



## Join Us this Fall!

Second Tuesday of the month, 6:30-8:30PM, online or in person location TBD. Agendas posted in the eNews, on Facebook, and on the JWN website at [jwneugene.org](http://jwneugene.org).

### JWN Fall 2020 General Meeting Schedule

September 8, 6:30PM, in person at Monroe Park (Board Elections)  
 October 13  
 November 10

### JWN eNews

Sign up for the JWN monthly eNews and special events/alerts at [jwneugene.org/news/newsletter](http://jwneugene.org/news/newsletter) or email [jwneugene@gmail.com](mailto:jwneugene@gmail.com).

### JWN on the Web



Keep up on relevant news and events in the neighborhood by finding us on

Twitter [@jeffersonwests1](https://twitter.com/jeffersonwests1), Facebook [JWNEugene](https://www.facebook.com/JWNEugene), and Instagram [@jefferson\\_westside\\_neighbors](https://www.instagram.com/jefferson_westside_neighbors).

## Meeting the Moment: Strong Communities and Getting in Good Trouble Make Change Possible

Ted M. Coopman, JWN Chair

*“Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America by getting in what I call good trouble, necessary trouble.”*  
 Civil Rights Leader and Congressman John Lewis

As an activist for more than 25 years and a neighborhood leader for the last 4, I know that power concedes nothing without a demand. But if you make that demand, and wait for government or anyone else to meet it, you will be waiting a long time. Whether it is social justice or meaningfully addressing homelessness, the primary problem is not what is or was done, but what city leadership failed to do to meet the moment (as Councilor Semple explains in her article).



image created by Dave Hurst, JWN resident and former board chair

### ACTION → ACTivism

ACTivism requires ACTION. Protest’s power stems from organizing, getting people to show up, and articulating both the causes and solutions to collective pain. However, protest is easy; policy is hard. Meaningful change only happens with well-crafted and executed policy. Any social organization’s purpose, whether a protest movement, a nonprofit, or a neighborhood association, is to advocate for and craft specific policies that address community needs.

Passivity—waiting, hoping, or expecting others to act—makes you complicit in the continuation of the challenges we face as a nation, state, city, and neighborhood. While it can seem overwhelming, any problem is a series of small problems. (continued on page 2)

## Who Are We?



Does  
Jefferson  
Westside  
Neighbors  
have an  
identity  
crisis? We  
recently

learned that

some in the Whiteaker neighborhood refer to JWN as Whiteaker Heights. And a number of people think that at least part of JWN is in the Whiteaker. There are those living near Willamette Street who call their neighborhood Midtown. Others affectionately refer to the JWN as Jeff-West. What do you say when someone asks you what neighborhood you live in? Have you heard of any other (polite) nicknames that have been bestowed upon the JWN? Do we need to do a better job of branding ourselves or are we happy to be slightly anonymous with a touch of a reputation for rabble-rousing? We'd like to hear your comments. Please write [jwneugene@gmail.com](mailto:jwneugene@gmail.com).

## JWN Board Members

### Chair

Ted M. Coopman

### Vice Chair

to be elected

### At-Large Members

Sue Cummings

Eric Dil

+ 3 to be elected

(continued from page 1) Addressing bigger issues partly involves individual acts, as with the Kindness Campaign. While you alone can't solve global climate change, you can drive less, plant trees, and support climate-friendly businesses and elected officials in their efforts to reduce carbon emissions.



JWN volunteers @ Monroe Park July 2020

## Get in Good Trouble: Volunteer

You have the power to create a welcoming, compassionate, and hate-free neighborhood by building a community that demonstrates and fosters those ideals. More than 25 neighbors volunteer over 800 hours at Monroe Park every year, a value

of nearly \$20,000 to the city. This work creates a clean, green, and safe place that all people can enjoy. It is a beacon of welcome and caring. If everyone who reads this would commit to volunteer JUST ONE HOUR per month, we could change Eugene. One thousand people at one hour per month in one year is 12,000 hours! As with all pivotal moments in history, when we look back at these times, what we did or failed to do to meet our collective challenges will impact who we are, how we view ourselves, and how others view us. Did we meet the moment and make a difference or passively accept the world as it unfolded? Now is the time to create the world and the neighborhood we want to inhabit. Volunteer today. Contact us at [jwneugene@gmail.com](mailto:jwneugene@gmail.com).

*"An upward movement, initiated in time, can counteract fate."*

## Ready for Better Broadband?

Better, faster, cheaper, and locally-operated internet service is only a few blocks away from the JWN. Eugene-based XSMedia, which operates the EUGNET fiber system downtown, is open to expanding into residential neighborhoods; the JWN's location makes us a good candidate. Better, faster, cheaper internet service also could attract businesses and help existing firms expand, including home-based businesses and remote workers. Currently, those within the fiber area pay a fixed rate for unlimited gigabit service (super-fast - 100x faster than average internet service - or download an HD movie in 7 seconds!). The likeliest path is from a hub up W. 10<sup>th</sup> Alley and branching out from there. Interested? Contact us at [jwneugene@gmail.com](mailto:jwneugene@gmail.com) with a yes or maybe and an address or approximate location.



## Making City Government Work It's Harder Than It Seems

*Emily Semple, Ward 1 City Councilor and JWN resident*

When I decided to run for City Council, I hoped to make effective changes and find innovative, equitable solutions. It's a lot harder than I thought. I'm only 12.5% of Council decisions—one vote out of eight. Topics can take a long time to make it onto the agenda and then rarely are covered quickly. It's incredibly frustrating.

Eugene has a strong manager, weak mayor/council form of government. Council members make policy decisions and the manager makes (or doesn't make) them happen. When I ran for my first term, there was talk of changing our city charter to a strong mayor/council and weak manager.

As Eugene grows, we will need full-time councilors who are able to get deeper into city operations. Until that happens, we are fortunate to have a new City Manager, Sarah Medary, who has 26 years of experience working for the City, and the ability, dedication enthusiasm to show us what a great city manager can do. Already she has grappled with pandemic emergencies, racial injustice protests, police reform, budget demands, financial and job recovery, a desperate housing crisis, and, especially, sheltering people who are unhoused.

Over and over again I've asked and advocated for many of the same solutions since I started, including caring for the homeless and our neighborhood with sensitive housing incentives and constraints. There usually was a reason why something could not be done, although sometimes that reason didn't surface until after the project started.



With the many unforeseen challenges ahead and our rising energy and commitment to change, we have the opportunity we've been waiting for. The door is open, but not forever. It's going to take all of us—neighbors, service providers, faith communities, businesses, everyone!—to join together. We can be the powerful force of communication, cooperation, and caring, bringing sustainable, workable, just and fair solutions into reality. It's time. We

can do this. *Join Councilor Semple September 17 and October 14 6:30-8PM for Ward 1 Zoom Town Halls. Details at [emilysemple.org](http://emilysemple.org).*

## JWN Executive Board Elections

**September 8, 6:30PM**

**Monroe Park**

*in-person, masked, outdoor,  
socially distanced*

We were unable to hold scheduled elections in April due to COVID-19. Currently, the JWN Executive Board has just three of the seven members called for in the JWN bylaws. Our bylaws also require an in-person meeting for board member elections. Below is our plan to hold those elections at the JWN September 8 general meeting.

### Meeting Plan

Potential candidates have answered a series of questions related to their interest in serving on the Board. Their responses are posted on the JWN website at [jwneugene.org](http://jwneugene.org) along with the link to a recoding of the August JWN General Meeting (via Zoom) in which the candidates answered members' questions. If you had this newsletter mailed to your address, you are eligible to vote. JWN members are homeowners, renters, business owners or managers, and nonprofit directors who live in, own property, or have operations in the JWN. On September 8, we will assemble at 6:30PM, vote for each position, and then adjourn.



## Join JWN Discussions on Family-Friendly, Intergenerational Housing

*Paul Conte, former JWN Board Chair and JWN resident*

Following through on a motion by a previous JWN Executive Board, a local group is encouraging JWN members to participate in discussions about developing permanent, family-friendly, intergenerational housing on the old Naval Reserve site in the 1400 block of W. 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. The vacant lot is immediately to the west of the Faith Center and across W. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. from César E. Chávez Elementary School. The dwelling units would be partially or fully subsidized to keep rents affordable. The development would be a model for “healthy” living, incorporating design features to protect the safety and enhance quality of life for residents, including addressing the threats of viral epidemics.

JWN members, including Ward 1 City Councilor Emily Semple and I, are coordinating the community discussions. No plan has been “pre-cooked” or decided on in advance by the City or public housing agencies. The community discussion process will take all the time needed to ensure there’s a genuine opportunity for meaningful engagement by surrounding residents and property owners, parents and teachers of César Chávez students, and members of the Faith Center and Unitarian Universal Church and other organizations.

*Family-friendly* (also called *child-friendly*) housing includes specific siting and design elements for younger children (generally 12 years old or younger) and their families to ensure safety and mental, physical, and emotional health. *Intergenerational housing* integrates design and management elements that enable elder residents to provide support for families (not necessarily their own) in a shared development. The experiences with COVID-19 have amplified previous efforts on designing healthy buildings. For example, the need is now well-established for heating and ventilation systems that prevent circulation of viruses by incorporating filtered air circulation and/or independent fresh air circulation for each unit.

Please join in this exciting neighborhood pursuit. To learn more, visit [trusttheneighbors.org/family-friendly-housing](https://trusttheneighbors.org/family-friendly-housing) or contact Paul Conte at [paul.t.conte@gmail.com](mailto:paul.t.conte@gmail.com) or 541.344.2552.



## JWN Submits Report on COVID-19 Homelessness Response Failures

The JWN submitted a 15-page report detailing how the city and county policies suspending the camping ban in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic and failing to provide adequate sheltering sites with sanitation devastated the neighborhood. Neighbors repeatedly begged for managed temporary shelter sites, not only for the sake of the unhoused, but to stem the widespread trash, crime, noise, drug use, and use of public and private property as toilets that came with the ad hoc camps. The JWN had to advocate for portable toilets and handwashing stations at the camps in our parks. Starting in early April, we pushed for a post-lockdown exit strategy, which never happened. Instead, campers simply were swept up with no place to go. This avoidable situation launched a coalition of neighborhoods, service providers, and the faith community to demand the city do its job and meaningfully address the lack of safe, hygienic shelter. Visit the JWN website at [jwneugene.org](https://jwneugene.org) for the full report.



*trash after sweep of south side of Westmoreland Park June 2020*

## JWN Annual Neighborhood Priorities Survey Results

Every year the JWN Board sends out a survey to identify members' concerns and get feedback for the year's agenda. Shortly before COVID-19 struck, 102 neighbors completed the survey. Similar to previous surveys, the top public safety concern was unsafe pedestrian/biking conditions, followed by property crime (petty theft/bike and home/auto). Additional concerns largely focused on the negative impacts of homelessness (trash/camping), crime and the need for more police, and the poor sidewalk and street conditions. The top two concerns for quality of life were illegal camping and cost of living. Write-in comments included the need for more and better



*Trees contribute to the JWN's appeal.*

density/infill and improved protection of green spaces, parks, and trees.

Its central location is what people reported liking most about the JWN. In written comments, respondents also mentioned trees, ease of walking and cycling, and friendly neighbors as what they like about the JWN. For projects in the coming year,

respondents were interested in finding common ground on housing infill as well as adding more neighborhood businesses, better transportation infrastructure, building community, more events, promoting safety, and addressing homelessness. In addition, we gained about 25 new volunteers!

## Coalition Acts to Shift Public Safety Strategy and Funds on Homelessness

Spurred on by the failed city and county COVID-19 pandemic response for the unhoused and frustrated with the meandering and ineffectual strategies to provide shelter and reduce harm for the unhoused and the negative impacts of homeless camping, Heather Sielicki of White Bird and Laurie Hauber of Oregon Legal Aid reached out to Ted M. Coopman, JWN chair. What the three discovered in their discussions was surprising agreement that: (1) government's response was inadequate and many realistic solutions had been thwarted by intransigent elements within city government; (2) those forces had pitted neighborhoods and advocates against each other to derail initiatives; and (3) there were some basic steps to begin to meaningfully mitigate public impacts and harm to the unhoused.

With endorsements from 20 leaders of homeless service providers, 7 neighborhood association boards, leaders of 4 other neighborhoods, several members of the faith community, and a host of individuals, the group submitted "Where Can People Go? City of Eugene Homeless Services Immediate Policy Recommendations" to City Council. The document calls for:

- ❖ defining places where people may legally shelter and where they may not;
- ❖ taking a public health and safety approach to camping enforcement during the COVID-19 emergency;
- ❖ removing Eugene Police from responding to initial calls for illegal camping;
- ❖ creating CAHOOTS-style response teams to make contact, educate, mitigate impacts, and direct people to services and/or more appropriate camp locations; and
- ❖ establishing an alternative dispatch and one-point-of-contact report system to consolidate and organize data.

These are strategies used successfully in other cities. Public camping still would be illegal, but until we can expand managed temporary shelters, these recommendations would allow a measured and as-needed response. Go to the JWN website at [jwneugene.org](http://jwneugene.org) for the full Recommendations document.

## Mama Mayra's Kitchen – Homemade Mexican Food

*Sue Cummings, JWN Board Member*

Mama Mayra's Kitchen is located in the Jefferson Westside Plaza on Blair Boulevard, one of our most vibrant neighborhood commercial districts. Carlos and Mayra Medina began their business about five years ago. Starting off with a food truck, their delectable fare became so popular that they decided to make the leap to a full-size restaurant. They are happy with their location in the heart of the Jefferson Westside neighborhood, situated near a prominent and lively intersection.



764 Blair Boulevard, 541-606-1823, 8AM-7PM Monday - Saturday  
View the full menu and current offerings at [mamamayraskitchen.com](http://mamamayraskitchen.com)

Mama Mayra's serves tasty homemade Mexican food with the special touch of fresh daily handmade tortillas and flavorful salsas.

The restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The most popular savory items are tacos and burritos, but the menu also includes a wide selection of other flavorful dishes like tortas and full plate meals with empanadas, chile rellenos or tamales, to name a few. The Medinas care about their customers' health and take pride in cooking with fresh ingredients. Their offerings include organic ingredients with vegan and gluten-free options available. They claim to have the best Mexican food in Eugene and many satisfied customers agree.

Mama Mayra's currently is offering a full menu of items for pick-up. It is best to order ahead. The indoor seating area of the friendly restaurant also is open and the staff are careful to follow social distancing guidelines. The inside space is perfect for small family gatherings as well as casual get togethers with friends. The Medinas enjoy seeing the satisfied faces of their customers. Experience for yourself their love of cooking delicious food. Support this neighborhood treasure.

## Shop Local: Use It or Lose Our Neighborhood Businesses

One of the many advantages of living in the JWN is all the outstanding local businesses right next door. Due to COVID-19, many have had to close or limit operations. With government grants and aid running out, our local businesses are in trouble. Many of us have gotten into the habit of shopping online. Local businesses help create a neighborhood's culture. If we do not support them, we may find ourselves without the convenience and with a less vibrant JWN. Visit a JWN business today!





## Lane County, JWN and DNA Collaborate on Good Neighbor Agreement for New MAT Clinic

*Anya Dobrowolski, JWN resident*

The Lane County Medication-Assisted Treatment Program provides outpatient chemical dependency treatment for adults with opiate addictions. In addition to treatment with methadone and buprenorphine, patients at the LCMAT receive individual and group counseling to build resilience and skills to move toward a life free of opioid dependency. The service is open to Oregonians who are able to attend daily treatment.

The LCMAT Clinic soon will relocate to the long-vacant building at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Washington Street in the JWN. Lane County Health staff, neighborhood association chairs from JWN and Downtown Neighbors Association, and three other JWN neighbors together are developing the LCMAT Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA). The goals of this agreement are to foster good will between the LCMAT and neighbors, establish expectations for appearance and security of the LCMAT property among other priorities, to ensure that there are clear lines of communication and ways to resolve concerns between neighboring residents and businesses and LCMAT, and to destigmatize the clients receiving treatment who are doing the hard work to better themselves.



Highlights of the GNA include:

- ❖ Information on whom to call for non-urgent concerns and more information on the LCMAT;
- ❖ Contacts for urgent matters;
- ❖ Guidance on gauging the necessity for a law enforcement or CAHOOTS response in uncomfortable situations;
- ❖ Commitments to educate patients on how to be good neighbors; and
- ❖ Establishment of a Community Advisory Committee that neighbors can access to express concerns.

So far, the team has met twice. Lane County staff has worked diligently to incorporate feedback in multiple iterations of the document. We expect the GNA to be completed by the end of August and will share it with our neighborhood.

## Making Space for Microsites in the JWN

*Eric Dil, JWN Board Member*

Our neighborhood could set an example to contribute to a first step in housing of our unhoused neighbors by creating at least one but ideally several microsites. A microsite is a location that offers shelter—no more than six Conestoga huts or tents per City Code 4.8.16—to currently unhoused neighbors. A nonprofit social service provider supports the microsite residents, maintaining and supervising the site. Community Supported Shelters (CSS) currently manages the two existing microsites, one at Skinner City Farm the other on land provided by Eugene Mission. Microsites are fenced to guarantee privacy and safety for both residents and neighbors.

The city of Eugene tries to find workable sites for microsites. Sites must be flat and dry, have road access, be located outside environmentally-sensitive areas, and have access to public transportation and services. At the July 14, 2020, JWN general meeting via Zoom, JWN board members along with Sarai Johnson and Peter Chavannes (representatives of the city and county) conducted a first reflection with neighbors about microsites and their potential for the JWN. The board would like to continue that conversation and with the help of our neighbors identify potential locations for microsites in our neighborhood. Find out more about microsites in Eugene at [eugene-or.gov/4491/Microsites](http://eugene-or.gov/4491/Microsites).

## JEFFERSON WESTSIDE NEIGHBORS

% Neighborhood Program

99 W 10th Avenue

Eugene, OR 97401



PRESORTED STANDARD

US POSTAGE PAID

EUGENE, OR 97401

PERMIT NO. 377

## JWN@Work 2020

*And the year isn't over yet!*

- ✓ Membership approved four motions in February associated with HB 2001, public involvement, land use and density, and extension of MUPTE on 7th Ave. View the motions on the JWN website at [jwneugene.org](http://jwneugene.org).
- ✓ Conducted annual Neighborhood Priorities Survey.
- ✓ Made and bottled 200 hand sanitizers for distribution to residents in supported housing.
- ✓ Developed and mailed COVID-19 resource flyer to all JWN addresses.
- ✓ Created and sent out COVID-19 response eNews.
- ✓ Submitted report to city and county on impacts to the Jefferson Westside neighborhood by Lane County's policy on homeless camping and the City of Eugene's actions during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order.
- ✓ Launched Staying Together, Apart community outreach photo project.
- ✓ Transitioned to Zoom video conferencing for general meetings.
- ✓ At members' requests, held additional summer general meetings.
- ✓ Coordinated with Downtown Neighbors Association and Lane County Health and Human Services to draft a Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA) for the MAT Clinic on W. 11th.
- ✓ Coordinated with EWEB and EPD to address Jefferson and 15th substation crime issues.
- ✓ Coordinated with Homes for Good on outreach for planned permanent supportive housing at Lane Events Center.
- ✓ Started process for establishing a residential parking permit zone around Monroe Park.
- ✓ Organized four work parties at Monroe Park and two at Jefferson Dog Off Leash Area.
- ✓ Worked with city on issues with 15th Ave. traffic circles and speeding on Polk.
- ✓ Created new version of bilingual JWN yard signs.
- ✓ Started campaign to bring gigabit fiber internet access to the JWN.

