

News in the Corridor

December 2007

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

Safe, Sound & Green Streets

Sam Adams is moving forward with a proposal to increase fees in order to attack the maintenance backlog at Portland Dept of Transportation (PDOT) and improve bicycle and pedestrian safety. His proposal includes a \$4.54 monthly fee for homeowners and a fee on businesses based on the number of vehicle trips they generate. Eighty-two percent of Portland businesses would pay an average of \$33/month. The average fee for all businesses would be \$84/month; however, the largest trip generators (generally big box stores and grocery stores) would pay over \$1000/month.

Businesses would pay approximately 1.5 cents per car that comes to their location. Government agencies and schools would also pay, as well as churches and non-profit organizations. [Take a look at the proposal...](#)

Public testimony will be taken at the City Council meeting on January 9th. CCA has been actively involved on the Stakeholder Committee and through the Portland Freight Committee. If you have questions, call us at 503.287.8686.

New Parks SDC Fees May be Too High for Portland City Council

Portland City Council reviewed the updated Parks System Development Charge (SDC) methodology and proposed new rates. CCA was a member of the Update Task Force and provided [testimony](#) at the December 12th hearing, requesting a smaller increase in fees. Commissioner Randy Leonard also expressed reservations about the proposed increase in fees, almost triple the current fees. Commissioner Dan Saltzman decided to re-consult with the SDC Update Task Force before asking the Council to vote in January. CCA will continue representing the commercial sector on the Task Force.

Port of Portland and City Planning for West Hayden Island

The Port of Portland and the City of Portland are initiating a collaborative public process to create a long-range land use plan for West Hayden Island (WHI). The 800+ acre area was added to the region's urban growth boundary in 1983 for marine industrial purposes. It's a potentially important economic resource for jobs as well as an important natural resource for wildlife habitat. Annexation of WHI into the City of Portland will provide marine industrial and natural resource lands for the future. The City and Port will coordinate this effort with planning work

currently being done on the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project and East Hayden Island.

[More on the Hayden Island Neighborhood Plan Project...](#)

[More on West Hayden Island annexation...](#)

PDC Introduces Small Business Loan Program

The Portland Development Commission's new **Near-Equity Small Business Loan Fund** is intended for companies with fewer than 20 employees looking for up to \$50,000 in direct business support (working capital, equipment, etc.).

For more information, contact Kevin Johnson at 503.823.1176 or johnsonk@pdc.us.

October Economic Index

The University of Oregon Index of Economic Indicators™ dropped 0.5 percent in October, to 102.0 (1997=100), the third consecutive monthly fall. Compared to six months ago, the UO Index has fallen 2.4 percent annualized and more than half the components have declined. A decline of this breadth and magnitude preceded the 2001 recession and suggests a weak economic environment in the near term.

The UO Index is constructed to have the properties of a leading indicator. As a general rule, a decline in the index of greater than 2 percent over six months, coupled with a decline in more than half of its components, signals that a recession is likely imminent. The general rule, however, should be used judiciously. Moreover, no single variable is capable of decisively determining the state of the business cycle. Consequently, the UO Index of Economic Indicators is best considered as another tool in assessing the economy. [Please read the full report for better information.](#)

Welcome New Members!

ITT Technical Institute
Shur Architects

NE Columbia Blvd Sewer Project Coming to a Close?

In November, we told you the Columbia Blvd Sewer Project was almost finished. If you've driven Columbia Blvd in the past month, you noticed we were wrong. The [current schedule](#) shows most work completed by February. Our suggestion is to set your sights on March.

Drop of Prevention Program Identifies Alternative Chemicals

The Portland Water Bureau has created a program to help businesses identify safer alternatives to the chemicals they currently use. The program consists of a series of informative meetings and access to a database of alternative chemicals. To participate, immediately contact Rebecca Geisen at 503.823.7493.

Green Investment Fund Accepting Proposals

The City of Portland's Green Investment Fund requests proposals for innovative, high performance green building projects located in Portland's city limits. The GIF awards comprehensive and transferable projects that excel at energy efficiency,

on-site renewable power generation, material use reduction and recycling, water conservation and stormwater management. [More...](#)

Open House for Cully Park Design Concepts

Portland Parks & Recreation is holding an open house to show plans for a new park in Portland's Cully neighborhood. Community members can drop by between 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at the Word of Life Community Church, 4927 NE 55th Avenue. Light refreshments will be served.

[More...](#)

New High School for Architecture, Construction & Engineering

The Academy for Architecture, Construction & Engineering is a new public charter high school combining rigorous academic and technical education for students desiring career tracks in the design build industry. ACE Academy is a collaboration of the Oregon Building Congress and Centennial, Gresham-Barlow, Parkrose and Reynolds School Districts. acecharterschool.org

Upcoming Events

February 1: Columbia Slough Watershed Council Annual Awards Celebration

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

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