

August 2020 MTNA Update

The August 2020 General Meeting was two-part. One part is this written update about civic issues, offered by volunteers with the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association. One part was the Zoom meeting held August 19 (once meeting minutes are approved, they will be available online here: <https://www.mttaborpdx.org/meeting-minutes>).

Written updates included here are:

- Community news
- News about regular-old civic issues, including the Residential Infill Project
- Useful links for Covid-19 repercussions
- Mt. Tabor Reservoir history project update, bad news
- Treasurer's report
- SE Uplift Land Use committee meeting report

Community news

FREE-pile Etiquette – Recently, some expensive and *not-free* things have gone missing from the street-side grassy areas of neighborhood homes, in what has most likely been confusion between what is a “free pile” and what is just someone using their own yard. Let’s try to make it standard that EVERY “free pile” is labeled with a sign that identifies it as such. Hopefully, over time, this standard will lead passersby to understand that something not labeled, is actually not up for re-homing.

WEAR A MASK – Masks are required in Oregon when you are inside any public space AND when you are outside in a place where you will pass multiple people or have to pass closely (so... while on a hiking trail or in a busy area of a park, while shopping on Division or Hawthorne...). Oregon is at a critical moment, for public health and economics, and masks are one way you can contribute to a stronger Oregon. <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-face-coverings>

2020 Governor’s Arts Award recipient in the neighborhood - Congratulations to long time MTNA volunteer John Laursen, for being one of a handful of recipients of the 2020 Governor’s Arts Award. Aside from being an artist, you might know John through his countless hours of service in our community. John has worked on key projects through the years, including: the Hawthorne Transportation Plan; the efforts to stop the sale of part of Mt. Tabor Park; the Tabor Yard redevelopment; the pedestrian island for 50th and Hawthorne; and the Mt Tabor Reservoir land use case during disconnection.

MTNA’s September meeting will be on Zoom, at 7pm, on September 16th. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZMpceypqDkqHNUXRDO7fhQQNptpWSatLvIV>

News about regular-old civic issues

Hawthorne reconfiguration proposal – In our March written update we offered two reports from volunteers on the repaving project that proposes to reconfigure lanes on Hawthorne. (Find that report here: https://3f3299c0-2781-4b95-868f-d6fa1173ab3c.filesusr.com/ugd/d5eb21_c9fb3b50264741e79935b92bdbdeb121.pdf)

These plans will cut car lanes and add a bike lane. **This is a significant change.** At our September Zoom meeting city staff will offer a 20-minute presentation and take questions. Here is the city's project page: <https://www.portland.gov/transportation/planning/se-hawthorne-pave-and-paint>

National Night Out – Postponed, likely to October 6th this year due to concerns over COVID-19. Registration is TBD, check here for emerging details: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/civic/55345>

Residential Infill Project Notice –

“NOTICE OF ADOPTION
Residential Infill Project

This is to notify you that the Portland City Council recently adopted the Residential Infill Project ordinance, which included changes to zoning regulations for development in the City's single dwelling zones, among other changes. The zoning map was amended to rezone approximately 7,000 parcels from R5 to R2.5, remove the former 'a' Alternative Design Density overlay, and add a new 'z' Constrained Sites overlay zone. The comprehensive plan map was also amended to conform to the R5 to R2.5 rezoning. Some Comprehensive Plan glossary terms were modified and land use designation names were changed, but no changes were made to the policies or goals. The adopting ordinance was passed by the City Council on August 12, 2020. Limited changes (relating to the implementation of Senate Bill 534) will become effective on September 11, 2020. The remaining aspects of the project ordinance will become effective on August 1, 2021.

Notice of Adoption of a Post Acknowledgement Plan Amendment for the project was filed with the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development on August 13, 2020.

The ordinance and supporting documents are available on the BPS web site: www.portland.gov/bps/rip

You may contact me directly to review the adopting ordinances, exhibits and findings:

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Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
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The City Council's decision is the final review process available through the City. You may appeal this decision to the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal with LUBA within 21 days of the date of decision is mailed or otherwise submitted to parties entitled to notice under ORS 197.615, as specified in the Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 197.830(9). Among other things, ORS 197.830 requires that a petitioner at LUBA must have appeared orally or in writing during the City's proceedings on this land review. LUBA's address is: DSL Building, 775 Summer Street NE, Suite 330, Salem, OR 97301-1283. You may call LUBA at 1-503-373-1265 or visit LUBA's website (www.oregon.gov/LUBA) for further information on filing an appeal.

Per ORS 197.830(9), copies of the notice of intent to appeal shall be served upon the City. The notice shall be served and filed in the form and manner prescribed by rule of the board and shall be accompanied by a filing fee of \$200 and a deposit for costs to be established by the board.”

Useful links for Covid-19 repercussions

Need a test? Here is a tool to help you find a Covid-19 test when you need one, some sites don't require doctor referrals: <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-covid-19-testing>

Outbreak data

OHA (the Oregon Health Authority) creates detailed reports with Covid-19 stats from around the state, and their “weekly reports” released each Wednesday, are quite informative. Go here: <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>

General

OHA (the Oregon Health Authority) has created a new website where they bring together a host of useful resources for these strange and challenging times: <https://www.safestrongoregon.org/community-board>

Mt. Tabor Reservoir History Project update, bad news

In 2014 and 2015, the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association led a committee of concerned Portlanders who worked to protect Mt. Tabor Park through the dramatic transition of disconnecting the historic Mt. Tabor Reservoirs from the drinking water system. You may remember, the Portland Water Bureau's first plan for the disconnection permanently cut off these reservoirs from ALL sources of water, and they were to be left giant, neglected, concrete scars on the park.

Through our efforts in 2014 and 2015, we secured water for the site so as to protect the historic views in the park. We also secured a relatively small amount of funding for repair work, and a seat at the table for a handful of future key decisions. In our negotiations in 2014 and 2015, we clearly all agreed (PWB leadership and the community leadership) that these future “seats at the table” would be robust *collaborations*.

These collaborations are very important to us, as we believe our presence is what will insure work products align with community expectations. The community feared the scarce preservation-construction funds would be consumed repaving roads, while leaving the basins and gatehouses neglected; our presence was to insure funds were spent on the projects the community wants done first. The community feared the new history program would be used to institutionalize a slanted messaging campaign about dirty reservoirs; our presence was to insure the program tells the dynamic history of the Bull Run water system.

The community committee assigned by Council Resolution #37146 to collaborate with PWB on the Mt. Tabor history project (a.k.a. the interpretive program) now finds itself in the odd position of advocating to defund and cancel the physical signs as they are currently conceived. We feel that to proceed with this project as it is, is a waste of public money, and the result will not enhance the park. We believe the money could be put to better use elsewhere.

To hear more from the community committee working on the history project and also on the preservation construction project (that part is going really well, by the way!), visit <http://mtna-landuse.blogspot.com/> and search for posts labeled “Reservoir Council Resolution #37146 “

Treasurer’s Report

Update by Bing Wong

Bank Balance

Checking \$3663.83

Savings \$1146.07

Outstanding

Expenses \$197.39

Zoom Meeting

Reimbursement-iPower Fees, annual

ongoing \$14.99/month (to be reimbursed as batch)

SE Uplift Land Use meeting Report

Update by Sharon Nobbe

Meeting = 8/17. Speaker Tom Armstrong discussed the Anti-Displacement Plan following the recent Residential Infill Program adoption into policy. Interested in being on the Advisory Committee? Applications being accepted. Contact Leah Fisher with SE Uplift for application and recommendation.

Lead: Tom Armstrong, Supervising Planner on this project, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Background: Gentrification and displacement have been long-standing realities and concerns in Portland. In response, the community set a goal for increased equity through the Portland Plan and most recently, in 2018, Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff prepared and shared findings in a gentrification and displacement neighborhood typology assessment. The assessment is built off of previous gentrification and anti-displacement work conducted by Dr. Lisa Bates of Portland State University in 2012, as well as her contributions around the topic for the Powell-Division Bus Rapid Transit project in 2016.

Concerns about displacement came up a lot during the Residential Infill Project conversations and generally in response to the significant amount of growth occurring in Portland in the last decade. For more information and background documents, go [here](#).

Overview: The Anti-Displacement Action Plan (ADAP) builds off the research with a plan that aims to increase the resiliency of the city and our communities to deal with racial and economic disparities that contribute to displacement.

Additionally, as part of ADAP, an Anti-Displacement Task Force (ADTF) is forming to provide community-led, citywide leadership, policy development, coordination and collaboration that centers racial equity in the City’s anti-displacement and equitable development policies.

This (late) August update was compiled by Stephanie Stewart, reach her at:
contact.mtna@gmail.com.

Much of what you read here was posted to the **Mt Tabor Neighborhood Association's** facebook page @mttaborna . Not to be confused with the "Mt. Tabor Neighborhood" group facebook page. If you are interested in keeping informed in a more timely manner of the many great links and excellent guidance we are sent as your Neighborhood Association, please join facebook so you can read our posts as they happen.