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EUGENE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER
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AROUND THE CITY

News Conference Scheduled about Upcoming Work on West Eugene EmX Project

The next phase of the West Eugene EmX project is scheduled to begin next week. At a news conference on Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m., staff from Lane Transit District and the City of Eugene will describe the planned road, sidewalk and infrastructure improvements and show how five miles of new landscaping will put the “right tree in the right place.” The news conference will take place on West 7th Avenue, east of Garfield Street.

**MORE
TREES
HEALTHIER
TREES**
weemx.ltd.org



The City's Public Works Urban Forestry staff has been closely involved in the West Eugene EmX landscape plan to ensure that the new street trees and landscaping will have better growing conditions than exist along the route today. Approximately 260 trees will be removed along the EmX corridor to meet requirements that streets along the route be widened to maintain traffic flow. The widened streets will also provide more room for larger planting areas and wider sidewalks. More than 460 trees will be replanted, meaning that 200 additional trees will be growing along the West Eugene EmX corridor when the project is completed.

Nearly four years ago, the City Council voted unanimously in favor of a route that runs along 6th, 7th and 11th avenues. Since then, extensive planning and design work has focused on engineering a project that extends fast, frequent transit service linking west Eugene to downtown Eugene and Springfield. Pre-construction activities have included underground utility relocation and tree root survey work. The next phase includes removing about 150 trees along 6th and 7th avenues and staging materials and equipment. Actual road work is expected to begin in March.

LTD has mailed [postcards](#) to 16,000 residents and property owners along the West Eugene EmX route. A [factsheet titled Landscape Improvements](#) provides detailed information about how the right tree in the right place equals a healthy landscape. For more information, contact LTD's Project Information Officer Lisa VanWinkle at 541-682-6212, or Public Works Project Engineering Liaison Kerry Werner at 541-682-5477.

Alternative Education Fair at Eugene Public Library

Parents, teens, and kids: drop in at the Downtown Eugene Public Library on Saturday, Jan. 31, between 1 and 4 p.m., for the Alternative Education Fair. Admission is free.

The Alternative Education Fair will include displays and representatives from more than a dozen local private schools, charter schools, Eugene District 4J alternative programs, and home-schooling organizations, plus other educational resources available through the Eugene Public Library, including the online Homework Centers for [kids](#) and [teens](#).

This event is co-sponsored by the Eugene Public Library and the Eugene Sudbury School. For more information, contact the Eugene Public Library at 541-682-8316 or www.eugene-or.gov/library.

City's 'Good Earth' Booth Focuses on Clean Water for All

Attendees who stop by booth 606 in the Good Garden section at this year's Good Earth Home, Garden and Living Show can learn about many stormwater programs that benefit children, pets and the environment.

While there are several well-known ways that Public Works staff protects local waterways - for example, collecting leaves or sweeping streets - visitors will also learn about many less visible services provided. For instance, the City maintains more than 570 miles of stormwater pipes and cleans more than 14,700 catch basins and inlets. Staff monitors water quality in local waterways, distributes flood protection information to help property owners keep their properties safe, and provides instructional materials for teachers.

Booth visitors who want to test their knowledge and answer a question from the spinning wheel, can participate in a drawing for a gardening or canine gift basket. Plus, visitors can sign up for the new e-newsletter, *Raindrop to River*, which features articles about keeping waterways clean and healthy.

The Good Earth Home and Garden Show starts Friday, Jan. 23, at 5 p.m. and continues until 5 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 25, at the Lane County Events Center. For more information, contact Stormwater Information Specialist Kathy Eva, Public Works Administration, at 541-682-2739 or kathy.a.eva@ci.eugene.or.us.