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Eugene Mayor Jim Torrey meets with several Springfield council members prior to delivering his fifth state-of-the-city speech before a crowd of 300 at the Eugene Hilton. R. Ashley Smith for the Emerald

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State of City

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transportation plan, reconsidering the West Eugene Parkway and creating an independent citizen committee to redistrict Eugene City Council wards, a task that's completed every ten years.

Before discussing his goals for the next year, Torrey outlined the accomplishments and disappointments of his past five years, including his failure to convince Eugene voters to fund new police and fire stations. Voters shot down the proposal in the May election and again, even more emphatically, in the November general election. In November, 61.7 percent of voters opposed funding the facilities while 38.2 percent supported it.

"I will not support any effort to bring this back to voters," he said. "Though I believe the suggestions were good ones, I see now we need a new one."

Torrey suggested using existing city funds to move police patrol cars out from under City Hall, where they currently park, to a parking lot south of the building. That way, in the event of an earthquake, which Torrey said the police station isn't engineered to withstand, the patrol cars wouldn't be trapped beneath a pancaked building, he said.

Torrey also addressed the other city ballot measure that was in the November election — the passed levy to fund after-school programs for students — and urged the city to fund the program beyond the two years provided by the levy.

"We must do this for our children," he said.

He also congratulated city staff for pushing ahead with the construction of the new central downtown library and gave the Eugene Public Library Foundation a service award for meeting its three-year, \$4.8 million fundraising goal in only 18 months. The award was accepted by foun-

dation president Nancy Oft Rose, who said that all donors to the project will have their names etched into portions of the library.

"We still have stacks for sale, benches for sale. ... we'll find more things to name," she said.

Before the speech, newly elected Councilor Bonny Bettman was sworn in along with re-elected Councilors Betty Taylor, Scott Meisner, Nancy Nathanson and re-elected Mayor Torrey.

Other recognition and service awards were given to Jan Royalty, of the Administrative Services Department; Raudel Perezchica, of the Public Works Department; Budget Committee member Alan Zelenka; Planning Commission member Ellen Wojahn; and former Mayor Ruth Bascom. Torrey also offered Youth Leadership Awards to Churchill High School student Ashley Alvarado and Sheldon High School student Evan Rutter.

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Budget

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Jell-O to a wall," because after a budget passes through the legislative wringer, it rarely resembles its first draft.

Despite assuring the crowd of about 100 faculty members that he was not being alarmist, Frohnmayer could not say the budget proposal was the best for higher education.

"I can not tell you, notwithstanding my long friendship with the governor, that I am encouraged by his budget," he said. "The budget that has been proposed is not, in my view, satisfactory."

While making clear that he was not criticizing Gov. Kitzhaber's efforts to balance the state's budget, Frohnmayer also said those in higher education "intend to fight for the best budget we can find."

The aspects of the budget proposal that most concerned Frohnmayer were the drop in funding and a planned tuition increase that will end a four-year tuition freeze. Frohnmayer said the amount of the tuition increase is still unknown, but he added higher education officials will work to ensure

that it will not overprice a college education or hurt university revenue.

To help explain the budget situation to the group of assembled educators, Frohnmayer went to the blackboard in 100 Willamette Hall to dissect how higher education funding is currently appropriated.

He used diagrams to illustrate how the funding drop will hurt specific programs based on a system of the lowest to highest cost. Many specific budget request items like the Bend branch campus and engineering education improvement request, however, are not likely to be affected by the budget process because of the political weight of their backers.

David Conley, an education professor who has worked on several state education funding projects, told the faculty members a "policy dynamics" change following the passage of Measure 5 has left Oregon's varied education systems squabbling over different sections of the budget pie.

"Higher Ed is definitely impacted by this change," he said. "We are in direct competition with K-12."

Conley also said it has become clear that Kitzhaber would like to

make K-12 the hallmark of his education legacy in this, his last term of office.

Frohnmayer concluded his speech by asking the faculty members to impart on their legislators the importance of the University in the Southern Willamette valley, and how fewer resources for the school could mean negative economic impacts on the rest of the area.

Most in the crowd left after Frohnmayer delivered his speech, but those who stayed heard a report by Vice Provost for Research Richard Linton, who heads up the Riverfront Research Park. He said the University has made great gains in its quest to open up venues for entrepreneurial professors who want to place their discoveries on the open market through the park.

Professors questioned why the University has not declared open space off-limits to future development when there is a movement in the city of Eugene to open up a green space area along both banks of the Willamette flowing through downtown. Linton said that it was in the best interest of the University to leave all options open in regards to the research park.

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