

HOW? PRIORITIES

Kurt Yeiter (8/25) nicely outlines the conundrums of mixed-use centers (MUC) and frames the question: Can we grow AND improve?

Residents ponder workable alternatives to coffer-draining sprawl on farm and forest lands. Oregon has a strong heritage of public access beaches, enacting the Willamette River Greenway, modeling a bottle deposit-for-return and land use laws that protect the commonwealth — a pioneering vision lacking in much contemporary planning.

Skeptics point to the city's unintended outcomes at the Royal Node (sprawl on a greenfield at the edge of the Urban Growth Boundary) and the Chase Gardens Node (neighbors got the density and accompanying car traffic, but didn't get the services and transit options).

Optimists will point towards the city's refined approach currently applied to Walnut Node/MUC (resident and business blocks viewed through different lenses) and Chambers MUC (where the grassroots group Chambers Area Families for Healthy Neighborhoods has reinvigorated caring, thoughtful public involvement) as examples of MUC progress.

Like Oregon's visionary planning pioneers, how do we plan for outcomes not fully realized until our grandkids are grown? Start with priorities: Make our parks safe. Create a

scale and tenor of new development in harmony with existing neighborhoods. Target density in proportion to neighborhood character. Provide business incentives and siting in accordance with on-the-ground transportation options (bike, pedestrian, mass transit) that make a MUC a live, safe, and a desirable place to be.

Razor Park MUC is up next for planning. Can the Greenway be respected by new development (like the McMenamin's grill near Autzen) that might face the Willamette along River Road, making the bike path safer and a destination spot for transportation of all kinds?

Could Razor MUC host hospital-support services when Triad considers siting a new hospital at 2nd and Chambers in Eugene? Yeiter challenges our thinking with his questions, while inviting residents and businesses to get involved with designing the answers. A Neighborhood Initiative is a current City Council priority goal. Grassroots involvement at the neighborhood level is key to determining the shape of our community in the years to come.

Rob Handy
Eugene

NAME GAME

Now that *EW* has taken it upon itself to name things, why don't you try for some consistency? Last week (8/25) the property you



now claim is "known as" the "East Fork Amazon Headwater Forest" was the "Nectar Way Forest," even though I've attended more than a dozen meetings at which the property

was discussed and never heard the nomenclature before. How romantic that name, the Nectar Way Forest! I fear the "East Fork Amazon Headwater Forest" is not nearly so

Call to Action: Protect Youth Privacy

It is no news that privacy rights are under attack. It is no surprise, then, that youth, too, are the target. High schools must release the names, phone numbers and addresses of all 11th and 12th grade males and females to military recruiters under a provision in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Under the Solomon Amendments community colleges and universities must release name, address, phone number, major, previous schools attended, and for athletes, height and weight.

You can do something about this violation of student privacy. First, students can opt out of their private information being released by completing a form at their school instructing the school not to release information to military recruiters. But do this soon, very soon. High school students should do this right now as some school districts release this information within two weeks of fall registration; college students should do this when they begin fall classes. Military recruiters request this information from schools soon after fall registration. Schools release the information within the couple of weeks it takes them to prepare to respond.

Secondly, if Congress were to pass HR 551, this violation of privacy for high school students would end because high schools would only have to release information on those students who specifically "opt in" to the release of private information. Our representative, Peter DeFazio, has signed on as a sponsor of this bill, but we citizens need to let Congress know our support for ending this privacy invasion.

Wondering why you or your child are still getting mailings and phone calls from military recruiters even though you have opted out at your school? One of the many other ways recruiters

get names just became public last May. The Department of Defense has contracted, since 2002, with a private marketing firm, BeNow, to run a data base on all 16 to 26 year old males and females. BeNow collects new pieces of data daily and sends updated data to the Pentagon monthly. This database is far more insidious than what local military recruiters get from schools. More data is collected, including name, address, e-mail address, birthdate, phone number, cell phone number, ethnicity, GPA, field of academic study, if males have registered with Selective Service. Initially, they collected Social Security numbers, but because of the outcries of protest, they may have stopped. One can opt out of the release on one's data to military recruiters by writing JAMRS, attention opt out, 4040 No Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203. Ask to "opt out," but be aware that this only suppresses the release of data to military recruiters. It does not stop data from being collected and stored.

The stated reason for this data base is to help military recruiters do their work. It is easy to wonder what else such a database might be used for. Here are two: to track down males who have not registered with Selective Service, or track down youth who are evading a military draft, if Congress should authorize a return of the draft.

Please join the growing national uproar about this violation of American youth privacy. Complain to members of Congress; urge the ending of collecting data on our youth and the destruction of the existing data base. Talk to your friends and neighbors to ask them to act now.

Carol Van Houten
Eugene

Carol Van Houten is co-coordinator of the Committee for Countering Military Recruitment, which is a joint project of Community Alliance of Lane County (CALC) and Eugene Peaceworks.

**Doors Open 8am
Saturday!**

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PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday, September 17th 10am

Featuring Vehicles & seized items, including bikes, jewelry, tools & much more. Cosignors include Springfield PD, Eugene PD, Lane County Sheriff, SUB, Eugene Fleet, City of Cottage Grove, LCC & others.

Vehicle Preview Sept 16th 8am-5pm

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- ◆ 1986 Chevy 1 Ton w/ Service Box, 6 cyl, 78K miles, AT, PS
- ◆ 1994 Crown Victoria, 8 cyl, 126K miles, Cruise, AC, AT

CONSIGNED BY EUGENE FLEET

- ◆ 1995 Ford E350 13 Pass. Bus w/Wheel Chair Lift, 122K miles, 8 cyl, AT, AC, Cruise
- ◆ 1995 Chevy Corsica, 79K miles, 6 cyl, AT, PS, AC, TI



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