

The future of parks and recreation is now

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The Canby Area Parks and Recreation District Board (CAPRD) would like to inform your organization of our renewed efforts to bring stable funding for parks and recreation services to the greater Canby area.

Since the fall of 2006, CAPRD has completed the necessary strategic planning process in order to proceed confidently. Currently, we are partnering with the city of Canby in developing a detailed survey with the University of Oregon's Community Planning Workshop based on results from a previous survey.

The new survey will provide detailed information from constituents regarding their favored services and preferred funding options.

The City of Canby has expressed interest in sponsoring a facilitated park and recreation stakeholder meeting after the survey is completed and evaluated. The timeline for this meeting will be in the fall of 2007. Prior to the stakeholder meeting our board members would like the opportunity to meet with representatives from your organization to discuss parks and recreation needs.

For those of you who are not familiar with CAPRD: Like the Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District in Beaverton, and the Chehalem Park and Recreation District in Newberg, the Canby Area Park and Recreation District is a special district with a defined service area, and an independent, elected board of directors.

In Oregon, special districts were, at one time, formed to provide a specific service to the citizens within specific boundaries. Often these districts provided water or sewer services in unincorporated areas.

Recreation districts were often formed in areas that included both incorporated cities, and adjacent unincorporated areas. This is what happened in the Canby area.

In 1964, the voters in the southern Clackamas County approved a measure to form the South Clackamas Recreation District (SCRD). The district's boundaries roughly mirrored those of the Canby Union High School District.

At that time, the voters did not approve a corresponding tax base for the district.

Because of that, the district is currently unfunded. Over the past four decades

the name of the South Clackamas Recreation District was changed to the Blue Heron Recreation District (BHRD), and in November 2006 changed to the current Canby Area Parks and Recreation District (CAPRD). The board of directors felt that the current name more aptly described where we are, and what services we want to provide.

The vision of CAPRD is to create a legacy for future generations by strengthening and uniting our community through parks and recreation. It is our goal to enhance the quality of life and recreational opportunities for our citizens through improved facilities, programs, services and personnel. We believe with community support, partnership and action Canby can have a thriving parks and recreation system.