

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

wasting more than \$12,000 every month — on the police auditor.

I also see a couple of other problems. Mr. Gissiner could be facing civil lawsuits for conflict of interest and even criminal fraud, for taking a paycheck under false pretenses (saying he will do the job and he doesn't — failure to do one's job is extremely easy to document).

City of Eugene elected officials could be facing civil lawsuits for breach of fiduciary duty. When it comes to the police, elected officials have a much higher duty to protect the public. Waste of money by a bureaucrat is one thing; failure to provide the public safety is quite another.

They all could end up as named defendants in U.S. District Court for violation of civil rights and perhaps they all would lose their pensions. In U.S. District Court anything is possible.

In addition to financial audits, the *Yellow Book* standards cover performance audits, which evaluate the performance of a program or project against defined objectives, such as objectives for efficiency and effectiveness. See <http://wkly.ws/133>

Frank Skipton, CPA (ret.)  
Springfield

### GOOD START

Many thanks for uncovering some of the real story behind the righteous — and malicious — county open meeting law accusations (“Shifty Politics” cover story, 7/14). It was right on the money.

The politically and ideologically motivated scheme to bring down Commissioners Handy and Sorenson began in earnest with a mass attack in 2009 on their frugal and far-thinking positions on the funding of 84 jail beds. Now the sheriff's predictable need to defund those beds has been met with resounding silence by the present board majority, the rightwing zealots that they represent and *The Register-Guard*.

The *Weekly's* cover story was a good introduction. I look forward to the next shift.

Robert Emmons  
Fall Creek

### PEDESTRIANS, TOO

Alan Pittman's “Bike Plan Wobbles” (7/21) on the draft Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan was articulate and insightful about the plan's lack of teeth, but it misses an important point: It's not a “Bike Plan”! This Master Plan focuses on both biking and walking. Bicyclists AND pedestrians! It's a plan to increase biking and walking in Eugene!

Pittman writes passionately on the bicycle aspects of the Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan yet says nothing about pedestrians! At the same BPAC meeting where biking was discussed, comments were made about the master plan's lack of targets for sidewalk infill funding or increasing transit use, and why walking has to be not only safe but desirable. How do only bike issues and quotes make into the *Weekly*?

Over 80 percent of the people can walk and use transit today, while we hope for 22 percent by bike trips by 2031. While I love to ride my bike and don't own a car, walking is still the simplest form of transportation. It requires no special equipment and is part of every trip even those that are made by bike, bus, or private car. Those who want to be part of the solution include people with disabilities, many in our aging population and people who can't afford or simply don't want to take the risks of riding a bicycle.

Remember when 50 percent of us walked to school?

Tom Schneider  
Bike and Pedestrian  
Advisory Committee Member

### BACK-DOOR CHAMPS?

Could Oregon still be the national grid champion? That elusive national football title may come to Oregon — through the back door. That's what I learned after I checked with the NCAA on the continuing investigation about a major illegality involving the Auburn team that beat the Ducks in the BCS title game. I verified the earlier published account about charges

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