

# SUNNYSIDE

## *Neighborhood News*

### January 2021

SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SunnysidePortland.org

board@sunnysideportland.org

#### December SNA Notes and January Plans

*By Dave Boush, SNA President*

The December SNA General Meeting began with a discussion of the impending end to the moratorium on rental evictions at the end of the year. For more information, please see the related article by Jessie Maran. The SNA would like to help those affected and would love input from neighbors on possible action(s). The meeting then redirected to the Buckman NA meeting featuring Marc Jolin, Director of the Joint Office on Homelessness. His office contracts with over 40 non-profit organizations to help alleviate homelessness and its effects. Like SNA, Marc expressed concern over the evictions of renters that is likely to occur over the coming months. Some of his other main points were:

- Housing that is not subsidized is financially out of reach to lower income residents. The market alone cannot solve the housing shortage.
- Over the last 10 months, the Covid crisis has led to a stand-down in moving encampments, a 50 percent reduction in residents in each shelter, and efforts to isolate people with Covid in motels. 82 Covid cases have been reported among the homeless.
- 2017-19 saw an increase of over 30 percent in chronically homeless in our area.
- The Shelter to Housing Continuum (S2HC) proposed code changes address the need for a wider range of shelter options. Marc supports the proposal. For more about S2HC, visit [www.portland.gov/bps/s2hc/about-shelter-housing-continuum-project](http://www.portland.gov/bps/s2hc/about-shelter-housing-continuum-project)

Those interested in learning more are encouraged to visit [www.ahomeforeveryone.net](http://www.ahomeforeveryone.net).

Neighbors familiar with the housing issues in Portland may not have learned many new facts. However, Marc expressed unmistakable optimism about the opportunities presented by increased resources from Metro Measure 26-210. Also on display was a nuanced approach to the many affected groups including domestic violence survivors and the immigrant refugee community, not always top of mind.

Hope to see you at the January SNA General Meeting on January 14th. Stay safe. Happy New Year.

#### Emergency Preparedness and the SNA Board

*By Jan S Molinaro, Co-Chair, Sunnyside Prepared!*

January's SNA General Meeting will focus on preparedness. Part of this meeting will be dedicated to SNA Board members' sharing their preparedness efforts. I will be moderating this meeting and I will ask Board members to share where they are on the preparedness continuum. Members of the Sunnyside NET (Neighborhood Emergency Team) will attend. If time allows, other Sunnyside residents may share their preparedness efforts. I hope that you will join us.

#### Upcoming Meetings

*Meetings are being held virtually. Check [sunnysideportland.org](http://sunnysideportland.org) one week in advance for a Zoom link and agenda.*

##### **SNA General and Board Meeting**

Second Thursday of the month  
7pm -9pm (Jan. 14th, Feb. 11th)

##### **Safety & Livability Committee**

First & Third Tuesday of the month  
6:30pm - 7:30pm (Jan. 7th, Jan. 21st)

#### SNA Community Safety & Livability Update

*By Ash Hester, SNA Board Member*

The members of the SNA Community Safety & Livability (CS&L) committee would like to extend our gratitude for the large turnout at the December 15th meeting. It's very important to hear the concerns and needs of our community so that the committee can address and establish solutions to make the Sunnyside neighborhood safe and welcoming for all. A big thank you to Raven Drake, Street Roots Ambassador Program Manager, who shared valuable insights with us on how to do outreach and communicate with our growing population of houseless neighbors. In addition to meeting Raven at the December meeting, committee members attended an outreach training on December 26th guided by Raven and her team. We also want to thank both State Representative Rob Nosse for attending our meeting and Street Roots for the outreach training that helped us to learn more about how to navigate this growing concern.

In order to manage a safe environment for all housed and unhoused residents of Sunnyside it is our belief that having a strong line of communication is essential. The CS&L committee aims to be the supportive bridge that aligns common values for an inclusive and equitable neighborhood.

We, as a community, have learned time-and-time again that the sweep process does not provide a lasting solution to either our housed or houseless community. The CS&L committee is looking to find available land to facilitate campers in a designated area to help avoid future sweeps. In the meantime, we are taking immediate action to coordinate with Metro for regular trash pick-ups and with HUCIRP for sanitation stations. We will continue to host a gear drive through the winter months to help those in need of warmth, shelter, and basic survival needs.

As an alternative to calling 911 or the police, there is a great web resource that lists immediate assistance for emergency and crisis services that are. The organizations listed at <https://dontcallthepolice.com/portland/work-in-housing-mental-health-domestic-violence-sexual-assault-youth-elders-lgbt-substance-abuse-and-crime>.

Please reach out to the SNA CS&L committee with any concerns or comments and we will happily provide you with the proper information and assistance.

### Volunteer & Donate

Many opportunities for one-time and on-going volunteering are available. We are also collecting donations—updates for how and what to donate are listed on the Sunnyside website. Please check <https://sunnysideportland.org/> or email [board@sunnysideportland.org](mailto:board@sunnysideportland.org) for more information and to get involved.

### Sunnyside Safety Note

As the rain pours and the weather turns colder, thoughts turn from clearing leaves to the possibility of ice and snow. When icy conditions prevail, please keep sidewalks and steps clear so that it's safe for all to walk around. These actions are ones over which we all have control and which continue to make the Sunnyside neighborhood liveable for all of us. Thanks so much!

## Eviction Moratorium Deadlines Extended

*By Jessie Maran, LUTC Chairperson*

As the economic fallout of the Covid crisis continues, many people are increasingly challenged to pay housing costs. I set out to write a summary of the various eviction moratoria in effect in Sunnyside Neighborhood, but found the landscape changing rapidly in the last few weeks of 2020. Since this overview will not be up-to-date by the time this newsletter lands in your hands, additional research is recommended.

If you are unable to pay your rent, please be sure to do additional research. Some resources to start with include HomeForward ([www.homeforward.org](http://www.homeforward.org)), the Community Alliance of Tenants ([www.oregoncat.org](http://www.oregoncat.org)), and [www.211info.org](http://www.211info.org).

### Oregon Statewide Moratorium

The Oregon statewide eviction moratorium originally passed on June 26, 2020 ensured that Oregon renters can't be evicted for non-payment and protects renters from no-cause evictions. Under the state's order, back rent appears to be due on the day after the moratorium expires; however, some portions of back rent may be due later.

During a special session in late December, the Oregon legislature extended the statewide moratorium through July 1, 2021. This action included \$200 million in funding for a rental assistance fund. Landlords can apply for repayment of unpaid back-rent on the condition of forgiving 20% of the debt. Other modifications to the requirements and coverage of the original moratorium may also have been included.

### Multnomah County Moratorium

The Multnomah County eviction moratorium aligns with the state moratorium but adds a six-month repayment grace period. During this grace period, renters must pay rent as it comes due and also pay all back rent from the moratorium period. The grace period begins when either the county or the state moratorium expire, whichever is last.

In mid-December, OPB reported that the Multnomah County moratorium expiration date was extended from January 8, 2021 to July 2, 2021.

### Other Moratoria

- The CDC's federal eviction moratorium does not apply to Sunnyside Neighborhood residents because the State of Oregon and Multnomah County have stronger ordinances in place.
- The City of Portland has applied the County's moratorium to cover areas of Portland that are not within the County boundary.

## Friends of Trees Planting Announcement

*By Rich Schwartz, Friends of Trees Sunnyside Neighborhood Coordinator*

Friends of Trees is once again planning a neighborhood tree planting event in Sunnyside. On January 30, 2021, we will join with our neighbors in the Kerns, North Tabor and Laurelhurst neighborhoods to plant street and yard trees. Our goal is to improve and diversify our urban canopy.

Trees provide countless benefits to neighborhoods. They improve livability by reducing city noise and glare and slowing traffic. They provide habitat for birds and other wildlife. The value of trees increases with each passing year; houses on tree lined streets command higher prices than those in neighborhoods without trees.

If you have been thinking of adding a tree to your parking strip or yard, this is a great opportunity. You can sign up for a tree at [friendsoftrees.org](http://friendsoftrees.org) or by calling 503-595-0212. The \$35 fee includes an 8 - 12' tree, street tree inspection (ensuring right tree, right place), hole digging, planting, stakes, follow-up monitoring and information on tree care. The deadline to sign up is January 4, 2021 and you need to order your tree by January 18, 2021.

Typically our planting is a fun community activity – an opportunity to meet your neighbors, and get outside. This year it will be different. We won't be gathering to share breakfast before or lunch afterwards. Instead, your tree will be planted by small groups of employees, interns, and volunteers. The planting will take place over the course of a week beginning January 30, 2021. You will be alerted in advance when your tree will be planted, and you can expect all planters to be wearing masks and practicing physical distancing.

If you have questions or need any assistance please contact Rich Schwartz, FoT neighborhood coordinator at [Sunnyside@plantitportland.org](mailto:Sunnyside@plantitportland.org).

## Ezones Map Correction Project

*By Mindy Brooks, City Planner, City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability*

Natural resources like streams, wetlands, plants, trees, and flood areas help move water off private property, store water during flood events, hold hillsides in place, cool the air and provide habitat for wildlife. Protecting these natural resources protects houses, businesses and roads by reducing the risk of flooding and landslides. On some properties, natural resource protections could limit or restrict where new houses or structures may be built. To find out more about how the City is updating these rules and to see if your property is affected, visit <https://www.portland.gov/bps/ezones>.

City staff will brief the Planning and Sustainability Commission about the project on January 26, 2021. You can watch the briefing on YouTube and learn more about the PSC briefing. To talk directly with staff, email us at [ezone@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:ezone@portlandoregon.gov) or call 503-823-4225. Interpretation is available.



Percy, Sunnyside Cat



Jay and Jenny

## Getting to Know Your Neighbors: Jay Parasco and Jenny Lee

*By Hannah Wallace, SNA Member At Large*

I met Jay Parasco and Jenny Lee through Percy, a friendly black and white tabby who wandered past my window a few weeks ago. This sweet collarless cat was clearly domesticated—he even tried to enter our house—so I walked from neighbor to neighbor to ask if anyone knew who Percy belonged to. (Percy helpfully followed me up each neighbor's steps to each doorway!) SNA board member Ash Hester agreed to watch Percy while I ran a quick errand, and that's when she ran into Jay and Jenny, cat lovers who were out on a masked walk. They agreed to take Percy to their house until the owner could be found. They were able to track down Percy's owner, Ellie Murphy, on Nextdoor.com; within the hour both cat and owner were re-united.

It turns out that Jay and Jenny both have extensive experience working on houseless issues. Jay, who is a communications and political strategist at Union SEIU Local 503, is on the Board of Street Roots. In Honolulu, where the couple previously lived, he was the Homeless Initiatives Coordinator for the city. Jenny, Deputy Director of the Coalition of Communities of Color, is a member of the oversight committee for Metro Measure 26-210, the supportive housing services measure that goes into effect this month. (In Hawaii and her first few years back in Portland, she worked on housing advocacy issues.)

### How long have you lived in Sunnyside?

**Jenny:** I moved back here in 2016.

**Jay:** I followed her here in 2017—I had to finish up law school.

### So, Jenny are you from Oregon?

**Jenny:** Yeah. My family moved to Beaverton when I was in middle school.

### Do you guys rent or own?

**Jenny:** Right now we're renting. But hopefully, we're gonna try to purchase soon.

### What do you love about Sunnyside?

**Jenny:** When I came home to visit my family, this is the neighborhood I would hang out in. I love Paradox and Sweet Hereafter, and Noun has been a long-time favorite store. I'd go to Hoda's when I was in high school! In a lot of ways, Hawthorne/Sunnyside is the neighborhood that has changed the least in Portland. There are still second-hand stores, knife-sharpening shops and whatnot. I've always really

liked that. Also, the walkability and transit access.

**Jay:** It's extremely bike-friendly here. When Jenny was considering moving to Sunnyside, I came for a visit and walked a radius around the house to get a feel for the neighborhood and see if it was a place I would like to live. I'd make it to 48th and Hawthorne and circle back. I was just blown away by the neighborhood, the character, the charm. It's also a very cat-rich neighborhood. When you get closer to the park it's more dog-dense, but Belmont-to-Hawthorne—that's prime cat territory.

### What's one thing you would like to see change about Sunnyside?

**Jenny:** More affordable homes. Sunnyside has great density—you see a lot of one-story houses getting lifted and ADUs. So that's really great. But I would love to see more inclusive housing opportunities in the neighborhood.

**Jay:** I would like to see additional support for our neighbors who are camping – connecting to housing, having access to hygiene, porta-potties, helping people keep their living areas clean.

### How can we get these services in place for our houseless neighbors?

**Jay:** The City can provide porta-potties—there's one right across the street from our house at the Belmont Inn. Metro has a trash pick-up program. It's been going on for two years. There's an entire suite of services we can tap into.

### Jenny, as a member of the oversight committee for Measure 26-210, can you tell us when those funds may become available?

**Jenny:** The funds come via an income tax on high earners and large businesses. The amount will not be substantial next year because the tax is effective in 2021 and next year's tax returns will be due in April 2022. We have to have accountability to the people we are meant to serve. We need to ask houseless people, "What would success look like to you? What are your goals?" The solutions have to be centered around the people.

### So, do you guys have a cat?

**Jenny:** We're working on it. We're just waiting for the right one.

## Quality of Life - Personal Training

By Kelly Keaton, NSPA Personal Trainer, NESTA Fitness Nutrition Coach

Owning my own personal training business before Covid meant I could train anywhere – client's homes and private gyms. Training outside was a fun treat for good weather, and online training was something I had never tried before. In March, my business came to a screeching halt and I HATED taping videos of myself to send to clients! Maintaining client's progress with limited strength training equipment outdoors was another huge challenge, but I knew I could still contribute to my community's well being. I focused on creating a weather-friendly outdoor gym and taught myself the wonders of Zoom live training.

Through many trials and errors and reminding myself that EVERYONE has been dealing with their own struggles through this, I learned that we can all adapt to make our community a happier, healthier place. I want to help anyone who desires a healthier, stronger body to not only reach their goals but change their life for the better. Reach out to Kelly for inquiries at [qualityoflifetraining@gmail.com](mailto:qualityoflifetraining@gmail.com)



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The Sunnyside Neighborhood News is published monthly by the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association.

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Any opinions expressed, unless specified, are not necessarily those of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association or its board.  
**Sunnyside residents are welcome to submit articles for consideration that concern neighborhood issues, by emailing [newsletter@sunnysideportland.org](mailto:newsletter@sunnysideportland.org).**  
Many wonderful volunteer Sunnyside residents distribute the Neighborhood News.

## Sunnyside Neighborhood 'Gap Map'

Live near any of the blocks marked in black below? We need your help!  
Contact [dianadeumling@gmail.com](mailto:dianadeumling@gmail.com) to volunteer for our delivery service.

Delivery help  
needed here

