

SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Year in Review

2025 – 2026

Annual Meeting | May 2026



Repainting the Sunnyside Piazza

Neighbors came together in August to celebrate and beautify our community by repainting of beloved Sunnyside Piazza.

Special thanks to the volunteers, local businesses and especially, board member, Tim Quayle, who helped make this happen.

We are targeting spring 2027 for the next refresh.

Helping Our Neighbors

Sunnyside Shower Project

Providing free, dignified showers and hygiene supplies to houseless neighbors weekly at our community center. Over 500 showers provided this year.

Winter Gear Drive

Neighbors donated coats, blankets, scarves, and warm clothing. Hundreds of items distributed to families and individuals in need across SE Portland.





Connecting with City Officials

- **Road & Pedestrian Safety**

Advocated for new crosswalks, speed bumps, and better lighting on SE Belmont and Hawthorne corridors.

- **Emergency Preparedness**

We are attempting to revive the Sunnyside NET Team! If you are interested in being a leader in keeping your neighborhood safe, visit <https://www.portland.gov/pbem/neighborhood-emergency-teams>

- **Land Use & Development**

Ensured community voices were heard in planning meetings on local development projects.





Bringing You the News

● Volunteer-Powered Delivery

With the help of over 50 volunteers, Sunnyside is one of only 2 neighborhoods in SE Portland to deliver a printed copy to nearly every household every month of the year!

● Fundraising Success

Thank you to all who contributed during our fundraising campaign. The over \$2000 we raised, along with our business sponsors, will ensure the continued production and distribution of this important resource!

● Get Involved

We're always working on new features and columns. Have an idea or want to volunteer? Send a note to newsletter@sunnysideportland.org.

SUNNYSIDE Neighborhood News May 2026

SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
SunnysidePortland.org board@sunnysideportland.org

News from the President

By Chris Waldmann, SNA President

Happy May, Sunnyside! I hope you are enjoying the freshness of spring. The first couple of rounds of flowers may be gone, but there are so many more to come. (Just don't tell my allergies that!)

In April the Board met and discussed a wide range of issues for the organization and the neighborhood, from safety at Sunnyside Environmental School (SES) pickups and dropoffs, to partnering with a new neighborhood nonprofit, to renaming a prominent Sunnyside street.

We heard from the founder of the new Friends of Sunnyside Community Center nonprofit, which was founded by the tenants of the Methodist Church on Yamhill to help manage the building and advocate for repairs with the United Methodist Oregon-Idaho Conference. As you may know, this is where we have hosted the Sunside Shower Project (SSP) since 2021. It has provided us with space to grow the SSP and become an essential service for our houseless neighbors. It also contains several other tenants hosting activities like youth basketball, training and support for documentarians, and addiction support. It truly has become more than a church and has earned the name Community Center. The SNA Board agreed to sign on as a member of this essential neighborhood asset.

We learned from our SES PTSA liaison about dangerous, too-fast driving that's been occurring during drop-off and pickup times. The school is trying to ramp up its volunteer Crossing Guard program to help mitigate the issue. There will be more information as we head towards the 2026-27 school year, but if you are

interested you can contact the PTSA at sesptsa.org/contact-us. Please, drive safely out there! We're all in a hurry, but everyone is someone's child and endangering their safety is not worth your saved minute or two.

Finally, we discussed the situation surrounding the potential renaming of Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard. As you have probably heard recently, Mr. Chavez has been credibly accused of multiple incidents of sexual assault, harassment and child sexual abuse during his lifetime. 39th Ave. was renamed a decade and a half ago to honor the man who had spearheaded the great work of the farmworkers of America.

However, we do not now believe, given the recent revelations, that his name should appear on one of our neighborhood's major thoroughfares. Portland government officials have said that the name should be changed, but we have seen little of the urgency that we have seen in other communities in the rest of the country. The SNA is calling on PBOT and the City Council to expedite the renaming rather than let it get caught up in the usual Portland bureaucratic maze. We are not advocating for a specific name, only that this one cannot stand.

May is the kickoff of election season in Oregon with the May primaries completing on the 19th. We'll be voting for nominees for governor, state representatives, senators, Metro Council, and ballot initiatives. But, did you know that it is also election season for the Sunnyside NA? We'll be hosting our annual meeting at 7 p.m. at SE Uplift (3534 SE Uplift) and on Zoom to elect five members of the Board to two year terms. Serving on the SNA Board has been so rewarding, knowing that we are donating our time to serve the community and its interests while getting to know a great

Upcoming Meetings

Location details and agendas are on SunnysidePortland.org.

May
May 13th: Annual Meeting, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Board Meeting, 8:30-9:00 p.m.
May 20th: Land Use Transportation Committee, 7:00 p.m.

June
June 10th: Board Elections, 7:00-8:30p.m.
June 17th: Land Use Transportation Committee, 7:00 p.m.

group of neighbors! If you are interested in joining and would like to learn more, please contact me at cjwaldmann@gmail.com. I'd love to hear from you and tell you all about it! Before elections, the Board will be voting on a few technical amendments to our bylaws, one of which will allow you to vote for your Board even if you are attending remotely via Zoom. All residents and business owners in Sunnyside are eligible to vote and nominations will be accepted at the meeting. You do not have to be present in order to be nominated or elected.

That's it for now. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Annual Meeting as we wrap up this Board's term. It's been a great year and I can't wait to keep working for this place I love!

Looking Ahead

Goals & priorities for the year ahead

Expand Community Events

Sunnyside Garage Sale, Neighborhood Potluck, next round on the Piazza.

Public Advocacy

Continue pushing for pedestrian safety improvements and help advocate to keep Sunnyside a place where all can live, work and play.

Save Sunnyside Community Center

Work with the tenants of the former Methodist Church to preserve it as a community space and incubator for nonprofit organizations.

Community Communications

Rebuild our website and create a thriving online community for our neighborhood.

2026 Bylaw Amendments

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Meeting Schedule Flexibility

Proposed bylaw amendment — to be voted on today

Current Language

The board shall endeavor to meet at least 6 times per year on the second Thursday of the month and up to 6 times per year at a place, date and time determined by the Board to conduct the business of the association.

Proposed Language

Board meets on “a consistent day of the month” The board shall endeavor to meet at least 6 times per year on a consistent day of the month and up to 6 times per year at a place, date and time determined by the Board to conduct the business of the association. The specific day of the month shall be determined by a majority vote of the board at the first board meeting after the annual election. If a change is proposed but fails, the day and time of the month used in the previous term shall continue for the new term..

Remote Voting & Elections

Proposed bylaw amendment — to be voted on today

Current Language

A. Voting at annual elections is by secret paper ballot only.

Proposed Language

A. Voting at the annual election shall be by secret paper ballot and by a process determined by the board in consultation with ONI staff of SE Uplift to allow for remote voting via Zoom or other such technical tool approved for this use by SE Uplift.

E. In the event that there are an equal number or fewer nominees than the seats open for election, voting may be done by voice acclamation for the slate of nominees.

Installation of Officers

Proposed bylaw amendment — to be voted on today

Current Language

Newly elected Board members shall meet at the June Board meeting and, by majority vote elect Officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The remaining board members shall be members at-large.

Proposed Language

Newly elected Board members shall meet at the June Board meeting and, by majority vote elect Officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The remaining board members shall be members at-large. Until such time as the officers are elected, the president during the previous term shall remain as acting president. If the former president is no longer serving on the board, the duty to act as acting president will fall to the Vice-President, Secretary and then Treasurer of the previous term. If no officers remain on the board, the duties of acting president will fall to the longest serving member of the board.

Termination for Non-Attendance

Proposed bylaw amendment — to be voted on today

Current Language

Board members failing to attend three consecutive board meetings shall be automatically deemed to have resigned from the board. The resignation may be acknowledged by majority vote of the remaining board.

Proposed Language

Board members failing to attend three consecutive board meetings without prior notice and approval from the board president shall be automatically deemed to have resigned from the board. The resignation may be acknowledged by majority vote of the remaining board.

2026 Board Elections

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Nominations

Nominees Must Be:

- A resident, property owner, or designee of a business or nonprofit in Sunnyside. Sunnyside is defined as from the east side of 28th to the west side of 49th and from the south side of Stark to the north side of Hawthorne.
- At least 18 years old.

Members may nominate themselves or be nominated by others.

Nominees do not need to be present in order to be on the ballot.

Voting

- 5 seats are on the ballot.
- Maximum of 5 names may be written on a ballot.
- Names will be available on the shared screen.
- Only official nominees may be voted for. Votes for write-in candidates will not be counted.
- Only members of the Sunnyside NA may vote.
- If you require assistance in voting, a board member not up for election or our SE Uplift liaison will assist.
- Terms for the newly elected will begin June 1, 2026.

Thank You!

Together we make Sunnyside a better place to live.

sunnysideportland.org

Facebook: Sunnyside Neighborhood Association

Instagram: @sunnysidepdxna

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association | Portland, Oregon