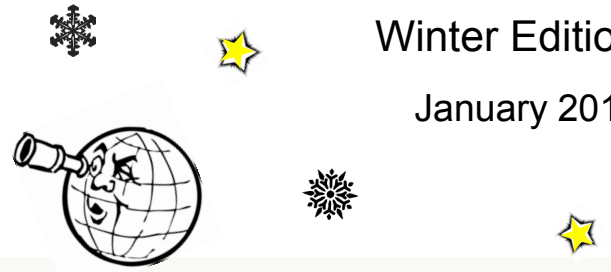


# Friendly Area Neighborhood Newsletter

Winter Edition  
January 2012



## 24th Avenue the topic of Winter General Meeting Jan. 19th at Washington Park

By Bernie Corrigan, FAN Board Co-Chair

Attention Friendly residents and business owners! You are invited to attend the **Winter General Meeting of the Friendly Area Neighbors (FAN) at 7:00 PM on Thursday, January 19th at the Washington Park Cottage in Washington Park.** General Meetings are an opportunity for you to get to know other neighborhood residents. Topics for the next meetings include:

- A representative from the City of Eugene will be present to talk about the 24th Avenue improvement project and answer any questions.
- A forum for you to share neighborhood information or announcements.
- We anticipate a representative from Solarize Eugene (see story page 2)

## New sign installed at Friendly Park

Submitted by Nancy Ellen Locke, FAN Board with help from Jackie C. Hallett, Park and Open Space Planning Supervisor, City of Eugene

A new park entrance sign has been installed at Friendly Park. It nicely compliments the coordinated improvements from a few years back via a Neighborhood Matching Grant. The sign notes the established date of the park; 1953. The park is now 59 years old. The sign has an inscription from visionary poet, painter, and printmaker William Blake:

*"The bird a nest, the spider a web, man friendship."*



Photo courtesy City of Eugene.



## Councilman Brown shares thoughts on recent past and hopes for New Year

By George Brown, Eugene City Councilor, Ward 1

I've been on the council for three years. I feel I was elected to not only represent the constituents of my ward, but to be part of a problem-solving team addressing citywide and regional issues of immediate and future concern.

In 2011, we said goodbye, without sadness, to two unsightly pits downtown. LCC's new campus and student housing complex will be a beautiful re-use of the old Sear's site; Bennett Co. is creating an attractive new office building at the old Woolworth location; Beam's wonderful restoration of the former Penney's building is almost completed; and Master Co.'s thoughtful reworking of the Roberts/Taco Time structure and the old Public Works building on Pearl are welcome additions to downtown housing. These projects will invite creative occupation of remaining vacancies in the central city. We're going to have a real downtown again!

You, the citizen taxpayers, deserve a round of applause for approving the bond measure that has enabled Public Works to complete another year rebuilding our streets

Council's approval of EWEB's extension of water service to Veneta was an important step toward regional water distribution by an accountable, elected public utility rather than by closely-held, for-profit private water companies.

Council's approval of the Bascom Village affordable housing project was a significant aid to reducing the number of "rent-burdened" residents. However, the supply of such housing is far outstripped by the demand, and more work remains to be done in this area.

We face many complex challenges in 2012. The Occupy Eugene movement and the accompanying encampment have put the growing problem of homelessness front and center, causing outrage in some parts of the community. As the City works with human services providers and OE to transition the un-housed and untreated to more permanent situations, I'd like to encourage the community to not misdirect their anger to the victims and to the messengers, but to the systemic causes of these problems. Until these root causes are addressed in a meaningful way, we can only expect the numbers of this vulnerable population to increase.

Among the council's other important decisions this year are whether to expand the Urban Growth Boundary and, if, so, by how much and where. Should we remodel or rebuild City Hall? Should we approve the EmX expansion on 6th/7th and West 11th? What can we do better to encourage long-term economic development and job creation? And, finally, I will continue to work on preserving and repurposing Civic Stadium for community use.



Past newsletters are available online at the FAN website: [www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org](http://www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org)

Visit Eugene Neighborhoods on the web: [www.eugene-or.gov](http://www.eugene-or.gov)

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## Letters to the Editor

I was surprised to see the notice in the most recent newsletter that the sidewalk infill project was about to start. Surprised because over a year ago, when this project last was discussed, I and several neighbors who would be impacted by the project presented a petition signed by an overwhelming majority of the families along the route between 23rd and 22nd opposing the project. The board told us that the project was just preliminary and would not progress without input from those who live along the route. I was assured that a committee would be organized to look at the route and place it where it was most needed and desired. There are areas in the neighborhood that have substantial street traffic and would like a sidewalk. I was further assured that I would be invited to be on the committee. I even offered my house which is along the proposed route as a location for the meetings. The board and Mr. Barrera have apparently forgotten their promise. Fortunately it is not too late. I am sure the board is not so arrogant that they would wish to force this upon the neighborhood without input from the neighbors most directly affected.

I am particularly interested to know if those putting up the money are aware that this is a controversial proposal and their generosity will not be appreciated by many in the area.

I have lived at my present address for over twenty years and been in Eugene over forty. As a child my wife lived around the corner on Charnelton with her grandmother. We would like to maintain the feel of the neighborhood. We would like it remain a friendly place. Progressing without including those most affected feels hostile. Above all we are concerned about the process the board seems to be following. Forcing things upon folks without seeking their input is not traditionally how we have behaved in Eugene. I sincerely hope this does not represent a degradation of the values true Eugeniens have come to cherish.

-Bruce Strimling, FAN resident



Mr. Barrera replies:

The Olive Street Urban Trails Project (OSUTP) is a complicated and ambitious endeavor. While mapping the neighborhood's sidewalks, in preparation for a different project, it was discovered that in the eight block stretch between 20th and 27th Avenues, just west of Willamette Street, there were no continuous sidewalks to the business district. Interviews with residents and pedestrians in the area indicated that this lack of sidewalks placed hundreds of families at risk of injury or death from having to walk in the streets, with a particularly dangerous block on Olive St. between 23rd and 24th Avenues.

Since the City had no money to install sidewalks, in 2008, the FAN board began preparations to provide some sidewalks so that students would have safe routes to school, parents with strollers wouldn't have to dodge cars, the disabled and unsteady wouldn't feel trapped in their homes, and so that all our residents would have greater opportunity to safely walk about their neighborhood.

A large grant was obtained from an Olive St. resident and we obtained non-profit status for the project in order to facilitate further tax deductible donations. Because the all volunteer FAN board is involved in many other projects and the fact that our building code does not address the installation of City infrastructure by third parties, it has taken some time to negotiate this project with the City building department. Now that those negotiations to determine City requirements are nearly complete, it will soon be possible to begin meetings with the 75, or so, residents of Olive St. and 25th Avenue to hear their concerns. I hope Mr. Strimling and the other five petition signers on his block can be patient a little while longer.

-Carlos Barrera, FAN Board Co-Chair

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

e-mail

[editor@friendlyareaneighbors.org](mailto:editor@friendlyareaneighbors.org)

US Mail

Friendly Area Neighbors

c/o Neighborhood Program

99 W. 10th Avenue

Eugene, OR 97401

Please limit your letters to between 150 and 200 words. Past issues of this newsletter are available online along with other information on our website: [www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org](http://www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org)



## A resource to share with FAN members

By Edward Goehring, FAN Board member

Residents can find information and discussion about public safety in urban and rural Lane County on a brand-new Facebook Page: "A Safer Eugene & Lane County". The page has a special focus on disaster/emergency awareness & preparedness. Neighborhood traffic & safety issues, anti-crime tips, public health and general public safety "best practices" may also be posted or discussed here:

<https://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=108384559193870>

This page is for civil, constructive discussion of issues related to improving public and individual safety in the Eugene and Lane County area. If you don't use Facebook, you can see all the same public safety information at this Google Group: <http://groups.google.com/group/a-safer-eugene-lane-county>

At the Google Group site you can sign up to receive email digests or RSS feeds of news and discussions from the site. This county-wide Facebook Page and Google Group were started by volunteers here in the Friendly Neighborhood



## Help us Solarize Eugene!

Submitted by Sarah Mazze, The Research Innovation Group (TRIG)

Solarize programs around the state and nation have residents working together to install thousands of kW of clean energy on local roofs. Thanks to an EWEB Greenpower grant, The Resource Innovation Group (TRIG) is now offering Solarize Eugene for customers in EWEB territory.

Solarize Eugene is a community education and solar installation program designed to help homeowners overcome the barriers to going solar at home, including who to hire, how much to budget and where to start. With Solarize Eugene, interested neighbors will join forces to conquer the process as a team, and realize cost savings with bulk purchasing power.

Free workshops will be held in April through June throughout Eugene. These events will provide information needed to make a sound decision about installing solar electricity and solar hot water and will inform participants about how the Solarize project works. We'll even host a couple of energy efficiency workshops to help residents cut their overall energy use.

There are two ways to get involved in this exciting project: volunteering and installing your own system! If you might want to install solar electricity or hot water on your home please visit [www.solarizeeugene.info](http://www.solarizeeugene.info) for information about upcoming workshops and to find out how to sign up when enrollment opens.

We are also looking for people interested in spreading the word about Solarize Eugene throughout the community. If you want to be a part of Solarize Eugene, please attend one of the volunteer information sessions listed below or contact Sarah Mazze at 541-654-4052 or [sarah@trig-cli.org](mailto:sarah@trig-cli.org).

Volunteer Information Sessions\*

- Jan. 11th, 5:30-6:30 pm - Downtown Public Library's Singer room
- Jan. 22nd, 3:00-4:00 pm - Green Home Show at the Fair Grounds

(\* You may still volunteer with Solarize Eugene if you miss these sessions.)

## FAN Business & Organization Directory

By Edward Goehring, FAN Board member

Volunteers in the Friendly neighborhood are putting together a directory of businesses, government offices, nonprofits, schools, churches and other institutions in the area between Chambers, 18th Ave, Amazon Creek and 28th/29th Ave. The directory will be posted online as a free public resource, with plans in discussion to publish a free print edition if a sponsor can be found.

The directory is being created for several purposes:

- 1) The directory facilitates outreach to businesses/organizations by FAN by providing an email list to contact the owners/tenants of all the neighborhood's non-residential properties.
- 2) The directory will be made available to all businesses and organizations listed in it and will help them keep in touch with each other over common concerns or interests -- part of FAN's overall mission of community-building.
- 3) The directory helps residents find nearby businesses and services they can get to by bike, wheelchair, or on foot; reducing air pollution and carbon usage. The directory will be searchable by listings in Friendly's four business districts: 28th & Friendly Street, 18th & Chambers, 18th & Willamette, and the South Willamette area around 29th & Willamette.

If you want to be included (or omitted) from the directory, send your business/organization information to FAN Board member Edward Goehring at [edward.goehring@gmail.com](mailto:edward.goehring@gmail.com). You can also drop off listing information for the directory at any FAN Executive Board meeting, which are held the second Monday of every month from 7 to 9 PM at the Washington Park Cottage,

# Friendly Neighbors and City Staff envision rehabilitated & improved West 24th Avenue

By Reed Dunbar, City of Eugene

## Introduction

City of Eugene Public Works has scheduled a rehabilitation project for W 24th Avenue from Jefferson Street to Chambers Street for summer 2012. Rehabilitation of the pavement includes replacing the top layers of deteriorated pavement and removing sections of pavement that have completely failed. The project will also reconstruct sidewalk access ramps in several locations.

Project planners are requesting input on the design of the street to enhance the safety, comfort, and convenience of all transportation users. A neighborhood open house was held on December 1st at Adams Elementary to discuss possible design alternatives for W 24th Avenue. The meeting was attended by 32 members of the public.

## Background

The Eugene-Springfield Transportation System Plan (2002) and the draft Eugene Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan (PBMP) identify 24th Ave (from Chambers to Jefferson) as a future bikeway even though it contains no bicycle facilities at present. The PBMP recommends bike lanes due to high traffic volume and the functional classification of the street as a major collector. Bike lanes will not fit within the existing roadway as currently configured due to six pairs of curb extensions previously installed as a traffic calming measure.

Participants of the neighborhood open house seemed to favor bike lanes from Chambers Street to Friendly Street even if that meant removing parking on the south side. Parking was determined to be most crucial on the north side, especially near Graham Field (Westmoreland Park) Keeping parking on the north side would also retain a greater amount of parking area since spaces on the south side are interrupted by transit stops and more frequent driveways.

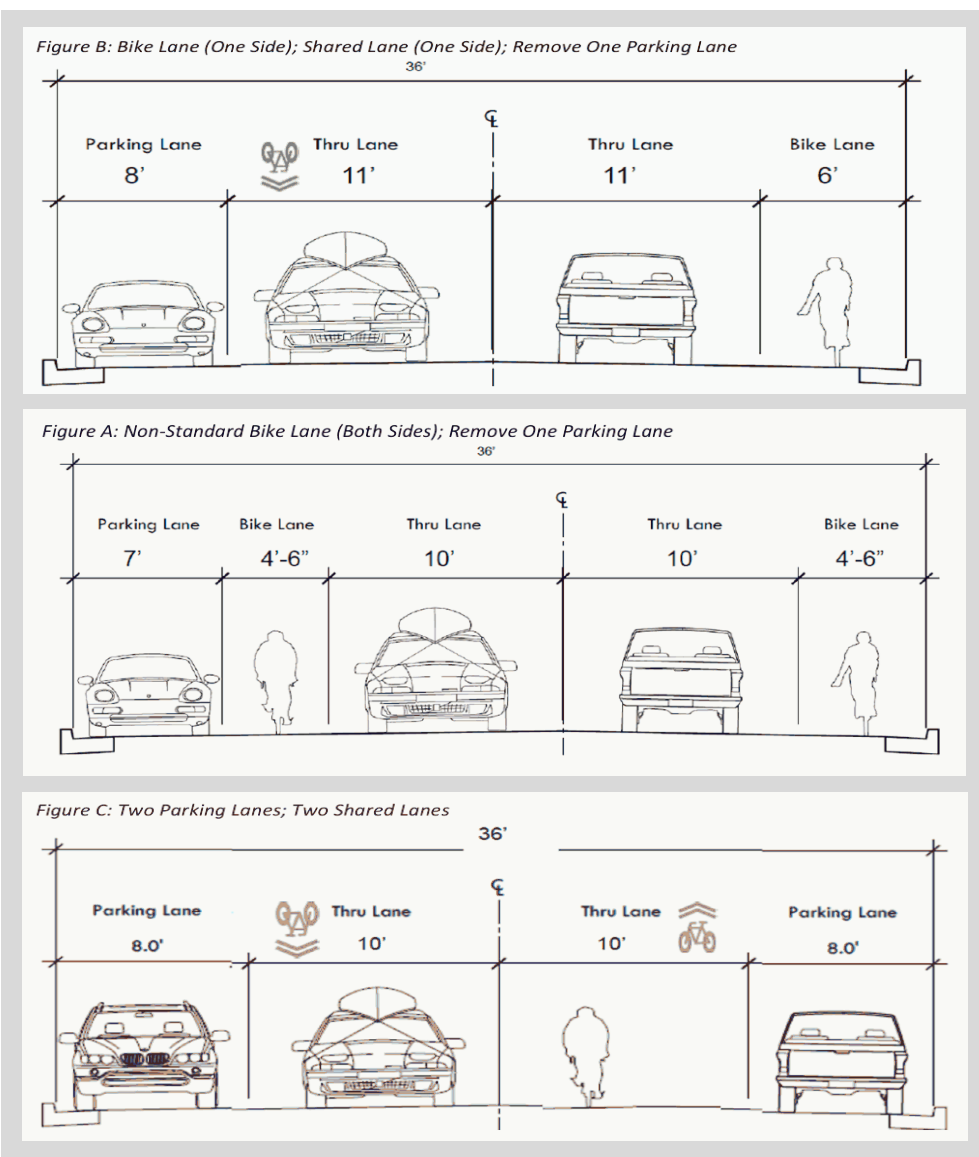
Meeting attendees were also very concerned about current traffic speeds and the impact any design changes might have on vehicle travel speed. Additional traffic calming measures were discussed to increase the comfort and safety for all road users. There was some support for removing the existing curb extensions if another type of traffic calming device was installed. The city will be evaluating traffic calming facilities following the results of a traffic speed study currently in progress.

## Timeline

The project is currently in the design phase. To ensure the project can be completed in summer 2012 it will be advertised for contractor bidding in February. Construction of sidewalk access ramps will occur in spring with paving of the street in summer.



Residents & City officials discuss options for W 24th Avenue at an open house held December 1st . Photo by Greg Giesy.



## Possible Design Alternatives

The alternatives discussed at the December 1st meeting included keeping the street how it is now, adding bike lanes, installing additional traffic calming measures to develop a bicycle boulevard, or a combination of these alternatives. These alternatives were not meant to represent all possible options, but were presented to fuel discussion about important elements of the future design. For example, if bike lanes are installed at least one side of on-street parking must be removed. A sample of the design alternatives that were discussed are profiled below.

The street width (curb-to-curb) of W 24th Avenue between Chambers Street and Friendly Street is about 36 feet. The current configuration includes two 10 foot travel lanes and two 8 foot parking lanes. Possible design alternatives may include adding a bike lane to both sides of the street (Figure A), adding a bike lane to one side and a shared lane on the other (Figure B), or creating a shared lane bicycle boulevard (Figure C). The street can also be rehabilitated using the current configuration.

**Figure A: Non-Standard Bike Lane (Both Sides); Remove One Parking Lane**

**Figure B: Bike Lane (One Side); Shared Lane (One Side); Remove One Parking Lane**

**Figure C: Two Parking Lanes; Two Shared Lanes**

The street width (curb-to-curb) of W 24th Avenue from Friendly Street to Jefferson Street is about 27 feet. The current configuration includes two travel lanes (width varies) and on-street parking (location varies). The narrow width necessitates further evaluation regarding how to increase the safety and accommodation of all road users. Participants at the December 1st meeting liked the idea of dedicated bicycle facilities, especially on the uphill (eastbound) side. They also reported speeding as an issue on the downhill (westbound) approach from Jefferson Street to Friendly Street.

## Next Steps

A second neighborhood open house has been scheduled for Thursday, January 5th at Adams Elementary School (Cafeteria/Multipurpose Room). **Complete results from the two neighborhood open house meetings will be available for review at the Friendly Area Neighbors (FAN) "Winter General Meeting" on Thursday, January 19th at 7pm at Washington Park Cottage.** A representative from the city will be present to discuss the final design and answer questions.

## Contact Information

If you would like more information on this project or would like to submit comments please contact Reed Dunbar, Transportation Planner, by e-mail at [reed.c.dunbar@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:reed.c.dunbar@ci.eugene.or.us) or by telephone at 541-682-5727.

Friendly Area Neighborhood Newsletter

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Website: [www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org](http://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.

# Washington Park Work Party seeks motivated residents for volunteer effort February 11th

By Carrie Karl, Volunteer Coordinator South Region, Parks and Open Space

Do you play in Washington Park? Would like to meet your neighbors? Are you excited about getting outdoors in the winter? **Please join your friends and neighbors on Saturday, Feb 11th from 1:00-3:00 PM at Washington Park** for an opportunity to do some work and have a whole lot of fun!

All are welcome and encouraged to attend - rain or shine. Tools, gloves, instructions, and a snack are provided. Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities popping up in the spring! Contact Carrie Karl at 541-682-4850 or [carrie.l.karl@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:carrie.l.karl@ci.eugene.or.us) to RSVP (appreciated) or for more info.

## Community Helps Create South Willamette Draft Concept Plan

(This article originally printed in the December 16th, 2011 Eugene City Council Newsletter)

Exciting ideas and shared challenges are emerging from the pilot study of area planning in South Willamette. Area planning is one of the strategies of the "Compact Urban Development and Efficient Transportation Options" pillar of Envision Eugene. Businesses, residents, property owners and customers in the area, as well as design professionals and City staff, have brainstormed how the area might change in desirable ways to accommodate additional housing and a more vibrant business district over the next 20 years.

An online presentation, survey and public workshop on Dec. 7, offered the community opportunities to explore and provide feedback on the draft concept plan. The plan sketches out an integrated vision for the future of the area. View the presentation and take the survey through Jan. 9 at [www.eugene-or.gov/SWillamette](http://www.eugene-or.gov/SWillamette). Community interest in the project is growing; so far, the concept plan has been viewed over 450 times online and over 60 people have submitted surveys.

The Draft Concept Plan offers ideas about where more commercial buildings and denser kinds of urban housing might be located, ideas for enhancing the shopping districts, and better ways to access the area for all users of the streets and sidewalks. In the spring, a focused study of Willamette Street will begin, funded by a Transportation and Growth Management Grant.

Participants involved in this project are working to make a really great place by building on all the good things that are already happening in and around the area. Kate Boney, owner of Turtles Bar and Grill in the South Willamette district, says it well, "A community's growth is inevitable... having a good plan in place to support that growth in a positive way is priceless."

For more info on how to get involved, contact South Willamette Project Manager Patricia Thomas by e-mail at [patricia.thomas@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:patricia.thomas@ci.eugene.or.us) or by telephone at 541-682-5561. Have a great holiday season and stay tuned for more updates about South Willamette in the new year!

Note: The South Willamette Concept Plan map (pictured right) is available on the FAN website under the "maps" tab.



### Brief History

The neighborhood is named for Friendly Street, which bisects the neighborhood from North to South. The street in turn was named for Sam Friendly (pictured right), a much-loved 19th-century Mayor of Eugene and one of the far-sighted individuals who secured the University of Oregon for Eugene. His direct descendant was Fred Friendly, the internationally renowned broadcaster and journalist.



### FAN History Project

In a letter to a neighbor written in 2000, long-time neighborhood resident Ed Barthelemy describes [Growing Up on Washington Street](#) in the 1920's and 1930's.

Ed Barthelemy shares the [Saga of Little Joe](#).

Early [photos of Washington Street](#) and College Hill.

Do you have a photo or story regarding the history of the Friendly neighborhood you'd like to share? Please contact Andrew at [andrewf@friendlyareaneighbors.org](mailto:andrewf@friendlyareaneighbors.org).

### Walking Tour of Historic Residences of College Hill

The history of Friendly Neighborhood can be understood by learning about the people who lived here and the homes they built. Explore the [Walking Tour of Historic College Hill Residences](#).

### Eugene's "Gut" Exposed

Please select this [hyperlink](#) for a first-hand description of growing up around South Willamette and cruising the "Gut".



### Early Transportation in Eugene, Oregon

Did you know the sternwheeler *City of Eugene* once traveled the Willamette River from Salem to Eugene? Select this [hyperlink](#) to read about the early history of transportation in Eugene; produced in November 1991 as part of the Eugene Downtown Core Area Historic Context Statement.

### College Hill Cultural Resources Survey

Please select this [hyperlink](#) for an in-depth history of the College Hill neighborhood.

### Timeline 1846-1967

Historical [timeline](#) of Eugene and College Hill.

Learn about the History of Friendly Neighborhood at [www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org](http://www.FriendlyAreaNeighbors.org)