

Collins View Neighborhood Association (CVNA)
Special Board Meeting---Wednesday, February 3, 2010
e-mail: cvnamail@gmail.com
Web site: <http://www.collinsview.org/>

Present: Prakash Joshi, Dave Johnston, Dixie Johnston, Danni McLaughlin, Fran Laird, Gene Lynard, Maureen Diamond, Maryellen Read, Samantha Walker, Michael Dexter, David Ellis, Jeff Feld-Gore, Dana Fischer, Sue Ann Higgins, Charlotte Joshi, Tom Krattenmaker, Henry Loeb, Sam and Lynn Pearson, James Vandomelen

Guests: Peter Mason (Portland Bureau of Transportation), Officer Caspar

Prakash convened the meeting at 7:04.

Correction to January 6 minutes—The stop sign Dee Ann Troutman described under Open Discussion is at SW Maplecrest and Maplecrest Court.

Announcements—Riverdale HS is hosting a free H1N1 flu shot clinic on Wed, Feb 10, 3 to 7 pm.

Crime and Public Safety—Officer Caspar said there have been 2 car prowls in the last month. There was a burglary on Jan 25 in 8700 block of SW 17th (Marshall Park neighborhood). Homeowner got a vehicle license plate—perpetrators exited as the homeowner entered his home; that auto has since been impounded but no arrest has been made. Missing items include laptop, jewelry, cash. There was a similar burglary yesterday about SW 40th and Multnomah (different vehicle—no license plate identified). Also a report in last 2 days of 2 males in similar gold pick-up truck coming to a door and asking suspicious questions about 12 noon.

Portland Police traffic division (<http://www.portlandonline.com/police/index.cfm?c=30559>) keeps a list of problem speeding sites. If requested, this division may provide a “stinger” reader board for 1-2 weeks or they may support photo radar; they would need time frame for surveillance.

Land Use—Dave Johnston passed out copies of the Portland Questionnaire. This survey is also available on-line at <http://www.portlandonline.com/portlandplan/index.cfm?c=49008> Responses are solicited before March 31.

At SWNI Land Use Committee, Joan Frederickson from Bureau of Development Services in Portland spoke about the city's plans to improve traffic on Barbur Blvd. Light rail development in that corridor could have significant impact on zoning. The state is developing a grant proposal to study the Barbur corridor; there is some hope of job creation.

Outreach—Per Samantha, no new activity. She is actively monitoring neighborhood issues.

Transportation—There used to be 4 different traffic engineers, one for each quadrant of the city. Peter Mason, our guest tonight from Portland Bureau of Transportation, developed a system to map all traffic issues and to prioritize and assign issues among the traffic engineers. He explained that “transportation engineering is building things;” traffic engineering is fine-tuning” and their projects often run \$50 to \$5000. Peter would like to work with us to identify what the city can do for us.

Traffic in and out of Riverdale High School is a problem. The major problem is making a safe left turn out of the high school parking lot; can the city create a tuck lane? Per Peter, this would have to be accomplished without moving curbs, but he believes he can move it forward. He will make measurements to see if this can be done. Prakash reviewed the CUMP earlier, and this type of lane access is within current CUMP standards.

The “mirror question”—the city got away from using parabolic mirrors because of poor reliability. Options now include 1) find a property owner who allows the mirror on their site (problem: liability issues); and/or 2) the city enters into an agreement with CVNA to address the liability issue. Jim Vandomelen asks if the city can cut back the bank at SW 4th and Boones Ferry; the land is within the right-of-way and this seems like a better solution since it addresses the site line. Peter says this is worth looking at. Prakash asks if there are any data about liability claims related to existing traffic mirrors. Peter will also investigate incidence of accidents at SW 4th and Boones Ferry.

Another neighborhood concern is speed limits on SW Terwilliger south of Taylor’s Ferry intersection. We are on the waiting list for a speed reader, available in 2011 (and Prakash will investigate earlier eligibility for a speed board through Portland Police Traffic Division). Peter will look at speed data already available to him.

When vegetation grows into the street, how do we manage it? Ultimately it is the adjacent property owner’s responsibility to maintain the right of way to the center of the street. City brush cutting activity has been reduced greatly. If we e-mail Peter with information about these problem locations, he can report them as nuisances (peter.mason@pdxtrans.org). He also suggests that CVNA should attempt neighborly intervention to help property owners.

Michael Dexter (L&C '94) is the current chair for the Arnold Creek Neighborhood Association. He has had 8 to 10 motor vehicle accidents in his front yard at SW Boones Ferry and Stephenson, including several fatalities. He asks Peter if guard rails are possible in this area. Michael’s recent calls to city officials have not been returned, despite earlier successful communication. Peter will investigate.

Lewis and Clark (L&C)—Tom Krattenmaker talked about L&C’s web site for neighborhood events (go.lclark.edu/neighbors ; or at the L&C home page, type “neighbors” in the search box). On Wed, Feb 17, in Agnes Flanagan chapel, Prof John Callahan, will celebrate the release of “Three Days Before the Shooting....”, a novel by Ralph Ellison which was incomplete when he died. Professor Callahan, literary executor for the Ellison estate, helped to bring this to reality. Neighbors can check out books from L&C library. There was some discussion of limited parking on campus which can be discouraging for neighbors who want to attend college events/exhibits.

Danni McLaughlin reiterated that neighbors are very interested in working with L&C to improve transportation and other issues. There is still some concern that increased square footage on campus approved under the CUMP will worsen transportation issues. David Ellis indicates that the CUMP included all dorms they might want to build in the next 10 years. In addition, the college contends that traffic volume will not be increased by construction in the next 10 years; rather more students will be able to live on campus—new dorms and a larger student center will serve students who are already there. Residents tonight were skeptical.

Danni asks for an updated driveway count (traffic going in and out of L&C) when L&C is in session to provide a baseline for future traffic evaluations. David Ellis indicated that this can be done.

She also inquired if there are any plans to expand Huston Field. Per David Ellis, the approved CUMP includes an increased footprint for Huston Field. Only Griswold has adequate space for soccer and lacrosse at this time. L&C would like to expand Huston to accommodate soccer. L&C may come back in the future to ask for lights and sound. Expansion there would be expensive, requiring fundraising. SW Neighbors has received major citizen objections to any Huston expansion. Per David Ellis, none of this is on the table now. If a donor came through with funds, this might move faster—but not likely. Prakash indicates that CNVA wants L&C to succeed and would support efforts to establish a satellite campus as a solution to congestion perceived by Collins View residents.

David Ellis stated that L&C, if invited, would like to attend at least once a year meetings of Arnold Creek, South Burlingame, and Marshall Park neighborhood associations.

With the resumption of L&C classes this week, Sam Pearson reports that S Burlingame neighbors are seeing more L&C vehicles on local streets. They have been working with Marilyn at L&C on this—there will be related citations. David Ellis says L&C is trying to patrol the area but has to rely on information from neighbors to identify potential offenders. He spoke to Marilyn yesterday and was informed that S Burlingame has been added to a daily patrol. David welcomed continued communication on this issue. Prakash is concerned that there is too much reliance on neighborhood reporting and not enough traffic patrols by L&C. There was some question tonight whether the college is meeting CUMP requirements for parking controls.

Prakash encourages the revival of a previous L&C-CVNA task force on parking/transportation issues and offers to identify about 4 CVNA volunteers. Dana Fischer suggests quick identification of the volunteers since this issue is so important to residents. Prakash has some experience with conflict resolution and hopes to apply this as the task force moves forward.

Gene wonders if a parking garage should be central to college expansion: a 500+-space garage with parking spaces that are paid for by student fees might be self-supporting, similar to the way dorms are self-supporting by rental fees.

Bylaws—A current edition of CVNA Bylaws was distributed tonight and will be e-mailed with these minutes. Discussion of Bylaws revisions will begin in March; these suggestions will be fine-tuned in April for a vote to occur in May.

Adjourn 9:05 pm

Submitted by Maureen Diamond (mmcarthy@linfield.edu)