



Voices!

News and Views from the District 4 Coalition

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Supports Neighborhood's Appeal

Council Rejects PGE's Forest Park Project

An appeal by the Forest Park Neighborhood Association (FPNA) asking the City to reject a proposed transmission upgrade project in Forest Park was tentatively approved by the City Council on April 17th.

In a unanimous vote, the Council directed City attorneys to prepare a measure for final consideration on May 7th. If approved then, the plan by Portland General Electric that would remove more than 370 trees in a five-acre area of the park would be stalled.

The utility, which says upgrades to its existing transmission corridor in the 5,200-acre urban forest preserve are necessary for grid stability and the region's increasing demand for electricity, can appeal the decision to the state's Land Use Board of Appeals.

Both the FPNA and Forest Park Conservancy filed the appeal after a City Hearings Officer had approved PGE's project despite opposition from the City's planning department and objections from neighborhood and environmental groups.

In their appeal, FPNA's spokesperson **Carol Chesarek** asserted that the provisions of the Forest Park Management Plan must prevail. The Management Plan, she said, "has simple goals: protecting the natural resources in the park and growing an ancient forest. It is impossible for this project to comply."

Said **Councilor Eric Zimmerman**, "I don't think I've seen something in this decision or the [hearings officer's] report, something that gives me the ability to say that the Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan should be overruled."



Multnomah's Moses Ross Passes Away at 58

Moses Ross, the longtime president of the Multnomah Neighborhood Association, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, April 23rd. He was 58.

An esteemed community leader, Ross helped build the neighborhood association into one of the city's most active, and helped the community develop a Good Neighbor Agreement for the Multnomah Safe Rest Village, a temporary shelter for homeless individuals.

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Portland NET: Preparing for the Eventualities

...or at least the possibilities after a Cascadia earthquake

By Gregory Zupan
Hayhurst NET Co-Leader

[This is the first of two parts for how to get involved and prepare yourselves for natural disasters.]

The neighborhoods within Portland's District 4 are looking for volunteers to help prepare for the unexpected. Proactively planned incident response can prevent a minor mishap becoming a tragedy.

For example, not having a first aid kit can lead to an unnecessary medical crisis. Being without water can lead to a life-threatening emergency. Oregon Emergency Management urges all residents to be ready for a potential multiday period without access to water, power, gas or community care.

The best way to help is to get involved with a Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET).

Consider This: Would you be able to provide aid to neighbors while keeping yourself and your family safe? A disaster-level quake and tsunami, such as the March 2011 event in Japan, [could hit the west coast](#).

Earth samplings show tsunamis have been impacting the northwest coast through history. The probability of a magnitude 8 or higher quake is as high as 75 percent in the next 50 years.

Though a tsunami will not hit Portland directly, the damage from this earthquake will be significant.

Is Portland Ready for It?

Not even close. Many buildings need retrofitting and will likely collapse. When the Cascadia strikes, it could last 9 minutes at a 9.0 magnitude. A quake like this is expected to have catastrophic results.

But that's not the only disaster that can happen. Other natural events such as ice storms, windstorms,

be prepared for disasters, even for lesser emergencies such as citywide water shutoffs and power

Scientists have calculated that a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake occurs on average every 270 years. The last one occurred 308 years ago.

landslides, wildfires and even tornados can lead to heavy damage, and displacement of families.

How can community-based emergency management help mitigate the impact of a disaster?

Act Now!

Portlanders should act now to

grid outages (which are becoming regular events every year).

Here are things you can do now:

- Build an emergency kit
- Make a family plan to become better prepared for any type of disaster
- Have a meeting with family to review your contact list
- Join a NET team in your neighborhood

There are 52 NET teams throughout the city, of which 29 are in the District 4 area. [Check here](#) to find out if one serves your neighborhood.

Further information is also available by phone at 1-800-BE-READY or visit <https://redcross.org/prepare>. American Red Cross even provides emergency supply kits, for all family sizes, that can make preparation easy.

[Part 2 discusses NET training and how you can get emergency alerts and help others in your neighborhood – or on your block.]



Hayhurst NET at a community event at Pendleton Park in SW Portland. Left to right: Patricia Fryer, Gregory Zupan and Lynn Levy.

Photo: Marita Ingalsbe

Citywide Deployment Exercise

On Saturday, May 31st, 1pm-4 pm, the Spring 2025 Tornados Citywide Deployment Exercise will be testing the Southwest Combined Team community's wherewithal and skills.

A NET volunteer functional drill will be challenging us with applied learning in aiding for the greater good of our Portland community.

If you are interested in learning more -- or would like to observe -- please visit [this website](#) and email firstresponders@hayhurstnet.com for further clarification.