

Burnt Bridge Creek

Neighborhood Association



NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN

January 2019



Neighborhood Plan Update Committee

Steve Downing, Chairperson
Janet Railsback
Dee Rainwater

City Council

Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor
Bart Hansen
Bill Turlay
Ty Stober
Linda Glover
Laurie Lebowsky
Erik Paulsen

City Staff

Eric Holmes, City Manager
Judi Bailey, Office of Neighborhoods
Tim Buck, BBCNA City Liaison

City Departments

Community & Economic Development
Communications - Public Works
Transportation - Public Works
Sidewalks - Public Works
Urban Forestry - Public Works
Solid Waste - Public Works
Vancouver Police Department
Vancouver Fire Department

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Introduction

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 Vancouver Comprehensive Plan 2011-2030, was updated in 2011. Vancouver identifies itself as a city of neighborhoods. The City of Vancouver formally recognizes 67 neighborhood associations that include over 90 percent of the city's population. The Neighborhood Action Plans are not formally adopted as part of the comprehensive plan, but they are consistent with the plan's direction and are submitted for review and acceptance by the Vancouver City Council.

The purpose of the Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood Association Action Plan is to integrate neighborhood needs into the City's budget process, Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (including sidewalks, bike lanes, travel lanes, intersection capacity and traffic control), 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 Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood Association with assistance from the City of Vancouver Neighborhood Services has developed this plan. The actual preparation of this plan was 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. The original Committee Members included: Melissa Abbe, Angela Harp, John Harp, Steve Harris, Kim Mattox, and Amy Smith.

Originally, a survey was taken in June 2004 and a draft version of this Action Plan was made available to each household in October 2004 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 was forwarded to City Council for consideration and acceptance by resolution in March of 2005.

In early 2018, the need for updating the Plan was identified as a goal for the Association and a new Committee was formed. Through the use of an online survey and input by neighbors, various changes were considered. An updated version of the Action Plan was presented to the Association for review. After additional considerations and reconciliations were made the Plan was approved. After approval the Plan was sent to the Office of Neighborhoods for acceptance. The updated Action Plan became effective in January of 2019.

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 only conceptual 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 a Neighborhood Action Plan does not guarantee funding to implement Neighborhood Action Steps; however, the neighborhood may be eligible for private, non-profit, city, state, and federal funding programs to help implement certain Action Steps.

Neighborhood Land History

The Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood Association can be found in the South half of Section 14, Township 2 North, Range 2 East. In 1889, Gustav Seivert owned the east half of the parcel. The west half of the parcel was owned by Christopher Richard, Levi Taylor, and Peter Peterson. The Seivert family continued ownership well into the twentieth century.

In the twentieth century, the O'Day family from Wisconsin bought a section along today's NE162nd Avenue. The three sons of Daniel and Elizabeth O'Day; Jordan, Bruce, and Daniel lived side by side on NE 162nd Avenue.

By the 1970's subdivisions of the land appeared with Wedgewood Acres and Wedgewood 2 at 137th Avenue and 39th Street. The remaining land was owned by Owen Vogel.

Subdivisions and construction of new homes escalated in the 1980's and 1990's, extending the neighborhood in a northeasterly direction of the remaining parcel.

Now, the Burnt Bridge Neighborhood consists of over 1700 residential homes.

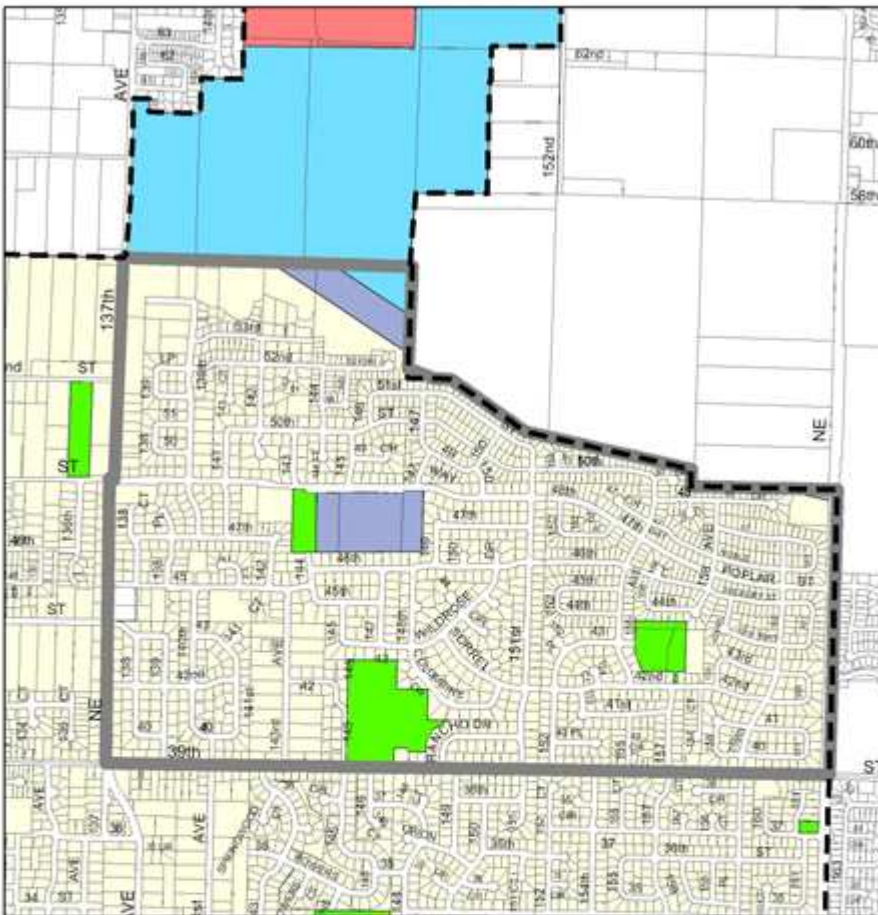
Neighborhood Profile

The Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood is one of the largest in the City of Vancouver. The neighborhood consists of both single and two story residential homes. Many homes within the neighborhood are nestled among fir trees providing a natural feel and protection against various weather conditions. We value the trees throughout our neighborhood and recognize their importance to our city's overall tree canopy. Our neighborhood is fortunate to have Burnt Bridge Creek Elementary School "centrally" located in the community. The school provides a great place to hold meetings and large events. We are privileged to have two city parks within our neighborhood: Burnt Bridge Creek Park; adjacent to the elementary school, and Fir Garden Park. Both parks have similar and different amenities for our neighbors to enjoy. Although we have no commercial businesses in our neighborhood, we have access to many services and businesses just a couple of miles away.

Neighborhood Boundaries

The boundaries of the Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood extend:
North along Burnt Bridge Creek, BPA easement, and light industrial zoned properties
South to NE 39th Street
East to NE162nd Avenue
West to NE137th Avenue

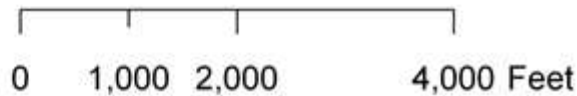
Neighborhood Area Map



Legend

- Urban Low Residential
- General Commercial
- Light Industrial
- Public Facility
- Open Space

Burnt Bridge Creek



Mission Statement

The mission of the Burnt Bridge Neighborhood Association is to build community by providing a forum for sharing information, connecting neighbors, promoting activities, and fostering civic involvement within our community and the city at large.

Vision and Values

We are a volunteer association striving to make our neighborhood a better place to live, with membership being open to everyone residing in the Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood.

We are responsive to our community's needs through the healthy and active relationships we build with our neighbors, other neighborhood groups, surrounding neighborhood businesses, community organizations and the City of Vancouver.

We operate as a conduit of information for our neighbors by organizing meetings, providing periodic speakers, distributing newsletters, and updating on various social media platforms. We keep our neighbors aware of city operations, potential developments or changes in the neighborhood, and community events.

We sponsor activities within our neighborhood to promote neighborhood unity.

We offer an opportunity for neighbors to bring forth their concerns and problems, providing direction and connecting them to resources for further investigation of their issues.

We respect, recognize and maintain ethnic, family, socio-economic and cultural diversity.

Objectives and Action Steps

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:

AC	Animal Control – Clark County
ADA	Americans with Disability Act
BBCNA	Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood Association
BC	Business Community
CITY	All Responsible City Departments
CMS	Community Mediation Services (Community Non-profit Organization)
CRESA	Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency
CTAN	CTAN (Public Transportation Agency)
NTSA	Neighborhood Transportation Safety Alliance
OWN	Neighborhood Property Owners
PMG	Property Management Groups
VCC	Vancouver Code Compliance
VFD	Vancouver Fire Department
VPR	Vancouver Parks and Recreation
VON	Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods
VPD	Vancouver Police Department
VPW	Vancouver Public Works
VSWS	Vancouver Solid Waste Services – Public Works
VTPW	Vancouver Transportation – Public Works
VUF	Vancouver Urban Forestry – Public Works

I. Community Appearance

Objective #1: Encourage neighbors to maintain an attractive visual appearance of their home and property.

Through participation in the neighborhood association, and only when necessary code enforcement, the residents of the Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood wish to promote regular maintenance of properties in our neighborhood. By doing so we create a sense of pride and enhance overall neighborhood livability.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Encourage residents to maintain their property with actions such as home maintenance, regular lawn mowing, weed control, leaf removal, proper tree care, and general upkeep.	H	OWN, BBCNA, VUF
Increase awareness and educate residents via the neighborhood newsletter and neighborhood meetings regarding yard maintenance tips.	H	BBCNA
Encourage residents to alert appropriate parties to any potential violations concerning unkept homes and properties including abandoned homes, bank foreclosures, etc.	M	OWN, BBCNA, VCC
Encourage residents to alert appropriate parties to any potential violations regarding junk or inoperable cars and timely discarding of bulk items; including but not limited to appliances, furniture, and tires.	M	OWN, BBCNA, VCC
Educate residents on permit requirements regarding tree removal (street and private trees) so that we are retaining mature healthy trees and there are not unnecessary expenses to residents.	M	BBCNA, VUF
Recognize neighbors for improving the appearance of their homes and yards.	L	OWN, BBCNA

Objective #2: Preserve and enhance overall neighborhood appearance and livability.

By encouraging residents to take an active role in the upkeep of common areas; including but not limited to, neighborhood streets, sidewalks, and planting strips, we can achieve an attractive visual appearance of our neighborhood and maintain/increase property values.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Increase awareness and educate residents via the neighborhood association's newsletter and guest speakers at neighborhood meetings regarding community programs; such as, street tree planting/care and neighborhood cleanup day.	H	BBCNA
Encourage residents to address weed control on the sidewalks and common areas immediately adjacent to their homes.	H	OWN, BBCNA
Encourage property owners to maintain their sidewalks in good repair, to increase the safety, accessibility and walkability in the neighborhood.	H	OWN, BBCNA, VPW
Continue to be involved with the city's clean-up program(s); such as, Neighborhood Cleanup Day (yearly event).	H	OWN, BBCNA, VSWS
Provide neighbors with disposal coupons for yard debris, leaves, and/or tires at appropriate times during the year.	H	BBCNA, VSWS
Encourage neighborhood involvement on large community projects.	H	OWN, BBCNA
Explore possible solutions for the removal of junk, inoperable, or abandoned vehicles.	M	OWN, BBCNA

II. Traffic and Safety

Objective #1: Increase pedestrian and bicycle access and safety throughout our neighborhood by encouraging safe driving habits.

The residents of the Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood have determined that vehicular traffic is a serious ongoing problem stemming from both pass-through traffic and neighborhood residents. It is viewed as a public safety issue since walking and cycling are important forms of recreation enjoyed throughout the neighborhood.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Pursue the use of the Speed Monitor Awareness Radar Trailer to accurately measure and display them, thus discouraging speeding on a yearly basis.	H	OWN, BBCNA, CITY, NTSA
Promote proper speeds with the use of signage in collaboration with the City or other traffic safety organizations.	H	OWN, BBCNA, CITY, NTSA
Locate areas that may benefit from traffic calming techniques; such as, reduced speed signs, street murals, rumble strips, speed cushions, street trees, or traffic circles to reduce vehicle speeds.	H	OWN, BBCNA, CITY, NTSA, VUF
Appoint a neighborhood liaison and a backup person to attend NTSA meetings as the BBCNA representative on a regular basis.	H	OWN, BBCNA

Objective #2: Encourage the development of an active crime watch program within the neighborhood.

The neighbors of Burnt Bridge Creek have determined that an active neighborhood watch program can be an effective deterrent to crime and promote a greater sense of security for residents.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Encourage neighbors to participate in the city's Neighbors on Watch program, as citizen patrollers for the Vancouver Police Department.	H	OWN, BBCNA, VPD

Objective #3: Prepare neighbors to care for themselves and their neighbors in the event of a disaster.

The neighbors of Burnt Bridge Creek are prepared to take care of themselves and each other in the event of a large scale disaster.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Neighbors will be made aware of the potential types of disasters in our area.	H	BBCNA, CRESA
Households will be encouraged to put together a personal preparedness plan specific to their needs.	H	OWN, BBCNA
Neighborhood to encourage individuals to take Community Emergency Response Team [CERT] training and form a CERT team for the neighborhood.	M	OWN, BBCNA, VFD
Neighborhood will use the Map Your Neighborhood Program to organize neighborhood groups for disaster response.	M	OWN, BBCNA, VON

III. Noise and Nuisances

Objective #1: Keep the neighborhood quiet and harmonious by reducing noise.

Neighbors wish to promote a quiet environment to ensure a peaceful coexistence among all residents.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Urge neighbors to abide by Vancouver Municipal Code regarding Noise and Public Disturbances, via the neighborhood meetings, newsletter, and social media.	H	OWN, BBCNA, CITY

Objective #2 Work with residents to be responsible and courteous.

Encourage neighbors to use diplomacy and tact to resolve potential disputes.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Encourage neighbors to work together in finding the best solutions to problems.	H	OWN, BBCNA
Encourage the use of mediation for nuisance problems that cannot be solved among neighbors.	M	OWN, BBCNA, CMS
Neighbors should demonstrate respect and consideration in controlling pets. Dog owners should ensure their pets are not continuously barking when left outside. Leash and scoop laws must be complied with at all times.	M	OWN, BBCNA, AC
Educate neighbors on limitations of parking of motor vehicles, boats, trailers, commercial, and heavy commercial equipment.	M	OWN, BBCNA, VCC
Encourage residents to remove signs promptly after events such as yard sales, birthday parties, elections, etc.	M	OWN, BBCNA

IV. Community Involvement and Recreation

Objective #1: Promote and encourage communications with our neighbors by fostering community relations.

We look forward to building a strong foundation for community relations and involvement by utilizing the strengths and energies of our residents.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Continue publishing and delivering a neighborhood newsletter, encouraging residents to submit articles of interest.	H	OWN, BBCNA, VON
Encourage and promote continued use of the city's website and other social media platforms as sources of information for the neighborhood.	H	OWN, BBCNA, CITY
Set aside time for neighbors to share news and concerns at informal meetings.	H	OWN, BBCNA
Have annual neighborhood community building functions; such as, a summer picnic, chili cook-off, bingo night, etc.	H	OWN, BBCNA
Promote the National Night Out event held annually by announcing the date and providing information about the event.	M	OWN, BBCNA, VON
Develop relations with neighboring communities.	M	OWN, BBCNA

Objective #2: Maintain and improve the neighborhood parks.

Individuals, families, and children need recreational opportunities within the neighborhood. This can be achieved by providing residents with safe, clean, and friendly park facilities.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Monitor the park areas to ensure they are properly maintained, there are no safety hazards, and they are safe places for all to use and enjoy.	H	OWN, BBCNA, VPR, VPD
Monitor playground equipment to ensure it is maintained for the safety of children.	H	OWN, BBCNA, VPR
Monitor all other equipment in parks to ensure it is maintained for the enjoyment of all to use and enjoy.	H	OWN, BBCNA, VPR
Provide safe, clean public drinking fountains for use by neighbors.	H	BBCNA, VPR
Neighborhood to provide dog waste bags at each park to empower our community towards good stewardship of our local environment.	H	OWN, BBCNA

Objective #3: Ensure that youth have a significant place in Neighborhood Association activities.

Youth perceptions, concerns, and needs play a large part in the livability of our neighborhood. All plans and programs that affect them should have their input.

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
Encourage youth to establish representation within the neighborhood association.	H	OWN, BBCNA
Organize to make the concerns of youth known in the neighborhood association.	H	OWN, BBCNA
Include youth in planning activities whenever possible and appropriate.	H	OWN, BBCNA
Make youth concerns known to the city.	H	OWN, BBCNA, VON