



Raleigh Park Voice

www.raleighpark.org

March 2002

Fate of traffic diverter at 86th and Birchwood subject to vote of residents

The temporary diverter at Birchwood and 86th is becoming an eyesore, and the project has been stalled due to a lack of response in the voting area. As you know, the diverter was only intended to be temporary until a final decision was made. While Washington County has recommended that a permanent diverter be installed and residents have already voted twice in favor of their recommendation, the County agreed to put the decision to one last vote after the Jesuit traffic light had been up and running for six months so that neighbors could consider any new traffic issues generated by the light. Ballots were mailed in mid-December to those households in the voting area (roughly the area west of Laurelwood, south of Birchwood, north of B-H Hwy., and east of 91st). The response so far is approximately 50%. The county needs a majority decision based on the total number of ballots to either begin designing a permanent diverter or remove the temporary one. Their draft plan for a permanent diverter would include a walking/biking path access and decorative landscape or hardscape, much more aesthetically pleasing than what we have now. Plans for a permanent diverter would also give consideration to traffic calming improvements on Brentwood between Laurelwood and 86th. Any improvements on Brentwood would be done in cooperation with Brentwood homeowners.

When making your decision, please note that the City



Diverter proponents say it reduces dangerous traffic on neighborhood streets. Opponents say it is inconvenient and diverts traffic to other streets.

of Beaverton will be going forward with traffic calming measures on 87th, Birchwood, and Laurelwood that will probably involve some speed humps on these streets. Again, Washington County has recommended installation of a permanent diverter, and they have advised us that removal of the diverter will most likely result in increased traffic on 86th, Parkview and White Pine.

We really need your help to get this project wrapped up. Those of you in the voting area who have not voted need to do so. If you have misplaced your ballot, you may call Shiela Giambrone at 503-846-7950 to obtain a new one. Otherwise, over the next few weeks, Raleigh Park Neighborhood Association Board members will be visiting those households that have not yet voted in order to collect your vote. They will provide a ballot and privacy envelope which will be forwarded to Washington County. All Board members collecting ballots will be from outside the voting area to maintain neutrality.

Raleigh Park Neighborhood Association Donations Support Local Schools, Churches and Red Cross Disaster Relief

In 2001, the Raleigh Park Neighborhood Association donated \$125 to the Raleigh Park Elementary School PTO (ParentTeacher Organization) and \$125 to the Whitford Middle School PTO, with the request that the funds be used for programs directly benefiting students. Another \$125 was donated to the Beaverton High School Booster Club, with recognition of the donation published in the Football, Fall/Winter Sports, Boys' Basketball and Girls' Basketball Game Programs and in the Student Directory.

Valley Community Presbyterian Church also received a \$250 donation from RPNA as a thank you for providing very generous access to their building for numerous public meetings, and for serving as a true community center for our neighborhood. Finally, RPNA responded to the tragedy of September 11, 2001 by donating \$50 to the American Red Cross Liberty Disaster Relief Fund.

Raleigh Park Voice

The Raleigh Park Voice is edited by Patrick and Carolyn Brunett and is published quarterly by the Raleigh Park Neighborhood Association (RPNA) through generous contributions from the friends and neighbors of Raleigh Park.

The mission of the Raleigh Park Neighborhood Association is to promote neighborhood unity and safety, and to preserve neighborhood integrity and livability for all residents.

Raleigh Park Neighborhood Association Board

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Beaverton streets traffic calming moves ahead

Several meetings have now been held by the City of Beaverton to discuss traffic calming options for Laurelwood Avenue, Birchwood Road and 87th Avenue in our neighborhood. The last scheduled meeting was February 28, 2002 at Raleigh Park Elementary School. Information on the outcome of that meeting was not available at press time for this newsletter. However, an overview will be given at the RPNA General Meeting on March 11th. Additional public forums may be needed to complete this process. If so, notification signs will be posted in advance on Laurelwood, Birchwood, and 87th. All interested individuals are invited to attend and participate. Following selection of a plan, a public open house will be scheduled to provide additional public review and comment. A survey will then be conducted, and if the results indicate support for the plan, the Beaverton Traffic Commission will hold a noticed public hearing.

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Annual Picnic Volunteer Recruitment Begins

An invitation to those of you with creative ideas, hidden talents, or just a desire for fun, adventure and involvement . . .

We will be holding a picnic planning and fundraising ideas meeting on **Monday, March 18th, 6:30 p.m. Valley Community Church, Room #7.**

For the past six years, our primary fundraiser and community gathering has been the Annual Picnic held each year in August. It has become a much anticipated event both in our neighborhood and surrounding community. At this time, we need more committee members and volunteers to keep the tradition going. Otherwise, we may need to look at some alternative ideas both for fundraising and for neighborhood events.

Fundraising is needed to keep the monthly newsletter going, to fund the website, and to provide funds for neighborhood projects. We have also been able to make several contributions each year to local schools, and to Valley Community Church for their support and for generously allowing use of their facilities for neighborhood meetings and gatherings.

The purpose of the Raleigh Park Neighborhood Association is to promote neighborhood unity, safety, and livability by educating and informing our neighbors on topics of interest and those that will affect our neighborhood directly. Last year we took the lead in defeating a neighborhood methadone clinic, and we continually work with CPO3 to provide information and testimony to Washington County and the City of Beaverton on

development projects that affect our neighborhood such as the Raleigh Hills Town Center and recent Zwahlen Development Proposal.

Again, we invite you to bring your talents and ideas to our meeting on March 18th. For more information, feel free to call **Debbie Conrad at 292-2182.** Hope to see many of you there!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Raleigh Hills

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30

3:00-4:30 pm

**Easter Egg Hunt by age group from 1 to 12 years
Projects and Games for families
Prizes for all ages, from 1 to 101!**

**Raleigh Hills Assisted Living
and Alzheimer Care Community
4815 SW Dogwood Lane**

**Call 503-297-3200 for more information
and to reserve your spot today**

**Raleigh Park Neighborhood
Association Meeting – Planned Agenda
Monday, March 11, 2002, 7:00 PM
Valley Community Presbyterian Church
(Corner of Laurelwood and Brentwood)**

Introduction & Approval of Minutes

Guest Speakers:

Susan McLain, Metro Councilor

**On Measure 2002 to limit neighborhood
growth and density**

Amy Alderson

**Raleigh Hills Assisted Living and
Alzheimer Care Community**

Treasurer's Report

Officers' Reports:

Washington County Sheriff

Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue

Diverter on 86th & Birchwood

Beaverton Streets Traffic Calming Update

RPNA Neighborhood Improvement Projects

Announcements

Neighborhood Concerns & Guest Forum

Neighborhood Beautification and Improvement Projects Get Off The Ground

The Raleigh Hills Neighborhood Association is in the final stages of planning for implementation of its neighborhood beautification and improvement program. Under consideration are the following projects:

- Purchasing, hanging and maintaining seasonal flower baskets similar to those in Hillsdale and Lake Oswego
- Installing Doggy Poop Clean Up Bag stations in Raleigh Park
- Building attractive entrance treatments at key neighborhood intersections
- Annual planting of new trees along highways and neighborhood streets

Past projects have included building the neighborhood kiosk at the West Slope Library and participation in the SOLV Clean and Green Highway Clean Up.

For more information about the projects, sponsorship opportunities, donation of supplies or other resources, and to volunteer, come to the RPNA meeting in March, or contact **Patrick Brunett at 503-292-7794.**

UPDATE: Zwahlen Property Development

On January 17, 2002, Washington County held a Type III public hearing to review plans and hear public testimony regarding a proposed development at 8100 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, between 78th and Laurelwood, known as the Zwahlen Property. The applicant proposes a five-story development to include 25,000 sq. ft. of office and retail space, 96 attached dwelling units, and below-ground and street level parking. They propose three access driveways onto Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway and one onto Laurelwood. These driveways are also intended to accommodate traffic flow from the Courtyard Village Assisted Living Facility.

The applicant has requested some exceptions to community codes, including a request for reduction in the required front yard set-back off of Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, a request for reduction in the required spacing between driveways and distance from the Laurelwood/B-H Highway intersection, and a mitigation plan to allow for intrusion into the protected wetland area. Opponents of the plan testified both orally and in writing, citing their concerns about traffic impacts, inadequate spacing of driveways to each other and the intersection, and negative impacts to the wetlands.

Washington County has granted approval of the application, with several conditions. A complete report on this conditional approval will be presented at our March general meeting: March 11, 2002, 7 p.m., at Valley Community Church. For more information, please contact RPNA Chair Debra Conrad at 503-292-2182.

Oleson Road Reconstruction Project:

Citizen Participation Organization #3 recently held discussions on Washington County's planning regarding Oleson Road. Discussions have centered around Vision and Goals regarding preservation of character and livability of neighborhoods, pedestrian and bike access, wildlife preservation, traffic control, transit improvements, street lighting, storm water drainage and accessibility for the disabled. For more information concerning the planning process and citizen participation opportunities, contact CPO #3 chairman **David Wilson at 503-297-7315.**



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