



Inclusive Outreach Event Summaries

The project participated in the following events and conversations between August and December of 2017. In addition to the outcomes summarized below, participants contributed to the online map and card summaries (see website for details).

North Eugene High School Leadership Class

9-26-17, 200 Silver Lane, 6:45-8:00 am

Project Team members Ellen Teninty, Christopher Trotchie, Eric Brown, and SCRRIP member Gary Haliski conducted the small group activity with teacher Corey Nicholson and 15 NEHS students from student government. Ellen did an introduction and Gary, Eric and Ellen facilitated the activity at three tables—one River Road, one Santa Clara, and one “Other.” The City provided snacks for the students at this Leadership Class meeting before the start of the school day.

Summary of feedback:

- Places to gather are important—private or publicly owned
- Safe and usable parks are important
- Good bike paths are important
- Enough athletic fields are important
- Having a coherent look, a good aesthetic identity is important
- Want access to library
- Fond memories of walking through the neighborhood
- Improve reputation of NEHS/Community
- A community gathering place for teens to hold events
- More access to the river and river bike paths- lots of shared memories about going down to the river
- Keep the green - strong feelings about being in orchards and open spaces as younger kids



Additional outreach at NEHS included connecting with staff leaders of the Latinx Leadership Group (Paola Massingham) and the Black Students Union (Ann Christianson), finding the name and contact for parent communications, and reaching out to the principal on multiple occasions. Santa Clara Community Organization members Ann Vaughn and Gary Haliski were included in the NEHS efforts.

River Road/Camino del Rio Elementary School Parent Night

9-31-17, 120 W. Hilliard Lane, 5:15-7:45 pm

Project team members Judith Castro and Gloria Gutierrez reached over one hundred individuals. They introduced the project to parents in English and Spanish, distributed meeting invites for the October 17th community event, and encouraged participants to complete "My Idea" sheets and draw on the River Road and Santa Clara maps with feedback and ideas for improvement.

Summary of feedback:

- Families want traffic to slow down on River Road because it feels very unsafe to cross.
- More affordable housing is desperately needed. Some individuals noted the need to move due to escalating rent costs and the housing market.
- A point that came up frequently is a need to have a space to gather in the Santa Clara area for residents.
- Another community space in Santa Clara like Emerald Park Recreation is essential. Currently, Santa Clara families do not have access to an affordable recreation facility near their homes.

River Road/Camino del Rio Elementary School Grand Opening Parent Night

10-5-17, 120 W. Hilliard Lane, 5:15-8 pm

Project Team members Zach Galloway, Judith Castro, Gloria Gutierrez, Christopher Trotchie, and five volunteers from SCRRIPT conducted outreach to over 150 individuals. Team members introduced the project to parents in English and Spanish, distributed meeting invites for October the 17th, and encouraged participants to complete "My Idea" sheets and draw on the River Road and Santa Clara maps with feedback and ideas for improvement. Christopher took photos and conducted interviews with people interested in commenting.



Summary of feedback:

- Create more bike lanes, and connect bike routes to increase safety.
- More affordable housing is desperately needed – very frequent comment.
- A natural food store would be helpful because the quality of food is poor in the area.
- Provide more frequent bus service – they currently take too long especially in the cold weather.

Santa Clara Place, Saint Vincent de Paul Affordable Housing

10-7-17, 120 Santa Clara Avenue, 10 am- noon

Team members Judith Castro and Gloria Gutierrez conducted outreach to a potential 200+ residents. Six residents were reached, and the team learned that it would be better to come at an evening time instead. The team introduced the project in English, took notes on participant views, and distributed meeting invitations. The residents did not take an interest in drawing on the maps or on paper.

Summary of feedback:

- Families want traffic to slow down on Division because it feels very unsafe to cross.
- More affordable housing is desperately needed. Some individuals noted the need to move due to escalating rent costs and the housing market (this came up again).
- Please make the buses more frequent because the commute is too long and it can be expensive to pay a babysitter if you have to extend your workday with the commute.
- Increase parking regulation: stop people from parking where it is marked yellow because it is a danger to pedestrians who cannot see if a car is approaching.

Ross Lane, a Saint Vincent de Paul Affordable Housing

10-12-17, 552 Helen Street in Santa Clara, 5 - 7 pm

Project team members Judith Castro and Ellen Teninty conducted outreach to 25 residents. They introduced the project to residents, distributed meeting invites for October the 17th, and encouraged participants to complete "My Idea" sheets and draw on the River Road and Santa Clara maps with feedback and ideas for improvement. Christopher took photos and conducted interviews with people interested in commenting.

Summary of feedback:

- Families want traffic to slow down on Division and Hunsaker Lane because it feels very unsafe to walk down the street or cross it. The community overwhelmingly reported that there are no sidewalks or safe bike paths for kids or anyone. People with disabilities, small children, or whose children have disabilities reported that they are afraid to leave their homes because there is no way to get out of this complex called Ross Lane safely unless you own a car.
- People want numerous bus stops on Division and Hunsaker Lane as a loop so that they could have options for riding the bus. People are afraid to walk this area and want those bus stops to increase safety.
- Also in order to increase the safety: clean up the tall grasses in open fields in this area to increase drivers' safety and remove people who are threatening and on drugs in these fields. Do not cut down trees, instead create a park or recreational area for residents.
- More affordable housing is desperately needed - this was echoed significantly again. Escalating cost of living combined with low wages are a huge problem.
- Parks and pools are needed nearby to provide recreation for residents especially children.

Las Morenas Restaurant

10-13-17, 585 River Road, 6:30 – 8 pm

Team members Judith Castro and Gloria Gutierrez reached seven individuals during this outreach effort at Las Morenas. Meeting invites were passed out for October the 17th. People filled out "My Idea" sheets, provided verbal feedback, and drew on the maps.

Summary of display outreach feedback:

- Families want traffic to slow down on River Road and neighborhood streets.
- Parks and pools are needed nearby to provide recreation for residents especially children - Emerald park and pool are not enough.
- Please stop the toxic aerial spraying in the Santa Clara area that makes us feel sick.

- The racial profiling from the Eugene Police department needs to stop.
- Improve the bus transportation since many people are not able to get driver's licenses.

Fred Meyer Shopping Center

10-14-17, 60 Division Avenue, 10:30 am – 1 pm

Judith Castro participated in this outreach effort in Spanish and English. Judith distributed meeting invites were for October the 17th to over 50 shoppers. People filled out "My Idea" sheets, provided verbal feedback, and drew on the maps.

Summary of feedback:

- Slow down traffic on River Road and make it like it used to be 50 years ago.
- Fix the severe issues on Division because it is dangerous to everyone.
- Improve area schools such as Corridor.
- More activities for kids and teenagers because they have nothing to do here.

Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians Soup Night

10-19-17, West Eugene Tri-County Service Center, 2468 W 11th Ave, 4:30-7:00 pm

Ellen Teninty led outreach and Christopher Trotchie conducted interviews and took photographs. Seventy people attended, and the project spoke with about twenty River Road and Santa Clara residents.

Summary of feedback:

- No EmX because it causes car traffic congestion—and not just during construction. Though people support bus service, there was unanimous sentiment against EmX on River Road. People said it has made West 11th & Garfield worse and the hours of operation make 10-minute service useless. Traffic congestion and tree removal were major reasons, as well as too expensive. Note—a lot of group emotion about this.
- More parks that are in walking distance of home.
- Don't crowd the housing.
- Deal with homeless issue—many said personal security is threatened.
- Cut the grasses down in open lots.

LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) of Lane County, Juan Carlos deValle, Vice President

10-26-17, downtown Eugene, 5:30-7:00 pm

Judith Castro and Ellen Teninty met with Juan Carlos as a community leader and as a River Road property owner. Conversation Summary:

- Important that you are going to people. Do not expect people to come to your public meetings.
- Don't tell Neighborhood Leaders your ideas—listen to theirs.
- Same advice for Neighborhood Leaders—don't tell neighbors your ideas, listen to theirs.
- People need a place to come together with families—big parks with facilities and activities. Santa Clara needs a community center equivalent to Amazon or Sheldon. Need a place for civic engagement.
- Need more access to the river and develop parks and activities there.

- Need sidewalks. Being able to get places—parks or jobs—is an equity issue.
- Like what happened when building EmX West, listen to the businesses and work with them during construction.
- Offer incentives for the businesses to accept trade-offs. Talk with people to understand what can be offered.
- Find compromises. (Example, smaller sidewalks or on one side only.) Facilitate communication about types of sidewalks and potential loss of property.
- Be open and direct (and knowledgeable) about long-term costs, especially to individuals (homeowners during the refinement process), like who pays for sidewalks and utility upgrades.
- Key equity issue: Need frequency and connectivity in transportation for low-income families to participate and get to jobs. People who do not have this in these neighborhoods cannot participate in local government or our downtown. Transit commute can be up to two hours going in one direction (this is too long and expensive for childcare etc.)
- Can see 3-4 story multi-family housing IF built with green space around for play and gardening.
- The flat geography of these neighborhoods makes them realistic for hubs with housing, shops, biking, transit and walkability. (Crescent Village example)
- Bike routes within neighborhoods need to connect with bike paths, river, EmX. Small bridges or a safe connecting solution.
- Land bank some large lots for the future—for large grocery store, large parks, for what the community visions. Put up a sign there that says “Future Land for” so people get used to that idea and hopeful and connected to the community.
- Preserve this as a garden-oriented community with a country-side feel.
- Preserve and honor their efforts and commitment to sustainability.
- Need better lighting for safety.
- Do some things that can happen within five years so it is not all talk.

Minority Business Outreach, late October 2017 over several days

Judith Castro conducted outreach to 11 minority owned businesses in River Road and Santa Clara. She noted barriers to communicating with business owners included out-of-area ownership, but mostly, there was suspicion due to solicitation from others running scams in the area. One owner recalled that someone tried to shut their electricity down claiming to be EWEB. Another owner suggested that the project mail them a survey from the City of Eugene address to prove validity. While surveys frequently do not work due to a low response rate, this may be reasonable to try for Title VI outreach and a few businesses.

Responses came from the following businesses: Tio Pepe, Happy Garden, The Mongolian Grill, El Kiosco, Chinese Seas, and Don Juan Mexican Restaurant. Outreach without getting input participation included: Lunches to Go, Twin Dragon, The Poker Lounge, Riviera Coin Laundry, Tips and Toes.

Two primary themes emerged from those businesses comfortable to respond:

- The homeless are intimidating for patrons and their numbers are growing. Owners noted that “they hang out near businesses and harass patrons.”
- Transportation can be improved: it is too congested and unsafe for pedestrians. Improve lighting, crosswalks, and bike paths.
- A number of businesses stated that everything is fine and that they enjoy this area.

Camino del Rio Elementary School, Joel Lavin, Principal

11-21-17, 120 W. Hilliard Lane, 9-10:30 am

Zach Galloway and Judith Castro met with Joel Lavin, principal of Camino del Rio Elementary School. This school services River Road and Santa Clara, Bethel, West Eugene near the border of Cesar Chavez, and Springfield. Students from Lane County can lottery into the school as an option. Joel shared his thoughts on the areas of transportation, safety, housing, and recreation. Transportation is a key issue for access to the school, recreation, and participation in the core of Eugene.

Key issues discussed include:

- Cultural and safety challenges of walking and bicycling to school
- Increasing transit access
- High cost of housing
- Increasing services such as health care and recreation
- Incentives for small businesses

Conversation details:

Some families do not have a car and must use a taxi if they miss the bus. Families do not feel safe to walk to the school because of increasing numbers of unfriendly people; the roads are unsafe; few shoulders; and sometimes there are no sidewalks. Huge puddles of water also make it difficult to walk without getting soaked.

Families do not ride their bikes as much due to feeling unsafe on the streets with the traffic, feeling unwelcome, and not having the custom of riding a bike. Riding a bike in a white dominant space does not feel secure for families of color, nor is it upheld by their cultures.

Racial factors discouraging bike riding include an increasing sense of insecurity due to politics, no access to health care in case of a bike accident, police targeting minorities on bikes, and work may be too far away.

Cultural factors affecting the choice of transportation include beliefs about illness caused by rain, cold, and wind. Many people from Mexico and Central America are afraid of cold and rainy weather and avoid exposure to it so biking and walking are not attractive transportation options. The American Dream of having a car deters some people from riding the bus.

Something like West Eugene EmX to connect the Cesar Chavez area to River Road would be helpful because the boundary for the school starts there. Need better access on the bus from the Whiteaker area also.

Provide better education for how to use the bus transportation, because many people are not computer literate or literate. Education about bus routes can be accomplished through media, at the stations, verbally, and in multiple languages.

Housing costs are going up and people are starting to move to more affordable places like Springfield. Last year, the school lost 10 families for this reason.

Joel notes that families in the RRSC area can feel disconnected from the core, with no hospitals and not enough essential services in this area. The area has a lot of potential to be developed because it is flat and easier to access than the hilly area of Eugene. Natural areas are great, but the river could be further developed like in Portland where there are activities to do all along the way. This would improve safety concerns along the river. Connect the river to RRSC.

Joel notes that having small business incentives to develop in the RRSC area would be helpful. The area needs increased recreation opportunities such as bowling, laser tag, a skating rink, and other family friendly businesses that can provide recreation.

Kelly Middle School, Fernell Lopez, Diversity Coordinator

11-10-17, 850 Howard Ave., 3:30-5:30 pm

Judith Castro met with Fernell Lopez, who is the Diversity Coordinator at Kelly Middle School, GANAS leader, and a property owner in the River Road area.

Fernell's concerns touched upon housing, safety, transportation, and recreation for families of diverse backgrounds including Latinos, other minorities, and low-income families.

Under the category of housing, feedback included concerns about increasing rents in the RRSC area and noticing that families have to move in together in order to make it financially. He wonders what influence the City of Eugene might have on rent control in this area.

He suggests multi-family housing with green space around for play and gardening.

His concern for the safety of families includes the recent disturbing reports that adults in the area followed students, and that it is easy to access the highway if someone wanted to abduct a student.

There is not enough lighting or sidewalks in many areas. He reports that Howard Avenue does not have enough sidewalks, and that the speed limit is too high for the safety of children.

He is concerned that the intersection of Maxwell and North Park does not have a safe crossing. Fernell suggests that a crosswalk or some other safety mechanism be put into place. He reports that this area has troubles with speeding due to the cars coming off the hill from Prairie Road and Highway 99, especially in the morning when people are rushing to work.

Fernell noted that transportation is a barrier for many families to access the area and the school's after school programs due to the length of travel time required for bus riders and congested streets.

Have activities that are affordable for youth and families. For example, a skate park, something like Emerald Park on the Santa Clara side (near Hunsaker), and places to spend time.

Non-political, non-religious, and non-sports activities for families.

Increase after school programs, such as GANAS, for youth ages 8-18 years old. These programs encourage the entire family to participate and have a mentorship aspect that helps families with issues of acculturation.

He notes that families will contribute financially if they see the benefit. He encouraged the City of Eugene to consider ways to keep families together through these activities, especially as children get older. There is less to do in this area for older kids.

Irving Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

11-16-17, 3200 Hyacinth Street, 6:30-8:00 pm

Ellen Teninty and Gary Haliski, a member of SCCO, reached out to parents with the help of Principal Nathan Bridgens, who recruited participants and hosted the event. 20 parent participants were reached, ¾ of which lived in Santa Clara neighborhoods.

Ellen Teninty introduced the RRSC Neighborhood Plan project, and Gary Haliski encouraged participants to have fun and share their experiences during the activity. Participants also signed up for ongoing communication.



Key Topics of what people want:

- More local good quality shopping and restaurant options
- Safe walking and biking, less speeding
- Active recreation facilities
- Affordable housing in the mix

River Road Recreation District Small Group Discussion about Disabilities

11-28-17, 1400 Lake Drive, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Staff: Ellen Teninty, Chris Watchie, SCRRIP volunteer: Jon Belcher, with Lane Independent Living Alliance and River Road resident, Dawn Helwig, and Santa Clara community member, Diane Rogers

Ellen Teninty and Jon Belcher provided a project overview and led the participants in the activity. Christopher Trotchie documented the input with photos and videos. Representation was from both neighborhoods. Participants agreed and were enthusiastic to serve as key contacts for neighbors and people with disabilities for future project outreach.

Summary of feedback:

- Sidewalk infill necessary for all ages and abilities to use but do not want heavy financial burden to fall on homeowners to pay for it.
- It is critical for people who use mobility devices to have accessible and paved bus stop pads.

- City and County need clarity on which jurisdiction will have the responsibility and ownership on new pedestrian infrastructure.
- Support for expanding transit in River Road and Santa Clara.
- Santa Clara needs a community center and gathering place for youth to senior activities.
- Increased density is good along transit lines to help build community.
- Santa Clara needs more areas for recreation. It has very few parks and limited access to the Willamette River.

Larry Collins Food Pantry at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

12-9-17, 255 Maxwell Road, 10-11:30 a.m.

The Food Pantry is a Food for Lane County program that distributes food to low income residents. Judith, Gloria, and volunteer Kate Perle from SCCO participated in the Food Pantry outreach effort and connected with over 25 individuals who live in River Road and Santa Clara. Residents provided feedback to the outreach team and entered a raffle for a \$15 Fred Myers gift certificate. They drew on the maps, made comments on the "My Idea" sheets, and provided contact information.



Summary of display outreach feedback:

- Increase traffic cross walks on River Road
- Safety of the children near middle and high schools is a major concern
- There are individuals harassing middle school girls as they walk by
- More stuff to do for fun in the area
- Increase bus transportation
- Improve street lighting
- Preserve agricultural land
- Townhouses and duplexes instead of apartments
- Theft and crime are an increasing concern

Cornerstone Greenleaf Housing Extra Helping Food Evening

12-13-17, 2755 East Lone Oak Way, 4:15-5:45

Ellen and Judith reached over 17 individuals from this subsidized housing community. Residents came for Food for Lane County's food distribution program and spoke with the outreach team. Participants provided feedback on the maps, the "My Idea" sheets, and signed up for more information. A raffle prize of a \$15 gift certificate to Albertsons encouraged participation. When asked, several individuals expressed interest in becoming involved, including participating in focus groups.

Summary of display outreach feedback:

- We are very concerned about the growing homeless population, the dangers that some of them pose when walking between Greenleaf and Hunsaker area
- We need small lunch places nearby that are in a small plaza area
- We need local emergency preparedness education and resources
- Improve transportation on the weekends, and overall every half-hour
- Community gardens
- Natural spaces to spend time outside with benches and food carts
- A branch library
- Coffee shops with music venues
- Dog parks, so dog waste is not everywhere
- Make electrical grid like the ones in Maine because safer in an emergency
- Bike lane transitions to the river need improving - not safe to merge.

