

Greetings from the Publisher, Winter 2016

Welcome to the Winter 2016 edition of MetroScape!

Amid the swirl of discussion and pronouncements about population growth, development, demolition, and housing shortages, this “BOOM TOWN” issue of MetroScape examines some of the impacts and issues related to our region’s growth.

Linn Davis explores the history of architectural preservation in the region, how it intersects with other development issues, and how we might strengthen our ability to protect architecturally important buildings amid Portland’s rush to build sufficient housing and commercial space to accommodate our growing needs.

The Landscape takes a walk in Tigard and reviews the effort to make Tigard and other suburbs—built in a car-dependent era—more walkable, healthy, and attractive to current and prospective residents.

It wasn’t your imagination—last summer was really hot. With Portland’s warmest average temperature in 75 years and a record 29 days of 90+ degree temperatures, 2015 was Oregon’s warmest year on record. But temperature in the city can vary a great deal depending on our surroundings. In the Atlas, Vivek Shandas and Jackson Voelkel show us how urban heat varies by the characteristics of a neighborhood’s built and natural environment. The Atlas reminds us to be aware of the potential impact on those most likely to suffer ill effects from the heat.

Our interview with Henry Richmond is the product of a new project called People and the Land: An Oral History of Oregon’s Statewide Land Use Planning Program. Richmond explains the political and economic conditions in which the

land use program was forged, and how these have changed over time.

Are you feeling nostalgic for Oregon-born companies like Dave's Killer Bread, Little Big Burger, and Precision Castparts? Tom Kerr asserts that we need not fear the recent rash of acquisitions. New owners often bring fresh ideas and capital to the table while maintaining the characteristics we've come to love about our locally owned companies.

Settle in next to the fire and peruse the winter issue. We always look forward to your feedback, so tell us what you think!

Sheila Martin

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