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10/24/2008

Dear Community Member:

I am pleased to present the results of the City of Eugene's Neighborhood Services program assessment completed in October of 2008. I'd like to thank everyone who participated in this process and took their valuable time to help guide the future of the Neighborhood program.

The assessment process was conducted by the public involvement consulting firm, JLA Public Involvement and was guided by a steering committee composed of neighborhood leaders and city staff. Over the past six months the steering committee met four times to guide JLA through the scope of work. In the end, this report reflects information discovered in 199 online surveys, 69 sidewalk surveys, 14 interviews of city staff, 10 neighborhood leaders, 7 residents from the inactive Trainsong Neighborhood, the University of Oregon, Eugene Water & Electric Board, the Lane Transit District and 5 representatives of non profit and business stakeholders. The consultants also read neighborhood newsletters, evaluated the Neighborhood Program website and material produced from the Neighborhood Program. Included in the assessment of Eugene's Neighborhood Program is an informative report of, "best practices" compiled from research of Neighborhood Programs across the country that are similar in both size and governance to Eugene.

The City of Eugene values the work of neighborhoods and the importance of public involvement in municipal decision making. We look forward to hearing your thoughts, interests and opinions regarding the 22 recommendations, research and best practices contained within the report. Your feedback will help guide the City's decisions on whether or not, or how to implement the consultant's recommendations. All comments received will be published as part of the report within an appendix.

I invite you to submit your feedback in the format that is easiest for you. Please feel free to call us, visit the project web page, or provide us with your comments in writing. We will be collecting input until 5:00 p.m. on November 14, 2008.

***For more information or to provide comments:***

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Thank you for your thoughts and your interest in our community.

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