



# Rivergrove Report

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF RIVERGROVE, OREGON

JUNE 2023



## City Calendar

### City Council Meeting:

June 29, 2023 @7pm

### Planning Commission:

June 27, 2023@7pm

## City Staff

### Mayor

Jeff Williams

### Council President

Brenda Ruble

### Councilors:

Bill Tuttle

Chris Barhyte

Doug McLean

### Planning Commission:

#### Chair:

Andrew Herbert

#### Commissioners:

Alan Stonewall

Stella Radkevitch

Josie Alexander

### Interim City Manager:

Lisa Merlo Flores

## Contact Us

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## City Council

The City Council had two meetings during the month of May. The **May 8** regular meeting opened with Jenny Davies and Grant Howell from the Rosewood Neighborhood Association with an update on the Bus Barn Appeal they have filed with Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA). Interested parties are invited to check out [rosewoodna.com](http://rosewoodna.com) for more information.

The Council unanimously moved to restore the City's QuickBooks accounting software for better city financial reporting. The use of Metro Funding for an electronic gate at Stark Boat Ramp was debated and the city manager was directed to research Metro proposal submission steps.

Councilor Barhyte gave a Coronavirus Fund project update with tentative start dates. A "[Pardon our Dust](#)" letter from the Council with the project update can be found online under the Coronavirus Relief Funds Grant" tab. And last there was a lengthy discussion on the appropriateness of third-party website links spurred by the city manager's use of pronouns.org in her signature line.

On **May 26**, the Council voted to allow a "de novo review" of the 4810 SW Dogwood Drive NOD Appeal. On **June 12**, it was unanimously decided to give the Appeal back to the Planning Commission with their recommendations on the appellant concerns.

## Planning Commission

On May 15, the Planning Commission hosted Kelly Reid from DLCD who gave a presentation on Oregon's Statewide Planning Program & Planning Commission Basics. The recording of that meeting is found online with the slideshow as well.

This was a really thorough overview of what the role of the Planning Commission and their relationship with Elected Officials, Staff, and the Public. Also explained was the Comprehensive Plan and the Development Code as well as the types of decisions that the Planning Commission makes.

The **next Planning Commission meeting** will be on **June 27 at 7pm** wherein they will hear testimony from citizens regarding the **4810 Dogwood Drive Development Proposal**. Written testimony will be accepted until 3pm on June 27 but is not required to speak at the meeting.

### MEETING RECORDINGS:

Are available online on the City website under the City Council Minutes or Planning Commission Minutes tabs.

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## Opportunities to get Involved

**Park Stewardship Committee(s)** needed to help develop a formal park plans and manage upkeep.

**Emergency Management Neighborhood Coordinators** needed to interface with Clackamas County EM and the LO HOAs in the area. Opportunities for training available.

**Tree Board** members help develop our city urban forest. If you love trees and want to more about how to help Rivergrove sustain their Tree City USA status, this is your group.

Email [manager@cityofrivergrove.com](mailto:manager@cityofrivergrove.com) if you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities.

### THANK YOU!

**Thanks again** go to **Byron Kibbey** for painting the Rivergrove City Welcome signs! They look amazing. We really appreciate your support.

**Thanks Donaldson and Nyberg families** for cleaning up the Lloyd Minor playground when it was tagged with graffiti on multiple occasions. We know you weren't looking for thanks, but you earned our gratitude anyway.

**Thanks, Dad!** Father's Day was June 18th this year and what a great day to say thanks to all of our Rivergrove dads. From coaching sports teams and serving on school boards to lending your neighbors a hand. We see you showing up and staying involved. Thank you for just being you.

Know someone that deserves Rivergrove's thanks? Feel free to send in your shout out to [manager@cityofrivergrove.com](mailto:manager@cityofrivergrove.com)

### BUDGET COMMITTEE:

On June 15, the Budget Committee, made up of our five city council members and five residents, sent a proposed budget to the city council to consider on June 22. This week, on June 29, the City Council will attempt to adopt a budget for the 2023-24 Fiscal Year which begins on July 1, 2023 and ends on June 30, 2024. The public is invited to attend the meeting and send in suggestions for budget considerations.

## June Observances

**Juneteenth:** Since General Major Gordon Granger reached Galveston on June 19, 1865, Juneteenth (coined by combining June and nineteenth), has grown in waves. With the 150th anniversary, the celebration reached worldwide attention.

In June 2021, the U.S. Congress passed legislation making Juneteenth a federal holiday. President Biden signed the legislation into law on June 18, 2021, declaring Juneteenth National Independence Day. Federal offices will observe the day on the closest weekday if Juneteenth lands on a weekend. More about the 2022 presidential proclamation here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/06/17/a-proclamation-on-juneteenth-day-of-observance-2022/>

### National LGBTQ+ Pride Month:

In June we remember the Stonewall Riots of 1969 that sparked national outrage against the practice of police raids on places where people in the Gay and Lesbian community would gather. In the year 2000 President Bill Clinton declared June Gay and Lesbian Pride Month and in 2009 President Obama expanded it to include the larger LGBTQ+ community. Learn more about the history of PRIDE month here: <https://www.history.com/topics/gay-rights/pride-month>

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**June is National Caribbean American Heritage month.** Join us in honoring the achievements of Caribbean Americans from Alexander Hamilton, the first US Treasurer (Nevis) and Colin Powell the youngest ever and the first Black Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (Jamaican) to Lin-Manuel Miranda famous Broadway writer, star and producer of both Hamilton and In the Heights (Puerto Rico) and Neil DeGrasse Tyson, astrophysicist and writer who helps make physics accessible to the rest of us (Nevis and Puerto Rico) We have been graced with their island roots which spice up our lives from music to science Learn more about the influence of our neighbors from the islands here: <https://caribbeanamericanmonth.com/#>

### Coming in July

July's full Buck Moon is coming up—rising after sunrise on **Monday, July 3**. This supermoon will appear bigger than many other Full Moons this year. Learn other traditional names for July's full moon and how scientists measure the Earth's distance from the Moon: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3X359dqviuA>

**July 4** is a federal holiday in the USA when we commemorate the adoption of the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain. We encourage you to celebrate safely, legally and compassionately.



### For the Love of Trees!

At the Heritage Park Cleanup May 21 Councilor Brenda Ruble and Neighbor Brett Egusa worked tirelessly with 15 of Rivergrovers and Lake Oswegans hauling bark chips, pulling invasive plants and clearing the pathways of sticky weeds getting us prepped and ready for the summer festivities.

At the Tree Festival on May 22, Arboriculturist Brian French educated us about the [Emerald Ash Borer](#) and the fate of our trees while surprising us with the statement that [poison oak](#) is both a native species and an important plant for our native pollinators. Who knew?! If managed correctly, it can also dissuade people from entering some spaces and allowing wildlife to forage too.

Stephanie Wegner from the Oswego Lake Watershed Council invited us to partner with them to realize our dream of creating a city-wide parks plan. Station 39 of Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue sent Sean Hoffmeister and James Merrill talked about home fire safety and the importance of trees amplifying points made by Brian French. And all three of our guest speakers networked together to discuss how best to support Rivergrove!

And finally, Mayor Jeff Williams read the Tree City USA Proclamation declaring May 22 Rivergrove Arbor Day 2023. It was a great start to what is sure to be a summer of more connections. Did you miss it? Stay tuned for more park cleanups and after parties throughout the summer!

TVF&R has excellent information about summer activity safety including backyard firepits, water recreation and Emergency Preparedness. We will be sending reminders to you periodically to our email subscribers. Please sign up on the homepage of our website if you want to receive these and other city-wide notices.

# Meeting Agenda Highlights and Zoom Links

## Heritage Tree Contest

Think you have the tallest Tree In the city? How about the widest in circumference? Or maybe you know your tree is rare, old, or important?

Send in a photo of your special tree, with measurements and species classification to [manager@cityofrivergrove.com](mailto:manager@cityofrivergrove.com) and tell us why you think your tree should be the Tree of the Month! Not sure what kind of tree you've got? Consider using a plant identification app like [EarthSnap](#)

Winner of this contest will win a gift from the Hoyt Arboretum and other goodies with a chance for your tree to become tree of the year at next year's Spring Arbor Day Festival.

## Planning Commission Meeting and Appeal Hearing

**June 27, 2023 @ 7:00 PM**

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85485726145?pwd=akNwSHN4bTV1b0d0U0Q2bXNDQ2tjdz09>

Meeting ID: 854 8572 6145

Passcode: 497826

## City Council Budget Meeting

**June 29, 2023 @ 7pm and possibly June 30 @ 7pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86711029151?pwd=WjdhYiswWWFCaVY5cXFWWW9OMFRaUT09>

Meeting ID: 867 1102 9151

Passcode: 887500

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