

# **TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO MT. TABOR RESERVOIR PROJECT**

## **May 30, 2002**

City council passes budget for tank burial. \$65 million allocated for the project with only \$2.5 million earmarked for "what goes on top."

## **August 12, 2002**

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association encourages water bureau to hold public meetings. MTNA also appoints a liaison to monitor action on Mt Tabor reservoirs.

## **September 9, 2002**

Historic Landmark Commission is briefed by Water Bureau. Public is discouraged by Water Bureau from attending. Testimony is taken from approximately 20 citizens. There was support from Historic Landmark Commission members for preservation of all Bull Run History. Kathryn Mallon of MWH states that burying and decommissioning the various reservoirs will open up 20 acres of new land area in the park. Paul Leistner states that community members are concerned about aesthetics and historical quality of the sites, the process by which decisions will be made and the impact of the project on the park during and after construction.

## **September 17, 2002**

First water bureau sponsored public meeting held at Warner Pacific College, approximately 220 in attendance.

## **September 18, 2002**

Mt Tabor Neighborhood Association meeting, reservoir issue dominates, 80 people in attendance. Neighbors request association assistance in working with the water bureau. Copy of grassroots petition to city presented-SO signatures.

## **September 18, 2002**

Initial contacts for Friends of the Reservoirs made. Discussion about forming a citizens group outside of the Neighborhood Association.

## **September 27, 2002**

Letter to Saltzman from Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association.

## **September 29, 2002**

Public Advisory Commission (PAC) is broadened and restructured.

## **October, 2002**

City of Portland Open Reservoir Replacement Project Newsletter states that the Office of Neighborhood Involvement and Southeast Uplift will be used on a regular basis to announce meetings and share information.

## **October 7, 2002**

Mt. Tabor listserv goes online.

## **October 17, 2002**

Second Water Bureau sponsored public meeting held at Franklin High School. Approximately 100 neighbors attend.

## **October 29, 2002**

First PAC meeting at Warner Pacific College

**November 4, 2002**

Friends of the Reservoirs work group (FOR) forms and holds first meeting at the home of Cascade Anderson Geller.

**November 6, 2002**

Third Water Bureau sponsored public meeting held at Warner Pacific, approximately 50 in attendance.

**November 13, 2002**

Charles Heying and Paul Leistner representing FOR and Jeff Boly and Joe Angel from Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association meet with Commissioners Francesconi and Saltzman. Saltzman tells us he has made his decision and that he was comfortable with it. Francesconi indicates that some of the information about backflow risks is new to him but he is noncommittal.

**November 16, 2002**

Public "Brainstorming" about "what goes on top" at Franklin High School. Approximately 100 in attendance. Approximately 30 paid city staff and consultants in attendance. Friends gather prior to meeting at Stumptown Coffee to pick up information packets and decide on strategy for meeting. Large group meeting facilitators recognize the existence of our resistance and suggest that we go to a separate small group. We don't comply, instead Friends attend separate small groups, respectfully insist that other options than "what goes on top" must be considered. Our contributions are reluctantly acknowledged in small and large group wrap ups.

**November 18, 2002**

Friends of the Reservoirs holds second work session. Plans discussed for public meeting, for developing brochures, flyers and getting our message out.

**November 19, 2002**

Friends of the Reservoirs calls for its own public meeting. Ben Jacklet of the Portland Tribune contacted to see if he is interested in doing a story. He is.

**November 21, 2002**

Second PAC meeting held at Warner Pacific College, 6-9 pm. Friends attend meeting and speak at the open forum allowed at the end. Insist that PAC take control of the process and set their own agenda.

**November 23, 2002**

Members of Friends gather for photo shoot at Mt Tabor and interviews for the Tribune story by Ben Jacklet.

**November 27, 2002**

Tri-fold flyer complete, 1000 copies ordered for printing. 500 meeting flyers and petition postcards completed and printed.

**December 2, 2002**

Friends of Reservoirs planning meeting. 800 meeting flyers, tri-folds and petition post cards distributed to 16 members at the meeting. Block assignments made for canvassers. December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda finalized. Decision that the "Hands Around the Reservoir" action will take place on Sunday noon January 5. Pricing and design for large banner begun. Debriefing meeting set for December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**December 3, 2002**

"Water Plan: A slippery deal?" appears in Portland Tribune. Excellent picture and coverage. Promotes the December 9 Public Forum.

**December 3-9, 2002**

Friends canvass neighborhoods. 800 tri-folds and meeting invitations handed out.

**December 8, 2002**

20 ft banner advertising Friends of Reservoirs and listing website address placed on Valerie Hunter's fence adjacent to the lower reservoir and visible from 60<sup>th</sup> Street.

**December 8, 2002**

Friends' website, [www.friendsofreservoirs.org](http://www.friendsofreservoirs.org) goes online.

**December 9, 2002**

Open Public Forum held by Friends to discuss all the options at the Western Baptist Seminary chapel. It was a huge success with 172 people in attendance. Meeting went very well, new members signed up for listserv and phone trees. Speakers from other regional groups presented in support of FOR agenda. Tim Hall, from the Water Bureau, videotapes the event. We challenge him to explain what he is doing and he states that this will be shown to City Council and Water Bureau staff.

**December 11, 2002**

Jeff Boly has three hour meeting with Dennis Kessler of the Water Bureau and Joe Glicker and Kathryn Mallon of MWH. He requested independent verifications of their assertions, and addressed conflict of interest with MWH.

**December 16, 2002**

Friends meet to debrief the Public Forum, plan new actions.

**December 17-30, 2002**

Big banner goes up on Valerie Hunter's fence advertising the Hands Around the Reservoirs event. Flyer box goes up at Valerie's fence. Over 170 flyers are taken in next two weeks. 3'x 4' posters go up on the fence on Lincoln and ~ and Stumptown. Dana White's 3'x 4' hand painted signs go up at the 50<sup>th</sup> and Hawthorne and 68<sup>th</sup> and Belmont. Articles come out in Oregonian and Tribune.

**December, 2002**

During the month, various members of the Friends meet with the Dennis Kessler and Joe Glicker of MWH. They provide us with the Alternatives to Burial memorandum which attempts to refute our claim that Pittsburgh's filtration option at Highland Park is viable for Portland.

**December 27, 2002**

Lynne Smythe does "Positively Revolting" call-in program on KBOO. Advertises the Hands Around event.

**December 30, 2002**

Friends hold signs on the Hawthorne Bridge from 8-9 AM. Eight signs held in succession in the style of the old Burma Shave signs. For example (1) Hey Commishners, (2) Is this the way, (3) Burying our reservoirs, (4) And making us pay, (5) Save the reservoirs, (6) Hands around the Reservoirs, (7) This Sunday Noon - 1 Mt. Tabor, (8) [www.friendsofreservoirs.org](http://www.friendsofreservoirs.org).

**January 2, 2003**

Friends hold signs on Hawthorne Bridge from 8-9 AM.

**January 3, 2003**

Friends hold signs on Hawthorne Bridge from 8-9 AM. KBOO hosts Lynn Smythe for their morning talk show on the Reservoirs.

**January 5, 2003**

Hands Around the Reservoirs huge success. Those attending successfully join hands around Reservoir 6. KXL runs a reminder on their news coverage or community calendar. Excellent media coverage, 800-1000 people in attendance. 693 petition cards signed by attendees. KOIN runs nice coverage on evening news, KATU coverage also but much more limited. Indy Media films event and shows it later at its coffeehouse showings.

**January 6, 2003**

KXL 750 AM three part radio series begins. Runs at 10 after each hour for January 6, 7, 8. Also Lars Larsen features the 'Terrorism at the Reservoirs' for the first hour of his talk show. Oregonian runs front page Metro article but it is the same old party line.

**January 7, 2003**

OPB begins its coverage of the Hands Around event and the reservoir issue.

**January 7, 2003**

Front page article in Tribune. Excellent coverage

**January, 2003**

Water Bureau goes to the City Council for approval to raise the 2.5 million in the original budget to \$13.4 million for What's goes on Top.

**January 13, 2003**

Friends of the Reservoirs workgroup meets from 7-9. Debrief about effect of Hands Around event.

**January 15, 2003**

Friends of the Reservoirs comment to City Council 9:30 a.m., Council Chambers. Five presenters are allowed to speak for 3 minutes. Open to the public. All of the commissioners are expected to be present as well as the Mayor. There will not be any public comment or comment by the council.

**January 16, 2003**

Open Reservoir Replacement Project Public Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting for what goes on top, 6-9 p.m., Warner Pacific College. Joe Glicker, MWH and Dennis Kessler, Water Bureau, report on the Friends of the Reservoirs meetings with the Water Bureau. Saltzman announces that the City Council would hold a public hearing February 19th, about replacing the water reservoirs. The \$13.4 million for "what goes on top" is only a placeholder. Council would consider a higher figure if this was necessary to complete the work. No contracts would be signed prior to the council hearing on February 19th.

**January 18, 2003**

Friends of the Reservoirs information campaign at this Saturdays' Stop the War Rally at the north end of the South Park Blocks.

**January 22, 2003**

Three speakers for comments to council -- Kent Craford- Portland Water Users Coalition- Proposed filtration plant at Powell Butte Carter Case-Pearl District Representative-Open Reservoir Replacement Project Paul Leistner-Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association's Resolution to delay further action on the Open Reservoir Replacement Project

**February 19, 2003**

Public Hearing: Portland City Council over 200 people attend and testify with only 3 public officials and 3 citizens supporting proposal to bury the reservoirs. Friends create Power Point presentation with their case against the reservoirs. Cascade Anderson Geller, Valerie Hunter and Chad Biasi do the presentations. Other Friends testify during the evening. Huge success but limited media coverage.

**March 5, 2003**

Portland City Council Land Use Decision: City does not need a permit to construct and install reservoir covers in Washington Park. Council approves items #193 and 194. Item 193 is a contract for the reservoir covers at Washington Park (\$3.8 million) and Item #194 is an amendment to the contract for the Open Reservoir Study for \$267,000.

**April 22, 2003**

Preservation Alert sent to the National Trust for Historic Preservation and posted online as Preservation

911. "Will Portland bury its Historic Reservoirs?"

**April 23, 2003**

City Council Ordinance #177406 authorizing \$500 million in bonds to finance "various projects".

**April 26, 2003**

All day open house at Warner Pacific College for "What Goes on Top" sponsored by Water Bureau. Friends hand out position literature outside.

**May 3, 2003**

Mt. Tabor Cleanup: Handed out flyers advertising Preservation Day in the Park and copies of Tri-fold.

**May 10, 2003**

Preservation Day in the Park: historic photo display, testimonials, children's projects and walking tours. Raised \$1,000 and unveiled fundraising thermometer on Valerie Hunter' fence.

**June 9, 2003**

City of Portland Historic Landmarks Commission briefing on "What Goes on Top" by Mary Ellen Collentine. Friends provide written testimony and ask for accountability in Section 106 Public Process and request that all documents used by the Water Bureau and City of Portland be made available to the general public at one central location such as Southeast Uplift.

**June 12, 2003**

Friends forward packet regarding Section 106/F.E.R.C./Nomination to Marjorie Norwick at the American Council on Historic Preservation.

**June 30, 2003**

City of Portland Historic Landmarks Commission forwards letter to F.E.R.C. "recommending against the currently proposed replacement of the open public water reservoirs on Portland's Mt. Tabor with closed subterranean tanks, and work related to those efforts."

**July, 2003**

Open Reservoir Replacement Project Newsletter# 3 "The city is committed to preserving these historic resources whenever feasible, and integrating them into the final park design."

**July 7, 2003**

Friends sent out Direct Mail Fundraising Appeal to selected zip codes. Enclosed were comment post cards to mail to city council members and Mayor Katz.

**July, 2003**

"Save our Reservoirs" Bumper stickers printed Friends t-shirts designed by Dana White.

**July 19, 2003**

Final Design Program Open House held. Results compiled in less than 1 week.

**July 22, 2003**

Press release forwarded from the Friends: "Reservoir Costs Escalate: Opponents seek Independent Analysis."

**July 23, 2003**

Portland Water Users Coalition states their opposition to the burial based on independent cost estimates.

**July 25, 2003**

Portland Tribune front page lead article, "One million here, \$100 million there". Story highlights cost differences between Water Bureau and Friends and Water Users Coalition estimates.

**August 27, 2003**

"What Goes on Top" Memo of Concern forwarded from PAC to City Council. Majority of the PAC members state that the burial decision should be reconsidered.

**September/October, 2003**

Saturday Farmers Market/Hollywood Market: passed out flyers and sold signs, t shirts, and bumper stickers.

**September, 2003**

Southeast Examiner prints two viewpoints of the Reservoir issue authored by Floy Jones from Friends and Tim Hall from the Water Bureau.

**September 6, 2003**

Belmont Street Fair: Shared information tables with Friends of Mt. Tabor Park. Handed out 200+flyers.

**September 9, 2003**

Open House for the design teams for "what goes on top" at the City Hall. Friends organize protest outside. Good attendance, lots of signs and protesters, vehicles honk in support, excellent media coverage, OPB does great story, TV stations. We have good press packets prepared.

**September 10, 2003**

Willamette Week article "A Friend in the business: Reservoir advocates accuse Portland Water Bureau of playing favorites"

**September 12, 2003**

Portland Tribune article states that Jim Abrahamson, former chair of the PURB, sent letter to City Council opposing this project because of increasing costs and neighborhood protests.

**September 19, 2003**

American Society of Landscape Architects, Portland branch, presents formal statement questioning process and decision.

**September 23, 2003**

Watertech Online: Legal Briefs: "Reservoir burial project sparks opposition in Oregon"

**September 24, 2003**

Oregonian column by Renee Mitchell: "Democracy is Drowning in Water Reservoirs"

**September 27, 2003**

Hands Around the Reservoirs 2nd March and Rally with over 1,200 participants. 100 lawn signs sold. Canvassing included: Holding signs on the Hawthorne Bridge, Advertising in the Oregonian, flyers distributed to every household in Mt. Tabor, KBOO program, lawn signs and banners, 3 x S panel signs at Seminary, Belmont, Franklin. Gypsy Caravan and drummers march with crowd up Hawthorne from Daily Grind parking lot. Participants came from neighborhoods throughout Portland. Indy Media contact creates short video. Another terrific turnout. Good media coverage.

October 11, 2003

Design Competition Teams (4) gave presentations. Very low attendance and questions from the audience were screened by an emcee.

**October 18, 2003**

Design firm Gustafson Guthrie Nichol chosen to design: What goes on top.

**October 30, 2003**

Friends Press Release: Local citizen's court action reveals City Bonding boondoggle.

**October 31, 2003**

Oregonian( D2) "Effort to save reservoirs turns to groundswell"

**November 4, 2003**

Portland Tribune: Phil Stanford column: "Forget it Jake it's just P-Town"

**November 5, 2003**

Hearing: Multnomah County Courthouse re: Revenue Bond Funding. City withholds the issuance of over \$600 million in revenues bonds pending the outcome of the case. Susan Stoner from the Friends make an excellent case. 11 petitioners sign on the case. Courtroom is packed. Visitors sit in jury box and are turned away for lack of room. Excellent coverage. Susan does the TV commentary afterwards and it appears on local news. Decision is still pending, but in the interim, City has reissued bonds that clearly define their purpose (the basis of Friends case was ambiguity) and specifically exclude the Mt. Tabor reservoirs. Friends claim implicit victory.

**November 6, 2003**

Oregonian: "Bonds contested in Mt. Tabor battle". OPB does a great story.

**November 12, 2003**

Oregonian (D3) "From Corbett/Terwilliger/Lair Hill to Roseway in Northeast to Mt. Tabor in Southeast they've have been on the short end of City Council votes on development, zoning and livability issues."

**November 14, 2003**

Oregonian, Phil Stanford Column

**November 15, 2003**

Neighborhood Summit. Friends had a table and sold signs and t-shirts. Randy Leonard makes a point of talking about the reservoirs and why they should be covered. Charles Heying from the Friends provides counterpoint. Subsequent article in the Oregonian states: "The power struggle between City Council and neighborhoods reaches beyond Leonard."

**November 21, 2003**

Portland Tribune: Phil Stanford column.

**December 8, 2003**

Major change in direction for the City. Commissioner Saltzman announces that an Independent Review Panel will be formed to reconsider the Reservoir replacement project. Contracts are put on hold. Work stops at Washington Park for the weather.

**December 9, 2003**

Oregonian Editorial: "Saltzman takes a second look."

**December 14, 2003**

Friends of the Reservoirs Holiday Home Tour. 300 + people tour six homes in the Mt. Tabor area and discuss the issue with volunteers from Friends of the Reservoirs. \$ 4,300 raised to help with legal challenges.

**December 15, 2003**

Restaurant benefit to help the Friends nets \$1,200.

**December 22, 2003**

Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman announced nominees for the Mt. Tabor Reservoir Independent Review Board.

**December 31, 2003**

235 Lawn signs sold to date.

**January 10, 2004**

Oregon Preservation Alliance web site posting under threatened resources: Mt. Tabor Reservoirs.

**January 6, 2004**

Bosco Milligan/Architectural Heritage Center forwards letter to City Council Members and Major Katz questioning process and evaluation of such a significant resource without the input of historians

**January 15, 2004**

Mt. Tabor and Washington Park Reservoirs listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Major accomplishment for the Friends that resulted from a year long effort by Cascade Anderson Geller and others.

**January 23, 2004**

Friends Press Release: "Portland's reservoirs gain national prominence with the listing on the National Register of Historic Places." Articles appear in Oregonian, Tribune. Radio and TV coverage.

**January 24, 2004**

Petition orientation provided. 25 volunteers start canvassing for signatures for three petitions.

**February 7, 2004**

Musicians rally to save the reservoirs: Benefit at the Mt. Tabor Pub.