

# June 2020 MTNA Update

The June 2020 General Meeting is two-part. One part is this written update about civic issues, offered by volunteers with the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association. One part is the short Zoom meeting scheduled for July 17 at 7pm, at which we will conduct various housekeeping votes and our annual election. Written updates included here are:

- Community News (A neighborhood vigil, Zoom meetings...)
- News about regular-old civic issues
- Useful links for Covid-19 repercussions
- Transportation topics report (Tri-Met budget meetings, safety on 60<sup>th</sup> ...)
- Friends of Mt. Tabor Park Report
- SE Uplift Board Report
- Treasurer's Report

## Community news

### **Nightly racial justice vigil in our neighborhood**

There is a neighbor organized nightly vigil at 50th and Division in support of Black Lives Matter. Here is what was sent to us:

6:30 PM to 7:15 PM Every Evening: Vigil for Racial Justice  
Standing in Support of Black Lives Matter  
at S.E. 50th and Division St.

"Family Friendly--Maintain Social Distance--Wear Masks--Keep one another safe! -- Hope anyone who wishes to come will do so when they are able AND, spread the word!

6:45PM: We'll hold 8 minutes and 46 seconds of silence to honor the lives of countless African American lives (known and unknown) cut short by police violence and racism. Please share this event information with your friends and neighbors--let's build this to a regular action that our neighborhood commits to (to the extent that each of us is able) as we continue to show our solidarity with the struggle of African American and other communities of color to end the systemic racism of police and society's violence."

### **MTNA wins small grant award from SE Uplift (SEUL)**

SE Uplift -- the Coalition office for the community involvement/Neighborhood Association system in Southeast Portland -- awarded MTNA \$250 for outreach assistance during the Covid era. This will allow MTNA to subscribe to the fully featured, paid Zoom account for a period of time. With this paid account we do not have to worry about the community being cut off at the 40 minute mark of a meeting, among other things. MTNA is waiting for the check.

### **June Zoom meeting instructions**

MTNA will have a meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm on Zoom. The meeting will be limited to just a few items that require votes, and our elections. Cut and paste this URL into a browser window to join the meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72180850290?pwd=Y2s4dHVUUUEYzRS9pNnovZjdsWnYxdz09>

Meeting ID: 721 8085 0290

Password: 4w4CXZ

## News about regular-old civic issues

### **Recycling tips in lieu of our neighborhood's annual clean-up event -**

- Agilyx and Metro are piloting an Expanded Polystyrene foam collection program at the Metro South Transfer Station in Oregon City (2001 Washington St, Oregon City, OR 97045); begins May 22. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/oregon-metro-collaborates-with-agilyx-to-launch-polystyrene-foam-collection-301064079.html>
- Gogo Eco Styrofoam pick up:
  - This is a fee-based business, working with Agilyx in Tigard.
  - They come to your homes or your businesses in Multnomah and Washington County Zip codes to collect the polystyrene foam (what you know of as Styrofoam).
  - Pick up cost is \$10 for two trash bags.
  - <https://www.gogoecopdx.com/>

**National Night Out** - Postponed to October 6th this year due to concerns over COVID-19. Registration for the City of Portland National Night Out will happen in June 2020 for an October 6, 2020 celebration.

**Sunday Parkways** – The normal May and June bike rides have been cancelled and replaced with a number of online fitness classes. A broader range of online classes, like bike repair classes, are supposedly in the works. Find the latest here: [https://beta.portland.gov/sunday-parkways?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://beta.portland.gov/sunday-parkways?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

**Census 2020** – It is NOT too late to be counted. Accurate numbers help all sorts of services be more accurately allocated. Offer help to a neighbor who is elderly, or not a native-English speaker, to file online. File the form online here: <https://2020census.gov/en.html>

**Wipes clog pipes!** And create an environmental mess. Remember not to flush anything but toilet paper, read more here: <https://beta.portland.gov/bes/news/2020/4/9/wipes-clog-pipes-during-covid-19-crisis-and-every-day-prevent-sewage-overflows>

## Useful links for Covid-19 repercussions

### Outbreak data

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

### General

For the latest about **Oregon State Parks** and facility openings, go here: [https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=v.dsp\\_parkstatus](https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_parkstatus)

For the latest news about **Portland Parks and Rec** park and facility closures turn here: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/756348>

For the latest news about **Trimet's** Covid-19 related changes, go here: <https://trimet.org/health/>

## **Transportation Topics**

*Updates by Cassandra Rosenthal*

### **Tri-met Budget Open House, Jun 11**

TriMet hosted three virtual open house events to share what they want riders to know as they start returning to transit and their plans for preserving service, jobs and safety in the coming year. Recordings to be posted on [trimet.org](https://trimet.org)

- TriMet strives to continue to provide a service that is safe, reliable and equitable.
  - Service restoration:
    - Add back service incrementally as finances allow, ridership increases, and safety and maintenance standards can be met.
    - No timeline.
  - Covid-19 Safety Actions
    - Expanded nightly bus cleaning to include the disinfecting of all frequently touched surfaces.
    - Buses are also frequently cleaned (every 4 hours) with a hydrogen peroxide-based fog that disinfects every surface on the bus, including hard-to-reach spots.
    - Disinfecting surfaces daily at MAX stations and transit centers.
    - Everyone must wear a face covering on buses and trains unless a medical condition prevents you from doing so. (Not required for children under two).
      - Disposable face coverings are available on board, although they encourage riders to wear their own.
    - Hand-sanitizer will be available on all vehicles.
    - They've added a second yellow line that's near the Priority Seating area. Riders should stay behind the line while the bus is in motion. It's there to ensure social distancing between the bus operator and passengers.
    - In order to help with social distancing, some bus seats have signs on them that ask riders not to sit there. These signs are arranged to give riders a safe amount of space from each other and the operator.
    - Remind riders to practice social distancing also while waiting for buses and trains and when boarding and exiting.
    - At the start of 2020, about half of the buses had clear plastic protective barriers between operators and riders.
      - They've been using those buses to help provide extra protection for operators.
      - They are now adding protective barriers to the rest of the bus fleet. And should all be installed by early summer.
- TriMet is developing plans for future transit service during COVID-19.
  - Still committed to service projects:
    - Division Transit Project (Sept 2022)

## Safety on 60th:

- Community organizing to increase safety along 60th Avenue.
  - Prompted by an email to MTNA from a neighbor living on 60th close to Burnside, and the experiences of MTNA board members Cliff and Cassandra living on 60th by Lincoln.
  - I met with Sharon White from PBOT Pedestrian Safety Outreach and Education & Active Transportation and Safety. She gave the following suggestions on Driver Safety Outreach and Education Ideas:
    - ☛ Idea #1: THANK YOU crew event
      - ☛ PBOT has a collection of signs with 4 different messages focused on safe driving behaviors.
      - ☛ Community members can stand 6' + apart on or next to the sidewalk, facing on-coming traffic and hold up their sign as drivers go by.
      - ☛ Each sign can be displayed when drivers are driving the appropriate speed (like a Thank You message) or the sign can be held up any time someone drives by.
      - ☛ The sign messages are:
        - ☛ It's Time to Slow Down Portland
        - ☛ Safe Drivers = Good neighbors
        - ☛ Safe Driving Saves Lives
        - ☛ Slow down Save Lives
    - ☛ Idea #2: Flash mob SLOW DOWN umbrella event
      - ☛ PBOT has several bright yellow umbrellas that you can borrow for an event.
      - ☛ Community members can use black duct tape (or other removable tape) to add one letter to the outside of the umbrella to spell "S L O W D O W N" or something similar.
      - ☛ Community members stand on or next to the sidewalk and when the leader blows a whistle or gives the signal, community members open their umbrella to display the safety message.
      - ☛ This works best in locations that don't have parked cars so drivers have better visibility of the open umbrellas.
    - ☛ Idea #3: Safety messages on stickers
      - ☛ Create one or more safety messages that are printed and distribute throughout the community as vehicle bumper stickers, bike stickers, and people stickers.
      - ☛ The safety message can be personal to show a commitment to safety, such as "I BRAKE FOR PEOPLE", or it could be a message directed at drivers, such as "20 IS PLENTY in PORTLAND."
    - ☛ Idea #4: Costumes
      - ☛ Whatever you choose to do, try to bring more attention to your activity by wearing a costume, using visible props, creating movement, and other strategies.
      - ☛ PBOT has 2 adult zebra costumes you are welcome to borrow and stickers that say "Respect the stripes" that remind

people to use marked crosswalks and stop for people in marked crosswalks.

- Idea #5: PBOT Yard Sign Lender Program
  - Encourage community members to display yard signs with safety messages.
  - PBOT has yard signs that community members can order for display on their personal property.
  - The signs all say “SLOW DOWN Set the pace” on one side and have one of three safety messages on the reverse side.
  - Attached is a brochure that provides more information about the program and the Vision Zero safety pledge that community members are encouraged to read and sign in exchange for a free corrugated plastic yard sign.
- Idea #6: PBOT Safety Training
  - Organize an online or social distancing safety training outside (for social distancing) to review Oregon laws, share safety tips about being safer when walking and driving, discuss causes of crashes in Portland, and more.

#### o Activity Tips

- Whatever community event you decide to organize, inviting members of the media, especially smaller and local press, to cover your event will help expand your reach and carry your messages to others.
- You should also consider adding information to your website and using social media before, during and after your event and reinforce the positive outcomes you hope to achieve with your efforts.

#### • If you'd like PBOT to review specific intersections for any possible engineering improvements

- o Contact the City's Traffic Safety Hot Line
  - Completing the online form [here](https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/index.cfm?&cfid=213867417&c=79389&cftoken=a88fcc0b2fb0cbdb%2D6668305E%2DA79E%2D5D79%2D7D1D32722CCAA1EA)
    - <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/index.cfm?&cfid=213867417&c=79389&cftoken=a88fcc0b2fb0cbdb%2D6668305E%2DA79E%2D5D79%2D7D1D32722CCAA1EA>
  - Call (503) 823-7233 (SAFE)
- o I recommend that everyone should fill in the form
  - Encourage safer speeds on 60th from Division to Burnside
  - Increase safety at the 60th and Belmont and 60th and Stark intersections
  - Encourage adding a school zone on 60th from Stark to Burnside to create a safer environment for Mt Tabor Middle School students who walk to the bus stop at 60th and Burnside.
- o Additionally, DO use this form to report issues such as:
  - Safety concerns for pedestrians, people biking, or taking transit
  - Crosswalks, marked or unmarked, that appear unsafe
  - Traffic safety issues around schools
  - Concerns about speeding drivers or speed limits in general
  - Lack of infrastructure such as sidewalks, crosswalks, or speed bumps you feel could provide safer streets
  - Suggestions for improvements to signal timing, visibility, signage, sight lines, or lighting

## **Friends of Mt. Tabor Park Report**

*Update by Bing Wong*

Donations for the cancelled Free for All Concerts gave permission to roll over funds to next year as all concerts and movies are cancelled for this year.

Friends Of the Park had “Bird Nesting Season” signs made and installed in the park to inform visitors to stay on trails and leash their dogs to protect ground nesting birds. Friends also worked with parks to put out some poison oak signs where they were too close to some trails and in the dog off leash area.

The park has undergone phases during the COVID-19 pandemic management. Parks closed several parks to auto traffic including Mt. Tabor, closing the normal Wednesday gates to all days, then installed barricades at the SE Lincoln and Harrison Street entrances. Parks used employees from closed facilities to be “park greeters” patrolling the park. In June as the state was opening up with Phase One, parks opened the Salmon Street and north road entrances, barricaded the road south near Picnic Area B with loop access to the upper parking lot. People have made use of the park during the closure with chalk art starting with Earth Day and then the Black Lives Matter protests.

Weed Warrior work parties, solo or small groups continued while the Foot Patrol changed some safety procedures to patrol the park keeping it clean with increased visitations.

## **Southeast Uplift Board News**

*Update by Sam Noble*

The city is repaving and repainting SE Hawthorne from SE 24th to SE 50th in summer of 2021. This will likely result in lane reconfigurations to calm traffic and eliminate transit bottlenecks. <https://beta.portland.gov/transportation/planning/se-hawthorne-pave-and-paint>

Southeast Uplift is going to start charging everyone for fiscal sponsorships at the next agreement renewal. Previously this service was free for neighborhood associations. To the best of my understanding, there will be either a monthly maintenance fee or projects can choose to pay a percentage of income. MTNA has several of these accounts, including for emergency preparedness, the neighborhood gateway, the reservoirs, the Thorburn safety project, and a general account. Details here: <https://www.seuplift.org/fiscal-sponsorship/>

Southeast Uplift has been on the verge of a confirmed contract extension with the city for the past six weeks or so. Covid-19 has had an impact on the funding environment. As previously announced, there will be no community cleanup events this year (and likely none going forward). This year I expect that there will be no small grants program.

Each year Southeast Uplift recruits individuals and organizations to apply for at-large representation on its board of directors. I haven't seen a formal announcement this year, but I understand that this is happening now. <https://www.seuplift.org/who-we-are/our-board/>

## **Treasurer's Report**

*Update by Bing Wong*

Bank Balance: \$4,509.86

Liabilities: none

Pending income: \$50 reimbursement for Secretary of State Corporation Division Annual Report filing

MTNA Fiscal Sponsorship Update from SEUL was forwarded to board members. They will now charge a fee to hold our money. Click here <https://www.seuplift.org/fiscal-sponsorship/> , scroll down to the to find the “Admin Fee Structure” link. **Please read admin fee schedule for future discussion!**

This June update was compiled by Stephanie Stewart, reach her at:  
[contact.mtna@gmail.com](mailto: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.