Stay Involved

Become an active member of your Highlands Neighborhood Association and help develop the plan for your community. The public is welcome to all general meetings which are held at the St. Helens Elementary School gym, 431 27th Ave., beginning at 6 p.m.

2008 General Meetings*: Monday, September 22 Monday, October 27 Monday, November 24

Board meetings are held the second Monday of the month at the Longview Police Satellite Office, 216 30th Ave., beginning at 6 p.m.

2008 HNA Board Meetings* (for board members):

Monday, September 8
Monday, October 13
Monday, November 10
Monday, December 8

*Meeting locations are subject to change. Please call 442-5857 to verify.

More Information

Contact any of the following if you have questions or would like more information:

Si quiere una version en español, habla 442-5857.

Copies Available

A free, complete copy of the Highlands Revitalization Plan is available online at www.mylongview.com.





















FALL 2008

The Highlands Vision

Our community is filled with well-kept homes and well-tended yards, because we are proud to live in the Highlands. We are the "family neighborhood" of Longview, because we have the services and facilities essential for healthy, thriving families. We have no fear of walking along our well-lit streets, because people are involved in our community. We know our neighbors and enjoy strong community ties. Children play safely in the park. We enjoy community celebrations in our favorite gathering places. Evidence of community pride is shown in our clean parks and playgrounds, well-lit streets, neat yards, and alleyways.

We are service-minded people, connecting our neighbors with resources that will help them to prosper. We are law-abiding people, involved and proud to protect our neighborhood, because the entire community is our home. We are respectful people, welcoming others to enjoy our parks, to play sports with our children, and to visit with new-found friends.

Come join us in celebrating the Highlands!

Vision statement developed by the Highlands Neighborhood Association in conjunction with the Highlands Revitalization Plan during the October 2007 visioning session.

You can make a difference

This information is provided to give you an update on the great things that are happening in your Highlands neighborhood.

We hope this report will inspire you to get involved and make a difference in the Highlands -- the "famliest" neighborhood in Longview!



n	th	ic	re	n	\bigcirc	rt	
11	LII	ıs		ישן	\cup	Ų	٠.

The Highlands Vision	1
The Highlands Area	2
Your Highlands Neighbors	2
The Highlands Neighborhood	
Plan	2
Focus Areas & Top Priorities	3
City Efforts Underway	3
Stay Involved	4
Upcoming Meetings	4
More Information	4

About the Highlands

The Highlands neighborhood stretches from Washington Way on the north to Oregon Way on the south. The western boundary is Industrial Way, and the eastern boundary is 30th Avenue/Beech Street.

The neighborhood is primarily single-family homes with the exception of a few multi-family commercial and industrial properties. Important community resources include St. Helens Elementary School, Archie Anderson Park, and Cloney Park.

Neighborhood population 4	4,509
Housing units	1,653
Persons per square mile 8	8,198
% of city population	. 13%

Your Highlands Neighbors

% Family households with
children46%
% Youth under age 18 37%
% Elderly persons 4.7%
% Latino population 12.7%
% Married with children 17.1%
% Single-parent households
28.9%
Poverty rate 34.1%
Median household income
\$23,763
% Public assistance 18.6%
Unemployment rate 16.3%
25+ years old without high
school diploma38.7%
25+ years old with more
than a Bachelors degree 2.3%

A Plan for the Highlands Neighborhood

The Longview City Council identified revitalization of the Highlands as a top priority during its goal setting in 2006. Funds were made available in 2007 through a Community Development Block Grant to develop a neighborhood plan that would improve appearance and quality of life in the Highlands. Work on the **Highlands Revitalization Plan** began in 2007.

A dedicated group of neighborhood residents formed a neighborhood steering committee to brainstorm and develop improvement goals and review community input as well as prioritizing four key focus areas for the plan.

Public Involvement

Three key community-wide meetings were held to gather input for the plan. The first meeting in October 2007 was a brainstorming session to identify a preferred vision, community resources available, and potential strategies to reach that vision.

The second meeting, also in October, was referred to as "Extreme Makeover, Highlands Edition." This session focused on creating visual solutions to enhance community safety, activity, and appearance. An expert in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) visited the Highlands area during that week and conducted walking tours to help identify immediate areas of concern.

The final meeting was held on April 21, 2008, and gathered resident reactions to the proposed plan, which was well received. Some of the top priorities in each of the four categories are outlined in the table on the right.

Additional meetings will be conducted by the newly formed Highlands Neighborhood Association to receive additional input and provide



progress reports. Please see *Upcoming Meetings* section for more information to see how you can get involved.

Focus Areas

The neighborhood plan is called the Highlands Revitalization Plan. It has four major areas of focus:

- 1. Crime Prevention: Help neighborhoods feel safer, and improve community spirit and unity.
- 2. Housing: Improve housing conditions and increase the rate of homeownership.
- 3. Economic Development: Expand access to economic opportunities and resources that create wealth for the residents in the Highlands.
- 4. Public Facilities & Services: Meet necessary public infrastructure needs and expand community services and programs.

Top Priorities

Three groups were identified to help carry out the focus priorities. The top priority for each group is outlined below:

- *Neighborhood* strategies are those that community residents can do on their own, with little or no outside assistance.
- *City* priorities can be done through current or proposed city programs and funding means. (See column on right)
- *Community* priorities are sponsored, funded or carried out by concerned parties within the community, the region, the state or nation.

Neighbor	rhood Safety & Crime Pi	revention	
Neighborhood	City	Community	
Conduct community cleanup events.	Expand street and alley lighting.	Outreach to preserve the neighborhood and prevent homelessness.	
Com	munity Facilities & Sen	vices	
Neighborhood	City	Community	
Conduct community improvement events and cleanups.	Develop trail along Industrial Way corridor to link with other city neighborhoods and provide recreation (seek grant funds).	Expand outdoor education/recreation programs for youth.	
	Economic Development	t	
Neighborhood	City	Community	
Establish a Mutual Assistance Network or Community Time Bank where people can contribute their skills and knowledge.	Encourage small business in appropriate zones.	Develop training/employment program for the construction trades and high school/GED completion to rehab neighborhood housing.	
Housing	& Neighborhood Beaut	tification	
Neighborhood	City	Community	
Create Neighborhood Enhancement Team of volunteers to help seniors, disabled, and others with limited	Strengthen property maintenance codes and provide focused nuisance abatement/code compliance.	Provide housing counseling and financial literacy services to neighborhood residents – how to purchase/sell, prevent foreclosure, fair housing and	

City Efforts Now Underway in the Highlands

- ✓ Use code compliance resources to focus on problem properties
- ✓ Facilitate and support the Highlands Neighborhood Association
- ✓ Encourage crime prevention efforts for new and remodeled properties through programs like Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Promote neighborhood preservation and encourage remodeling of rundown properties through the City's zoning code updates
- ✓ Help reduce crime through increased police presence and problem solving efforts
- ✓ Seek opportunities for funding to improve lighting, streetscape beautification, and park amenities

