

Part of a proposed \$18 million, 18-year project

Commission to study downtown development proposals

By Jolayne Houtz

Of the Emerald

Plans to remodel Willamette Street and to build five new parking structures downtown are part of a proposed \$18-million project to develop downtown Eugene over the next 18 years.

About 20 projects are being considered by the Downtown Commission, including improving protection from rain in the downtown mall (\$300,000), developing handicapped-accessible restrooms in the mall (\$50,000) and building a new downtown public plaza (\$5.2 million).

The projected costs represent the high end of the scale and may change as the urban renewal plan is refined, according to a financial analysis

report.

"Everyone recognizes the benefits of having a downtown area that is the regional center," said Bob Hibschan. Downtown Commission fiscal coordinator. "There's no guarantee that this will make downtown better, but we're investing a lot of money in the mall hoping to help it out."

The plan's major proposals include remodeling Willamette Street, moving the Lane Transit District bus station, and expanding Eugene's urban renewal district to include some areas north of the city in need of rehabilitation, Hibschan said.

Money for the projects would come from property taxes collected in the downtown district, which would be put back into

the area to enhance downtown development, Hibschan said.

The commission is considering five options regarding Willamette Street, including opening it up into a full street or remodeling the street into a pedestrian "streetscape," Hibschan said.

A public hearing will be held Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council chambers where commission members will hear public testimony regarding Willamette Street plans.

Hibschan said opening up Willamette Street, a main thoroughfare through downtown, would allow businesses to have access to a major street instead of being tucked into the mall.

But the project is expected to

cost about \$900,000 for remodeling two blocks between Eighth and 10th Avenues, making some people wonder if the project is worth the cost, he said.

The commission has recommended moving the bus station to Oak Street between Seventh and Eighth Avenues across from where Saturday Market is held each weekend, Hibschan said.

The area is in the center of many office buildings, which would make it easier for downtown workers to use the bus, he said. The Lane Transit District board currently is studying the proposal.

Future city improvement projects include improving access to the riverfront, increasing ac-

cessibility to Skinner Butte and encouraging new housing in West Eugene, he said.

"What's needed is an effort by the public sector to make (downtown) work," Hibschan said.

Stores should be involved in common merchandising and marketing techniques, such as keeping the same business hours, and they should be encouraged to upgrade their storefronts, he said.

Other Downtown Commission plans would redesign Broadway between the Central Plaza and Oak Street; develop a series of business directories in the downtown area; and improve street alleys, sidewalks and landscaping downtown.

Vegetarian 'burgers' available

By Yvette Jefferson

Of the Emerald

"We have not just introduced a new food to the University; we have introduced a new food to the world," said Cyrus Nakhshob, owner of the Nakhshob Food Corp.

Nakhshob Food Corp., based in Williams, Ore., has just created the Cyrus's Vegetable Nut Patty, which is a vegetarian "burger".

And although several supermarkets sell the product already, University students received their first taste of the patty in the EMU dining room on Monday, said Nakhshob.

By creating the patty, the company is sticking to the "Oregon granola tradition," said Duane Partain, EMU food services director.

Customers seemed to like the patty because it sold well despite its \$1.99 price, Partain said. In fact, it received such good consumer response that the University plans to add the patty to the regular menu, he said.

"We have received great response from everyone who has tried our patty, and we have received hundreds of requests from other companies to market our product," Nakhshob said.

The patty is not just another "veggie burger," as it contains no meat, soy bean or chemical additives, Nakhshob said.

What it does contain is wheat, lentil, walnut, sunflower seeds, onion, parsley, garlic, salt, pepper and vegetable oil, he said.

Basically, the patty can satisfy consumers that have special diets such as people with high blood pressure or diabetes.

Nakhshob knew his small business created a good product when the vegetable patty won



Photo by Sheryl Bjorkgren

Donald Duck tries one of Cyrus Nakhshob's vegetarian 'burgers'. Nakhshob is the owner of the Nakhshob Food Corp., which markets the burgers.

top honors at expositions in Japan and West Germany last year.

His business is in the process of moving to another factory for economic reasons, he said.

The patty is different from other vegetarian patties, because its acid base is balanced and it eliminates 95 percent of all sugar groups including fructose and sucrose, Partain said.

"Some of these health foods today are weird looking and have a strange taste, but this patty has a nice appearance and it doesn't taste different," he added.

Besides selling the patties at colleges and supermarkets in Washington and Oregon, the

company is in the process of finalizing a deal with the Philadelphia, Penn. school district to distribute its product there, Nakhshob said.

The company is attempting to start a similar deal in Oregon, he said. The company has given taste tests to several high school districts and the results have been 96 percent in favor of the vegetable patties, he said.

"Some schools are a little bit slower to try our product because they are afraid to try something new, but they'll come around," he said.

On Friday, company representatives will travel to New York to try to sell the patties to school districts there, he said.

Library employees fail to gain distinction

By Chris Norred

Of the Emerald

Library employees at the University are dismayed over a decision handed down from the state Personnel Division Friday.

The Personnel Division decided that the work done by most library employees in Oregon is not substantially different from work done by general clerical employees.

But Jerry Korson, the Personnel Division's classification development unit manager, said the decision is not necessarily final and may be changed after it has been reviewed by library directors and employees in the state.

There is no reason for the library employees to believe the decision is final, he said.

"They need to respond to it, and by respond I mean through their union or through their management," Korson said. "Then it depends on what the response is. Sometimes the response is 'throw it away,' sometimes it's 'let's use it,'" Korson said.

The Emerald reported Oct. 7 that the Personnel Division was likely to draft a multi-level series of job classifications specifically for library employees.

In fact, the Personnel Division drafted a single-level classification that would include only library workers who do copy cataloging and reference work.

A single-level library classification is unsatisfactory to most library employees, said Kathy Wittwer, a library accounting clerk and Oregon Public Employees Union local representative.

"In 1982, the Interinstitutional Library Council looked at a library classification series that was one level and rejected it," Wittwer said. "A single-level series runs counter to all the criteria we were seeking in a library series."

Wittwer said the single level series fails to recognize the work of a number of employees whose duties are neither general clerical nor in the copy cataloging and reference classification, but are specific to the library.

A single level classification leaves library employees with no career ladder to ascend in their specific field, Wittwer said.

"Here, (with a single level classification) if you become a library technician it's a dead end," Wittwer said. The Personnel Division might be better able to draw a library classification series if it would enlist the advisory services of a professional librarian, she said.

Library employees and administrators will meet and discuss responses to the Personnel Division's proposal later this week.

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Sanctions against offenders can be grave, Siebert said. They include a written reprimand, a letter in their permanent file, suspension and termination, she said.

When asked about the apparent lack of action on the part of J.T. Sanders, head of the religious studies department who allegedly knew that harassment was taking place, Siebert said, "Women should be able to

expect the University to take action. I would encourage any department head to call our office — our office could advise a department head on how to handle the matter to best ensure that it doesn't happen again."

The Emerald story on Monday detailed allegations by six women, some of whom are former students, of incidents of sexual harassment by Reynolds.

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workers to finish on time."

Gilland said he is concerned that the new architecture studios, located across from Franklin Avenue and presently under construction, will not be large enough to house the 123 students Emerald Hall once held. The new buildings will be short two studios (each studio holds 16 students) and five office spaces for a total loss of 5,200 square feet of space.

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"This is just temporary. We're second on the State Board of Higher Education priority list to receive \$7.78 million for capital improvement construction. Our staff is getting impatient for that money to be freed up from the (state) Legislature," Gilland said. The Architecture studios are scattered over 25 buildings, making interdepartmental communications difficult, he added.

The Academic Learning Services move from Emerald Hall to the main library enhanced the program's visibility, said ALS director David Hubin.

"Now if a student is getting stuck in the library and gets stuck, we're right here to help him." The program, which has combined with the Learning Resource Center since its move, offers tutorial services to University students.