

# Study: Transportation concerns citizens

■ **MEETING:** The Growth Management Study gave its first results to Council

By Melissa Lebahn  
Community Reporter

The Growth Management Study produced results from its first forum and Lane Transit District asked the Eugene Urban Renewal Agency to assume a financial risk Monday in a City Council work session.

Also, the Council asked the staff to provide periodic status reports on the Growth Management Study until January 1997.

During the last two years, the city of Eugene has experienced an increase in economic and population growth, which has created a demand for new residential, commercial and industrial development. This increased development has created some concern within the community about the nature and effectiveness of the city's growth management efforts and programs.

The study has three phases: agenda setting, strategy development and strategy review. In each phase, a mailer is sent to every address in Eugene in the form of a questionnaire, then a community forum generates citizens' comments and hears their perceptions and concerns about growth.

Ed Weeks, director of the University Deliberative Democracy Project, presented results from the

mailer and the forum, including that a majority of the people in Eugene were concerned mostly with transportation, education and a clean environment.

Later that evening, LTD made a request to the City Council to modify its commitment to guarantee full funding of \$1.8 million for parking mitigation for the Eugene station project.

LTD is able to guarantee only a portion of the \$1.8 million. According to LTD's attorney, it is able to commit only \$937,000. LTD asked the City Council to consider taking a risk for \$863,000 if the station project does not proceed.

In November 1992, the City Council, acting as the Eugene Urban Renewal Agency, approved the option for LTD to purchase property at the McDonald Theater site, which is a Renewal Agency owned property.

In July 1995, the City Council approved the Pearl Street Garage proposal to make the parking loss at the LTD site less severe. However, this agreement expired on Dec. 31, 1995.

LTD gave the City Council options to proceed with land sale and parking mitigation and take the additional risk; not proceed with either land sale or parking mitigation until LTD can find a way to either accept or improve the risk; or agree to sell the site to LTD.

# UO professor invited to women's conference

■ **WHITE HOUSE:** The conference was formed to discuss recommendations made at Beijing last year

By Jennifer Schmitt  
Higher Education Reporter

An associate professor in the International Studies program received an invitation from Hillary Clinton to attend a briefing Wednesday at the White House on implementing the global agreement reached at the Beijing Conference on Women.

Dr. Anita Weiss was invited by the First Lady to participate in the Women's Conference Circle which will comment on the implementations the U.S. government will be enacting as a result of the 1995 Beijing conference.

The Women's Conference Circle is a group of 250 people from all walks of life that is organized to give feedback to the government and to the people in their communities, Weiss said.

The briefing by the president's Interagency Council on Women will be working on a plan to



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implement the Platform for Action that was agreed upon at the Beijing United Nations conference last September.

"It's exciting because it isn't the U.S. telling other countries how things should be," Weiss said. "All of the countries made the agreement and now the U.S. is looking at the agreement and deciding how to implement it in this country."

The participants at the briefing will be able to hear a report from the Interagency Council on its plans for implementation. Participants will have the opportunity to explain the concerns in their communities, both on a local and global level.

The Council is working towards a five-year plan to implement the agreements from the Beijing conference.

"The discussion will help us

to discover a vision of what has been done, what can be done and what still needs to be done," Weiss said.

At the Beijing conference, the world's representatives made agreements to deal with the concerns women have in areas such as health, education, government representation and women's rights.

Domestic violence is an important issue here in Oregon, Weiss said.

"We need to resolve the conflict between the penalties for domestic violence and the penalties that a man gets for beating another man," Weiss said. "Why should a man get a lesser punishment just because the person that he beats is his wife?"

The Beijing conference also globally agreed that women's rights are human rights, said Weiss.

"This is an important take-off point for women," Weiss said. "It is a take-off point for people in Oregon, Eugene [and] even here at the U of O."

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