban and Rural Reserves - Proposed Supplemental IGA and Map

The Washington County Board of Commissioners will consider adoption of a supplemental Urban and Rural Reserves Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Metro on Tuesday, December 14, 6:30 p.m., Charles D. Cameron Public Services Building, 155 N. First Avenue, Hillsboro, Shirley Huffman Auditorium. Please note that this information is subject to change, see the last paragraph for more information.

In a decision on October 29, 2010 the Land Conservation and Development Commissions (LCDC) directed the County to remove the Urban Reserve designation on lands north of Council Creek, near the City of Cornelius and to provide additional findings for the Urban Reserves north and east of Council Creek, north of the City of Forest Grove. The decision also provided the County and Metro an opportunity to reconsider rural reserves in Washington County to comply with the LCDC decision.

Washington County has used the substantial record of research and analysis, and record of public comment, to develop proposals in the Supplemental IGA that are responsive to the LCDC decision. The County has reviewed options and conferred with numerous, but not all, interested parties in considering its response. The supplemental IGA proposes to replace the reduced Urban Reserves acreage north of the City of Cornelius (lands suitable for employment) with other lands in an amount not to exceed the reduced UR acreage and that are also suitable for employment. The Supplemental IGA also proposes to change a limited amount of acreage from Rural Reserves to Undesignated as discussed during the LCDC deliberations.

The Board will consider adoption of this supplement to the IGA through a Resolution & Order (R&O) at its December 14 meeting. The IGA and R&O are not “land use actions.” The R&O also will include a process leading to adoption of Comprehensive Plan amendments by March 31, 2011. If the Supplemental IGA is adopted by the County and Metro, the Comprehensive Plan amendments will be considered through a land use ordinance process, which will include notice of hearings and public testimony. Note that Metro Council President Carlotta Collette issued a brief statement on December 7 indicating Metro councilors were not supporting the draft proposal. [Link to statement]

Adoption of a new reserves ordinance in Washington County would be accompanied by a similar consideration for adoption by Metro to the Regional Framework Plan. Findings supporting both the County’s ordinance and Metro’s decision would then be forwarded to LCDC for their review early next summer.

Although not required as part of the adoption of an Intergovernmental Agreement, the Board will allow up to one hour of testimony at the December 14 meeting. The County’s, Metro’s and LCDC’s subsequent processes will have opportunity for additional public testimony prior to a final decision.

The proposed IGA materials, including maps and staff report are on the website: [IGA website]. The map is also included on page 5 of this newsletter. Updates, schedules and background information are also available on the website: [Reserves website]. For more information contact Mike Dahlstrom, Program Educator, 503 846-8101, mike_dahlstrom@co.washington.or.us.

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This milestone was reached after a lengthy planning process that included input from County staff, the Technical Advisory Committee and the Stakeholder Work Group and the public. The project team appreciates the interest and efforts made by all who participated in developing the Concept Plan.
Become a Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) Volunteer

Trauma Intervention Program of Portland/Vancouver, Inc. (TIP) is an organization of specially trained citizen volunteers who assist citizens in crisis. TIP is looking for caring people who want to be involved and make a difference in their community.

TIP is recruiting for a January 2011 Training Academy. Training consists of learning the specialized skills needed to assist victims and their family and friends immediately after a traumatic incident or sudden loss. TIP Volunteers are requested by and work with local police, fire and emergency medical crews. Volunteers can be called to assist in any traumatic situation such as:

- Offer comfort and support after the death or sudden illness of a loved one
- Provide emotional and practical support to those who have been robbed, burglarized or assaulted
- Help after a fire
- Support survivors of a suicide
- Help emotionally traumatized victims of accidents
- Witnesses to traumatic events
- Help those emotionally shaken by any crisis event
- Assist at schools or businesses after the death of student or employee

No experience is necessary; just bring your caring heart.

You can register online at: www.tipnw.org – click on the training tab. A TIP staff member will call you within 2 business days following submission of your registration for a brief phone interview. There is a $50.00 registration fee and attendance at each session is mandatory.

NOTE: Registration fee REQUIRED to secure your seat in the class. Please mail fee to TIP, 4800 NE 122nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97230

Dates and times of classes:

- Thursday, January 13th 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- Friday, January 14th 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- Saturday, January 15th 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Sunday, January 16th 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Wednesday, January 19th 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- Thursday, January 20th 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- Friday, January 21st 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM
- Saturday, January 22nd 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Monday, January 31st 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

First three 12-hour on-call shifts 7am to 7pm or 7pm or 7am, scheduled at your convenience.

All training sessions will be held at: Portland Fire Bureau Training Center, 4800 NE 122nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97230 503-823-3937.

Master Gardener Chapter Meetings- 2011, New Location and Day

The public is welcome to attend

**Tuesday, January 4, 2011**, 7:15 pm to 8:15 pm.
Beth Rose, Master Gardener will speak about Mason Bees.

**Tuesday, February, 1, 2011**, 7:15pm to 8:15pm.
Jim Gersbach with Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center will speak on Poison Prevention in the Garden.

All meetings will be held at First Baptist Church, 5755 SW Erickson Ave, Beaverton, Oregon 97005
For more information, please go to www.wcmga.info.
Online Shopping

Shopping online offers lots of benefits that you won't find shopping in a store or by mail. The internet is always open — seven days a week, 24 hours a day — and bargains can be numerous online. With a click of a mouse, you can buy an airline ticket, book a hotel, send flowers to a friend, or purchase your favorite fashions. But sizing up your finds on the internet is a little different from checking out items at the mall.

If you're buying items from an online retailer or auction website, OnGuard Online offers this advice to help you make the most of your shopping experience:

- **Know who you're dealing with.** Anyone can set up shop online under almost any name. Confirm the online seller's physical address and phone number in case you have questions or problems. If you get an email or pop-up message while you're browsing that asks for financial information, don't reply or click on the link in the message. Legitimate companies don't ask for this information via email.

- **Know exactly what you're buying.** Read the seller's description of the product closely, especially the fine print. Words like "refurbished," "vintage," or "close-out" may indicate that the product is in less-than-mint condition, while name-brand items with "too good to be true" prices could be counterfeits.

- **Know what it will cost.** Check out websites that offer price comparisons and then, compare "apples to apples." Factor shipping and handling — along with your needs and budget — into the total cost of the order. Do not send cash under any circumstances.

- **Pay by credit or charge card.** If you pay by credit or charge card online, your transaction will be protected by the Fair Credit Billing Act. Under this law, you have the right to dispute charges under certain circumstances and temporarily withhold payment while the creditor is investigating them. In the event of unauthorized use of your credit or charge card, you generally would be held liable only for the first $50 in charges. Some companies offer an online shopping guarantee that ensures you will not be held responsible for any unauthorized charges made online, and some cards may provide additional warranty, return, and/or purchase protection benefits.

- **Check out the terms of the deal, like refund policies and delivery dates.** Can you return the item for a full refund if you're not satisfied? If you return it, find out who pays the shipping costs or restocking fees, and when you will receive your order. A Federal Trade Commission (FTC) rule requires sellers to ship items as promised or within 30 days after the order date if no specific date is promised.

- **Keep a paper trail.** Print and save records of your online transactions, including the product description and price, the online receipt, and copies of every email you send or receive from the seller. Read your credit card statements as you receive them and be on the lookout for unauthorized charges.

- **Don't email your financial information.** Email is not a secure method of transmitting financial information like your credit card, checking account, or Social Security number. If you initiate a transaction and want to provide your financial information through an organization's website, look for indicators that the site is secure, like a lock icon on the browser's status bar or a URL for a website that begins "https:" (the "s" stands for "secure"). Unfortunately, no indicator is foolproof; some fraudulent sites have forged security icons.

- **Check the privacy policy.** It should let you know what personal information the website operators are collecting, why, and how they're going to use the information. If you can't find a privacy policy — or if you can't understand it, consider taking your business to another site that's more consumer-friendly.

**How to Report Online Shopping Fraud.** If you have problems during a transaction, try to work them out directly with the seller, buyer or site operator. If that doesn't work, file a complaint with:

- The Oregon Attorney General Consumer Hotline 877-877-9392, or access complaint forms and other information online at [http://www.doj.state.or.us/finfraud/index.shtml](http://www.doj.state.or.us/finfraud/index.shtml)
- The Better Business Bureau.

For more information go to [http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/online-shopping.aspx](http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/online-shopping.aspx)
We all want to help our Homeless Neighbors in such tough times. Here is an opportunity for you to donate resources or Volunteer during Washington County’s 5th Annual Project Homeless Connect on Friday, January 28, 10am to 6pm

Sonrise Church, 6701 NE Campus Drive, Hillsboro
Max Stop: Orenco Station (shuttle provided) and Bus Lines #47 and 48

A one-day, one-stop event for FREE resources:

- Medical, Dental, Vision
- Haircuts
- Housing Information
- Transportation Information
- Pet Care and Supplies
- Bicycle Supplies and Services
- And much more!

Please see their web site: www.phcwashco.org for more information and comments from other volunteers.

Contact Robyn Hoppes, email: info@phcwashco.org.

To volunteer go to www.handsonportland.org.

Together, we can make all the difference to struggling individuals and families.

Organizing partners: Pacific University, Sonrise Church, Good Neighbor Center, Hands On Greater Portland, Vision Action Network.