

economic elite. What is most refreshing is that she's not an equivocator. She'll tell you where she stands on issues like ending MUPTE and DTURD, protecting neighborhoods from destruction and gentrification, and providing meaningful support for people without homes.

Even though she is not an "insider" like Wig, or "coronated" by Kitty like Skov, I know that with her passion, commitment and hard work she can accomplish a lot of good in Eugene.

*Bonny Bettman McCornack
Former City Councilor
Eugene*

REAL SAFETY ISSUE

Dear city of Springfield:

A crosswalk post that can be found near the intersection of Mohawk and Olympic streets has a button that is falling out of place. When you press the button, it no longer beeps in response. Instead, it wiggles and bobs, and I am left to trust my instincts as I jaywalk (read: run quickly to avoid getting creamed by a car) to cross the street. It's a busy intersection, where residential meets commercial, with Hwy. 126 just a few yards away.

This is a real traffic safety issue, not an idled motorist handing out money, socks or food to a panhandler. Perhaps it'd be a better use of your time to worry about broken light signals than sign holders.

*Terra Williams
#KillTheAntiKindnessOrdinance
Eugene/Springfield*

PLAYING GAMES

Thank you for publishing the opinion of Hayden Rooke-Ley. His perspective is welcome, though uncomfortable as he strains not to offend.

I think it would also be helpful to include the opinion of a ping-pong player on the activities of the Supreme Court. Professional ping-pong players have a unique perspective on intelligence, and the Supreme Court is sorely lacking the wisdom a ping-pong player could provide.

DESIGN MATTERS BY JERRY DIETHELM

Runaway City Hall

A PUBLIC PROJECT HAS ESCAPED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The big surprise revealed about the new Eugene City Hall at the Wednesday, April 27, City Council work session was not that the cost had climbed from the original \$15 million to \$25 million. The surprise was that the council voted not to pause and become more knowledgeable and accountable for the situation. Councilor George Brown's motion to hold "at least one more session" on the project's budget, costs and financing went wanting when it failed to pass, garnering just three votes.

Some of the figures in the project-costs breakdown, given to councilors just days before the meeting, were often twice as high as previous estimates and expectations. The cost to tear down the old City Hall that was supposed to have cost \$1 million turned out to have cost \$2 million. The council had not been informed.

Architectural and engineering fees were now up \$1.3 million to a total of \$4.4 million, which would amount to 18 percent of the \$25 million total projected cost. A class "A" office building's professional fees would normally be in the range of 8-10 percent. Fees for the new federal courthouse were around 10 percent. "Please," said an architectural friend and colleague with a bad case of fee-envy, "get me one of these deals!"

It's sad that the designing of what is perhaps our most

important community symbol has been conducted without any real citizen participation. What should have been an open civic process has been out of the public eye for long periods of time and, for far more than anyone was aware of, out of the council's oversight.

Why did it take City Council a whole year to learn that the project was running seriously over budget? Where were the fiscal responsibility and the diligence that was due to question the cost increases for project management?

Why were there no regular monthly reports to council from the project's construction manager general contractor (CMGC), hired specifically to monitor and manage the projects costs during its design development, in the year since the council had agreed to increase the budget to \$17 million for a fourth floor?

There was no citizen's advisory committee formed to consult about the appropriateness of the building's design for Eugene or whether its earthquake preparedness should be set at a higher level than we build into our public schools.

There was no consultation in the space planning with such principle users as the city councilors as to whether or not they needed office space until long after the floor plans had been set.

There was never any plan to ask the citizens of Eugene whether they liked and wanted the building or whether they would be willing to pass a bond issue to pay for it the way we did for such others as the Hult Center and the Eugene Public Library. But there should have been.

This is the most secret and closely held public project in all of my 46 years in Eugene. Ironically, its subject is our most public building and civic symbol.

So what was the big hurry at the council workshop? My guess is to skip as fast as possible over any unwanted sunshine on the consequences of some irresponsible project management. It's time now, past time, for a time out.

The only way to sneak this one's costs in under the radar now is to break the radar.

Jerry Diethelm is a Eugene architect and planning and urban design consultant.

EUGENE CITY HALL PROJECTED COSTS

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET ADDING 4TH FLOOR	CURRENT ESTIMATED BUDGET
DESIGN/ADMINISTRATION	\$3,535,000	\$4,550,000	\$6,125,000
CONSTRUCTION	\$11,465,000	\$13,300,000	\$18,835,000
TOTAL PROJECTED COST	\$15,000,000	\$17,850,000	\$24,960,000



Cycle the Lovely Mohawk Valley! May 7, 2016

The 5th annual benefit bike ride for Oregon Supported Living Program's Arts & Culture Program

mohawkvalley100k.org

40K 60K 100K 100K+

Armitage Park, Eugene, OR






HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

May is National Historic Preservation Month! Join us in celebrating Eugene's history!

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Every Saturday in May - Booth at Saturday Market

May 7 - Friendly Neighborhood Walk, 1 PM

May 8 - Historic Architecture Scavenger Hunt

May 15 - Mid-Century Modern Tour, 11 AM

June 6 - City Landmark Workshop, 6 PM




For more information:
erik.berg@ci.eugene.or.us

www.eugene-or.gov/HP