

# CITYSCAPE



November 2010 Edition

## Mayor's Corner

Now that summer (otherwise known as road construction season) is over, it's time to start thinking about the holidays and spending time with friends and family. Fortunately, travel is easier thanks to the completion of paving on Burnham Street and Pacific Highway... well, at least until next spring when the finishing touches are applied.

Also by now, Election Day is almost over and we've all decided what changes will be made to City Council. The 2011 Council will be thinking about what they want to accomplish next year. To do that, one of the first things the Council will do is meet for a day of goal setting, discussion, and an opportunity to get to know one another.

In my January State of the City address, I stated that in recent years, "we all made some decisions that defined a direction for the future of our city." I stand by that assessment and future City Councils will need to roll up their sleeves and tackle the tough issues facing us today and tomorrow. I hope you will get involved with your city to help address these issues.

This last year has been one of challenge and accomplishment and 2011 promises to be more of the same! The overriding goal of the city must always be to provide basic city services of the highest quality in the most cost-effective way. Underlying that is the need to keep the city on a solid financial base.

Craig E. Dirksen, Mayor

## Closing in on a Secure Water Future

Tigard City Council will consider adopting final recommendations for changing the rate structure for drinking water in the Tigard Water Service Area (57,000 customers in the cities of Tigard, Durham, King City and the Tigard Water District) on Tuesday, November 9 at 7:30 p.m. at a public hearing in the Town Hall at City Hall.

City Council met September 21 to discuss water rate design changes to provide a more stable revenue base, improve equity among ratepayers and encourage water conservation.

### Potential changes:

- Implement monthly billing to help customers better manage their budget.
- Increase water revenues by 30 percent to pay for the joint water supply project.
- Increase fixed charges that require larger water meter customers to pay their fair share for cost of service.
- Use a "tiered" block water rate that reflects higher pricing for higher water use.

These changes are an important foundation for completing the Lake

Oswego-Tigard Joint Water Supply Project to serve water to both communities in 2016.

### Bottom line for most customers?

A typical residential household water bill in the Tigard Water Service Area is \$28 per month for water usage. After the January increase, that figure would increase to about \$38 per month which still delivers water to your tap for about one penny per gallon. That means for about 33 cents more per day/per customer, we move one step closer to securing our community's water future.

### It makes an impact!

Do those additional water cents make an impact on solving our water dilemma? We continue to think so. Throughout the long process which engaged water professionals, staff, consultants, city councils and residents, a collection of comprehensive and analytical material confirms this conclusion.

If you would like to learn more, log onto our website at [www.tigard-or.gov/water](http://www.tigard-or.gov/water) or contact John Goodrich, Public Works Utility Division Manager at 503-718-2609 or [johnng@tigard-or.gov](mailto:johnng@tigard-or.gov).

## Water Rate Increase Public Hearing:

Tuesday, November 9, 7:30 p.m.  
Town Hall at City Hall

**Plan to attend**



## Don't Let Your Trees Become a Hazard

Winter brings the kind of wet and stormy weather that may cause trees to become hazardous. Before the worst weather arrives, take a look at the trees on your property to see if there are any potential hazards. The following is a checklist for identifying tree hazards adapted from the International Society of Arboriculture.

- ★ Are there large dead branches in the tree? Are there detached branches hanging in the tree?
- ★ Does the tree have cavities or rotten wood along the trunk or in major branches?
- ★ Are mushrooms present at the base of the tree?
- ★ Are there cracks or splits in the trunk or where branches are attached?
- ★ Have any branches fallen from the tree? Have adjacent trees fallen over or died?
- ★ Has the trunk developed a strong lean?



- ★ Have the roots been broken off, injured, or damaged by lowering the soil level, installing pavement, repairing sidewalks, or digging trenches?

- ★ Has the site recently been changed by construction, raising the soil level, or installing lawns?

- ★ Have the leaves prematurely developed an unusual color or size?

- ★ Has the tree been topped or otherwise heavily pruned?

Contact an ISA Certified Arborist if you answered “yes” to any of the above questions or if you would like a more thorough assessment of your trees. To find a certified arborist in your area, visit [www.pnwisa.org](http://www.pnwisa.org) or call 503-874-8263.

Contact Todd Prager, City Arborist, at 503-718-2700 or [todd@tigard-or.gov](mailto:todd@tigard-or.gov) to find out about Tigard's tree removal requirements.

## Electronic or Paper?

### How Do You Prefer Your Cityscape

The last time we asked Tigard residents this question was December 2006. It's time to ask again—how do you like to get your Cityscape?



In a November 2009 biennial survey, 49 percent of respondents stated that Cityscape is the best way to get information about the city.

### Least Expensive Paper Option

The city uses bulk mail delivery for Cityscape. Every quarter, the United States Postal Service provides the city with up-to-date figures for carrier routes so we know how many issues to print. Then, your postal carrier distributes one Cityscape to each address along their route. Compared to other delivery systems, bulk mail is the least expensive way to deliver a paper copy of Cityscape. This year, we've budgeted \$65,000 for printing and postage costs associated with producing this newsletter.

### Majority Rules

If a majority of Tigard's 47,460 residents request an e-version of Cityscape, we will reconsider our production method. (At press time, there are only 239 e-subscriptions). Otherwise, staff will continue issuing a paper version of your city newsletter. Staff consistently searches for new ways to reduce production costs while maintaining a valuable communication tool and we will continue to monitor subscription numbers to gauge support for e-scaping.

If you would like to subscribe to an online version of Cityscape, go to [www.tigard-or.gov/subscribe](http://www.tigard-or.gov/subscribe) to sign up. Remember: even though you subscribe online, you will continue to receive a paper Cityscape via bulk mail since pieces mailed this way are not individually addressed.

Rest assured that whichever format you prefer, staff is committed to producing an informative publication connecting you with the city you call home.

## Migration is Not Just for the Birds

If you're one of the many Verizon customers who has “migrated” to a Frontier email address, don't forget to alert the library to your new address. The library uses your email address to let you know when reserved items are in, when items are due or overdue.

Frontier has said that they will stop forwarding Verizon addresses on December 31. On your next visit to the library, let us know your new address. Or, if you're a D-I-Y er, update your contact information from home by logging onto [www.wccs.org/emailsignups/](http://www.wccs.org/emailsignups/)





## Neighbor-to-Neighbor Outreach The Key to Community Preparedness

People tend to prepare for disasters when they are convinced that the danger is real and that friends, relatives, and neighbors believe the same thing. Locally, preparedness is best achieved through social networking, neighbor-to-neighbor outreach and contact with a local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteer.



preparedness and response. If you encounter a local CERT volunteer in your neighborhood, please take the time to chat with this trained citizen resource. CERT volunteers are easily identified by an official City of Tigard CERT identification card bearing their name and photo identification.

Don't wait for an emergency to occur! For tips on disaster preparedness, contact Tigard's Emergency Services Coordinator Mike Lueck at [mikel@tigard-or.gov](mailto:mikel@tigard-or.gov) or 503-718-2593.

Neighborhood networking promotes positive changes as neighbors get to know one another and feel a sense of community. It also fosters a foundation for communal

## The Knoll at Tigard Takes Shape

Located just off Pacific Hwy. at Hall Blvd. and Hunziker St., this four-story, 48-unit complex for residents age 55 and older is scheduled to open in spring 2011, with pre-leasing activities beginning December 2010. The Knoll at Tigard provides housing for an underserved senior population, with 12 of the 48 units reserved for disabled veterans.

Developed by Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) using Community Development Block Grant funding and local donations, it is the first new housing development in the

Tigard Urban Renewal District and significant not only as a senior affordable housing project, but one that will help define the character of future downtown redevelopment. The location serves as a primary gateway into downtown, featuring transit-oriented, pedestrian-friendly routes close to the senior center, library and downtown businesses.

For more information about the Knoll at Tigard and CPAH, visit [www.cpahinc.org](http://www.cpahinc.org) or call 503-293-4038.



## Leaf Disposal and Food Drive

**When:** Saturdays, November 6 and 20 and December 4 and 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**New Location:** Cook Park, located at the end of 92nd Avenue just off Durham Road, near Tigard High School

**Who:** Tigard Residents

### Three reasons to participate:

#### Prevent flooding—

The city encourages residents to properly dispose of fallen leaves. During heavy rains, leaves that collect on sidewalks or are deposited on city roadways accumulate and clog storm drains. Standing water and flooding can result, creating a hazard for motorists and pedestrians.

#### Recycle—

Leaves brought to the disposal event will be processed by Pride Recycling and “reinvented” as mulch instead of going to the landfill.

#### Help those in need—

In conjunction with the leaf disposal event, non-perishable food items will be collected for Tigard's St. Vincent de Paul food distribution facility.

**How it works:** It's easy! Just bring loose or bagged leaves and non-perishable food donations to the event. Leaves in plastic bags will be accepted, but paper is preferred because it's biodegradable. We'll collect your food donations and help you unload your leaves.

**Thanks!** The city thanks everyone for doing their part to clean up leaves and to help local families in need. For more information, contact Wastewater/Storm Repair Supervisor Rob Block at 503-718-2607 or [rob@tigard-or.gov](mailto:rob@tigard-or.gov).

For information on the day of the event, call 503-784-1790.



# RULES of the ROAD: TRAFFIC SAFETY—IT'S UP TO YOU

According to recent data from the Oregon Department of Transportation, our state continues to show steady progress in improving traffic safety and reducing collisions. Some examples:

- ☑ While the total number of collisions went down slightly in 2009, traffic fatalities decreased by 10 percent compared to 2008.
- ☑ The trend through September 23rd of this year is even more encouraging, with a further decline of 14 percent in fatalities compared to the same period in 2009.
- ☑ One out of five collisions involved drivers between the ages of 15 and 20 during 2009, a reduction of 5 percent compared to 2008.

**There's no such thing as a traffic "accident." Nearly all collisions are caused by driver negligence.**

### Other factoids gleaned from recent data include:

- ☑ Rear-end collisions were responsible for one out of three non-fatal crashes in Oregon.
- ☑ The number of collisions in Tigard declined by 11 percent from 2008 to 2009.
- ☑ During 2008, 41 percent of the 778 crashes in Tigard were rear-end collisions, resulting in 142 injuries. Most of the drivers who caused these collisions were cited for "following too closely," carrying a \$295 base fine.
- ☑ Failure to yield the right-of-way contributed to 16 percent of collisions in Tigard during 2008.
- ☑ More than three out of four collisions in Tigard occurred on dry pavement during 2009.

**The most dangerous time of year for collisions in Oregon are Fridays in December from 5-6 p.m.**

- ☑ Crowded urban freeways have a reputation for being dangerous, but the rate of crashes causing deaths and injuries is nine to ten times higher on Oregon's rural highways.

What accounts for the improvements in traffic safety that many of these figures reflect? Oregon's graduated licensing program for younger drivers may be one factor.

Another may be Oregon's success in improving safety belt compliance rates through public education and targeted enforcement. Safety belts increase the chance of survival in a collision, but the real key to traffic safety is greater driver awareness. There's no such thing as a traffic "accident." Nearly all collisions are caused by driver negligence.

**BY JUDGE MICHAEL J. O'BRIEN  
TIGARD MUNICIPAL COURT**

## A Big Thank You to Tigard CERT Volunteers!!

Thanks to the members of Tigard's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) who came out to support the city's sixth annual Family Fest 5K Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, September 18.

CERT members were stationed along five key street crossings to provide additional visibility and direction for both runners, walkers and drivers.

*THANK YOU!*

Team members reported to City Hall prior to the event start for check-in, safety briefing, pickup of supplies and a short organizational meeting.

The team used ham radio communications to relay information regarding event status from one location to another throughout the event.

This is just one example of the type of non-emergent support which the Tigard CERT program offers to the community.

CERT members also provide

valuable support for safe community gatherings. CERT members receive 24 hours of basic training in individual, family and community preparedness. This provides volunteers with valuable insight on what to expect and how to assist in the case of a major disaster or emergency.

For information about joining this elite group of volunteers, contact Mike Lueck, Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Tigard at 503-718-2593 or [mikel@tigard-or.gov](mailto:mikel@tigard-or.gov).



# Neighborhood Network News

## Area 11: Green Thumb Calendar

Area 11 is home to the Mary Woodward Elementary School garden. Stop by the school and show your support for the children's outdoor learning lab by purchasing the 2011 calendar featuring photos from the garden.

Or, plan to attend the Woodward School Bazaar on December 4. The calendar will be available for purchase in the Mary Woodward school office by November 1 and at the bazaar. Mary Woodward is located at 12325 SW Katherine. Log on at [www.marywoodwardgardens.com](http://www.marywoodwardgardens.com).



## Thank You Veterans!

The city plans to recognize Veterans who are also city employees with a lobby display honoring their service. Stop by the next time you're in City Hall.

If you're searching for local events honoring these amazing men and women, visit the Tigar American Legion website at [www.americanlegion158.com](http://www.americanlegion158.com) or call 503-624-2332.

## On Track for a New Trail?

If you're traveling along Tigar Street between Main and Tiedeman, you may have noticed a change in the scenery. Thanks to the ultra-fast work of crews from TriMet, all of the old railroad ties have been removed and the site graded to a level surface. This work was done in preparation for the city's ongoing quest to convert almost three-quarters of a mile of former railroad alignment to a bike and pedestrian path with links to the Fanno Creek Trail System and direct connections to downtown Tigar and the Tigar Transit Center.

## Area 13 is Looking for a Web Administrator!

Here's your chance bring energy and ideas to a web page that's already online and ready to go. The training only takes about an hour and anyone who lives in the Area 13 Neighborhood is eligible to participate! If you are interested, please contact Joanne Bengtson at 503-718-2476 or [joanne@tigard-or.gov](mailto:joanne@tigard-or.gov).

## Thanksgiving Garbage Collection Schedule

- \* **Pride Disposal does not** provide garbage collection on Thanksgiving Day but will resume service the next day. For example, Thursday collection will occur on Friday and Friday collection will take place on Saturday. Normal service will resume the following Monday.
- \* **Waste Management does** provide garbage collection on Thanksgiving Day. Service will be provided on your regular pickup day.

For questions regarding holiday schedules, please contact your hauler: Pride Disposal at 503-625-6177 or Waste Management at 503-249-8078.



## Council Town Hall a Success

In the October edition of Cityscape, Mayor Dirksen invited residents to attend a Town Hall at City Hall on October 5, to discuss important issues facing Tigar residents today. The gathering resulted in a productive exchange of information and ideas. The Town Hall was full of residents who brought their questions, comments and views on everything from water to wetlands, parks bond to education.

Councilor Webb's official notes from this gathering will be posted on the city's website after Council approves them.

## Crime Prevention Connection

The Tigar Police Department has another tool in their crime-fighting arsenal. The new Crime Prevention Connection is an e-newsletter aimed at sharing ideas and information on community safety. Check it out at [www.tigard-or.gov/police](http://www.tigard-or.gov/police).



## Pacific Highway/99W Project Update

Despite one of the rainiest construction seasons in recent memory, crews continue to make progress on the Pacific Hwy/99W project. A large amount of Pacific Hwy/99W is paved and most of the curb and sidewalk is in place along Pacific Hwy/99W at Hall Blvd. and Main Street.

One crew is working hard to install a new water line and a sidewalk on Greenburg Road while another crew is setting new signal poles and wire for new traffic lights, followed by sidewalk, curb ramps, and paving at the street corners.



### What's Next?

Our goal is to have the new traffic lanes and sidewalks open by winter. If we have good weather, the goal is achievable. If we have bad weather, asphalt and concrete cannot be properly constructed in the rain and work may be delayed until the spring. Finishing touches like landscaping, tree planting and pedestrian amenities will be completed this winter.

### Questions? Comments?

Thank you for your patience during construction. We're working hard to improve this commuter focal point so it works better for everyone. If you have comments or questions about Pacific Hwy/99W, contact Mike McCarthy at 503-718-2462 or [mikem@tigard-or.gov](mailto:mikem@tigard-or.gov).

## Giant Strides Along Burnham

It's been a year since construction started, and like every other remodel, residents, business owners and even city employees are asking "Why is it taking so long?"

Imagine you are tasked with applying 21st century technology to a street built to withstand horses and Studebakers. Your charge is to construct a project that's built to last and serve future generations of Tigard residents. We're doing it—one step at a time.

This sweeping project has completely rebuilt a street that needed sewer repair, new water line and storm water treatment facilities. Service outages due to "downed lines" will be a thing of the past now that overhead utilities are underground. That project sets the foundation for streetscaping that's functional as well as fashionable. A neglected Ash Avenue finds new life with realignment to Burnham Street and connection to the WES Commuter Rail Park-N-Ride.

Most striking change? No more potholes or gravel! With recent paving called a "first lift," a layer of asphaltic

concrete clears the way for work on a concrete medallion at the intersection of Ash Avenue and Burnham Street. Added to this are four concrete pedestrian crossings that will be constructed on Burnham Street. Don't panic when you see the new asphalt being cut for the concrete work—we mean to do that. It's part of the construction sequencing. After the concrete work is done, road construction crews will wait out the winter until they can lay the final lift of asphalt and striping in the spring.

### No Idle Hands Here!

Even though road work is on hold for the winter, there is still plenty to do before spring arrives. Water quality swales need to be completed and planted with grasses and trees. LED (green) street lights need to be installed. Street signs, benches, garbage cans and mailboxes will also be installed during this time. And who can forget the Ash Avenue Dog Park? Soon you'll see the results of the dog park survey come to life.



Photo Credit: Doug Vorwaller



# Shelf



# Life

News from the Tigard Library

13500 SW Hall Blvd.



## Oregon's Greatest Natural Disasters

Wednesday, November 17, 7–8 p.m.

Community Room

Local author and hiker extraordinaire William Sullivan tells the dramatic story of the floods, earthquakes, forest fires, eruptions and tsunamis that have shaped Oregon and impacted its people over the past 13,000 years.

## Family Ties

Friday, November 26, 2–5 p.m.

Community Room, All Ages

Tie up your Thanksgiving celebration with assorted clever crafts and start a new family tradition at the same time. This year we're adding a new activity to the annual crafts event. Record loved ones reminiscing about their lives and preserve their memories for years to come. We'll provide the recording equipment and some questions to get you started. You provide the memories. Learn more about the National Day of Listening at [www.storycorps.org/diy](http://www.storycorps.org/diy).



Sponsored by Friends of the Tigard Library

## Novel Needles

Saturday, November 20, 10:30 a.m.–noon

Houghton Room

Have you been tempted by the knitting and crochet patterns in books and magazines?



On the third Saturday of each month, yarn crafters are welcome to bring in their projects and stitch with a friendly, relaxed group.

## Holocaust Remembrance

Tuesday, November 9, 7–8:30 p.m.

Community Room

On the 72nd anniversary of Kristallnacht, the first mass Nazi assault on the Jewish population of Germany and Austria, Holocaust survivors Les and Eva Aigner will speak about their experiences under Nazi persecution.

## Stretch, Play, Dance Your Own Way!

Tuesday, November 16, 7–8 p.m.

Community Room

Join Growing Arts creative movement educator Iris Nason for an engaging evening of family fun. Stretch your body and your mind will stretch too as you learn all the ways you can move. This interactive evening will include yoga, singing, dancing, music, sensory exploration, sign language and calm relaxation.



## ART IN ACTION!

Saturday, November 6, 1–5 p.m.

Community Room

All Ages

Curious about the creative process? Come see local artists working in printmaking, watercolor, doodling and mixed media. Watch as they develop new pieces and display recent work. A make-your-own-masterpiece station will be available for younger artists.



## Board Game Fun

Friday, November 12, 2–4 p.m.

Puett Room, Grades K–5

School's out! Enjoy your break by dropping in to play a variety of board games. Play a quick game or stay for the full two hours.



## Thanksgiving Crafts

Saturday, November 20, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Puett Room, All Ages

Set your Thanksgiving dinner table and add a little turkey ambience to your home with placemats, napkin holders and more!

## LEGO® Construction Zone

Sunday, November 28, 1:30–3 p.m.

Puett Room, Ages 5 and Up

Stop by to work on your creations with other LEGO® fans. We'll supply the building blocks; you bring the creativity.

## National Gaming Day

Saturday, November 13, 1–4:30 p.m., Community Room, All Ages

Join hundreds of libraries all over the world to celebrate National Gaming Day!

- ✓ 1–3 p.m. Try the new Microsoft Kinect™ body tracking add-on for the Xbox 360®, and play video games on the Wii™ and Xbox 360® in a gaming open house.
- ✓ 3–4:30 p.m. See your librarians as you've never seen us before, when we become game show hosts for an interactive trivia game.

## Ballot Drop Off Site

If you haven't mailed your ballot yet, there's still time to make your vote count.

- Drop your signed ballot in the official ballot box at any County Elections Office or stop by the designated dropsite inside Tigard City Hall (13125 SW Hall Boulevard) anytime between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday–Friday. If that's not convenient, there is a drive-up election box located in the City Hall parking lot which is available 24/7.
- On Election Day, Tuesday, November 2, Washington County elections officials will be at City Hall until 8 p.m. to collect ballots. Elections officials are clearly identified at the election site. Remember, postmarks do not count! If your ballot arrives at the County Elections Office after 8 p.m. on Election Day, it will not be counted.
- If you have a voting process question, please contact the city's election official, City Recorder Cathy Wheatley at 503-718-2410 or [cathy@tigard-or.gov](mailto:cathy@tigard-or.gov).



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## POSTAL CUSTOMER

### Tigard and Lake Oswego City Council Special Meeting

Monday, November 8 @ 7 p.m., West End Building,  
Santiam Room, 4101 Kruse Way, Lake Oswego

**Regular Council Meetings:** Tuesday, November 9, 16, 23  
@ 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](http://www.tigard-or.gov/council) or contact Cathy Wheatley at 503-718-2410 or [cathy@tigard-or.gov](mailto:cathy@tigard-or.gov).

## Branching Out

### A Message from Your Tree Board

- 🌲 Thanks to everyone that participated in the city's annual Free Street Tree Program. Your participation will help Tigard reach its citywide tree canopy cover goal of 40 percent by the year 2047 (current citywide tree canopy cover is 24 percent.)
- 🌲 The key to survival for newly planted trees depends on providing about ten gallons of water per week during the dry season for the first two to three years. Visit [www.treesaregood.com](http://www.treesaregood.com) for additional tree care tips.

For more information about Tigard's urban forestry program, contact City Arborist Todd Prager at 503-718-2700 or [Todd@tigard-or.gov](mailto:Todd@tigard-or.gov).

## Signs of the Times

On November 3, the votes will be in and campaigning complete.

That means it's time for yard signs and posters promoting candidates



and measures to come down. If a sign is posted on your property, don't wait for the candidate or representative to come by and remove it; store the sign in your garage or on your porch until it's picked up by the campaign staff.

Candidates have been advised that signs left in the public right-of-way will be removed by city crews. Thanks for doing your part!

## Remember to Fall Back

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 7 at 2 a.m. signaling the end of Daylight Savings Time. Remember, this is also a good time to replace the battery in your home smoke alarm.

## Holiday Closures in November

- ✳ Tigard City Hall will be closed for Veterans Day on November 11 and for the Thanksgiving Holiday on November 25 and November 26.
- ✳ Tigard Public Library will be closed November 11 and November 25.
- ✳ Tigard Police will operate on their normal schedule.