



# Richmond

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2015-16

### CONNECT

Richmond Neighborhood Association meeting: 2nd Monday, 7 pm @ Waverly Heights Church, 3300 SE Woodward St.

The December meeting will be held on the 7th for more inclusion.

There is no meeting in January.

RNA Sustainability Committee is seeking a chair. Info: [RichmondNA@yahoo.com](mailto:RichmondNA@yahoo.com).

Division Design Committee meets monthly @ SE Uplift, 3534 SE Main St. Info and meeting times: [ilovedivision@gmail.com](mailto:ilovedivision@gmail.com).

Elections Committee meeting: 3rd Thursdays @ Waverly Church.

Join the monthly RNA email list: [richmondna@yahoo.com](mailto:richmondna@yahoo.com).

[richmondpx.org](http://richmondpx.org)

### Annual Friends of Trees Richmond Planting

by Jim Lodwick  
FoT Crew Leader

Consider the benefits of trees. They cool us in summer, clean the air, produce oxygen, soak up carbon dioxide, and reduce polluting stormwater runoff. They also muffle urban noise, slow traffic, and are just plain beautiful. These benefits pay financial dividends too—by reducing energy demand and significantly raising property values.

This year's Richmond Neighborhood tree planting will be held Saturday, Dec. 5th. To get a street or yard tree for your Richmond home or business sign up at [friendsoftrees.org](http://friendsoftrees.org) by Nov. 2nd. The planting is a fun community event

organized by Friends of Trees and powered by neighborhood volunteers and neighbors like you. Each year over 100 neighbors gather for a morning of tree planting, community building, food, and fun.

**FoT has planted over 2,000 trees in Richmond since 1993**

Funding provided by the City of Portland means all trees, both street and yard trees, are available for only \$35 this year. This modest cost includes a site inspection, city permit, tree (about 1.5" - 2" diameter, 8 - 14 feet tall), hole digging,

planting assistance, mulch, stakes, and follow-up monitoring. The FoT website has information to help you choose the right tree for your space and Tree Richmond committee volunteers are here to assist.

Sign up now to participate in the Dec. 5th tree planting by clicking "Order Trees" at [friendsoftrees.org](http://friendsoftrees.org). The deadline is Nov. 2nd and trees must be ordered by Nov. 16th. Ordering early ensures the best selection since some species may sell out. For more information contact Jim Lodwick at 503-351-2722 or [richmond@plantitportland.com](mailto:richmond@plantitportland.com).

### Greetings from the newly-elected chair of the RNA board

by Cyd Manro  
RNA Board Chair

Hello Richmond. Thank you for this opportunity to serve as the chair of the Richmond Neighborhood Association board of directors. I thought I would write a brief article to share a little about my vision.

It's my job to help Richmond neighbors access the processes available, empowering them to make decisions and collaborate on projects that will make the neighborhood an even better place to live. I believe that diverse groups of people can make good decisions together. I assume that people have the best intentions, but will hold them accountable to the policies and procedures we have in place. I am excited that many neighbors

have decided to make our policies and procedures even better because I believe they should adapt to our evolving neighborhood.

The main change I'm making is that the December meeting will be a time for the RNA board to assess what we've done all year, doing our best to measure what we've done against our mission. The January meeting will be a time for visioning and goal setting for the year, with a plan for how to measure our progress.

I welcome your feedback as I serve the neighborhood in this capacity. I welcome your input at [RichmondNA@yahoo.com](mailto:RichmondNA@yahoo.com). Many of you have already given me feedback on the job I'm doing. Thank you for that, it's helping me to improve how I serve our unique and evolving neighborhood.

# RNA Elections Spawn Grievance Complaint and Recall Attempt

by Allen Field  
Assistant Editor

In the June 2015 Richmond Neighborhood Association annual election, Tom McTighe, Erik Matthews, and Alan Kessler were voted to the board as new board members. Incumbent Jordan Lanz retained his seat, and Chair Allen Field and board members Bonnie Blair and Karen Maczko lost their seats.

Blair, Maczko, and Field filed a grievance complaint against board member Doug Klotz, alleging that his pre-election posts to the BikeLoudPDX.org listserv describing the RNA board as “less than bike-friendly” violated the RNA’s Code of Ethics requirement that board members treat each other “with dignity and respect” and “fairly and equally.”

On August 24th at a special RNA meeting, the board, by a tied vote (6 to 6), did not find that Klotz violated the code of ethics. Blair, Maczko, and Field filed an appeal with SE Uplift. On October 5, 2015, the SE Uplift Board voted in favor of the appellants, voting to adopt the recommendation of its Grievance Appeal Committee which found that Klotz violated the RNA’s Code of Ethics. Within 14 days of SE Uplift’s vote, Klotz has the option to appeal the matter to the Office of Neighborhood Involvement.

On September 14th, a petition-initiated recall election was held to remove Klotz from the RNA board. The recall failed by one vote to meet the two-thirds vote requirement, with 167 voting for recall and 85 voting against.

The RNA has formed an Elections and Ethics Committees to address concerns raised in the elections.

## SE Area ARTWalk is seeking all Richmond artists!

by Rin Carroll Jackson  
ARTWalk Organizer

Nearly 70 artists will provide a blaze of colors, shapes, textures, and visual stimuli in Southeast Portland neighborhoods, and Richmond artists are invited to join the 2016 SE Area ARTWalk.

The ARTWalk boundaries include SE 9th Ave. to SE 41st Ave., and SE Powell Blvd. to Hawthorne Blvd. Artists show in their own creative space or are hosted by local residents and businesses on the free, self-guided tour.

The 2016 SE Area ARTWalk is held March 5th and 6th, from 10 am to 5 pm. Artist registration deadline is Nov. 15. Learn more and apply at [seportlandartwalk.com](http://seportlandartwalk.com).

Since 2002, the SE Area ARTWalk has been fulfilling its mission of establishing a community-focused event showcasing artists in Southeast Portland to strengthen the art community, encourage cultural awareness, and provide

## Thank You Neighborhood Businesses for Outdoor Movie Raffle Prizes!

by Allen Field  
Assistant Editor

A decent-sized crowd attended the outdoor showing “Napoleon Dynamite” in Sewallcrest Park on Friday, Sept. 4th, despite the rescheduling due to forest-fire smoke, Labor Day weekend, and a slight drizzle.

Along with the movie, we had llamas, the amazing Mr. Lizard’s Mobile Zoo, tater tots, and of course, ligers.

A huge THANK YOU to all the neighborhood businesses who very generously donated prizes for the raffle:

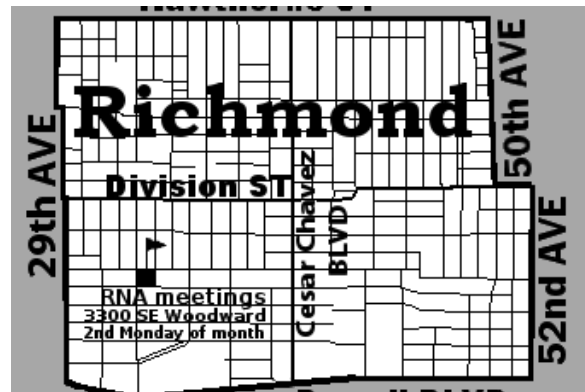
Lauretta Jean’s, Petite Provence, St. Honoré Boulangerie, Atlas Pizza, Roman Candle, Detour Café, Bollywood Theater, Trader Joe’s, Koi Fusion, Sunshine Tavern, Lompoc Brewing /Hedge House, New Seasons Market (Hawthorne), Pizza Maria, Xico, American Local, Nuestra Cucina, Cibo, and Pok Pok.

Also, Salt & Straw, Pinolo Gelato, and Nutcase Helmets very generously donated coupons and a bike helmet (to the hardest worker) of the kid crew who collected money from the crowd.

Raffle/donated funds are used to pay for this event. We hope to have Filmusik, a group of musicians and composers who play along with the film, return next summer.

the opportunity for human interaction within our neighborhoods.

The event is open to artists in Portland metro area (and beyond). All mediums and artistic levels are welcomed. Please read artist agreement before submitting online application.



# Traffic diverters coming to SE Clinton Street Greenway

by Rich Newlands  
PBOT

Greenways are streets that have been specifically designed to be bicycle and pedestrian friendly. They prioritize biking and they have design enhancements to encourage residents to walk. Of the city's over 30 greenways, SE Clinton St. is one of Portland's oldest and most popular. Everyday, nearly 3,000 cyclists use SE Clinton. This represents nearly half of the street's total traffic volume.

SE Clinton's importance goes beyond its status as a neighborhood greenway. It is also a vital component of the city's transportation system, bringing thousands of people cycling to and from two major Willamette River bridges and linking neighborhoods throughout Southeast Portland.

In recent years, the amount of car traffic and speeds have been creeping higher on SE Clinton, particularly during the morning and evening commute times. The increase in traffic volume and speed is creating an environment that is stressful and uncomfortable to many users, particularly for people bicycling. Non-local traffic from nearby Powell Blvd. and Division St. are using Clinton as a cut-through route appears to be a major factor in the changing traffic patterns.

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) has monitored this situation with growing concern. With the recent population growth in Inner Southeast Portland, more than ever we need to protect Clinton's function as a neighborhood greenway. City Council recently adopted new performance guidelines for neighborhood greenways and identified improving SE Clinton as a top priority.

It's time for a tune-up, and PBOT is launching the SE Clinton Street Neighborhood Greenway Enhancement Project. The project's primary objectives are to decrease traffic volumes west of SE Cesar Chavez Blvd. and speeds east of Cesar Chavez. Specifically, PBOT aims to

lower Clinton's traffic volume approximately 50 percent from between 12th Ave. and Cesar Chavez, and lower overall speeds by about 5 mph in the section from Cesar Chavez to 52nd Ave.

## First phase: 1 to 3 diverters west of Cesar Chavez

This fall, PBOT will begin the project with an initial phase focused on a plan for moving non-local traffic off of Clinton and back onto the arterial street network where it belongs. If volumes can be reduced below 2,000 cars per day, then there is the added bonus of state law allowing the City to reduce the posted speed limit to 20 mph.

The main tool for this job will be traffic diverters, which physically restrict certain motor vehicle movements. The purpose is to discourage motorists from using Clinton for long through trips, and instead restore its intended function as a neighborhood greenway. Capacity improvements to Division will

also be considered to encourage non-local traffic to use it instead of Clinton.

The project will take a phased approach for installing the traffic diverters and minimizing impacts to local access and circulation. In this first phase, diverters will be tested at one to three locations west of Cesar Chavez. Speed bumps will be installed on Clinton between Cesar Chavez and 52nd. Next spring, traffic data and public opinion will be collected to evaluate how well the street is functioning. A second phase is planned to modify the package of street improvements as needed to meet the project objectives.

Neighborhood greenways are some of our most effective tools to encourage bicycling and walking. PBOT looks forward to working with the Clinton community to enhance this valuable neighborhood resource.

For more information about the project, please check out the project's web page at [portlandoregon.gov/transportation/68514](http://portlandoregon.gov/transportation/68514) or contact the project manager at [rich.newlands@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:rich.newlands@portlandoregon.gov) or 503-823-7780.



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## RICHMOND NEWS

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Opinions expressed in the Richmond News are not those of the Richmond Neighborhood Association.

Richmond residents are welcome to submit articles for consideration on neighborhood issues. Opinion pieces or letters to the editor are not published. Newsletter submission and advertising deadlines are: March 16, June 16, Sept. 16, and, Dec. 16. Contact the editor at: RNAnewsletter@gmail.com.

If this paragraph is circled, your block need distribution help!

# Making Richmond greener together

by Jordan Lanz  
Tree Richmond

Richmond was one of the first Portland neighborhoods to partner with Friends of Trees. But according to the 2013 Portland Urban Forestry Street Tree Inventory, Richmond's tree canopy is currently only 21 percent, well below the citywide average of 29 percent. One of the goals of Tree Richmond, a volunteer group dedicated to promoting tree planting and urban forest stewardship in the neighborhood, is to increase canopy to 26 percent by 2025 through strategic planting. Despite more than 20 years of community-based tree planting, Richmond still has almost 2,000 street tree planting locations available. Larger mature tree species—such as oaks and elms—will have a greater impact on total canopy but require wide planting strips (a rarity in Richmond) or yard locations. Equitable distribution of new trees is another important consideration, as some portions of the neighborhood have relatively fewer trees today.

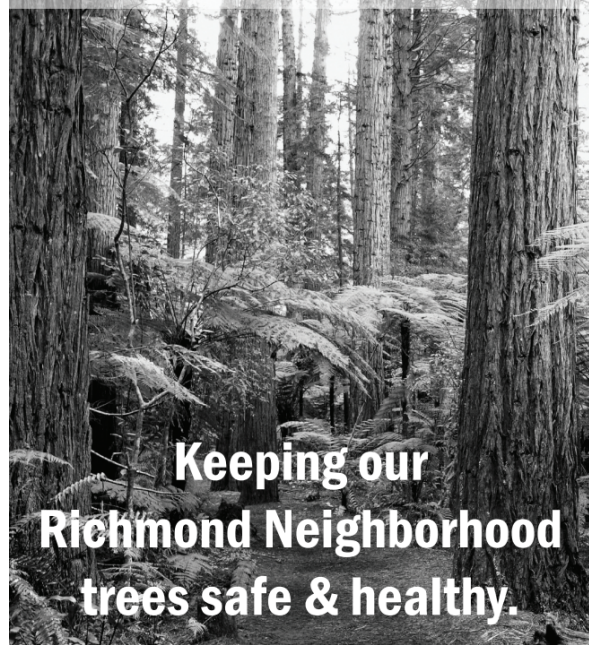
A few types of trees—maple, ash, cherry, flowering plum, and crabapple—make up a disproportionate share of our current canopy. Future tree planting should emphasize diversity, including evergreens and native species, to foster resiliency in the face of increasing threats to urban forest health such as insect pests, tree diseases, and climate change.

Beyond planting, it's critical to ensure the health and structural integrity of existing trees. Properly pruning young trees three to five years after planting is critical to establishing good structure and preventing future branch conflicts. Tree Richmond will partner with Portland Urban Forestry, Friends of Trees, and Richmond residents to implement young tree structural pruning programs.

We'll also provide educational resources and opportunities for residents to learn how to properly care for their trees.

Although Tree Richmond members are all volunteers, we have considerable knowledge, experience, and expertise to share with our neighbors. If you are a fellow tree-lover, contact us to find out how you can help. Email treerichmond@gmail.com or 971-285-7245, and sign up for our email list. Also, check out our website ([www.sites.google.com](http://www.sites.google.com)).

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