

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

September 23, 2010



City of Eugene

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Construction of Four Key Off-Street Path Connectors Top Selection for Funding

The City of Eugene has been awarded \$460,000 from the state Urban Trail Fund to construct four key connectors from Eugene's street network to off-street, shared-use paths. Three path connectors will link the River Road area to the west side of the Ruth Bascom Riverbank Path at Fir Lane, Razor Park and Merry Lane. The fourth connector will link Amazon Parkway at 30th Avenue to the popular Amazon Path.



Razor Park is one of four locations that will receive improved access through a state Urban Trails grant.

Eugene was one of three cities to receive an award from the Urban Trail Fund that was created in the 2009 - 2011 biennium. The Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee ranked the 15 projects submitted and chose Eugene's application as its top selection. The purpose of the Urban Trails Fund is to develop and maintain shared-use paths for non-motorized vehicles and pedestrians, within urban growth boundaries, to provide or improve links to roads and highways, footpaths, bike trails, and public transit.

Recognizing the limited funding statewide, an interdisciplinary team of City transportation planners, engineers, parks planners, natural resources staff, and parks maintenance personnel considered 18 high-quality locations for new path connections based on the Urban Trail criteria, spacing between other path access, estimated use, cost, proximity to bus stops, proximity to traffic signals, support in transportation and parks plans,

and previous public input to identify the highest priority connectors. The Fir Lane, Razor Park, Merry Lane and Amazon Path connectors will be designed this fall and constructed in 2011.

For more information, contact Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator Lee Shoemaker at 541-682-5471 or lee.shoemaker@ci.eugene.or.us.

Community Welcome Set for Incoming University of Oregon Students

The second annual Community Welcome walk takes place Tuesday, September 28, near the University of Oregon (UO) campus. During the early evening event, 75 community leaders will walk campus neighborhoods to welcome students back to the university and larger community. Participants will include Mayor Kitty Piercy, UO President

Richard Lariviere, Associated Students of the University of Oregon (ASUO) President Amelie Rousseau, Councilor Alan Zelenka, City Manager Jon Ruiz, Assistant City Manager Sarah Medary, Police Chief Pete Kerns, UO Vice President for Student Affairs Robin Holmes, UO Dean of Students Paul Shang, and UO Department of Public Safety Chief Doug Tripp, along with many neighborhood leaders and key staff from the City's Neighborhood Services and Rental Housing programs and Eugene police. Leaders will encourage students to be good neighbors, and also provide neighborhood residents with information about crime prevention and rental rights and responsibilities.

At last year's inaugural event, 25 participants reached approximately 600 households in the west and south university neighborhoods. This year, 2,000 packets of information will be distributed by 75 volunteers. Neighborhood coverage will expand to include the Fairmount neighborhood to the east of campus.

The evening will conclude with a town hall meeting scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. at Central Presbyterian Church, 555 East 15th Avenue. Near-campus neighbors are invited to a discussion about campus and community relations with Mayor Piercy and panelists President Lariviere, Vice President Holmes, ASUO President Rousseau, and Councilor Zelenka.

For more information, please contact Rene Kane of Neighborhood Services at rene.c.kane@ci.eugene.or.us or call 541-682-6243.

Third Annual Prevention Convention Planned for October 16

The Eugene Police Prevention Convention is an ultimate education in crime prevention for kids, teens and adults. This year the free event is back and will be held Saturday, October 16, from 1 - 5 p.m. at Sheldon High School.

The convention was set up with individuals and families in mind. Adults can sit in on crime prevention workshops, while kids and teens are kept enthralled by programs designed for them. New this year are classes for senior safety. There are also classes offered in Spanish. Everyone can watch presentations by the K-9s, SWAT team, Bomb Squad, Crash Team, Forensics and Crime Lab – or visit a host of vendors and booths at the event.

This event is brought to the community in partnership with Eugene Area Radio Stations and sponsored by Oregon Community Credit Union.

For more information, contact the Crime Prevention Unit online at <http://www.Eugene-or.gov/preventionconvention> or call 541-682-5137.

City of Eugene to Host Free Financial Planning Day

The ability of Eugene's residents to manage their personal finances has a direct impact on residents, business owners, students, and families – and can affect the overall health of the community. The City of Eugene is partnering this fall with local organizations, including the Financial Planning Association® (FPA) of Mid-Oregon and the U.S. Conference of Mayors to help make financial information available to community members through an initiative taking place in towns and cities across the country.

Eugene Financial Planning Day will be held on Saturday, October 23, at Sheldon Community Center and will feature experts from the FPA and highly qualified professionals, all volunteering their time and expertise to work with local residents one-on-one to address important financial issues.

Eugene Financial Planning Day will be free and open to the public. Information will be offered on a “no strings attached” basis and planners will not give out business cards or sell financial products or services. Free online registration for Eugene Financial Planning Day is available at www.financialplanningdays.org/eugene or by calling 541-284-9855. Walk-ins are also welcome. For additional information, please contact Craig Weicker, FPA of Mid-Oregon at 541-225-6712 or craig.weicker@penfedinvest.com, or Keli Osborn of the City Manager's Office at 541-682-5406, or keli.m.osborn@ci.eugene.or.us.

Olympic Swimmers Hold Clinic at Amazon Pool

On September 11 and 12, Amazon Pool was the site for the TEAM Eugene Aquatics 2010 Swim Clinic featuring instruction from Olympic swimmers Jason Lezak and Jessica Hardy. The swim clinic attracted 175 youth who registered for the all-day events on Saturday with Jason Lezak and Sunday with Jessica Hardy. The purpose of the clinic was to give area youth the opportunity to receive instruction and inspiration from some of the best competitive swimmers in the world.

Jason Lezak, a three-time Olympian, earned a gold medal and set a world record when he anchored the 400-meter freestyle relay and the 400-meter medley relay in the 2008 Olympic Games. Jason also earned a bronze medal in the 100-meter freestyle in 2008, and a gold medal in the 2004 and 2000 Olympic Games in the 400-meter medley relay. He earned gold medals in the World Championships, Pan Pacific Championships, Duel in the Pool meet and holds the world record in the 400-meter freestyle relay and the American record in the 100-meter freestyle.

Jessica Hardy was a member of the U.S. Olympic team in 2008, and holds the world record in the 100-meter breaststroke, 400-meter medley relay, and 50-meter breaststroke. Jessica also earned gold medals at the World Championships and the Pan Pacific Championships.

TEAM Eugene Aquatics is a year-round competitive swim team offering instruction, training, and competition to children and young adults of all ages and abilities. This is the third time TEAM Eugene Aquatics coach Scott Kerr has arranged and presented swim clinics at City pools featuring Olympic swimmers.

For more information, contact Aquatics Section Manager Rich Fay at 541-682-6336.

Thousands of Youth Receive Free Lunch

Every year, Recreation's Youth and Family Services program partners with Food for Lane County to provide free lunches to youth as part of the Fun for All program. Fun for All is a free, drop-in, recreational program provided in neighborhood parks from June 28 – August 27. Last summer, Fun for All operated at 10 parks. Seven of those served a total of 18,497 lunches.

By far the greatest number of lunches, 6,553, were served at Petersen Barn. A total of 3,830 lunches were served at State Street Park. Other lunch counts were: Churchill Youth Park, 1,827; Monroe Park, 1,919; Sladden Park, 1,469; Trainsong Park, 1,729, and Washington Park, 1,180.

For more information, call Kathy Madison at 541-682-6342.