



Gresham Downtown Development Association

A Quarterly Newsletter

October 2011

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We want to
hear from you!
Give us a call or
e-mail.

GDDA Board of Directors:

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- Board Past President - **Dwight Unti**, Tokola Properties
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- Board Director - **Gretchen Brown**, Mult. County Gresham Library

'TIS THE SEASON FOR CELEBRATION!

As we quickly approach a new year it's time again to celebrate holidays, history, and tradition . . .

2011 Spirit of Christmas

Your Gresham Downtown Development Agency is hard at work planning for this year's Spirit of Christmas. This is the 20th Anniversary of this historic event and we are looking to make it an extra special day for our residents and visitors.

It is important to remember that this year the Spirit of Christmas will take place on December 3rd. In years past the event has always been held the Saturday after Thanksgiving. While the planning is well underway, we still could use your help. If you have felt the magic of this annual event and would like to make a donation or volunteer your time please

give us a call. Donations of any size help make this event special.

Please mark your calendars for this special day and remember to support your local businesses throughout the holiday season. For More information call 503-665-3827 or visit www.gdda.org/christmas.html

Downtown Tree Lighting

It's that time of year when the days grow shorter, the weather grows colder, and the streets of Historic Downtown Gresham are illuminated with the twinkling glow of tiny white lights. GDDA has contracted with a local business to restore the downtown tree lights we all associate with our Regional Center and the

changing of the season.

We have been working closely with the Historic Downtown Gresham Business Association (HDGBA) on a number of issues and activities this year and at the request of the HDGBA, GDDA will have the tree lights up and running by Halloween - just in time for the annual Safe Trick-or-Treat.

Be sure to bring the kids and those imbued with the Halloween spirit to Downtown Gresham on October 31st from 4-6pm. Main Street will be closed from NW 1st St to NE 5th St allowing trick-or-treaters to venture safely from merchant to merchant collecting delectable treats.



A NOTE FROM THE DESK OF JEFF EDINGER, GDDA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gresham is an amazing city. With attractive speciality shops and restaurants in our historic core, we have the feel and charm of a small-town. This small-town environment is complimented by the retail and office services offered in our Civic Neighborhood providing us access to major services and national retailers.

Gresham is a special place. As we grow, it is important to remember and continue to identify what makes our town so special. We can use that knowledge to shape the future growth of our city.

I have met with a number of you and have received a valuable education as to what Gresham means to its residents, our City history, the challenges we face, and the goals we have for our City's future development.

As we start to see improvements in economic conditions and growth in our local economy it is important to use this vision to shape our future. I would like to hear from more of you. Please give me a call or e-mail to share your thoughts, ideas, concerns, and issues you might be facing here in our great City. GDDA is here to help you.

Thank you,
Jeff Edinger
503-665-3827

New Bike Racks in Our Regional Center

The Gresham Downtown Development Association is working with local property and business owners to provide additional bike parking for our growing population of bicycle riders. Along with the help of the City of Gresham and local property owners, we will be installing a number of bike racks throughout Downtown Gresham. If you are a business or property owner in need of a bike rack please give us a call at 503-665-3827.

GDDA Welcomes New Businesses!

It has been an exciting year for our growing community. We have had a number of new businesses open this year in Gresham. Next time you are in Civic Neighborhood or Historic Downtown Gresham be sure to check out one of the following new businesses:

- All Things Beautiful Antiques
- Andersen Fiber Works
- Banaka and Browns Bakery
- Bishop's Cuts and Colors
- Dickies Barbeque (coming soon)
- Epidavros Center for Well Being
- Frenzi Frozen Yogurt
- iCandy
- Lollipop Rooster
- Nicolas Restaurant (expansion)
- Off the Charts Games
- Salt Academy & Performing Arts Company
- The Hoppy Brewer
- The Victorian House
- Vintage Station Antiques

Recent Graffiti Outbreak

Graffiti is a nuisance. Left unattended, graffiti lowers property

values, encourages more graffiti, can announce gang activity, and increases other criminal activity.

Graffiti reporting is important. If you discover your neighbor has been vandalized by graffiti, please immediately give them a courtesy call to make them aware of the graffiti or please feel free to give GDDA a call and we will help get in touch with the proper party.

If you are a victim of graffiti, please report the incident to the police non-emergency number 503-618-3089. Take a picture of the graffiti (dating it) and then paint over it immediately.

If you need assistance removing graffiti please give us a call and we will help put you in touch with a local source. We can be reached at 503-665-3827.

Are you a Start-Up Business?

There are a number of grant and incentive opportunities available to you through Mt Hood Community College SBA and the City of Gresham. Please give us a call for more information.

Last Minute Savings for New Lights

The City of Gresham Great Businesses would like to encourage you to take advantage of available lighting incentives by upgrading your old fluorescent lights. The Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO) is offering cash incentives of up to \$54/fixture if installed before December 15, 2011. Install by November 1, 2011 for an additional ETO bonus of \$5 per fixture.

For more information visit GreshamOregon.gov/GreatBiz.

GRESHAM ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

The Gresham Economic Improvement District (EID) is a tool used to benefit the economic activity of Historic Downtown Gresham and Civic Neighborhood. It is integral to the success of our community as we continue to grow.

Our EID is up for renewal this year. As we move through our current economic crisis and begin to see an influx of new development and economic activity it is extremely important that we all understand the importance of the EID.

What is the EID? The EID is a funding mechanism to raise sustainable revenue that is directed to specific geographical districts (Historic Downtown and Civic Neighborhood) to finance economic development including enhanced planning, promotion, marketing, special events and services such as beautification of streetscapes.

What is the purpose? The purpose of the EID is to improve conditions in a specific area, attract and retain quality new development and businesses, generate jobs and to create a Regional Center that is an exciting, vibrant and dynamic place to live, work and play.

What is the name of the EID for Gresham? Your EID operates as the Gresham Downtown Development Association (GDDA).

Did you know . . .

At the Gresham Downtown Development Association we work as an advocate for local property owners and business owners within downtown Gresham and Civic neighborhood.

GDDA has four main objectives:

Stimulate economic development by assisting property & business owners in the planning or management of development or improvement activities.

Property Owners: We help properties owners with any development related activities & concerns they have. We advocate on behalf of property owners for new rules, regulations and incentives that encourage development and stimulate activity in our Regional Center (encompassing Downtown Gresham and Civic Neighborhood). We work with City officials to update or change existing and new development codes to be more aligned with the needs and activities of property owners. GDDA works to educate property owners about current development and economic issues facing our community and to use our connections and clout to best resolve those issues.

Business Owners: Business owners can think of GDDA as a resource to help find out what development activities are

planned or occurring in our Regional Center. We can help identify spaces available for lease, put you in contact with land and property owners, and help guide you through the city when it comes to permits, development activities, promotional events, or any other issues you might have. If we can't be of direct assistance we can put you in contact with the right people.

Promote the Regional Center as an exciting place to live, shop, and invest.

GDDA plans and administers promotional activities such as the Spirit of Christmas and we are a resource for any street closures permits or banner permits in our regional center. We work with other community groups such as the Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce and the Historic Downtown Gresham Business Association to promote a unified message and encourage activity in Gresham.

Improve the appearance of the Regional Center.

We work with business owners, property owners, and city officials to form and implement strategies and techniques for improving the appearance of our Regional Center. GDDA provides advice on what elements endorse the goal of improving our streetscapes,

foster activity, provide a safe and exciting commercial and retail environment, and encourage consumers to think of our Regional Center as a destination for fun activities, shopping and investment. An element of improving the appearance of our Regional Center that GDDA administers is the hanging flower baskets seen during the spring and summer and tree lighting during the winter.

Reduce vehicle miles traveled within the Regional Center.

Through the Gresham Regional Transportation Management Association we help educate employees and employers about alternate modes of transportation available in our Regional Center, the benefits of using alternate transportation and how development and future growth correlate with and benefit from transportation options and growth.



Historic Core

The Way Finding Program in Historic Downtown Gresham is administered by the Gresham Downtown Development Association

AVAILABLE PROPERTIES



Are you looking to lease or buy space in Gresham?

Give us a call and we can help.
503-665-3827

Questions or Comments?

Please check out our website at www.gdda.org or give us a call at 503-665-3827.

We want to hear from you.

To join our mailing list

please e-mail us at info@gdda.org

Development Opportunities, Properties For Sale, Properties For Lease

Do you have a property available for lease or sale? Are you looking for space to buy or lease in Gresham? Are you a developer looking at project opportunities available in Gresham? If so, give us a call and we can help provide information, answer questions you may have, and help you get up and running in Gresham!

Please give us a call to share your ideas

PROPERTIES AVAILABLE FOR SALE/LEASE	GRESHAM STATION FOR LEASE	67 NE ROBERTS FOR SALE	255 NE ROBERTS FOR LEASE
	Office, Retail, & Medical Space Office 700-5,800 sf, Retail 4,000-5,000 sf, Medical 1,250-3,700 sf	Former JC Penney Building Built in 1953, Approx. 13,000 sf, For Sale	Office or Retail Space 3,000 sf, 2BA, Conference Room. Across from the Center for The Arts Plaza
638 N MAIN FOR LEASE	330 NE 4TH VACANT LOT FOR SALE	823 N MAIN VACANT LOT FOR SALE	112 N MAIN STREET FOR LEASE
Commercial Space for Rent. Commercial space for rent on Main St. Available mid-October.	Vacant Lot 0.26 acres of vacant land. Just north of the Center For the Arts Plaza	Vacant Lot 0.18 acres of vacant land. Located next to Banaka & Browns Bakery	Commercial Space 3,000 sf, ADA restrooms, tall ceilings, \$1,800/mo + utilities
132 NE 3RD ST FOR LEASE	Join our Mailing List. To receive important updates on GDDA and TMA activities and events please send an e-mail to info@gdda.org . Receive information on development & business related activities occurring in our community. We promise never to share your contact information with another organization without your permission.		
480 SF Office Space Suite B - Private office with reception area. Corner of 3rd & NE Roberts. First Year Lease Rate of \$350/mo.	GDDA 39 NE Kelly Ave Gresham, OR 97030 P. 503-665-3827 F. 503- 665-7877		