

Meeting to consider transportation alternatives

By Kym Gilhooly
Emerald Reporter

A group of students who want to consider alternatives to the proposed Alder Street parking garage will get the opportunity to meet with public officials at a transportation forum Friday.

Kate Powell, organizer of the campus-based Alternatives in Civic Transit, said the group wants to encourage the use of transportation modes other than automobiles and formed the task force to work with local officials to coordinate possible alternatives.

The meeting is the first of four monthly roundtable discussions designed to coordinate the efforts of officials involved in transportation planning.

Meeting organizer Randy Prince said he expects representatives from the Eugene City Council, the Lane County Commissioners, the city of Springfield, Lane Transit District and the University to attend the meeting.

Prince said he has been working with the campus-

based organization Alternatives in Civic Transit to develop possible alternatives to the proposed Alder Street parking garage and the Ferry Street Bridge project.

Possible transit alternatives include a PRT monorail system, a metropolitan light rail similar to the system in Portland, and restoration of Eugene's historic streetcar system, Prince said.

Prince said systems like the monorail and streetcar systems would be effective ways to move large numbers of people quickly and would not require the purchase of additional rights-of-way. He said funding for projects like the Ferry Street Bridge project would be more effectively spent on a transit system that would access the Lane County Fairgrounds, Autzen Stadium and the University.

Prince said the use of Autzen Stadium's parking lot as a park-and-ride center would be the "wisest use of the University's resources" in addressing transportation alternatives, but he said funding should come from sources other than parking fees

charged to car owners.

Free parking would give lot users incentive to use the system, and would be the first step in "changing people's transportation habits," Prince said.

City Council member Shawn Boles said Eugene and Springfield officials need to consider a regional transportation system and the possibility of "re-programming money devoted to roadways and bridges."

City Council members recently met with the Lane Transit District Board to develop a work-plan that addresses the appropriate mix of buses, automobiles, bicycles and pedestrians for Eugene, Boles said.

Ed Bergeron, marketing director for LTD, said officials need to look at short-range and long-range transportation needs when considering alternative modes.

"At this point, buses are the most viable way to serve the city's transportation needs, and will probably continue to be for the next three to five years," Bergeron said. "Later, when you project community growth, other methods become more viable."

Bergeron said city officials

need to plan 20 or 30 years ahead to develop a transportation package that addresses community needs and growth. He said possible systems for Eugene include a monorail system, a light rail system, and a trolley system.

Bergeron said buses will be an integral part of any new transportation system and will remain so for "30 or 40 more years until we can just beam ourselves up."

LTD is supportive of alternative transportation modes, Bergeron said, citing LTD's bicycle transport program for riders in outlying areas and its dedica-

tion to building a database of volunteers for the city's car-pooling program.

"LTD's philosophy is that our biggest competitor is the single occupant car," Bergeron said.

Bergeron said that any long-range planning needs more than LTD's involvement, and will require the cooperation of city and county officials, as well as a collective community vision.

The first transportation meeting is scheduled for noon, Feb. 16 at Allam Brothers Bakery and Coffee House, 152 W. 5th Avenue.

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mates, and they are afraid the IACUC will provide a blanket approval for Morocco's protocol statement describing the experiments.

Morocco, who submitted his protocol to the IACUC two weeks ago, said the monkeys involved in the study will eventually be killed.

Part of the experiment includes brain implants in the primates to measure activity. Morocco said the macaques have to be killed to determine where the brain implants are located.

One bright spot could be the use of a scanner that would determine through computerized imaging where the implant is located without killing the monkey, but Morocco said the possibility that the technology would work with the monkeys is slim.

Freidberg said she is concerned about the use of brain implants because evidence from the 1986 trial indicated that Morocco improperly used

the implants, which lead to the death of one monkey.

Moreover, many of Morocco's past monkeys have died of sudden heart failure and congested lungs due to rigorous 12-hour surgery and extensive use of drugs, according to trial transcripts.

Morocco said that only one or two monkeys in his 15 years of work had ever died because of a brain implant, and those instances happened because the monkey knocked the implant out.

"It's too bad that there isn't some middle ground," Morocco said. "It's too bad there can't be a dialogue between animal rights people and biomedical researchers."

Freidberg said PETA will continue to pursue bureaucratic lines to at least ensure that Morocco's protocol is up to proper standards.

"Right now we're in the process of trying to get [Morocco's] protocol," she said. "That would tell us in de-

tail what he would be doing and how many monkeys (would be used)."

Freidberg is also trying to open channels with the IACUC that she said were recently closed by Moseley.

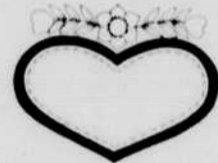
Freidberg said she had discussions about the IACUC with student board member Lisa Calavetta. Calavetta later told Freidberg she could no longer discuss IACUC matters with animal rights people, Freidberg said.

Moseley and/or IACUC Chairman Charles Kimmel, professor of biology, told Calavetta not to discuss board matters anymore, Freidberg said.

Moseley said he did not instruct Calavetta to discontinue talks with animal rights representatives, but he did say board members should not talk to anyone. Calavetta could not be reached Tuesday.

"At this point it's not a matter of animals anymore; it's a matter of a closed University," Freidberg said.

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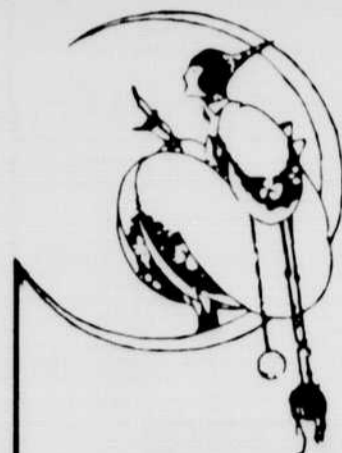
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