

Portland Community Vision Project Update *January 20, 2006*

Welcome to the Portland Community Vision Project

The Portland Community Vision Project is a City-supported, community initiative to create a vision for Portland for the next 30 years and beyond. It's a chance for people from all over Portland to share hopes and ideas for the future.

Why Vision? Portland needs a roadmap for the future. Without a long term vision, it is impossible for residents to evaluate if we are on the right course. Right now, there are more needs than resources. A community vision can help prioritize the kinds of actions needed to create the city we want.

We're not the only city to conduct a visioning process. All around the world and in our backyard, cities create visions. For instance, Hillsboro, OR completed a process and now has a *Vision and Action Plan* that the community is still committed to implement.
→See their site for information: www.hillsboro2020.org.

It's time to re-tap into Portlanders creative energy. Original ideas and solutions are flowing in every neighborhood, school, and social setting. Great ideas are advanced in our growing small businesses and community organizations all the time. Many of these ideas can help shape a better Portland, one that speaks to the needs and desires of its citizens. We need to hear from you!

Okay, so...how can I become involved? Right now, THE VISION COMMITTEE (the diverse group of community leaders entrusted with guiding the community process) is building their outreach plan. They'll need your ideas for places to reach out to all Portlanders.

YOU CAN STAY UPDATED BY VISITING THE PROJECT WEBSITE:

<http://www.portlandonline.com/mayor>

You'll have many opportunities to participate in forums, workshops, scenario selection, art projects, festivals, etc. We want to hear your ideas for involving people. Contact your local place of worship, club, community organization, friends, workplaces, and help start a conversation about Portland. Invite your friends to help sponsor an event and help make the voices of all Portlanders be heard. Phone **503.823.7838** for more information or email us at: plvision@ci.portland.or.us.

What's different about this outreach effort?

While we'll hold forums and workshops (stay tuned!), we'll employ a variety of not so traditional approaches, too. We'll go to where people are—in *your* local communities, at *your* workplaces, clubs, organizations, etc.

We'll try new and different ways of connecting with people.

We'll do our best to keep information clear and well-adaptable for different audiences. This will be *anything* but a cookie cutter approach to outreach.

What's going on right now?

- *Developing an outreach campaign for the Spring/Summer 2006:* THE VISION COMMITTEE volunteers are conducting research about trends in Portland, reviewing community grants (*see below*) and creating outreach opportunities in preparation for a community wide outreach effort.
- *Funding outreach:* A grant program is available for innovative outreach ideas. The Community Grants will support nonprofit and government community outreach programs to conduct information gathering and publicity for the Community Vision Project—informing and asking Portlanders about the future of Portland. **Grants are due Jan. 31! See website for information or call the number below!**
- *Talking to community members and organizations:* How do we engage hard to reach populations? Who needs to be engaged and how? In the last month, we've talked to more than 25 organizations. In general, the advice has been: "Go to where people are." "Be creative." "Listen." "Tell people what you hear."

What will happen with all the information collected?

1. THE VISION COMMITTEE (the diverse group of community leaders entrusted with managing the Vision Portland process) will review and distill the information coming from the community.
2. Information from the public outreach campaign coupled with wide and deep research will help inform choices. Portlanders will be asked again in the fall about different scenarios for Portland.
3. After the Vision Committee develops the vision (winter 2007), the public will be asked to comment once again. The goal is to have a vision adopted by City Council April 2007.

Take Action!

Share this update. Volunteer. Host an event. Be a speaker.
Contact Information: plvision@ci.portland.or.us. 503.823.7838.