

2023

GNEKNA information



Greater Northeast Keizer
Neighborhood Association
BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

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Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association

A neighborhood association is a group of homeowner, renters, apartment dweller and churches, businesses, Schools and representatives who want to improve their neighborhood. I helped to put this neighborhood association together in order to help improve the condition of my community and those communities around me. We are just a group of people who want to create change in our communities and make it safer for our children and grandchildren and for ourselves.

The basic ingredients are people who are willing to work together to create change. Planning and structure people who are willing to be a leader or hold a leadership position. Neighborhoods are the heart of a city. For many people, the neighborhood they live in is as important as the house they live in. Most neighborhoods have clearly identifiable characteristics: housing types, appearance, neighborliness, and safety. These characteristics affect the value of the houses in the area as well as the desirability of living in the neighborhood. There are both emotional and economic benefits to having friendly, safe, and attractive neighborhoods.

If you want to preserve or enhance your neighborhood, you must first get to know it. Begin by walking your neighborhood. You will notice the small, but significant, details that make your neighborhood unique. Pay attention to:

Different housing styles; Notice the ages of the homes, is there a unifying element to your neighborhood, a school, a central park, a busy street? Try to find out which houses or structures have historical or cultural significance.

Characteristics of neighbors; Things to look for; notice the absence or presence of porches, privacy fences, sidewalks, children, and pedestrians around your home this helps support the safety of you and the other families around you. Do you see people outside gardening jogging, biking, and walking for pleasure? What schools, churches, institutions, businesses, and natural amenities are parts of your neighborhood? How do they contribute or detract from its neighborly feel? This is just some of what I look for personally, plus it helps me to engage with my neighbors and get to know them.

People; Do some streets have higher concentrations of seniors or families with young children? Who are the respected elders in the neighborhood? Are there families new to America?

Safety issues; Are there sidewalks, streetlights, bike lanes, and well-marked crosswalks? Are hedges and branches trimmed back from the sidewalks and intersections? Are walkways well maintained? Are speed limits and pedestrian laws enforced?

Your neighborhood's political presence in the city; who are the acknowledged community leaders? What is the history of involvement in your neighborhood? Perhaps much of the groundwork has already been laid. Once you have assessed your neighborhood's strengths and challenges, you will be ready to engage your neighbors in the truly satisfying work that lies ahead.

Building community

Building community means improving your neighborhood's ability to organize and leverage the diverse skills of its residents. Residents want to become better neighbors by getting to know each other and helping each other out.

- Whether it is exchanging skills, such as cooking dinner for a neighbor one night in exchange for having him/her run some errands for you, activities such as these enhance the sense of community.
- Address a particular concern of the neighborhood.

Many neighborhoods become organized when a particular concern emerges in which they can rally around. Residents of the neighborhood may get together to discuss problems and come up with solutions. As an Association, members can work together to resolve the issue and use the many people resources already available within their neighborhood.

- ✓ Improve communication.
 - ✓ Neighborhood Associations can serve as a vehicle to connect neighbors to neighbors. Neighborhood Associations can help strengthen communication between residents and City Staff as to create a better community through cooperative action. In keeping with this philosophy, the City will seek to notify and consult with Neighborhood Associations on matters of neighborhood interest.

Kids

Some ideas for the kids in your neighborhood:

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Movie in the park night | Kids or pet parade |
| Kickball | Crafts |
| Sidewalk chalk | Lemonade stand |
| Make baskets | Scavenger Hunt |
| Back to School | Make a take book leave a book |

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PRIMARY CONTACT

The Neighborhood Association primary contact is a volunteer that a recognized Neighborhood Association selects to serve as their primary contact with the City of Keizer. The Neighborhood Association contact serves as the primary communicator between the recognized neighborhood association and the City. Contact information for this individual is available to the public on the City's website and upon request. All City Staff will be notified of the name and contact information for the Neighborhood Association. City Staff will be able to assist the contact to interpret official notices and policies.

The City will seek to notify the Neighborhood Association contact on matters of neighborhood interest. For example, the Neighborhood Association contact will be notified when:

- Significant neighborhood projects are being discussed or proposed such as street reconstruction, park development or redevelopment or land use planning.
 - A mailing goes out to residents in the neighborhood related to a City matter or public hearing.
 - A developer requests a neighborhood meeting for the purpose of sketch plan review.
 - The City is seeking to organize a neighborhood group for resident input.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION EXPECTATIONS

The following expectations exist with respect to the Neighborhood Association: The Neighborhood Association does not speak on behalf of all neighbors at any time and will not limit the ability of any person or entity, including non-recognized Neighborhood groups, to participate on their own

behalf. Communication with the Neighborhood Association will not replace the City's traditional methods of direct outreach to residents.

- Neighborhood Associations are strictly voluntary and no Neighbors will be required to participate. Each Neighborhood Association will determine its own priorities and desired level of activity.
- Neighborhood Associations will not assume the role of an administrative or legislative body.
- Neighborhood Associations have no legal authority to enact or enforce property design or maintenance requirements.
- The Neighborhood Association will ensure that the designated contact will forward all relevant and applicable information received from the City to the Neighborhood Association Steering Committee or Board, as well as affected residents, if applicable
- The Neighborhood Association will notify the City of the organization's priorities and desired level of activity on projects and initiatives through the designated contact.
- The Neighborhood Association will submit annual recognition paperwork to the City and maintain updated bylaws, steering committee/board member lists, and designated contact information with the City at all times.
- Membership fees, when established by the bylaws of a Neighborhood Association, shall be voluntary and shall not preclude any neighbor from participating in the Neighborhood Association