

PORTLAND'S

Adopted  
**HUMBOLDT**  
NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN



October, 1993

Bureau of Planning  
Portland, Oregon

ALBINA  
COMMUNITY

**Adopted**

**HUMBOLDT  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
PLAN**

**Adopted on July 28, 1993  
by Portland City Council  
Ordinance No. 166786**

**Readopted on September 30, 1993  
Ordinance No. 167054**

**Action Charts adopted by  
Resolution No. 35169**

**October, 1993**

**City of Portland  
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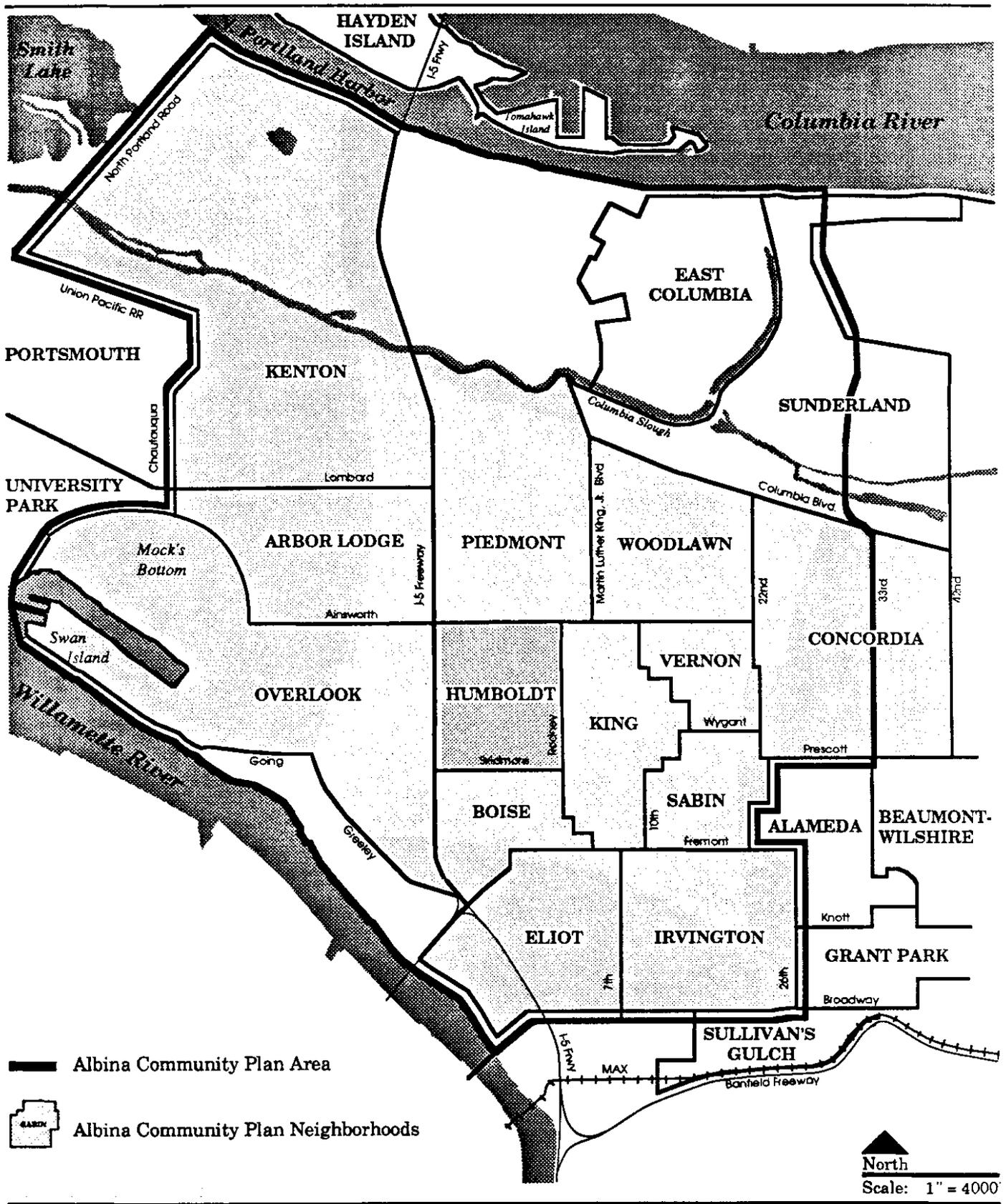
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Part of the Piedmont Historic Design Zone is within the boundaries of the Humboldt neighborhood.



# Humboldt Neighborhood

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Relationship of the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan to the Albina Community Plan**

The Humboldt Neighborhood Plan was developed as a part of the Albina Community Plan. The Albina Community Plan, and the neighborhood plans developed with it, were adopted as part of Portland's Comprehensive Plan. The Albina Community Plan creates a framework for the entire nineteen square-mile study area. This framework establishes land use designations, programs, policies, and regulations and identifies actions which are applicable to the entire study area or are needed to benefit the entire Albina community. Specific policies, projects, programs, and regulatory provisions are contained in the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan which are specific to Humboldt. The Humboldt Neighborhood Plan also reinforces parts of the district plan as they apply to Humboldt. In many cases, the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan's content is more specific than plan elements of the Albina Community Plan.

### **Relationship of the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan to the Portland Comprehensive Plan**

The Humboldt Neighborhood Plan was adopted by the City of Portland as part of Portland's Comprehensive Plan. Portland's Comprehensive Plan was initially acknowledged in 1981 by the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission as being in compliance with the state-wide goals for land use planning. Status as a part of the Comprehensive Plan assures that the goal, policies, and objectives of the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan will be carefully weighed as part of future consideration of changes in land use designation within the Humboldt Neighborhood.

While the policy elements of this Plan are a part of the Comprehensive Plan, the Plan may also contain provisions that are not part of the Comprehensive Plan. Some aspects of the Plan are intended to guide the Humboldt Neighborhood Association in accomplishing its goals.

Another aspect of the Plan that is not part of the Comprehensive Plan are the action charts associated with each policy. The action charts consist of lists of coordinated ideas for capital projects and ongoing programs that were adopted by resolution rather than through an ordinance. We refer to these as leadership items because accomplishment of these provisions is dependent on leaders in the Humboldt Neighborhood and the Albina community following through on these actions for implementation.

## **How the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan is Structured**

The Humboldt Neighborhood Plan consists of several parts. The Vision Statement and the Comprehensive Plan Policies and Objectives were adopted on July 28, 1993 by Ordinance 166786 and readopted on September 30, 1993 by Ordinance 167054. The Plan's action charts were adopted by Resolution 167054 on July 28, 1993.

The Vision Statement guides the adoption and future implementation of the Plan. It illustrates where the Plan is leading and provides a standard against which the Plan's success may be measured. Following the Vision Statement is the Plan Goal. This Goal ties the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan to the Albina Community Plan and Portland's adopted Comprehensive Plan. It makes the Plan and its policies part of the Comprehensive Plan. The Vision and the Goal set the stage for the body of the Plan.

The Plan is built around eight policies for the Humboldt Neighborhood. The policies include objectives which provide explicit target accomplishments for the community.

The Action Charts illustrate ideas for implementing the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan policies. Actions are assigned a time frame for action (immediate, short, or long-range), and an implementing leader is identified.

### **A VISION OF THE HUMBOLDT NEIGHBORHOOD**

**Humboldt** - proud of its past, energetic in its present, and confident of its future. Humboldt is a thriving neighborhood of homes, businesses and academic institutions. People demonstrate their pride and commitment to the neighborhood in all they do. Homes and businesses are well-maintained, streets are safe and clean, educational institutions are the centerpieces of academic and cultural activity, and a wide variety of services needed by the community are available. The people of Humboldt, working together, ensure that theirs is a neighborhood people proudly call home.

## **Policies, Objectives and Implementation Actions for Humboldt**

The following statement is included in the Albina Community Plan. Inclusion of this statement as an Albina Community Plan policy will also include, by reference, this policy into Portland's Comprehensive Plan. Such inclusion will make the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan a part of Portland's Comprehensive Plan. Future land use changes in the Albina Community Plan area will be required to conform with the Albina Community Plan and applicable neighborhood plan as well as the city-wide Comprehensive Plan.

### **Comprehensive Plan Policies 2.25 and 3.38**

#### **2.25 Albina Community Plan**

**Promote economic vitality, historic character and livability of inner north and inner northeast Portland by including the Albina Community Plan as part of this Comprehensive Plan.**

#### **3.8 Albina Community Plan Neighborhoods**

**Include as part of the Comprehensive Plan neighborhood plans developed as part of the Albina Community Plan. Neighborhood plans developed as part of the Albina Community Plan are those for Arbor Lodge, Boise, Concordia, Eliot, Humboldt, Irvington, Kenton, King, Piedmont, Sabin, and Woodlawn.**

#### **Objectives**

- E. Showcase the Humboldt Neighborhood as a historic and educational center. Maintain ties between Humboldt's present and past through preservation of historic development patterns and structures. Promote a neighborhood that is known for housing choice, livability and public safety through the implementation of the Humboldt Neighborhood Plan.*

## **Policy 1: Neighborhood Livability**

*Improve neighborhood livability and quality of life by promoting a strong sense of community and ensuring the safety and well-being of the people and businesses of Humboldt.*

### **Objectives**

1. Achieve a high level of zoning and housing code enforcement and nuisance abatement in Humboldt.
2. Maintain the cultural, racial and socio-economic diversity of the neighborhood. Support the cultural diversity of businesses on Killingsworth Street.
3. Increase the level and quality of government services.
4. Increase participation and involvement in neighborhood activities. Improve communication within the neighborhood to increase the flow of information.
5. Ensure that neighborhood activities and government projects are for the benefit of present and future residents, business and property owners of Humboldt. Oppose activities which will promote displacement in the neighborhood.
6. Establish open communication between the Humboldt Neighborhood Association and landlords owning properties in the Humboldt Neighborhood.
7. Promote positive communication between the Humboldt Neighborhood Association and the administrations of schools which are located in the Humboldt Neighborhood.
8. Protect scenic views in the Humboldt Neighborhood.

## Action Chart: Neighborhood Livability

#	Actions	Time				Implementors /Advocates
		Adopted With Plan	On- Going	Next 5 Yrs	6to 20 Yrs	
	<b>PROJECTS</b>					
NL 1	Establish a fund to pay for the maintenance of private property in the neighborhood. Fund through the exaction of fines on violators of city code.		X			BOB
NL 2	Establish an ombudsman program for neighborhood issues. Discuss the provision of public services with government representatives including: garbage pick-up, street cleaning, abandoned vehicles, land use, overgrown vegetation, cleaning of storm drains, street lighting. Identify specific areas where services are deficient.		X			HNA, BOB
NL 3	Establish a neighborhood association committee to address nuisances within the neighborhood. Assist the City of Portland to improve the efficiency of the code enforcement process through improved neighborhood participation, reporting, and follow-through in nuisance situations. Work with absentee landlords to ensure property maintenance.			X		HNA, BOB
NL 4	Establish a neighborhood association committee to promote positive communication between the Humboldt Neighborhood Association and the administration of neighborhood schools. Discuss issues which are of mutual interest including the following: neighborhood support of school programs, establishment of classes on neighborhood history and pride, status of portable classrooms and the possibility of increasing landscaping at Humboldt School.			X		HNA, PPS, BOB, NE Coalition
NL 5	Establish a neighborhood association committee to develop positive communication with landlords, the business community and new residents in the Humboldt Neighborhood.			X		HNA
NL 6	Encourage maintenance of structures and property in commercial areas. Establish a neighborhood committee to work with property owners on property maintenance.			X		HNA, PVT
NL 7	Develop Humboldt Neighborhood gateways through the construction of signs, pillars, or archways.			X		HNA, PDOT
NL 8	Create an open-air market where products of the community can be sold.		X			HNA
NL 9	Develop a program to enhance involvement in neighborhood projects. Include the development of carpooling to provide transportation to neighborhood events, publication of articles about the neighborhood in local newspapers and development of a newsletter.			X		HNA

Note: Action Charts were approved by Portland City Council by resolution. They are a starting place. Actions with an identified implementor were adopted with the understanding that some will need to be adjusted and others replaced with more feasible proposals. Identification of an implementor for an action is an expression of interest and support with the understanding that circumstances will affect the implementation leader's ability to take action. Actions with a listed advocate rather than an implementor are included in recognition of the importance of continued discussion of these issues. Such actions will become part of this plan only when an implementor has agreed to support them.

## Policy 2: Open Space, Parks and Community Facilities

*Work towards the establishment of parks and open space in Humboldt which meet the high standards of the city-wide parks and recreation system. Promote and support all community facilities within Humboldt.*

### Objectives

1. Develop new parks to support the recreational needs of the Humboldt Neighborhood.
2. Enhance pedestrian routes in the neighborhood.
3. Promote well-maintained landscaping and trees in open areas, including school properties and public rights-of-way.
4. Promote the use of community facilities for multiple purposes. Support the maintenance of existing community facilities in Humboldt.

### Action Chart: Open Space, Parks and Community Facilities

#	Actions	Time				Implementors/ Advocates
		Adopted With Plan	On- Going	Next 5 Yrs	6 to 20 Yrs	
<b>PROJECTS</b>						
OS 1	Create a community park committee. Consider the establishment of temporary miniparks on vacant sites, community gardens, tennis courts and a new public park. Consider the southwest corner of N Alberta Street and N Vancouver Avenue and the south side of N Alberta Street near Jefferson High School.			X		HNA, PARKS
OS 2	Establish a neighborhood association committee to commence a comprehensive beautification project.			X		HNA
OS 3	Remove paving at Humboldt School and replace with landscaping.		X			HNA, PPS
OS 4	Establish a volunteer neighborhood committee for the maintenance of street trees.			X		HNA
OS 5	Identify specific areas in Walnut Park to plant walnut trees.			X		HNA, PARKS, FOT
OS 6	Provide street trees on public property and in the public right-of-way. Ensure the installation of trees which are large enough to withstand vandalism.			X		PARKS, FOT



The Portland Community College Campus is an important center for activities in Humboldt and along with Jefferson High School is part of an area zoned Institutional Residential.

### Policy 3: Housing

*Preserve and enhance the quality and quantity of existing housing while promoting affordability and choice.*

#### Objectives

1. Reduce real estate speculation in the neighborhood.
2. Encourage quality rehabilitation of abandoned, dilapidated and deteriorating structures. Promote rehabilitation assistance for residences.
3. Increase owner-occupancy while ensuring housing choice.
4. Maintain historic structures.
5. Protect the integrity of residential areas.
6. Create an environment to encourage limited-equity housing corporations.

#### Action Chart: Housing

#	Actions	Time			6 to 20 Yrs	Implementors /Advocates
		Adopted With Plan	On-Going	Next 5 Yrs		
	<b>PROGRAMS</b>					
H1	Hold landlord training programs in Humboldt.		X			PPB
H2	Establish working relationship between neighborhood association and local nonprofit housing organizations to increase housing construction opportunities.		X			NECDC, HNA, HOF

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**This House uses modular construction to achieve compatable and affordable housing in the Piedmont Historic Design Zone.**

## Policy 4: Public Safety

*Enhance the safety and security of those who live and work and visit in the Humboldt Neighborhood.*

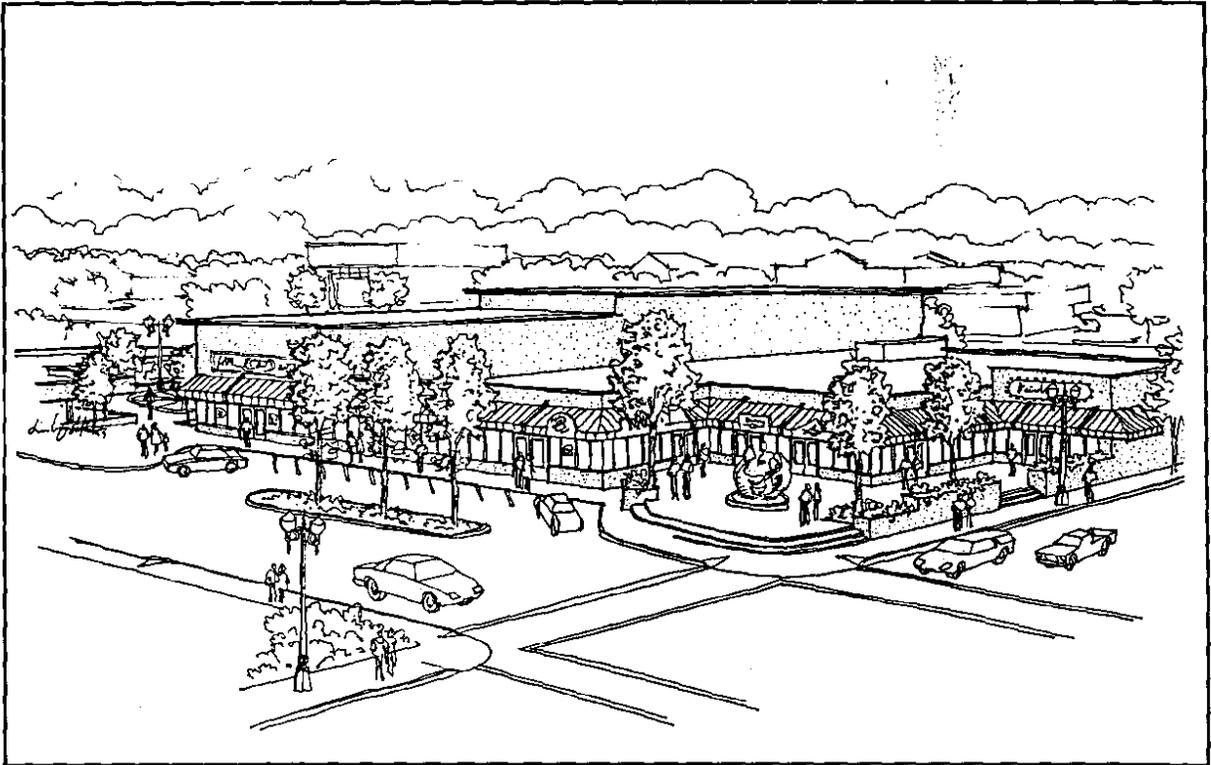
### Objectives

1. Ensure a high level of fire protection.
2. Stop infiltration of drugs into the neighborhood. Eliminate drug houses and drug trafficking.
3. Eliminate gang activity.
4. Promote open communication between neighborhood residents, property and business owners, the Bureau of Police, and other government entities.

### Action Chart: Public Safety

#	Actions	Time			6 to 20 Yrs	Implementors /Advocates
		Adopted With Plan	On-Going	Next 5 Yrs		
	<b>PROJECTS</b>					
PS 1	Improve street lighting. Identify specific locations where street lights are needed.		X			HNA, PDOT, PPB
	<b>PROGRAMS</b>					
PS 2	Improve communication between police and the residents of Humboldt.	X				PPB, HNA
PS 3	Implement community policing and the accompanying strategies of community interaction. Hold workshops in the neighborhood on community policing.	X				PPB, HAP
PS 4	Hold workshops on fire prevention and household safety in the neighborhood.	X				PPB, HNA, ONA
PS 5	Establish police bike or foot patrols along the Killingsworth Street commercial district.		X			PPB

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Proposed Design For The North Precinct Community  
Police Facility at MLK and Killingsworth. Drawing by  
Jim Longstreth for PDC.

## Policy 5: Urban Design and Historic Preservation

*Maintain a link between Humboldt's historic past and the present through the preservation of its historic development patterns and structures and through the promotion of architectural compatibility and excellence.*

### Objectives

1. Establish guidelines of design acceptability for new construction and major remodels within historic districts.
2. Enhance the neighborhood through the establishment of community art, open space and greenery.
3. Preserve the historic ensembles of commercial structures along Killingsworth Street.
4. Require new buildings to respect and respond to the special architectural qualities of the Humboldt Neighborhood and the City of Portland.

### Action Chart: Urban Design and Historic Preservation

#	Actions	Time			6 to 20 Yrs	Implementors /Advocates
		Adopted With Plan	On-Going	Next 5 Yrs		
	<b>PROGRAMS</b>					
UD 1	Develop communication with surrounding neighborhood associations to locate ornamental street light standards in the Piedmont Subdivision.	X				HNA, BNA, KNA, PNA
	<b>REGULATIONS</b>					
UD 2	Require public art as a condition of approval of land use actions.		X			BOP
UD 3	Establish historic district and design guidelines to preserve historic structures.	X				BOP

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Trolley Car at Killingsworth and Albina in the 1920's.  
(OHS)

## Policy 6: Transportation

*Promote the efficient use of the transportation system while reducing traffic and environmental impacts upon the residential areas of the neighborhood.*

### Objectives

1. Maintain accessibility from the Humboldt Neighborhood to I-5 freeway.
2. Improve the flow of traffic through the Humboldt Neighborhood.
3. Reduce commuter and truck traffic on neighborhood streets.
4. Enhance the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists.
5. Maintain a high level of transit service in the Humboldt Neighborhood.
6. Maintain accessibility from the Humboldt Neighborhood to community facilities and major employment centers.

### Action Chart: Transportation

#	Actions	Time			6 to 20 Yrs	Implementors /Advocates
		Adopted With Plan	On-Going	Next 5 Yrs		
	<b>PROJECTS</b>					
T1	Synchronize traffic signals in order to improve flow of traffic.		X			PDOT
T2	Establish left turn signals at the intersection of NE King Boulevard and NE Killingsworth Street.		X			PDOT
T3	Straighten out right-of-way at the intersection of N Albina Avenue and N Skidmore Street.			X		PDOT
T4	Identify specific locations in the neighborhoods where safety problems exist for pedestrians and bicyclists. Establish a neighborhood committee to work with the Portland Office of Transportation to address the problems.			X		HNA

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Humboldt and Albina were well served by a trolley system in the early part of the century. (OHS)

## Policy 7: Neighborhood Image

*Promote a positive neighborhood image through regular participation and communication with the news media and government officials.*

### Objectives

1. Establish a reputation and image of Humboldt as a neighborhood of affordable, close-in and safe residences.
2. Establish open and ongoing communication with elected officials at the local, state and federal levels.
3. Take a proactive approach to media exposure for the Humboldt Neighborhood.
4. Strengthen the Killingsworth Street commercial corridor. Enhance the district to promote a positive business image.

## Policy 7: Neighborhood Image

#	Actions	Time			6 to 20 Yrs	Implementors /Advocates
		Adopted With Plan	On-Going	Next 5 Yrs		
<b>PROJECTS</b>						
NI 1	Develop a media packet or guide for the purpose of publicizing neighborhood projects and programs. Provide this information to realtors, prospective residents and business owners.		X			HNA, ONA
NI 2	Coordinate with area neighborhoods on the development of informational brochures on topics of common interest such as the Piedmont Historic District.			X		HNA, PNA, KNA, BNA
<b>PROGRAMS</b>						
NI 3	Conduct regular meetings with representatives of the news media in the neighborhood for the purpose of publicizing positive community projects. Invite the news media to produce pieces on neighborhood projects.			X		HNA
NI 4	Invite elected officials to the neighborhood for the purpose of learning about positive community projects.			X		HNA
NI 5	Establish a program that will promote Killingsworth Street as a retail center, e.g., Main Street Program.			X		NEBA, HNA

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Many homes that were built in Humboldt as part of the original Piedmont subdivision are being rehabilitated. The Albina Community Plan Design Guidelines address the preservation of the unique characteristics of their design and siting.

## Policy 8: Land Use

*Promote land use compatibility and efficiency in the Humboldt Neighborhood through strong citizen involvement.*

### Objectives

1. Provide opportunities for the development of neighborhood commercial nodes. Promote businesses which provide goods and services to the neighborhood.
2. Promote the productive use of vacant land.
3. Increase neighborhood participation in the land use process through improved notice on land use applications.
4. Recognize the role of institutions within the Humboldt Neighborhood. Provide opportunities for institutional expansion while ensuring protection of existing and future residential development.

### Action Chart: Land Use

#	Actions	Time			6 to 20 Yrs	Implementors /Advocates
		Adopted With Plan	On-Going	Next 5 Yrs		
	<b>PROGRAMS</b>					
LU 1	Allow for diverse and varied use of vacant property.		X			BOP
LU 2	Consider establishment of community gardens or playgrounds with portable equipment on vacant land.			X		HNA

## ACTION CHART INDEX

The private organizations and public agencies identified below are referred to as implementers and advocates for the strategies listed in this plan's action charts. Successful implementation creates working and workable partnerships. Each participant offers a unique set of resources. Revitalization of the district and the Humboldt Neighborhood cannot be effective without individual and combined efforts. This is but a partial list of the community's potential resources:

BES	Bureau of Environmental Services
BOB	Bureau of Buildings
BOP	Bureau of Planning
FOT	Friends of Trees
HNA	Humboldt Neighborhood Association
HOF	Housing Our Families
MC	Multnomah County
NEBA	North/Northeast Business Association
NECDC	Northeast Community Development Corporation
ONA	Office of Neighborhood Associations
PARKS	Bureau of Parks and Recreation
PDOT	Portland Office of Transportation
PFB	Portland Fire Bureau
PPB	Portland Police Bureau
PPS	Portland Public Schools
PVT	Private sector (including businesses and property owners)



New retail businesses and restuarants are springing up along Killingsworth Avenue.