

Washington-Jefferson Park Public Safety Plan Summit

When and Where:

Meeting 1 - December 1 (Tuesday) 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Wells Fargo Building (99 East Broadway) 4th Floor - Lyle Room

Meeting 2 - December 8 (Tuesday) 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Wells Fargo Building (99 East Broadway) 4th Floor - Lyle Room

Overview:

Although it will be a positive transformation for the Washington-Jefferson park, a new skatepark under the bridge alone cannot solve the public safety problem in the area. In order to ensure rejuvenation of the park and long-term improvement of the neighborhood, there must be a significant commitment by the city of Eugene, its nonprofit partners, social service agencies, the community and neighbors, and the police department to develop and implement a public safety plan for the park and the surrounding neighborhood. ***The goal of the planned W-J Park Public Safety Plan Summit meetings is to create and implement a Public Safety Plan for the area.***

Background:

In 2006, after a multi-year public input process, the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Division issued a guiding plan for the parks system in Eugene. Building a regional downtown skatepark was identified as a Level 1 (the highest level) priority. In 2007, the Capital Improvement Program allocated \$292,000 to the construction of a regional covered skatepark in the city center. In 2008, the city conducted a public review process to consider locations for the skatepark and ultimately chose the park area under Washington-Jefferson Bridge between the existing basketball courts and the horseshoe area where the playground and bathroom is currently located.

In early 2009, the city and Skaters for Eugene Skateparks (SES) entered into a partnership agreement whereby SES committed to taking the lead on raising a minimum of \$200,000 to help fund the skatepark construction. In the early fall of 2009, the Downtown Rotary pledged to help SES by raising \$100,000 for the skatepark. Throughout the fall of 2009, the designer of the skatepark, world-renown Dreamland Skateparks, met regularly with skateboarders and other interested individuals to solicit input on the skatepark design. The final skatepark design is set to be unveiled in January 2010.

In addition to constructing the skatepark, the overall W-J park rejuvenation plan includes improving many components of the park, including re-landscaping to improve visibility and access and relocating the bathroom to provide a safer and more functional facility. The current budget for the skatepark construction is approximately \$550,000 and the budget for the relocating the bathroom is approximately \$200,000. Remaining funding must be obtained by April, 2010, for construction to begin in 2010.

Proposed Agenda – Meeting 1

1. Introductions
2. Overview of main elements related to public safety to be analyzed
 - a. Communications
 - i. e.g., monitoring cameras, emergency phone station, E-alert system
 - b. Design
 - i. e.g., bathroom location and design, re-landscaping, visibility, police vehicle access, lighting, signage
 - c. People
 - i. e.g., police, private security, park visitors and users, volunteers, neighbors, property owners
3. Identification of goals for the public safety plan
 - a. Survey of all invitees on their perspective of the goals
 - b. What resources are immediately available to help reach these goals?
 - i. (who, what, where, when, how)?
 - c. What else is needed in order to reach the goals?
 - i. (who, what, where, when, how much)?
4. Set agenda for Meeting 2

Invitees:

Doug Harclerod

Kari Johnson, Whiteaker Community Council Chair

David Robinson, Free People Eugene

Eric VanHouten, Looking Glass

Kevin Foerstler, City of Eugene Park Amenities Supervisor

Emily Proudfoot, Parks and Open Space Landscape Architect

Carrie Peterson, Park Development Coordinator

Neil Bjorklund, Parks and Open Space Planning Manager

Officer Thomas Schulke, Eugene Police

Officer Tom Haywood, Eugene Police

Sergeant Scott McKee, Eugene Police

Tod Schneider, Eugene Police

Lieutenant Pete Deshpande, Eugene Police

Andrea Ortiz, Eugene City Council

Judge Darryl Larson

Mike Spaeth, ODOT

Jeff Petry, Eugene Parking Services Manager

Mark Snyder, Eugene Urban Forester

Terry Smith, Eugene Parks Foundation

Downtown Rotary Skatepark Committee

Skaters for Eugene Skateparks Board Members