

# Greetings from the Publisher, Winter 2017

Greetings!

This issue of *Metroscape*, our first of 2017, is also the first we've created with our new leadership: Liza Morehead as executive editor and Randy Morris as technical editor. Liza and Randy are working with me to create new content for our readers while preserving the mission of *Metroscape*: to serve as an atlas and mirror for the Portland metropolitan region.

As always, the issue begins with the Landscape, a quick portrait of a specific place in our region. Liza Morehead visited Tualatin and offers some background on how and why the city grew to what it is today.

New technologies are breathing life into the timber industry. Cross-laminated Timber, or CLT, addresses the challenges presented by urbanization while generating economic opportunity in rural areas. Andrew Crampton explains the technology's benefits to our cities, our rural economies, and our forests.

Our evolving construction industry is generating big increases in the number of multifamily housing units throughout the region. In the Periodic Atlas, we examine the spatial dimensions of the multifamily housing boom via maps of new construction permits issued for multifamily units.

As the construction economy booms, women are expanding their role in the trades. Our interview features two women who have helped change the face of the trades in the Portland region. Nora Mullane and Connie Ashbrook describe the challenges they have overcome as women working in a traditionally male career.

Continuing our theme of transition, Election 2016 examines the

outcome of the 2016 elections across the MetroScape. This was the first election affected by Oregon's Motor Voter Law, which took effect on January 1, 2016.

Finally, the indicator page shows that wages in the Portland metropolitan area, in comparison to the average for metropolitan areas in the US, are finally rising as economic growth increases demand for labor.

As we make this transition to a new era of MetroScape, let us know how we're doing. Share your thoughts about issues you'd like us to explore, how you want to consume content, and how we might connect you better to the history and future of our region. Feel free to comment at [ims@pdx.edu](mailto:ims@pdx.edu), or discuss your observations about the articles on our Facebook page.

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