

The news from Collins View Neighborhood Association

by

Maryellen Read, Secretary, CVNA and Jim Diamond, Chair, CVNA

Election Day is Nov 8. Candidates loom large in the media, but bond measures on the ballot will directly and immediately impact the quality of our lives and the character of our neighborhoods. It is not too early to start educating ourselves about what issues are vying for our votes, our tax monies and the quality of our lives. The Comprehensive Plan and other measures will either imperil or enhance the characters of our neighborhoods.

Among the issues:

1. The city's dedication to housing density and infill (a new tax to fund affordable housing projects in Portland), along with increased transit;
2. A possible effort to renew Metro's parks and natural areas levy;
3. A new Portland Public Schools construction bond which would about double whatever homeowners currently pay for school construction costs (for a dismal overview of Oregon public education compared to other states, see https://ballotpedia.org/Public_education_in_Oregon);
4. A business payroll tax (higher corporate minimum tax on businesses whose Oregon sales exceed \$25 million a year) for Portland State University. (For more information see <http://www.wweek.com/uncategorized/2016/01/13/can-portland-voters-stomach-five-tax-measures-in-2016/>).

There are numerous fund-worthy issues contending for a dwindling pool of resources.

Each of these measures will affect Collins View residents. These issues deserve more than a quick read-through before you check a box and drop off your ballot. Collins View residents do have a track record of making their voices and choices heard by City Council. Now is the time to educate yourself.

The Steering Committee for the SW Corridor Plan made two key recommendations during its June 13, 2016 meeting, addressing these aspects:

- Should refinements to alignments in the Tigard Triangle be studied by the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)?
- Are there any other adjustments to the high capacity transit preferred alternative that will enter the DEIS process?

The scoping phase of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will start in mid-August, so keep yourself up to speed. See the Metro website, <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/public-projects/southwest-corridor-plan>.

Jim Diamond wears two hats: CVNA chair, and also CVNA environmental chair. Jim was recently interviewed about electric vehicles (EVs) by Yale Climate Connection (YCC). You can hear his radio spot and read some auxiliary links at the YCC site, <http://www.yaleclimateconnections.org/2016/07/multiple-benefits-seen-in-driving-green/>