

News in the Corridor

April 2007

This email contains a mix of short news-bits and introductions for longer articles. Having trouble viewing this email? [Try our website.](#)

Brownfield Redevelopment

New Assistance, New Incentives, New Tools New Reasons for Investment

Our last Brownfields forum stirred a lot of interest and led directly to at least one large purchase. Since then, government agencies at the local and state level have increased the level of assistance they provide for brownfield purchases. Our panel of experts will explain the new incentives and lay out a path through the remaining obstacles.

Wednesday, May 23rd, 2007

7:30 am - 9:00 am

[Reserve Now](#)

Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Projects Approved

Three major Columbia Corridor projects were included in this year's MTIP list:

1. 82nd Ave at Columbia Blvd intersection improvements
2. Portland Rd. at Columbia Blvd improvements
3. Railroad undercrossing widening at 223rd, near Sandy Blvd.

For the full list of projects, go to metro-region.org.

East End Connector Update

The City of Portland is constructing a new roadway connection between NE Killingsworth and NE Columbia Blvd. The new connection will be a four lane road from NE 87th Ave. to NE Columbia Blvd near the Portland Conference Center. [More details...](#) [Photos of the Construction...](#)

Columbia Blvd Construction

The sewer pipe installation in the middle of Columbia Blvd is proceeding quickly, but not without frustrations for local traffic. As the construction moves westward, the contractor will shift work to a lateral connection at NE 47th. It's not currently known how much traffic will be blocked in this next phase.

If you experience difficulties with the construction, please call CCA at 503.287.8686.

Sustainable Development Funds Available

The Sustainable Business Assistance program is a joint project of the Portland Development Commission and Zero Waste Alliance. It provides matching funds

to help businesses become more sustainable, enhance their profitability, retain or even grow employment. The scope varies from green building related assistance to GHG offset calculations to chemical toxicity and waste stream solutions.

Business being helped can count their time and even equipment purchases as part or all of their matching funds contribution. Projects are usually in the \$7,000 to \$10,000 range, sometimes without any cash paid by the businesses. There is \$25,000 allocated for the Airport Way URA. For more information, call Corky at 503.287.8686 or corky@columbiacorridor.org.

Halton is Throwing a Party

You know they're getting big when they have a Main Campus and a new East Campus. To celebrate, Halton invites the public to a party: May 4th, 11am – 2pm. Tour the campus, win prizes and enjoy some barbeque. [The invitation...](#)

Halton has also signed up as the 2007 Grand Sponsor for the CCA Golf Classic—keep an eye out for more sponsorships!

Children's Arboretum Getting a Big Upgrade

There's a little known big park tucked between NE 6th and 13th, just south of Marine Drive. The 20 acre site is getting some improvements, thanks to a variety of grants and the hard work of a couple of local residents. [More...](#)

Crime Prevention Tips

A number of businesses in the Columbia Corridor are experiencing an increase in crime, particularly metal theft. Electrical conduits are being sawed open to get to copper wiring, water pipes are being pulled up, etc. Jim Kosel of Competition Specialties put together a list of suggestions based on a tour of his business by the Crime Prevention Group. [7 Tips](#)

February Economic Index

The University of Oregon Index of Economic Indicators™ declined 0.4 percent in February. The index suggests continued slow to moderate economic growth in Oregon in the near term (three to six months). [Full pdf report...](#)

Portland Habilitation Center Adds Solar to New Facilities

As if the \$8 million, 110,000 square foot facility wasn't enough, Portland Habilitation Center chose to add 4800 solar panels to the roof. [The Oregonian article...](#)

Groundwater Protection Program Workshop

The Cities of Gresham, Fairview and Portland created an excellent program to minimize potential chemical spills in the area above the wells that are the back-up drinking water supply for the region. The program focuses on practical and effective means to minimize the chance of contaminating a well.

[Our next workshop is scheduled for May 15th](#). To make it a little less agonizing, we're providing lunch and free spill kits for businesses that are regulated under this program. Call Corky at 503.287.8686 with any questions.

Welcome New and Renewing Members!

Albina Community Bank	AMEC Earth & Environmental
DP Partners	Boeing
Bridgewater Group	Documart
Bank of Clark County	Harsch Investment Corp.
GeoEngineers	Henkels & McCoy
Integrated Corporate Property Services	Multnomah County Drainage
Key Bank	Northside Ford
Pacific Power	"3"
Quest Property Management	Wells Development Co
Stoel Rives	The Portland Expo Center

MHCC's Competitive Edge Business Training Series Continues

The popular series of \$29 seminars, designed to support employees and managers from organizations of all sizes and types, will continue with a new topic each month throughout the spring and summer. All classes are held on the Gresham Mt. Hood Community College campus, from 1pm-4pm. Parking is free, beverages will be served and the workshop-style classes promise to give each participant tools to increase their potential to be successful both in the workplace and outside of it.

For more information, go to mhcc.edu or call Melanie at 503-491-7585.

Metro Economic Development Speakers Series

Metro is bringing some of the leading economic development thinkers in the United States to town. Speakers offer their insights into the national and global forces affecting regional competitiveness and provide counsel for business and government leaders and the residents of the Portland metropolitan region.

[More...](#)

MCDD Looking for Summer Help

The Multnomah County Drainage District has two summer maintenance job openings. This includes operating industrial tractors, use of power tools, painting and cleaning pump stations. For more information, contact Bruce McClelland at 503-281-5675 x 307, or at bmcclelland@mcdd.org before May 18th.

Columbia Slough Watershed Council Events

May 19: Wetlands 101 Introduction to the unique Ramsey Wetland Complex

May 30: Paddle the Slough 40 minute trip on the tree-lined Whitaker Slough

More info at columbiaslough.org

Upcoming Events

May 8: Lunch with Portland Commissioner Randy Leonard

May 17: Lunch Tour of Jubitz

May 23: Brownfield Re-development is Easier than You Thought

June 27: Sam Adams Q & A

COLUMBIA CORRIDOR
A S S O C I A T I O N

**A 501(c)6 Non-Profit Organization
PO Box 55651
Portland, OR 97238**

**columbiacorridor.org
503.287.8686**