



# **Countryside Woods Neighborhood**



# **NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN**

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City of  
**VANCOUVER**  
WASHINGTON  
*March 2003*

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# **Countryside Woods Neighborhood Action Planning Committee**

Joan McConnell, Lead  
Kris Miller and Mark Miller  
Tina Henry

## **City Council**

Royce E. Pollard, Mayor

Jeanne Harris	Tim Leavitt
Pat Jollota	Jeanne Stewart
Jeanne Lipton	Dan Tonkovich

## **City of Vancouver**

Pat McDonnell, City Manager  
Tami Kihs, Community Services Department Director

## **Contributing Staff**

Hassan Abdalla, Transportation Department  
Tim Haldeman, Operation Services  
Dave Perlick, Transportation Department  
Eric Schadler, Construction Services  
Terry Snyder, Parks and Recreation Department  
Jan Bader, City Manager's Office  
Rita Davidson, Community Services  
Adrienne DeDona, Office of Neighborhoods  
Jocelyn Holland, CDBG Program  
Jeroen Kok, Parks and Recreation Department  
Todd Boulanger, Transportation Services  
Jennifer Campos, Transportation Services  
Howard Long, Transportation Services  
David Sacamano, Parks and Recreation Department  
Bryan Snodgrass, Long Range Planning Department

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# Introduction

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The purpose of a neighborhood action plan is to identify issues that are of concern to the residents of the neighborhood, and to devise strategies for addressing these concerns. In conjunction with broader policies and implementation measures contained within the City's comprehensive plan, the neighborhood action planning process is intended to protect and enhance the livability within specific neighborhoods, as well as to help fulfill the overall community vision and to create a more livable city. More specifically, neighborhood action plans are intended to:

- Educate both city government and neighborhood residents about each other's concerns and visions for the future.
- Promote collaboration between the city and the neighborhood in order to achieve mutual goals and a shared sense of responsibility.
- Create a "sense of place" within the community by identifying and developing the assets within each neighborhood.
- Initiate change, rather than simply reacting to it, by addressing specific issues and opportunities.
- Achieve sensible and coordinated project and program planning within each neighborhood and between all the city's neighborhoods.
- Strengthen neighborhoods.



## Relationship to the Comprehensive Plan

In general, a comprehensive plan is intended to provide broad policy direction, which is implemented through more specific development regulations and capital expenditure programs. Comprehensive plans do not, however, typically address the more immediate needs and concerns of individual neighborhoods. This is the purpose of a sub-area or neighborhood plan.

The City's comprehensive plan, entitled *Visions for the Vancouver Urban Area*, was adopted in December of 1994 and scheduled to be updated in 2002. The Plan specifically states that the City should: "*create neighborhood plans by assisting neighborhood organizations in identifying issues, policies and implementation measures specific to their areas.*"

The purpose of the Countryside Woods Neighborhood Action Plan is to integrate neighborhood needs into the City's budget process, Six-Year Street Improvement Program, Neighborhood Traffic Control Program, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, and other planning and funding programs. The general policy statements included in the Action Plan may also be used by the City Council to guide future decisions involving development proposals and plan amendments affecting the neighborhood.



## **The Neighborhood Action Planning Process**

The Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association, with assistance from the City of Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods, has developed this plan. The actual preparation of this plan is being coordinated by the Neighborhood Action Planning Committee, whose members were appointed by the Neighborhood Association to represent the interests of the neighborhood as a whole.

A survey was taken and a draft version of this Action Plan has been made available to each household in Countryside Woods for review and comment by all residents of the neighborhood. After considering and reconciling comments from the residents, the plan has been endorsed by the Neighborhood Association according to their specific by-laws. After neighborhood approval, the Plan will be forwarded to City Council for consideration and acceptance by resolution.

It is intended that city agencies will utilize the action plans as input in developing more specific work programs and helping to establish citywide funding priorities. It is recognized that many of the recommendations contained in the action plans are conceptual only and may need to be analyzed in greater detail, both individually and in relationship to other recommendations. It should also be emphasized that financial resources may not exist for implementing all of the recommendations identified in the plan.



## **Overview of the Plan**

This Plan contains four components. The NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE contains a general description of the current conditions within the neighborhood. The VISION STATEMENT describes the neighborhood's sense of identity and vision for its future. The NEIGHBORHOOD OBJECTIVES identifies issues that are of concern to the residents of the neighborhood. The NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION STEPS includes specific potential strategies for accomplishing the identified objectives. Each Action Step is prioritized and identifies the responsible parties for implementing those strategies.



## **Funding and Financial Resources**

Having the Neighborhood Action Plan does not guarantee funding to carry out the Action Steps. The Vancouver City Council does appropriate grant money each year via Neighborhood Action Planning and matching grant programs to help implement Action Steps. In addition, neighborhoods may be eligible for many private, federal, and state funding programs.

# Neighborhood Profile

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The Countryside Woods neighborhood is located approximately 7 miles east of the Vancouver city center. The neighborhood, which occupies approximately 100 square blocks/acres with over 700 houses, is bounded on the south by NE 6<sup>th</sup> St., on the west by 153<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, on the north by 18<sup>th</sup> Street, and on the east by 162<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Northeast 7<sup>th</sup> Street (aka Bluegrass Drive) and 155<sup>th</sup> Avenue are the main arterials within the neighborhood boundaries.

Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association (CWNA) was recognized as the City of Vancouver's 58<sup>th</sup> neighborhood association on May 21, 2001.

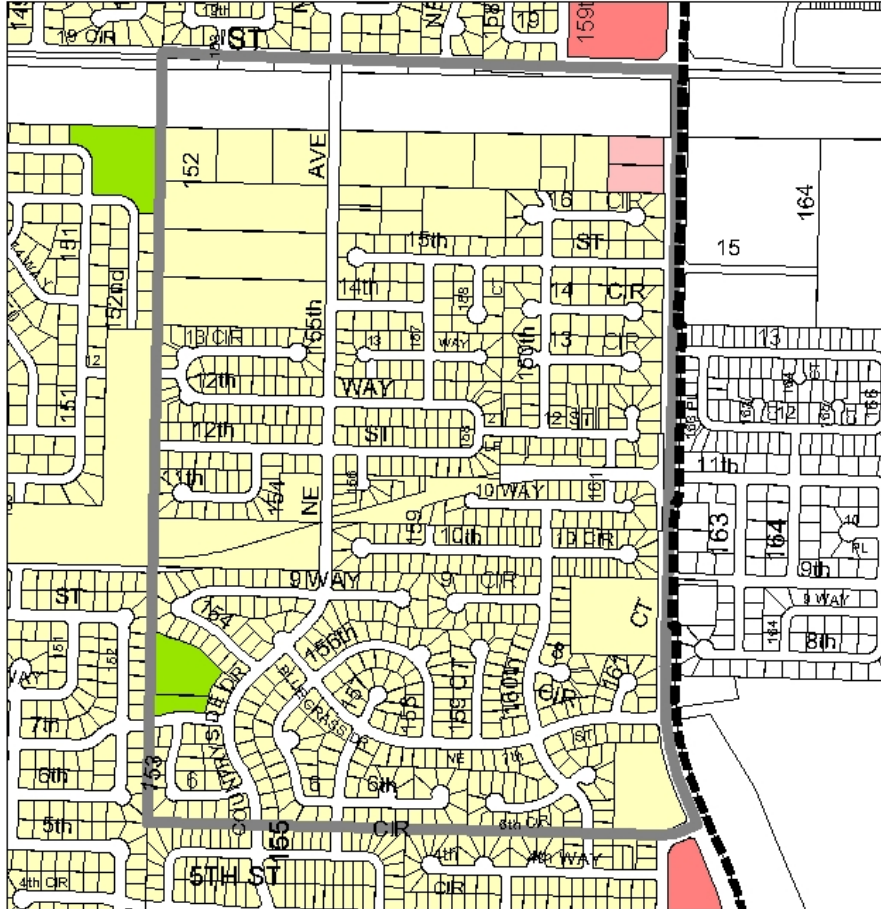
The Countryside Woods neighborhood is situated in the middle of the traditional Mill Plain, historically a flat and treeless area. The soil is composed of sand and gravel-sized deposits, along with larger rocks left from glacial outbursts from the ancient Lake Missoula which swirled around Camas' Prune Hill, 10,000 years ago. The land now occupied by the Countryside Woods neighborhood was originally owned by John Antone Young, a German immigrant, in 1889. He and his family built their home on a farm in what was then considered the community of Harmony.

The neighborhood, although strictly single family dwellings with the exception of a gravel pit, church, and historic Fisher's Grange, provides a mix of residential lots of varying sizes. The eastern most section of the neighborhood was developed first, beginning in the early 1980s. From there, a number of subdivisions were completed by various developers, the total of which now comprises Countryside Woods. The differences in builders and timing in development, lends to a mix of architectural style. This difference in style, combined with mature trees throughout the neighborhood, provides an overall traditional feeling. Cul-de-sacs, circles and loops off of the main arterials enhance the privacy of much of the neighborhood. A number of the homes located primarily near the southern border, are used as rentals. A few of the streets within the neighborhood do not have sidewalks. Even though this lends a comfortable rural feel, it also creates a safety issue with the increased neighborhood and cut-through traffic. The three-acre Countryside Woods Neighborhood Park, completed in November of 2000, provides a playground for children and gathering spot for neighbors.

Countryside Woods neighborhood children attend the Mill Plain and Hearthwood Elementary Schools, Pacific Middle School, and Evergreen High School.

Residents of the Countryside Woods neighborhood have exceptional access to local shops and services many located within walking distance. Countryside Woods is also known for its holiday light displays.

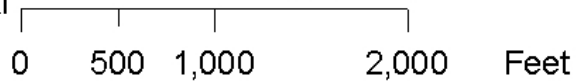
# Neighborhood Zoning/Comp Map



Countryside

## Legend

- Urban Low Residential
- Neighborhood Commercial
- Community Commercial
- OS/Parks



# Vision Statement

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Countryside Woods envisions itself as a family-oriented, caring community. Residents are committed to improving the safety of our streets and sidewalks, as well as preserving our existing open spaces. Attention to these issues will increase the quality of life for all who live here, especially our children.

We look forward to a time when improvements in traffic safety and completion of sidewalks and bike paths, where appropriate, will allow all of our neighbors the ability to move safely within our community.

We intend to be an active partner with our neighboring communities and the City of Vancouver. Our participation in planning for traffic control, park maintenance, and growth management will improve livability for not only our current residents, but future neighbors and the city as a whole.



# Objectives and Action Steps

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The following recommended action items identified as having a "high" priority are considered by the Neighborhood Association to be most important. "Medium" priority action steps are somewhat less important. "Low" priority action steps are considered least important.

Priority has been assigned by the Neighborhood Association for each action step without regard for the time

frame within which the recommendation can realistically be accomplished (short-range, long-range) and without concern for whether funding sources can be practically identified. Accordingly, it is possible that a "High" priority item may not be realized for many years. In contrast, some "Low" priority items could be potentially accomplished in a relatively short amount of time without significant capital expense.

Listed below are abbreviations for the various responsible parties used throughout the document:

## **ABBREVIATIONS:**

<b>B/D</b>	<b>Builders &amp; Developers</b>
<b>CCAC</b>	<b>Clark County Animal Control</b>
<b>CITY</b>	<b>All Responsible City Departments</b>
<b>CMS</b>	<b>Community Mediation Services</b>
<b>CWNA</b>	<b>Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association</b>
<b>DRS</b>	<b>Development Review Services</b>
<b>FOT</b>	<b>Friends of Trees</b>
<b>FG</b>	<b>Federal Government</b>
<b>GRN</b>	<b>"Green" Organizations</b>
<b>LRPS</b>	<b>Long Range Planning Services</b>
<b>OPS</b>	<b>Operations Department</b>
<b>ONA</b>	<b>Other Neighborhood Associations</b>
<b>OWN</b>	<b>Neighborhood Property Owners</b>
<b>NTSC</b>	<b>Neighborhood Traffic Safety Committee</b>
<b>OON</b>	<b>Office of Neighborhoods</b>
<b>SW</b>	<b>Solid Waste Department</b>
<b>SOW</b>	<b>State of Washington</b>
<b>VCE</b>	<b>Vancouver Code Enforcement</b>
<b>V-CPRD</b>	<b>Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department</b>
<b>V-CPRF</b>	<b>Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Foundation</b>
<b>VPD</b>	<b>Vancouver Police Department</b>
<b>VTS</b>	<b>Vancouver Transportation Services</b>
<b>VUF</b>	<b>Vancouver Urban Forestry</b>

# I. COMMUNITY APPEARANCE

## **Objective #1**

**To encourage neighbors to maintain the visual appearance of their home and property, which helps preserve and enhance the overall neighborhood livability.**

Countryside Woods Neighborhood residents realize that their well-maintained homes, property and streets contribute to the overall character and quality of life in the area. Through active neighborhood association participation, personal responsibility, code enforcement and stronger city ordinances, we wish to promote regular maintenance and upkeep of properties in our neighborhood, and create a sense of pride throughout.

<b><u>Action Steps</u></b>	<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Responsible Parties</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue annual clean-up day and chipper day.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, OON, SW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain and preserve our dedicated park (Countryside Park)</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, V-CPRD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage residents to alert appropriate parties of any violations concerning:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Abandoned cars,</li> <li>2. Compliance with junk keeping ordinances,</li> <li>3. Unkempt homes/properties (rentals, bank foreclosures, etc.)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	High	CWNA, VCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Executive Board shall support stronger ordinances to foster neighborhood appearance.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage continued seasonal decorations.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA

## **Objective #2**

**To save our mature trees and open spaces, and preserve the overall appearance of Countryside Woods.**

Countryside Woods residents want to stop the City's Transportation plan to connect 11th/9th Street from 162nd to I-205. This would radically change our neighborhood and overall livability. Our "woods" are part of who we are.

<b><u>Action Steps:</u></b>	<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Responsible Parties</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Remove the 11th/9th Street connection from City's 20-year Transportation plan.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, NTSC, VTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify and plant new trees on streets without them.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, VUF, VTS, OON, CITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain and/or preserve our older, mature trees.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, OON, CITY, VUF

## II. COMMUNITY BUILDING

### **Objective #1**

**To encourage neighbors to maintain our strong sense of community, continue to foster neighborly relationships, and continue to be an active partner with our neighboring communities and the City of Vancouver.**

Everyone feels more relaxed, safe, and secure when residents know their neighbors, and look out for each other. The Countryside Woods Neighborhood values the many community resources (such as schools, the Grange, local businesses, shopping, etc.) that exist nearby and appreciate the opportunities they provide.

<b>Action Steps:</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage neighbors to start Neighborhood Watch program.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, VPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue with annual events such as picnic/potluck, garage sale, Walk and Knock, etc.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hold more activities, events, and fundraisers sponsored by Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strengthen relationship with Fisher's Community Grange and other non-residential neighbors.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, OWN

### III. LAND USE / OPEN SPACE

#### **Objective #1**

**To ensure that Single Family Dwelling character of the neighborhood is continued.**

The residences of Countryside Woods Neighborhood are all single family dwellings; there are no apartments or duplexes. The zoning for the neighborhood is R1- Single Family Residential. The homes in our neighborhood are affordable, with a mix of price ranges from moderate to high end. It is in our best interest to ensure that the single family dwelling character of the neighborhood is maintained.

<b><u>Action Steps:</u></b>	<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Responsible Parties</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Work with the various city departments to ensure only Single Family Dwellings are built within our boundaries.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, CITY, DRS, LRPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Work with Planning to determine proper “infill” for our neighborhood.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, DRS, LRPS, B/D

#### **Objective #2**

**Preserve and protect the current natural undeveloped open spaces within our neighborhood boundaries and work towards official recognition of designated open spaces.**

The area encompassed by Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association boundaries has several undeveloped natural areas. The undeveloped, proposed 11<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Street connection between 162<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and I-205 is one of the largest treed open space in our neighborhood. The proposed street stretches westward from 162<sup>nd</sup> to a half-developed 9<sup>th</sup> street in Hearthwood Neighborhood. From 162<sup>nd</sup> Avenue it goes between established homes, bumps into a cul de sac at 10<sup>th</sup> Way, angles across 155<sup>th</sup> Avenue, through a treed vacant field west of 155<sup>th</sup> that the County used to own, and then out of the neighborhood.

The entire stretch of this street in our neighborhood is covered with tall, mature fir trees, hazelnuts, and other assorted trees and brush. There are numerous small mammals and birds that thrive in this open space. There were even deer in the County owned lot west of 155<sup>th</sup> for many years, disappearing between 2000 and 2002. This swath of mature trees and all the niceties that it brings to the neighborhood would be leveled and paved over if 11<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Street is connected.

At the dead end of 11<sup>th</sup> Street (at 160<sup>th</sup> Avenue) one neighbor has consistently mowed down the grass/weeds in a large area during the summer so that neighborhood children have a place to play out of the street. There is interest in making the dead end of 11<sup>th</sup> Street an official open space, along with the entire length of the proposed 11<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Street connection. This proposed street connection also impacts at least 38 homes directly affected by the removal of this green space. They would have streets and traffic at both the front and back of their homes. Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association is opposed to the connection of 11<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Street and the destruction of this open space area. We are willing to work with the city to remove this street project from its 20-Year Plan.

There are also open areas under the BPA electrical towers. These areas should be preserved in order to buffer the neighborhood from the increasing noise and traffic of 18<sup>th</sup> Street. Fisher’s Grange has a large stand of mature fir trees on their property. We will vigilantly work to protect the current open spaces within our neighborhood boundaries.

We believe these trees are an important part of the city’s tree canopy for a number of reasons: absorbing carbon dioxide, releasing oxygen and improving air quality, reducing water runoff into the public drainage system, and facilitating the replacement of groundwater. We are willing to work with the Urban Forestry Commission to apply the State Forest Practice Act to City Forests to preserve the current canopies that exist in our neighborhood.

<b>Action Steps:</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with the City of Vancouver to remove the proposed street connection.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, VTS, LRPS, DRS, VUF, NTSC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take the necessary steps to get official open space designation.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, V-CPRD, VUF, SOW, GRN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively work with all non-residential neighbors for preservation of trees and open spaces.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, CITY, B/D, ONA, FOT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for grants to fund the maintenance of the open spaces and trees.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, OON, V-CPRD, VUF, SOW & Oregon, GRN, FG, FOT

### **Objective #3**

**Attain full development and utilization of the existing neighborhood park (Countryside) and the proposed community parks (Pacific and Haagen).**

The area encompassed by Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association has several natural undeveloped areas and one neighborhood park, Countryside. The neighborhood is situated between two proposed Community Parks, Haagen Park (136<sup>th</sup> Avenue) and Pacific Park (18<sup>th</sup> Street).

In 1982 the developers of Blue Grass Ranch Subdivision set aside three acres, designated as an “open space” as a condition of approval of the subdivision. After the City of Vancouver annexed this area, the open space was included in the Park Legacy Program. This program funded park development from the REET (Real Estate Excise Tax) and proposed to improve twenty-two neighborhood and community parks to Level II by the year 2002. In 1999 a neighborhood park improvement committee was formed and helped the city and Parks Department improve the park. These improvements (design, playground equipment, dirt paths, and a few picnic tables) were completed and dedicated on 11/5/00 at Level II. Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association and its residents wish to have Countryside Park completed to Phase III in the near future.

Haagen Community Park and Pacific Community Park are proposed parks. The land has been purchased, but the REET is now in danger of being diverted from park development to other uses due to budget constraints. Community Parks are typically larger areas (10-20 acres) and have enough room for several team sports to run concurrently (baseball, football, soccer) on defined fields. Since there are no Community Parks on the eastern portion of Vancouver, these Community parks would greatly add to the quality of life in Countryside Woods Neighborhood.

<b>Action Steps:</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with the Vancouver Parks and Recreation Department in developing Countryside Park to Level III.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, V-CPRD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for grants to further enhance Countryside Park development.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, V-CPRD, SOW & Oregon, FG, GRN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Executive Board of Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association will take an active roll in supporting and promoting community parks and their development east of Interstate 205.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, V-CPRD, other organizations willing to support and promote community parks.

## **Objective #4**

**Maintain the “Woods” in the Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association boundaries by working with the city to plant, maintain, and replace trees in our neighborhood.**

There are numerous single standing trees, from mature to newly planted, throughout the neighborhood. Some areas have trees over 40’ tall and several decades old, other have newer trees planted by the developer. There are also trees in the right of way planted by a governmental agency (either city or county). The city should be maintaining these (between the sidewalk and the street) and replacing diseased ones.

The developed and undeveloped areas of our neighborhood should have more trees. More trees would enhance the environment by reducing noise, cleaning the air, reducing energy costs, and giving a more pleasant atmosphere to our neighborhood.

<b>Action Steps:</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Work with the city to ensure that proper maintenance is done on all trees that it is responsible for.</li></ul>	Medium	CWNA, OPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Have an annual neighborhood wide Chipper Day to encourage proper tree trimming.</li></ul>	Medium	CWNA, OON, SW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Encourage neighbors to participate in the city’s NeighborWoods Program for tree Stewardship.</li></ul>	Medium	CWNA, VUF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Encourage and help neighbors plant trees in their yards and in undeveloped open spaces.</li></ul>	Medium	CWNA, VUF, OWN, OON, FOT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Apply for grants for tree purchasing/planting, and for tree maintenance.</li></ul>	Medium	CWNA, CITY, OON, VUF, FOT

## IV. NOISE & NUISANCE

### **Objective #1**

**To maintain the quality of life within our neighborhood by reducing unwanted noise and nuisances.**

Our neighborhood is mainly a residential one, with many homes that are in close proximity to major streets, which produce unwanted noise. To ensure peaceful coexistence among all residents, we shall work together to discourage common nuisances.

<b><u>Action Steps:</u></b>	<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Responsible Parties</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Neighbors should demonstrate respect and consideration in controlling pet noise, roaming of pets, and to ensure proper clean up after pets at all times.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, CCAC, VPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ We encourage common courtesy in the use of stereo and other electronic devices in compliance with city regulations.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, VPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage safe fireworks celebrations by having parental supervision of children at all times, obeying city ordinances regarding lawful times and dates of usage, and thorough cleanup afterwards.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, VFD, VPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pursue methods to reduce traffic noise in the neighborhood near major streets.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, VTS

## V. SENSITIVE LAND / ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### **Objective #1**

**Maintain an open dialogue with Schmid Brothers, owners and operators of the Schmid Pit, in order to be aware of any adverse impact to our neighborhood land use or environment.**

The Schmid Pit, a gravel operation within the Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association boundaries, has been in operation on 155<sup>th</sup> Avenue since at least the 1970s. It was called Zimmerly Rock Pit prior to Mr. Schmid's purchase of the property in November 1985. There are residences across the street from the Pit on the east side and adjacent to it on the north and south sides. The truck traffic to and from the Pit seems to have minimal impact on the neighborhood at this time, as it is mainly on the north end of 155<sup>th</sup> Street. Lately, the truck traffic seems to be carrying concrete into the pit; no gravel appears to be coming out of the pit. This is causing concern in the neighborhood. The owners/operators have not been active in Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association.

<b><u>Action Steps:</u></b>	<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Responsible Parties</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Start and continue a dialogue with the owners of Schmid Pit.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, Schmid Pit owners, CITY.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine status of the Pit and future plans of the owners.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, Schmid Pit owners, CITY.



## VI. TRAFFIC & PUBLIC SAFETY

### **Objective #1**

**Increase pedestrian and bicycle access and safety throughout the neighborhood.**

Walking and cycling are important sources of recreation and are prevalent within all age ranges within our neighborhood. Our neighborhood's infrastructure has not been completed and impacts the safety of our residents.

<b><u>Action Steps:</u></b>	<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Responsible Parties</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify the need for painted crosswalks and encourage installation at all 4-way stop intersections.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Install painted stop lines and "STOP" verbiage at all non 4-way stop intersections.</li> </ul>	High	NTSC, VTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Install sidewalks where missing throughout the neighborhood (8<sup>th</sup> Circle, 12<sup>th</sup> St., 160<sup>th</sup> Ave., 155<sup>th</sup> Ave., 18<sup>th</sup> St., 6<sup>th</sup> Circle, 161<sup>st</sup> Ct., 162<sup>nd</sup> Ave.)</li> </ul>	High	NTSC, VTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Install bike lanes on NE 7<sup>th</sup> St (Bluegrass Drive) and 155<sup>th</sup> Ave.</li> </ul>	High	NTSC, VTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Apply for all available grants to achieve traffic and safety objectives.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, CITY, NTSC, OON

### **Objective #2**

**Institute an active crime watch program in all parts of the neighborhood.**

An active neighborhood crime watch program can be an effective deterrent to crime and promote a greater sense of security for residents. It can also be a way for neighbors to meet one another and be a starting point for working together to achieve other goals.

<b><u>Action Steps:</u></b>	<b><u>Priority</u></b>	<b><u>Responsible Parties</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain a liaison with the Vancouver Police Department.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, VPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Create a program to keep team captains active and informed, including encouraging team meetings.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA, VPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain current phone trees and create new ones.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain and even increase Crime Watch signage.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, VPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hold a team captain meeting at least annually.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hold a practice drill annually.</li> </ul>	High	CWNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Educate residents about crime prevention measures such as dead bolt locks, motion detectors, and personal safety awareness.</li> </ul>	Medium	CWNA, VPD

### **Objective #3**

**Discourage the extension of 11<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> St. and eliminate the arterial designation from the current traffic plan.**

We are strongly opposed to the extension of 11<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> street from 162<sup>nd</sup> to Interstate 205. The city wishes to use our neighborhood as a relief valve for Mill Plain traffic. If the extension is complete, it will create a cut through speedway that would require traffic calming, take away our open spaces, increase noise levels, and devalue the surrounding properties.

<b>Action Steps:</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Work with the City to remove the 11<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> street connection from the 20-year plan.</li></ul>	High	CWNA, CITY, VTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Continue partnership with other affected neighborhood associations, including “9<sup>th</sup> Street Neighbors”, to work toward common goals.</li></ul>	High	CWNA, 9 <sup>th</sup> St. Neighbors, NTSC

### **Objective #4**

**Encourage safe driving habits in the neighborhood.**

Vehicular traffic is a serious and common problem for most neighborhoods. It is viewed primarily as a public safety issue, however higher speeds also increase noise levels and create an added threat to pets and native animals. We recognize that problems stem from both cut-through traffic and neighborhood residents.

<b>Action Steps:</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Identify strategic location and pursue installation of traffic calming devices such as speed bumps and traffic circles. Particular emphasis will be on NE 7<sup>th</sup> St (Bluegrass Drive) and 155<sup>th</sup> Ave.</li></ul>	High	CWNA, NTSC, VTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Paint center-dividing lines on NE 7<sup>th</sup> St., 155<sup>th</sup> Ave., and 160<sup>th</sup> Ave.</li></ul>	High	NTSC, VTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Lobby for appropriate speed and stop sign enforcement by Vancouver Police Department.</li></ul>	High	VTS, CWNA, VPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Identify locations for additional posted speed limit signs with emphasis on 155<sup>th</sup> Ave, north of 14<sup>th</sup> St., and pursue installation.</li></ul>	High	CWNA, VTS, NTSC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Pursue the use of “radar reader boards” to accurately measure and report speeds.</li></ul>	High	VTS, CWNA, VPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Apply for all available grants to achieve traffic and safety objectives.</li></ul>	High	VTS, NTSC, CWNA, VPD, OON

## **Objective #5**

**Encourage a safe environment for all residents.**

The overall safety of all residents of Countryside Woods is one of our highest priorities. As our neighborhood is highly residential, we have an ideal environment for residents of all ages to enjoy the outdoors. With this, however, comes additional responsibilities necessary to maintain the safety of all residents.

<b>Action Steps:</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Identify the need for, and pursue installation of, additional street lighting throughout the neighborhood with emphasis on 155<sup>th</sup> St., north of NE 12<sup>th</sup> Way, and Countryside Park.</li></ul>	High	CWNA, VTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Encourage neighbors to follow principles of responsible pet ownership, focusing on scoop laws and leash usage.</li></ul>	High	CWNA, CCAC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Encourage adult neighbors to maintain responsibility for their children who may be playing outside of their home.</li></ul>	Medium	CWNA, OWN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Ensure that lighting outages are reported and responded to in a timely manner. Follow-up on prolonged repair time.</li></ul>	High	CWNA, OPS