

Parks, Open Spaces & Environment Committee Report - May 2011
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Gateway Park property (NE Halsey at 106th):

- “Picnic in the Park” is the theme for the big event on Wednesday, July 13, starting at 5:00 pm. In addition to a movie (Yogi Bear) with free popcorn, two local bands will play, starting at 6:30 pm. Other activities include a portable climbing wall, face-painting, a clown, GABA’s Keystone Kops, bicycle skills course, and more.
- Please consider volunteering to help at this event. In addition to needing help with set-up and take-down, we can use neighborhood association folks to greet people and direct them to the various activities.

Stark Street Triangle Park (SE Stark at 106th):

- Unfortunately, at least one of the new trees planted at this park has been broken off, and a second one appears to be dead.

Ventura Park (SE 117th & Stark):

- Three musical groups have been confirmed for concerts on Wednesdays Aug 17, 24 and 31. Here’s the line-up for the 2011 concerts:
 - August 17: Chata Addy and Susuma (traditional & modern African music)
 - August 24: David Correa and Cascada (Latin guitar)
 - August 31: The Midnight Serenaders (vintage vocal jazz)
- There will be two food vendors at the concerts: Headwaters Café and Island Daydream Natural Shaved Ice. Headwaters Café, which uses an old airstream travel trailer for its kitchen, is known for serving healthy, local food.
- The NW Trail Alliance (a local mountain biking group) has been given the “go ahead” to create a bicycle pumptrack demonstration project in Ventura Park. Members of that organization will construct it – and maintain it.

Glendoveer Fitness Trail (NE 148th & Halsey):

- Metro, which owns the property is considering possible upgrades to the facility. On-site interviews and focus-group sessions have been completed. There are tentative plans for an Open House to report the results of the survey and discuss possible projects – probably in mid-summer.

Glendoveer Golf Course/Indoor Tennis Center (NE Glisan at 140th):

- Metro is also looking at potential capital improvement at the other facilities at Glendoveer, including the golf course, driving range, covered tennis courts, pro shop and Ringside restaurant. Results of their evaluation will be presented at an Open House this summer.

Sullivan’s Gulch Trail (not in Hazelwood, but this proposed trail will run from Eastside Esplanade through Gateway Green to the I-84 interchange at NE 122nd Ave):

- The long-awaited contract between ODOT, Metro and the City of Portland has been finalized, a citizen advisory group has been selected, and the first official study on

this trail has finally started. The Portland Bureau of Transportation will lead the project, but Portland Parks & Recreation will manage the public involvement process.

Gateway Green (not in Hazelwood, but just steps away from the Gateway Transit Center):

- The Gateway Green Implementation Team will be meeting again soon.
- Ten volunteers participated in the SOLV IT earth day event at the Gateway Green site on Sat April 16, picking up trash and cutting the ivy at the base of more than 100 trees on the site.
- Friends of Gateway Green applied for a grant through Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services for monies to hold ten monthly on-site events that will focus on water quality and habitat. We'll do more trash clean-ups, invasive species removal, identifying and mapping of significant trees, wildlife observations, and more starting in July 2011.
- Friends of Gateway Green also applied for a \$10,000 planning grant through Metro, which has been recommended for funding with final approval expected on May 19.

East Portland Parks Coalition:

- Next meeting will be Thursday, June 1, from 7 to 8:30 pm at the EPNO office. Metro will report preliminary findings from the surveys and focus groups about potential improvements at Glendoveer.

Sunday Parkways East:

- The first of five 2011 Sunday Parkways events will be in East Portland on Sunday, May 22. The hours have been changed this year with the event running from 11 am to 4 pm. The route in East Portland is 7 miles long, includes a segment of the newly re-paved Springwater Corridor and takes riders by several parks, including the Beggars Tick wildlife refuge.

E-205 Initiative:

- Park Commissioner, Nick Fish, announced a new initiative, designed to lessen the equity gap in park-deficient East Portland. The Commissioner and PP&R staff unveiled details about the initiative at the May 5th meeting of the East Portland Parks Coalition.
- Comments on a draft list of projects to be funded by this initiative are being solicited through the end of May. Visit www.portlandonline.com/parks/index.cfm?c=54791 for more information and to submit your comments.

Other Announcements:

- The Gateway Business Association's (GABA) annual Fun-O-Rama Community Fair will be from 1 to 4 pm, Sat May 21 at 111th Square on NE Halsey. The event will include a bike ride, "Gateway's Got Talent" show, an art show, display of classic cars, many raffle prizes, and more. Talent application forms are available at: <http://www.gabanet.com/>