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YOUR BRIDLE TRAILS CIVIC WATCHDOG

BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB

www.bridletrailscommunity.org

GOT IDEAS FOR PROJECTS?
Contact Loreta Lopez to see if it could be a city matching fund project.

**MARCH 2014
GENERAL MEETING**
**THURSDAY MARCH 20
7-8:30 PM**
**CHERRY CREST ELEMENTARY
12400 NE 32ND ST.
IN THE CAFETERIA**

- 7:00 Welcome & Introductions
- 7:15 Club Business
- 7:20 Guest Speaker: Chris Salomone, City of Bellevue, to speak on Sound Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility plans and Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan
- 8:00 Other Business
- 8:10 Meet & Greet

LOOK FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE!

Support BTCC in efforts to preserve and protect our community.

Your membership payments help fund the newsletter, host the website, hold general meetings and keep you informed.

Please send your payment when you receive the notice, including your email will help us keep you better informed.

Guest Speaker: Chris Salomone Updates Us on Sound Transit Facility Plans and Bellevue's Comp Plan

Attend the March 20 meeting to hear our guest speaker, Chris Salomone, Director of Planning & Community Development, City of Bellevue. He will present an update on the Sound Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility (OMSF) (see article below) and an update on City's review of the Comprehensive Plan (see article on p. 2).



Chris Salomone,
Director of Planning
& Community
Development.

Sound Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility

Jim Binder

Sound Transit (ST) is proposing a build of an Operations and Maintenance Satellite Facility (OMSF) to accommodate ST's satellite operations as light rail is implemented on the Eastside. A set of proposed sites were reviewed early on, and four sites remain in review as part of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) scheduled for release now in late May or June 2014. Further information about the four sites as well as contact information is readily accessed at: www.soundtransit.org/Projects-and-Plans/Link-Operations-and-Maintenance-Satellite-Facility. One site is in Lynnwood, three are in Bellevue: two variations along the BNSF tracks at the site of the former International Paper facility on 120th Ave NE and the third just south of Highway 520, bordered by 130th Ave NE on the west and on the south by NE 20th St.

As the DEIS publication approaches release, ST will send a five-week notification letter to properties that would be potentially impacted and provide wider notification via the electronic alerts newsletter at www.soundtransit.org/Subscribe-to-alerts. Once the DEIS publishes, there will be a public comment period marked by a series of public hearings where stakeholders can go on record with their feedback and concerns. That record is submitted to the Sound Transit Board prior to the selection of a preferred site alternative to make sure they have a full understanding of community concerns and interests. The City of Bellevue will be notified in advance as well so it is expected they will do outreach as well.

On March 4-7, ST hosted an Advisory Services Program in Seattle in conjunction with the Urban Land Institute (ULI). Potential site stakeholders, such as commercial property owners, as well as a representative from the BTCC participated in several panels for feedback and discussion regarding the sites within Bellevue.

Chris Salomone, Director of Planning and Community Development, will again be the guest speaker at our March 20 BTCC meeting. You are encouraged to attend and participate in a Q and A with Mr. Salomone. The last time our club hosted Mr. Salomone, it was a lively discussion. He is looking forward to meeting with us again.

Our contact at Sound Transit is Jenna Franklin. She can be reached at jenna.franklin@soundtransit.org or 206.903.7752.

BTCC encourages all BT residents to be aware of the OMSF developments and to attend our March 20 meeting.



Alternatives 2, 3, & 4 (Bellevue) to be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the location of the Link Facility
Excerpted on 3.1.2014 from
www.soundtransit.org/Projects-and-Plans/Link-Operations-and-Maintenance-Satellite-Facility/Locations--Link-OMSF

New Set of High Volt Lines Planned for Bridle Trails

Norm Hansen

As discussed in the BTCC January 2014 Newsletter, Puget Sound Energy (PSE) is planning to construct a new 18 mile 230,000 volt transmission lines from Redmond to Renton. These are the same high voltage lines as the Seattle City Light lines but are designed to be supported with a monopole. This plan would make Bridle Trails the only Bellevue neighborhood with two high voltage lines bisecting it. In addition, these monopoles may not replace the existing wood poles.

The monopoles are being considered to support this new 230,000 volt lines and will be up to 125 feet high. Alternatively, undergrounding certainly would have the least impact on all neighborhoods and school areas. PSE advises that undergrounding the new line is technically possible but is about more expensive.

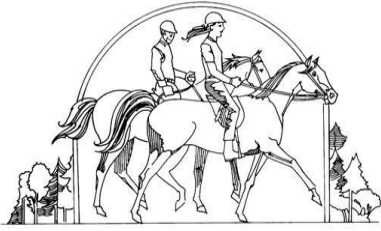
Two alternative route segments are being considered in Bridle Trails. One on 116th Avenue NE and another on the existing 115,000 volt lines between Bridle Trails State Park and 140th Avenue NE. See location map at energizeeastside.com/routing.

Additionally, one new transformer substation is being considered in Bridle Trails across from Westminster Church on NE 24 St. and 136 Place NE.

PSE states that the new line and substation is needed to accommodate expected growth, especially in the Bellevue Central District and other areas south.

PSE has created a Community Advisory Group to provide for public input and recommend a community based preferred route by September 2014. PSE will then evaluate all necessary requirements and constraints. PSE will then be the final decision maker regarding selecting a preferred route before moving forward for design, environmental review and permitting.

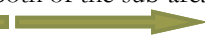
It is important to note the PSE is not obligated to accept the CAG recommended route. Bellevue neighborhoods represented on the CAG are Bridle Trails, Wilburton, Sunset, Somerset and Newport Hills.



BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB
6619 132nd Ave. N.E., #133
Kirkland, WA 98033



BTCC partnered with PSE & the City of Bellevue to get this graffiti-resistant, electrical box wrap at View Point Park. Thanks Ellen!

You are encouraged to attend and express your concerns, comments and questions at one or both of the sub-area workshops listed. 

Old Redmond Schoolhouse Located in Downtown Redmond

Eastbound on SR520 take Redmond Way exit and turn left. Turn right onto 166th Ave. NE to NE 80th St.

You are also encouraged to provide your concerns, comments and questions on energizeeastside.com/comment with a copy to your Bridle Trails Community Representative on the PSE CAG Committee attention: Norm Hansen at Hansennp@aol.com or 425-861-7333.

Please send me an e-mail if you would like to receive updates concerning impacts in Bridle Trails. Let me know if you are or know someone who is a property owner on the existing 115,000 Volt easement including those property owners adjacent to the existing easement.

Comp Plan

Our speaker Chris Salomone will give us an update on the Comp Plan at the March meeting. Under the Growth Management Act (GMA) the City is required to create and administer a Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan). The Comp Plan is the framework for all zoning. The City is currently reviewing the Comp Plan and will recommend changes to the Plan. Why is this this review important to residents? Since all zoning decisions are based upon the Comp Plan, any changes to the Comp Plan can have significant effects on residential zones.

Bridle Trails Corner Park & Park #2

Loretta Lopez

The community voted to name the new park at NE 24th and 134th, Bridle Trails Corner Park. At the end of February, the City Council approved this name.

The Park Committee continues to work with the City to find a suitable location for another park in the Bridle Trails area.

Thank You Bill, Jim, and Lynn

Thank you to Bill Aron and Jim Mantell for their many years as Advisory Board Members and Lynn Hurdelbrink for his years of service as co-Treasurer. Their willingness to volunteer and service has been greatly appreciated. Though Bill, Jim, and Lynn are no longer Advisory Board or Board Members, we look forward to their continuing involvement as members of BTCC.

Mark Your Calendar

- Send comments to Energize Eastside (see PSE article)
- Mar 19 6:30-9PM • **Energize Eastside Workshop#1**, Old Redmond Schoolhouse Com. Ctr, 16600 NE 80th St.
- Mar 20, 7PM • **General Meeting** Cherry Crest Elementary
- Apr 16 6:30-9PM • **Energize Eastside Workshop#2**, Old Redmond Schoolhouse Com. Ctr, 16600 NE 80th St.
- Apr 17, 7PM • **Board Meeting**
- May 15, 7 PM • **General Meeting**

Welcome Wayne and Zhanbing

The BTCC welcomes Wayne Bruning as our new Treasurer and Member of the Board. Don Prince has continued volunteering to handle the day-to-day finances of the BTCC. We also welcome Zhanbing Wu as the BTCC's new webmaster.

President Transitions

Nancy Bennett has lead the BTCC as President for six years. We thank her for leadership, good humor and the many hours she devoted to this position. At the February Board Meeting, a vote was called for Loretta Lopez to be our new President. The vote was unanimously in favor.

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Bridle Trails Park Ranger, Mary Welborn, Retires

Alice Prince

Yes, folks, the rumors are true. State Parks Ranger, Mary Welborn, our Ranger at Bridle Trails State Park for the past 30+ years, retired at the end of 2013. Although there will be another ranger assigned to Bridle Trails sometime this spring, he or she will have some big boots to fill. Until then, rangers from Lake Sammamish will be taking care of our park.

Mary was an exceptional ranger with a passion to steward and protect our Park and took pride in keeping it clean and safe for all who came to use or visit it. She worked year round with her tractor and chain saw to keep the trails clear of trees and debris that may have closed a trail or created a hazard to equestrians or pedestrians. Events didn't happen without her there to drag or water the arena for some horseshow or lay out a course for a 5 or 10K run through the park.

Mary worked with the artist to create trail markers and interpretive signs that can be seen throughout the park, and taught classes about the flora and fauna to students from several surrounding elementary schools. Many park users regarded her as their friend, but Mary was also the law in Bridle Trails and was not afraid to enforce it in an effort to keep the park safe for everyone.

We want to wish Mary all the best in her retirement and count on seeing lots of her as she continues to work, on her time frame, as a volunteer in Bridle Trails State Park as well as being an active equestrian with her mare Libby.

To reach a ranger at Lake Sammamish, you can call 425.455.7010.

