

June 4, 2008

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: 426 residents
- Largest NA in number of tax lots: 4602
- 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 units

Activities

- Recruited Business Sponsors – Forum Shops, Clear Choice, Mid-Oregon Credit Union
- Held Fall General Membership Meeting in October – featured 5 of the non-profits in our geography: Deschutes Children's Foundation, Hospice House, Ronald MacDonald House, SMART, Volunteers in Medicine
- Held Spring General Membership Meeting in May – featured 5 public agencies; Bend Area Transit (our area has the most rider ship), COB Public Works (sewer projects), COB Transportation Engineering (multi-lane roundabouts), COB Fire Department (new fireworks ordinance), Bend Metro Parks & Recreation (Pine Nursery and area trails)
- Weed Pull – 4th annual next Saturday – MVNA will work at Pilot Butte
- Land Use Application Review – reviewed 16 in 2007; 6 to date in 2008; acreage within UGB almost fully developed
- 2009 NA Budget Review – NA Chairs agreed to forgo their scheduled 3% tax lot increase and eliminated all but their meeting mailing expenses to return \$17,000 to the City

### **Concerns: Livability - Major issues are Traffic Safety and Code Enforcement**

#### **Traffic Safety**

- Transportation Engineering has over 55 requests for local street projects to improve safety
- Projects were ranked on a series of criteria; of top 30; 9 are in MVNA geography
- 3 streets with excessive speed and traffic counts are Daggett, Tucson and Holliday; these serve as *de facto* alternate N-S routes to 27th: Daggett will go to design phase
- NA Chairs regularly attend TSAC meetings; TSAC appears to have little visibility with Council

#### **Code Enforcement**

- Small lots mean close neighbors; lack of space for "toys" – yards and streets become "storage lots"
- Residents with little regard for property maintenance or code requirements will increase code complaints, further reduce property values and increase frustration level of NE residents

#### **Recommendations**

- Maintain improved communication with City Manager; perhaps quarterly updates to NA Chairs
- Fill half-time City staff person in Office of Neighborhood Associations – pro-active skill set
- Add Code Enforcement staff as revenue permits; perhaps fewer warnings, more fines
- NE Corridor Transportation Plan process should include NA input and an east side N-S arterial