

Hybrid NAP Meeting

April 23, 2026 7:00 PM

Meeting Attendance and Quorum

- Meeting held at Robinwood Station with hybrid in-person and Zoom attendance using owl device
- Quorum discussion regarding active vs. inactive neighborhood associations - six active NAs identified
- In attendance: Tony Bracco (Robinwood), Christi Lanz (Bolton/Secretary), Jessica Trout (Sunset), Bill Reyla (Parker Crest), Roberta Schwartz (Savannah Oaks), Robert Jester (Barrington Heights)
- City staff: Kevin Bonnington (City Council), Luke Borland (Public Works)
- No official votes taken due to quorum uncertainty

Meeting called to order at 7:11 PM

Action Items

- Committee to be formed to draft policies for using funds from inactive neighborhood associations and creating revitalization strategies
- Invite member from Committee for Citizen Involvement (CCI) to next meeting
- Tony to include permanent Zoom link in all future meeting materials and agendas
- Reach out to Lions Club about partnership opportunities for community events
- Explore booth at summer market for neighborhood association awareness
- Contact Skyline representative about potential merger with Merrill Hurst
- Kevin to check on timeline for operations center appeal hearing
- Research and coordinate city leadership academy/training for neighborhood presidents
- Coordinate joint neighborhood association table at Music in the Park and other city events
- Schedule next meeting for third Thursday in July

City Infrastructure Projects Update

Luke Borland presented upcoming summer construction projects:

Road Work

- Upper Mid-Hill and Lower Mid-Hill repaving in Robinwood starting next week (delayed by rain)
- Parts of Hillside and College Hill Place also included
- Door hangers already distributed

Safety Improvements

- Crosswalk and flashing beacon at Santa Anita and Pimlico
- Safe routes to school sidewalks on Long and Bittner for Sunset Primary (same contractor as Cedar Oak project)

Major Projects

- Operations Center construction on Salamo beginning June (pending appeal resolution)
- Sewer pump station modernization on west side of Mapleton Drive
- Spring 2027: Water line replacement on Willamette Falls Drive (Britton to Ostman) and portions of Santa Anita and Hidden Springs

Other Work

- Slurry seal program this summer (requires avoiding driving on roads for several hours)
- Partnership with neighboring cities to reduce costs
- Athey Creek roundabout completion and storm pond work

Road Closures

- Stafford Road closure May 1 through August 31 (Stage 4 county project), reopens before school starts

Strategies to Help Struggling Neighborhood Associations

Inactive/Struggling Associations Identified

- Hidden Springs, Marylhurst, Skyline, Parker Crest discussed as needing support
- Skyline proposed joining with Merrill Hurst at previous meeting
- Parker Crest may be stabilizing with recent organizing efforts

Proposed Solutions

Training and Support

- Request for city-sponsored leadership academy/training course for new and existing presidents
- Annual training currently offered and available on YouTube
- Suggestion for experienced presidents to mentor and share best practices

Neighborhood Consolidation

- Voluntary mergers of struggling neighborhoods discussed
- Would require votes from both neighborhoods involved
- Could combine smaller inactive neighborhoods to create viable active association

Outreach and Awareness

- Many residents unaware neighborhood associations exist or differ from HOAs
- Contact former leaders (Lynn Fox, Alice Risman, CJ) to help identify potential new volunteers
- Use old contact information and swimming pool memberships to reach residents

Community Event and Engagement Ideas

Piggybacking on Existing City Events

- Set up joint neighborhood association table at Music in the Park
- Participate in July 1st "Meet Your City Day" at summer market with touch-a-truck event
- Email sign-up sheets for each neighborhood at tables
- Provide candy or small items to draw people to table

School Partnerships

- Partner with PTAs at local schools for outreach
- Bolton School 75th anniversary carnival May 30th at Hammerle Park
- Peter Rabbit breakfast event (spring, organized by Teacher Kathy)

Neighborhood-Hosted Events

- Annual social events effective for engagement (ice cream socials, picnics, pumpkin carving)
- Smaller free summer events with donated entertainment and food trucks (e.g., Spectator Pizza cart)
- Revive Music in the Park sponsorship (originally started by Parker Crest) with bounce house and face painting
- Revive 4th of July fireworks sponsorship (previously Lions Club)
- Oktoberfest revival being considered by Robinwood, potentially partnering with Bolton

Meeting Formats

- Hybrid in-person/Zoom meetings increase accessibility
- Keep meetings to one hour when possible
- Some associations function well entirely online

Challenges Noted

- People working multiple jobs with limited time for involvement
- Need for positivity and social connection rather than just complaint forums
- Younger families with children can be engaged through schools and community events

Operations Center Appeal Discussion

- Planning Commission approved operations center 5-4, with appeal filed by neighborhood association
- City Council chose to hire hearings officer rather than decide themselves
- Current approval stands pending appeal hearing
- Appeal hearing date not yet announced
- Robert Jester requested that city staff preface construction timeline mentions with acknowledgment of pending appeal

Other City Issues Discussed

Marijuana Sales

- No plans to pursue allowing marijuana sales in West Linn
- Discussion occurred but was deemed too contentious to pursue

Highway 43 Takeover

- No current proposal for city to take over ODOT portion of Highway 43

Public Testimony Time Reduction

- Neighborhood associations previously allowed 10 minutes for testimony at Planning Commission, now reduced to 5 minutes (same as individual citizens)
- Issue discovered during recent car wash conditional use permit hearing
- Can still get 10 minutes total by testifying both as citizen (5 min) and as NA representative (5 min)
- Topic to be revisited in future meeting

Administrative Items

- Previous meeting minutes not approved (Kathy Helicki absent with minutes)
- Permanent Zoom link established for Robinwood and Presidents meetings
- Meetings to continue on third Thursday every other month
- Tony Bracco serving as President of Neighborhood Association Presidents
- Christi Lanz serving as interim secretary

Meeting Adjourned at 8:11 PM