

Fairmount Neighbors General Meeting- Tuesday February 21st, 2017
Ford Alumni Center
Neighbors Present: 34
Chair : Noah Parsons

Meeting commenced at 7:00pm

Noah Parsons opened the meeting

Board members introduced

Noah called for new board members from neighbors

Matt Roberts, Campus liaison.

- Knight Campus Update: Running aggressive timeline to build it out. Acquiring needed property to build 3 new buildings. Hope to begin demolition in November 17. Start construction in spring 18. Occupancy in 2019.
- Hayward Field renovation will start after this track season. Renovate east grandstands. Footprint will not exceed existing property lines.
- New cell tower will be completed by March. Should give better coverage. Old tower will come down after that.
- After softball season, temporary bleachers will be converted to permanent (1,000 seats, with restrooms and concessions). Same total occupancy as currently. No street impact.
- Hope to schedule a community meeting with dean
- Stephen Asbury question: seems like there have been more parties this year than last. Matt: stats say that # of parties is going down.
- Question: Has reduction to 1hr parking in some areas helped reduce parking problems during basketball? Neighbors say it seems like there's more parking influx than there was. Matt will send out report from Jeff P. about parking citations.
- Question: West grandstand construction start date: construction will be in 2018

Matt Carmichael, UO Chief of Police

- Moved here from Cal Davis. Son and daughter at Roosevelt, 2 college-age kids
- Good partnership with Eugene PD. Looking for ways to share resources.
- Adding bomb dog to campus this fall. Also good way to connect to students. Dog will be a rescue.
- Community policing focus. Get officers out of cars.
- Added 2 motorcycles to get around more and get officers out of the car.
- Will be helping patrol Alton Baker Park.
- Question: Policy on homeless people hanging out on campus? Added homeless liaison. Partnered with Muslim student association to help provide homeless resources (clothing, etc.). No policy to kick homeless people off of campus. Don't respond to how people look, just actions they take. Policy is to treat people with respect and dignity. Law is very clear on who we can exclude from campus and when we can do that. Entirely behavior based. Hope to make a difference with homeless community. Working with Glide in SF to bring officers together to get training on empathy and humanity.

- Every PAC12 police force helps their city out.
- All policies are online - hoping to improve the site in the future.
- Question: Can you explain "95" button? Started by students at school of journalism. 95# is related to student ID. About "resetting the code".
- Question: What's the difference between UO PD and EPD? State authorized UOPD to work anywhere in the state, but jurisdiction is UO campus. Cooperates with EPD.
- Question: Do police carry guns? Yes. But not student security or paid security officers. Hope to employ 100-200 students in part-time student security.
- 25 police officers. 6 security officers.
- Hoping to work more proactively with students.
- Question: Smoking ban ordinance... will University opt in for Agate St? Matt: currently vetting that question for Agate, 13th, 15th. Really want to stop the smoking problem on Agate st. Just not safe. Agate is priority. February 27th is the meeting.
- Question: What do you think about social host ordinance? Would love to hear ideas about how to improve it. Enforcement alone is not the answer. Matt: new watch commander for the weekends. He's looking for new ways to curb student party issues.
- Question: Bike theft? Have been using on campus cameras to catch and prosecute people. Have been catching people. It is a priority. Need students to report. Can go back through tapes to find people. Making 1 arrest/month related to bike theft. It's a priority.

Alan Zelenka:

- Kudos to EWEB and public works for recovery from ice storm. 25 crews (3-people each) from neighboring municipalities.
- We all need to prepare better for disasters. Supposed to have supplies for 2 weeks without help. If big earthquake happens, people will be need to be able to be survive for up to 2-3 months.
- Transportation system plan: (auto, bus, bike and ped) Draft is complete and will be presented March 6th to city council at harris hall, 5:30pm. To meet goals, will need 3x bus ridership. 4x bike ridership.
- Sanctuary city status: Since 1987, Oregon has prevented using public resources to enforce immigration law for people that have not committed any other crime. Eugene considering expanding that to all city employees. Council also addressing how they deal with a potential Muslim or other religious registry.
- Question: What about the threat of losing federal funds? Numerous court opinions show that fed can't remove unrelated funds. Fed could remove funds related to immigration and potentially stop offering grants.
- California has become a sanctuary state and is also fighting this.
- Question: Couldn't someone just accuse an immigrant of a crime? No. Must follow normal criminal "just cause" rules.
- Rest stops: Eliminating sunset on rest stops. Pilot program (Opportunity Village, for example) have worked. Create volunteer hours to clean up neighborhood. Need to take a page out of the book of affordable housing: need rest stops to be more spread out throughout the city. Would like to find a location in Ward 3. Contact Alan if interested in working with him on this project.

- Rental housing code: removed sunset on that as well. Updating to include additional features
- Renter protections: Longer notice for evictions, especially “no cause.”
- “Workforce” housing needs to fill the middle of the market - not enough inventory in Eugene. How can council incentivise building this type of housing? We have plenty of low income and high-end housing, but not enough in the middle.
- Downtown safety: Trying to cut down on safety issues and harassment downtown. Not really a “homeless” problem, but dealing with bad behavior downtown. Adding police to park blocks to help. Trying to figure out where people went from there... Looking at a ban on dogs in downtown (except for people who live or work in the area). Also looking at banning smoking in public right-of-ways (sidewalks and roads). Would be a pilot through november to see how it would work.
- Short term rentals: Currently no restrictions. Do people think it’s a problem? Should city change this?
- Question: Short term rentals can cause parking problems. Most cities in Oregon do have restrictions. Would like to add some level of restrictions in Eugene.
- John Barofsky: Travel Lane County board has concern of people buying houses just for short term rentals which removes housing inventory for residents. Not concerned about people renting out individual rooms or specific times like Olympic trials. Hotels also don’t think it’s fair.
- Neighbor statement: 700 Air bnb’s in Eugene. 70 in fairmount.
- Question: concern about maintaining affordable, middle-income housing - “workforce” housing. Alan: Thinking about trying to get short-term housing on city council agenda to discuss restrictions.
- Question: What kind of restrictions? Outright ban, number of people, business license, health permit, inspection, open books, ban in residential areas. Portland has 2 different tiers. Tourist towns might have different restrictions than other towns.
- Question: 21st between agate and Fairmount seems very dangerous. Can we turn it into a one-way? Traffic engineers always ask to show the problem. Will bring it up with traffic engineers.
- Neighbor statement: Walnut and Franklin also a major safety issue
- Question: \$18m from Comcast litigation. Could it be used for a public shelter? Public shelter creation isn’t about the money to build it. It’s about maintaining it and operating it over the long term. 100-bed shelter would require at least 10 people working it. How do you sustain payroll and maintenance? There’s a current City Council work session to consider a public shelter. Money likely to be used for to bolster reserves to keep bond rating high. Reserve fund will go negative in the coming years without input of additional funds. New city hall will get built. But, won’t use one-time money for ongoing expenses, so won’t move funds to pay for city hall.
- Question: Can we get a traffic engineer to come to a meeting? Yes. New traffic engineer is being proactive about new safety measures. Eugene is adopting Vision Zero - no traffic deaths or injuries from the transportation system, adopted from Sweden.

Envision Eugene

Eric Brown & Zach Galloway

In the process of adopting our own urban growth boundary. Public work session coming up with planning commission and then moving on to city council for approval.

John Barofsky: Planning commissioner for city of Eug.

Looking for 2 more planning commissioners, if interested in learning about city planning.

1. Process:
 - a. Started in 2007
 - b. State mandate to separate Urban Growth Boundary from Springfield
 - c. 7 pillars of Envision Eugene (see presentation)
 - d. At formal adoption process. Next meeting March 7th.
 - e. Community vision: Concentrate development on key corridors and downtown. Support "20 minute" neighborhoods (walkability). Build off of transit investments.
2. Legal framework: statewide planning goals and guidelines
3. Looking at current supply and forecasted demand through 2032 for business and industrial. Result was that we needed more commercial land and industrial sites. Trying to find this kind of land within existing UGB, but will need to expand to find land for industrial sites.
4. Residential: similar forecast through 2032. Not enough low, medium, or high density. Don't need to expand UGB for residential.
5. Looking at areas for expansion: 35 acre school site in clear lake. Santa Clara park expansion.
6. Clear Lake Area: potential community park, school site, campus industrial (no manufacturing, more like office parks), and industrial to the north.
 - a. Will use Clear Lake Overlay Zone Goals: protect large employment sites, address environmental justice issues in Bethal.
7. Santa Clara: Expand parks by Madison Middle School

Question: If we don't expand UGB, how do we balance density and larger apartment buildings with NIMBY? Will be monitoring development to see what ongoing needs are.

Question: How do you encourage multi-family housing in areas that don't feel very residential currently? It is a current problem to figure out how to fund those kinds of developments. City council is looking at figuring out how to solve the middle-income, non-student housing issues.

Question: How does Climate Recovery Ordinance fit into UGB? Current analysis anticipates that sustainability goals will be met by current plan.

8. Efficiency measures: city supporting MUPTE for higher density housing in downtown. Medium density: increase R-2 zone minimum density from 10 homes/acre to 13 homes/acre, except for smaller lots.

9. Adoption package plan amendments:

10. How you can participate: public hearings

Kingsley Schnieder/Capital Hill PUD update

- March 1st is when it could get to planning commission. After that, 90 days for response.
- Street work and utilities could begin in the fall.
- Not sure what plans will be submitted, so not sure what the response would be.
- Most people are concerned about the increase in traffic volume.
- We can respond to the area of development, but it's harder to address the traffic issues further down the hill.
- The road is dangerous for traffic and pedestrians.

Larry: Laurelridge response committee

- Trying to get 42 acres of park and open space. Have been offered 37 but trying to get the last 5 acres.
- Furtag development: near Ribbon Trail. Hearings on March 8th, 5pm. Fighting mid-density housing to make it less dense.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm