FAIRMOUNT NEIGHBOR ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 21, 2023 Ford Alumni Center,1720 E 13th Ave, Eugene, OR 97403

7:01pm: Meeting begins. Co-Chair Karen Dunne runs through agenda

7:03pm: Cami Thompson, University of Oregon Update

- University Presidential Search Update
 - Finalists for new university president announced in next month or two.
- Romania Development
 - New uses in discussion
- Public Surplus Furniture Sales
 - Weekly on Thursdays
- <u>UO/City of Eugene Land Swap</u>
 - City Council authorized City Manager to finalize agreement with university. Land near river and near Autzen stadium. Map presented.
 - Oity Councilor Alan Zelenka further described the deal and described benefits to city and mentioned that parking lot space would be essentially replaced by park space. There will be net increase in parking spots for Cuthbert. Deal also included \$1 million for a public benefit project. Deal is contingent on UO building practice facility near Autzen Stadium. City has no plans to develop the newly acquired land near the river.
- Highlighted big events in Matt Knight Arena
- Plug to sign up for UO Community newsletter

7:24pm: Lane County District Attorney Patricia Perlow and Chief Deputy District Attorney Chris Parosa

Patricia Perlow

- Staffing for Lane County DA—11 prosecutors have left in the 14 months, to jobs with better pay. Currently have 4 vacancies in the office that has 22 funded positions. Their office is capped at 29-30 attorneys.
- Office has flock of new prosecutors, but few senior attorneys. With short staffing, the office
 must decide which crimes not to prosecute. Priorities now are violent felonies including
 murders, assault, domestic violence, vehicular crime, burglary.
- Violent crime is up in Lane County. With short staffing, Lane County residents are not getting level of service they expect. We are not holding everyone accountable for the crimes they are committing. An example of what this means - 17 convicted of first-degree murder awaiting trial in Lane County.
- This is the situation in every DA office in Oregon
- DA is working with UO Law School and the Prosecution Clinic to recruit UO law students.
- What can the community do to help bolster DA office? Public members can contact their Lane County Commissioners to inform them they want to prioritize public safety. Can urge them to have coverage in rural Lane County.
- DA Perlow's hope for the future: A Public Safety Taxing District to stabilize funding.

Chris Parosa

- Jail and prisons are currently warehousing population with mental health. This is not appropriate. Jail system is not equipped to handle this crisis appropriately.
- City Councilor Alan Zelenka mentioned that Oregon is 50 out of 50 in mental health funding.

7:53pm: Franklin Boulevard Transformation update from City of Eugene Transportation Planning Manager Rob Inerfeld

- Website for Project: https://www.eugene-or.gov/3830/Franklin-Boulevard-Transformation
- Project timeline—this project has been decades in the making. Early February—Public Open House had 160 attend/comment. Currently finalizing design. Construction set to start in 2026 and 2028 it should be done.
- Principle of the project has been meeting with business owners along the corridor, property owners, University of Oregon, City of Springfield.
- Received Federal \$19 million of RAISE funds with the City of Springfield for the next phases of project.
- Eugene is a Vision Zero city with a goal of no pedestrian fatalities or injuries on our transportation system. One big way to do this is to bring down speed.
- Video simulations with current traffic pattern displayed in meeting.
- New Franklin Boulevard will have raised crosswalks, two lanes in both directions, crosswalks at select intersections, added sidewalks.
- Inerfeld fielded many questions for neighbors about specifics of the project.