

## Many voices create vision for Harmony

BY CARLOTTA COLLETTE

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My compliments to the Clackamas Review and reporter Ellen Spitaleri on the article in last week's paper about the legacy oaks growing in the Three Creeks Natural Area, part of a 100-acre site located near 82nd Avenue and Harmony Road.

I'm particularly grateful to the Tsunami Crew, along with Clackamas County's Water Environment Services Department, for all the work they have put in to protect and restore this very special place.

However, I am concerned that the article and the accompanying sidebar continue to cause confusion between the Harmony visioning process and Clackamas County's efforts to conduct a transportation environmental impact study for the North Clackamas region. These are separate projects. As chair of the **Clackamas Community College** Board of Education, I want to set the record straight on the Harmony Community Campus, a multi-use, multi-partner community resource.

For the past two years, neighbors from the surrounding area, including the city of Milwaukie, have been working with Clackamas County, North Clackamas Aquatics Center, North Clackamas Parks and Recreation, Oregon Institute of Technology, North Clackamas School District, the North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce, the college and other groups to plan for the future of the Harmony area.

During more than 30 public meetings, partners in the visioning process have met with hundreds of community members in an inclusive and transparent process. What the partners learned shaped the unified vision for the site: the Harmony Community Campus, a shared space bringing together education, health and fitness and a beautiful natural space.

The vision for the Harmony Community Campus is to be a model for a healthy economy, incorporating a variety of educational opportunities, alternative energy uses and green development practices. The vision calls for resource protection, conservation and alternative transportation. Our hope is that when the master planning process is completed this spring, we will have a campus that invites students, guests and employees to access the site by public transportation, bicycles, walking or carpooling.

We welcome the community's continued support in helping us take this vision and shape a master plan that reflects our shared values. Please join us at the Harmony Community Campus on Thursday, Feb. 26, and Thursday, April 23, as we continue our discussions and planning. Both meetings begin at 6 p.m. in the OIT gym on Harmony Road.

No one partner owns this space; no one partner will determine its future. Education is one vital part of the planned vision for the space. We are looking at the highest and best use for the site, not just for tomorrow, but for 20 years from tomorrow or 40 years in the future.

**Clackamas Community College** is committed to sustainability, livability and lifelong learning.

Carlotta Collette is chair of the **Clackamas Community College** Board of Education and a member of the Metro councilor. For more information about the Harmony Community Campus, please visit [www.harmonyvision.org](http://www.harmonyvision.org)

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