

CITYSCAPE



September 2010 Edition

Mayor's Corner

After considerable discussion and public process, Tigard's City Council has decided to accept the Park and Recreation Board's recommendation to place a park land acquisition bond measure on the ballot in November.

This is not a case of "us" asking "you" for money. This is case of the Tigard community deciding if it's a good idea to set aside up to \$17M to buy land for future use as parks and public open space.

If it passes, it doesn't result in city government getting a check for \$17M and then asking, "What shall we do with this?" What it does mean is that when we identify parcels of land that fit the vision defined in our citizen-approved Parks Master Plan (and we already have several parcels in mind) we have permission to sell bonds up to \$17M to raise money to buy the land.

The measure calls for at least 80 percent of the money to go solely for land purchase, and up to 20 percent to do improvements to that (or existing) park property to make it usable as public parks or for restoration.

The reason for the timing is crucial. Land will likely never again be as inexpensive as it is right now. If we wait for the economy to improve, land prices will rise and we will lose any advantage. An improved economy also means increased new development, and the open land that exists today may be lost forever. If we fail to do this now, we will likely never have the opportunity again.

Craig E. Dirksen, Mayor

6th Annual Family Fest—Celebrate With Us!

Saturday, September 11 at Cook Park

- ★ 4:30 p.m. Dish up real **Texas Barbecue** along with potato salad and baked beans. First come, first served.
- ★ 6 p.m. Save room for **Ice Cream** (served until it's gone by the Tigard Lions Club).
- ★ 7 p.m. **Concert** by the Tualatin Valley Community Band as a salute to the troops!
- ★ Dusk: Let the **Fireworks** begin! Celebrate Tigard's 49th birthday.

Friday, September 17 at the Library

- ★ 6–8 p.m. Research your roots with help from our **genealogy** experts (Library Technology Room)
- ★ 6:30–7:30 p.m. **Family Celebrations Around the World**, an evening for the whole family (Library Community Room.) Activities include crafting pencil toppers, making a Japanese origami star lantern or a German tree ornament.

So come one, come all and help us celebrate our Tigard families!



Saturday, September 18 at City Hall and Summerlake Park

- ★ 9 a.m. (*Registration begins at 8 a.m.*) **5K Walk/Run** takes off from City Hall and ends at the finish line in the church parking lot at 11065 SW North Dakota Street.

Following the race, join us for a hearty breakfast. Free shuttle rides take you back to City Hall.

- ★ 11 a.m. (*Registration begins at 10 a.m.*) All new **Pet Parade** at Summerlake Dog Park (11450 SW Winterlake Dr.) Enter your cat, dog, guinea pig, or goldfish! Celebrity judges will award prizes; Davidson's Restaurant will provide pet treats. Enjoy musical entertainment by Dick Saunders' *Petropolitan Jazz Band*.

Welcome Home to the Troops: Saturday, September 11 Line the parade route to cheer on our Hometown Heros!

Enjoy the "Home Again Parade" honoring the soldiers of the Tigard-based National Guard 41st Brigade Combat Team Headquarters. The parade begins at 9 a.m. at City Hall, travels down Hall Boulevard and will end at Cook Park.

Everyone is welcome!



Voters Decide on November 4

With passage of the Park Bond Measure #34-181, the City of Tigard would have the money to acquire and preserve open space, natural areas, and wildlife habitat; improve parks and open spaces, preserve clean water by acquiring lands near rivers, creeks and streams throughout Tigard.



The \$17 million general obligation bond measure would allow for the implementation of a portion of the Tigard Park System Master Plan. All spending from this measure would be subject to oversight by the Tigard Park and Recreation Board and audits within the city's yearly audit to ensure that all funds are spent efficiently and appropriately in a balanced manner.

Here's what you can expect to see on the ballot:

Measure No. 34-181 BOND TO ACQUIRE OPEN SPACES, PROTECT CLEAN WATER, IMPROVE PARKLANDS.

QUESTION:

Shall City Issue \$17 Million General Obligation Bonds to Acquire, Preserve and Protect Open Spaces, Water Quality, Habitat, and Parks?

If the Bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of Sections 11 and 11 b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

SUMMARY:

If approved, this measure would authorize the City of Tigard to sell up to \$17 million in bonds for land acquisition, restoration, capital construction and improvements allocated as follows:

- 80% or more to acquire land to preserve open space, parklands, and wildlife habitat, protect streams for improved local water quality to benefit fish and wildlife,
- 20% or less to create and improve community parks, recreational areas and trails, and
- Up to 10% of the total for downtown park land.

This investment is for the benefit of current and future generations.

The Parks and Recreation Board would provide oversight; spending would be audited in the City's yearly audit.

Bonds would mature in 21 years or less from issuance and may be issued in one or more series. The estimated additional annual cost to property owners would be \$0.29 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. For a home with the median assessed value of \$207,000, the City estimates that the additional monthly cost would be about \$4.99 per month, or \$60 per year.

Library Levy Renewal on November Ballot

Measure 34-180: *A levy to maintain services for public libraries throughout Washington County*

Who does this levy affect?

Anyone who lives in Washington County. It would fund libraries that are members of Washington County Cooperative Library Services, including the Tigard Public Library. Eighty percent of levy funds would be distributed to 12 member libraries for operational costs.

What would renewal of this levy do?

Continue support for countywide public library services such as reading programs for children, purchasing books, and providing information and resources for job-seekers. These public libraries continue to respond to increased use from residents.

Over the last two years, checkouts increased 32 percent and library visitors increased 22 percent. The levy would also support central and outreach services that link libraries together, such as daily book deliveries to fill patrons requests and maintaining the shared library catalog.

How would this levy affect taxes?

It would be a five-year levy to replace the current four-year levy that will expire in June 2011. This measure would provide funding from July 2011 through June 2016. The 17¢ rate per \$1,000 of assessed value would remain unchanged from the current rate.

Owners of a home with an average assessed value of \$215,089 (not market value) would pay about \$37 in 2011-2012. Taxes in future years would depend upon changes in assessed value.

Where can you get more information?

Log onto www.WCCLS.org/levy or call 503-846-3222.



Ask the City Staff

Stop by the Tigard Area Farmers Market on Sunday, September 19, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., where staff members from Public Works and Community Development will be available to chat about the Lake Oswego • Tigard Water Partnership, future plans for Downtown Tigard, and Pacific Hwy/99W updates.

Friendly staff at the city booth can help you catch up on what's happening in Tigard. Your questions and comments are welcome. The Farmers Market is located at 11831 SW Pacific Hwy near the intersection of Hwy 217 and Pacific Hwy/99W.



Don't Flush Those Old Meds!

On **Saturday, September 25**, the Tigard Police are partnering with the Drug Enforcement Administration to conduct a "Pharmaceutical Drug Take-Back Day."

Bring expired, unused and unwanted pharmaceutical drugs to the drop-off site located in the parking lot at Tigard City Hall (13125 SW Hall Blvd.) between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Materials will be destroyed at a secure destruction site at the end of the event.

Learn more about this effort to reduce the illegal use of prescription drugs at www.tigard-or.gov/police or call 503-718-2561.

Tigard's Drinking Water Dilemma:

The Price of Ownership

Tigard and Lake Oswego will join forces to upgrade and expand Lake Oswego's existing water facilities to serve customers in both communities. After searching for more than a decade, Tigard will finally own a share of a drinking water supply. And customers will save an estimated \$2.5 million per year over other supply options.

But the partnership plan comes at a cost. In order to build the necessary water system improvements by 2016 (*when Tigard's current supply contract with the City of Portland expires*), customers in the Tigard Water Service Area (*Tigard, King City, Durham, and Tigard Water District*) will see their water rates double over the next three years.

Tigard's Share of the Project Costs

More than \$100 million will be financed through the sale of water revenue bonds to be repaid over 20 years. However, water rates must rise immediately. Why? Blame it on the topsy-turvy world of municipal bond markets.

In the early stages of the current economic downturn, bond holders stopped lending to cities altogether. When credit markets resumed, bond holders were more cautious than ever. That extra caution means municipal borrowers like us, have higher initial costs than previously because we are now required to:

- ◆ Set aside a reserve equal to one full year of debt service (principal and interest) payments.
- ◆ Collect more revenues than needed to pay ongoing costs plus debt service, assuring bond holders of adequate "coverage."
- ◆ Adopt rate increases necessary to repay the debt before bonds are issued.

These requirements mean that any postponement of rate increases will result in delaying the joint water supply project. Tigard's contract with Portland, set to expire in 2016, will need to be renewed—at a premium.

The Silver Lining

While the rate increases may seem painful, there's a bit of good news. Interest rates on highly-rated municipal bonds are very favorable. Construction bids are also competitive, as contractors sharpen their pencils to stay in business. By breaking ground on the partnership project now, we stand to save some money.

Delivery Cost Remains Less Than a Penny Per Gallon

Tigard's current water rate for a typical household is \$28 per month. We understand current economic conditions are challenging for local families and business. The city recognizes that raising rates to this extent in the current economic climate is difficult for our customers. However, these increases will allow Tigard water customers to own a source of water, and the Tigard • Lake Oswego Water Partnership will save customers millions of dollars over other ownership options. We think that this is a good investment.

By 2016, more than 57,000 residents of the Water Service Area will be receiving high-quality drinking water from the Clackamas River. Tigard will no longer be reliant on Portland for this essential service.

For more information, visit the Lake Oswego • Tigard Water Partnership web page at www.lotigardwater.org.





RULES *of the* ROAD: FLASHING YELLOW LIGHTS

Most drivers know that a solid yellow light at an intersection means “stop,” since their right-of-way is about to be terminated by a red light. If the vehicle can’t stop “in safety,” the driver “may drive cautiously through the intersection” under Oregon law.

Flashing yellow lights are less familiar and some drivers are confused about how they should respond to them. The general rule, whether the flashing yellow light is part of a standard traffic signal or attached to a sign, is simple: a “driver may proceed through the intersection or past the signal only with caution.”

The flashing yellow lights attached to school-zone signs have become very common recently. When activated, these lights indicate that children

may be leaving or arriving at school, triggering a 20-mph speed limit. But traffic engineers are now using flashing yellow lights in useful ways that may not be so familiar to drivers. Two examples:

1. *Flashing yellow lights at marked crosswalks.* Drivers may proceed with caution when these lights are flashing, but they’re not required to stop unless a pedestrian has entered the crosswalk. Even if a pedestrian is still on the curb or sidewalk and hasn’t entered the crosswalk, the most cautious approach is to slow down or even stop until the pedestrian’s intentions are clear.

2. *Flashing yellow arrows on signals for turn lanes.* At many intersections, these arrows are appearing during part of a light’s usual cycle. Drivers faced

with a flashing yellow arrow can turn cautiously after yielding to oncoming traffic. These lights are very effective at improving traffic flow.

In sum: drivers must stop for solid yellow lights, but not flashing yellow lights. A flashing yellow light requires drivers to yield to pedestrians or other vehicles that have the right-of-way. Caution may also require slower speeds, even outside school zones. Beyond that, drivers should avoid tunnel vision and scan the area for potential hazards as they approach a flashing light.

BY JUDGE MICHAEL J. O’BRIEN
TIGARD MUNICIPAL COURT

Celebrate at the Apple Harvest

Capture the flavor of times gone by during the Tigard Historical Association’s Apple Harvest Festival at the John Tigard House Museum (located at 103rd and Canterbury in Tigard).

The Event is Free!

Saturday, October 2 | Noon to 4 p.m.

Pare an apple using an 1884 cast iron parer or take a turn at cranking the apple press to really appreciate modern technology! Nancy and Rob Downie will perform period music and recite anecdotes about history and culture of the times.

Children will have fun playing old-fashioned games like “shooting marbles,” balancing on stilts or completing a take-home craft project. Bring the entire family to this free event!

If you have questions, contact Mary Feller, Tigard Historical Association President at Mary.Feller@verizon.net.

Court Fines?

You Can Pay Online...

Avoid a mad-dash to the court office on your lunch hour by paying Tigard Municipal Court traffic and parking fines via the internet. Access this service at www.tigard-or.gov/ticket where you can make payments any time of day, seven days a week. Since the program began in April 2010, customers have used the system to make over 415 online payments.

TriMet Fare Increase

Starting September 1, most TriMet fares will increase 5 cents to cover the increasing cost of doing business. The last fare increase was in September, 2008. There will be no increase for the 1-Day Pass or Youth/Student tickets and passes.

Back to School for Tigard-Tualatin Kids!

- * Wednesday, September 8, 2010
First day for grades K-6, 9
- * Thursday, September 9, 2010
First day for grades 7-8, and 10-12

Download this year’s school calendar at <http://tiny.cc/5yubby>





Neighborhood Network News

Web Administrator Needed

Are you a resident of neighborhood Area 12? This is the beautiful area of town located south of Gaarde Street, north of Beef Bend Road, west of Pacific Hwy and east of 133rd Avenue.



Focal points include Alberta Rider Elementary and the newest recreational gem known as Price Park.

If Area 12 is your home and you're looking for a fun way to connect with the city and your neighborhood, why not serve as your area web administrator? We'll

show you cool tools for managing a site that empowers residents to make connections on issues that affect the neighborhood. Serving as a web administrator is a great way to get involved and informed without a lot of meetings and demands on your time.

So if you or a neighbor (or both!) are looking for a fun and easy way to connect and know all things Tigard, this is the volunteer position for you! Contact Joanne at 503-718-2476 or Joanne@tigard-or.gov for more information.

WELCOME ABOARD!

Area 11—Web Administrator **Jeff Pezzotti** has a new partner in posting! Please welcome **Jane Davies** to the neighborhood team. Jane is an energetic grandma to Jack, Finn and Lula and active in the annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony in downtown Tigard.



Also teaming up to share neighborhood dispatches is Cook Park's new co-administrator, **Derek Randall**! Derek teams with **Carol Reichert** to keep the Cook Park area residents in-the-know on topics that matter to area residents..

If you live in one of these super suburbs, you can reach your dynamic team on the web:

- ✓ www.tigardarea11.blogspot.com
- ✓ www.cookparkneighborhood.blogspot.com

A Resource for Everyone

September in Tigard means warm days, cool nights...and garden clean up according to the Oregon State University Extension Service!

Whether you're looking for information about family & community development, gardening or watersheds and environment, you'll find help at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu>.

September Suggestions:

- * Protect tomatoes and/or pick green tomatoes and ripen indoors if frost threatens.
- * Reduce water on trees, shrubs, and vines east of Cascades to harden them off for winter.
- * Optimal time for establishing a new lawn is August through mid-September.
- * Aerate lawns. In the Willamette Valley its best to stop irrigating your lawn after Labor Day to suppress European crane fly populations.
- * Fall planting of trees, shrubs and perennials can encourage healthy root growth over the winter.

September is National Preparedness Month!

Sponsored by FEMA's *Ready Campaign*, National Preparedness Month is designed to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies at home, at the office, and in the community.

This year the focus is on encouraging residents to work together to take

concrete action toward emergency preparedness.

Contact Mike Lueck, Tigard's Emergency Services Coordinator at mikel@tigard-or.gov or 503-718-2593 for more information or visit www.tigard-or.gov/prepared for helpful hints on self- and family-preparedness.

Watch the Progress

Have you logged onto Neighborhood Area 3 or Area 5? These outstanding neighborhood sites have the inside track on construction progress along Pacific Highway/99W. Visit www.tigard-area3.blogspot.com or www.tigardarea5.blogspot.com to view photos, project schedules and more.





Another Successful DARE to be GREAT Summer

This summer, the Tigard Police Department sponsored six weeks of free DARE to be GREAT Summer Camp for students between 4th and 7th grades. Camp gives students something to do while school's out and reinforces the concepts of staying drug, violence and gang-free while offering positive activities that enhance children's self-esteem. Activities focus on team building, cooperation skills, patience, goal setting and achievement.

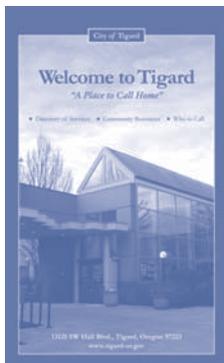
This year approximately 75 students attended each week of camp. School Resource Officers, high school and college students provided mentoring to the campers. The program is funded by grants, community donations and some city funds.

Welcome to Tigard!

Approximately 47,460 residents call Tigard home. If you're new to town, or know someone who is considering a move to Tigard, there's a resource available to help you discover Tigard as a great place to live, work and play.

In the welcome brochure, www.tigard-or.gov/welcome, you'll find information to acquaint you with the city and other local agency services.

If you would like a copy of the welcome brochure mailed to you, contact Joanne Bengtson at 503-718-2476 or email joanne@tigard-or.gov.



Pacific Hwy/99W Construction Update

It's hard to believe it's been only four months since construction work began at the Pacific Hwy/99W intersections at Hall Boulevard and Greenburg Road/Main Street. The small army of construction workers, utility workers, subcontractors, and inspectors have accomplished a lot in four months. We now have a much clearer picture of what the final product will look like.



end of the project will complete the look.

Greenburg Road and Hall Boulevard

Much of the work this month will be on Greenburg Road and Hall Boulevard, north of Pacific Hwy/99W. Both of these roads are being widened to the west to construct additional turn lanes, making traffic signal operations much more efficient for motorists.

Crews are also improving sidewalks, bike lanes, and landscaping on both streets. Guardrail installation continues along the western part of Pacific Hwy/99W near the railroad bridge, as does pavement repair work on the highway.

Thanks for Your Patience

Thank you for your patience during construction, particularly for bearing with us through the traffic delays, noise, and disruption that accompanies a project of this magnitude. We're doing our best to balance the productivity needs of the project with your mobility needs. Crews strive to keep traffic moving, minimize disruptions, and keep everyone safe.

If you have any comments or questions about this project, please contact project manager Mike McCarthy at 503-718-2462 or mikem@tigard-or.gov.

Pacific Hwy/99W

Most of the widening of Pacific Hwy/99W is on the south side, and the new curb and sidewalk show a wider pedestrian-friendly concourse. Crews have been working hard to prepare the roadway for widening. The extra space will become a third travel lane when final paving is complete. Widened features produced minimal impact to existing buildings (though the new sidewalk fits underneath building overhangs in a few places.)

Main & Pacific Hwy/99W

Most of the major concrete and paving work from Main Street to Scoffins Street is complete. Space for the extra turn lane will be utilized once the traffic signal is modified and final paving is complete. You can now see how the stormwater planters work. Runoff flows in and through the plants, absorbing nutrients from the water and naturally filtering out some of the pollutants that would otherwise flow into Fanno Creek. The wider sidewalks are much improved, and will get even better when the landscaping, street trees, lights, and other amenities are in place. Final paving and striping at the



Shelf



Life

News from the Tigard Library

13500 SW Hall Blvd.

Visit with Oregon Poet Laureate Paulann Petersen

Friday, September 24, 7–8:30 p.m.

Community Room

Hear poetry from Oregon's new Poet Laureate Paulann Petersen. Ms. Petersen will read from her own work and lead a brief poem-writing workshop. All participants will



leave with a poem of their own creation.

Paulann Petersen was appointed Oregon Poet Laureate by Governor Ted Kulongoski. The Poet Laureate program is a collaborative project of the state's five cultural Partners: Oregon Arts Commission, Oregon Heritage Commission, Oregon Historical Society, Oregon Humanities and the State Historic Preservation Office, and is funded by the Oregon Cultural Trust.

Improve the Design of your Home

Thursday, September 30, 7–8 p.m.

Community Room

Bette Steflik of Shén Mén Feng Shui Consulting will share the benefits of Feng Shui. She will explain how to use place as a starting point, if you want to work smart, keep play in your heart and if you love to move things around. Bring an 8.5 x 11 floor plan of your home to help you make a blueprint for life change.



TGF (Teen Game Fest) Get Schooled

Thursday, September 23, 5–7 p.m.

Community Room

What's your best game? Rock Band®? Mario Kart™? Super Smash Bros.™? Do you know how to find a secret level or unlock a special song? Trade your tips with other gamers at our Get Schooled Game Fest!

Story Times & Artsy Autumn Adventures

With the dog days of August behind us, get back into the swing of things at the Library in September! Regular story times will be back in session right after Labor Day, with ten weekly offerings for babies through preschoolers. When they're not busy with school work, big kids can exercise their creativity with these fun programs:

Bling Your School Bag

Ages 5 and up • Sunday, September 12

1:30–2:30 p.m. • Puett Room

Create some awesome fashions for your school bag, including custom buttons and iron-on patches.

Presto the Magician

All Ages • Tuesday, September 14

7–8 p.m. • Community Room

Get set for some amazing fun that will keep you laughing, as Presto performs fabulously impossible (and educational!) magic tricks with lots of audience participation.

Egyptian Paper Beads

Ages 5 and up • Saturday, September 18

1:30–2:30 p.m. • Puett Room

Following in the footsteps of ancient Egyptians, design necklaces and bracelets out of paper beads you create yourself.

LEGO Construction Zone

Ages 5 and up • Sunday, September 26

1:30–3 p.m. • Puett Room

Drop in to work on your creations with other LEGO fans. We'll supply the building blocks—you bring your creativity!

Third Thursday Summer Concert series

Mark Nelson

Thursday, September 16, 6 p.m.

Library Courtyard

Get your Hawaiian on with a slack-key guitar concert by Mark Nelson! Hawaiian Slack-key guitar is a unique style of tuning achieved by loosening or "slackening" the guitar keys to help produce an intricate, rich, and soulful sound. The Library will provide seating for this concert. *In case of rain, the concert will be held in the Library Community Room.*



Finding Work @ 50+ Oregon AARP

Wednesday, September 22, 12:30-5 p.m.

Community Room

Experts from Oregon AARP present tips on job-searching for the over 50 and not-yet-ready to retire crowd. Workshop begins at 4 p.m. Opportunities for networking before and after the presentation.

Volunteer—Impact Future Generations

Leave your mark on Tigard's parks, open space, recreation planning, and funding by volunteering for the Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB). This Board studies and makes recommendations to City Council on parks and recreation planning and issues.



Meetings take place on the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Public Works Building Auditorium at 8777 SW Burnham Street.

Individuals interested in serving on the Board should submit a Citizen Committee Interest application, available at www.tigard-or.gov/volunteer or in the City Hall lobby at 13125 SW Hall Blvd. Members are appointed by the Mayor and Council to serve a four-year term.

If you have questions, contact Parks and Facilities Manager Steve Martin at 503-718-2583 or steve@tigard-or.gov.



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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Regular Council Meetings: Tuesday, September 14, 21, 28
@ 6:30 p.m., Tigard Town Hall (13125 SW Hall Blvd.)

All meetings 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.

SOLV's River Clean-Up

SOLV has expanded their popular beach clean-up program to include local rivers! A Tualatin River clean-up event will be hosted by the cities of Tigard and Tualatin, and the Tualatin Riverkeepers.

- **WHEN:** Saturday, September 25
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **WHERE:** Cook Park, off Durham Road at the end of 92nd Avenue, at the boat launch.
- **WHAT:** Bring your (small) boat and collect trash from the river. There will be some boats available for use at the site, but bringing along your own small boat or canoe is appreciated.
- **REGISTRATION:** Sign up online at www.solv.org and look for the "Great Tualatin River Paddle and Cleanup."

Free Street Tree Program Underway

The city's Street Tree Program is in full swing. This community-wide beautification program supplies and plants free street trees to Tigard residents and neighborhood groups who are willing to maintain them in or near the public right-of-way in front of their homes.



Street tree orders will be accepted through September 30, 2010. Planting will occur in October. To learn which types of trees are available, visit www.tigard-or.gov/FreeTrees.

For information on ordering trees, contact Assoc. Planner/Arborist Todd Prager at 503-718-2700 or todd@tigard-or.gov.

NEW Location for Fall Leaf Collection Event

This November and December, take your fallen leaves to Cook Park for the city's Annual Leaf Collection/Food Drive event.

This popular event has outgrown the old location at the Tigard Public Works Building. This year, the event moves to Cook Park (located at the end of 92nd Avenue off Durham Road, next to Tigard High School) which ensures room for an ever-increasing number of participants.

Watch for collection dates and times in the October Cityscape.

Questions? Contact Rob Block, Wastewater/Storm Repair Supervisor, at 503-718-2607 or Rob@tigard-or.gov.

