

June 6, 2007

To: City of Bend Council Members
From: Jeanne Newton, MVNA Chair
Subject: Annual Neighborhood Association Report

Mission

- To maintain, protect and enhance the livability and sense of community of the neighborhood

Profile

- MVNA formally recognized February, 2003 w/32 members
- Current membership: 354: 20% increase over 2006
- 2nd largest NA in number of tax lots
- Bisected by 27th Street; the City's only major arterial flanked by three schools, 3 churches, largest number of medical offices, low-income and senior housing
- General Member meetings held in Spring and Fall; Board Meetings monthly

Activities

- Weed Pull – 3rd annual this Saturday
- Neighborhood Clean Up – 2nd annual in May
- Land Use Application Review – assisted in the implementation of Neighborhood Meeting review forms to require developers to provide information per the Development Code
- Updated the NA reimbursement guidelines; addressed the shortfall in tax lot funding at May 10 Budget Committee meeting

Transportation

- Attendance at monthly Traffic Safety Advisory Committee meetings
- Organized Traffic Safety Audit in March – City staff trained members in how to assess safety issues
- Attendance at Bend MPO Policy Board and MPO CAC meetings
- Attendance at COACT meetings; pleased to see a more regional approach to transportation
- Participated in US 97/20 Realignment; testified to the OTC in 2005, member of the 97/20 Working Group, current member of the ODOT CAC
- MVNA supports changes to BAT route 5 – Wells Acres route
- MVNA Chair attends 8-10 meetings per month for NA

Concerns

- City support for Neighborhood Associations
 - tax lot funding increased - 1st increase since 2001
 - continuing delta between tax lots and mailing addresses; 30% for MVNA
 - development position eliminated
 - significant learning curve from Resident to NA Chair
 - half-time City staff person expected to develop new NAs; train new Chairs and Boards; conduct recruiting sessions at City-wide events like Summerfest, Bite of Bend
 - Neighborhood Associations still viewed as “outsiders” by some City staff; prefer role of advocate vs. opponent
- Impacts on 27th Street
 - Empire Extension; ROB at Butler Market – earlier communication with residents
 - Juniper Ridge traffic – eastside north-south route plans need to include NAs
 - Increased Truck traffic on 27th; health impacts on residents; noise; air quality from diesel emissions; City staff to respond to MVNA on what other cities do
 - Widening of 27th from Neff to Butler Market; installation of sewer line; more clarity on when and how – keep MVNA informed