



May 10, 2012

Contact(s): **Tim Heider, Clackamas County Public Affairs Manager**
theider@clackamas.us; 503.742.5911

Annie Rusunen, NCPRD Marketing Manager
arusunen@clackamas.us; 503.742.4354

ALL ABOARD: IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE THE TROLLEY TRAIL ON JUNE 2

Clackamas County, OR – The public is invited to celebrate the completion of the Trolley Trail – a six-mile multi-use trail which follows a historic streetcar line from Milwaukie to Gladstone through the heart of Oak Grove – from 10-11:30 a.m. June 2 at Oak Grove Elementary School.

"The completion of the Trolley Trail project is a model of regional cooperation and the product of a shared vision and local determination to turn an unused tract of land from our proud past into a landmark that can be used for future generations," said Clackamas County Commission Chair Charlotte Lehan.

Discover and welcome this new local treasure at a free dedication event put on by North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District and Portland's Metro. The Trolley Trail Celebration is happening June 2, which is National Trails Day.

What: Trolley Trail Celebration

When: 10-11:30 a.m. June 2

Where: Oak Grove Elementary School, 2150 S.E. Torbank Road, Milwaukie

Cost: Free

Information: ncprd.com

Details:

- Dedication ceremony/student art presentation
- Tours of a historic 1932 trolley (which actually chugged along the Trolley Trail) plus trolley trivia with guest conductors
- The RecMobile will be on-site with activities, games and crafts for kids
- Bicycle safety information and demonstrations from the fire department
- Information about North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District activities, summer camps and special events
- Guided historical walk along the Trolley Trail
- Entertainment
- Snacks and refreshments

The Trolley Trail is the name of the old Portland Traction Company streetcar line right-of-way that stretches between the cities of Milwaukie and Gladstone. North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) and Metro purchased the right-of-way in 2001 to be developed into a regional multi-use trail using a voter-approved bond measure designed to protect nature and help people enjoy it. The Trolley Trail has been flagged in the

region's long-term plans since the early 1970s. Over the years, community groups and residents have rallied to bring it to life.

The six-mile Trolley Trail connects neighborhoods, schools, parks, retirement communities and business districts between Milwaukie and Gladstone and completes a missing link in Metro's regional trail system. This bike and pedestrian trail follows the historic streetcar right-of-way that ran in the area from 1893 until 1968.

The idea of developing a trail within this historic right-of-way has been a dream in the community for decades. The trail now connects with existing bike lanes in Milwaukie and Gladstone to complete an essential link in Metro's regional trails system. Ultimately, the trail will be part of a continuous 20-mile loop connecting Portland, Milwaukie, Gladstone, Oregon City and Gresham.

Metro's investments in the trail -- natural areas bond money to secure right-of-way, trails planning resources to develop a blueprint and federal transportation money to go toward construction -- all support communities along the route, said Metro Councilor Carlotta Collette. She's eager to see hubs of activity spring up as residents embrace the trail, whether it be Milwaukie Riverfront Park, the future Park Avenue MAX station, coffee shops or food carts.

"We'll have a complete network so people can get around on bicycle and foot," said Collette, who represents the southern part of the region. "I'm excited about that, and I know people in the district are excited about it. This is something people have been longing for."

###