



Mark the dates on your calendar now!

Saturday, June 5th

Dumpster Day at 59th and Cherry St

Saturday, July 10th

Picnic in Franklin Park

Reminder from BPA

"Keeping transmission lines safe and reliable is a critical priority for the Bonneville Power Administration. The key element in achieving those objectives is BPA's ability to construct, operate and maintain its transmission lines and rights-of-way — the area under and around the lines.

"You can help BPA keep these rights-of-way clear of trees, brush and structures that could affect the safety or reliability of the transmission system.

"Prior to planting, digging, or constructing within BPA's rights-of-way, fill out BPA's Land Use Application Form.

"Coordinating with BPA early in your planning process can keep you safe and avoid wasting time" (see web site on page 8).

Northwest Neighborhood

Spring 2010



Community input vital to city budget and long-range planning efforts

The City of Vancouver has two outreach programs underway to solicit community input to the budget and long-term planning. We will hear about both on Thursday, as well as have an opportunity to share our issues and concerns about where and how our taxes should be spent.

"Horizons" and the Budget. Like other cities around the country, the City of Vancouver faces some significant challenges for 2011 budget. Expenses are growing at a faster rate than revenues, but the City must have a balanced budget.

To address these issues, the City has developed "Horizons", a value-based program using the city's six Strategic Commitments as the guiding framework for prioritizing and realigning city services.

"Horizons" represents a new and collaborative approach to creating a more efficient organization and meeting budget challenges. Many components will be used to help inform decisions made by the City Manager and City Council, as follows.

- The City's Strategic Plan
- Performance measures from business plans and performance snapshots
- Financial forecasts and budget information
- Citizen feedback through Horizons

Laura Hudson of the City Manager's office will explain how the Horizons process works and how residents can be involved.

Long-Term Comprehensive Plan. After updating the City's Strategic Plan in 2008, the City adopted a plan for a more sustainable Vancouver in 2009 and, as required by law, is now updating its long-term Comprehensive Plan.

Here, too, the City is seeking input from neighborhood groups. Community Planning staff have begun working with these groups to identify how to connect neighborhoods sustainably with services that are nearby or at least readily accessible. (Continued page 3, **Plan**)