

## NEIGHBORHOOD REPORTS

### Transparency and Trust, the DNA of Civic Engagement

#### SW Hills Residential League

##### Next Meeting:

Annual Membership Meeting  
Wednesday, May 21, 6:30pm  
In Person: St. Thomas More  
Parish Hall 3525 SW Patton Road  
Chair: **Joyce del Rosario**  
[contact@swhrl.org](mailto:contact@swhrl.org)

Southwest Hills leaders encourage our fellow District Four Coalition members to pay close attention to the guidance from the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGE). Both the Ethical Code of Conduct and the Public Meetings Law rules are integral in how we and other nonprofit organizations stay in compliance and stay on mission.

#### Ethical Code of Conduct

SWHRL suggests that NA Board Directors consider state and federal guidance as they develop internal Ethical Codes of Conduct. In 2022, the Commission adopted this aspirational code of conduct as recommended by the Oregon Secretary of State 2021 Audit:

*As an elected, appointed, employed, or volunteer public official, I acknowledge that I am subject to compliance with Oregon Government Ethics law as set forth in ORS Chapter 244. In the conduct of my official duties as a public official, I will act ethically when I:*

- Uphold the public trust by safeguarding the public money and resources
- Behave in an open, honest, and transparent manner
- Conduct the public's business fairly and objectively
- Disclose financial conflicts of interest

- Do not use my public position for personal gain
- Observe limits on the receipt of gifts

Although many volunteers do not have "public official" duties, most of our Articles of Incorporation require us to operate as a public-benefit organization to preserve our privilege of being tax-exempt.

#### Public Meetings Law Training

Southwest Hills extends an invitation to our District Four neighbors to join the three-hour OGE's Public Meetings Law Training on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 4pm. The seminar is organized by SWHRL President **Joyce del Rosario** on behalf of neighborhood association volunteers.



OGE offers Public Meetings Law training in-person, online and via hybrid formats. This training is free and designed for individual governing body members who are subject to Oregon Public Meetings Law; however, anyone can attend.

The training satisfies the Public Meetings Law training requirement in ORS 192.700. It covers the individual responsibilities of governing body members, how the statutes apply to convening a public meeting, an overview of executive session provisions, and a look at the grievance process.

[Register here](#) at least 24 hours in advance. Governing body members

who take the training will receive a certificate of completion.

#### Looking for a Public Record?

It may already be online. A wealth of public information is available at [Oregon Transparency - Opening State Government to Everyone](#). More data is available to browse, download or even embed in your website, at [Data.Oregon.gov](http://Data.Oregon.gov).

**Joyce del Rosario**  
SWHRL President

#### Annual Meeting Notice

##### All Neighbors Welcomed!

Wednesday, May 21, 6:30pm  
St. Thomas More Parish Hall.

**Membership:** New members and Board members can apply at any time during the year. Members need only express in writing or by opt-in to join the neighborhood association.

**Leadership:** Board members shall apply and be nominated for Board approval. Please refer to our webpage for the Board of Directors List (includes 2024-2025 Director information and current vacancies).

For more information about nominations, please [click here](#). Candidates need not be present to be elected to the Board of Directors.

#### Proposed Board of Directors

President - Joyce del Rosario  
Vice President - Vacant  
Secretary - Richard Horswell  
Treasurer - Vacant  
Land Use/Transportation Chair - Craig Koon  
Public Safety Chair - Kim Silverman  
Historic Preservation Chair - Bill Failing  
Schools Chair - Brian Groves  
Membership Chair - Vacant