

CITYSCAPE



February 2012 Edition

Mayor's Corner

The number one concern expressed by Tigard residents is always traffic congestion, especially on Pacific Hwy. This is because 99W is a major commuter and freight route to and from Portland. Over the past several years, the city has devoted a lot of time and energy to finding a solution that makes useful changes.

Just this past year, a \$12 million project was completed that improved the intersections at Hall Blvd. and Greenburg Rd. and replaced the traffic signal control system with a state-of-the-art, reactive and interactive system that responds to traffic levels and time of day by adjusting the timing and duration of traffic lights.

There are plans for an improvement project at the intersection of Gaarde and McDonald but we are seeking additional funding before we can proceed with construction. Future plans call for a widening of Pacific Hwy., north of Hwy. 217, which will be paid for by anticipated development in the Tigard Triangle, adjacent to Costco and Winco Foods.

Another reason for congestion on Pacific Hwy. is the lack of alternatives for getting around the city. We have plans to improve the connectivity and condition of

Tigard's streets so residents are not so dependent upon one main route. These include improvements to Walnut St. and 121st on the west side and a major expansion of 72nd Ave. from Pacific Hwy. to Hwy. 217 on the east side.

The third leg of the transportation system stool is how we make public transportation more convenient and useful to Tigard residents.

The Southwest Corridor Plan is looking at future land use and how High Capacity Transit (HCT), in the form of light rail or bus rapid transit, fits into that model. One thing I feel strongly about is that potential rail transit in the corridor must not impinge on the 99W right-of-way or reduce its capacity. Ideally, the line would come into Tigard from Portland through the Tigard Triangle, either parallel but apart from Pacific Hwy. or along 72nd Ave. into Tigard's downtown, and south from there. I would actively oppose a rail line that takes away capacity from Pacific Hwy.

All of these plans will take time—in the case of HCT, ten years or more—and money. But as we move forward, we do have a plan and will work to make it a reality.

Craig E. Dirksen, Mayor

Virtual Open House:

Pacific Hwy-99W / Gaarde / McDonald Intersection Design

According to the most recent community attitudes survey, traffic congestion continues to be a major concern for city residents. In an effort to reduce traffic congestion, the city is asking for your constructive comments on proposed improvements to the Pacific Hwy./Gaarde St./McDonald St. intersection.

Tigard and our partners at ODOT have developed conceptual design alternatives to improve traffic flow and safety at this intersection. Check our website at www.tigard-or.gov/pgm to see the alternatives being considered. Our plan is to gather as many of your comments as possible as we narrow down the range of alternatives. Our goal is to find the design that makes the best use of taxpayer funds to improve our mobility and safety through this intersection.

Conceptual designs recommended are:

- Concept B2: Widen the Gaarde and McDonald approaches and add a third southbound lane on Pacific Hwy/99W
- Concept C2: Add a third southbound lane and northbound right and dual left turn lanes on Pacific Hwy/99W

Once a "winning" concept is chosen, Tigard, ODOT and a consultant will begin the detailed engineering process. Actual construction work is still a few years off.

Questions? Contact Mike McCarthy at 503-718-2462 or mikem@tigard-or.gov.



2012 Tigard City Council Goals

City Council meets each year to determine the direction the city should move with the resources we have available. The goals below reflect our aspirations for 2012. One thing that doesn't change is our commitment to the community. Remember, we're not just City Councilors, we live here and we care about the same things that you do.



Mayor Craig Dirksen



Council Pres. Gretchen Buehner



Councilor Marc Woodard



Councilor Nick Wilson



Councilor Marland Henderson

The City Council adopted these goals at their January 10, 2012 business meeting. While the city will accomplish much more than what is listed here, the identified goals represent items deserving special attention in the year ahead.

1. Take the Next Step on Major Projects

- a. Continue oversight of design, permits, rate implementation and costs for the Lake Oswego-Tigard Water Partnership.
- b. Implement the Comprehensive Plan through code revisions, including:
 - i. Tree code.
 - ii. Contribute to the SW Corridor Plan by adopting Tigard's land use policies and designations and identifying priorities for high-capacity transit (HCT) station location alternatives by mid-2012.
 - 1. *Determine the economic development opportunities, development plan, city policies and regulations needed to position the Tigard Triangle as an HCT station location.*
- c. Deliver on the promise of the voter-approved park bond by identifying all acquisition opportunities and completing the majority of park land acquisitions and improvements by the end of 2012.

2. Financial Sustainability

- a. Maintain the long-term financial health of the General Fund and reserves.
 - i. Develop a long-term financial strategy by mid-2012.
- b. Communicate regularly to residents about the alignment of city priorities with resources.
- c. Evaluate the city's sustainability efforts on an ongoing basis.

3. Downtown

- a. Identify a geographic opportunity area in the downtown with the greatest potential to create a catalyst for further development. Concentrate most resources there.
- b. Contact owners of key, structurally sound Main Street buildings with vacancies. Begin cooperative effort to secure tenants that will contribute to the vitality of downtown.

4. Annexation

- a. Re-evaluate the city's annexation policy.
- b. Develop a philosophy and approach to consider annexations, including islands.

5. Recreation

- a. Evaluate options and resources to create a pilot recreation program:
 - i. Inventory existing city and community recreational programs, facilities and resources.
 - ii. Create recreational opportunities by partnering with the school district and other agencies or groups.
 - iii. Identify funding options aligning with the recreational programming demand.



So, now you've seen the topics that will be the focus of our work in 2012. But how well did we do on the goals we set in 2011? Here's a very brief summary of the year's accomplishments. There wasn't room to list everything, but if you want to see the complete goal updates, log onto the city's website (www.tigard-or.gov/council).

Goal #1: Implement Comprehensive Plan

- ✦ Completed and adopted the Greenway Trails System Master Plan.
- ✦ Adopted Transportation Planning Rule and Oregon Highway Plan amendments with regional partners. These will help us facilitate economic development.
- ✦ Citizens Advisory Committee finished work on the High Capacity Transit Land Use Plan.
- ✦ The regional Southwest Corridor Plan committee kicked-off.
- ✦ Adopted an Economic Opportunities Analysis, improving opportunities to attract and maintain the type and quality of employment desired by citizens.
- ✦ Reached consensus on recommended station community concepts for potential high capacity transit station locations.
- ✦ Responded to an annexation petition from landowners in the River Terrace area (Urban Growth Area 64) and brought 200 acres into the city limits.

Goal #2: Implement Downtown and Town Center Redevelopment Opportunities

- ✦ Facade Improvement Program: Two Main Street businesses completed façade projects with matching grants from the City Center Development Agency. Seven other business/property owners received architectural assistance and are considering projects.
- ✦ Burnham Street and Ash Avenue projects were completed; awarded

Project of the Year from the Oregon chapter of the American Public Works Association (OR APWA).

- ✦ Hall/Greenburg/Main/Pacific Hwy. intersections completed; earns Honorable Mention from OR APWA.
- ✦ The Knoll at Tigard opens—the first new residential project in the urban renewal district.
- ✦ Revitalization consultant completed a Metro-funded program with downtown stakeholders and business owners to design a detailed marketing plan and downtown organization proposal.
- ✦ Completed a 5-year assessment of the urban renewal district.

Goal #3: Complete Plans for Parkland Acquisition

- ✦ Acquired Colony Creek and Hillshire parcels, Potso Dog Park acreage, Summer Creek II and Sunrise properties.
- ✦ Began the Summer Creek environmental education program.

Goal #4: Advance Methods of Communication

- ✦ Conducted the biennial citizen survey and gained residents' opinions on recreation, light rail, social media, and business development. We learned that 75 percent of residents cited Cityscape as their primary way of receiving information about Tigard.
- ✦ The city logo was trademarked to protect against unauthorized use.

Goal #5: Continue Coordination with Lake Oswego on Water Partnership

- ✦ HB 2700 Lake Oswego/Tigard legislation was signed by the Governor and may save the partnership up to \$10 million.
- ✦ Waluga Reservoir siting agreement reached by Lake Oswego City Council.
- ✦ The water treatment plant is in the preliminary design phase.
- ✦ A pipeline project designer has been selected and the Clackamas River Intake, Waluga Reservoir and Bonita Pump Station design proposals were solicited.
- ✦ Worked with ICMA TV in developing *A Fluid Partnership* video segment which showcased the Lake Oswego-Tigard Water Partnership.

Goal #6: Financial Stability

- ✦ Gained a bond rating increase from both Standard & Poor's and Moody's. Completed a favorable bond sale for the \$17 million parks bond and re-funded the \$9 million library bond to a more favorable rate. Combined, it will save Tigard property taxpayers \$2,284,382 over the next 20 years.
- ✦ Adopted a hold-the-line budget for fiscal year 2011-2012 with no dollar growth in materials and services when compared to the budget of FY 2010-2011.

For a complete list of 2011 accomplishments, go to www.tigard-or.gov/council.



RULES of the ROAD: A COMPLETE BAN ON CELL PHONES?

Until 2007, there were no restrictions in Oregon on the use of cell phones or other portable electronic devices (PEDs) while driving. The law was revised in 2009 to prohibit most uses of cell phones without a hands-free device like a headset or BlueTooth. Then, during its 2011 session, the Oregon legislature eliminated nearly all the exceptions for job-related uses of cell phones without a hands-free device.

Given the trend towards greater restrictions, is it only a matter of time before there's a complete ban? In December, the federal government's National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) took a step in that direction by proposing a national prohibition on non-emergency PED use for all drivers at all times, even with a hands-free device.

In support of its proposal, the NTSB reviewed data from various studies and recited a long list of incidents caused by people who were distracted by PEDs. These included:

- A Virginia school bus driver, distracted by a hands-free PED, collided with a highway overpass, injuring 27 students.
- A truck driver in Kentucky, distracted by his PED, swerved

across a freeway into an oncoming lane and collided with a van, causing 11 fatalities.

- Two pilots on a commercial flight to Minneapolis were distracted by their laptops and flew 100 miles past their destination.
- Drivers using PEDs “look but fail to see up to 50 percent of the information in their driving environment.”
- Distracted driving contributed to 3,092 traffic deaths nationwide in 2010.

Like everyone else, judges look on with interest as the debate over PEDs continues. But it's up to lawmakers in Salem, Washington, D.C., and elsewhere to grapple with the data and the conflicting political interests to resolve the issue.

Even if Congress agrees with the NTSB, a direct national ban on PEDs is not likely. Instead, Congress could strongly encourage such action by making federal highway funding contingent upon passage of PED bans at the state level.

BY JUDGE MICHAEL J. O'BRIEN
TIGARD MUNICIPAL COURT

Summerlake Bridge Replacement

During a routine inspection last fall, park staff discovered the wooden pedestrian bridge at Summerlake Park, near 130th Avenue, was beginning to deteriorate. All traffic was barred from the bridge for safety reasons.

In September, the city hired a local contractor to remove the old bridge and replace it with a more durable crossing. Once the new bridge was installed, the streets department repaved the entrance ramps and it was re-opened to the public in December.

Coming Soon: Downtown Walking Map and Signs

Have you ever taken a wrong turn on the Fanno Creek Trail? Are you interested in finding the best way to walk to Main Street businesses? The city is creating a downtown walking map and signage system that will help residents and visitors navigate the downtown area. The project is funded through a grant from Metro's Regional Transportation Options Program.

If you participated in our recent downtown walking survey, thank you! Feedback from that survey (www.tigard-or.gov/downtown) is helping us build the map and signage system. The downtown walking maps will be available for use this summer.

Fanno Creek Trail signs are another upcoming improvement. Metro has selected the trail in downtown Tigard as a demonstration site for signage that's part of "The Intertwine," a regional trail network. Expect to see the demonstration signs on the Fanno Creek Trail this March. Your input on the demonstration signs will help guide the design of permanent signs along the trail and downtown locations. The city will install the permanent signs later this year.

For more information, please contact Sr. Transportation Planner Judith Gray at 503-718-2557 or judith@tigard-or.gov.

College Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted!

Do you know or have a high school senior looking for scholarships? Check out the Tigard Chamber scholarship opportunity, made possible by the generous donations of Pride Disposal and over 80 Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce member businesses. Two \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded.

Eligible students will: 1) live in or

attend school in the 97223 or 97224 zip code, 2) plan to pursue a career in the fields of business or non-profit work and, 3) demonstrate participation in extracurricular activities and/or after-school employment.

Submission deadline is Wednesday, February 29, 2012. Download the application at www.tigardchamber.org/site/ShiningStars.php

Tigard Public Library Survey

February 2012

Do the services offered at the Tigard Public Library meet your needs?
This is your chance to let us know. Please take a moment to fill out this
brief questionnaire because this is your library.

1. How often do you visit the Tigard Library? Please check one.

- 4 or more times a month
 Less than once a month
 Never
 1-3 times a month
 First-time visitor

2. How old are you?

- 18 or younger
 26-40
 61 or older
 19-25
 41-60

3. Please rate the following areas of library service:

Library Service	Excellent	Good	Just OK	Poor	Don't Use
Availability of Internet Computers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Checkout Desk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reference Desk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's Room Desk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. How do you learn about library programs and services (Check all that apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Library flyers, posters, brochures, bookmarks	<input type="checkbox"/> Books and Bits (Library's e-newsletter)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cityscape (City of Tigard newsletter)
<input type="checkbox"/> Tigard Library website	<input type="checkbox"/> Facebook, Twitter or other social media	<input type="checkbox"/> www.oregonlive.com
<input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers	<input type="checkbox"/> Word-of-mouth	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		

5. Have you downloaded e-books from the library? Yes No

6. Do you own an e-reader? Yes No

7. The library provides access to online resources at www.wcds.org/online_resources Which of these have you used in the past year? (Check all that apply.)

- Auto Repair Reference Center
 Reference USA
 Mango (Language Learning)
 Culture Grams
 Magazine full-text articles
 Ancestry Plus
 Medline Plus
 Biography in Context
 Newspaper full-text articles
 Learning Express
 World Book Encyclopedia
 Did not use
 Other: _____

8. Comments:

Please return your survey to the Tigard Public Library, 13500 SW Hall Blvd., Tigard, OR 97223
or take it online at www.tigard-or.gov/library

Book Sale @ TPL

The Friends of the Tigard Library will hold its semi-annual used book sale on Friday, February 24, and Saturday, February 25. Bargain books and budget buys will make you feel rich without pinching your wallet.

The sale runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Used books that look new, kids' books, DVDs and CDs are just a few of the treasures you will find in the library's community room. Come early for the best selection.

Stop at the library before you shop to get a coupon and save even more! Friends of the Library use the proceeds from the sale to support library programs and services.

Make Rental Property Safer

Are you or your rental property managers spending considerable time trying to minimize criminal activity and the issues associated with problem tenants? Several Washington County law enforcement agencies have teamed up to bring free crime prevention training to rental property owners and managers.



The 90-minute monthly forums take place at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at PCC Willow Creek (241 SW Edgeway Dr., Hillsboro). Please call 503-718-2561 for more information.

Don't miss this opportunity to network with fellow property owners and managers in your area and gain insight from the police officers that serve your community.

Did You Know?

A pharmaceutical drop-box has been installed inside the Tigard Police Department lobby to help residents properly dispose of unwanted, unused or expired medications throughout the year.

Since 2010, the Tigard Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration sponsored three drug turn-in events, collecting more than 1,400 pounds of old or unused pharmaceuticals from residents.

The med-return box is available every day from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. in the Police department lobby located next to City Hall at 13125 SW Hall Blvd.

For a complete list of acceptable and unacceptable items, log onto www.tigard-or.gov/police. For additional information, visit www.dea.gov or contact Public Information Officer Jim Wolf at jim@tigard-or.gov or 503-718-2561.

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Shelf



Life

News from the Tigard Library

13500 SW Hall Blvd.

Stringing Along with the Classics: Classical Violin and Cello Trio

Wednesday, February 29, 7–8 p.m.
Community Room

Violinists George Shiolas, Casey Bozell and special guest cellist Levi Manselle will perform solo, duet and trio arrangements. They will play classical music by Tartini, Bach, Vivaldi, Haydn, Mozart, Bartok and Piazzolla.



Sponsored by Friends of the Tigard Library.

Oregon History 101

Sunday, February 12, 1–2:30 p.m.
Community Room

Learn about Oregon's rapid transition from salmon fisheries to shopping malls, from tall timber to city streets. Historian Richard Engeman offers a condensed history of our state, with dozens of historic photographs and images.

Yesterday's News: The New Economics of Local Information

Monday, February 6, 7–8 p.m.
Community Room

The decline of local newspapers has created openings for small-scale innovators, such as online think tanks and blogs. Portland entrepreneur and journalist Michael Andersen will initiate a conversation about the forces behind this shift from mass to niche media and its implications.

This Community Discussion is sponsored by Oregon Humanities, an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the Oregon Cultural Trust.

Author Visit: Chantal Kelly

Gelato Sisterhood on the Amalfi Shore

Thursday, February 9, 7–8:30 p.m.
Community Room

Discover the sparkling Amalfi Shore of Italy through the eyes of a world traveler. The story will mesmerize anyone who's ever been tempted to indulge in the charms of Italy. Kelly will have her book for sale and signing after her presentation.

Backyard Beekeeping

Saturday, February 11, 2–4 p.m.
Community Room

Learn beekeeping basics with Matt Reed from Bee Thinking. He'll discuss honeybees, popular beehive designs and the art of backyard beekeeping.



Games to Get Your Heart Pumping

Tuesday, February 14, 5:30–7 p.m.
Community Room, All Ages

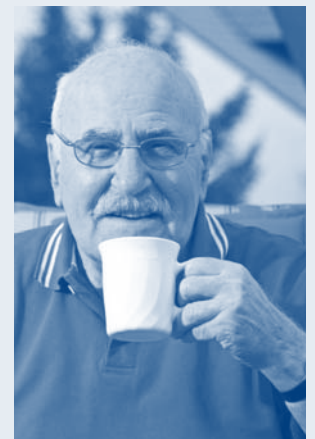
It's Valentine's Day. Be good to your heart. Try out some games and fitness programs on the Wii™ and the Microsoft Kinect™ body-tracking feature for the Xbox 360®. Designed to get you moving and your heart pumping!

Everybody Needs a Hand

Wednesdays | 2:30–4 p.m. | 2nd Floor Conference Room

This series for seniors, family caregivers, veterans and those with disabilities provides information about useful programs and resources available through Washington County.

- ★ February 15: Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance
- ★ February 22: Washington County Department of Disability, Aging and Veteran Services
- ★ February 29: Ride Connection



Mythobolus Mask Theatre

Wildlife Tales

Tuesday, February 21, 7–8 p.m.
Community Room, All Ages

This unique dance and mask collective uses masks, colorful costumes, music and narration to present animal tales from around the world. Learn about the Makah tale, Clamshell Boy, the African tale of The Jungle Fruit Tree and the Mexican tale of Prietita.

Super Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 5, 3:30–8 p.m.
Community Room

Watch the big game on the library's big screen in an alcohol-free environment. Try out the Wii™ gaming station and test your Super Bowl smarts with a trivia challenge. The winner and two runners-up will receive gift certificates from a local sporting goods store.

Sponsored by Friends of the Tigard Library.

Pokémon Party

Saturday, February 18, 2–4 p.m.
Community Room, Grades 6–12

Party with Pokémon and Super Smash Bros. Enjoy Japanese snacks and anime. Make your own Pokémon out of paper or fabric and learn how to become the ultimate Pokémon trainer. Triumph in our Super Smash Bros. tournament and you may win a prize! Bring your own cards and/or DS. Cosplay is encouraged but not required.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training—Spring 2012

Ever wonder how you'd react during a crisis or disaster? CERT training can give you the skills and confidence to provide lifesaving support in an emergency. Participants receive 24 hours of training in basic emergency response skills like disaster medical activities, search and rescue, and fire suppression.



The spring class begins March 6 and runs through April 24. This free training takes place each Tuesday night for eight weeks, from 6–9 p.m. Class size is limited and registration is required.

For more information, visit the city's website at www.tigard-or.gov/CERT or contact Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Lueck at 503-718-2593 or MikeL@tigard-or.gov.



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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Regular Council Meetings: February 14, 21, 28 @ 6:30 p.m.

All meetings are in the Tigard Town Hall (13125 SW Hall Blvd) and are open to the public. Council agendas are available online at www.tigard-or.gov/council or contact Cathy Wheatley at 503-718-2410 or cathy@tigard-or.gov.

Mayor's State of the City Address

On January 10, Mayor Dirksen gave his annual State of the City address. In it, he shared some of the city's achievements as well as the challenges that Tigard faces in the coming year. Watch the Mayor's address or

see the complete text of his speech on the city's website at www.tigard-or.gov/council.

Questions? Comments?
Contact Cathy Wheatley at 503-718-2410.

Neighborhood Network Open House

How Do You Want To Connect?



If you have a few minutes this Saturday, drop by the library community room anytime between **11 a.m. and 2 p.m.** on **Saturday, February 4** to check out the Neighborhood Network program.

Neighborhood Network blog sites are a powerful tool for connecting with your city and each other. The citizen-led Neighborhood Involvement Committee wants to hear *your* ideas for strengthening communication between City Hall and residents.

Stop by the open house. We'll show you how to connect with city services and you can help us build a more responsive communication program. It will give you another reason to be glad that Tigard is the place you call home!

Fun Facts from Last Year

- The library added more than 47,000 items to its collection
- Police officials attended 16 National Night Out celebrations, visiting nearly 600 Tigard residents who gathered to "take a bite out of crime"
- The city's Building Division received 2,710 building permit applications
- The Boy Scouts of America (Cascade Pacific Council) reported that 17 young men from Tigard had earned Scouting's highest honor, the rank of Eagle Scout
- According to the 2010 US Census, Tigard's population has grown 16.5 percent since 2000