

Bike path plan pushes freer wheeling



Drawing by JoAnn Fahlgren

Bicyclists may find travel in the West University area easier if the city approves a plan for bike paths on Alder Street and other streets in the area.

Under the proposal, Alder will be made into a one-way street south bound from Franklin Boulevard to 18th Avenue, with bike paths on both sides of the street between 13th and 18th Avenues, and one southbound bike path between Franklin and 13th. Parking for automobiles will be retained on Alder Street.

Bike paths will be added on both sides of 13th Avenue, and the auto traffic will be reduced to one lane. The east bound bike route will extend from Patterson to Kincaid, and the west bound one from Kincaid to Hilyard.

On 11th Avenue, one lane will be made east bound to accommodate for the reduction in east bound lanes on 13th Avenue.

Hilyard Street will have a north bound bike path adjacent to parking spaces on the east side of the street. The path will run from 13th Avenue to just south of Broadway.

A south bound bike lane will be added to Patterson Street. It will extend from 12th to 13th Avenue.

Kincaid Street will be reduced to one lane of traffic from 11th to 13th Avenues. Parking will be added along the east side of the street.

Parking on Alder, 13th, and Kincaid will be in the "tandem" arrangement, in which autos will be parked in pairs, with spaces in between to facilitate parking. This allows faster parking and less interruption in the traffic flow.

A raised median with spaced trees will separate the bike lane on 13th Avenue from the traffic lane and auto parking.

Questions, remarks and suggestions on the Alder Street bike routes should be addressed before May 25 to Irwin Berman, assistant traffic engineer, Department of Public Works, 777 Pearl Street, Eugene, 97401. Berman can also be reached by calling 687-5242.

OMSI trek offers star-studded show

By MICHAEL KESTEN
Of the Emerald

Most people wouldn't consider 27 E. 5th Ave. to be much of a starting place for a journey through the universe. But it's probably the best starting place in town.

The Southwest Oregon Museum of Science and Industry's (SWOMSI) planetarium is currently showing "Exploration of the Universe," a 25-minute show written and produced by astronomer Steve Davidson.

"The purpose of a planetarium should be two-fold. It should be both educating and entertaining," says Mike Anderson, projectionist for Eugene's only planetarium. He added, "I think too many planetariums forget the entertainment."

Using a mixture of slides, a 40 year-old star projector, a laser, classical music, and various other visual effects, "Exploration of the Universe" combines entertainment and education to the best advantage.

Anderson starts the show with an introduction of the star projector, the planetarium's "star" machine. The projector, one of the oldest of its kind in existence, can project 300 stars at once. When SWOMSI moves to its new facilities in Alton Baker Park, the

projector will be retired and become a feature of the museum.

Before taking off into the universe, Anderson treats the audience to a small demonstration of the museum's recently acquired laser. Light patterns gyrate off the domed planetarium ceiling in sequence with the music, giving the music form.

The exploratory journey begins with a slide showing the small brick building on 5th Avenue and Willamette Street where SWOMSI is presently housed. A recorded voice explains the journey will at the speed of light, the fastest speed possible. At that speed it takes eight hours to reach the outer edge of our solar system, but the audience makes the trip in a few minutes.

There are stops at each planet and then a close-up of some of the more fantastic and unusual phenomena of the universe. Galaxies. Gaseous nebula — incredible patterns of gas marking the birth place of stars. Quasars which emit 100 times the light of an entire galaxy.

Interspersed with these sights is the simulated outer space of the star projector. Stars slowly rotate across the "sky." Shooting stars take off intermittently. A galaxy cruises by.

The producer subscribes to the "Big Bang" theory of the creation

of the universe and the climax of the show is the re-creation of the "Big Bang." The effect is almost psychedelic. There are bursts of light and sound. Anderson again presses the laser into service and a twisting eye-of-the-storm envelops the audience.

The show is now almost over

and the exploratory steps are retraced until we find ourselves back at the small brick building.

"Exploration of the Universe" can be seen at SWOMSI through May 19. Show times are 1, 3, and 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m., 1, 3, and 5 p.m. Saturday. Admission is 75 cents.

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Certain positions will also be filled for this summer. Applications may be picked up in the Emerald office, 300 EMU, and are due Friday, May 14th. The Emerald is an equal opportunity employer. Women, the handicapped, and minorities are encouraged to apply.

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