



Bringing Oregonians Together

West Eugene Collaborative



WEC members raise "good-to-go" signs of agreement

Timeline

January 2007 – March 2009

Region

Willamette Valley

Participants

Active Bethel Citizens; Chambers Construction; Churchill Area Neighbors; City of Veneta; Eugene Association of Realtors; Eugene City Council; Eugene Mayor; Eugene Planning Commission; Eugene Public Works; Friends of Eugene; Lane Council of Governments; Lane County Commission; Lane Metro Partnership; Lane Transit District and Board of Directors; Neighborhood Leaders Council; Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development; West Eugene Wetlands Partnership, 1000 Friends of Oregon

Project Lead

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Facilitators

The Osprey Group (2007 – summer 2008)
Jamie Damon, (2008 – 2009)
Tim McCabe, Project Coordinator

Background

The West Eugene Collaborative (WEC) is 27 community members interested in solutions for the future of transportation, commerce, community and the environment in and around west Eugene. Members include people who work, own businesses, recreate or reside in the west Eugene area as well as representatives of affected governments, agencies and organizations. The purpose of the WEC is to develop an integrated land use, transportation and natural resources solution for West Eugene.

Issues and challenges

The WEC was formed after a proposed West Eugene Parkway, the subject of decades of public debate, was voted down by the Eugene City Council in 2005. The demise of the proposal prompted proponents and opponents to come together to explore new solutions for west Eugene.

Results

After two years of meetings and hundreds of hours of volunteer time by individual WEC members, the WEC reached agreement on recommendations for transportation, land use and natural resource solutions in west Eugene. The WEC final report was welcomed by the community, and in March 2009, the Eugene City Council voted unanimously to convene work sessions to discuss next steps for implementing the recommendations.

"We would not have done as well as we did without the assistance of Oregon Consensus"—WEC project participant

"This is a vision of a place which will not only be nicer to live in, healthier, safer, and more pedestrian friendly, but a place where compact urban development can occur."—WEC project participant

"Businesses will gain with these improvements and even transform. Traffic will get through for moving products and access to local stores will be improved."—WEC project participant