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EUGENE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER
 January 28, 2016

IN THIS EDITION

**EUGENE ENGINEER AWARDED INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP TO STUDY VISION ZERO
 COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS SEEK TO BUILD UNITY IN COMMUNITY**

AROUND THE CITY

Eugene Engineer Awarded International Fellowship to Study Vision Zero

Matt Rodrigues, who assumes acting-in-capacity Eugene Traffic Engineer duties on February 1, was awarded the American Public Works Association’s Jennings Randolph International Fellowship to study implementation of Vision Zero. The award, one of only two to be handed out in 2016, reimburses Rodrigues \$2,000 for his international public works study tour set for September.



Rodrigues will attend and present at the Swedish Association of Municipal Engineers Annual Conference in Sweden and perform a study tour relating to Sweden’s implementation of the Vision Zero Initiative. The initiative aims to eliminate transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries.

While overseas, Rodrigues will also travel to nearby Denmark, where he will learn about Denmark’s Road Safety Action Plan. It’s similar in goals and successes to Sweden’s Vision Zero Initiative. The trip will give Rodrigues a first-person perspective and valuable insight into how other countries are implementing life-saving techniques and how they may translate to Eugene.

For more information, contact Principal Civil Engineer Matt Rodrigues at 541-682-6036 or matt.j.rodrigues@ci.eugene.or.us.

Community Conversations Seek to Build Unity in Community

The room felt full of energy as over 85 people from all over the community joined together to discuss the Complexity of Culture and Identity on the evening of Jan. 14 at the first session of Community Conversations. The evening opened with a showing of the TEDtalk, “The Danger of a Single Story” by Chimamanda Adichie ([Click here to watch it.](#)) Adichie paints a picture of the ways that stereotypes negatively impact communities through the stories people tell about each other. When the lights came up, small groups participated in facilitated discussions - reflecting on the video and thinking of ways they can make the community stronger by interrupting single stories in Eugene.

Community Conversations
BUILDING UNITY IN OUR COMMUNITY
 Presented by NAACP Eugene-Springfield Branch

Second Thursdays
 January - May 2016

- JAN. 14 **The Danger of a Single Story: The Complexity of Cultural Identity**
- FEB. 11 **Oregon's Cracked Foundations: Our History of Racial Exclusion**
- MARCH 10 **A Thousand Cuts: Reducing Micro-aggressions and Understanding Privilege**
- APRIL 14 **Uneven Playing Fields: Systems of Inequity**
- MAY 12 **Don't Just Dream It. Be It: Concrete Actions for Change**

5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
 EWEB Community Room
 North Building, 500 E. 4th Ave., Eugene

Light dinner provided at 5:30 p.m.
 Conversations begin promptly at 6:00 p.m.
 Please RSVP at: NAACP.LaneCounty.org (space is limited)

We do accommodate **babysitting** for **children**. To request for child care, translation, interpretation or other public accommodations please contact 541-682-5619 at least one week in advance.

Logos for NAACP, EWEB, and other partners.

At one point a participant stood up stating, “We can only address these single stories if we truly know our history.” This was a great moment to share that the next Community Conversation scheduled for Feb. 11 will be titled, “Oregon’s Cracked Foundations: Our History of Racial Exclusion.”

Three additional conversations are planned and will take place in the Eugene Water & Electric Board’s (EWEB) Community Room (500 East 4th Avenue) at 5:30 p.m. on the second Thursdays of March, April and May. A light meal will be provided along with child care and translation or interpretive services upon request. With leadership from the Eugene-Springfield NAACP, the Community Conversations initiative is a partnership with City of Eugene, 4J and Bethel school districts, EWEB, League of United

Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and Lane County with the goal of building unity in the community through shared understanding and meaningful dialogue.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Lleras Van Der Haeghen, Human Rights and Neighborhood Involvement, at 541-682-5619 or Jennifer.E.VanDerHaeghen@ci.eugene.or.us.