



## Working Together to Protect our Waterways

By Ellen Stoecker

The RainWise program continues in NE Seattle!

During heavy rains our storm water system overflows. Combined sewer overflows pollute our lakes and Puget Sound. Most Roosevelt and Ravenna property owners can obtain beautiful, functional landscaping and store rain water for watering gardens, with up to 100% of the cost paid by the City of Seattle and Seattle Public Utilities.

This program is a win-win-win for homeowners. Our storm water is safely managed on site, we get enhancements to our yards and property, and the average RainWise rebate is \$4,400.

At an upcoming **101 workshop** you will learn about the rebate program for professional installation of rain gardens within the catchment basin boundaries. Learn about the RainWise garden options and meet professionals who are approved to implement this rebate program.

### Meet RainWise staff and professional contractors this Fall!

Seattle Tilth Harvest Fair: **9/12**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Meridian Park, behind the Good Shepherd Center at 4649 Sunnyside Avenue North

Rainwise 101 Workshop: **9/17**, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at SPL – Northeast Branch: 6801 35th Avenue Northeast

(continued on page 2)

### *RNA General Meeting:*

**Tuesday, September 29, 2015**

**6:30 p.m. Social , 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Presentation**

**CCA, 68th & Roosevelt, Third Floor**

**Next Land Use Academy Meeting: 9/19/2015**

**\*New\* Pay your membership dues online!**

## RNA Committee Announcements and Updates

### Fundraising & Grants

The **Weedin Place Project** received a grant for \$25,000 from the Department of Neighborhoods towards public art. In total, grants in the amount of \$115,000 have been received. These funds should bring us through final design of the space and contribute towards the public art installation. One outstanding grant of almost \$100,000 is currently pending for the Weedin Place Project.

The **Bull Moose Festival** raised \$3,250 through T-shirt sales and booth fees. These funds will be deposited into the Roosevelt Neighborhood Association General Fund to be used towards future projects. **Nine neighbors and six businesses joined the neighborhood association as members during the festival.** Contact the RNA with your ideas for our community and we will help get it accomplished! For more information please contact Katie Wood, Fundraising & Grants, Chair.

### Roosevelt Business Group

Recently we heard updates from Sound Transit, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), and the Office of Economic Development (OED). The **Weedin Place Project** moves forward with design of the art and landscaping with the support of RBG. The **Bull Moose Festival** was a huge success! Our fantastic planning team was able to evaluate and celebrate a fantastic community event. Thank you to all who sponsored, helped lead and execute the festival and for all who participated! *Please attend the next RBG meeting, September 2, 8:30 a.m. at Umpqua Bank..* For more information please contact Kmbris Bond, RBG Chair.

Sustainable Ballard Festival: **9/19**, 11 a.m - 5 p.m. at Ballard Commons Park, 5701 22nd Avenue Northwest

Rainwise 101 Workshop: **9/24**, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at SPL - Ballard Branch: 5614 22nd Avenue Northwest

Rainwise 101 Workshop: **9/29**, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at Phinney Neighborhood Association, 6532 Phinney Ave.

Rainwise 101 Workshop **10/14**, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at SPL – Northeast Branch: 6801 35th Avenue Northeast

**The Roosevelt Sustainability Group encourages you to participate! For more information, please contact Ellen Stoecker, Secretary & Sustainability Chair.**

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We need you to VOLUNTEER!

**Rosie Editor, Rosie Advertising Admin**

**Membership Admin**

**Rosie delivery “Blockheads”**

Contact [communications@rooseveltseattle.org](mailto:communications@rooseveltseattle.org)

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## Living Next Door to Developers

**By Peter James, Chair RNAT**

Over the next decades there will be lots of development in Roosevelt as part of the density increases that accompany a light rail station. Most building will be close to the business core, but may also spread out into others parts, too.

Big projects will affect everyone that walks, rides or drives by, but the people who live close by will be particularly affected. Recently, the 800/900 block of NE 66th has been particularly beset by living with developers, with at least four projects going on and more to come. Losing sidewalks and parking, getting blocked into driveways, angry drivers stuck in the single lane roadway, and even surveyors from adjacent projects wandering around in gardens without asking for permission - these challenges are with us everyday! Such things have had very negative effects on our quality of life and we would like to ensure this does not continue to be the norm.

Recently the folks in the RNA transportation group (RNAT) have been working on a **code of conduct for developers** particularly referring to parking and pedestrian safety issues. We plan to bring these ideas to a Fall 2015 general RNA meeting for further refinement. We would like neighbors to be able to use this “code of conduct” when meeting with developers before a new project begins.

The RNAT Code of Conduct for Developers (draft)

- A live phone number for neighbors to use on-site to deal with problems quickly and effectively
- Developers provide a plan for site vehicles (where they can and cannot be parked during a project)
- Detailed and safe plans of any disruption to sidewalks
- Clear hours of operation in terms of noise and dirt

In fact, our efforts may be overtaken by recently announced plans by the Seattle Department Of Transportation (SDOT) for our city. (Details have not yet been published at [www.seattle.gov/transportation/cmp.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/cmp.htm).)

We need to make sure there is clear, open and considerate communication. That way, problems are headed off before they arise. We need to work together to ensure our concerns are dealt with courteously and promptly. Look out for this topic on an upcoming RNA agenda and be part of the conversation! For more information please contact Peter James, Transportation Chair.

## AD SIZES & PRICING

Join the RNA as a business Member (\$95 annually) to receive a 20% discount on Rosie advertising

1/8 page  
4.00" wide x 2.50" tall  
\$50 / \$40 (RNA Member)

1/4 page  
4.00" wide x 5.25" tall  
\$100 / \$80 (RNA Member)

1/2 page - Horizontal  
8.00" wide x 5.25" tall  
\$200 / \$160 (RNA Member)

1/2 page - Vertical  
4.00" wide x 10.5" tall  
\$200 / \$160 (RNA Member)

Full Page  
8.00" wide x 10.5" tall  
\$400 / \$320 (RNA Member)

Provide a 300 DPI jpg for art

## The Fate of the Roosevelt Reservoir (A Twenty Year Old Question) by Renee Davis

It is hard to believe that it has been twenty years since Roosevelt embarked upon neighborhood planning. In the mid 90's, I co-chaired "Tomorrow's Roosevelt." With the help and guidance of a diverse group of neighbors, business owners, landlords and stakeholders, we drafted the first evolution of our neighborhood plan.

The city's approach to neighborhood planning in the 90's was to give the residents and stakeholders in the neighborhoods a voice in the planning of the designated urban villages. Roosevelt was classified as a "residential" urban village, the smallest of the urban villages. The department of neighborhoods assigned funds to hire consultants/planners, engage in outreach and put together a plan. The plan would address how to accommodate the density requirements as well as provide for open spaces and other amenities needed for an urban village. This process gave the neighborhoods input as to where the density would occur, what types of public amenities were desired, and where open spaces would be located.

After several public meetings and various forms of outreach, we devised a neighborhood survey that was color coded and distributed to the various stakeholders. Since this was in the days before email, surveys were either mailed or hand delivered by the blockheads of the RNA. The survey questions covered several topics including best location of the future light rail station, areas of the neighborhood that should be up zoned, where additional public space should be located, and what should be done with the reservoir site. At that time, the reservoir was slated to be capped and we had designated it to be used to meet the open space requirements of an urban village.

We received a high percentage of responses from all categories of stakeholders. The answers to the reservoir question included expanding Froula Park, adding play fields, a community center and even a pool. Since we were thinking in terms of the overall urban village, no one was considering adding density or housing at that site. That issue was already addressed and we needed to find open space to meet the planning requirements. Tomorrow's Roosevelt had concentrated the growth and density around the commer-

cial core with some extension west of Roosevelt Way toward the freeway. (As a side note, the update of the original plan ten years later, did up zone blocks of single family housing in the area located north of 65th and west of Roosevelt Way toward the freeway).

Fast forward to today and we are facing the same question but in a very different atmosphere. What should happen with the Roosevelt Reservoir site once it is decommissioned? Unlike twenty years ago, the city's support of neighborhood plans for their urban villages is not as strong as it once was, if it even exists at all. Some neighbors still believe a public space or open space is needed to offset the density requirements the neighborhood is absorbing, but others do not. There are many new voices with their own ideas, including politicians running for city council. One would like to see affordable housing and another has mentioned a new elementary school to help with the overcrowding at Green Lake Elementary.

The pressures and demands on Roosevelt are coming full speed to accommodate the population increase, bringing a lot more voices to the table beyond the Roosevelt neighborhood. Some are shouting louder than others. My hope is that our voice as a neighborhood will be heard, and that the ultimate decision as to what should be done with this valuable piece of real estate will take into consideration the best use of the space for our neighborhood as a whole. If this is something you care about, please consider joining in the upcoming meetings of the Land Use Academy. The list of scheduled meetings and topics can be found at the [RNA website](#).

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### Editor's Note:

The study for the reservoir is ongoing. It is unclear at this time if the Roosevelt Reservoir will be decommissioned. *The Roosie* asked Renee Davis to contribute this article after meeting her at the Land Use Academy.

To learn more please visit our website to read past blog posts on this topic. While Reservoir decisions are still a year or two away this topic needs exploration and discussion. "The Roosevelt Reservoir is in the News!" ([The Roosie, January 2015](#))

*The Roosie* needs YOU to contribute articles! Renters, newcomers, and youth are encouraged to participate!  
Email [communications@rooseveltseattle.org](mailto:communications@rooseveltseattle.org)

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## RNA LAND USE August 2015, ongoing topics and information

By Jay Lazerwitz

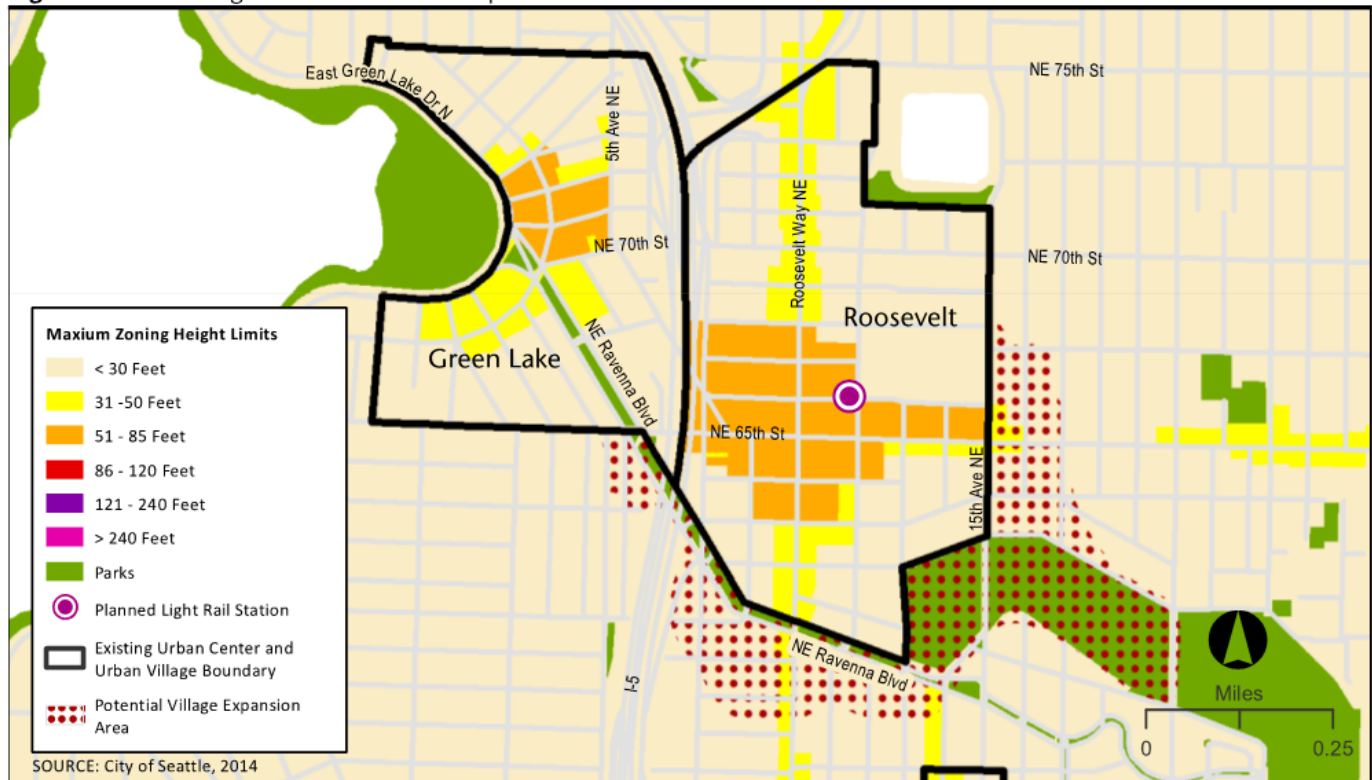
Neighborhood Design Guidelines: The current guidelines will be brought before the City Council, and hopefully adopted as drafted within the next month. The next step for our community is to use these guidelines in our review of projects proposed in our Residential Urban Village.

Seattle 2035 - Comprehensive Plan for future growth: <http://2035.seattle.gov/>

The LU committee will be discussing this plan at our September meeting. We will be sending comments to the City, due by the end of September. Roosevelt is a “Residential Urban Village” and in addition to a proposed increase in the Urban Village boundary (to the east and south), some of the proposals include:

- Guide more growth to areas within a 10-minute walk of frequent transit.
- Minimize displacement of marginalized populations as Seattle grows.
- Increase the diversity of housing types in lower density residential zones.
- Advance the opportunity for households of all income levels to live affordably in Seattle.

**Figure 3.4-16** Height limits—Roosevelt expansion area



HALA and affordable housing: Many of the HALA recommendations will hopefully continue to evolve, especially in regard to the proposed funding mechanisms, as this is sorely needed to produce additional affordable housing. The recommendations regarding changes to the single-family zones within Urban Villages are not part of the Mayor’s plan at this time. Kudos to the HALA committee for their broad look at increasing supply and reducing costs, more resources, supports and preservation, and innovation.

The Mayor’s action plan: [http://murray.seattle.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/HALA\\_ActionPlan\\_2015.pdf](http://murray.seattle.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/HALA_ActionPlan_2015.pdf)

Land Use Academy: See page 6 of this issue for more information. Please attend all upcoming learning sessions. We will be following up with additional discussions on these topics at our regular meetings.

The RNA Land Use Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 68<sup>th</sup> & Roosevelt, third floor. Upcoming meetings are September 8, October 13, and November 10. For more information please contact Jay Lazerwitz, Land Use Chair.



## Get Involved!

Please contact the RNA to share your skills and learn more about your neighborhood.

Name	Officer/Director	Email
Jack Mowreader	President	<a href="mailto:president@rooseveltseattle.org">president@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Stephen Fanelli	Vice President Business Business Membership	<a href="mailto:vp-business@rooseveltseattle.org">vp-business@rooseveltseattle.org</a> <a href="mailto:membership@rooseveltseattle.org">membership@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Scott Montagne	Vice President Residential Residential Membership	<a href="mailto:vp-residential@rooseveltseattle.org">vp-residential@rooseveltseattle.org</a> <a href="mailto:membership@rooseveltseattle.org">membership@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Mark Konings	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@rooseveltseattle.org">treasurer@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Ellen Stoecker	Secretary Sustainability / Emergency Prep Group	<a href="mailto:secretary@rooseveltseattle.org">secretary@rooseveltseattle.org</a> <a href="mailto:sustainability@rooseveltseattle.org">sustainability@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Angela Graham	Transportation	<a href="mailto:transportation@rooseveltseattle.org">transportation@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Katie Wood	Fundraising & Grants	<a href="mailto:fundraising@rooseveltseattle.org">fundraising@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Kmbris Bond	Roosevelt Business Group	<a href="mailto:business@rooseveltseattle.org">business@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Rich Trifeletti	Events & Culture	<a href="mailto:events@rooseveltseattle.org">events@rooseveltseattle.org</a>

Name	Committee Chairs	Email
Peter James	Transportation (RNAT)	<a href="mailto:transportation@rooseveltseattle.org">transportation@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Gina Leone	Head Blockhead for The Roosie	<a href="mailto:blockhead@rooseveltseattle.org">blockhead@rooseveltseattle.org</a>
Jim O'Halloran	Land Use Special Projects	
Laura Bernstein	Communications Editor, <i>The Roosie</i>	<a href="mailto:communications@rooseveltseattle.org">communications@rooseveltseattle.org</a> <a href="mailto:roosie@rooseveltseattle.org">roosie@rooseveltseattle.org</a>

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Subscribe to the RNA website blog at <http://www.rooseveltseattle.org>

Join the conversation with your neighbors at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/RooseveltSeattle/>

We need your help today. Please volunteer to edit, deliver and contribute articles to *The Roosie*.

**It's hard to believe that my daughter has started her second year at Green Lake Elementary School. The beginning of school brings all of Seattle's amazing Fall colors and endless activities. I hope you get a chance to enjoy some Fall fun with family and friends.**

**The market is still HOT HOT HOT**

The market has shown no signs of slowing down; multiple offers and pre-inspections have become expected from Sellers. This market has discouraged some Buyers and caused them to wait for the market to level out. These potential Buyers are on the sidelines waiting for this frenzy to slow. In my opinion the sideline Buyers will just strengthen our market in the long run once this Seller's Market slows. My only concern is that some Buyers are waiting for their turn at a "Buyer's Market," but unfortunately stats show that a Buyer's Market is not in the foreseeable future. With the price of rent still rising, even sometimes higher than a mortgage payment, strong employment, and low inventory it could be a long time until a Buyer's Market returns.

**A wise man once said, "Don't wait to buy real estate, buy real estate and wait."**

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## Land Use Academy Launches at Bull Moose Festival (Next Event Scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 19th.)

By Jim O'Halloran

The RNA Land Use Academy launched on July 25 at the Bull Moose Festival. A surprisingly large audience of 75 people attended the first of five planned meetings at Calvary Christian Assembly. This first class, "Roosevelt 101", was a series of short presentations on several chapters in recent Roosevelt land use history. The full session was video recorded; find a link at the RNA web site, <http://www.RooseveltSeattle.org>.

**What is the Land Use Academy?** It's the latest initiative of the Roosevelt Neighborhood Association to shape the physical form of our booming urban village. Simply because Roosevelt is a future light rail station site, our neighborhood is in the "cross hairs" of urban planners, developers and others who see opportunity here. The Land Use Academy is our effort to assert community values in the mix of other interests, and they are many.

At least three broad sites in Roosevelt have attracted significant attention. These are the rundown Sisley properties, the future light rail station and the Roosevelt Reservoir which might be – but we don't know yet – "surplused" and made available for other uses. These are all big properties which if and when redeveloped, will greatly impact the neighborhood, one way or another. Other people are formulating specific plans for these parcels.

**What do we want?** The RNA Land Use Academy is an original experiment in community empowerment and expression. Some folks say that traditional neighborhood interests are narrow and conservative. Roosevelt is more progressive than that – we have already embraced transit and density. In the Land Use Academy, we are thoughtfully considering different issues and points of view before issuing RNA positions on each of the three big land use topics.

**The next LUA class will be "Land Use 201"** – short presentations on a variety of current land use topics which might be considered in the development of key neighborhood sites. This free, 90-minute session will be highly informative and will start at 10:00 a.m. on **Saturday, September 19** at Calvary Christian Assembly. More background and event information is available on the RNA website at <http://rooseveltseattle.org/committees/landuse/lu>. Meetings will be video recorded for those unable to attend.

### ANNUAL RNA MEMBERSHIP FORM

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Student / Low Income      \$20 = Individual      \$35 = 2-Person Household      \$95 = Business Member  
(*pay what you can*)      \$\_\_\_\_\_ Other Tax Deductible Donation

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_      **Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Skill(s) / Area(s) of Community Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

- I would love to pay annual membership dues to support increasing RNA's outreach and community events.
- I enjoy receiving *The Roosie* at my door and will donate my time to deliver to others by being a "Blockhead".
- Please enter my email address to the <http://www.RooseveltSeattle.org> blog email list.
- Yes! I would love to place an ad to support *The Roosie*. (Discounts for members!)
- Please welcome me, by name, as a new or renewing member on the website/twitter/facebook/next issue of *The Roosie*.

Please make check payable to: *The Roosevelt Neighborhood Association* & Mail to: 6910 Roosevelt Way NE, Box #518, 98115

Please pay online today at <http://rooseveltseattle.org/membership>