



Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood



NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN

City of

VANCOUVER

WASHINGTON

June, 2011

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Introduction

The purpose of a neighborhood action plan is to identify issues that are of concern to the residents of the neighborhood, and to devise strategies for addressing these concerns. In conjunction with broader policies and implementation measures contained within the City's comprehensive plan, the neighborhood action planning process is intended to protect and enhance the livability within specific neighborhoods, as well as to help fulfill the overall community vision and to create a more livable city. More specifically, neighborhood action plans are intended to:

- Educate both city government and neighborhood residents about each other's concerns and visions for the future.
- Promote collaboration between the city and the neighborhood in order to achieve mutual goals and a shared sense of responsibility.
- Create a "sense of place" within the community by identifying and developing the assets within each neighborhood.
- Initiate change, rather than simply reacting to it, by addressing specific issues and opportunities.
- Achieve sensible and coordinated project and program planning within each neighborhood and between all the city neighborhoods.
- Strengthen neighborhoods.

Relationship to the Comprehensive Plan

In general, a comprehensive plan is intended to provide broad policy direction, which is implemented through more specific development regulations and capital expenditure programs. Comprehensive plans do not, however, typically address the more immediate needs and concerns of individual neighborhoods. This is the purpose of a sub-area or neighborhood plan.

The City's Comprehensive Plan, entitled *Vancouver Comprehensive Plan 2003-2023* was adopted in May 2004. One of the Comprehensive Plan's specific goals is to: *"Maintain and facilitate development of stable, multi-use neighborhoods that contain a compatible mix of housing, jobs, stores, and open and public spaces in well planned, safe pedestrian environment."* (CD-6)

The purpose of the Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood Action Plan is to integrate neighborhood needs into the City's budget process, Six-Year Street Improvement Program, Neighborhood Traffic Control Program, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, and other planning and funding programs. The general policy statements included in the Action Plan may also be used by the City Council to guide future decisions involving development proposals and plan amendments affecting the neighborhood.

The Neighborhood Action Planning Process

The Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood Association with assistance from the Office of Neighborhoods has developed this plan. The actual preparation of this plan is being coordinated by the Neighborhood Action Planning Committee, whose members were appointed by the Neighborhood Association to represent the interests of the neighborhood as a whole.

A survey was taken and a draft version of this Action Plan has made available to each household in 2009 for review and comment by all residents of the neighborhood. After considering and reconciling comments from the residents, the plan has been endorsed by the Neighborhood Association according to their specific by-laws. After neighborhood approval the NAP will be forwarded to City Council for consideration and acceptance by resolution.

It is intended that city agencies will utilize the action plans as input in developing more specific work programs and helping to establish citywide funding priorities. It is recognized that many of the recommendations contained in the action plans are conceptual only and may need to be analyzed in greater detail, both individually and in relationship to other recommendations. It should also be emphasized that financial resources may not exist for implementing all of the recommendations identified in the plan.

Overview of the Plan

This Plan contains four components. The NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE contains a general description of the current conditions within the neighborhood. The VISION STATEMENT describes the neighborhood's sense of identity and vision for its future. The NEIGHBORHOOD OBJECTIVES identifies issues that are of concern to the residents of the neighborhood. The NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION STEPS includes specific potential strategies for accomplishing the identified objectives. Each Action Step is prioritized and identifies the responsible parties for implementing those strategies.

Funding and Financial Resources

Having the Neighborhood Action Plan does not guarantee the funding. The Vancouver City Council has in the past appropriated grant funding as resources allow to help implement action steps. In addition, your neighborhood may be eligible for many private, federal and state funding programs. A list of funding options will be formulated by the board and committee members.

Neighborhood Profile

The Old Evergreen Highway neighborhood is located on either side of the Old Evergreen Highway, from Lieser Road to just east of the I-205 bridge.

The Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood is located east of downtown Vancouver. In 1792, British explorer Lt. William Broughton named a point on the north shore of the Columbia River in honor of his commander. Fourteen years later Meriwether Lewis, co-leader of the Corps of Discovery, declared the site as "the only desired situation for settlement west of the Rocky Mountains."

But it wasn't until Dr. John McLoughlin established the Northwest headquarters of the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Vancouver in 1825 that the region became a hub for both commerce and culture.

The Chinook and scores of other native tribes fished, hunted and traded in the territory thousands of years before white settlers arrived. Their numbers dwindled by the mid-19th century when fur trappers and farmers, missionaries and merchants settled on the land.

These early pioneers came from countries throughout the world and Clark County came alive with immigrants speaking Chinese, French, Russian, Hawaiian and other languages. They established farms, built businesses, founded churches and developed schools. They platted towns that serve as the core of Clark County today.

The buildings they constructed remain as evidence of their lives. Many of these buildings and homes are on the Old Evergreen highway.

A few years ago it was annexed to the City of Vancouver. The boundaries are 73rd Avenue on the West (not to include members of the Riverview Neighborhood Association), Hwy 14 on the North, Columbia River on the South, and Riverwood Lane/Silver Springs on the East.

The Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood is located on a sloping terrain, which is heavily wooded in some areas with two hundred year old Douglas fir and many natural springs.

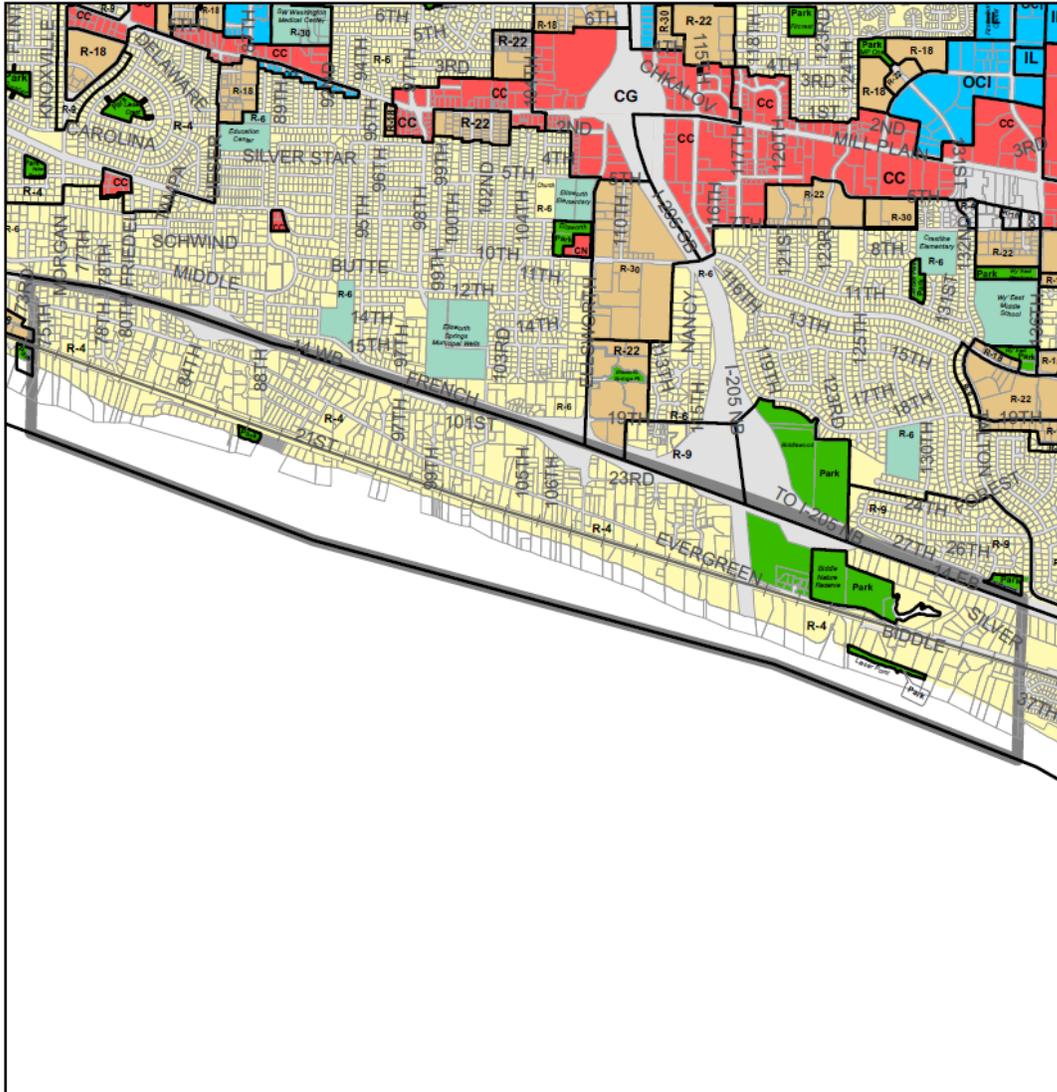
The following data is from the 2000 Clark County Census. The census tract of the area approximates the outline of the neighborhood association within a few blocks. It covers a large thin area, approximately 3.4 miles long and .5 miles wide, with a population of approximately 5,685. According to the census, the neighborhood is an ethnically diverse population of all ages, therefore creating a vital and growing neighborhood. There are approximately 2,274 homes listed on the 2000 census.

Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood is snuggled down in a very wooded and quiet place. Access into the neighborhood is limited, available from only a number of streets. 164th, Ellsworth, and Lieser as well as east and west travelers from Vancouver and Camas.

Traffic has become an issue within the neighborhood because of the traffic generated on Highway 14. Morning and evening commuters use Evergreen Highway for a shortcut from the backups on Highway 14.

The future challenge is how to protect this area's residential character and prevent over developments outside the normal zoning.

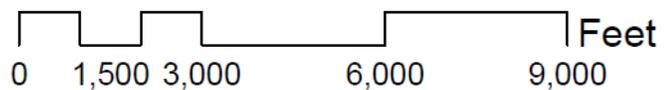
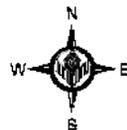
Neighborhood Zoning/Comp Map



Legend

-  Zoning Boundary
-  Urban Lower Density Residential
-  Urban Higher Density Residential
-  Commercial & Mixed Use
-  Industrial
-  Public Facility
-  Open Space

Old Evergreen Hwy



Vision Statement

We, the residents of the Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood Association appreciate our neighborhood for its quietness, well-tended historic and new homes, along with its old charm and character. This oldest thoroughfare dating back to the 1800's, and first paved road of Clark County, the atmosphere and its naturally serene surroundings of 200 year old Evergreen trees and breathtaking views of the mighty Columbia River, the Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood will continue to attract and maintain generations of families.

With support, we envision ample opportunities for walking and biking through a safe pedestrian facility. We envision a safe, low-density historic neighborhood that serves many age groups and activity interests.

We value our parks, natural springs and the historic nature of our area, with the vision of increasing their accessibility and usefulness to our neighborhood and interest in its natural resources for generations to enjoy.

Objectives and Action Steps

The following recommended action items identified as having a "high" priority are considered by the Neighborhood Association to be most important. "Medium" priority action steps are somewhat less important. "Low" priority action steps are considered least important.

Priority has been assigned by the Neighborhood Association for each action step without regard for the time frame within which the recommendation can realistically be accomplished (short-range, long-range) and without concern for whether funding sources can be practically identified. Accordingly, it is possible that a "High" priority item may not be realized for many years. In contrast, some "Low" priority items could be potentially accomplished in a relatively short amount of time without significant capital expense.

Listed below are abbreviations for the various responsible parties used throughout the document:

ABBREVIATIONS:

BC	Business Community
CITY	All Responsible City Departments
CMS	Community Mediation Services
CP	Community Planning
CPU	Clark Public Utilities
CTRAN	CTRAN
DRS	Development Review Services
DVP	Developers
EHTI	Evergreen Highway Trail Initiative
EOEHNA	East Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood Association
OEHNA	Old Evergreen Highway Neighborhood Association
OTH	Other organizations
OWN	Neighborhood Property Owners
PMG	Property Management Groups
PS	Postal Services
VCC	Vancouver Code Compliance
V-CPRD	Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department
VFD	Vancouver Fire Department
VON	Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods
VPD	Vancouver Police Department
VPW	Vancouver Public Works
VSWS	Vancouver Solid Waste Services
VUF	Vancouver Urban Forestry

Objective #1

Encourage pedestrian-friendly access throughout our neighborhood with a safe trail extension from Riverside Dr. to Ellsworth to join the existing trail facility while keeping the authentic historic nature of our area.

Action Steps

	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore funding resources to complete the trail extension.	High	EHTI, OEHNA, EOEHNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Re-visit plan review and options.	High	EHTI, OEHNA, EOEHNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Re-visit costs	High	CITY, EHTI, OEHNA, EOEHNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet with city leaders	Medium	EHTI, OEHNA, EOEHNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obtain funding resources to complete the trail.	High	V-CPRD, CITY, EHTI, OEHNA, EOEHNA, OTH
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commence trail by Sept. 2012	High	DVP
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree on a comprehensive plan to keep the historic nature of the highway intact by identifying historical landmarks and features of significance.	High	CITY, EHTI, OEHNA, EOEHNA