

Kelly Creek Neighborhood Association (KCNA)
November 12, 2025
General Neighborhood Meeting
7:00PM
Zoom Meeting

Opening

Call to Order: 7:05pm

Quorum established: 11 KCNA members present at beginning of meeting; 12 KCNA members later

Board Members present: Charles Teem, Karin Zachow, Carol Rulla

Presenter: Capt. John Rasmussen

Welcome, Introductions and Review of the Agenda by President Charles Teem

Approval of 05/14/2025 General Meeting Minutes as presented.

Board Elections

President Charles Teem asked for any interest in being on the KCNA Board, reviewed the positions, and announced a vacancy in the Secretary/Treasurer position. There were no new volunteers for a position. Carol Rulla moved to nominate the slate of Charles Teem for President, Karin Zachow for Vice President, and Carol Rulla for Land Use Officer. Karin Zachow seconded, and the membership voted unanimously to approve the slate.

Presentation: Gresham Police Department (GPD) Update by Capt. John Rasmussen

- Police staffing is up due to the levy. Currently GPD is authorized for 134 sworn positions (up from 129 before the levy) and authorized for 44 non-sworn positions. In the last 2 years, 60 officers have been hired, but because of ongoing retirements and some resignations, there are currently 11 vacancies: 2 patrol positions, 6 detective positions, 2 sergeant positions and 1 lieutenant position.
- There are currently 20 officers in training (12 at the Academy) and 21 eligible candidates in the hopper. Whereas GPD was staying about even with hirings vs. retirements & resignations, in 2025 they were up 8 hirings over retirements & resignations. Most of the hires are new, but GPD has recently made some lateral hires of experienced officers.
- Because of all the training needed, 3 more officers have been assigned to be coach officers and are getting training for that. Capt. Rasmussen noted that patrol officers drive in single cars, so if people see 2 officers in a car, that is a coach officer with a trainee officer. Because at least 2 cars are sent on each call to be backup for each other, it might look like 4 officers are responding, but it's really 2 officers and 2 trainees. Patrol minimums are 7 officers (cars) for day shift, 8 officers for afternoon shift and 8 officers for night shift.
- GPD's detective unit is authorized for 24 detectives but has had at most 18 detectives for quite some time. There is a former GPD officer who was previously a detective who is returning and will soon be sworn in as a detective. Because the detective unit has been down for many years, patrol officers have done a lot more investigations. That helps detectives out and has the benefit of growing officers' skills and abilities.

- Because staffing patrol is the first priority, when officers are out for light duty or other reasons, officers are pulled from other units in order to staff patrol. That's why all specialty unit officers were pulled back into patrol several years ago. With the levy, the Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) officers who are paired with clinicians have returned to focusing on mental health calls rather than being assigned to patrol. There is also one officer now dedicated to the Neighborhood Enhancement Team (NET) to work on livability issues. While the traffic unit isn't yet active, there are 2 former traffic officers who will patrol on motorcycles on days that aren't super rainy, and with increased staffing more patrol officers have been able to do more traffic enforcement and education. GPD has also gotten grants to do special traffic missions. There are also 3 canine patrols assigned to the 3 different shifts, and Tagg is the support canine. While there are currently no School Resource Officers (SROs), one officer who had been the citywide school liaison still does some work with schools, and GPD's Public Information Officer (PIO) was a long-time SRO and is doing a lot of work with schools.
- GPD is part of Ceasefire, a community-based strategy to reduce gun violence by focusing on individuals who are at the highest risk for involvement in shootings. A volunteer group of officers works with community partners (social services, DA's office) to interrupt violence through a multifaceted approach and connect high-risk individuals with services. The Ceasefire team formed around the time the levy passed and in large part was able to start because of the levy. The officers still work their regular patrol shifts, and the Ceasefire work is extra. So far, they've had 178 contacts and made 5 misdemeanor arrests as a team, 25 felony arrests, 11 citations, 41 referrals to outreach programs, 17 search warrants, 28 gun seizures, and 8 stolen vehicle recoveries. It's hard to know how many shootings may have been prevented because of the Ceasefire work, but shootings in 2025 are down 25% although injuries are up because shooter accuracy has improved. Shootings used to be 3-5 shots fired, and now officers are finding 10-40 rounds left in the street.
- Q: Talk about Community Safety Specialists (CSSs) they have been added due to the levy. A: They are non-sworn positions who help with a lot of walk-ins and calls for lower-level reports (like thefts, stolen cars, car prowls, sometimes neighborhood issues). Initially, CSSs were taking over 60% call reports. They are now also out in white trucks helping officers with accidents, tagging nuisance or abandoned vehicles, recovering stolen vehicles, etc.
- Q: Is GPD's radar trailer is now available? A: Yes, using MyGresham is the best way to make the request. It can also be made by email (GPD@greshamoregon.gov) or by coming in to the station. The CSSs are the ones who will bring the trailer out.
- Q: A 35 mph speed limit sign on 282nd between Welch & Orient has been missing for a few months. Was it deliberate or not? A: It should be reported on My Gresham so that a roads crew can replace it.
- Discussion of speeding, which got much worse during the pandemic. Speed bumps don't really help and they significantly slow down fire response. Even with more enforcement, it's not possible to cover the entire city all the time. However, increased stolen vehicle missions and some changes in pursuit policy has stopped some of the speeding, plus it's pulled a lot more guns off the street.
- Q: Clarification that there are no longer School Resource Officers in our schools. A: Correct. The schools and GPD would like to bring them back because they did a lot to help kids remain in school

and address problems there, which is better than having kids out of school getting into bigger trouble and committing crimes in the community.

- Q: Concerns with people breaking the law on motorcycles and motorized vehicles. Is lane splitting legal in Oregon? A: There's been a change in Oregon law to allow only motorcycles to share the same lane. Oregon's law is similar to California's but there are some differences. A big problem now is e-bikes that can go 40-50 mph and there's no provision in the law for those. A license is required for mopeds that have 35cc's, but there's no equivalent for e-bikes. There have been several deaths on e-bikes in neighboring cities. Police can stop people for speeding, riding recklessly or in illegal places, but because of the maneuverability of motorcycles and e-bikes, it can be more challenging for police cars to pull them over, so it helps to have officers on motorcycles. Officers also have to consider the possible harm if the rider gets distracted in trying to escape and causes an accident. Sometimes police use overt cameras or wait until they slow down or go home to catch them. The hope is that there will be new legislation to address when e-bikes need licenses and insurance. Capt. Rasmussen will also bring up the issues to their team for potential educational missions and messages such as on social media.

Park Update:

- The city is updating its citywide, high-level Master Plan for parks and is taking input now.
- The city is also doing the Master Plan for potential development of SE Community Park (as well as SW Community Park). When the SE Community Park application moves forward, there will be an Early Neighborhood Notification (ENN) meeting. The Master Plan would be the next phase toward development (after the previous Concept Plans and the input last spring on priorities). It still would require funding, but there is some funding from the Metro Parks & Nature Bond that could be used for some improvements.

Land Use Report:

- 143 Townhomes on Salquist (GBSD Property next to SE Community Park)
 - There was an appeal of the application that required a new application for a Major Variance because a street length that is longer than code allows. The new application has had an ENN meeting, and a public hearing will be scheduled soon.
- 4811 SE Chase (backs up to Kelly Creek Elementary)
 - Pre-application for a 4 lot division (2 are flag lots) for middle housing.
 - If they proceed, there will be an ENN meeting.
- 27629 SE Orient (backs up to 32nd at Inverness)
 - Pre-application to annex and develop 4 new large lots (one with existing home) with access on 32nd and leave the large southern portion as a leftover parcel with access from Orient.
- Buddha Light Temple (at Salquist & 282nd)
 - Proposal for a detached duplex on the site.
 - No ENN meeting or public comment because it's only building middle housing on an existing lot.

- No news on the proposed McDonald's south of White's Meat Market at Palmquist & Kane. The proposal may not move forward because of site and access challenges.
- 5632 SE Welch
 - Previously had a pre-application to add 8 cottages.
 - Instead a lot line adjustment was made to leave a smaller lot with the house and transfer the back of the property to the abutting 3135 SE Virginia (to the south). Both properties are owned by the same people, so they may be planning to develop the bigger Virginia lot.
- Vacant lot at 32nd & Virginia
 - Previously had an ENN for a lot division for middle housing. Then changed to a proposal for a cottage cluster without any lot division, which doesn't require an ENN meeting or public comment.
 - The submitted permits for the first cottage and for the stormwater facility haven't passed inspections, and there has not been much progress. We don't know how many cottages they may be thinking of adding.

Member Concerns:

- Concerns about the shaking from the Whitebeam Estates construction at Chase & 282nd. Neighbors blocks away have felt significant shaking, and closer neighbors have had damage to their homes. The amount of vibration has been much worse than what was felt from the Skyliner Crossing construction on the opposite corner. It was particularly bad when the large stormwater pond was being put in. Neighbors have reported it to the city and the contractor, and one neighbor hired a structural engineer to assess the damage to their home. One challenge with documenting the new damage was the lack of photos of the home before the construction started. Homeowners near new construction might want to take photos of their homes before construction starts.
- Plan was made to raise awareness about the problem via a KCNA email, talking to neighbors and making public comments at a City Council meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:00PM

Next Meeting Date: TBD (Winter 2026)

Minutes submitted by Carol Rulla, Land Use Officer