

SmartTrips Events for September and October

PORTLAND BY CYCLE CLASSES

WEDNESDAYS, 6:30pm Meet at Vollum Lounge on the Reed College campus

Bike Commuting Basics | September 5 Gear up for the September Bike Commute Challenge with this workshop. This class covers all the basics including what to wear, how to prepare and choosing the best routes for your commute.

Bike Maintenance 101 | September 12 Join us for a hands-on clinic covering basic bike maintenance, flat repair, and a few simple adjustments and cleaning techniques. Bring your bike and any basic bike tools if you have them.

All Season Cycling | September 19 Sure, it gets wet in Oregon, but with a little extra planning and preparation you can be an all-season cyclist. Come join this interactive session as some experienced all-weather riders share their tips and tricks for staying dry, comfortable, and safe while riding all year 'round.

TEN TOE WALKS

Ten Toe Walks are held Thursdays at 6pm and Saturdays at 9am

Downtown Milwaukie | September 8, 9am Meet at SE McLoughlin at Jefferson Street

Meet at Milwaukie's beautiful riverfront and enjoy a walk to Elk Rock Island and back through Milwaukie's redeveloping Downtown.

Creston-Kenilworth Pedestrian Parkway | September 13, 6pm

Meet at NW corner of SE 34th & Holgate

Explore this recreational and transportation route that links the neighborhood's parks and heritage trees, historic landmarks, and businesses.

Historic Reedway | September 22, 9am Meet at NE corner of SE Woodstock & Reed College Place

Join a Mid-Century Modern tour led by Portland's Architectural Heritage Center as we explore some little-known early modern treasures on the Reed Campus and the adjacent Reedway neighborhood with "Atomic Ranches," and distinctive period landscaping.

Ardenwald and Johnson Creek | September 27, 6pm Meet at SE 45th & Crystal Springs Blvd

Enjoy a walk along the Springwater Trail with stops at Errol Heights and Tideman Johnson Parks, with local Ardenwald neighborhood residents showing us salmon habitat restoration projects and other points of interest in their neighborhood.

Sellwood Heritage Trees & Landmarks | October 6, 9am Meet at SW corner of SE 17th & Bybee

Tour one of Portland's oldest neighborhoods stopping to admire some of Portland's grandest heritage trees that produce the nuttiest crops in Southeast Portland!

Woodstock Park to Brentwood Park | October 13, 9am Meet at SE 47th & Steele, NW corner of the park

Great trees, nice walkways and playgrounds anchor the two ends of this nice loop through portions of these two colorful neighborhoods.

Woodstock to Reed | October 20, 9am Meet at SE 44th & Woodstock

This leisurely walk will wind through the Reed campus and the east side of Reed Canyon with its wildlife viewing trails and wetland walkways before returning to the Woodstock neighborhood and business district.

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SEPTEMBER 2007

JOIN THE 2007 FAMILY RIDES
It's not how far, it's not how fast, it's how much fun!

The Portland Wheelman Touring Club and River City Bicycles have teamed up to offer some fun rides especially for families and novice riders. The Saturday and Sunday rides run through October 14 and explore some great trails including the Marine Drive Bike Path, the Banks/Vernonia Trail and even visit a Sauvie Island Pumpkin Patch.

The rides are mostly flat, "out and back" routes so you can turn back when you want. Bring a bike, plenty of water, a snack and your appetite for fun. Helmets are required for all riders and children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Go to www.rivercitybicycles.com or call Stefan Lemmer at 503-860-7892 for more information.

Safer Routes to School at Lewis Elementary

Lewis Elementary School in southeast Portland is one of 25 Portland area schools participating in the Safer Routes to School program. The Safer Routes to School program is a partnership between the Portland Office of Transportation and the Bicycle Transportation Alliance and offers important safety improvements, instruction and fun activities in the school environment.

A core function of the program is getting as many students walking and bicycling to school as possible. Walking and bicycling to school benefits students directly by:

- Improving health and bringing physical activity to their daily lives
- Developing important independence skills within a supervised environment
- Building stronger community and increasing interaction in the neighborhood
- Relieving congestion and improving air quality on school grounds

Safer Routes to School has contributed over \$25,000 in funding for sidewalk and roadway improvements to make school identified routes safer for students. Additionally, Safer Routes school coordinators and volunteers provide Pedestrian Safety Education for 2nd and 3rd

graders and Bicycle Safety Education for 4th and 5th graders. Child Passenger Safety Seat Education and discount coupons are also offered.

Best of all, the program offers big fun for the students. Most schools have after-school Pedal Power Clubs and plan encouragement activities throughout the year. One fun activity at Lewis is the walking/biking 'school bus'. It works like a school bus, only without the bus! Typically one or two parents walk or ride with students along a route and 'pick up' others as they make their way toward the school.

Going to school in a group increases safety and it's fun for everyone. One parent says, "We enjoy being a vital part of the bike brigade, and our numbers continue to increase as more classmates see our group and join."

The Safer Routes to School program can use more community volunteers like you to help with the bicycle and pedestrian activities. For more information, contact Jacqueline Villnave at jacqueline@bta4bikes.org or 503-226-0676 ext 16.



Transportation Resources For Active Seniors

Walking or biking for short trips is a great way to stay active, but sometimes it's more fun with a group.

Senior Strolls

Transportation Options
Guided Neighborhood Walks
www.gettingaroundportland.org
503-823-6114

Metro Movers

Hikes and three-wheeled bike rides
www.portlandonline.com/parks/index.cfm?c=39833
503-823-4328

Social Bike Rides

Portland Wheelmen Touring Club
For new or novice riders
www.PWTC.org
503-667-0683

Free, Fun Bike Classes in September

Join Transportation Options for our FREE Portland By Cycle classes in September. The three Wednesday evening classes cover the basics of bike commuting, maintenance and all weather cycling and can help new or novice riders gear up for the Bicycle Transportation Alliance Bicycle Commute Challenge happening this month.

Veteran bike commuters lead these popular and interactive sessions designed to help you plan your best routes, understand the safest ways to navigate Portland streets by bicycle and help you plan and prepare for staying dry, comfortable and safe even during the damp and dark winter ahead.

ALL CLASSES ARE WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 PM, AT VOLLUM LOUNGE ON THE REED COLLEGE CAMPUS.

September 5 Bike Commuting Basics
September 12 Bike Maintenance 101
September 19 All Season Cycling

*See the events schedule in this issue for more information

For more information or for directions to Vollum Lounge (served by Bus #19) contact Jeff Smith at jeff.smith@pdxtrans.org or 503-823-7083.

Let's ride.



To find out more about Transportation Options Getting Around Portland programs, contact Linda Ginenthal at 503-823-5266 or linda.ginenthal@pdxtrans.org



CALLING ALL TRANSPORTATION ACTIVISTS!

Learn how the city that works, works! And how you can affect change in your neighborhood.

Transportation Options and Portland State University offer this ten-week course designed for the new or experienced neighborhood activist wanting to make a difference in their community. Classes meet Thursday evenings, September 27th to December 6th from 6:40 to 8:40 PM, at PSU.

You will work with decision and policy-makers, planners, scholars and engineers to better understand how to get your transportation project going. The class is open to all Portland residents. Full scholarships are available to qualified applicants.

Go to www.gettingaroundportland.org and the "What's New" section or contact Scott Cohen at scott.cohen@pdxtrans.org or 503-823-5345 for more information.

Get on Board – The Streetcar System is Part of the Solution

Population in the Portland region is expected to increase by one million by the year 2025 according to Metro projections. As Portland grows we must plan in order to preserve our vibrant, livable neighborhoods and the ability to move around our city without relying solely on automobiles.



As the City of Portland prepares for this growth, the Office of Transportation (PDOT) continues to seek opportunities to increase system efficiency for transportation options including transit and streetcar. As part of a citywide transit growth plan PDOT, working closely with TriMet, will develop a Streetcar System Plan.

Residents will have several opportunities to participate in shaping the Streetcar System Plan. Initial public meetings are planned for September and committees and working groups are being formed to move

the process toward identifying recommended corridors.

To get involved or for more information contact Patrick Sweeney at patrick.sweeney@pdx.trans.org or 503-823-5611.



Milwaukie Looks Further into Light Rail

Did you know the Clackamas County area is one of the fastest growing areas in the region? With population and employment growth in the North Clackamas County already exceeding the areas' current transportation system, light rail is one of several options that can help reduce congestion and our dependency on fossil fuels.

The proposed light rail line from Milwaukie to Portland, also known as South Corridor Project Phase II, can help residents of North Clackamas County and Southeast Portland get to more destinations reliably and safely. Currently, the project is considering three possible rail alignments for further study. All of the alignment options follow the Tillamook Rail line from Hwy 224 to Lake Road through downtown Milwaukie.

Other alternatives, including bus, bus rapid transit, river transit, high occupancy vehicle (HOV) and high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes were considered for the South Corridor, yet light rail was determined the best option. We've learned that existing MAX lines attract riders that would not otherwise use the transit system. Where each new MAX line has gone in transit ridership has nearly doubled.

The proposed alignments could add 6.5 new miles of light rail, 10 stations and 2000 park and ride spaces. The proposal also includes a new bridge across the Willamette River serving pedestrians, bicyclists, buses and streetcar.

For more information on the proposed alignments visit Metro's web site www.metro-region/southcorridor or email trans@metro-region.org to be added to the project mailing list. If your community group would like a presentation, contact Phillip Kennedy Wong at 503-797-1755.

Commissioner Works to Curb Road Troubles Ahead

Portland's transportation system could be headed for trouble. There is an estimated \$422 million in overdue maintenance on the 3941 miles of streets, 157 bridge structures and 992 traffic signals PDOT oversees. Road maintenance has been deferred and service levels have been cut each year in Portland for the last seven years. Each year of deferred maintenance adds an estimated \$9 million to future maintenance costs of the public's largest real estate asset.

With the gas tax lagging far behind inflation, a solution to the future of transportation funding is needed. A series of town hall meetings were held earlier this year by Transportation Commissioner Sam Adams and a second series of town hall meetings are scheduled for late September. The Commissioner says any proposal will come only after the community wrestles with the problem and has an opportunity for feedback.

The future of transportation funding will be a long conversation but it is something impacting each of our lives daily. Commissioner Adams wants the community to be involved in the solution.

Seniors Still Going Strong

In its third year, the Senior Strolls program continues to offer seniors a chance to explore great new Portland neighborhoods, meet wonderful people, and get some exercise in the process. More than 200 people have joined at least one stroll and many participants return for a second or even third year of fun.

Senior Stroll participants tell us they love discovering new neighborhoods and meeting new people. They also appreciate all the great historic information shared and how the strolls help them stay active.

Senior Stroll participants say they walk more, have increased stamina, and have replaced some short driving trips with walking trips.

Senior Strolls are held every Wednesday morning at 10 am through October 17th and conveniently start and end along TriMet routes. It's never too late to reap the many physical and mental benefits of walking. All you need is a comfortable pair of shoes and a Senior Stroll schedule!

For a Senior Stroll schedule or for more information contact Donna Green at donna.green@pdxtrans.org or 503-823-6114 or see the calendar of events in this newsletter.

Join the Commissioner for one of the town hall meetings or get involved at your neighborhood coalition level.

ALL MEETINGS ARE 7 - 9pm

Central Northeast

September 10th

Firehouse #12

4415 NE 87th Ave

East Portland

September 20th

East Precinct (Community Room)

737 SE 106th Ave

Southeast

September 24th

St. Philip Neri - Calvin Hall

2408 SE 16th Ave

Northeast Portland

September 25th

King Neighborhood Facility

4815 NE 7th Ave

For a complete list of meetings or for special accommodations, contact **Jamie Waltz at 503-823-7101.**

INNER POWELL PLAN GOES TO COUNCIL

The Inner Powell Streetscape Plan is complete and is expected to be adopted by City Council. No Council date has been set as of this writing however.

The Plan includes the area from the Ross Island bridgehead to 92nd Avenue and identifies projects to improve the safety, accessibility and aesthetic environment for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders along Powell Boulevard.

The planning process for Inner Powell began in August 2006 with a series of four community events and guidance by a Citizen Working Group. Several designs were presented to the public for review earlier this year and comments from that process helped form the current plan.

Local and State transportation officials are seeking funding for engineering and the phased construction of projects. To read the Final Report, go to <http://www.portlandonline.com/transportation/index.cfm?c=44307> or contact April Bertelsen at bertelsen@pdxtrans.org or 503-823-6177 for more information.

www.gettingaroundportland.org

SENIOR STROLLS

Senior Strolls are held Wednesdays at 10:00 am

Harney and Flavel Parks | September 5 Meet at NW corner of SE Harney & 72nd

This leisurely stroll highlights a couple of neighborhood parks, and takes you through the surrounding residential area. **Total Distance:** Approximately 1.6 miles **Bus Line:** #71 on 72nd

Springwater Corridor | September 12 Meet at Springwater Trailhead parking lot at SE 45th & Johnson Creek Blvd.

Built to serve bicyclists and recreation enthusiasts, the Springwater Corridor is the major southeast segment of the 40-Mile Loop around the Portland Metropolitan area. The portion we'll stroll on goes by Tideman-Johnson Park. **Total Distance:** Approximately 1.9 miles **Bus Line:** #75 (Bus stops right at the Trailhead entrance)

Reed College Parkway | September 19 Meet at SW corner of SE Woodstock & Reed College Place (across from Reed College)

Stroll along this charming street with its tree lined median pathway. A visit to Duniway Elementary School is included. **Total Distance:** Approximately 1.6 miles **Bus Line:** #19

Westmoreland Park to Johnson Creek Park | September 26 Meet at SE corner of SE Bybee & 22nd

This stroll will take us up close but not too personal to both Johnson Creek and Crystal Springs. From Westmoreland Park we'll stroll to Johnson Creek Park and back. **Total Distance:** Approximately 2 miles **Bus Line:** #19

Sellwood | October 3 Meet at NE corner of SE Tacoma & 13th

From the thriving heart of the Sellwood district we'll stroll by heritage trees, classic homes, and into beautiful Sellwood Park. **Total Distance:** Slightly more than 2 miles **Bus Line:** #70 via 13th and Tacoma (this bus takes alternating routes; every other bus #70 goes to 13th)

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden | October 10 Meet at Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden entrance, SE 28th Ave, one block north of Woodstock

Stroll through one of Southeast Portland's most beautiful gems, home to more than 2,500 rhododendrons, azaleas, and other plants. Winding paths gently guide visitors through lush foliage, along serene lakes and by hungry ducks and geese. **Total Distance:** Slightly over 1 mile **Bus Line:** #19 Woodstock via SE 32nd & Rex (this bus takes alternating routes as it goes through Eastmoreland; ask the driver for the stop nearest the Garden).

Woodstock Park | October 17 Meet at NW corner of SE Woodstock & 46th

Stroll in the heart of the Woodstock commercial district and visit beautiful Woodstock Park with its stately trees. **Total Distance:** 1.5 miles **Bus lines:** #19, #74, #75

