

that are racially motivated,” Police Commissioner George Rode says. “The bad of it is, you know, the invasiveness of it — here’s another government bureaucracy collecting stuff on me.”

In addition to concerns about the public’s unwillingness to share personal information, some commissioners say the policy has potential to be too time consuming or restrictive for officers.

“I’m a little concerned about loading a lot of very fine tuning on at the front end and finding we’ve created something that is either unworkable right out of the gate or that collapses ... somewhere down the road,” Police Commissioner Edward Goehring says.

The policy previously stated that all police contacts requiring detention must be reported. It was revised during the Feb. 13 meeting to say all contacts that become a stop,

as defined by department policy, or arrest must be reported. Drawing the line between interactions that do or do not need to be reported has been a challenge for the commission.

Goehring says the complaint that he’s heard consistently from people is, “So and so says their kid was stopped, or they were stopped, they didn’t like the way it went, and when they went to the police department or the police auditor, they were told there was no record of this.”

The committee will also need to decide whether they want police to ask or infer race. “The way we do it now,” Kerns says, “is we choose a race, and that’s what we put in our police report when we enter in the data.”

Community members will have a chance to submit written questions to be introduced into the 90-minute discussion during the Police Commission’s 5:30 pm March 13 meeting at Harris Hall. The commission will also hold

a public forum April 3 where all community members will have a chance to provide feedback. — *Missy Corr*

## LAND-USE CASE DRAGS ON

A Lane County land-use case, which was first filed in 2011, alleging that the county regularly exceeds deadlines is not yet resolved. Advocacy group LandWatch Lane County is frustrated with the amount of time it is taking to get a final order on the case from the state Department of Land Conservation and Development.

In November 2011, LandWatch notified Lane County of its intention to file an enforcement order with DLCD regarding what the group sees as the county’s “pattern or practice” of exceeding the 150 days allowed for counties

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JERRY ROSS PHOTO BY TODD COOPER

## ALL ART AND NO BUSINESS?

“Who’s going to pay for the arts?” artist Jerry Ross asked at a Feb. 19 meeting at the Eugene Public Library. That was the question of the hour at the meeting hosted by the Arts & Business Alliance of Eugene (ABAE) and the Downtown Initiative for the Visual Arts (DIVA).

Two dozen local arts and culture leaders came to discuss ideas to strengthen Eugene’s arts and economic core and to see what organizations would be interested in a shared multi-use business, arts and cultural space downtown. Many at the meeting noted that there were no representatives from the business side of the ABAE alliance. ABAE Managing Director Karen Rainsong said the new meet-up discussion series is in a “preliminary stage” and that DIVA will be spearheading future meetings for the proposed cultural center. DIVA President Miriam Alexis Jordan says that her business contacts did not respond to emails about the meeting.

“Next time, we’re definitely going to make an effort to invite business people,” Rainsong says.

Several projects were introduced, such as Eugene Ballet Company’s tentative plan to move into 5th Street Market, developer Brian Obie’s proposed Market District at 6th and Oak and painter Jerry Ross’ ongoing campaign efforts to use the vacant historic downtown Eugene Post Office as a multi-use shared art space. In addition to EBC and Ross, representatives from the Asian Council, DIVA, Wordcrafters, Plein Air Painters of Lane County and the Eugene Celebration board expressed interest in a shared downtown space.

Participants pointed to examples in other states. Ross said Las Vegas’ Arts Factory would be a sustainable “mixed-use model.” Tomi Anderson, Eugene’s new Cultural Services director, suggested looking at Virginia’s Torpedo Factory, while the Oregon Supported Living Program’s artist-in-residence Mija Andrade proposed Seattle’s Tashiro Kaplan Artists Lofts as an example to follow.

But who will foot the bill for such a project? Anderson discouraged looking to the city for funds.

“I have never known a time when the city is like, ‘Yes, we have money and we’re going to spend it on the arts,’” Anderson said. “That’s never going to happen. There’s never not going to be a budget problem.”

The discussion turned to the historic tradition of wealthy individuals and businesses as patrons of the arts.

“How committed are the businesses to the arts in Eugene?” asked Amy Isler Gibson, owner of the Gallery at the Watershed. “Do we have any businesses here?” The attendees looked around and shook their heads.

“That says something right there,” Ross replied.

The meeting’s attendees requested that a follow-up meeting be scheduled where every arts or cultural representative bring along a representative from the business community.

Mitra Chester, St. Vincent de Paul’s style special projects manager, noted that “Businesses are getting more open-minded about how art can support their business,” pointing to collaborations between The Barn Light and Bijou Metro, as well as Ninkasi’s patronage of musicians and artists.

“If we are enlightened people, and I think we are, we need to start an initiative, harness horses,” said Riley Grannan, managing director for Eugene Ballet Company. “Saying there’s no money available — there’s piles of money available! If the right proposal gets on the desk of these people,” pointing to Eugeneans like real estate broker Alan Evans and the Jaquas. He added, “We need to challenge the enlightened people of Eugene to do what they say they do. Do we stand up for the arts?” — *Alex Notman*