



JEFFERSON WESTSIDE NEIGHBORS

COLLABORATING • LEADING • ADVOCATING

Join Us this Fall!

JWN general meetings are the second Tuesday of the month, 6:30-8:30PM. In-person meetings are at the First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St. On-line meetings are via Zoom. Agendas and Zoom links (as needed) are posted in the eNews, on Facebook, and on the JWN website at jwneugene.org.

JWN Fall 2022 General Meeting Schedule

- September 13 (in person)
- October 11 (Zoom)
- November 8 (Zoom)
- no December meeting

JWN eNews

Sign up for the JWN monthly eNews and special events/alerts at jwneugene.org/news/newsletter or email jwneugene@gmail.com.

JWN on the Web



Keep up on all the latest news and events in the neighborhood by finding us on Twitter @jeffersonwests1, Facebook JWNEugene, and Instagram @jefferson_westside_neighbors.



Neighbors & Friends Celebrate JWN's 20th Anniversary

Nearly 150 neighbors and friends gathered together at Monroe Park on the evening of July 26 to celebrate the JWN's 20th anniversary at the neighborhood's annual picnic. Music, laughter, and engaging conversations connected the hardy attendees who braved the nearly 100 degree temperature to mark this key milestone in the JWN's history. Here are a few highlights from the event.

* The Williwaws treated picnickers to the lively sounds of their enchanting music. Band members Leif Karlstrom, Brittany Erickson, and Sean Peterson played their innovative folk/bluegrass tunes.

* Sluggo, the Emeralds baseball team's mascot, arrived in an Arcimoto, an ultra efficient EV, greeted neighbors, and posed for photos.



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- * Long-time resident and past JWN board member Cary Thompson regaled the crowd with a brief history lesson on the JWN (read it on page 3).
- * Former Slug Queen Kara Steffensen announced the winners of the raffle for gift cards from Amber’s Barbershop, Cornucopia, Hot Mama’s Wings, New Frontier Market, and Cornbread Cafe.
- * Cynthia Black and Liza Burns livened up the evening with art activities and face painting.
- * Rebecca Williams and the local Boys & Girls Club kept kids entertained with imaginative activities and fun games.



Along with the food they brought from home, attendees munched on traditional and vegan hot dogs courtesy of the Emeralds baseball team. To satisfy everyone’s sweet tooth, Emeralds General Manager Allan Benavides and the team donated two scrumptious Sweet Life Patisserie sheet cakes and Sweet Life donated a vegan and gluten-free cake. The Emeralds also gave out 100 vouchers for 2 free tickets to an Ems home game. And to truly get into the Ems’ spirit and celebrate the JWN’s 20th anniversary, the team had a photo booth where attendees could get their photos taken with the JWN and Emeralds logos.



Several community groups and organizations set up informational booths beside the basketball court, including Beyond Toxics, 350 Eugene, the Burrito Brigade, Fossil Free Eugene, NAACP, Helping the Homeless Lane County, Hosea Youth Services, Acorn Cafe/86 Hunger, and Oregon State University Extension Service Lane County. Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group and Sara van Dyck provided materials about native bees. The Emerald Valley Electric Vehicle Association displayed electric vehicles along Broadway. EWEB staff explained the new emergency water station at the Lane Event Center. ShelterCare accepted donations for the organization’s supply drive.



Many thanks to all who attended and made the JWN’s 20th anniversary picnic such a success. We appreciate the support of our local elected officials, including Ward 1 City Councilor Emily Semple, Ward 8 City Councilor Randy Groves, and District 3 Lane County Commissioner Laurie Trieger. Thanks also to Grace Fellowship Church, which once again generously provided tables and chairs. Special thanks to the picnic committee’s co-chairs Sue Cummings and Susan Connolly as well as committee members Paul Bodin, Cary Thompson, Rene Kane, and poster designer Dave Hurst. Volunteers put in more than 100 hours organizing and staffing this event—just another example of what makes the JWN awesome.



A Brief History of Our Neighborhoods

Stronger together over the last 20 years

Cary D. Thompson, JWN resident and former board member

The Westside School Shuffle

Lincoln School was originally housed in a wood frame structure built in 1909 and located on the south half of the Monroe Park site. In 1924, Woodrow Wilson Junior High opened in a new building on West 12th Avenue between Jefferson and Madison, where the Lincoln School building now stands. When Eugene High moved to its present location on East 19th Avenue in 1953 and was renamed South Eugene High School, Wilson Junior High moved to the old high school building on the northeast corner of West 18th and Lincoln, now the Cove Church property across from Cornucopia Restaurant. Lincoln School was then moved to the former Wilson Junior High building on West 12th and Jefferson. In fall 1982, Lincoln School closed as an education facility.

Lincoln School continued as a Community Center for the next few years. In 1985, an advisory committee decided that if the City were not interested in purchasing the school building, then a portion of the property should be retained under public ownership. The outcome was a Community Garden, a playground, and the Uhlhorn Apartments (for people with traumatic brain injuries) that were developed and remain today. Also a part of the agreement was to move the building that is now the McNeil Riley House and a community meeting center to the corner of Jefferson and West 13th Avenue.



Monroe Park

Land for park development was acquired in 1954. In 1972, a city-wide ballot measure set aside funds to purchase the entire block to create Monroe Park. At that time there was a baseball diamond at the corner of West 10th and Monroe plus a small building housing the West Eugene Boxing Association (WEBA) at West 10th and Adams. In late 1977, the baseball diamond and WEBA building were removed. Several houses along West Broadway were purchased by the City, sold to interested parties, and moved to other locations. One remaining large house at 10th and Adams was not an easy sell. A deal was made and the house moved to 11th and Taylor.

The basketball court and playground were built. A large landscaped mound feature was designed. Rumor has it the remaining rubble from the houses that were moved is buried underneath. The celebration for the grand opening of Monroe Park was held on August 12, 1978, 44 years ago.



Neighborhoods Join Together

Jefferson Area Neighbors plus the Westside Neighborhood Quality Project became Jefferson Westside Neighbors 20 years ago. When the McNeil Riley House became the location for neighborhood meetings, both groups held separate meetings in the beginning. Then it was decided to merge the two neighborhoods into a larger, stronger single group. Neighbors decided they were better together. The merger was completed in 2002, named JWN, Jefferson Westside Neighbors.

Support These Local Businesses That Support Your Neighborhood!

The businesses below provided gift cards and donations for this year's annual picnic. When you visit them, mention that you read about them in the JWN Newsletter.

Cornucopia Restaurant

Nils Stark and the 17th Ave. Cornucopia have been strong JWN supporters for many years. Consistently voted Eugene's Favorite Burger, Cornucopia is a local institution serving lunch and dinner daily, with the best in locally-sourced modern pub fare and craft beverages. Cornucopia at W. 17th and Lincoln, has been extensively remodeled and offers a neighborhood feel with a large outdoor beer garden and sidewalk seating.



Hot Mama's Wings

Located at 420 W. 13th Ave., Hot Mama's Wings also has burgers, sandwiches, and a full bar. This award-winning restaurant has a from-scratch kitchen focused on fresh, high-quality ingredients and uses all-natural hormone- and antibiotic-free chicken, turkey, beef, and pork.



Cornbread Cafe

Situated at the corner of W. 7th Ave. and Polk, Cornbread Cafe is a fun, affordable, sustainable, community-oriented restaurant serving delectable vegan comfort food. Its reputation goes far beyond the JWN, winning numerous awards from a 10 Best Lunch Spot in Oregon to Best Restaurant and Vegan food in the state.



Amber's Barbershop

Noted for impeccable service, friendly stylists, and a tidy shop, you can find Amber's Barbershop at 20 W. 17th Ave. Walk ins only, so no hassling with a schedule or appointments.

New Frontier Market

The 107-year-old-neighborhood landmark is located at 1101 W. 8th Ave. New Frontier Market offers a convenient place that is a short walk or bike ride away for produce and staples as well as an excellent selection of beer and wine and now hot food. For all these reasons and more the market is a much-loved JWN landmark.



Eugene Emeralds Minor League Baseball Team

Founded in 1955, the Emeralds (aka los Monarcas de Eugene) baseball team has been a Eugene institution for decades. The team is a member of the Northwest League and is affiliated with the San Francisco Giants. Under General Manager Allan Benavides, the team won league championships in 2016, 2018, and 2021. Known for its generous support of numerous Eugene nonprofits, the Emeralds recently stepped up and helped with Monroe Park work parties and our annual picnic. Good family fun. Catch the next game!



Get informed. Get engaged. Get involved.

We ♥ Renters!

Did you know 75% of Jefferson Westside residents are renters?

Have a say in the future of YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

JWN Historic District Task Force

Jefferson Westside Neighbors and areas west of the downtown commercial district are some of Eugene’s oldest neighborhoods. Most homes were built in the 1800s to the mid-1940s. Examples range from grand Queen Anne Victorian structures to more modest and ubiquitous Craftsman bungalows. Combined with our larger old tree canopy, the JWN is the historic heart of Eugene.



1910



1928

Hoping to avoid the fate of other older urban neighborhoods that have succumbed to poorly-designed infill redevelopment, the JWN executive board voted at its July meeting to form a task force that will explore creating a historic district. Preserving older homes is not only important to our culture and heritage, but is environmentally sound—an older home’s carbon debt has long since been paid. Upgrading an existing structure for energy efficiency is far less carbon intensive, and more effective, than demolishing a home and building a new house.



1905

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1947

Preservation is not about preventing density. The JWN already is the second densest neighborhood in Eugene with an extensive inventory of middle housing, much of it historic like the Lincoln School Condominiums. Preservation is about protecting the neighborhood’s historic character and context and putting that history front

and center for any new development.



1901

Forming a task force is just the first step, with the goal of collecting enough information to start a larger neighborhood discussion, the first of which will be at the JWN’s October General Meeting.

JWN Board Members

Chair

Ted M. Coopman

Vice Chair

Duncan Rhodes

At-Large Members

- Susan Connolly
- Stephanie Coopman
- Sue Cummings
- Joyce Graves
- Rene Kane

Jefferson Westside Neighbors (JWN) is the City-chartered neighborhood for the area roughly between W. 7th and 18th Avenues and between Chambers Street and Lawrence/ Willamette Streets.

- **Who is a JWN member? YOU!** Anyone (renter or owner) who lives or owns a business in the JWN.
- **Why get involved?** To be an active and informed member of the community and help keep the JWN a great neighborhood for everyone.
- **How do I get involved?** Subscribe to our eNews, bookmark our website, follow/like us on Facebook, or just come to our meetings the second Tuesday of every month (Sept-May).

Lane Events Center Update

The Lane County Board of Commissioners is considering the development of a publicly-owned multi-use facility at the Lane Events Center. With the Eugene Emeralds as an anchor tenant, a new facility would be available to host other sports competitions and events and serve as an emergency shelter for the community.

Project Timeline

Since December 2021, Lane County staff have researched the potential facility’s size, cost, financing options, and operating models, as well as conducted an analysis of traffic, lighting, sound, and similar impacts. The Board of Commissioners is expected to make a decision about the multi-use facility this winter.



Project Context

The multi-use facility would cover about 7 acres of the LEC’s 55 acres and would be located on the northwest corner, with the stadium bowl oriented (open end) toward the southeast. No buildings would be torn down to accommodate the facility and no other regular events would be impacted by facility activities. In fact, some regular events may move to the facility, as with Lane County Fair concerts.

The proposed small stadium portion of the multi-use facility would have space for about 4500. In comparison, the Matthew Knight Arena seats 12,364. Major LEC events like the Home Show have daily attendance over 20,000. The biggest event, the Lane County Fair, has daily attendance of 15,000–24,000 on weekdays and 20,000–32,000 on weekends. The average attendance at an Emeralds game is 3000–3500 with the average number of vehicles about 1300. LEC currently has over 2500 parking spaces, more than enough to handle fans.

Funding for the Project

The Oregon Legislature approved \$7.5 million for the proposed publicly-owned facility. The Ems have committed \$10 million in exchange for a 20-year lease. The balance of the estimated \$45 million for the facility will come from external state and federal funding sources and an increase in the Transient Room Tax (currently 4.5%) paid by visitors staying in Lane County hotels and vacation rentals. The Lane Events Center is self-supporting, which means that it secures the money needed to operate it through events and vendors’ rentals. *No tax money generated by Lane County residents will be diverted to LEC operations or construction.*

The county is seeking funds from the federal government to “harden” the facility against earthquakes so it can provide a resilient shelter space for emergencies. The LEC already has an EWEB emergency water well and pump. In the event of a serious emergency, the LEC would serve as a shelter and hub for relief efforts.

Stay Informed

For updates on the decision-making process, background materials, new information as the process unfolds, opportunities for input, and to sign up for project e-updates, visit LaneCountyOR.gov/LEC_Update. Also visit the JWN’s LEC page at jwneugene.org. Contact project staff at LCLECMultiuse@LaneCountyOR.gov or 541-682-1220.

Your Neighbors Working With and For You

Neighborhood volunteers contributed over 1500 hours in July 2021 – June 2022!

While we always are working on something, a few major projects stand out.

Naval Reserve Site Affordable Housing (13th and Chambers)

After holding several public meetings and conducting a survey, the next step is for the city to release a Request for Proposals. So far Homes for Good and Cornerstone Community Housing are the only operators to express interest. Both are enthusiastic about neighbors' desire for an early childhood development component; ECCares and Head Start are involved. Special thanks to the Eugene Faith Center for hosting meetings and the Unitarian Universalist Church, Cesar Chavez Elementary School, and 4J for their active involvement.

Shelter Space

JWN board members worked with Mayor Vinis and the City of Eugene in successfully lobbying for state funds to expand sanctioned campsites. Our goal is to have enough shelter space to reduce or eliminate unsanctioned camping in public spaces. In addition, JWN Board Chair Ted M. Coopman is serving on the Eugene Chamber of Commerce's Business Leaders Taskforce on Homelessness and is on the group's sub-committees that are analyzing data and establishing accountability metrics.

West Eugene United Group (W-EUG)

The JWN has organized the W-EUG, which includes 3 West Eugene neighborhood associations (JWN, Churchill Area Neighbors, Active Bethel Community); at-large representatives from Far West and the Whiteaker; 11 businesses; 4 nonprofit organizations; the Eugene Chamber of Commerce; City Councilors Emily Semple (Ward 1), Randy Groves (Ward 8), and Greg

Evans (Ward 6); and County Commissioners Laurie Trieger (District 3), Pat Far (District 4), and David Loveall (District 2). The group's mission is to cooperatively advance the interests and needs of West Eugene

business owners, managers, employees, residents, neighborhoods, and nonprofits together with elected officials to create policy that drives investment and improves West Eugene.

Persistent Street Camping and Abandoned Vehicles

The JWN worked with Councilors Semple and Groves and successfully applied pressure for an expansion of the Parking Services team. The JWN Board sent a letter to City Council requesting enhanced enforcement of willful violator RVs and trailers that regularly move around the neighborhood, often parked in front of homes and businesses for weeks. We also successfully lobbied for a residential parking permit (RPP) and two-hour parking zone around Monroe Park.

Funds for Active Transportation and Sidewalks

The JWN Board sent a letter to City Council supporting a larger percentage of the next Street Bond to active transportation infrastructure, such as bike paths and sidewalks. The board also supported a city grant application for public vehicle charging stations.

Implementing HB 2001

The JWN fought for greater and more meaningful public process and, along with four city councilors, for a more measured approach to implementing HB 2001. While unsuccessful, we did succeed in lowering maximum building heights and reducing allowed lot coverage, which will protect solar accessibility and the neighborhood's tree canopy.



JEFFERSON WESTSIDE NEIGHBORS

5 Neighborhood Program
99 W 10th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401



PRESORTED STANDARD

US POSTAGE PAID

EUGENE, OR 97401

PERMIT NO. 377

What Does the JWN Mean to You?

Complete Eugene's 2022 Community Survey on Neighborhoods

As part of the city's Engage Eugene initiative, the Office of Equity and Community Engagement is distributing a survey to assess what residents think is important in their neighborhood and what might be improved. The results will influence city policies for neighborhoods and Eugene as a whole. Your responses also will help the JWN Board know more about what neighbors appreciate in the JWN as well as their concerns.

The survey was developed by a group of neighborhood association board members from the Cal Young Neighborhood Association, River Road Community Organization, Whiteaker Community Council, and JWN, with assistance from the city's Neighborhoods Program staff. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete. All responses are confidential.

- * The online survey is in English at this address: tinyurl.com/3p7hs7dh
- * The online survey is in Spanish at this address: surveymonkey.com/r/BNHTXL3
- * Request a printed survey at this address: tinyurl.com/3p7hs7dh
- * Or scan one of the QR codes below with your phone.



English



Spanish

