

PILES OF CRUSTY YUCK

Dear city of Eugene: I work downtown in the heart of this glorious community filled with colorful people and hanging baskets of flowers that tower the streets. We all put a lot of time into making our downtown welcoming; however, over the last few weeks I've been noticing an up hurl, literally, of the amount of vomit that is left behind.

On June 29 I came in to do a local radio show in the All Comedy studios in the Broadway Commerce Center and there were three piles of puke within a block. Yuck! This was 9 am Saturday, and on Sunday I was driving around town watching the flowers get watered thinking to myself: If someone gets paid to water the flowers, shouldn't someone get paid to clean the streets as well?

Here's where it gets really crusty. It's now Tuesday, more than 72 hours from the original puke pile sighting, and I can't believe what I just saw — the same puke, the same place — 72 hours later. The thing is, it's in a very visible spot right by a crosswalk noticeable by anyone who walks by.

Please, use our tax dollars to clean our streets before you think about "lighting" them up.

Jennifer Meyer
Eugene

STUPID METERS

Smart meters will do absolutely nothing for EWEB ratepayers except increase their bill dramatically and permanently.

One would think that EWEB management and commissioners would be intelligent enough to recognize that their PR jargon around spending \$30 million on this is a lie, yet they repeat it over and over. It isn't about radio frequency pollution. We already have tons of that, and adding one more device that transmits data on a sub-audible sound wave won't matter one iota.

What will matter is that once people get smart meters, and then begin to turn their appliances off and on based on the daily

timing of inexpensive off-peak power as opposed to expensive peak power, the actual effect (because of consumers' market behavior) would be to even out both the cost of all power, as well as the momentary grid loads that supply that power. There would no longer be peak or off-peak energy, but simply flat-rate energy, at an averaged cost equal to the present cost. There would be no economic benefit whatsoever to consumers who had just watched their public utility spend \$30 million on smart meters. The net benefit to EWEB customers would therefore actually be negative.

The net effect on the environment will also be negative because peak power and off-peak power are supplied by different generation technologies. Once there is no longer any distinction between peak and off-peak demand because the value of electricity has been equalized by smart consumers using smart meters, the operators of these various generation technologies will all be competing for market share. Which of these technologies is actually cheapest? Coal. The cheapest power will trump the others, so smart meters are actually a really stupid idea.

Den Ramsey
Eugene

ORBS JOIN FIREWORKS

During the fireworks on the Fourth of July (on Skinner Butte) around 10 pm to midnight, there was an extraordinary amount of UFO sightings during the fireworks display to everyone's surprise. I was not the only one to notice red orbs coming from far over the valley and flying directly *into* the fireworks display, and through them and then simply vanishing or continuing to fly farther away.

How low these objects were, the physics behind their movement and their noted behavior disproves that it could possibly be a satellite or a drone, not to mention if you YouTube videos about UFO sightings these occurrences are happening on every continent. If this process had not

repeated itself multiple times, and if there were not giant white orbs of light flying around Eugene that night as well, glowing very bright white, then glowing very dim, repeating this process, I would not be writing this.

It seems rather peculiar to me that there has not been more attention drawn towards this, as whatever is in the sky obviously wants to be seen. Another interesting note is if you search on YouTube, on June 1 the Canadian prime minister of defense held a public press conference disclosing the existence of ETs on earth and the U.S. involvement with them, but there was a media blackout on this. Other countries this year and in the past few years have also made disclosure, but I notice reluctance from many U.S. citizens to look up into the sky.

Laian Muth
Eugene

BASHING THE OTHER

Oh sigh! We're gay-bashing again. But, actually, I'm sick of the bashing of any group — homosexuals, bicyclists, immigrants, transgendered folk, homeless people, people of color, Muslims! These seem to be the main targets of the moment, but your group could most definitely be next. Why the intolerance? Why the fear? Why can't we "just get along"? It's sad and it's dangerous to everybody.

Jay Moseley
Eugene

CIVIC SOLUTION

Sorry to say but Civic Stadium needs to go. Its time has passed. If anybody has money to spare they can give it to School District 4J for supplies or to hire more teachers. We don't need another Fred Meyer either. What we need are local construction jobs followed by local permanent jobs with the main money made staying in the city, county and state.

4J could use some regular money coming in not governed by city councils or legislatures — they should lease the land. What we need is an Indian casino. Really.

A 20-year lease and then the tribe gets the land.

Jeff Krueger
Eugene

SLOWER IS DIRTIER

Reading "Four To Three Lane Redesign Could Be Safer" [News, 7/11], maybe I missed an earlier article about the environmental impact of reducing through traffic on South Willamette Street from four lanes to two. If cutting the number of through lanes in half results in a 30 second increase in travel time during rush hours, then where is the analysis of how many additional seconds, minutes and hours vehicles would be pumping pollutants into south Eugene as 15,500 cars, trucks or buses go through each day? I believe it will take at least 30 seconds longer all day, which translates to an additional five cars, trucks or buses running 24 hours a day up and down those five blocks. A choice for three lanes is a choice for both increased global warming and decline in air quality.

I trust the opinion of Fire Chief Randy Groves over street engineer Scott Mansur as to how reducing lanes would affect emergency vehicles, and Groves has stated that it could be a problem. I haven't heard about some rash of horrible accidents on that stretch and neither have you. Enforce the speed limit we have and let's keep our already dirty air a little cleaner.

Ross Daniels
South Eugene

ANTI-DUCK COPS

I was wondering if the Oregon State Police is anti-UO or something. The morning after the UO graduation in June, there must have been 10 or more patrol cars lined up on Interstate 5 southbound lanes. It seemed they were pulling over vehicles with UO stickers and especially those from out of state. Are they Beaver fans or don't they want us to visit your state?

Ann Rey
Pasadena

Cargo & Family Bikes...the new mini-vans

Ride one @ Sunday Streets



Test Rides! Eugene Sun. Streets July 21st!
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