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UO ready for \$3 million cut

■ The Oregon University System asks campuses to draft plans reducing their budgets

By Eric Martin
Oregon Daily Emerald

A looming \$290 million shortfall is forcing public universities to trim expenses to help balance Oregon's budget. For its part, the University can absorb a \$3 million cut before academic programs are seriously affected, University Provost John Moseley told the University Senate in its meeting Wednesday.

"We're not prepared to cut at all,"

Moseley said. "We're saying we're going to make plans up to the 4 percent level. Above that, simply because the cuts are so Draconian, there's not time to responsibly set planning above that."

The shortfall — which could balloon if December economic forecasts follow a downward trend — forced Gov. John Kitzhaber on Friday to order the state to retain 2 percent of its general fund money that funds state programs. The general fund provides about \$16 million for Oregon's public universities.

"This is a huge deal, and it has severe consequences for the state and Oregonians," State Rep. Vicki Walker, D-Eugene, said. "I don't think people are ready to panic, but it's like when you look in your own checkbook and there's not enough money. You've got to find ways."

The University already has been asked to reduce its budget by \$1.5 million, or 2 percent, in the initial stage of Kitzhaber's plan to balance the budget. Moseley said the Oregon University System, which oversees Oregon's seven public uni-

versities, has asked each university to submit a plan detailing how it could reduce its budget in 2 percent increments up to 10 percent.

"We're planning for more because the governor told us to," Moseley said. "I think at the larger numbers, he's looking into the next biennium in case funding continues to be reduced."

Members of the Senate Budget Committee, administrators and deans have been discussing ways to mitigate the impact of a budget shortfall on academic programs and other student services. While many hope to wait until the state releases an updated economic forecast Dec. 1, University officials are mulling several options.

"It could be done by administrative reorganization and by putting off some expansion projects," University Senate President Nathan Tublitz said. "And by using some increases in funds from other sources to shore up cuts."

Eric Martin is a higher education reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald. He can be reached at ericmartin@dailyemerald.com.



EXPRESSIONS OF PEACE

A CREATIVE RESPONSE TO RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE

<p>SPEAKING OUR WAY OUT OF VIOLENCE Thursday October 11th 8-11 PM The Buzz Coffeehouse, EMU An evening of empowerment, open to all wishing to share poetry and song addressing issues of sexual and dating violence.</p>	<p>ENVISIONING A WORLD WITHOUT VIOLENCE Friday October 12th 5:30-6:30 PM Arts reception in Adell-McMillan Gallery, EMU 6:30-7:00 PM Free WYMPROV! in the Ben Linder Forum Join us for the opening night of this powerful community arts show. Ten campus and community organizations joined with the Emerald Valley Quilter's Guild to create this fabric arts installation devoted to celebrating survivors and promoting peace in our community. Refreshments provided.</p>	<p>SONGS OF RESISTANCE AND PEACE Friday October 12th 1:30-3 PM EMU Amphitheater DJ spinning highlighting artists with strong themes of resistance to violence against women. Hole, Ani DiFranco, Pearl Jam, Shania Twain, Bjork, Tracy Chapman, Blink 182.</p>
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For more information call 346-4095
Sponsored by the University Coalition Against Partner Violence, Womenspace and the Emerald Valley Quilter's Guild. This event is wheelchair accessible. Childcare scholarships are available. If you are interested in scholarships or if any other accommodations are needed due to a disability, please contact the Women's Center at 346-4095 at least 72 hours prior to the event.

City sets date to reopen Broadway to car traffic

■ To meet Eugene's proposed deadline, planners move forward with street designs

By Sue Ryan
Oregon Daily Emerald

Despite some concerns about funding the Broadway reopening project, the Eugene City Council gave planners approval Wednesday to start designing the street's new look.

"It's a big enough deal for this town that we should look at the design, but get the job done by Sept. 1 (2002)," said Councilor Gary Papé.

The council and planners are hoping to reopen the three-block area along Broadway between Oak and Charnelton Streets by the next Eugene Celebration, which will be next September.

Council members discussed the matter during a noon-hour work session at the McNutt Room with an audience of city staff, media and one unidentified man who shouted objections throughout the meeting. Councilors focused on two issues in the process: street design and funding.

"We need to move ahead with the street planning and get the designs out," said Councilor Gary Rayer.

The group debated whether the design process should be split to allow it to progress more rapidly.

"There are buildings, public art and everything else that makes the street look great besides just opening the street," Councilor Nancy Nathanson said.

The council voted unanimously to approve the split design ap-

proach. This design will include two stages, said Nathanson, with the street revamping as one stage and working around private property alongside the street as the other.

Eugene Public Works director Kurt Corey said planners will hold a series of public workshops and present the design to a citizen involvement group.

"The timeline highlights include having a conceptual design in 60 days, final engineering plan by March and start construction next summer," he said.

While voters approved reopening Broadway, it is up to City Council and staff to figure out how to pay for the \$2.6 million project. Corey said the city submitted a \$1.6 million request to Lane County. The remaining \$1 million will come from downtown commercial merchants, the community revitalization fund and other accounts.

Councilor Betty Taylor said she was concerned about the city coming up short on funds.

"We have agreed to do this now, but we don't have the money," she said.

Mayor Jim Torrey said since voters passed the Sept. 18 measure to reopen the mall, the project has to move forward.

"People have said we need to do it," he said. "I hope council will show us how."

The Broadway pedestrian mall has been closed to motor vehicle traffic for 30 years.

Sue Ryan is a community reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald. She can be reached at sueryan@dailyemerald.com.

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NV Dorms (12th & Kincaid)	9:27 a.m.

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