



I-205 Multi-Use Path Greening Project

Linda Robinson East Portland Action Plan Member

Project Description

A three-year community-wide effort among ODOT, Friends of Trees and Metro to green the I-205 Multi-Use Path with thousands of native trees and shrubs.

Benefits

- Improved neighborhood livability
- Enhanced experience for path users
- Increased wildlife habitat
- Decreased stormwater runoff
- Increased environmental equity among communities

Project Funding

- \$410,000 from the Metro Natural Areas Bond Measure's Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grant Program
- \$80,000 from East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District
- Generous support from:
 - J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co.
 - IKEA
 - Cantel Sweeping
 - Collier Arbor Care
 - HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
 - Portland General Electric
 - Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

An east Portland resident for over 35 years, Linda Robinson is very familiar with the I-205 Multi-Use Path, which runs through eleven Portland neighborhoods. On March 20, Linda spent the morning making a long-term investment in this community treasure by planting trees along the path.

The planting was part of a three-year project among Friends of Trees, ODOT and Metro to green the path with thousands of native trees and shrubs.

"This project is wonderful," Linda said. "For years the neighborhood association has talked about how bare the I-205 Multi-Use Path is, and adding trees gives you something interesting to look at."

Born and raised in Oregon 66 years ago, Linda was previously the Director of Naturescaping for Clean Rivers, known today as a program of the East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District. Now retired, she spends her time actively engaged in the community.

Linda serves as the Parks Chair of the Hazelwood Neighborhood Association, is part of the Citywide Parks Team, is active with Friends of Gateway Green, and is a member of the Portland Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, East Portland Action Plan and the Columbia Slough Watershed Council.

"I volunteer full time. I figure I have a window of time to give back to the community until my mind and body go out," Linda explained enthusiastically.



Having lived in east Portland for over 35 years, Linda Robinson was happy to contribute to the beautification of the I-205 Multi-Use Path by planting trees in Montavilla on March 20.

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"East Portland Action Plan brought me out today. I live across the freeway from this area and it's a nice day," Linda said when asked what inspired her to join in the planting.

Robinson also commented that she sees this area [along the path] as a habitat corridor for birds, explaining that planting trees will allow them to move from larger greenspaces at Johnson Creek and the Columbia Slough and in between.

In addition to providing habitat for wildlife and songbirds, the plantings will enhance the path for bordering neighborhoods and everyone who uses it, reduce air pollution, and minimize stormwater runoff into streams and rivers.

"Planting trees today provides some good benefit, but the benefit will really come in the future as the trees grow and provide shade, beauty and enhance habitat quality," Linda explained. "I planted trees 20 years ago that are now grown and provide all kinds of benefits."



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