

Collins View article for the June 2020 SW News

Join us by voting on the Collins View candidate election slate. Review the election slate on <http://collinsview.org/>. Your voice is important. If you are a resident of Collins View, you are eligible to vote in these elections. Send your selection via email to outreach@collinsview.org between April 22 and May 6. We look forward to hearing from you.

With 385 miles bike friendly routes, and 28 miles of Forest Park trails open to bikers (but not to maintenance personnel), Portland has been named the #1 bike-friendly city by Bicycling magazine for many years. Scofflaw bikers return the City's favors by belligerently flaunting "No Cycling" signs in Riverdale Natural Area (RVNA) as they careen down narrow muddy tracks. Opportunistic aggressive bikers, dog walkers (No dogs allowed in RVNA) and illegal campers take advantage of the absence of Portland Parks maintenance and oversight, deliberately violating the principle goals of RVNA. Ratepayer dollars purchased the property with the goals of protecting habitat, headwater streams water quality and forest health as the highest priorities. <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/553737>

The Neighborhood is witnessing unenforced Conditional Use Permits and tree cutting permits that seem to be ignored with impunity. Lack of enforcement of the City's rules predate the current covid-19 state of emergency.

On the opposite end of the spectrum from the people taking narcissistic advantage of the situation are the individuals and teams giving back - crafting and donating personal protective equipment to hospitals, assisted care facilities and other organizations. Grocery shopping, errands, welfare check-ins, whatever is needed. Laser cutters, 3D printers, shoppers, drivers and fleets of sewing machine pilots donate their creativity, energy and generosity to help take care of the folks who take care of us. – "Tactical Altruism" in action.

This is the Portland we want to be identified with.

Submitted by Maryellen Read