

CWNA PRESENTATION TO BEND CITY COUNCIL, September 2, 2015.

Mr. Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem and City Council Members. I'm Bob Brell and am here representing the Century West Neighborhood Association Board of Directors. Thank you from Century West for this opportunity to address the Council and share with you our Neighborhood Association projects, accomplishments and observations during the past year or so. We also want to share with you issues brought to our attention by our membership. First of all, I'd like to share some information with you about Century West Neighborhood Association.

- 1. Century West was formed in early 2005 and officially recognized by the City Council in July 2005.**
- 2. Our Neighborhood Association is located in the southwest part of Bend and is bordered by Skyliners Road on the west, Simpson Avenue on the north, the Deschutes River on the east and the City Limits on the south. Included in our boundaries are the neighborhoods of First on the Hill, West Ridge, Sagewood, Broken Top, The Parks, The Reserve at Broken Top, Mt Bachelor Village, Touchmark at Mt Bachelor Village, Mountain Gate, Cascade Village, Westbrook Meadows, Sunrise Village, Braeburn and residents on Bachelor View Road and those living in Mountain Laurel Lodge and The Village at Southern Crossing.**
- 3. Century West is made up of approximately 2,200 tax parcels. The number of property owners is something less than that number as many property owners own multiple tax lots; on the other hand we have several apartment complexes and retirement complexes which only count as one tax lot each but which potentially represent a much larger resident population.**
- 4. Our membership has grown to approximately 750 members over the past 10 years.**
- 5. Our grant money from the City of Bend is \$2,266 for the expressed purpose of communications with our members and to our tax lot owners.**

I would like to acknowledge our Board of Directors and Board Coordinators and to describe the make-up of our Board. First let me say, Century West is unique among the Neighborhood Associations inasmuch as we have divided Century West into 7 Wards with geographic or entity identification plus 4 member-at-large positions to total 11 Board Members.

- 1. In addition to holding the position of Co-Chair I am also the Land Use Head and represent Ward # 1 (Sunrise Village and Bachelor View Road).**
- 2. Summer Oman, Secretary represents Ward #2 (Braeburn, Cascades Village, Westbrook Meadows, Mountain Gate).**
- 3. Tracy Fox, Member e-Communications represents Ward # 3 (Mt. Bachelor Village, Touchmark at Mt. Bachelor Village)**
- 4. Glen and Cynthia-Brown Grochowski represent Ward # 4 (First on the Hill, West Ridge, Sagewood, Village at Southern Crossing) and act as our BPRD liaison.**
- 5. Jeanne Berry, Co-Chair and Treasurer represents Ward #5 (Broken Top, The Reserve at Broken Top) and she is CWNA's representative to the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee and serves on the 33-member Central Westside Plan CAC.**
- 6. Jane Raleigh represents Ward # 6 (The Parks)**

7. **Chad Sage holds a member at large Board position.**

We also have several dedicated Board Coordinators who participate in some Board activities and serve as coordinators between Century West and their respective HOA Boards.

1. **Ron Webber. Ron Lives in Broken Top.**
2. **Ken Schofield. Ken lives in The Reserve at Broken Top.**
3. **Clint & Judy Whitfield. Clint & Judy live in Mountain Gate.**
4. **Hans van den Houten. Hans lives in Tripple Knot which is within Tetherow.**

I also want to mention Tina Burnside who leads the CWNA noxious weed eradication effort.

And lastly, Julie Austin, our Website/Data Base Head who does not hold a Board position but provides an invaluable service to our organization.

I want to publicly acknowledge each of these individuals. They are all volunteers and chose to give time to their neighborhood and community. We thank them for their time, energy and commitment to public service. They and the other unsung Neighborhood Association Board members deserve huge thanks from all of us and the citizens of Bend for devoting their time to make Bend a better place to live. I should point out that I have heard from my counterparts that public apathy is a real problem reaching into all levels of public service to include Neighborhood Associations. Additionally, citizens are frustrated with a perceived lack of citizen representation of their interests, and perceived influence of special interest groups at the Government interface. Getting individuals to step up and participate in Neighborhood Association Board activity is becoming more and more difficult due to this combination of factors.

CWNA has accomplished a number of meaningful results during the past 12 months or so with the objective of making our neighborhood a better and safer place to live. I want to share some with you.

1. **CWNA sponsored a well attended General Membership Meeting last fall where Eric King, Jon Skidmore and Nick Arnis spoke on City Imperatives & Westside Interests.**
2. **We helped promote and then participated in the State-wide Noxious Weed Eradication Community Event.**
3. **CWNA members have served on the OSU-Cascades Campus Expansion Advisory Committee.**
4. **We solicited volunteers from our members to serve on several key OSU-Cascades task forces to include Livability, Transportation/Parking, Sustainability and Housing among others. Many await participation in the process going forward.**
5. **CWNA has weighed in on several land use applications ranging from several Code revisions/updates, the Athletic Club of Bend curb cut on Century Drive, the Mt Bachelor Village/Brooks Resources “Brown Book” application and the OSU-Cascades Site Plan Application, among others. For anyone who hasn’t involved themselves with land use, this**

is a tough area for Neighborhood Associations. One almost needs a law degree to be able to understand the Code and keep up with the applicant's attorneys. We just don't have the time and resources to adequately represent our members and I believe this is a shortcoming in the overall process.

6. We worked with the City to arrive at a plan to preserve the image of the iconic Cascades Lakes sign on Century Drive. People have been using it for overnight parking and to sell things such as cars, trucks, boats, trailers as well as commercial activities such as food sales. We are anxiously waiting for the signage to better manage this activity.

7. Lastly, I want to mention the Neighborhood Association involvement with the Traffic Safety Citizens Advisory Committee. The Neighborhood Associations are not represented on the TSAC; however we do attend the meetings and are told we make a positive contribution. TSAC deals with a lot of livability issues and I believe this Committee is overlooked in the big picture by the City by being underfunded and under recognized.

Looking forward, we are concerned with the collective impact on the Westside Transportation System from the Tetherow Destination Resort build out, the new middle school on Skyliners road, the new UUFCC church off of Skyliners, in addition to the OSU-Cascades 4-year University proposed campus expansion on Chandler Avenue and Century Drive.

Contrary to what you and we were told in these chambers, CWNA believes the infrastructures and thoroughfares feeding into and including Century Drive are going to be challenged sooner rather than later.

We need the City to take the lead in order to stay ahead of this significant development rather than lag. Century Drive and the 14th street corridor, Mt. Washington Drive and the associated roundabouts will have a huge impact on livability if needed infrastructure doesn't keep pace. Our concerns are focused on safety including roads, speed limits and enforcement, sidewalks, intersections and trails as they impact vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle use. Our chief concern is for our children because of the concentration of schools in our area.

We believe the planning efforts underway to include the Galveston Corridor, Century Drive and the 14th Street corridor, Mt Washington Drive, OSU-Cascades and the other new schools, all of the roundabouts and the UGB have not taken into account the combined full impact on traffic and livability.

Dealt with individually mitigation and remedy may make sense but taken together we believe we are looking at an explosive issue with no way out. Your recent experience in dealing with the recommendations on the Galveston corridor is a good example. For warned is for armed.

Thank you very much for your time and attention. I would be pleased to answer any questions.

Bob Brell

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