

• The **Metropolitan Policy Committee** will meet from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm Thursday, July 3, at Coburg City Hall and public comment time is early on the agenda. The panel deals with issues of local and regional transportation planning, air quality, cable TV and other metro issues. Find the agenda at icog.org or call 682-4283.

• New, reduced hours at the **Eugene Public Library** begin this week and on Sunday, July 6, the downtown library will be closed until 1 pm. Starting at 10 am that day, Friends of Eugene Public Library and the Eugene Public Library Foundation plan to greet library users who arrive at the closed facility. Volunteers will provide information about budget history, available restrooms in the area, and talk about library services. The three-hour reduction in downtown library hours is the result of city budget cuts for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

• The **Pastors for Peace** Friendship Caravan to Cuba will stop in Corvallis for a fundraiser at noon Thursday, July 10, at Westminster House, 101 NW 23rd St. The caravan will stop overnight Friday, July 11, in **Eugene** and a potluck and presentation about challenging the embargo of Cuba will be from 6 to 8:30 pm Friday at the Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) office at 458 Blair Blvd. Call 485-8633 or email lasc@efn.org.

• **350 Eugene's** summer MeetUp will be from 7 to 8:30 pm Thursday, July 10, at First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St. Presentations include resisting the southern Oregon Pacific Connector LNG export pipeline, divestment and Our Children's Trust. Also on the agenda is supporting a carbon tax in Oregon. Contact Deb McGee and Patty Hine at 350eug@riseup.net.

LANE COUNTY AREA SPRAY SCHEDULE

• Oregon Department of Transportation is currently spraying roadsides. Call Tony Kilmer at ODOT District 5 at 744-8080 or call (888) 996-8080 for herbicide application information.

• Seneca Jones Timber Company, 461-6245, plans to aerially spray 57 acres near Douglas Creek and 15 acres near Battle Creek with glyphosate, imazapyr, metsulfuron methyl, methylated seed oil, non-ionic surfactant, Syl-Tac and/or Sylgard. See ODF notice 2014-781-00632, call Brian Peterson at 935-2283 with questions.

• Oregon Department of Forestry, Philomath office, plans to spray 20 miles of state owned forest roads throughout Benton County with glyphosate, 2,4-D ester, sulfometuron methyl, surfactant and/or triclopyr ester. See ODF notification 2014-455-00254, call Chris J. Humcke at 929-3266 with questions.

• Lane County, 682-6900, is still applying an asphalt overlay to Horton Road. Hydrogen sulfide may be emitted from hot asphalt.

Compiled by Jan Wroncy and Gary Hale, Forestland Dwellers: 342-8332, forestlanddwellers.org

POLLUTION UPDATE

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is accepting comments through 5 pm Tuesday, July 8, on the erosion and sediment control plan for construction at the new **Malabon Elementary School**, and through 5 pm Wednesday, July 9, on the erosion and sediment control plan for construction at **Wedgewood Subdivision**. Both projects are in Eugene. The new school is located at 1380 Taney St., and the subdivision is located at Gardenia and Grizzly avenues. Visit goo.gl/Yp4iAK for information on reviewing the plans and submitting comments. The city of Eugene sent a request for corrective action letter to **Western Structures, Inc.**, June 19 for failing take required actions to address elevated pollutant levels in stormwater at the facility (located at 1381 Bailey Hill Rd.) in December and February.

Doug Quirke/Oregon Clean Water Action Project

NEWS

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by UO's Community Planning Workshop in 2010, estimates less than 5 percent of Lane County's \$1.17 billion food market is produced locally.

The proposed task force would be largely focused on the economic side of food security. Its three main objectives would be: to summarize what's been done, develop a gap analysis and make economic development and job creation recommendations.

A lot of work has already been done relating to food security, according to Councilor George Brown, who is also the owner of downtown grocery store The Kiva. "And really, the farmers and the food manufacturers make their decisions and they've been doing a great job and I don't know that they really need our help."

Councilors will discuss food security during a work session at 5:30 pm Monday, Sept. 8, in Harris Hall at 125 E. 8th Ave. The council takes a summer break from July 31 to Sept. 8. — *Missy Corr*

SORENSEN CALLS FOR MORE LANE COUNTY TRANSPARENCY

The recent confusion over Commissioner Jay Bozievich's public records request for a list of ballots with signature problems has drawn attention to what many see as an ongoing issue at Lane County: transparency and openness. Commissioner Pete Sorenson has asked the county to resume looking into the way it responds to public records requests as well as into the public's ability to use county facilities.

Bozievich's election campaign made a public records request for ballots with challenged signatures on May 27. His challenger, Dawn Lesley, as well as Faye Stewart's challenger, Kevin Matthews, requested the list directly from the elections office and received it by Friday, May 30, but Bozievich's campaign did not receive a cost estimate or the list. On Saturday, Bozievich contacted County Administrator Steve Mokrohisky to complain, and County Clerk Cheryl Betschart was soon dispatched to the office to provide the list. Getting the list is allowed under a new change in state law making challenged ballots public.

The county says the records were provided outside of normal hours because the records were need-

ed in a timely fashion and the law is new.

Sorenson says actions like a commissioner getting records on a weekend leads to "the perception at least that those in power get public records quickly."

Mokrohisky says the county is seeking to "foster an environment of openness and transparency" and is looking into improving access to public records. He tells *EW* that the county's public information officer, Anne Marie Levis, has been directed to contact the PIOs of other cities to see how they accommodate records requests. The city of Eugene provides a computer terminal that the media and the public can access and read certain emails directed to the City Council and mayor.

Mokrohisky says the county is looking to "balance the needs of the public and the media" with the need to keep certain types of records, such as personnel issues, confidential.

Sorenson says that in addition to his concern over public records, he has asked the county commissioner's agenda team to look into "accessibility to various buildings and public spaces." He says, "I think when the government pays to have conference rooms and spaces built and use them for roughly one-third of the time, and there are other times those spaces can be used at nominal cost to the public."

Sorenson says that before Liane (Richardson) Inkster, the previous administrator, changed the policy on use of county facilities, the public used areas like Harris Hall and meeting rooms more often. According to a June 2 letter from Lane County's capital projects manager Brian Craner to Mokrohisky, there is a one time a month usage restriction, which can be waived, a \$150 nonrefundable security deposit and a \$350 refundable deposit to use Harris Hall's AV equipment, plus \$100 per microphone.

'Barriers have been erected that need to come down.'

— PETE SORENSON, LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Craner wrote that the county's facilities committee "found no compelling reason to propose any revisions" regulating the use of Harris Hall and the county's Public Service Building conference and meeting rooms.

Mokrohisky says he wants to look at the issue holistically and identify spaces and times that they aren't needed for city and county meetings to allow groups that provide some kind of public benefit to have a place to meet. He says this could also benefit the county, for example, by increasing patronage at Café 125, which is in the Public Service Building and under new management.

Sorenson says, "Barriers have been erected that need to come down." — *Camilla Mortensen*




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