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## Review project

continued from page 1

of giving people an opportunity to speak about abuses that they've suffered and need to talk about," one of the project's organizers, Trish Binder, said.

Several speakers at the gathering made references to the June 16-18 anarchist rally in Eugene that led to 67 arrests and generated complaints about police actions. But a few speakers seized the moment to highlight similar incidents in other cities, such as Portland or Philadelphia, where last Wednesday's videotaped beating of an arrested man by 12 police officers gained national attention.

"We're here to let you know that the excesses and abuses that you face here in Eugene are not isolated to your town," Portland Copwatch volunteer Kristian Williams said.

Williams and Shira Zucker, also of Portland Copwatch agreed to speak at the meeting when asked by IPRP organizers.

Carol Berg, another project organizer, stressed that this organization was not founded by anarchists,

but does consider itself to be all-inclusive when it comes to community members. IPRP will function as a resource and referral service for people who have complaints against police officers, she said.

The IPRP will gather citizen complaints and make those statements available to the public and report findings to City Council members. One aspect of the group's make-up, however — the exclusion of police or city government representatives in organizing issues — is a strike against it, City Manager Jim Johnson said.

"My gut reaction [is] whenever a group wants to see a change in the way things are done, they need to conduct their business in a way that includes the city, [otherwise] their outcome is not going to happen," he said.

One speaker at the meeting elicited laughter from the crowd when she began her comments, "I'm from the government, but I'm here to help."

Betsy Brown has been a custodian at the Eugene Library for nine years and said, in her opinion, unelected officials such as Johnson and executive managers of other

city departments run the city, not the City Council.

"If we as a community are getting screwed by the police we have to look at whose hand is on the screwdriver," Brown said, emphasizing that she spoke as a private citizen and not as a city employee.

The claim that city management is in control of city policy is a common misperception, City Councilor Bobby Lee said. Although city management makes operational decisions, he said, the City Council decides policy and the public ultimately helps make the final decisions on those policy directions.


"I welcome [the IPRP], but they're called an 'independent review project' so I'm not going to get involved directly," Lee said. "But I do want to work in partnership with them."

The next "speak out" meeting is scheduled for sometime in October, when the majority of University students will be back in town.

"I think students in particular are a group that I want to communicate with and I think we have students around who are interested in communicating with other students about this issue," Binder said.

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## Petitioner

continued from page 1

violates the Oregon Constitution by restricting persons from collecting signatures at the Eugene Station or at bus stops.

According to the judgment prepared by Foote, the exception to the ruling was that "no person may solicit signatures within eight feet of any LTD bus door while persons are entering or exiting the bus, and no person may collect signatures while on an LTD bus."

LTD filed for an appeal on July 13, asking for signature-gatherers to be prohibited not only eight feet from bus doors, but from the entire boarding platform area. Eight feet is not adequate for lines of

people that sometimes "extend over 30 feet," said Ed Bergeron, LTD public affairs manager.

"What we're trying to do is to find the right balance between the rights of the petition gatherers and the needs of the bus riders," Bergeron said.

The LTD ordinance that limits signature gathering does not limit all of the LTD property, Bergeron said, but only focuses on the actual buses and boarding platforms.

"The station was designed to meet the needs of riders, who are typically in a big hurry," he said.

Ken Hamm, LTD's general manager, said that LTD believes it is necessary and advisable to seek further guidance from the Oregon Appellate Courts concerning LTD's rights and responsibilities

in the management of its facilities.

In the meantime, the judge's decision is in effect until the appeals trial, which could be a year or two away.

"We're going to see petitioners out there, especially with the November elections coming up. Right now they have free reign, up to 8 feet from the door of the bus," Bergeron said.

The ACLU and Leppanen will defend the appeal in part because the judge's decision included ordering LTD to pay the legal fees accumulated by Leppanen.

"I'm pleased that we won," Leppanen said. "I have all sorts of conflicting emotions about the appeal, and I hope it's not being done with public funds. I'm doing this as a matter of principle."

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