

Is the Riverfront Park really in our best interest?

The University and the city of Eugene have embarked on a program to sell the Riverfront Park Development to the public with as little discussion as possible.

Six of the seven board members for the proposed corporation that will oversee the development have already been chosen, and the first public hearing where citizens can testify has not been scheduled until May 20. The City Council hearing is scheduled for June 24 when most students are unavailable.

If this project were minor in any sense of the word, ignoring or inhibiting public discussion wouldn't be nearly as bad. However, the proposed development permanently hinders the environment for the wildlife in the area, runs counter to existing long-range plans, and risks significant capital on a project for which there has been no economic feasibility study. The University has yet to explain exactly what it envisions in Riverfront Park.

Donald Corners, a professor from the School of Architecture, has proposed a pre-planning agreement which states:

"The University of Oregon has a central interest in the Riverfront Development Program. Members of the University community have specific interests in two broad areas:

1) The activities developed on University lands must further the ideals of the institution, enhancing the commitment of the University to education, research and community service.

2) The environments created on the riverfront must complement the campus, support the needs of the center city and constitute an appropriate use of a unique site."

The University seems to be ignoring these interests. On the one hand, they argue that we need to make sure that the buildings aren't too tall and that hazardous waste isn't dumped there. Yet they argue that once the University leases this land, they have no control over it.

Commentary

However, Corner states: "University interests in the outcome of this development must be transmitted through conditions placed on the lease of land to the non-profit foundation and on subleases granted to the developer."

It is in this light that the following condition should be placed on the lease to the non-profit foundation: Classified research, and particularly classified defense projects, shall be prohibited on all University properties under this lease.

The University currently has a policy banning classified research on this campus, so this condition is merely to ensure that the development is consistent with the ideals of the University. Yet this proposal has been met with a resounding "no" from the University administration. The reasons vary depending upon to whom you speak, but the message is that such a condition will not be adopted because the University administration doesn't want to adopt it.

Are they planning to do classified research? According to Dick Hersh, vice president for research, neither of the two firms that have expressed an interest so far would be conducting any classified research. Then why is the administration so adamant about ensuring that the University's ban on classified research is not extended to the Riverfront Development?

Also, why did they subvert previous plans for the area that had been established through a lengthy public process? If the development proceeds, what will happen to the playing fields that Club Sports has worked so hard to get? What about the School of Architecture's expansion plans? And finally, of all the University land, why did they choose to develop the most scenic and ecologically fragile site?

By Bill Hallmark
Coalition for Responsible Economic Development.

letters

A sad word

I was shocked and saddened by the recent loss of Professor Al Szymanski. I had a class with Al last spring, and I too have memories of his energy, warmth, and kindness. I can not say I knew Al well, but I could sense his warmth.

I recently suffered the loss of my very best friend and brother John Bell on Feb. 11th. Needless to say, it has been very hard for me to reconcile.

However, there is a trick in

dealing with such a tragic loss. The trick is to never say good-bye. A friend of mine recently sent me an article from a Reader's Digest by William Boyles entitled "Never say Good-bye." The article provided me with some valuable guidance. I thought I might share some of my thoughts after reading the article.

Good-bye is such a sad word. It seems too final, too cold for friends to use. We seem to have so many ways of saying good-bye; they all have one thing in common: sadness.

Don't ever say good-bye Sandra and Michael. Never give in to the sadness of that word. Remember instead the joy and the happiness of those times when you first said hello. Take that special time and lock it away within you — in that place in your heart where joy and warmth are everlasting.

When you and your friends must part, I want you to reach deep within you and bring back those special times you spent together. Hello John, Hello Al — we love you.

Greg Bell
Eugene

UO Bookstore

ShiKai

Rich in Organic Ingredients

Natural
Hair Care
Products

Now
\$1⁰⁰ off

UO
BOOKSTORE
13th & Kincaid
M-F 7:30-5:30
SAT 10:00-3:00
Supplies 686-4331

Riva & YAMAHA
Motor Scooters
SPECIAL SALE PRICES

80 cc • Carries 2 people • 40-45 mph

Special Sale Price
reg. 895.00
NOW 745⁰⁰

Ask About Our Credit Terms • Free Demo Rides

Howard's
SINCE 1947

20th South "A" & Main, Springfield
Only 4 miles from campus • 747-9354
OPEN: Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

German
AUTO SERVICE

VW'S MERCEDES BMW'S
DATSUN TOYOTA

Reliable service for your foreign car since 1963 **342-2912** 2025 Franklin Blvd. Eugene, Ore 97403

Great quality - Great price

haircuts **\$7⁰⁰** **PRECISION HAIRWORKS**

M-F 9:30-6:00/Sat. 9:30-5:00/Sun.-noon-4:00
Northwest corner of 29th & Willamette
no appointments **343-1182**

Noteworthy greetings & gifts

UNIQUE CARDS & GIFTS
featuring **Paper Moon**
CALIFORNIA DREAMERS

THE SHOP
WHERE IT'S OKAY
TO GIGGLE!!

Fifthpearl Building
207 E. 5th Ave.
687-9009

10-5:30 Mon.-Sat.
12-5 Sun.

Jartran
Truck and Trailer Rental

COLLEGE STUDENTS SAVE!!!



- One Way & Local Rentals
- Easy Loading Models for Individual & Business
- Custom Equipped most with Auto Transmission, Bucket Seats, Radio, Power Steering
- 24 Hrs. a Day Road Service, 7 Days a Week
- Moving & Packing Aids
- Trailer Hitches for Your Car Available at Many Locations

FOR ALL RATES AND RESERVATIONS


BEEHIVE RENTAL CO.
1880 HWY. 99 N.
Eugene, OR 97402
461-2093

Jartran
Truck and Trailer Rental

1985 COLLEGE PROGRAM
YOUR TICKET TO
UNIV. OF OREGON **10% OFF**

WHEN TURNED IN AT YOUR LOCAL JARTRAN DEALER