

*Next Meeting of the Homestead Neighborhood Association*

**Tuesday, November 1, 2011 7:00 p.m.**

OHSU CDRC, 707 SW Gaines St, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

Chair: Eric Schnell [eric8schnell@gmail.com](mailto:eric8schnell@gmail.com)

HomesteadNA.org

At October's Neighborhood Association meeting, we had several presentations and discussions regarding ongoing projects planned for the neighborhood:

**Marquam Hill Traffic Calming – Phase 2:** Elizabeth Mahon and Michelle Dellinger from the Portland Bureau of Transportation presented us with plans for the (long awaited) Phase 2 of the Marquam Hill Traffic Calming Project, focusing on the intersection of SW Condor Lane at Terwilliger. This stretch has been the site of numerous accidents over the last 10-15 years (including one fatality, and a recent high-profile bike vs. auto accident this summer), mostly due to a tight, narrow angle intersection onto a high-speed, low visibility section of Terwilliger. The city's immediate response after this summer's accident was to put in a colored bike lane and signs for increased awareness. The longer-term proposed solution includes a median to prevent left turns onto and off Condor Lane at Terwilliger, and a speed reader sign to prompt cars to follow the speed limits (speeds are regularly >10mph over the limit). The NA voted to support a study of cut-through traffic before and after a 1 month trial period with a temporary barrier, in order to assess it's effectiveness and to decide whether additional mitigation is needed on other neighborhood streets, since traffic patterns will likely shift as a result of the restriction.

This trial period will likely happen sometime this fall. More info should arrive via the mail, and we will further discuss the plans at an upcoming neighborhood meeting once the data from the study are available. If you have any feedback in the meantime, please get in touch!

**SW 11<sup>th</sup> Ave Sidewalk Project:** Andrew Aebi delived us with a project update: 60% plans are nearly completed, and thanks to a combination of funding from the Marquam Hill meter district and HB 2001, this project is now fully funded and on track to be completed sometime before the end of Summer 2012.

**6<sup>th</sup> Ave Parking Meters:** The NA had a discussion with PBOT representatives about the possibility of removing the parking meters on one side of SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. in order to widen the effective roadway given safety concerns. The city presented data showing that since the parking meters were installed, there have been no accidents reported near the intersection (as compared to several before the meters were installed). It is felt that the narrower roadway has considerably slowed down the speed of traffic passing through this stretch, and that this may have contributed to the reduced accident rate (the prior accidents here were all speed related). Some concerns were voiced about the impact of the narrower road on cyclists, and “sharrows” may be added to this stretch to increase cyclists' visibility. Overall, there was consensus to leave the meters as they currently are situated.

**OHSU smoking policy:** We had a discussion about the effects of the OHSU tobacco-free campus policy on the neighborhood, as OHSU smokers (staff and visitors) are forced off campus into the neighborhood to smoke. There have been several incidents that raised significant safety concerns due to some less than friendly confrontations between residents and smokers, and a longstanding issue with trash and second-hand smoke has persisted despite the placement of temporary trash cans at some of the highly used neighborhood locations. A group local residents, OHSU representatives, and ONI's Crime Prevention Coordinator are having ongoing discussions with OHSU on how to best mitigate this problem. OHSU is committed to finding a way to mitigate the effects of their policy on the neighborhood, so we are optimistic that we can come up with an agreeable solution for all.

Our next NA meeting is **November 1**. We will likely report on the Phase 2 traffic calming plans, any updates on the smoking policy, as well as discuss regular reports from SW Neighborhood committees and ongoing developments in the SW Corridor planning. We hope to see you there!