



## Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood Association Board

**June 15, 2021**

**Attendees:** Board Members: Bruce Bikle, Phil Cox, Chris Eykamp, Karen Girard, Mark Linehan, Rick Nunno, Kim Nurmi, Jill Riebesehl, Michelle Sprague, Michael Wade, Charlene Zaharakis.

Chris, board chair, opened the meeting at 7:00. Rick agreed to be the notetaker.

Meeting began at 7 pm, with introductions of board members and visitors. Note that Debby Mochhalter, Chair of Richmond Neighborhood Association, was in attendance, along with a few other non-board members. There was no objection to recording the meeting.

**New Hawthorne crossing at 23<sup>rd</sup>:** The first topic of discussion was the new Hawthorne street crossing at 23rd Avenue. Brianna Orr of PBOT gave an overview and update on the Hawthorne Pave and Paint project. She stated that PBOT has been working on this project for nearly two years, and construction is now underway. Curb ramp improvements are scheduled to be completed by the end of July, and street grinding, repaving, and restriping will continue for the next three months.

See <https://www.portland.gov/transportation/planning/hawthorne-pave-paint#toc-curb-ramp-construction-updates> for further details.

Brianna then discussed the planned 10 refuge islands, with specific focus on the island at 23rd and Hawthorne, including how traffic will be routed and how pedestrians will cross the street. There will also be lighting improvements at all medians. A question was raised about the posted speed limit on Hawthorne Blvd., with one board member stating that it is 25 mph on the western part of Hawthorne and 20 mph on the eastern part, which will cause traffic to back up at Cesar Chavez Blvd. as traffic lights are not synched to 20 mph.

**2040 Freight Plan:** The next topic was the 2040 Freight Plan, presented by Francesca Jones of PBOT, who gave a history of freight transportation in Portland from the 19th century use of the Willamette River to the development of railways, to highways and the airport. She mentioned that a legacy of the I-5 development through North Portland was the devastation of Black communities in the Albina neighborhood. She also mentioned that two railroads (Union Pacific and BNF) come together in Portland, creating a bottleneck and interfering with the major roads in the city. She stated that \$20 billion in goods and services are exported from Portland annually. She discussed the fact that temperatures will continue to rise for years after greenhouse gases begin to fall, which means that we need to begin a rapid decline in greenhouse gases immediately to avoid catastrophic effects of climate change later in the century.

See <https://www.portland.gov/sites/default/files/2021/2040freight-cac-05.13.21.pptx.pdf> for details regarding the Plan.

**Situation on SE Clay behind Safeway and Holman's:** The next topic was the homeless encampments along Clay St. at 27th Ave. behind the Safeway and Holman's Funeral Services. Three neighbors who live on that block attended the meeting and gave their perspectives on the situation. Mike Rogoway explained that the past spring a row of tents were erected on the street along the parking strip, with associated trash, needles, thefts and fights, and there were also two car campers. Through direct communications between homeowners and the homeless people, most of the problems have been resolved at this point. At this point, there are two car encampments and one tent with a large spread of accoutrements. Mike indicated that the city service officials have so far been responsive, but if that is not true going forward, further intervention with city officials may be necessary. The two other neighbors (Doug and Ralph, no last names given) concurred with Mike's summary, adding that Safeway has been pro-active in allowing the homeless residents to use their bathroom facilities (open 18 hours per day). The Board decided not to take any action regarding communicating with city officials on this issue, but to wait until the situation becomes problematic again.

**Elect board officers:** The last item on the agenda was the election of officers for the Board. There was only one candidate for each role; Phil moved to elect officers by slate, Jill seconded. Vote was unanimous. New officers are:

- Chair – Chris Eykamp
- Vice Chair – Mark Linehan
- Treasurer – Mark Linehan
- Secretary – Karen Girard
- Publicity Chair – Michelle Sprague
- SEUL Rep – Bruce Bikle
- Land Use Chair – Michael Wade

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

*Notes taken by Rick Nunno*