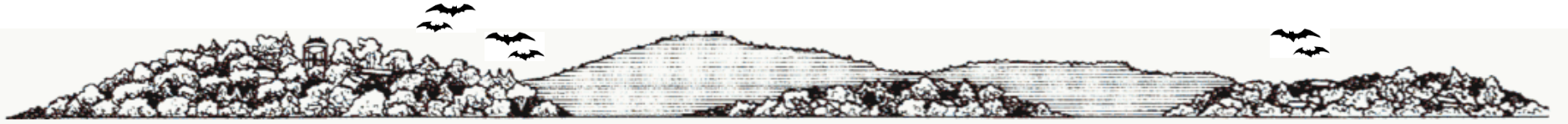


Friendly Area Neighborhood Newsletter

Fall Edition - October 2012

Eugene, OR



Board elections, zone change, topics of annual FAN meeting, October 28th



By Andrew Fisher, FAN Board member & newsletter Editor

The Fall General Meeting of the Friendly Area Neighbors (FAN) will be held at the Washington Park Community Center (2025 Washington Street) on **Thursday, October 25th**, 2012. The meeting begins at 7 PM. Residents and neighbors are encouraged to attend & participate!

Agenda Items:

Welcome! - Public comment, neighborhood news, and FAN Board announcements. We also anticipate presentations from both candidates in the upcoming City Council Ward 2 run-off election (see page 4). The FAN Board general elections for the next year will also take place. Election of officers will take place at the next, regular FAN Board meeting, November 12th. Following is a list of the present Executive Board members willing to continue for the next year:

Carlos Barrera, Carly Brynson, Nancy Classen, Bernie Corrigan, Andrew Fisher, Greg Giesy, Mike Giroux, Marv Glover, Edward Goehring, Kristina Lang, Nancy Ellen Locke, Matt Lutter, and Bruce Strimling. You are invited to offer your name at this annual meeting as well.

Zone Change "101" - An educational and informational presentation explaining the "hows" and "whys" of zone change in our neighborhoods. If you want to learn more about the planning process, this event will provide useful information. Planning staff from the City of Eugene will lead the presentation. A group discussion will follow.

Upcoming forum on South Willamette

Information provided by the City of Eugene

Do you drive, walk, bike, take the bus, live or shop on South Willamette Street? If so, please consider attending the first major public event on the project. The meeting will discuss project goals and explore alternatives for future improvements to the design and condition of Willamette Street between 24th and 32nd. If you are interested in attending or joining the email list, please send an email to chris.c.henry@ci.eugene.or.us or call Chris Henry at 541-682-8472.

South Willamette Street Improvement Plan
Community Forum #1: Explore the Alternatives

Tuesday Evening, **November 13th**, exact time and location to be announced.

Visit <http://www.eugene-or.gov/SWillametteStreet> for more info.



2013 Pavement Projects in FAN

By Reed Dunbar, City of Eugene

City of Eugene Public Works has scheduled resurfacing projects for two streets in the Friendly Area Neighborhood. West 18th Avenue from Washington Street to near Chambers Street and Willamette Street from 19th Avenue to just south of 24th Avenue will be resurfaced in summer 2013. Resurfacing of the streets includes replacing the top layers of deteriorated pavement and removing sections of pavement that have completely failed. The projects will also reconstruct sidewalk access ramps where they do not meet current standards.

Willamette Street

There was a public meeting held for Willamette Street on September 4, 2012 at the Washington Park Cottage. There were 46 names recorded on the meeting attendance sheet. The meeting began with a formal presentation to explain the purpose of the project and present a slideshow of the project area block-by-block including street width dimensions. Following the presentation attendees worked in small groups to discuss the existing conditions of the street and to express their hopes and concerns for project outcomes.

The Eugene Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and TransPlan both recommend bike lanes for this section of Willamette Street. Meeting attendees discussed the need for bicycle facilities so that sidewalks are reserved for pedestrians. Another concern was the preservation of on-street parking which would be impacted if bike lanes were installed. Most attendees agreed that if bike lanes were to be installed the project should extend north to 18th Avenue even though this outside the proposed project area. A second meeting was not scheduled when this article was written. See project website for updates: www.eugene-or.gov/willamette19to24

W 18th Avenue

There was a public meeting held for West 18th Avenue on September 25, 2012. There were four names recorded on the meeting attendance sheet. The format of the meeting included a formal presentation and discussion. Three alternatives were discussed in detail during the presentation with audience participation. The options included removing parking on one or both sides of the street, or leaving the current design as is.

There was some discussion about the parking lanes and how they also provide space to back out of driveways before entering a travel lane. All attendees agreed that the current configuration is tight for motorists and bicyclists and there is desire for change. City staff will meet to review the notes from this meeting and comments gathered via email and telephone. Based on these data a preferred alternative will be selected. The city will notify property owners and neighborhood associations (Jefferson Westside Neighbors, Friendly Area Neighbors) of the results. Another meeting may be scheduled depending on response. See the project website for updates: www.eugene-or.gov/w18thave



Past newsletters are available online at the FAN website: www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org

Visit Eugene Neighborhoods on the web: www.eugene-or.gov

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Check out this new, online resource for Friendly discussion: www.facebook.com/FriendlyNeighborsForum



Friendly Neighbors Forum

351 likes · 81 talking about this

Like

Message



Friendly area volunteers have created an online information kiosk/newsletter for neighbors to share helpful tips & crime alerts, barter, discuss issues, trade labor, learn about backyard farming, organize projects, find lost pets, and more.

This page exists to support the work of neighborhood groups including Common Ground Garden, Friendly Area Neighbors, Eugene Southtowne Rotary, Eugene Friendly Neighborhood Farmers, the Madison Meadow project, A Safer Eugene & Lane County, SouthTowne Business Association, Eugene Neighborhoods and other community-based organizations.

We serve the area between 18th on the north and 28th/29th on the south -- and between Chambers on the west and Amazon Creek on the eastern boundary.

You don't need a Facebook account to browse and read the useful information on this forum. Contact FAN Board member Edward Goehring at edward.goehring@gmail.com with questions or feedback on this project.

Neighborhood Businesses support FAN Summer Picnic

By Nancy Ellen Locke, FAN Board member

Thank you for the donations of goods and services by local area businesses to the Friendly Area Neighbor's July 2012 Picnic. The event was well attended and feedback was positive.

Willamette Street:

Capella Market

Eugene Coin & Jewelry

In Shape Gym

Tsunami Books

Agate Alley' Laboratory

Eugene True Value Hardware

McDonald's

Southtowne Shoppes:

Beaudet Jewelry Design

Barry's Espresso Bakery & Deli

Woodfield Station:

Rite Aid

16 Tons Cafe

Nature's Pet Market

Laughing Planet Cafe

UPS Store

Ron's Island Grill

West 29th Avenue:

Papa John's Pizza

Chapala Mexican Restaurant

Sunrise Asian Food Market

Friendly Street:

J-Tea - packaged teas & drinks

Friendly Street Market

Bicycles, Stop Signs, and Oregon Revised Statutes

Submitted by Nancy Ellen Locke, FAN Board member

The ORS that says cyclists must follow the same rules as a driver is:

814.400 Application of vehicle laws to bicycles. (1) Every person riding a bicycle upon a public way is subject to the provisions applicable to and has the same rights and duties as the driver of any other vehicle concerning operating on highways, vehicle equipment and abandoned vehicles, except:

(a) Those provisions which by their very nature can have no application.

(b) When otherwise specifically provided under the vehicle code.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section:

(a) A bicycle is a vehicle for purposes of the vehicle code; and

(b) When the term "vehicle" is used the term shall be deemed to be applicable to bicycles.

(3) The provisions of the vehicle code relating to the operation of bicycles do not relieve a bicyclist or motorist from the duty to exercise due care. [1983 c.338 §697; 1985 c.16 §335]

811.260 the section on traffic control devices states:



(15) Stop signs. A driver approaching a stop sign shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the marked crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if there is no marked crosswalk, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering it. After stopping, the driver shall yield the right of way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time when the driver is moving across or within the intersection.

Historic Friendly Neighborhood Walk of residences and landmarks October 21st

Photo & article by Andrew Fisher, FAN Board member and newsletter Editor

As Eugene celebrates 150 years In October of 2012, the history of Friendly Neighborhood will be explored on a free walk on **Sunday, October 21st** at 1:00 PM. Volunteers, residents, and interested individuals will take a walk through time to Friendly Neighborhood's past. We will view and discuss some of the most significant, historic locations in Friendly Neighborhood. Our most significant, historic resources contribute to the character & identity of our neighborhood and merit both appreciation & preservation.

You may download the October 21st walking map from the FAN website at www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org. Please print out a copy in advance if you are able.

The walk begins and ends at Washington Park. Please meet in front of the Washington Park Community Center at 2025 Washington at 1:00 PM.

Note: This walk of College Hill and Friendly Neighborhood involves negotiating multiple changes in elevation. Please make sure to wear comfortable shoes and layered clothing. For additional info contact Andrew by email at: andrewf@friendlyareaneighbors.org



Please Recycle!

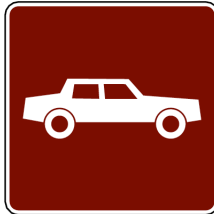
Editorials & Opinion

Shared Privileges & Shared Responsibilities on Our Roads for Vehicles & Bicycles

By Nancy Ellen Locke, FAN Board member

Drivers of vehicles are reminded often that driving is a privilege. To earn this privilege, we must learn the fundamentals of driving and we are tested on our knowledge. We have to pass that test,

An eye test is also required and we have to pass that test too. There is a road test for the first time driver and again now and then later on.



We need to prove we have insurance before we drive a vehicle. We also need to have paperwork with us in the vehicle we are driving showing who owns the vehicle we are driving. The vehicle has its own license which is updated regularly. And we pay taxes for our road's upkeep with each tank of gas.

I fully accept these responsibilities. And I understand how they make roads safer, provide a financial safety net in case of crashes, help return stolen property if the vehicle is stolen, even allow us to have and repair roads in the first place.

Isn't bicycle riding on our roads just as much privilege as driving on the road is? Why aren't bicyclist living with the same rules and responsibilities when they use the very same roads?



1.) I would like to see bicyclist have a state wide license and each bicycle have a license also - just as drives & vehicles do. Yes, even with the testing, eye exams and crummy photos.

2.) I would like bicyclist to have insurance to pay for any damage they might cause.

3.) I would like bicyclist to have Proof of Ownership to the bicycle they are riding.

I am happy to give bicyclist credit for their sweat equity and the lack of air pollution (on most bicycles) but NOT a free pass on everything. We share the roads. Now it is time to share the responsibilities too.



Little Free Library and Small Dog Park seek Neighborhood Matching Grants

By Andrew Fisher, FAN Board member and newsletter Editor

Motivated members of our community presented two very different, but similarly "scaled-down" projects at the regular, October FAN Board meeting.

The Little Free Library project is seeking a City of Eugene Neighborhood Matching Grant to provide a permanent home for a public book exchange in Friendly Park. The concept involves placing a weather-proof, shelf-lined cabinet on the south side of the existing information kiosk. Residents and neighbors may leave or take a book. Friendly Park nearby neighbor Hope Crandall is guiding the effort.

Lauren Chouinard, a retired Eugene city administrator, also presented the persuasive case for constructing a small dog park in the southern end of Amazon Park. For more information visit: <http://www.smalldogpark.com>

According to the City of Eugene website: "*The Neighborhood Matching Grants program was established by City Council in 2000 with the purpose of encouraging residents in Eugene to work collaboratively to identify and actively participate in making improvements to their neighborhoods.*"

The FAN Board enthusiastically voted their support for both efforts.

Friendly Area Neighborhood Newsletter

Editor & Layout: Andrew Fisher

Letters to the Editor: editor@FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org

Website: www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org



This is the official newsletter of the Friendly Area Neighbors (FAN) in Eugene, OR. Funds for the printing & mailing of newsletters are provided by the City of Eugene. Newsletters are produced by neighborhood volunteers and are free to residents & businesses of the neighborhood. Space is available for letters to the editor or articles from neighbors and will be published as space permits. The information provided and the views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the position of the City of Eugene or the Friendly Area Neighbors.

Regarding Smart Meters...

By Bess Nobel, FAN resident

Dear neighbors,

I am writing in response to the article in the last issue of the FAN Newsletter regarding smart meters written by Matt Lutter. I have several points that I think are pertinent for being a well-informed community about the safety, costs, and privacy of smart meters.

I am not an expert on microwaves, however, I made the personal decision to not have a microwave oven in my house over 30 years ago because I didn't trust the appliance to not leak the waves into my home. I do have a cell now that I only use occasionally for texts. When I rarely make a call, I use it on speaker phone to avoid the microwaves near my head. In 2006, EWEB replaced my old meter with a digital meter. It is working just fine. No microwaves!

The idea of having a microwave producing smart meter on my property, without my permission, makes me extremely uncomfortable. I also wonder what EWEB will do with the information that is collected from these devices. Can they guarantee my privacy will be protected?

The cost of replacing all the meters in Eugene with smart meters should not be placed upon the ratepayers. EWEB is a ratepayer owned utility company. I want EWEB to spend their money in better ways. It seems to me that EWEB could have a staggered schedule to replace the old meters with new digital/non-microwave meters for a lot less money than the smart meters.

Matt stated that people could monitor their electrical usage and decide to reduce consumption during peak hours and smart meters would help them see their patterns of use. Years ago my family did a similar comparison, without a smart meter, and we reduced our consumption. Savvy consumers can do their own research for their own homes too.

One of the most troubling comments Matt made was that EWEB could eliminate meter readers, which would lower costs. I find two problems with that idea:

1. Jobs are very important. Oregon has long supported keeping jobs that otherwise could have been deleted because of new technology. Case in point, we voted to keep gas station employees pumping gas instead of having self-service. Oregonians realized that they wanted pay a little extra so that entry-level jobs would be there for their fellow citizens. EWEB doesn't have to make us have smart meters so that they can eliminate jobs.

2. Who is going to read the water meters? The same meter reader reads both electrical and water meters. Are we going to have to replace the old meters with smart water meters next and at what cost?

Eugene should check out what happened in Marin County, California surrounding the idea of smart meters. People were concerned for their own health and the health of their pets and chickens. The utility had offered to the people that didn't want smart meters the option of paying \$75 a year to keep their old meters. The smart meter manufacturers said the meters were safe, but in reality the safety has NEVER been studied. Eventually, their Board of Supervisors outlawed them in the county because the citizens revolted.

I urge all FAN neighbors and EWEB employees to think outside the box when it comes to new technologies. It seems that the manufacturer will make multiple-millions in profit and EWEB customers will foot the bill for something they don't want or need. I think that local jobs, the health of all beings that live in Eugene, and privacy of local people are important things to protect.

Sincerely, Bess Nobel, FAN neighbor

Editor's Notes: EWEB has offered some feedback on the subject: "We have a number of studies on our website as well as a letter from the State of Oregon Epidemiologist who reviewed the reports, scientific literature and consulted with subject matter experts and concluded that the implementation of smart meters will not adversely impact public health.. Check the EWEB website for current research and a letter from the state at <http://www.eweb.org/smpilot>

The smart meter discussion will continue in the next issue!

Letters to the Editor

The Friendly Area Neighborhood Newsletter would like to hear from you! You can send your comments, suggestions, ponderings, ideas, complaints, reflections, or notions in two ways:

e-mail

editor@friendlyareaneighbors.org

US Mail

Friendly Area Neighbors

c/o Neighborhood Program

99 W. 10th Avenue

Eugene, OR 97401

Please limit letters to 150 and 200 words. Past issues of this newsletter are available on our website: www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org





Betty Taylor

I am just getting to know the part of the Friendly Neighborhood which was added to Ward 2 by the last re-districting. While campaigning for re-election, I have enjoyed meeting some of you who live in the area east of Willamette, west of Amazon Parkway, north of 29th Ave, and south of 23rd Ave.

I am running for re-election to the Ward 2 position. I am running on my record of supporting environmental issues, labor, neighborhoods, and justice for all residents. I will continue to advocate:

continue to advocate:

- Environmental protection--saving the Amazon Headwaters from development
- Maintaining the Urban Growth Boundary--to preserve farm and forest lands
- Support for neighborhoods, including money for newsletters
- Compatible infill standards
- Support for Arts and Recreation
- Citizen participation--opportunities for citizen involvement at every stage of major projects
- Equitable funding for road maintenance
- Rental housing standards
- Assistance to local business--keeping profits in the community
- A living wage ordinance

I am endorsed by:

- Mayor Kitty Piercy
- City Councilor George Brown
- City Councilor Alan Zelenka
- Lane County Commissioner Pete Sorenson
- Former Congressman Jim Weaver
- Former Lane County Commissioner Jerry Rust
- Many Rivers Group Oregon Chapter Sierra Club
- Oregon League of Conservation Voters
- AFSCME
- Lane County Young Democrats
- GEARS

My current government positions include the city Budget Committee. Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Workforce Partnership Board (Executive committee), National League of Cities Board of Directors, and National League of Cities University Communities Council Steering Committee.

I have been a resident of Ward 2 since 1983. I would appreciate your vote on November 6th.

City of Eugene Council Ward Map

By Andrew Fisher, FAN Board member and newsletter Editor

The City of Eugene has 8 council wards, each represented by a City Councilor. The boundaries of neighborhood associations (such as Friendly Area Neighbors) may contain parts of multiple council wards.

Friendly Neighborhood is defined by Chambers to the west, Amazon Creek on the east, W 18th Avenue on the north, and 28th & 29th to the south.

The majority of Friendly Neighborhood lies in Eugene's Ward 1, which is represented by Councilor George Brown. A smaller section of Ward 2, represented by Councilor Betty Taylor, occupies the southeast corner of FAN and contains portions of the South Willamette area. Finally, a slivered section of Ward 3, represented by Councilor Alan Zelenka, occupies the northeast corner of FAN along Amazon Drive from 18th to 28th.

The following text is from the City of Eugene website:

"The City Council, Eugene's legislative body, has eight members and is responsible for passing laws, setting community goals, adopting policy and deciding which services the City will provide. Councilors are elected on a nonpartisan ballot for four-year terms. One councilor is elected from each of eight wards with one-half of the council elected every two years."

Additional information regarding Eugene City Council, including ward demographics and a digital version of the ward map at right, are online here:

<http://www.eugene-or.gov/index.aspx?NID=532>



Juan Carlos Valle

I have lived in Eugene for 23 years. I love this very special place we call our community. My story is, on one hand very different from many of the residents of Eugene, but on the other hand exactly the same. I want my family to live and thrive; I want my child to have every opportunity to succeed so she can choose to remain here after her education. I want my family to feel safe and secure, to breathe clean air and drink clean water.

I can collaborate with the other City Councilors so that we can create and implement solutions for many of our challenges, rather than just expressing hope for some solution. To note just a few examples:

- West Eugene EmX – I've supported it from the start, as a needed part of a balanced transportation system.
- Amazon Headwaters – I will work toward a permanent solution for preservation of this important natural area.
- Civic Stadium – Any proposal must serve the neighborhood (no big box store!) and benefit and bring our families together, whether it involves the YMCA and/or others.
- South Willamette – Redesign is needed to better support the local businesses, bicyclists, and pedestrians.
- Parks & Recreation – Eugene has such wonderful parks; we must find a way to adequately fund park maintenance and activities.

When I arrived in Eugene I was homeless. I slept under a bridge and was frequently hungry. I worked three part time jobs to get ahead. I worked as a permit specialist at the City of Eugene, and was a proud member of the ASFCME union. With support and encouragement from many people who believed in me, I was able to complete my education, pursue my career goals and raise a family. It was not easy at times, but by working for tomorrow, I succeeded.

Just as I did when I was homeless, I am working for tomorrow. It is time for a new perspective and a fresh approach in addressing the issues of importance to the residents of Ward 2. I would be honored by your support and vote on November 6th.

November Eugene Election Info Online

The next regularly scheduled election in Eugene will be the November 6, 2012, General Election. The Eugene City Council has referred two ballot measures to the November election:

20-197: Bonds to Fix Streets, Fund Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

20-198: Advisory question on corporate/union constitutional rights and campaign spending

For additional information, see www.eugene-or.gov/index.aspx?NID=1199

