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# Plan amends Emerald Canal report

By Dave Brown  
Of the Emerald

The Emerald Canal feasibility report was amended Tuesday evening requiring future planners to pay close attention to the proposed project's impact on the West University Neighborhood.

The amendment was unanimously approved along with several other amendments intended to polish the final report during the last meeting of the Emerald Canal Feasibility Task Force.

The proposal would have the water-way run from the existing Amazon Creek at East 17th Avenue and Pearl Street to the Millrace, East 11th Avenue and Ferry Street. It could provide

recreational facilities, hydro-electric generation and flood control.

Jerome Diethelm, a University architecture professor and task force consultant, proposed the amendment in response to questions raised by residents of the West University Neighborhood at a recent public hearing. That hearing was a debut of the task force's prospectus on digging a canal along the downtown side of the West University Neighborhood.

Some of the points brought up at the meeting and included in the report as amendments are:

- Whether the project would "overwhelm" the neighborhood.
- Whether inflated property

values along the canal route would push out low income people, students and the elderly.

• And whether the neighborhood would have "adequate opportunity to participate in the planning of the project."

A representative of the West University Neighbors organization, Adrienne Lannom, told the task force she was concerned about neighborhood involvement in future planning of the project. She added that the summary of the report failed to mention the dangers and problems cited in the body of the report.

Mark Linburg, a city councilor and a task force member, moved that the report's summary of findings and recom-

mendations be amended to state some of those problems.

"I think we need one sentence at the end of each section (in the summary) on tourism — on flood control — on hydro-electric," he said.

"Most people are not going to read the report, they are going to read the last two pages," he said. He added that the summary implies that the canal project would restore the downtown mall area. Task force members said they were not willing to take the risk of making that type of statement.

The report also recommends that a "coordinating body" be established to look into specific design, construction and funding plans for the canal.

# Consistent lobbying essential for students

By Richard Burr  
Of the Emerald

The Oregon Student Lobby must present a united policy on the state budget during the upcoming legislative session, said Robin Derringer, OSU legislative

assistant, Tuesday.

The legislature will think student lobbying is unorganized if a consistent policy is not adopted, Derringer said at the ASUO/OSL legislative planning session. Student representatives from the state's four-year

colleges make OSU policy decisions.

Students must decide where they stand on the issues so the legislators will pay attention to their views, Derringer said.

One policy area where the OSU must be consistent is on revenue bills, Derringer said. Even Gov. Vic Atiyeh's budget plan, based upon the most optimistic projections, requires about \$585 million in revenue to be raised, said OSU director Bob Watrus.

Students must become actively involved in revenue decisions if they want to be heard, Derringer said.

"Otherwise, they'll just look at you as another hand in the till," she said.

Greater coordination will be the key in effective lobbying in such an area and other legislative matters, Watrus said. The Legislative Council, which coordinates the legislative activities of ASUO, Student University Affairs Board and Student University Relations Council, is a good start in that direction, he said.

Another way to coordinate student lobbying is to make lists of where interested student lobbyists are from, Watrus said. Such a list could help the ASUO determine the appropriate legislator a student should write to during a letter-writing campaign, he said.

Students should keep other University statistics to enhance the picture of erosion that has resulted from legislative budget cuts, Derringer said.

The lobbyists should determine how its surrounding environment affects student expenditures, she said. Lobbyists should discover where students are making cuts in their budgets

and how they are compensating for the setbacks, Derringer said.

Student lobbyists might survey community attitudes toward the University, she added. Getting parents and alumni to talk to their district representatives is also important, Derringer said.

With these sorts of University statistics, students can make their points more effectively, she said.

Personal horror stories are also effective, Watrus said. Legislators respond better to students if students relate their personal experiences instead of spewing data, he said.

"I've seen it work so many times," Watrus said.

"Anybody can make a difference," added Charlene Curry, University director of governmental relations. "I've seen instances where say an old lady in tennis shoes turned a decision around with personal testimony."

A compilation of horror stories and information lists help student lobbyists grab the appropriate students on short notice to testify, Derringer added.

Lobbyists should also inform OSU when University students are in Salem to see legislators, Watrus said. Legislators view OSU as the clearinghouse for student lobbying, and if the lobbying organization cannot explain why some student is in town, the student lobbying front appears unorganized, he said.

Prior notice helps OSU coordinate visits and avoid confusion, Derringer said.

"When you start screwing around with a legislator's time, you can get in trouble real fast," added Cynthia Bounds, acting ASUO director of state affairs.

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