

Rockwood MAX Station upgraded as part of revitalization effort

Major changes are under way in Central Rockwood as part of the Gresham Redevelopment Commission's (GRDC) multi-year revitalization effort. These "Rockwood in Motion" projects include street redesign, pedestrian and bike safety improvements, and a major rebuild of the Rockwood MAX station.

Together, these Rockwood in Motion projects will improve the appearance of Rockwood, make access to the MAX light rail safer and more pleasant, and jump-start investment in the Rockwood Triangle.

Rockwood/E 188th Ave MAX Station

TriMet and the City of Gresham worked together to redesign and refurbish this 25-year old MAX station. The goal is for the new station to reflect the city's aspirations for renewal of the area.

The refurbished MAX station platforms will both be located on the west side of E 188th Avenue, making it safer for pedestrians to access the station. The new station design also includes new shelters, ticket vending machines, furnishings and public art. The project also will improve on public safety and security, with an emphasis on pedestrian safety.

The new Rockwood MAX Station project is funded by a \$3 million grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation's Connect Oregon II program and \$1.95 million from the Gresham Redevelopment Commission. TriMet worked closely with city leadership, staff and other stakeholders during the design process. Station construction began in May 2010, with an opening scheduled for June 2011.

Renowned artist part of Rockwood project

An Art Advisory Committee comprised of Rockwood representatives, artists and art professionals selected



The Rockwood MAX Station has been redesigned and rebuilt as part of the Rockwood In Motion revitalization efforts within the neighborhood.

Seattle artist Dan Corson to create a signature piece for a signature light rail station. The art chosen includes a landmark sculpture, titled "Rockwood Sunrise," that creates a vibrant gateway for the Rockwood neighborhood. The artist was influenced by the site's history of hosting the Multnomah County Fair and its large amusement rides, as well as the bold colors of cultures represented in Rockwood and the universal symbolism of the sunrise. The brightly painted stainless steel rays of Rockwood Sunrise reach 35 to 58 feet high and span 46 to 80 feet wide. The translucent tips of the artwork are illuminated as the trains arrive and depart the station, creating a glowing visual landmark for the entire area.

Corson is nationally recognized for creating dynamic, large-scale public artworks that often utilize light and new technologies. His projects are sited at places across the country ranging from state capital buildings, transit stations and busy public intersections to quiet interpretive buildings and museums.

Corson's work also is featured at Director Park in downtown Portland. His video and light piece, "Mercurial Sky Dance," enlivens the canopy that stretches over a portion of the park. The piece was commissioned by the Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC), which also has commissioned Corson to create a public art project on NW Davis Street in Portland's Old Town-Chinatown district.

Stark Street improvements

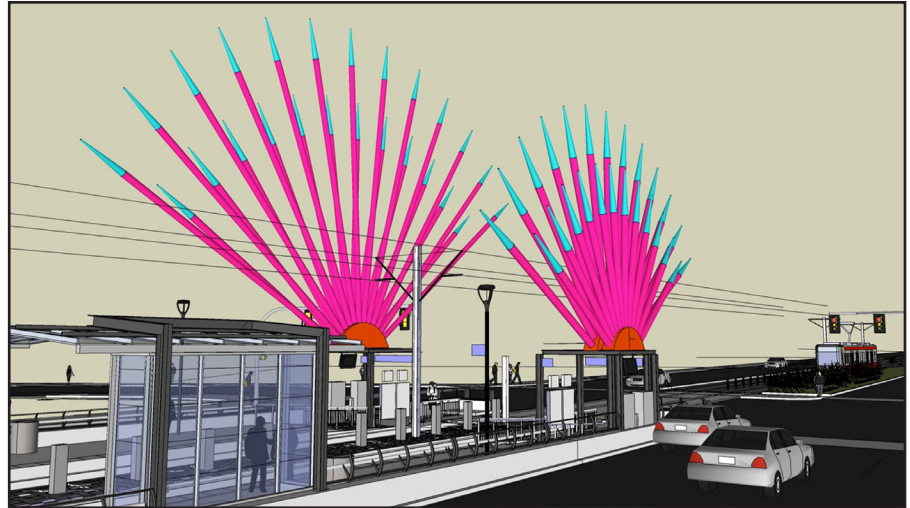
This project added to previous street improvements to create new amenities—

- Infrastructure improvements for bicyclists and pedestrians
- Increased visual appeal of the streetscape by undergrounding utilities
- Clearly-marked crosswalks, amenity strips, street trees and pedestrian scale lighting
- Landscaped medians to slow vehicle speeds
- Street median and pedestrian safety refuges

Burnside improvements

Burnside Road, on the south side of the Rockwood/E 188th Avenue MAX Station, is undergoing major improvements between 185th Avenue and Stark Street, including—

- Wider sidewalks
- Improved landscaping and street trees
- New streetlights
- On-street parking between 185th and 188th avenues



The public art "Rockwood Sunrise" was inspired by the site's history of hosting the Multnomah County Fair and its large amusement rides, as well as the bold colors of cultures represented in Rockwood and the universal symbolism of the sunrise.

- Redesigned intersection at 188th Avenue and Burnside with safer pedestrian crossings
- Distinctive pavement, sidewalk and crosswalk treatments to reinforce that Rockwood is a special part of Gresham

188th/187th Avenue Realignment

This project creates a direct north-south connection through the Rockwood Triangle by building a new street segment aligning 188th and 187th avenues. When completed in 2011, this new connection will create a much safer path between the MAX station and the residential neighborhood south of Stark, including a new signalized intersection at 187th Avenue and Stark Street. The landscape and sidewalk design for the new street will mirror the design for Burnside. The new street connection will replace the existing segment of 188th Avenue between Stark and Burnside.

Rockwood MAX Station / March 2011