
City of Wood Village November 2011

The Village News

2055 NE 238th Drive • Wood Village, OR 97060-1095 • (503) 667-6211
Fax (503) 669-8723 • city@ci.wood-village.or.us • www.ci.wood-village.or.us

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Friday Dec 2nd 6-7pm



Grab your family and friends and come on down to City Hall for the 2nd Annual Tree Lighting ceremony. This joyous event will take place on Friday, December 2nd with the trees of City Hall lit up at 6pm sharp. The fun and festivities don't stop there. After the trees are lit, City Hall will be filled with sounds of the season. Refreshments will be provided, and Santa Clause will make a special appearance as well. Please visit our webpage for more information, and we hope to see you there!

6th Annual Oktoberfest



About 1,000 people descended on the Donald L. Robertson Park on Saturday September 10th to enjoy the festivities of the 6th annual Wood Village Oktoberfest. Visitors were treated to many free activities including a 30 foot rock wall, bungee jump, pony rides, classic car show, and live music. Brasher's Auto body provided free popcorn and cotton candy, and Wal-Mart donated free bottles of water for the event.

Lowes Home Improvement provided a free kids building kit clinic, and information on their green building products as part of the open air market which had over 20 other vendors. For the second year, Yazzi's bar and Grill put on a quality beer garden which also served hot dogs and gourmet hamburgers. We would like to thank all of you who attended this great event, and all of our volunteers and sponsors who helped make the event possible. We hope to see you all again next year!



Planning Future Streets

Transportation Planning in Wood Village is underway, with the update of the Transportation System Plan. In this update, the focus is on connectivity for pedestrians, bicycles, mass transit, and automobiles.

In Wood Village, as with most cities in the United States, since the 1950s we believed that efficient transportation is the function of widely spaced high capacity major roadways (arterials). When we needed more capacity we simply added more lanes, and the more lanes we added, the more traffic there seemed to be to fill those lanes. According to the National Complete Streets Coalition (<http://www.completestreets.org/complete-streets-fundamentals/factsheets/networks>) roads in communities with lots of cul-de-sacs and roads that do not connect to other than the arterial system see up

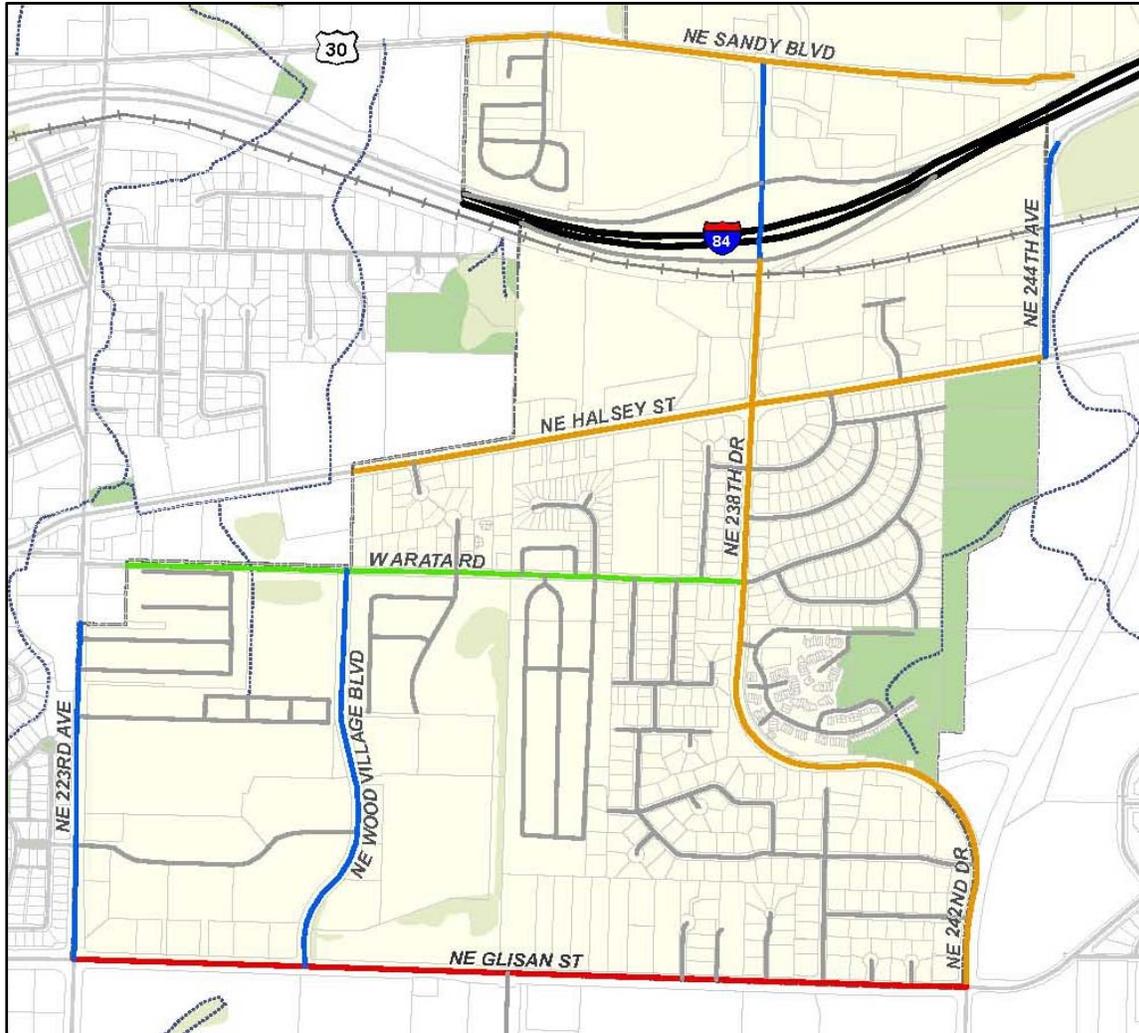
to 75% more travel demand on those arterials than similar roads in communities with full grid street systems and few cul-de-sacs or dead end roads. These towns are now called connected networks. The huge and expensive facilities we built on Halsey, Glisan, 238th, and 223rd have left us with a transportation system that makes it difficult for people who might walk, bike, or take public transportation because of the indirect routes created by our planning strategy and belief in the arterial roadway system.



The National Complete Streets Coalition claims grid networks help create a safer road system. They say, "A study of 24 medium-sized California cities found that most cities built

more recently with unconnected networks concentrated auto traffic on a few roads and featured far fewer intersections. The more grid-like street networks (in other communities) saw fewer fatal or severe crashes. Gridded networks need not rely on overly-wide roads and have more intersections, lowering drivers' speeds. Yet travel times remain comparable to the conventional network because trip distances are shorter – the routes are more direct – and because timed traffic signals can provide a consistent speed. Pedestrians benefit from additional signalized, safe crossing opportunities at intersections, while both people afoot and on bike benefit from the slower vehicular speeds. Emergency service personnel are able to reach emergency sites more quickly due to the redundancy of the network. A study in Charlotte, North Carolina found that as street connectivity increased, a fire station could reach far more households, and more quickly."

The streets we live on were designed to prevent through traffic because we believed it was the most cost effective, we all dislike traffic in front of our homes, and we didn't foresee the day when that design would actually prevent us from accessing the systems widely used today. Routes to the arterials or public transportation are indirect, adding time and distance to today's different modes of travel including active transportation; specifically walking and biking.



As we look to the future of transportation, we are increasingly aware of the need for well-designed, connected, complete streets that will make travel more efficient by providing choices not only in modes, but also in routes. The future in transportation will include complete streets on a grid system that allows the traveler to take the most direct route to a chosen destination. Dead end streets and cul-de-sacs are impediments to that kind of travel. We have, by policy, stated some roads will not connect to arterials, specifically NE Stanley and NE Holladay Place. Along with the large number of cul-de-sacs in Wood Village, we need to consider what we will do as redevelopment and change occurs in the community.

As we look forward in planning the best possible transportation system for Wood Village, we are seeking your ideas to make the system function best for all modes of travel. Please send us your thoughts and ideas, or attend a public meeting to discuss them so we don't miss the opportunity to plan for an efficient transportation system for the future. We will be placing our meetings with the Citizen Advisory Committee for the Transportation System Plan Update on the City Web Site. Please check in and help us make good decisions for the future of Wood Village.

New Online Forms

The City’s website has been updated to include new forms that can be filled out and submitted online! These new forms include some of our more popular forms such as: Business License Application, Business License Renewal Application, Contractor’s Business License Application, and a Customer Satisfaction Form. Be on the lookout for additional online forms in the future as well. Of course, the City’s website still offers traditional forms that you can print, fill out and turn in to City Hall. Don’t forget, you can also use the City’s webpage to pay your water/sewer bill, and other payments to the City. Visit the City’s webpage at www.ci-Wood-Village.or.us for more information, and to see what is going on in your City.

Annual Leaf Drop Off

The cool, windy fall weather causes trees to shed their leaves which can clog storm drains causing localized flooding and deteriorated pavement. Raking or depositing leaves in the street **IS NOT** an allowed disposal option. Wet leaves on the street can be just as slippery as snow and ice creating dangerous conditions for drivers and pedestrians.



These problems can be avoided by composting leaves and yard debris or putting leaves into your yard debris can for the waste hauler to remove on your regularly scheduled collection day.

In an effort to assist you the City is providing a leaf drop off area at the Donald L. Robertson City Park, 24300 NE Halsey from November 1st to November 30th. **Wood Village residents ONLY may drop off LEAVES AND SMALL BRANCHES ONLY – NO TRASH PLEASE** in the main parking lot against the wall north of the Tot Lot. Just leave them loose in the

designated area and take the containers you brought them in back with you. If you have any questions please call Marie at 503-489-6859.

Community Pride Award Program

The next group of Community Pride Award winners will be selected and announced in late November. It is not too late to nominate homes or businesses in your neighborhood for this prestigious award. Homes and businesses can be nominated for the great care and pride in the exterior property such as landscape improvements, exterior home renovations, or for wonderful seasonal decorations. The award categories are single family homes, multi-family homes, manufactured homes, and a general category. Winners will be selected by the Parks and Recreation Commission based off of your nominations. Please visit the City’s website for more information, and to download a nomination form.

Chickens in Wood Village

Beginning November 1st, residents in one section of the City will be able to keep up to three chickens. Residents will need to fill out a permit form, and pay a one-time processing fee of \$50 prior to having any chickens. There are certain requirements that must be followed as well. Requirements include keeping the chickens in a fully enclosed run or pen at all times, and the pen and coop must be located at least 25 feet from other homes, and 10 feet from the property line. Please visit the City’s Website for more information on where chickens are allowed, the specific requirements, and to download the permit application.

Remember, this is for chickens only, and you must complete the permit and pay the processing fee first. Roosters, ducks, geese and other wildlife are still prohibited in all sections of the City.



What's wrong with this picture?

This private hose was attached to a Wood Village fire hydrant without a meter or any backflow prevention device. The company responsible was willing to put the people of Wood Village at risk while taking water without paying for it. This activity is not only dangerous, but illegal. Those in the City who faithfully pay their water bills to keep their safe water utility maintained and in operation are paying for water they just took without even asking.



Prior to finding this unauthorized connection the City had been receiving turbid water (water that is not clear) complaints. Those complaints were probably the result of stirring up the system when the unauthorized user filled their tank.

Fire hydrants are normally operated by the Gresham Fire Department who provide fire protective services for the City and Wood Village Utility Workers. On occasion a private company may purchase a permit at City Hall to use water from a hydrant. Those permits come with guidance for hydrant operation, a water meter and a backflow preventer (unless the permit holder already has one) to keep contaminants from getting back into the water system. Permit holders also pay for the amount of water they use just like everyone else.

If you observe someone other than those mentioned above acting suspiciously with a Wood Village fire hydrant please notify the City by calling (503) 667-6211. To us, the safety of your drinking water is a serious business.

Funding Good Roads for a Great Community

The City of Wood Village is your agent to help protect your investment in your homes and property through maintaining quality roadway systems and making sure the drainage systems move water away from your home. To provide this service, we have had to draw on the general fund, your property taxes, to add money to the state gas tax funding for our road maintenance system.



and the public investments you have helped finance in the town.

Quality roads are Critical to our local economy and the growth of area jobs, and if we can find ways to invest in streets while they are still “good”, we can save everyone dollars compared to trying to fix roads that have already fallen apart. Along with the roads, we all recognize the importance of conveying storm water safely away from our houses while not destroying the water shed, or impacting our clean water.

Our City has to focus on the basics. The community priority is a safe community, with quality police and fire services. While we provide the police and fire through contracts with Multnomah County for the Sheriff and with Gresham for Fire, they consume nearly 100% of all property taxes. We have to look at how we will sustain funding for police and fire in the future, while having enough resource to protect your investment in both your private property

The question we face as a community is how can we get to solutions to these problems?

A Citizen Advisory Committee has been formed to work with the consulting group FCS and your local government officials to try to find solutions. Our next Citizen Advisory Committee

meeting is Thursday, Dec 1st at 6:00 PM at Wood Village City Hall, and you are invited to attend or send your comments to city@ci.wood-village.or.us or billp@ci.wood-village.or.us. This meeting will have study issue papers from the consultant on funding alternatives, service

levels to protect property, potentially including help for County owned roads, and other issues.

Please be involved and help us toward “Funding Good Roads for a Great Community!”

Business Begins Construction Enterprise Zone Revised

It is a great day in Wood Village when we can announce the start of a new business in our town. Pressure Safe, LLC, is a newly formed company that has announced their decision to build their facility in Wood Village. Pressure Safe, LLC utilizes a high pressure system to provide advanced food safety and product protection. The company is formed by the Morasch family, a stable family owned business that has been a presence in East Portland for over fifty (50) years. The Morasch family owns and operates Morasch Meats, one of the METRO area premier processor and supplier of meat products. Pressure Safe, LLC, will add food safety capacity to the processing abilities of the company.

To assist in Pressure Safe’s decision to choose Wood Village, the City Council took steps to make the Enterprise Zone in Wood Village more competitive with area economic development tools. Family spokesman and the President of Pressure Safe, LLC stated, “the prompt welcoming responses from Mayor Smith, City Council members, and Bill Peterson and staff, were key components to the family decision to bring new jobs to Wood Village”.



Wood Village is delighted to welcome Pressure Safe, LLC, to their new location at the former MERIX building just north of Halsey. The company is actively working to prepare the building for the equipment and fixtures necessary to begin production from the location. When underway, the company is expected to initially employ 25 to 30 individuals, with the hope to have total employment at near 50 by the end of 2012. With an investment of over \$3,600,000, the Morasch family is committing to be a part of our future in East County.

The Enterprise Zone is an Oregon program that allows local governments to form a zone area

where property taxes can be modified or limited for a time period. The goal of the program is to induce private investment in the zone, and to allow new investment to be property tax exempt for a time period. The City Council modified the Enterprise Zone to permit property tax abatement for a period of five (5) years with a minimum investment of \$2,000,000. Council action also modified the requirements for employment requirements in the zone, requiring any recipient of the tax abatement to pay employees on average at 1.5 times the Oregon Minimum Wage, and provide competitive fringe benefits.

This newsletter will provide much more information when the company hosts their grand opening in their new Wood Village location. The Mayor and Council wish to thank the Morasch family for choosing Wood Village for their location, and look forward to years of working together to make Wood Village a great place to live and work.

Attend a “Do-it-Yourself” Weatherization Workshop

Save \$10-40/month on Your Energy Bills!
Attend a **FREE 2-hour workshop** to learn about how to
make your home more comfortable and efficient.

Qualified workshop participants can receive a
FREE KIT of weatherization materials



The kit includes:

- Interior storm window Kits
- Door weatherstripping and Door sweeps
- Compact fluorescent Lights
- And much more!

If you do not qualify you can order kit materials from our fundraiser retail store.

**Sign up for a free Workshop at:
Wood Village City Hall**

2055 NE 238th Dr.
Wood Village, OR
December 7, 2011
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



*Serving the Portland area
through hands-on work-
shops and other community
services since 1979*

To Register call 503.284.6827

CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE
 2055 NE 238TH DRIVE
 WOOD VILLAGE, OR 97060-1095

PAID BY STANDARD MAIL
 PERMIT #75
 WOOD VILLAGE
 97060

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Planning Commission and Parks Commission
 Call 503-667-6211 for more information

THE VILLAGE NEWS

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 Wood Village Oregon 97060
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City Council

Patricia Smith, Mayor
 Mark S. Clark, President
 Stanley Dirks
 Timothy Clark
 Scott Harden

City Councilors are volunteers who do not keep regular office hours but messages can be left at City Hall at 503-667-6211.

Regular Council meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

25% SENIOR RATE DISCOUNT:

If everyone living in your household is 65 years and older, you may be eligible for the discounted base sewer and water rate fees. For more detailed information and to acquire the application, please see the City's website or call 503-667-6211.

**Planning Commission
 Design Review Board**

Planning Commission/Design Review Board meetings are normally held the last Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

All meeting agendas are available at City Hall and on the City's website.

City Services

Water & Sewer: Wood Village City Hall:
 503-667-6211

Building Permits: Wood Village City Hall:
 503-667-6211

Trash & Recycling:
 Waste Management: 503-249-8078

Phone: Frontier – 1-800-483-4000

Electric: PGE – 503-228-6322
 503-464-7777 (power outages)
 503-736-5710 (streetlight outages)

Gas: NW Natural: 503-226-4212

Abandoned Vehicles
 503-823-3333 (*non-emergency number for Sheriff's Office*)

DEQ Burning Information:
 503-618-3083

Multnomah County Sheriff:
 503-823-3333 (non-emergency)
 9-1-1 (emergencies)

Gresham Fire Department:
 503-618-2355 (general information)
 9-1-1 (emergencies)

Multnomah County Animal Control:
 503-248-3066

Reynolds School District:
 503-661-7200

East Metro Mediation:
 503-618-3247

Multnomah County Commissioners:
 Jeff Cogan, County Chair
 (503) 988-3308

Diane McKeel, District 4
 (503) 988-5213