

never were given a chance to vote on it, despite clear opposition to turning the major artery of Willamette Street into a two-lane road already burdened with many turn offs.

Capstone, the greatest blunder in Eugene planning since Ya-Po-Ah, will be a blight for decades; the lack of setbacks and landscaping is horrific.

But there is even more: A last-minute intervention kept Ruiz from ramming through the immensely unfair and unpopular South Willamette redevelopment plan. And, during all of this, Ruiz has walked daily through our downtown, seemingly unaware of or unable to address the most serious need of all: citizen safety.

It took a study to convince Ruiz what had been apparent to Eugeneans for years: Downtown "travelers" had taken over, intimidating us from enjoying our own town. For years, citizens were embarrassed of City Hall because Ruiz had ceased maintaining it. Worse, we have paid \$5 million for a pile of rubble (an independent audit of this is long past due).

And worst of all, Ruiz has just been stopped from raiding half of the Comcast \$419 million windfall to expand this fiasco's budget by 46 percent.

It is time to thank Mr. Ruiz for his "service," and summarily show him the door.

Jaime Vasconcellos
Eugene

EUGENE'S LIMOUSINE LIBERALS

Limousine Liberal Bourgeois continue to rot their brains smoking tie-dye then passing toxic and narcissistic legislation. Their latest proposal is to demonize the homeless further by criminalizing dogs downtown and expanding our city's no-smoking ordinances — another deplorable assault on Traditional American Values by the Left.

There are many reasons to allow both dogs and smoking downtown or across the city in general: "Let the dogs roam free!" We have no reason to make criminals of otherwise law-abiding people and dogs.

Our City Council, mayor and city manager have repeatedly shown both incompetence and heartlessness. The city's public funds are completely wasted.

Eugene has real problems with drug abuse, domestic violence, poverty and hunger. How is our city supposed to solve these problems when our officials cannot get City Hall built within budget? Our city already wasted \$4 million dollars on concept design and advising, paying it to out-of-town corporations for City Hall.

In conclusion, dogs and smoking are cool. The city needs to prioritize women's safety over the welfare of criminal junkies. The People's Rights to Puppies or Cigarettes Shall Not Be Infringed, and delivering tampons for women should be a City Budget priority.

Stefan Streck
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