FEATURE ARTICLE - Pros and Cons of At-Large Form of Government for the City of Portland

If you attended the January 2020 CKNA Board Meeting, you listened to Mayor Wheeler discuss many issues related to life in the City of Portland. As a community that “frames” the Central City, it is important for this neighborhood to understand the issues and opportunities presented by the “central city” in order to truly understand the future of the Creston-Kenilworth neighborhood.

Decisions that impact transportation, accessibility, jobs in the region, and costs associated with providing services to the city are all impactful to our standard of living here in CKNA.

Note: Portland City Hall is on the National Register of Historic Places (11/21/74) and you can see the application here: https://npgallery.nps.gov/AssetDetail/NRIS/74001711

As we plan and participate in decision making associated with Inner SE Powell, the way the city is managed and sets its priorities becomes even more important to CKNA. During the discussion with Mayor Wheeler, the subject of “At-Large” representative government vs electoral districts” was discussed. Therefore, it seems important to identify what this means; not recommending one form of government over the other, but more to understand the terms so we can have meaningful discussions about the future of the City of Portland and our community’s governmental representation.

Here are a few terms you may hear during these discussions:

- What does “at-large” form of government mean?

“At-Large” is a designation for members of a government body who are elected to represent the whole membership of the body.” (This is Portland’s present form of governance.) Today, each elected councilperson represents all of the city and may live anywhere in the city without district limitations.

- What does “electoral districts” form of government mean?

“Electoral districts” is a designation for members of a government body who are elected from within designated districts. Each elected councilperson represents the populations within the designated districts and must live within that district. (This form of city government mirrors the State of Oregon representation. For instance, State Representative Rob Nosse represents State District 42, living within the district and representing part of Southeast and Northeast Portland.)

(City approving the PWB Filtration Project)
A city management structure we need to consider is Mayoral vs City manager form of administration. Here are the definitions of the two designations (We all have a clear understanding of Mayoral duties; therefore, there is more information related to the City Manager role, here:

- What is the difference between a Mayor and a City Manager?

The difference between a City Manager and a Mayor is that a Mayor is elected by the citizens, while a City Manager is an appointed position. Mayors are also more public figures, while a City Manager may sit on a board or committee, in addition to their operational role.

- What is the most popular form of city government in the U.S.?

The Council/Manager form of government is the most common form of city government in the U.S. Under this form of government, the legislative body is made up of elected officials, and the day to day operations are handled by a professional administrator (the City Manager).

- What is a City-Manager form of government?

The Council-Manager form of government is the system of local government that combines the strong political leadership of elected officials in the form of a council with the strong managerial experience of an appointed local government manager.

- What Does a City Manager Do?

A City Manager is responsible for directing a variety of administrative processes that allow the city to operate. It is the City Manager’s job to implement and oversee policies crafted by city council.

The CKNA will continue to invite speakers/guests to our board meetings to provide our community with timely information and to provide our neighborhood with an opportunity to meet and discuss important topics.

STATE OF OREGON

There are 241 incorporated cities in the State of Oregon. Seventy percent of Oregonians live in our cities and nearly 70% of Oregon’s property value is in our cities. Economic activity within Oregon cities generates 83 percent of the state’s income tax receipts as more than 82 percent of jobs are located within our cities.

Major Cities in the State of Oregon

Among the services city governments typically provide are fire and police protection, streets and street maintenance, sewer and water treatment and collection systems, building permit activities, libraries, parks and recreation activities, and numerous social services determined by local management and voter approval.

Four forms of city government determine the administrative role of any city council. Most Oregon cities with populations over 2,500 have the council/manager or council/administrator form, in which the council hires a chief executive officer to be responsible for the daily supervision of city affairs. As we know, Portland has a commission
form of government, as the elected commissioners function collectively as the city council and serve as administrators of city departments. Under home rule, cities have latitude in managing their affairs, except where the subject matter has been preempted by state government.

League of Oregon Cities
Michael McCauley, Executive Director
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www.orcities.org

STATE OF OREGON

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April.M.DELEON@odot.state.or.us
(971) 233-6514

The I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project will recruit interested community members to serve on an advisory committee. The committee will help shape the project design and recommend avenues for equitable engagement with the community. The application period runs through February 18, 2020.

Meetings will occur up to nine times per year for up to three hours at a location within or near the project area. Interested community members can learn more about the committee at: https://i5rosequarter.org/

CKNA Newsletter - 2020 March

ODOT will collected over $5.3 billion in total revenue during the 2018 - 2019 biennium:

- 23% from the federal government
- 77% from state sources such as state fuel taxes, taxes on heavy trucks, driver and motor vehicle fees, and bond proceeds and Certifications of Participation
- ODOT also receives funding for specific purposes from cigarette tax revenues, lottery funds and various transportation permits and fees

About $1 billion (19%) of the total revenue flows through ODOT for distribution to Oregon cities, counties and other agencies. This leaves about $3.94 billion remaining for ODOT’s biennial operating budget and ending balance.

ODOT funding is based on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). See the site access address here:


ODOT Project Planning and Implementation is based on metropolitan coordination (Metro is this region’s Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)). A significant portion of the state’s transportation investments are in metropolitan areas, planned and programmed by MPOs, as stated above. MPOs are policy-making bodies made up of representatives from state and local government, and transportation agencies that have the authority and responsibility for development, operating, and maintaining transportation systems within metropolitan areas. Influencing transportation planning and implementation begins with Metro.

Robert (Bob) Stacey, District 6
bob.stacey@oregonmetro.gov
www.oregonmetro.gov/councilor/bob-stacey

I-5 Rose Quarter proposed improvements - a product of the N/NE Quadrant Plan/Comprehensive 2035 Plan
Learn more about PBOT's Transportation System Plan (TSP) at:

[Link]

bob.kellet@portlandoregon.gov

(503) 823-6127

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Portland Water Bureau (PWB)

The Bull Run watershed is Portland’s primary source of drinking water. Currently, the PWB does not treat Cryptosporidium, but the bureau is required to do so under drinking water regulations. Portland is working to install a filtration system by September 2027 under a compliance schedule with Oregon Health Authorities.

Until completion of the new filtration system, PWB is implementing interim measures such as watershed protection and additional monitoring. Consultations with public health officials have concluded and customers do not need to take any additional precautions.

[Link]

(503) 823-7525

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What is Cryptosporidium: microscopic germs/parasites that can be found in water, food, soil and that can be found on dirty hands that have been contaminated with the feces of humans and animals infected with the parasite.

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It is an intestinal infection characterized by diarrhea caused by a parasite that can live in the small intestine of humans and animals.

[Image]

How Cryptosporidium looks in the intestine and is the leading cause of waterborne disease in the U.S.

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Bureau of Environmental Services (BES)

“Clean River Rewards” is Portland’s stormwater utility discount program. With Clean River Rewards, Portland ratepayers can save money and work to clean rivers and healthy watersheds.

If you manage stormwater on your property, you can receive up to a 100% discount on your on-site stormwater management charges because your actions help protect rivers, streams and groundwater from damaging effects of stormwater runoff.

Call: (503) 823-1371
Email: [Link]
Application for single family and duplex owners:
[Link]
Sign Up for “Naturescaping Basics Workshop”

Date: April 4, 2020 - 9AM to 1 PM
Location: SE Uplift - 3534 SE Main Street
Presenters: Environmental Services and East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District
Register Here: Naturescaping Basics

Happy Saint Patrick’s Day!

BASIC ESTATE PLANNING

You may be preparing for filing your 2019 income returns in time for the April 15, 2020 deadline. If you are considering estate planning to add to your financial health, here are a few terms that may help you as you talk to your estate planning attorney or other professionals about your financial vision for the future:

Last Will and Testament
A last will and testament is a legal document that governs the distribution of individually owned assets upon your passing. All wills are subject to probate. Probate is a court supervised process that validates a will, ensures that all assets are collected and debts are paid, and confirms that all assets are distributed according to the terms of the will. If you die intestate (without a will), your assets will be according to state intestacy statutes.

Revocable Living Trust
A revocable living trust is a set of instructions detailing how your assets should be managed and distributed to your beneficiaries. It may also include provisions governing the administration of your assets upon your incapacity. After working with an attorney to create a revocable living trust, you must retitle all appropriate assets in the name of the trust. (place your real estate holdings into the trust, for instance) Assets titled in the name of a revocable living trust avoid probate. By avoiding probate, you may save your heirs time and money. You will also better maintain the privacy of your estate. If you choose to incorporate a revocable living trust in your estate plan, your last will and testament should be drafted as a “pour-over” will. This will ensure that any assets inadvertently left in your probate estate are transferred to and administered according to the terms of your revocable trust.

General Durable Power of Attorney
A General Durable Power of Attorney is a document through which you appoint an agent to act on your behalf in financial matters during your lifetime. If a power of attorney is durable, the agent’s power will continue in the event of your incapacity.

Durable Healthcare Power of Attorney
A Durable Healthcare Power of Attorney is a document through which you appoint an agent to make medical decisions on your behalf if you are unable to do so. It should include Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) authorizations to allow the hospital to share your medical information with the agent so that the person acting on behalf can make informed decisions.

Advance Healthcare Directive/Living Will
An Advance Healthcare Directive/Living Will is a set of instructions detailing your wishes for end-of-life care. This document is typically created in conjunction with a durable healthcare power of attorney.

Once you have worked with an attorney to prepare your documents, consider the following ideas to maintain your plans:

- Review your existing documents every 5 years with your attorney
- Periodically review account titling and beneficiaries
CKNA Newsletter - March 2020

- Safeguard all original documents and confirm that authorized individuals have access to them
- Discuss your estate planning with your loved ones and confirm that they are comfortable with any responsibilities you may have given them

Definition Resource: Stifel Nicolaus Co.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

The Shamrock, Seamog or Seamair Og, the Irish name for a young clover can be found growing wild throughout Ireland. Saint Patrick used the three leaved Shamrock to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), to explain to pagan Irish during the 5th Century.

Wearing the Shamrock on Saint Patrick’s Day can be traced back to the early 1700’s.

The potted shamrock plant (Oxalis regnellii) is a small specimen, often reaching no more than 6 inches in height. Leaves are in a range of shades and delicate flowers bloom off and on during fall, winter and spring. Leaves are clover shaped and some people think the plant brings good luck.

The leaves fold up at night and open in the morning and do have periods of dormancy during the summer. Shamrock houseplants are members of the wood sorrel family of the genus Oxalis.

When leaves die back, the potted shamrock plant needs a time of darkness to rest. Caring for the plant during dormancy includes limited watering and withholding fertilizer. The dormancy lasts from about several weeks to up to three months.

Shamrock grows in beautiful green colors and can be purple as well. The care and maintenance for all colors of Shamrock are the same.

Purple Shamrock (Oxalis triangularis)

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR POTTED SHAMROCK!

A few words about Saint Patrick, as we celebrate his day on March 17th:

Around the year 400, Patrick was born in Scotland. When he was 16 years old, he was captured as a slave by the high king of Ireland. He was sold in Ireland and was taken to the Northeast of the country to herd sheep.

During his six years of solitude, he found a life of prayer and pledged his life to God. One night Patrick had a vision and he escaped from slavery and found his way home to his family. Patrick studied religion for many years to become a priest and a missionary and at this time he continued to recall his experiences in Ireland.

Eventually, Pope Celestine ordained Patrick as bishop to preach to the Celtic People and sent him
to Ireland. He helped build churches and baptised pagans.

When Saint Patrick died, it is said his body was placed in a cart drawn by two unreined white oxen who wandered to Downpatrick where, today, people believe he is buried. A granite boulder marked with a cross inscribed with “PATRIC” marks the grave.

MARCH NOTICES

It’s time to Spring Forward:

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS:
Sunday, March 8, 2020

During World War I the government acknowledged the need to conserve coal used for heating homes.

The Germans were the first to officially adopt the light-extending system in 1915, as a fuel-saving measure. This led to the introduction in 1916 of British Summer Time extending from May 21 to October 1, when clocks in Britain were put an hour ahead. The United States followed in 1918, when Congress passed the Standard Time Act, which established time zones.

Celebrate Saint Patrick’s Day, March 17, 2020

In contrast to celebrations in the USA, March 17 has been a more holy day than holiday in Ireland. Since 1631, St. Patrick’s Day has been a religious feast day to commemorate the anniversary of the 5th-century death of the missionary credited with spreading Christianity to Ireland. Historically, there have been no parades or emerald-tinted food in Ireland, particularly because blue, not green is the traditional color associated with Ireland’s patron saint prior to the 1798 Rebellion. *

* The 1798 Rebellion was an insurrection launched by the United Irishmen, an underground republican society, aimed at overthrowing the Kingdom of Ireland, severing the connection with Great Britain and establishing an Irish Republic, based on the principles of the French Revolution.

Celebrate SPRING EQUINOX this year:
March 19, 2020

Each year around the 20th of March, Druids and Pagans gather at Stonehenge early in the morning to mark the Spring Equinox to see sunrise above the stones. All over the world, at sunrise, day and night are of equal length in time; therefore, the word equinox means “Equal Night”.

*
March is “Portland Dining Month”

Dozens of Portland’s most acclaimed eateries offer four weeks of delicious deals during Portland Dining Month. **Throughout the entire month of March**, over 100 restaurants offer decadent three-course meals for just $33, making it one of the best times of the year to dine out!

[https://www.travelportland.com/dining-month/?neighborhood=all&cuisine=all](https://www.travelportland.com/dining-month/?neighborhood=all&cuisine=all)

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**Shamrock Run & Fitness Fair**

**March 13 - 15, 2020**

Wear **GREEN** to the Shamrock Run Sunday morning, which has a half marathon, 15K, 8K, 5K, 1K, and a 4-mile walk. The free **Shamrock Fitness Fair** is Friday and Saturday at the Oregon Convention Center.

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**Tulip Festival:** **March 20 to May 30, 2020**

See 40 acres of tulips and daffodils in bloom, visit the gift shop and cafe, and checkout the weekend events schedule for the Tulip Fest at the **Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm in Woodburn, Oregon**. Children age 12 and younger are free.

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**Whale Watching Week:** **March 21 - 29, 2020**

Volunteers will help you spot whales at 24 sites during Whale Watching Week. Go to Depoe Bay Whale Watching Center in Newport, Oregon to experience this amazing activity.

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**MORE NOTICES**

**GROUT ELEMENTARY’S NATIVE PLANT SALE**

Purchase native plants for your garden and support your local elementary school at the same time. Visit Grout’s playground on March 14th from 9AM - 2PM.


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If you miss the March whale viewing opportunity, the event is also available in December.

Earthquake Misunderstood Facts and a Safety Tip:

1. Earthquakes help keep the land above sea level. If it were not for the uplift associated with them, all of the continental land masses would have been leveled just about to sea level long ago. In a big Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake, parts of the Oregon coast may drop a few feet, but other parts are pushed upward even higher.

2. Small earthquakes release very little energy compared to large ones. To equal the release of energy of an M 9.0 earthquake, we would need almost one million M 5.0 earthquakes.

3. The best survival method during an earthquake, as recommended by the Red Cross: DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON.

Info: Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases. Including:

- Avoid close contact with sick people
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Stay home when you are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe

- Follow CDC’s recommendations for using a facemask:
  - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19
  - Face masks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a healthcare facility)
  - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom: before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
  - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
Board Meetings and Events

Rachel Davies, Chair
cdna.chair@gmail.com

Darian Davies, Treasurer
daviesfamily@comcast.net

Grace Emanuel, Secretary
cdna.chair@gmail.com

Elizabeth Durham-McPherson, Outreach and Communications
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Members At Large:
Charles Brody - SE Uplift Representative
Carol Gossett - Land Use and Transportation

Active Committees

Land Use and Transportation Committee:
Joe Hovey, Chair
cdna.landchair@gmail.com

Community Preparedness and Resilience:
John Legler
john.legler@gmail.com

Land Use and Transportation Committee
Sub-Committees:

1. Inner Powell Alliance (IPA) - planning and implementation visioning along SE Powell Boulevard for thoughtful, market driven development along the corridor

2. Diesel Trucks/Brooklyn Yard Initiative to research, plan and take action for new legislation related to diesel fuels.

Meeting Dates and Events:

Date: March 23, 2020
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: SEIU Local 49 building
3536 SE 26th Ave (97202)

** Agenda includes neighborhood business and an update of IPA activities

Support Creston-Kenilworth Businesses!!!!!