

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

# ARNADA NEIGHBORHOOD

ARNADA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Newsletter November 2024

## Single-level Bridge

*Vancouver waterfront, west side of bridge, looking east*



Port of Vancouver Development Area

**A New Interstate Bridge is Coming to Vancouver  
I-5 Bordering Arnada is Changing  
If You Have an Opinion Speak Now or Forever Hold Your Peace  
Attend Your Next Neighborhood Association Meeting**

**Meeting is Thursday November 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM  
LIVE! at Vancouver Housing Authority 2500 Main Street  
Agenda**

**Approve Arnada NA input to Interstate Bridge Replacement DEIS  
Approve October Minutes, Treasury Balance  
Reports from City, Port, Police as available**

Join Zoom Meeting ID: 816 4260 9899 Passcode: 789037

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81642609899?pwd=YdrR6MM0uJJCiHe0HseF78Jg7YiLMF.1>

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# ARNADA Comments on Bridge DEIS

Representatives from the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) project will attend the November meeting to answer questions. At the October meeting we collected the DEIS input below. At the November meeting we hope to approve this as our neighborhood's input. We will discuss, modify, vote. All Arnada residents and businesses can and should submit their own comments to the project as well even if it consists of repeating the NA input. All input must be received by November 18<sup>th</sup> to be considered.

## Arnada Neighborhood Association (ANA) concerns are:

**Auditory, visual, and air quality impacts** on single and multi-family residential units, commercial properties, and Arnada Park. To mitigate adverse impacts, the ANA will advise project planners on sound wall construction, height, and aesthetics.

- Trees will be planted in the neighborhood and adjacent areas to replace those that will be removed for construction. They will be planted as soon as remaining construction will not damage them. The number of trees planted will be double the number removed to help offset air quality impacts from increasing traffic and enhance air quality. The project will insure the survival or replacement of the trees for 10 years.
- The sound wall will receive the highest standard anti-graffiti coating available at the time of its construction, and the project will ensure funding for graffiti removal for 25 years from date of completion.

**Construction vibration impacts.** To mitigate adverse impacts of construction vibrations, the project will provide vibration monitoring for buildings and streets from D Street east to the freeway within the neighborhood boundaries. Any damage that occurs will be repaired promptly at project expense.

Project construction will **utilize portions of Arnada Park as a staging area.** To mitigate adverse effects such as construction equipment and material storage the park will be returned to the state it was in when staging commenced. To mitigate the impact of neighborhood residents not being able to fully use the park during construction and the probable impact of property lost to the sound wall, the project will install a kickball field and replace the basketball court.

**Being kept up-to-date on project schedule.** While it is understood that all dates will be in flux for a period of time, neighborhood residents need to know what will happen when so that they can adjust as much as possible.

The ANA is concerned that a design is not yet available for the Fourth Plain Boulevard overpass and interchange adjacent to the neighborhood. **The ANA will have input on the overpass and interchange design when available.**

The ANA **advocates for construction of the proposed community connector** between downtown Vancouver and the Vancouver National Historic Reserve to ensure that the IBR does not worsen the existing I-5 separation between these two important community resources.

The ANA urges **robust mitigation for all adverse effects of the IBR project on historic and archaeological resources.** The Vancouver National Historic Reserve and Providence Academy have

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played important roles in community life historically and continue to do so. Project mitigation should help ensure that these significant resources, all listed on the National Register of Historic Places, are passed on to the future.

**The ANA opposes tolling its residents until the project is complete.** Residents expect to pay bridge tolls after the Bridge is finished and all modifications to I-5 are completed. Until that time we expect to live with dirty air, construction noise and vibration, a smaller and less safe park and likely a decade of traffic jams. We cannot accept tolls along with these afflictions. We require a toll exemption for Arnada residents until completion.

## Minutes of Arnada Neighborhood Association-Oct 10<sup>th</sup> 2024

Attendees: Ken Visser, Kathie Loveall, Penny Pastori, Todd Bachmann, Rena Benette, Karen Gibsen, Holly Chamberlain, Jill Bachmann, Brenda Hoge, Amy Carlson, Russ Pascoe

**September meeting minutes were approved.**

**Treasurer Report: As of 10/9,** we have \$5882.36 in checking and \$2114.14 in savings. We received money in the bank for the cleanup and money from the City for the Resource Conservation Challenge. For the clean-up each neighborhood received around \$231 each. Thank you to Anita Reyes for helping to organize the clean-up for Arnada.

**Kickball Team T-Shirt Vote:** The request for ANA to help fund \$292.93 for 31 Kickball T-shirts was made at the September meeting. The Motion was approved.

**ANA Response to the IBR EIS: Karen Gibsen.** We have 60 days to make public comments There are a lot of things you can comment on. They are looking at the count of the number of people commenting on the same issue and then looking at it if more people comment on that issue. If they receive multiple comments, they have to respond to it. So, the ANA making a comment will just be a single comment. A better thing is to make a list of things to comment on and a large portion of people in the neighborhood individually comment. Karen's main concern is the 16 ft. noise wall that is proposed to be built. We haven't seen the design for that, the I5 Auxillary lane, and the Fourth Plain overpass. Trees clean the air, and If trees are taken out for the noise wall, it will make our air less clean.. Also, a corner of the park is going to be used as a staging area-what will happen to that area after they leave? KGW has been covering various aspects of the project, including how things will look but we don't know anything about what these pieces will look like. What about all of the dust and toxins in the air from the construction?

Construction mitigation may be possible but it's a three-step process to get the funding for that. Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for DEIS commenting.

Suggestion to check in with the Urban Forestry group to see about the tree canopy and if they are going to comment on it. Would like to know where the additional trees will be planted if trees are removed. Can we get the trees planted now so they are larger by the time construction happens?

The City is preparing one large response for its concerns.

Another concern is the vibrations from installing the noise wall and new interchanges. How will it be monitored and what happens if the foundations of the nearby houses are damaged and need repairs?

The Historic Trust also needs our help to comment on the negative effects of the construction and plans to the Fort area, Officers Row, and the Academy. Karen Gibsen will continue to post on Facebook on what she is researching and recommended comments.

Suggested to do a one-page printing that is delivered to all of the homes in the neighborhood. Kathy heard that each neighborhood gets to send out one postcard a year and we could put comment recommendations on that. It was decided to look into the postcard for the fastest outreach. Keep the comment recommendations posting pinned on top of Facebook would also be important. Also check if Holly Williams is willing to meet with people at coffee places to answer questions.

Suggestion to ask for everything we need and more- a lot of trees, replacement of the playground and basketball court if they use part of the park for staging, graffiti-proof noise wall or continuous mitigation of it. Those impacted by the construction, do not pay the I5 tolls during the construction process. IBR has asked to come to the next meeting.

Arnada Air Monitor is back up and running at <https://map.purpleair.com/>

Red Cross smoke detectors; Rena went to a presentation. Red Cross will come and install if they aren't hard-wired. Will do it for free.

[https://www.redcross.org/local/washington/about-us/our-work/home-fire-campaign.html?srsId=AfmBOorqj-ULdcIBHM7jEZQRYQaLHcZqyPGiqYGejv\\_4ggt93vKR0fZV](https://www.redcross.org/local/washington/about-us/our-work/home-fire-campaign.html?srsId=AfmBOorqj-ULdcIBHM7jEZQRYQaLHcZqyPGiqYGejv_4ggt93vKR0fZV)

## Leaf Disposal Boxes – End of this Month

Vancouver Public Works Operations crews will be placing leaf boxes in our neighborhood the weekend of **Nov 30 – Dec 1** for the convenience of residents.

**Look for two leaf boxes located near: E 20<sup>th</sup> Street and F Street and E 25<sup>th</sup> Street and F Street**

Leaf boxes are typically be placed by late Friday afternoon and picked up early morning Monday after the weekend noted above. This is a City of Vancouver Solid Waste program that helps make leaf recycling easier for those in leafy neighborhoods who may not be able to haul leaves to free coupon drop-off sites.

**Please remember:**

**LEAVES ONLY: No other yard debris, nor any garbage, is allowed in the leaf box.**

**NO PLASTIC BAGS:** If you use plastic bags for transporting, empty leaves into the box. Then take plastic bags home for reuse or toss into your garbage cart if reuse is not possible.

**DON'T PUT LEAVES IN STREETS:** Help prevent localized flooding of streets. Never blow or rake leaves into the street where they clog storm drains. The City does not pick up leaves.

**CHECK BACK:** If you don't see the leaf box at its designated location, crews have most likely removed the box to be emptied. Please check back in an hour or so, as it should be returned by that time. Thank you for your patience.

**NOTE:** Please avoid parking in the leaf box location during the weekend listed above.