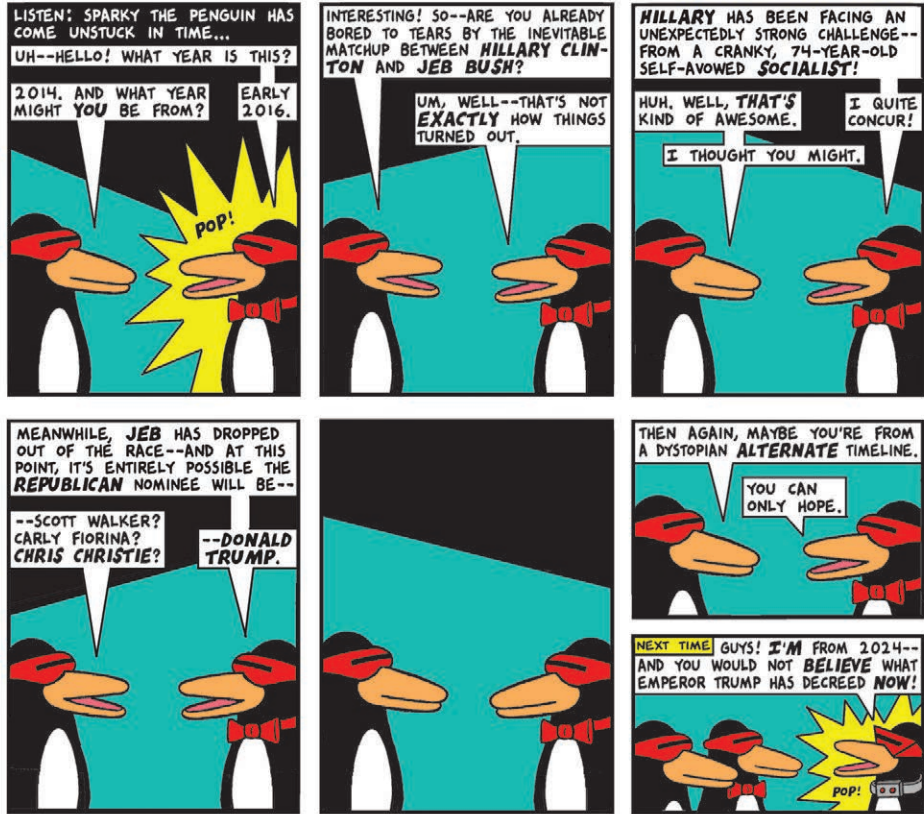


THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



developed regarding the holding of large events” of 1,000 or more people.

I would consider the Willamette River watershed to be Lane County’s most important natural resource. The vast majority of county parks, waysides and boat landings border the river. We have a right to expect a commissioner to be a thoughtful steward of the environment we all share, including parks bordering the river on which our lives depend. In my opinion, Tony McCown, who is running for Commissioner in District 4, would both understand and be faithful to the principle of preserving and protecting the lands we, the residents of Lane County, hold in trust for the common good.

Ellen Otani
Eugene

MORE TRAFFIC, NOISE

The written public comment period to the city on SW-SAZ [South Willamette rezoning] is closing soon. This plan is clearly designed by pro-developer city planners and sweetened by tax breaks (MUPT), which will make the area so unlivable they will be able to bulldoze and rebuild large apartments to their hearts’ content. Cramping more people into an area means more money for them, not better quality of life for us. They are using a false pro-green message to push through their agenda. The apartment buildings would have minimal allotted parking spots.

The promised three- to five-story height has the possibility of two extra stories — that means seven-story buildings.

We haven’t yet seen the full impacts of reducing the number of lanes on Willamette Street, which will only force more car traffic through the surrounding residential streets. Reducing car lanes will not increase biking through the area, but it will add traffic congestion. The negative impacts of these proposed changes are much clearer: more traffic, more noise, less livability, less green space.

Oppose the SW-SAZ by writing to the city before it’s too late to be heard. Find email addresses at ci.eugene.or.us.

Danika Esden-Tempski
Eugene

SURVIVAL WAGES

I suggest Cindy Land, chair of the Lane County Republican Party, who recently wrote Feb. 18 that the GOP backs workers, should try working a 40-hour week at the current minimum wage. Her suggestion that people can somehow escape poverty by working 40 hours per week rather than 30 at the current minimum is ludicrous.

The whole point of the push for a higher minimum wage is to get people above the poverty line. At the current minimum wage in Lane County, I am sure Land would have no time to dabble with politics and would have to work several jobs just to keep a roof over her head and afford enough to eat! Get some compassion, Ms. Land. And

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