

**Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations
May 14, 2024 – Remotely Held (Zoom)
Meeting Minutes**

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
Centennial		North Central	INACTIVE
Central City	INACTIVE	Northeast	INACTIVE
Gresham Butte	Stephen Estes, Theresa Tschirky, Jim Buck	North Gresham	INACTIVE
Gresham Pleasant Valley	Richard Barker, John Maxwell	Northwest	Kat Todd, John Bildsoe
Historic Southeast	INACTIVE	Powell Valley	
Hogan Cedars	INACTIVE	Rockwood	Catherine Nicewood, Deanna Stewart, Anthony Crossman
Hollybrook	INACTIVE	Southwest	Kathy Gardenhire, Monica Ford, Dana Duval
Kelly Creek	Charles Teem, Karin Zachow, Carol Rulla	Wilkes-East	
Staff & Guests	Alex Logue, Community Engagement; Jay Higgins, Senior Transportation Planner, City of Gresham; Thomas Stanley; Janet Unruh		

The meeting opened at 7:05 p.m., Carol Rulla, Coalition Co-President, presiding.

1. The meeting minutes for April 9, 2024, were approved as written.
2. No public comment presented.
3. Transportation Planning Updates, Jay Higgins, Senior Transportation Planner, City of Gresham:

a. The transportation plan is a 20-year look into the future for what the Gresham area transportation will look like. The plan takes into consideration all modes of transportation (vehicles, transit, bicycles, pedestrian, freight, rail), where the city is expected to grow and what transportation projects will be needed. The plan does not include maintenance but looks at capital improvement.

b. Currently the city is starting a new update to the plan. This update will take approximately a year to complete. Two committees will be used for this plan update: the existing transportation committee and a stakeholder advisory committee. Other community engagement opportunities will be in the form of surveys, focus groups, community events and on-line comment. Council adoption of the updated transportation plan is expected to be around late 2025.

c. Clackamas to Columbia Corridor Update: The plan for this corridor requires coordination between two jurisdictions. While the commitment remains, the timeframe is longer than anticipated due to lack of funding. In Gresham, grants for improvements along the corridor are

still being sought and implemented where possible. The city has done seismic stabilization on the Highland Bridge, has a grant for safety improvements on 181st and is adding lighting on 182nd near Centennial High School.

d. Parking Rule Changes Summary: Due to new State of Oregon Climate Friendly Equitable Communities (CFEC) requirements, Gresham is adopting changes to the parking rules in two phases.

1) Phase 1 (January 2023 to December 2024) eliminates required parking in areas near transit (53% of city) and reduces required parking to one space per unit for multi-family units for the remainder of the city. Phase 1 also eliminates required parking for community beneficial use. These changes to the city code have been adopted.

2) Phase 2 was discussed with council on March 14, 2024. The required changes are to improve regulations to include flexibility and to incorporate large new parking lot requirements. The options that council must consider for the required parking for rest of the city that wasn't affected by Phase 1 are: option 1 – no required parking across all of Gresham; option 2 – policies and additional requirements; and option 3 – parking exemptions for 13 uses and additional requirements. The additional requirements for option 2 and option 3 include adding 4,000 paid parking spaces across the city, which would be a huge commitment for resources and a decision for where those paid parking spaces should be. In downtown, there are 875 parking spaces on our streets and in eight city owned lots.

3) With the December 2025 deadline to adopt the Development Code changes, the next step is to work on a new parking management manual which will include parking principles, agreed thresholds and updates to Gresham Revised Code. The initial need for parking management is expected to be in downtown.

4. Neighborhoods and City News and Reports.

a. Neighborhood Services Division Report – Alex Logue:

- 1) Community Enhancement Grant Application are live until May 28th.
- 2) Neighborhood Matching Grant Application will be launched on May 15th or 16th at the latest. The application process will be open until June 21.
- 3) The city is wrapping up the Levy events. The city is hosting a Facebook live event on May 16th from 11 to 12 p.m. It will be streamed on Facebook, Twitter and You-tube.
- 4) The Engage Gresham site is live now. The Downtown Master Plan project, the Rockwood B 188 project and the tree code project all have engagement questions on the site.

b. Co-President Report.

1) Carol Rulla: Reminder that there is a Repair Café and Swap on June 1 at the Gresham Library. Topics for future Coalition meetings: June – Tree Code update; July – “Changes in the Air” (air quality monitoring) and suggestion from Carol to also have a presentation from the Rockwood Commons which includes a tool library; September – Gresham Parks 2035. Nothing planned for August at this time. John Maxwell suggested the topic of “what role should residents have in the future of Gresham.” Coalition consensus was to discuss residents’ role in city decision-making and ways to support meaningful engagement for more people across all demographics.

2) Jim Buck: As update to the presentation Highway 26 landscaping Jim is scheduled to present public testimony to council on Tuesday, May 21. After the last Coalition meeting, Jim was contacted by ODOT and met with 2 administrators in charge of maintenance and landscaping. They did give us permission to plant a dozen trees on a certain section of the

median and they had several excuses on why landscaping could not be planted. Jim will present to council to try to get them to be an advocate and to go to the Oregon Transportation Commission and see what pressure can be placed on ODOT to do some landscaping at the same standard that has been done for decades on the west side.

c. NA Reports and Concerns: No reports.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Dana Duval – Coalition Secretary-Treasurer

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 11th
