

A New Vision for West Eugene



West Eugene Collaborative
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Old Debate: New Roads vs. Protecting Wetlands



A New Approach: Collaboration

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Facilitation & Other Support

The Osprey Group



■ John Huyler
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Oregon Consensus Program



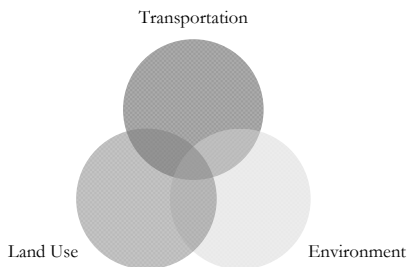
■ Elaine Hallmark ■ Gail McEwen
■ Jamie Damon ■ Tim McCabe

Over 4500 Volunteer Hours

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In-Kind Contributions

The Result? A New Integrated Vision



Recommendations in a Nutshell

A Win-Win

Transportation



- Improve existing routes
- Support all all modes of transportation:
car, truck, transit, bike, pedestrian



Land Use



- Intensify development where appropriate
- Ensure adequate land supply
- Ensure development is supported by adequate transportation facilities and services



Environment



- Protect and enhance natural resources: land, water, air—for health of both people and other species
- Enhance connections between people and natural environment

Elements of Recommendations

Eight Principles
Three Timeframes
One Vision



Area of Interest



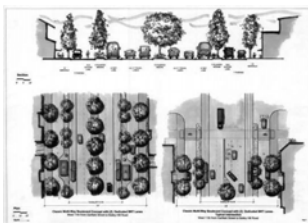
Area of Focus

1. Improve Efficiency of the Transportation Network

- Improve “inner alternative” route along West 5th and West 7th to Bailey Hill
- Improve “outer alternative” route along Roosevelt to Beltline
- Consider improvements to Highway 126
- Look for other opportunities to improve existing routes
- Over time, transform West 11th into multiway boulevard

Short Term Medium Term Long Term

What is a “Multiway Boulevard”?



- Supports through and local traffic
- Supports all modes of transportation: car, truck, transit, bike, pedestrian
- Consists of three “realms” separated by planted medians
- Through-going realm provides mid- to high-speed travel with limited access
- Transit realm provides a dedicated right-of-way for rapid transit
- Pedestrian realm provides store-front access, on-street parking, and a slow access lane for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and cars

Short Term Medium Term Long Term

2. Increase Public Transit

- Enhance public transit service in west Eugene, for example, with EmX
- Over time, add dedicated transit lanes along West 11th as part of multiway boulevard
- Multiway boulevard also provides better store-front access to transit riders turned pedestrians

Short Term Medium Term Long Term

3. Enhance Pedestrian Paths and Bikeways

- Construct safety improvements to pedestrian and bicycle paths throughout the corridor
- Add striped bicycle lanes along West 5th and West 7th
- Provide safe connections and improved signage to and from the Fern Ridge Path
- Increase the number of bikes LTD vehicles can carry



Short Term Medium Term Long Term

4. Intensify Development Appropriately

- Limit further encroachment into needed right-of-way along West 11th
- Consider applying an overlay zone, similar to the "Southwest Whiteaker Special Zone," to certain industrial areas in west Eugene
- As multiway boulevard is built, encourage mixed-use development along West 11th
- Encourage mixed-use developments between West 11th Avenue and Amazon Creek



Short Term Medium Term Long Term

5. Relocate Some Land Uses

- Complete the Eugene Comprehensive Lands Assessment (ECLA)
- Review the land supply for residential, commercial and industrial development
- Rezone publicly-owned and private conservation areas to a natural resources designation
- Consider relocating some land uses, especially industrial uses



Short Term Medium Term Long Term

6. Enhance Open Spaces and Natural Resources

- Define and protect key habitat corridors in west Eugene area, including additional wetlands, adjoining wet prairie, and connections with oak savannah and forest



Short Term Medium Term Long Term

7. Enhance Natural Watershed



- Implement currently-planned Metro Waterways enhancements to Amazon Creek
- Improve Amazon Creek water quality
- Consider re-establishing cutthroat trout passage between Amazon Creek and Coyote Creek



Short Term Medium Term Long Term

8. Enhance Appreciation of and Connections to Natural Resources

- Support the construction and operation of the Environmental Education Center



Short Term

Medium Term

Long Term

Next Steps

- Public Involvement
- Technical Analysis
- Planning and Programming

Public Involvement

Community

- Broad public involvement and support, especially from key stakeholders, will be essential for *any* major improvements
- Public involvement must occur early and often
- Must involve realistic choices and trade offs

Technical Analysis

Staff and Consultants

- Major recommendations need to be “tested” through technical analysis to determine if they are feasible.

Planning and Programming

Policy Makers

- Ultimately, policy makers will need to adopt a vision for west Eugene and steps to get there
- Consideration of the WEC's recommendations should be part of current updates to transportation and land use plans
- Adoption of a vision with broad community support will facilitate securing federal and state funds



Results

New Vision with Recommended Actions
Model for Addressing Challenging Problems

www.odrc.state.or.us/WestEugeneForum.php