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CITY OF EUGENE
COUNCIL MEETING
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>> Mayor Knudson: Okay. thank you everyone, good evening. welcome to the January 26, 2025 Eugene City Council and you are ran renewal agency meeting. thank you for joining us. tonight's meeting will include a public comment period and if you wish to speak and have not done so, please fill out a request to speak form on our public webcast page or at the entrance to this room. we will accept requests to speak forms until 7:35 P.M. and these forms are used to generate the random order of speakers and correctly enter speaker's names into the public record. The public comment period is limited to 90 minutes or conclude by 10:00 P.M. whichever occurs first. if the number of speakers exceeds the time we have allotted we encourage speakers to abbreviate remarks so maximum number of speakers can be heard. those joining remotely for the public comment period are you welcome to e-mail your comments to City Council, that is true of everyone, there's a basket for people who want to leave remarks or information for Council.

As a reminder, City Council's meeting rules of conduct apply to all attendees, in the chambers and in the lobby. they include no flags, signs, loud or disruptive language, noise or conduct that obstructs the business of the Council. please keep the room quiet and respectful for all speakers, only one speaker speaking at a time and are you welcome to waive your hands in silent support. additionally we encourage all those who are ill or close contact with others who are ill to join remotely rather in person and we have masks available in the lobby. in case of a medical emergency an automated external defibrillator located on the west side of the room. and the emergency exits are through the double doors located at the back

of the room and the double doors near the front of the room. the doors to the patio can also be used as needed.

And with that, I call the January 26, 2026 meeting of the Eugene City Council to order.

We will begin with a land acknowledgement. Since time immemorial, the Kalapuya people have been the Indigenous stewards to our region building dynamic communities, maintaining balance with wildlife, and enacting sustainable land practices. A land acknowledgement is a way of resisting the erasure of Indigenous histories and to honor Native communities by inviting truth and reconciliation. Following treaties between 1851 and 1855, Kalapuya people were dispossessed of their Indigenous homeland by the United States government and forcibly removed to the Coast Reservation in Western Oregon. As we consider the impacts of colonization, we also acknowledge the strength and resiliency of displaced Indigenous people. The City of Eugene is built within the traditional homelands known as Kalapuya Ilihi. Kalapuya descendants are citizens of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, they continue to make contributions in our communities here and across the lands. We express our respect for the inherent political sovereignty of all federally recognized Tribal Nations and Indigenous people who live in the State of Oregon and across the nation.

Our first item on tonight's agenda is an action which is the election of City Council officers for 2026. before I turn to Councilor Zelenka, I want to appreciate this past year of service, Council President Greg Evans who served as Council President, and Vice President Lyndsie leech. if there are no questions from Council regarding this agenda item, I will now turn to Councilor Zelenka to put the first coach forward.

>> Zelenka: It is a rotation through the Council, longest not serving as President rotates through the process, take the politics out of it. so the next up on the agenda is Councilor leech. I move to nominate Councilor leech as President of the '26 Council.

>> Clark: Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, any discussion? With a nomination of Councilor leech to be President, then just a note that that motion will be to elect Councilor leech as President, not only nominate.

>> Zelenka: Yes, elect.

>> Mayor Knudson: I'll take a vote for the motion, lock in your votes on the tablets in front of you. people are thinking it over up here. especially Councilor leech. the motion passes with a vote of 7-0. thank you Councilor leech. now elected

Council President, silent hand support. Councilor Keating, please, thank you. now to the newly elected Council President to put a second motion forward.

>> Councilor Leech: I move to elect Eliza Kashinsky as Vice President of the Council for 2026.

>> Mayor Knudson: Any discussion? Seeing none I'll take a vote for this motion. please lock in your votes. and the motion passes with a vote of 7-0. thank you Council, that concludes our first agenda item, thank you Councilor Kashinsky for stepping up to serve as Vice President. look forward to working closely with both of you. our second item on tonight's agenda is ceremonial matters. this month I have asked our city to prepare three proclamations for the month of January, 2026. and we are acknowledging these a little later in the month because of our chartered requirements related to the state of the city that begin every January. proclamations are official ceremonial documents signed by the Mayor and this month we acknowledge human trafficking prevention month throughout January, and with this awareness I want to especially specifically acknowledge the crucial role that our nonprofit partners play in providing resources and training and support to survivors and the community. we also mark new year on January 3, celebration from our Buddhist traditions within the community and far beyond. and last week we honored the birthday and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. With a thousand person march on Monday and reflection breakfast on Saturday. the lessons from Dr. King and Dr. King's commitment to justice and nonviolence and a vision of beloved community could not be more timely and I know that I'm not alone when I say that I draw guidance and inspiration from his example and also from the wisdom of community leaders who walked with him like Dr. Geneva Craig who was with us this weekend and speaking with the community. I want to thank AARP Oregon, local NAACP chapter for making that gathering possible, and also LTD, the Shedd institute, the Schnitzer museum of art, U of O athletics and city of Eugene for support of the march, it was truly an extraordinary event. look forward to sharing more later this month, that concludes our second agenda item. committee reports and items of interest, I will now open the Council, open the floor for committee reports and items of interest from Council. Councilor leech?

>> Councilor Leech: First I want to start us off today acknowledging the travesties that have happened since the last time we met here in the Council chamber for public comment. I stand with our community during this time and stand with Minnesota and condemn these actions that led to the murders. I want to give an update with the commitments we made. in December I made two motions approved by this Council, one was to place \$50,000 into our Council contingency fund in order for us to potentially support the families of those impacted by Federal immigration actions and to direct staff to investigate the community need. they have been doing that work, staff in the office of equity and community engagement have been in contact with local service providers and other agencies to determine what options are available and resource needs related to immigration enforcement action. the city has parameters around how resources can be used, they are also working

with city teams to get funding to those who need it. we're going to continue to share more information as we have a clear path. the other motion was for Council leadership to draft a resolution that would declare a crisis regarding the actions of the Federal immigration enforcement and we have been doing so. I wanted to jut line the press is that will occur, we'll finish that draft, once it's finished it'll be reviewed by the City Attorney and it will go out to Council via a poll. then if approved it will be presented at an upcoming work session or City Council meeting. we'll vote on that. for many of you here to talk about this issue, we are here, we take actions as best we can, and we stand with you.

>> Mayor Knudson: Councilor Zelenka.

>> Zelenka: Yeah, thank you. I, too, have been completely update and distraught with the actions of the Trump administration, his band of thugs terrorizing our city. Was appalled by the killings of the two citizens of the United States in Minnesota. declaring war on our own people. instead of creating trust and safety and abiding by the rule of law, they're doing exactly the opposite which is creating chaos, fear, and by lying they're throwing the rule of law out the window. their actions are driven by racism and not so secret desire for authoritarian rule. the Minnesota Attorney General said it well, that the resistance needs to be based on the three Cs. courts, crowds, and courage. I agree with that. keep up the protests, I stand with you, keep up the courage, that's what it takes to shout down an authoritarian ruler. I wanted to say to all of the -- the racism of this is, smacks you in the face. I want to say to all of the people of color in our community and around whoever hears this, that you're welcome here, we understand what's going on, and we stand with you. don't feel like you are being outcast by a select few people who are doing these horrible acts. thank you very much.

>> Mayor Knudson: Councilor YEH?

>> Yeh: I wanted to share a couple of opportunities in our community to come together. so the lane community college has their annual MLK event, I just looked it up, there are tickets available, it is Wednesday January 28 at 7:30. they are having vocalist Liz Wright come to the campus, tickets are free, so you just to have go to their website and reserve your spot. I think that should be a really inspiring evening. if that is something that sounds good to you, I encourage you to be there. I will be there. And then I wanted to share there's going to be a healthcare workers against I.C.E. vigil which is actually tomorrow night, it's Tuesday at 5:00 P.M. at the Eugene Federal building on 7th and pearl. which is another opportunity to come together as community.

>> Mayor Knudson: Councilor Keating.

>> Keating: Thank you, Mayor, Councilor YEH for amplifying the vigil tomorrow night. healthcare workers against I.C.E. honoring Alex Pretti. 7th and pearl for those who would like to joint vigil to honor nurse Alex Pretti and those harmed

and killed by Federal officers. I stand with my colleagues who have spoken out tonight, stand with our immigrant community, the Oregon nurses association, all residents who are calling for accountability, a return to normal city, and the immediate reversal of policies that seemingly allow Federal agents to operate unchecked and with impunity. the Federal administration's cruel, heavy-handed separation tactics, kidnapping efforts, diabolical, sinister, deplorable assassinations on our nation's streets have no place in a functional democracy. these actions erode trust in government and undermine the credibility of law enforcement at all levels. let me be clear, Federal agents should not play judge, jury, and executioner on our streets. it is as unconscionable as it is unacceptable, as it is fundamentally illegal. thank you for the opportunity to share my frustration and my anger and I look forward to joining community members in a united both tonight, and tomorrow night, at the aforementioned candlelight vigil. thank you, Mayor.

>> Mayor Knudson: Councilor Kashinsky.

>> Kashinsky: I, too, want to second the comments of my colleagues and express the immense sadness and anger I feel at the actions that we are seeing coming from the Federal level, at the attacks on our residents and citizens throughout the nation. particularly in Minnesota. I want to thank Councilor leech for her work on the resolution to help us express that in a very official and formal way. I want to thank all of the members of the community who are going out every day and doing the work to help express our community's frustration and anger. to help protect our neighbors. thank you.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, Council. I have shared over the past several weeks several statements through social media at Mayor Kaarin. I just want to say publicly because I know many people have read those statements, reached out, it is incredibly important that we as members of a community who care deeply about every done here feeling at home and a part of the community that we are building here. that we commit to reaching out to one another and standing together. it is incredibly -- a lot of people are suffering right now, a lot of people who are very afraid. The behaviors of our Federal government and the agencies following this leadership are horrifying. have disenfranchised millions of people and left many people across our country including in our own community feeling incredibly unsafe. one of the things we can do to address that is extend ourselves to one another, to reach out, in ways large and small repair and reinforce the bonds of community. that is everything as some of you heard me say from the beginning of 2025 everything from meeting your neighbor and inviting them for a walk or a plan to get together for a cup of tea, to being a part of your neighborhood resilience planning to joining a community group to exploring a new activity or hobby within our community, to attending an arts and culture event that you have never attended before. and have now have an opportunity to be curious about. and learn about. it is incredibly important time for us to be connected in real life to one another. because there is a lot swirling around in this world that seems quite focused on tearing our communities apart. this community, this elected body, I as your Mayor, we are

committed to protecting people here, we will defend our laws, we will defend our community, and do everything that we can to protect people here. and also as you well know the circumstances created by our Federal government are incredibly difficult to navigate and to address from the local level. I want to share an update from a town hall this weekend where our legislators including representative speaker of the house Julie FEAHY shared issues that will be coming forward to address actions of Federal agencies and protect our communities in Oregon. these will be coming from house and Senate, different bills, different concepts, but I want to overview them for you so you understand what's happening locally in our state. with the clear understanding that national work, solidarity, peaceful protest needs to continue to see lasting change. the first is work to strengthen legal protections for immigrants so they can work, seek access to the legal system, and participate in their communities fully without fear. second, empowering Oregonians to sue Federal agents for violating their constitutional rights. third, protecting families, students and educators requiring schools to notify parents when I.C.E. is confirmed on school campuses. fourth prohibiting state contracts with businesses that participate in deportation to ensure to Oregon tax dollars enforce I.C.E. activities. strengthening data privacy to safeguard sensitive health and immigration information. demanding accountability and visibility by establishing guardrails on masking and officer practices. this is a legislative short session, 35 days long, but these are some of the areas of work that your elected representatives and Senators are doing to make everyone in the state of Oregon safer and to have access to your constitutional rights and due process. I wanted to share those with you this evening. with that, seeing no other hands from our remote Councilors, I will say thank you and that concludes our third agenda item. I will now turn to our assistant city manager to introduce our fourth agenda item this evening, a priority goal action, adoption of a resolution approving a low-income rental housing property tax exemption renewal for the redwood park apartments.

>> Thank you, Mayor. City Council asked to adopt a resolution approving the renewal of a 20-year low income rental housing property tax exemption also referred to as LIRHPTE for redwood work apartments. redwood park apartments is an existing affordable housing development located at 4103 west 18th avenue, that was awarded a LIRHPTE in 2005 and continued to provide low income rental housing since that time. development includes 231 low income rental housing units serving households earning at or below 60% of the area median income. one additional issue, it serves as onsite manager unit and would not be included in the LIRHPTE. renewal of the LIRHPTE would allow the property to offer low income rental housing for 20 years. the development meets the required LIRHPTE criteria and staff are available for questions or provide information. I'd like to say LIRHPETE one more time.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, assistant city manager HAMMET. any questions from Council? Seeing none I will -- pardon, sorry, thank you. Councilor Zelenka?

>> Zelenka: I want to make clear the property tax exemption, I do support. preserves this affordable housing, one of the largest affordable housing units that we have. without it, all of these people would be turned out on to the street, or their rents would significantly increase. this is a very, very important aspect of being able to maintain our affordable housing stock in the city of Eugene for very low income.

>> Mayor Knudson: No other questions or comments from Council, I'll turn to the Council President to put a motion forward.

>> Move to adopt the resolution in attachment B to the AIS approving a low income rental housing property tax exemption for property located at 4103 west 18th avenue.

>> Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Any further discussion from Council? Seeing none I'll take a vote for this motion, locking in your votes. motion passes with a vote of 7-0. thank you Council. that concludes our fourth agenda item. now turn to the assistant city manager to introduce the fifth agenda item, action on the adoption of resolution approving a low-income rental housing property tax exemption renewal for the Westtown on 8th.

>> Thank you, City Council is asked to adopt the renewal of a 20 year low-income rental housing property tax exemption LIRHPETE for Westtown on eighth. Westtown on eighth is an existing affordable housing development located 265 west eighth avenue and was awarded a LIRHPETE in 2005 and provided low income rental housing since construction was completed in 2008. the development includes 102 low income rental housing units serving households earning at or below 50% and 60% of the median, area median income. the property also includes 8 market rate live work spaces and one commercial space that are not income restricted and not included in the LIRHPETE. renewal of the LIRHPETE would allow the property to continue to offer low income rental housing for the next 20 years. The development meets the required LIHRPTE eligibility and staff are available if you have questions or need additional information.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you. if there are no additional questions from Council, I will turn to the -- Councilor Zelenka? Thank you, staff.

>> Thank you, Councilor, I can get you that information here. 60% area median income limits that are in effect for household of one would be about \$37,440. for a household of four would be about \$53,460.

>> I can't hear Alan.

>> Zelenka: I said that was indeed a low level of income.

>> Mayor Knudson: I'll offer a clarification that area median income based on household changes on the number of people in the household and the way that affordable housing maximum rents are set is relative to that as well. not a single number it is related to affordability at a certain level per household. that I think is always important distinction and adds a lot of complexity to conversations about affordable housing. with that, I will turn to the Council President to put a motion forward.

>> I move to approve a low income rental housing property located at 265 west eighth avenue.

>> second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Any further discussion from Council? Seeing none I will take a vote for this motion. motion passes with a vote of 7-0. thank you that, concludes or fifth agenda item this evening. on to our sixth agenda item, assistant city manager to introduce an action on the approval of resources for housing affordable to people with low incomes.

>> Mayor, tonight Council is asked to award ownership of a city owned property at 1091 road and use of Federal home funds for development proposal submitted through the 2025 home request for proposals process called the Harlow. Council approved the acquisition in September 2024 through the land acquisition for affordable housing program. Cascade housing association proposed to construct 27 units of affordable rental housing on the property and manage it jointly with the adjacent 35 unit affordable housing development they already own called co-berg road apartments. the 1 and 2 bedroom units at the Harlow which serve people earning no more than 50% and 60% of the area median income and resident services would be provided onsite. the Eugene Springfield home consortium governing board will make final funding decisions for home funds. staff are here to answer any questions that you may have.

>> Mayor Knudson: Any questions from Council? Seeing none I'll turn to the Council President to put a motion forward.

>> Kashinsky: I move to award the city owned property at 1091KOBURG road to Cascade development for development of the Harlow and recommend that the home consortium award housing association \$1 million 213,908 of home funds for the Harlow.

>> Second.

>> Thank you, any further discussion from Council. Councilor Evans? That was a vote, I'm guessing, I can't hear you, but we'll move on to the vote, thank you. Councilor Keating?

>> Keating: Just a question, satisfy my curiosity. we're about to award, I hope, \$1.2 million plus for the home funds for the Harlow. what does that account look like, what is the balance, what percentage of these \$1.2 million does this represent?

>> Thank you, I'm Ellen May Galloway, community development. each year we receive home funds, our Federal funding source most associated with development of new affordable housing. we get those funds each year from HUD. the U.S. Department of housing and urban development. each year when we receive the funds we put all of the funds out to the request for proposals. then property owners always request however much of those resources they need for the development. always you know development is very expensive. Cascade housing association did request the full amount available. so awful our funds that we have right now with your vote would be allocated for development proposals that are either under construction or soon to be under construction.

>> Do we have a number of how many units will be built at the Harlow?

>> Cascade price posing 27 affordable units and one onsite manager unit.

>> Keating: Great, thank you.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you. I will now take a vote for this motion, Councilors please lock in your votes. that concludes our sixth agenda item. we move on to our next agenda item consent calendar, approval of minutes and City Council tentative agenda. any questions? Seeing none I turn to the Council President to put a motion forward.

>> Move to approve the items on consent calendar 1.

>> Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, further discussion? Seeing none I'll take a vote for this motion. passes 7-0. thank you, Council that concludes our 7th agenda item. now we turn to our assistant city manager to introduce the 8th agenda item, action on a resolution acknowledging the receipt of the city of Eugene's annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. also known as the ACFR.

>> Thank you, Mayor. staff requests the Council approve a resolution acknowledging receipt of the city's annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. state law requires that each year the city contract with an authorized accounting firm for the audit of its accounts and fiscal affairs. the auditors have issued an unmodified opinion also known as a clean opinion on the city's basic financial statements indicating that the city has prepared these statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. additionally

the auditors noted they identified no instances of noncompliance with state law or other matters that are required to be reported under government auditing standards. a clean opinion is an indicator of sound financial management and credit worthiness to the community, other governmental jurisdictions, credit rating agencies and others. also just like to express gratitude to our finance team for all the work they do on this.

>> Thank you very much. any questions or comments from Council?
Councilor Zelenka then Councilor Kashinsky.

>> Zelenka: This and the next item all of you wondering if the city of Eugene has an independent Auditor review all of our financial statements, and all of our work for both the urban renewal district and the budget, the way that we do business, this is it. this one and the next item as well. if there is a report that has no findings that is a good thing. There was nothing untoward or wrong with the way we were operating from a financial perspective. abiding by all of the rules.

>> Mayor Knudson: Councilor Kashinsky.

>> Kashinsky: Yes, I would like to second that, we get a lot of questions, particularly during budget season surrounding this type of thing. seconding this is the independent review by an outside auditing firm. also this is a public document, it is on the city's website, it will be, if you are interested in reading hundreds of pages of financial statements it is there for you to peruse. thank you.

>> Mayor Knudson: I'll add auditors are interested to read those hundreds of pages and read them carefully, another clean opinion is a reflection of the excellent work that is happening within the city of Eugene and also with our financial team that helps to navigate an enormous amount of complexity. I want to add my appreciation as mentioned by our assistant city manager. I turn to the Council President to put a motion forward.

>> Leech: Move to acknowledge receipt of the comprehensive financial report for the city of Eugene for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

>> Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Any additional discussion from Council. seeing none I'll take a vote for the motion. motion passes with a vote of 7-0. thank you, Council. I'll now close this City Council meeting and open the January 26, 2026 meeting of the urban renewal agency. now I'll turn to the urban renewal agency director to introduce our ninth agenda item, action on the resolution acknowledging the receipt of the annual financial report on the urban renewal agency for the city of Eugene for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

>> Move to approve a resolution acknowledging a receipt of the annual financial report for the urban renewal agency of the city of Eugene for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

>> Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you. any questions from Council in the room or remotely? Seeing none I'll now take -- I'm sorry, take a vote for this motion, correct? Thank you. thank you, Council, urban renewal agency, the motion passes 7-0. thank you, and I now close the January 26, 2026 urban renewal agency meeting and reconvene the January 26, 2026 City Council meeting. we'll turn to our assistant city manager to introduce our tenth topic this evening. which is an action on ordinance concerning elections.

>> Thank you. proposed ordinance would align the Eugene code with updated state statutes and Oregon administrative rules as well as provide crier clarity on certain city recording processes. we held a public hearing January 20, no speakers provided testimony.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you. if there are no questions from Council, turn to the Council tonight put a motion forward.

>> I move to approve an ordinance concerning elections and amending sections 2.961, 2.964, 2.974, 2.975, 2.797, and 2.984 of the Eugene code 1971.

>> Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Discussion from Council? Seeing none I will now take a vote for the motion, Councilors lock in your votes. and the motion passes with a vote of 7-0. thank you, Council, that concludes our tenth agenda item. we'll now turn to the assistant city manager to introduce our 11th agenda item. which is an action on an ordinance concerning state traffic laws.

>> Thank you, Mayor. this is Council's opportunity to consider amendments to section 5.005 of the Eugene code by readopting the state statutory traffic code provisions. This ordinance updates the Eugene code to include changes made during 2025 session by the Oregon state legislature. the City Council held a public hearing on January 20, no testimony was provided. because 2025 legislative changes have already gone into effect the ordinance provides for an immediate effective date so that the traffic laws that went into effect January 1, 2025 or before can be prosecuted in the Eugene municipal code. thank you.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, if there are no questions I will turn to the Council President to put a motion forward.

>> I move to adopt an ordinance concerning state traffic laws amending sense 5.005 of the Eugene code 1971 and providing an immediate effective date.

>> Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Seeing no discussion from Council, I will now take a vote for the motion. Councilors lock in your votes. motion passes 7-0, that concludes our 11th agenda item. the last item on tonight's agenda is the public comment period. public comment period is an opportunity for individuals to speak to the City Council on any city related issues except those items which have already been heard by hearing official. staff could you please share a list and the number of speakers that have signed up to speak by 7:35 this evening and announce the first speakers.

>> Thank you, Mayor. just a minute to share that list. I will announce two speakers names at a time. when you are called to speak please state your name and your ward or neighborhood if known before beginning your comments. when you are announced as the next speaker move to the seat in the front row designated for the next speaker. When it is your turn you may come to the podium. leave any bags you may have with you at your seat. if you have documents to give Council, please place them in the basket near the podium. you will have 2 1/2 minutes to speak. The timer will flash red when you have 15 seconds remaining to speak. your microphone will be muted at the 2 1/2 minute mark. please vote the use of profanity is prohibited and instances of profanity result in immediate termination of speaking privileges. our first speakers are Lynn Goodrich followed by Steve Gilbert.

>> I'm co-chair of the active Bethel community and resident for over 30 years. I live in ward 8. I'm speaking on behalf of the active Bethel community ward. Mayor Knudson said we need to think differently about highway 99, its future as a safer greener multi modal boulevard. it needs to be reimagined and as with so many other examples we can bring a new spirit of collaboration to the work. for Bethel this is a vision would be a dream come true. today highway 99 is an eyesore and dangerous corridor particularly residents navigating heavy traffic and frequent crossings near concentrated homeless services. we're eager to begin the reimagining and collaboration now. as part of the effort Bethel needs a police substation on highway 99, doesn't need to be fancy. in 2023 the city created a downtown incident commander to improve safety, cleanliness, Bethel deserves this cord nations I want to urge support for public health standards version 3. which is the planning staff choice scheduled to come before you February 17, these standards exist to protect the public. without them we risk approving property that undermines property goals and erodes neighborhood livability. the distribution center and fuel tank farm in the trainsong neighborhood are overburdening the area. they should be moved further north with established industrial zones and away from home in the event of an explosion they would not on evening danger residents and cripple nearby services. public health standards must be incorporated into the comprehensive plan so land use decisions protect people and neighborhoods not

just meet minimum technical requirements. we hope with our new city manager in place the distribution center will be prioritized. Eugene can grow while still protecting its people. we can ensure development that is responsible and worthy of the communities we serve.

>> Thank you, next speaker Steve Gilbert followed by Victoria Acosta.

>> I'm Steve Gilbert. I'm a lifelong Bethel resident. I want to say first Lynn and I didn't work together to come up with our topics. Eugene's 2035 transportation plan lists highway 99 as major arterial. I'm here to say highway 99 is dangerous by design. smart growth America is an organization that advocates for safe streets for all users. they report there's a pedestrian safety crisis in America where streets are dangerous by design. and low income people and communities die at much higher rates. recent article in lookout Eugene highlights the risks on highway 99, a four-lane highway, a place where the harshness of life on the streets intersects with the challenges of heavily traveled corridor. it is a hot spot for pedestrian traffic deaths. when Eugene and Lynn county developed the plan to make homelessness brief and nonrecurring, highway 99 was selected to become Eugene's critical homeless services hub that we have today. this is a vulnerable population and the risk to public safety from this plan when knowable. the city or county did they have discussions or reservations about developing these services on a major arterial? Saint Vincent DePaul continues to add services on 99. the city and county continue to support expanding services here as well. according to lookout Eugene, these pedestrian accident and deaths caught the attention of city leaders and city plans to hire a consultant to now study this corridor. I have a feeling that any consultant that the city uses for 99 will state what should be obvious. you never locate or concentrate homeless services directly on a highway. then they will ask the city to use highway 99 as a prime example on their website dangerous by design.

>> Thank you, Steve, our next speakers are Victoria Acosta followed by patty Gordon.

>> Hello, Mayor and Councilors, I'm here because Eugene is about to make a very Eugene decision, saying we care deeply about the environment, community, health local values and approving a massive Amazon warehouse. This project is inevitable, your hands are tied and it checks the boxes. but inevitability didn't a law of nature. it's just what happens when no one in charge says actually, wait, this warehouse means more diesel trucks, more pollution, more traffic, and harm to wetlands. this city that prides itself on being green if this is sustainability it's the Amazon prime version. fast, convenient, someone else pays the cost. We're told this will bring jobs. these aren't community rooted long-term jobs, they're high turnover, heavily automated for a company known for treating places like temporary storage. Eugene is not a fulfillment center, we are community. Dr. Seuss put it better, unless someone like you care as whole awful lot nothing is ever going to get better. it's not. so please care a whole awful lot. slow this down. demand real

protections, and prove that Eugene values aren't just something we print on reusable tote bags.

>> Thank you, next is patty Gordon followed by Stefan STRECK.

>> Good evening, I was happy to hear that the Council discussed fear in our country. and defending our laws. I'm living in fear in my own neighborhood. I live in the south hills and am attending the meeting to discuss a situation occurring at a neighbor's property. the property is located at 849 crest drive and is substantially interfering with my quiet use and enjoyment of my home. as a result of repeated violations of various codes. this originally started out for me as a continuous dog barking complaint. the city requires 15 minute continuous barking. I submitted a 17-minute recording of three dogs barking but the control supervisor rejected the complaint as she found a 90-second gap in the barking. I then went to code compliance, even though they have barking dogs listed on their website they referred me back to animal control. subsequently, I obtained police reports from January 1 of 2025 to the present that showed 26 calls into the city in one year. these included four barking dog complaints, dogs at large, two for animal cruelty. I experienced two incidents of dogs barking at 5:5A.M. and 12:45A.M. in the first week of January of this year. I recently observed two dogs escape the yard and cross crest drive running toward pedestrians. I recently observed last week the dogs were barking at night. I live on a cul-de-sac behind but when I'm upstairs can I see into the yard. the dogs were enclosed in a pen when it was 32 degrees. other violations include gunshots, two overdoses in one month, loud music, and menacing. I have been advised by a neighbor that there were two reports of trespassing. other issues numerous people living on the property --

>> Thank you your time has concluded. Stefan STRECK followed by bill O'Brien.

>> Good day City Council. thank you so much for freeing up the time to speak with me tonight. I really appreciate these moments when everyone can come together and make their priorities a public issue. I personally am quite disappointed that there's been talk of a proposal to criminalize the donation of items from cars to anyone, and this particularly negatively targets the most vulnerable people in our community. it stands to show there's a sickening level of hypocrisy from elected officials. there is a certain type of person who just refuses to get a job, they coast through life, often they have mental issues. although do is just go around asking strangers for money wherever they go. we call these people politicians. It's very sad that people who would act this way would turn around and try to criminalize the exact same behavior from those who cannot survive with any other method. on in their disposal at the moment. what does it say when people who are supposed to be at the top of society take the opportunity to punch down at those who are simply trying to survive and get ahead. oh I just need money to get a job, I need money to get re-elected. Sounds familiar. I'm sure that every single elected official has gone door to door knocking on strangers' doors with the hope of getting money, which is

honestly much more agitating than someone who stands on the street corner asking strangers for money. this is important to consider. similarly, in Eugene, trying to collect cans, a man was executed. and his killer was acquitted just last November. none of you mentioned this. he deserved better and you can do better.

>> Thank you, Stephon, next is bill O'Brien followed by Ken Willis.

>> Yeah, Amazon distribution facility, 10 digits application, I believe, approved by you. I was told by the city manager's office about two, three weeks ago that you don't have to approve, we don't to have disapprove of it. city manager that isn't here today, she wants the jobs. 500 jobs. the way I see it, I don't have any standing. I don't have any precedent legally. I guess the only standing or precedent is the Hyundai plant, just sitting there for a long time on willow creek road. -- willow creek road. this is going to go through I'm afraid. but I would like to stop it. only way is land use board and appeals. filing application I believe is \$350. so it can go any way. to submit the \$350 and -- oops, lost it. make a long story short, I'm just trying to understand the process. it can go through. appellate court, it can be based on, probably go right to LUBA, good idea to have an attorney, the attorney fee can grow depending how far you want to take it. I don't know where the first start is, LUBA in Salem, appellate court, what can we base our appeal on? Comprehensive plan change, zone change, conditional use permit, variance, they got the variance. how many people commented to LUBA. A few. I hope more people will get on the bandwagon to prevent this monstrosity to occur. thank you.

>> Thank you, bill. next speakers are Ken Willis followed by Jeffrey Gordon.

>> I'm Ken Willis, ward 5, I would say good evening but we have two dead Americans in Minnesota and adjudicated ist, fascist and moron in the White House. things are not great. I'm here tonight to formally call for the firing of Chris skinner for the implementation of the flock camera system clandestinely on taxpayer money against the people of Eugene, against the City Council of Eugene, and against our civilizational rights to property -- to privacy. accountability is an important thing. accountability is the absolute foundation of leadership. integrity, honor, facts. when a leader deviates from the core tenets of leadership the community suffers. Chris skinner has caused suffering, fear, harm in Eugene, given multiple opportunities to correct his course, change his mind, to talk to us, and at every turn showed willful ignorance. The man had an agenda and the agenda was flock. He sided with the company over us, multiple times, over and over again. I have no faith in him, I have no trust in him, I have to respect in him. how can anybody in this room feel that way. he breached the trust of the city, he did not listen to us, he's been arrogant. let me read a quote from the man himself. when asked by KVAL whether he regretted not going to the City Council regarding the cameras, he said no, I was hired as police chief and I was hired to come up with operational strategies F I had to go to the City Council every time I want to do something unique it would be impossible to continue my job. you guys exist for this. he wants to play with toys, novelty fetish with technologies, he doesn't want to talk to you or us about it, he wants the freedom to

implement it. how is that not soft authoritarianism. how is that not respecting you respecting us, I don't feel respect. how can we keep his job. everyone of you knows he has to lose his job and accountability has to happen. he stuck a mass surveillance camera system on us used in Minnesota right now to coordinate the murder of U.S. citizens. violations of our rights. to the ladies on the Council I'll ask you a serious question, do you want to keep aiding and abetting middle class men failing upwards? He needs to lose his job.

>> Jeffrey Gordon followed by Angela Garner.

>> Oh, gosh. Jeffrey Gordon, ward 7. this message is for our new city manager. first, do not trust police chief Skinner. do not take him at his word, doublecheck everything he tells you. that was the last manager's mistake. second, you will not be starting this job with a blank slate. are you starting this job on thin ice. no pun intended. you have your predecessor to thank for that. you have struggling support for mass surveillance coverage. let me make it clear, do not sign any new contracts with action on incorporated or motor role a. action on has armed with surveillance cameras and facial recognition. though appointed former I.C.E. director as head of DHS programs and strategy to lead Federal efforts. Motorola vigilant solutions is a leading supplier of license plate software, and they share this information with I.C.E. to facilitate deportations. If you sign new contracts or give money to these companies the city of Eugene will be facilitating the kidnappings, murders and concentration camps happening in America. the American friends service committee also lists Axxon and Motorola for a "do not invest" campaign as they facilitate the genocide of Palestine. I cite massive technology sales and integration into the police and prison system for Axxon and communications and surveillance access for Motorola. if you entertain these contracts you will with it a human rights coalition of anti-racist, anti-war, pro privacy, pro LGBTQ+ free line and other civil rights advocates against you. good luck in the new job.

>> Thank you, next speakers are Angela Garner followed by Marilyn O'Mally.

>> I'm Angela Garner, ward 5. I'm here because I.C.E. has broken public trust. not just I.C.E. agents but the leadership of I.C.E. promoting I.C.E. actions and refusing to investigate it. I do humbly request that the city of Eugene revoke the conditional use permit of the immigration and customs enforcement building, the I.C.E. building, until public trust here in Eugene can be restored in I.C.E. we don't know if we are next or not. with that I.C.E. building there and present everyone here is at risk. and scared for their lives. will I be put on a terrorist watch list because I've chosen to speak up against I.C.E.? Just like those who video tape their actions, they have no place here in Eugene. I would ask that you revoke their permit, their ability to be here. thank you.

>> Thank you, our next speakers are Marilyn O'Mally followed by Cameron Alexandria Stringfield.

>> I live in west Eugene. I want to first of all thank the Council for your commitment to protecting the people of Eugene from actions by I.C.E. such as we have endured nationally. I have boycotted Amazon for years and today I was challenged to look up factual information about Bezos and Amazon. when I actually started digging into it, I expected to find out they had an absolutely horrible environmental record that's not what I found out at all. I was surprised to find out that Bezos is an advocate and donor for the environment and he achieved his goal of running his company on 100% renewable energy seven years early. they do provide their own energy with solar and such and they have electric vehicles. I would like assurance that that will be the case when they come to Eugene. I'm not going to assume -- well of course it will be. I want assurance that they won't be causing pollution A neighbor informed me local Amazon will hire 6,000 workers. I researched and found the Amazon warehouse in Woodburn Oregon is the largest one in the northwest and only employed 1,500 workers who work with 6,000 robots. it is hard to believe they will be hiring any more than 1,500 people here, quite possibly not that many. I really believe that the people of Eugene should know exactly how many people they plan on hiring. in October '25 the "New York Times" reported Amazon plans on laying off half a million people worldwide. they will be replacing them with robots. yesterday's news reported on CNBC, Yahoo finance, and BBC and other sources that Amazon is laying off 14,000 employees starting the end of this week. as for the employees Amazon has, research indicates they are under continual surveillance --

>> Thank you. our next speakers are Cameron Alexandria Stringfield followed by Shelley divine.

>> I'm Cameron Stringfield, I live in ward 7, member of the party for socialism and liberation. thank you for acknowledging the murders of Alex Pretti and Renee good and drafting a resolution for crisis. I hope it includes the concrete demands, don't let it be another pile of words, let it be declaration of action. are you listening to us and you are appalled. it must be said that this is not enough, and that this city's response to I.C.E. terror has been shameful. we have been coming to you for months talking about what I.C.E. is doing and asking for you to speak up and take action. while the people of lane county are out risking their lives every day in the community doing reel observer work, rapid response, protest actions and more. seeing the murders of Alex Pretti, Keith porter, Renee good and people killed by Federal immigration agents so far, many of us have to wonder if that's going to be us next. we wonder is I.C.E. going to kill us and will the state and city let them get away because they have a badge and a gun. city leaders speaking out begins I.C.E. is great but words don't stop bullets. we are tired of statements that read what I.C.E. is doing is unjust and unacceptable and illegal but we can't stop them from killing you or arresting them when they do. that might turn into a blue on blue shooting. we'll let them shoot you. we can't protect you, but you can't protect yourselves because that would be vigilantism or taking the bait. the recent joint statement from the player police chief, chief skinner equivocated protesters with Federal agents, vigilantism is wrong. is he saying that Renee good was a vigilante? Rapid

responders and protesters are not vigilantes. The only vigilantism is mass agents kidnapping and killing people on the streets. we need to you protect us and our Constitutional rights and uphold the law as you swore to do in your oath of office and stop scolding the community on how to protest. EPD needs to cite and arrest law breaking agents. if they are scared are you signaling to I.C.E. and to us that I.C.E. is above the law. you are above the law or not above the law. if you can't hold them accountable our system is broken. protect us before they kill us.

>> Thank you, our next speakers are Shelley divine followed by Andrew SIMREN.

>> Hi. my son fell asleep on the couch before I came here tonight and he's not wondering whether or not I'm going to make it home. I want to say tonight that over the last several months I have made preparations to hide a family inside my home. I am ready and fully prepared to hide a family and I want to just sit with that for a minute. I have prepared this in secret and the reason I'm sharing it publicly, I want the rest of the people out there in our community who have been making the same plans and they have, to know that they're not alone and they're not overreacting. you are not alone in preparing to hide your neighbors, community members, perhaps strangers. you are not alone. the fact is there are already families hiding locally. because we are witnessing a nationwide infiltration of mass lawless thugs murdering people with impunity and disappearing people with impunity. I want us to be really loud and clear and bold in getting in front of this. the Federal building at 211 east 7th was slated for sale by the crime syndicate regime and DOGE as of march last year. a point of contact with the general services administration by the name of Ryan Anderson, Ryan.Anderson@GSA.gov, maybe let's have a conversation with Ryan about evicting I.C.E. from the building. we do want immigration, customs enforcement, out of Eugene right now. we could also pass a city ordinance, we don't to have wait for the state legislation stuff about the no masking rules. you could pass a city ordinance to make masking illegal. we want them arrested for the slightest of traffic violations. we want them prosecuted. yes, what is happening is not hyperbole. this is what is happening. these are the facts. additionally supporting the pillars of fascism like allowing Amazon to come here is supporting things we are fundamentally opposed to.

>> Thank you, Shelley, Andrew followed by Ruth WREN.

>> Good evening, I'm Andrew SIMREN, river ward neighborhood, ward 7. I come before you tonight to say thank you for drafting the continuing resolution -- the resolution opposing the Department of homeland security. we know that they operate without masks to avoid accountability. we also know there are civil and not criminal law enforcement agency, they shouldn't have deadly weapons and firearms. additionally I know that another thing the city has control over is the Eugene Police Department. and the way they handle protesters particularly down and around the Federal building. I think that the Council should keep that in mind how the department reacts to protests of the Department of homeland security during this

time. while keeping the community safe. but this is one liver that the city can use to be more hands on or hands off. it's up to the Mayor on how the police operate in the city. thank you for your time.

>> Thank you, Andrew. next speakers are Ruth WREN followed by will GIBONY.

>> I'm Ruth WREN, indivisible Eugene, ward 1. Mayor Knudson, I voted for you believing you care about Eugene. and in your speech on the state of the city you said we are absolutely all in this together through every collective effort we willed on model our values of are responsiveness and belonging. I will stand with you and for you in all of our work. yet in spite of many hundreds of calls, e-mails, letters, people speaking here against the Amazon warehouse all of the public concerns have been ignored. some are in favor of the warehouse because they think it will bring good jobs. but they are not good jobs. Amazon is anti-union. workers are under surveillance, they must meet high quotas and suffer a high injury rate. and Amazon plans to use robots and AI for three-fourths of warehouse work by 2030. it has over a million robots working. regarding traffic, why did the city accept Amazon's own report stating that 2600 trips a day won't be a problem. we need an independent assessment. and even if the delivery trucks are 70% electric in 10 years, what about the extra demand on our grid for electric trucks, robotics, and A.I. But worst of all Amazon web services powers I.C.E. with cloud tech for data management, use for hunting down, kidnapping, deporting and imprisoning immigrants, activists and anyone who opposes Trump. tomorrow evening you will speak at the healthcare workers against I.C.E. protest about the murder of Alex Pretti are you against I.C.E. stop the warehouse, don't partner with the corporate collaborator. be true to the values you express, halt the permit process, and require impartial traffic and environmental studies and an accurate report on the jobs.

>> Next is will followed by Athena Aguilar.

>> Good evening. I'm will, I reside in ward 7, and have been a Eugene resident since 1985. I'm adamantly against having the Amazon mega warehouse here in our city of Eugene. here is why. they're going to build a 320,000 square foot warehouse on 84 acres of farmland that includes 9 acres of wetlands. any warehouse jobs that they are going to have will be replaced by robotics by 2030. there's going to be a huge increase of traffic on highway 99. it's already challenging and dangerous just to go to Jerry's. I don't know the last time you went there, but holy cow. the fact they were secretive in buying the land and not having any community input at all, it's terrible that that happened. that's why I'm here tonight. I want to give my input. Amazon also provides our fascist Federal government data storage on data used to target immigrants. do I need to say more about that? There is been a lot of people talk about that tonight. why not support local businesses rather than a huge multinational corporation that frankly doesn't care about me and doesn't care about you. it doesn't care about us at all. as our elected representatives, I would urge you to do what you can to to this construction, rather

destruction. lastly, I'm sad that Amazon thinks there's enough local consumers of their products to warrant this tragic destruction of our environment in the first place. thank you for letting me speak.

>> thank you, our next speakers are Athena Aguilar followed by Thomas HERA.

>> Hello fair and Council, resident of ward 5. I just wanted to remind you that we have not had proper alternative response in the city for 295 days. we need a contract from the city so we can get back community response to calls asap. the budget committee called for it in June, the gap analysis illustrated the need and recommended issuing an RPFP in November. we need a real alternative emergency response back in Eugene asap. WVCC has a team ready to go and just need to go ahead. thank you.

>> Thank you, our next speakers are Thomas HIRA followed by Lori Horman.

>> Lori Horman, ward 7. we have to keep calling out the documented violence and brutality we see from I.C.E. in exactly the terms that are historically applicable. even if they offend Greg BOVINO or DHS or whoever else wants to lie about us. they call it terrorists. the propaganda is potent but we can prove it fallible. I know the streets of Minneapolis well. But talk about our city if a nurse or mom or any person is killed by Federal government aggression we have a Police Department that should arrest them. afford them the due process they readily deny our community members and hold them responsible for unnecessary and unconscionable violence. . measures the legislature looks to take up make sense. Mayor thank you for your summary. ideas that Councilors have mentioned for Eugene show promise as well. speaks as an individual but in my separate public role as a School Board member I attended a meeting tonight in west lane. the other cities in our region and our area are looking at you for how you lead our city in absence of responsible Federal stewardship of our constitutional rights. near the beginning of this meeting Councilor Zelenka cited the three Cs. courts, crowds, courage. I would add cameras. cameras not in the hands of government, watching the every move of the people but in the hands of people legally recording and documenting official proceedings in public. that is one small but crucial part of the work we must do. ought never be silenced. to anyone who disagrees when I say we do not need the chaos that I.C.E. violently SEWS, it's never too late to change your mind, to say enough is enough but you shouldn't keep waiting.

>> Thank you, next is Lori followed by wynn.

>> Lori Harmon, ward, I'm here to talk about the Amazon warehouse project. Amazon provides cloud services to I.C.E. as well as the Israeli Army. what I would like to talk about, though, are not all of the moral or ethical reasons that we would like to keep Amazon out of this community. I think that we're all really well aware of those. I think that we understand that there's not a lot that you can do contractually.

there's not a lot you can do in terms of code. you can't say we don't like you, we don't want you here. what I am going to ask you to do is look at the permitting process. according to the permit submitted to the project coordinator, by the project coordinator to the Department of state lands and project areas, the permit diagrams show that about two-thirds of the land will be covered with impermeable surfaces. about 56 acres of land that used to absorb water that's going to create just a huge volume of surface runoff. their current plan is to divert that surface runoff into two small rain gardens. those rain gardens in turn are going to drain into the existing public ditches. those ditches route into stormwater drains designed to handle the volume of stormwater diverted into the ditches before those 56 acres were converted into impermeable surfaces. interestingly enough in the Department of state lands application, the contractor is not suggesting any upgrades to the public infrastructure. my question would be is that because it would take too long to get the infrastructure that's needed in place? I've been out to the proposed site on two occasions. I have looked at the storm drains which you can locate using the website, the city website, conveniently has that information. I can tell you that they're crumbling and they're --

>> Thank you, Lori. our next speakers are WYNN followed by Linda Kelly.

>> good evening Mayor, Council, I'm WYNN man sell, ward 7. thank you for hearing me out tonight. thank you for getting the cameras down for acting on that quickly. I would love to hear a community update about, I believe it was December 17, flock was supposed to return the city's data to it. I would love to hear how the data was returned, whether or not the city has received the data, and whether all out there copies of data have been destroyed. but going on from that, one thinking I took from the Mayor's state of the city address that I really want to drill in to is when you said that we were an innovative city. and another thing to plead in my first point and terrible at speaking when we were at the town hall on Saturday I saw you really light up when Cameron brought up boycotts. as an individual person, there's a lot of boycotting that I have done, I continue to do, and many of us can do. you have, not that you control the city but you have the ear of the city, maybe you can turn the power of the boycotts in that way and be inhibited and do things like direct city resources away from companies that support I.C.E. there are very many of your fellow citizens that have any number of lists of companies that you maybe shouldn't be doing business with because they support I.C.E. Amazon is one of them. Microsoft and Google provide resources used by the Federal government. I would highly recommend watching a wonderful talk by the people behind signal that was given at the chaos computing conference that essentially indicates that with Microsoft's injection of A.I. technology into opt operating systems there is the potential of mass spying on anyone using windows. I see my time running down in terms of lateral thinking, I hear a lot about our hands are tied. when our hands are tied I think our legs are still working. maybe in terms of like addressing I.C.E., sure, maybe there's Federal supremacy you can't do anything that way, direct EPD to arrest anyone that isn't actually identifying themselves as law enforcement officer. dreck them to protect our protesters to be the courage that we see.

>> Thank you, WYNN. our next speakers are Linda Kelly followed by Lee am O'Grady.

>> Thank you city councilors, thank you for listening to our testimony and all of your work. I had planned to talk specifically about the Amazon project. but with some of the talk that has come up I wanted to mention something. I went to a town hall with senator Merkley and Val Hoyle a week ago Saturday, in Thurston, he was giving out booklet called "ring the alarm bells", it's an amazing booklet about the rise of authoritarianism. I just wanted to say to everyone here we should be e-mailing our senator Merkley and thanking him for standing up for democracy. the other piece, I went to the city club meeting last Friday and it was interesting because senator PRIZANSKI who is a lawyer was there talking about the masks that are being worn by I.C.E. agents. that they cannot legally ask them to not wear a mask. I can't remember the details about that. but some legal piece. he suggested and it may be coming up the masks should be requires to have either the agent's name or identifying number on the mask itself. I thought that was brilliant and I would love you to keep your eye on that. I was going to talk about the Amazon project, and I was going to be a little more nuanced with coming up against it. sort of saying we have a CRO, climate recovery ordinance, cap 2, we could require them to have solar and electric vehicles etcetera, etcetera, and that may be a pathway to go. after listening to some of the testimony tonight, I now feel less sure that we should be allowing them in.

>> Thank you, Linda. Liam O'Grady followed by Joe.

>> Thank you Mayor and Council, I I'm Liam O'Grady, tonight I'm curious for a cure to the case of the underprivileged. would a revenue streaming event center for the economic health of our collective posterity be family oriented if rooted in country fair spirit. would a visual symbol of collective successful living be conceivable if we could hear the vibes of all tribes productively and peacefully sharing a community stage for the next generation. public speakers, live bands producing recorded media and material that is valuable, able to be put on the online market. encouraging differences to be settled with use of an open Mike for various purposes, as equals in diversity with respect to rhythms of life. a local place with intentional stage and room for dance but also a public Commons for good old fashioned but new co-existence. just being able to be somewhere safe, dry, warm, clean, sober, safe, sound, secure with room for plenty of job invention. our collective successful living symbolized by an intentional community Eugene stage for unique youth of tomorrow. shared by the people for the people. and all-win scenario in the long run where there's actual unity apparent in community. where reunions could and would happen regularly, fifth based need of together time and function is easily met consistently leading to the long term much needed psychological benefit from connectivity strengthening. the intent of the sound grounds cafe would preserve sound relations for public welfare. where we could remind ourselves and the youth of our purpose as we please. our aim in getting somewhere in life as seekers of

connections, wealthy and healthy, as a collective can be set such a stage with assistance of investors who see how we benefit greatly by sharing common ground. free Tibet, free Palestine, LatinoTUDE.

>> Thank you. our next speakers are Joe followed by Stan Taylor.

>> Hello, I'm Joe and student at University of Oregon, I live in ward 1 here to demand action to stop the planned Amazon facility. I could take up the time listing reasons Amazon should not have a place in the city but I want to focus on they enable I.C.E. and terrorize communities. I hear your words against I.C.E. but like many others say there needs to be action behind them. Amazon stands for everything you express horror over at the beginning of the meeting. If you stand with Minnesota and stand with our community then stopping the plans for the facility is what needs to happen. the feelings of horror and dismay can be used to do something tangible. you say things at the Federal level make things at the local level hard to navigate and it's true. don't ignore things like this that could be within your power to change.

>> Thank you, Joe, next speakers are Stan Taylor followed by Noah Burnell.

>> I'm Stan Taylor, I am with indivisible Eugene Springfield. I want to start together by asking each of you to publicly declare your position on Amazon. don't hide behind a permitting process and say there's nothing we can do. if you are for it, tell us you are for it. if you are against us, tell us you are against us. so we can know how to hold you accountable. we want to know. I'm going to put my former lawyer hat on and say there are lots of things that can allow to you revisit this permit, gray areas. let's start with the obvious one, transparency. state law 455050 requires that, I'll read it, requires that all building permits issues in Oregon shall contain the following information. The first is name and address of the owner of the building or structure constructed. we've only recently learned that Amazon is behind this. never learned at the beginning so we didn't have the ability to protest, to have public hearings. no transparency. we have heard other reasons that are breaches of duty of care of this community that are gray areas that can allow you to reopen this permit process. I'm going to tell you the biggest reason I have for wanting you to reopen this permit process is already mentioned, that is that Amazon is the web service for I.C.E. helping to trace down our neighbors. When you think about what's going to come into our community through Amazon, they're going to have drivers with trucks with 360 degree cameras, collecting data. the drivers also have A.I. glasses collecting data, that data goes into their database just like their ring cameras, it will be provided to I.C.E. you are providing the means by which they will be taking our neighbors away. you have the power to go to the gray area --

>> Thank you, Stan. next speakers are Noah Burnell Followed by Danny patch.

>> Hi, Noah Burnell, I live in ward 1 downtown neighborhood association. heard lots of very impactful stuff at public comment tonight, I'll talk about something that people usually regard as less important which is the violent deaths of about 50 Eugene residents between 2022 and 2024. the numbers have not been totaled for 2025. that's traffic deaths. that's how people are dying prematurely violently in Eugene. yesterday someone was killed on a bike.

>> The crash report is not complete yet. these are streets that city planners and engineers know are unsafe. in 2015 this body passed a resolution saying that no loss of life or serious injury on our transportation system is acceptable. the life and health of the city of Eugene residents are our utmost priority. I would like to ask the city manager to direct staff to make that a priority. I would like to ask City Council to direct city manager to pass that directive on. thank you.

>> Thank you, Noah, next speaker Danny patch followed by Francis star O'Leary.

>> Madam player, I think this community has a leadership problem. we're always behind the 8 ball, not in front of it. we're always trying to fix something that you and your group have messed up. some of these issues are no-brainers, they should never happen in the first place. are you getting an application from an anonymous source and you don't have the gumption to figure out who it is before you sign something? That's really weak, that's pathetic. you are to blame. you like to point the finger at somebody else, you don't have the control. but your lack of leadership is the reason we're constantly trying to fix your mistakes. it is shocking, I mean I've been coming to meetings for the last year and it's one thing after another. It is lack of leadership. and the final defecation on our backs is you taking away our right to vote on financial matters so can you use your fees as an ATM whenever you come up short. you really are disgusting excuse as a leader, you really are. people are angry, upset, all you can do is smile and try to quote Mr. King. you don't believe in democracy. you're a hypocrite, that's all you are. this should be a no-brainer, it never should have happened. just like the cameras. they never should have happened in the first place. you're not leading.

>> Our next speakers are Francis Starr O'Leary followed by Cole Costner.

>> Good evening, just like the last time I was here thank you for terminating the flock contract. but I want to reiterate the work isn't finished and time to craft policy banning the use of ALPRs. the Council have continually signaled since the beginning of the outcry that they think automated license plate readers are a good idea but flock was a misstep. This is a fundamental misunderstanding of what the public wants. you are intelligent people. when you hear them denounce I.C.E. that isn't an enforcement from DHS or the collaborators. if you understand I.C.E. is a stand-in for all forms of overreaching anti-immigrant action by the government you must understand that every time someone said they opposed flock what they meant is opposed pan optic mass surveillance in all forms. the police say that ALPRs solve

crime faster and I believe. That the fact that a 30% reduction in the time it takes to return a stolen car hasn't stopped anyone from saying that isn't our priority. despite what marginal benefits they provide law enforcement people showed up saying eyes off Eugene and continue to show up to call for a ban on ALPRs in the future. now I want to talk about accountability. the ethos of law enforcement in broad terms is if someone does something to harm others they must take responsible for harm in a way that discourages behavior. chief skinner made a massively unpopular decision that forced community members to sacrifice time and energy to mobilize against it. there is no indication from the chief that he has reflected on the harms that decision caused. in fact in his December 9 interview he expressed that he intends to go forward with ALPRs in the future and balked at the idea he should have to consult the Council before making decisions on this scale. it's clear he won't take any responsibility by himself, it falls to the Council to hold him responsible. ask yourself if someone in the parks department a court clerk or library employee cost the city hundreds of thousands of dollars and created an issue you had to hear about at every meeting for months what would the consequences be.

>> Thank you, next speakers are Cole Costner followed by Charmaine landing.

>> Eugene Council, I I'm Cole caster in, ward1. I have lived in Eugene 13 years. I come to tell you a little about my story. in 2015 I developed schizo-affective disorder, years in psychosis, I thought I was meeting gods, I thought the government was after me and I talked to myself madly in a delusional state of mind. I look Ford a way to manage symptoms by trying 22 different antipsychotics with terrible side effects and ineffective. this disease brought me into the depths of hell and created horrible surfing that I did not know existed. in 2024 I learned that the KETO diet hoped people with this. with the help of Harvard doctor and the help of many nutritionists, I went into remission. I am now one of a few dozen people who went into remission using this therapy. I was able to come off my medications and stay stabilized. I'm here to say if it were not for the people in the psychedelic and medicinal plant communities I wouldn't have come out the other side. The people who revere and practice with these plant medicines gain the strength to go deep within themselves and allow them to hold my pain and suffering when my family could not. my friends walked me through the dark and difficult path of mental instability and turned pain to true medicine. their own practice of sifting through pain and trauma using psychedelic medicines gave the ability to sit in the mud with me when I fell and carried me until I was able to get up again. because of the I will legality of the psychedelic medicines the communities are hidden and not accessible to peep whom can benefit. all of this is why I'm here with equitable access Eugene asking you decriminalize psychedelics.

>> Charmaine followed by Anna tee.

>> Good evening, I'm Charmaine landing, the deeper I look into the Amazon warehouse, it's a bad fit for Eugene. issues are, one, the mega warehouse doesn't

match the vision or values of clear lake overlay. two, Amazon has a dismal working condition record and the promise entry level jobs are temporary, they will be replaced by automation in a few years. three, existing USPS and UPS union jobs will be lost. Amazon kept its identity away from the public with a short Zoom meeting between the developer and two local parties. five, other cities are saying no and in cases where they demanded higher wages or better working conditions Amazon pulled out. however the issue I find most alarming is the increased volume of traffic, one of Eugene's most dangerous intersections highway 99 and Aubrey which is a fuel area. Amazon will add 2,600 vehicle trips per day into this already dangerous highway 99 area with the flow of traffic 60 miles an hour. Eugene didn't require the developer to submit a formal traffic impact analysis because, quote, professional traffic engineer on the developer team submitted an analysis. but not to worry, the study states the majority of vehicle entrances and exits on to 99 will occur between the two off-peak hours of 10:00 and 11:00A.M. and 9:00 and 10:00 P.M. The majority means 2,000 vehicles will be entering and exiting highway 99 during the two one-hour windows. there's no mention of enforcement or fines. Mayor Knudson voiced her concern about safety in the highway 99 corridor and rightfully so. adding this high volume of delivery vehicles to an already range Rouse corridor is adding fuel to the fire. this will negatively impact many components of infrastructure from environment to our community. I'd like to see industry and growth. but the kind that's in accordance with the values cited in the overlay. I believe Eugene will come to regret allowing Amazon N I respectfully ask that this application at the least be put on hold for further study and community input. thank you.

>> Thank you. Anna T. Followed by Erica Lyon.

>> Thank you City Council, thank you Mayor, thank you employees of the city of Eugene. I'm Anna, an organizer with trans alliance of lane county, rapid responder in our community and I also demonstrate basically every day at the Federal building. so far, the actions of this city and Council have been woefully inadequate to protect our community. I'm here with a specific request that you can do. I am fully aware of some of EPD stated limits due to the supremacy clause and other laws that supposedly stop them from doing things. what they can do however is stop interfering with the community defenders who are actually protecting our community. I'm going to cite through examples of this. 9-23, EPD officers helped a squad of I.C.E. and DHS personnel to leave the Federal building after hours after protesters had been there since the afternoon. this occurred again last Tuesday, after DHS officers escorted an I.C.E. agent out of the building in a mask, in a black baseball cap, and full black body armor in a black dodge Durango that had been used the prior Friday to kidnap a young woman out of the building. this car was in the middle of a column of FPS vehicles and EPD escorted this vehicle out. we don't know if anyone was in the back of the vehicle what they were doing, but EPD allowed that vehicle to leave the building. in a particularly heinous incident the video which will be released soon EPD pulled over and detained a rapid responder who was following an I.C.E. vehicle. the EPD got in the way, tried to block the camera and said that I.C.E. officer he has rights too. that EPD officer said that he's not so

sure about this whole recording of law enforcement thing. these are unacceptable, unacceptable responses by the local law enforcement that is supposed to protect us. this is something that this Council can restrain. order, chief skinner you, or perhaps the city manager, to stop supporting I.C.E. and DHS activities across our city. if they cannot do that if chief skinner will not do that he needs to be fired. because right now they are not protecting our community, they are making it harder for people who are protecting our community. thank you.

>>: Thank you. our next speakers are Erica Lyon followed by Glenn O.

>> Mayor Knudson: Just reminder, hands and silent support, one speaker at the podium, thank you.

>> Hello, I'm just here to keep on the pressure to stop Amazon warehouse in west Eugene. by now you know the reasons, we've been telling you the last few months. you all know the reasons why we on boats oppose it. we don't to stop the Amazon warehouse now. otherwise we'll keep coming here and bothering you. I also second the motion to arrest I.C.E. officers. they are acting illegally, and so they need to be held accountable. no one is above the law. it shouldn't be that hard to cite and arrest them for breaking the law like any other citizen. thank you.

>> Thank you, Erica, our next speakers are Glenn O. Followed by Quinton GRABOWSKY.

>> Thank you, so I want to speak about how EPD has been assisting I.C.E. to get in and out of that building. the things that you can see at that building if you visit. the Friday prior as somebody mentioned, we saw a black van with a young woman being shoved inside of it and taken away. the DHS, FPS officers ensured that the I.C.E. agent was able to leave the facility and drive her away. when they were leaving they made mocking crying motions towards us for expressing grief over seeing this person get kidnapped. later, another way, whether EPD assisted FPS and the I.C.E. car from leaving that facility, I couldn't help but think where were they that day when we saw somebody getting kidnapped there. why is it that they felt the need to assist these people to leave the building and ensure they make it home safe when that lady is gone. that woman is gone missing. there wasn't anybody there to help her then. I think about how egregious it is that they have the perception of upholding and protecting the community while their actions clearly speak against that. it is such a betrayal of trust for something that they even say they want to help with public perception. then that doesn't help the case. the day after Renee good was murdered we were making a memorial for her at that building. and in the middle of the courtyard we were making it. and the DHS officers were laughing at us from inside that building. the DHS officers also assist them safe passage in and out. they mock us for being at the building. they laugh when we make memorials for people getting murdered in the streets. FPS, DHS, I.C.E., it's all the same side of the same coin. none of them appreciate Eugene and shame on EPD for helping them.

>> Thank you, Glenn. next speakers are Quinton followed by Faye. is there a Quinton in the room? I will move to our next speaker and call for Quinton one more time. next speaker is Faye Rickford.

>> Just for the record it's Ratchford. Faye has an E at the end of it. once again I am here on behalf of the many citizens that are unnerved by the Amazon warehouse proposed project. there's so many ways this is a bad idea. everybody has noted them. here we go again. the environmental impacts have been minimized. the studies not independently handled. there's going to be runoff, air pollution, and the migration patterns will be disrupted. we have endangered species out there that I haven't seen anybody do anything about. I am demanding that the city wield whatever power and with whatever backbone you can muster, to halt this permit until an unbiased, you know not conducted by Amazon for the environmental study, intelligent scientists so that we will have faith in the results. I don't believe they would be paid by Amazon. I was going to welcome the new city manager, and also point out that the online office declares to the city of Eugene city manager's office provide services and programs to improve environment and sustain Eugene's unique quality of life. Amazon does not fit that in any way. I suggest, I hope that she will review this meeting, that she hear us, and that she prove it. I understand from a comment overheard that she believes this is going to be great for employment. we all know the robotics, the 2030 thing, there will be very few jobs. she's walked into a very passionately disputed issue that was so poorly handled that it is outraged so many people in Eugene. again, I am stating clearly, you will be remembered for supporting the citizens of your community or you will be remembered for turning your backs on us. I would also go as far as to suggest that you take our pleas to heart.

>> Thank you, Faye. one last call for Quinton. next speakers are KY fireside followed by Rev. Wayne Martin.

>> Good evening Council, I I'm KY fireside, eyes off Eugene. we have a new city manager, an article in the lookout reported on the interviews, when asked about automated license plate readers our manager said it's a good idea if done correctly. there is no way to do this correctly. not morally, not technologically. the that manager said Beaverton was entering into a contract with a different vendor. The ALPRs we're talking about a dangerous, no matter the vendor. flock, AXXON, Motorola, we're at a point of time when every agency is compromised with people who want to hunt down immigrants and trans people. those agencies want this data. the greatest value in surveillance is to the Feds not to the city. Eugene had flock and there was unsolved crime. It is not a crime preventive but a technology highly valued by Federal agencies. to say it is a good idea, no. no, we are not going down this road again. to the new manager, to anyone, please feel free to reach out to me or anyone at eyes off Eugene and we will happily explain this technology in depth. If you saw the town hall this week you understand the requirement that this city feels as we are invaded by I.C.E. mass surveillance will not calm that fear, it will fuel it. be firm,

stand between this community and Federal overreach by refusing any form of this technology. thank you.

>> thank you, our next speakers are Rev. Wayne Martin followed by Debbie McGee.

>> Good evening, I'm Wayne Martin, from ward 1. I'm here because I have learned that there may be a possible action to punish people who offer money or food to people on the street. people on the street that might have a sign that says they need it. this is always called in our national history begging. begging for money or food has been part of this national history since the mid-1600s. it has been a lawful action for those in need. individuals and social and ecclesiastical institutions every been generous in offering help. freedom of religion is the freedom to act in conscience by offering items of necessity and charity who those who rely on the goodness of their fellow human beings. I want to say finally related to that that it's not right for law enforcement to roust people who must sleep outdoors before 10:00A.M. or after 6:00 p.m. It is also not right to take their belongings including tents and sleeping bags and all their personal effects. impounding them or tossing them into trucks to be discarded as trash. As a chaplain of neighbors feeding neighbors I have encountered dozens and dozens of Eugene homeless citizens who have had to replace their valuable papers and their licenses and their I.D.s. please do something. rectify this. thank you.

>> Thank you. next speakers are Debbie McGee followed by Alan Hancock.

>> Good evening, I'm Debra McGee, lane county for 45 years. in the early 1980s as a public school Councilor I was appointed to be the tile 9 trainer and compliance officer for the Yakima public school district. I was young and didn't understand no one wanted to do it. but I believed in Title IX which basically said no student on the basis of sex can be excluded from participation in any education program. it was equal opportunity for girls in schools. this law changed business as usual. it challenged the status quo. It took a huge effort to infuse equality for girls into the public schools equality. everyone had to change. The project is not done but it is better now and lawsuits against the schools helped changes happen. here's my point. first adopted in 2014, updated in 2016, Eugene passed the climate recovery ordinance. I quote by the year 2030 all businesses individuals and others living or working in the city collectively shall reduce the total use of fossil fuels by 50%. another section says emission reduction levels should be 7.6% per year. we are not on schedule to succeed in meeting the goals. so why would the city of Eugene issue building permits to businesses that increase our pollution when Council in 2014 passed an ordinance which is a law to lower pollution. does the planning department know there is a law to reduce car Ron emissions? Do they have a filter they must put applications through to determine if a business violates the goals of the climate recovery ordinance? Does the Amazon project meet or violate Eugene's laws? You have the responsibility to cause the city and community to comply with the climate recovery ordinance. Mayor, city manager, Councilor, staff and every

department should ask what does it mean to have a climate recovery ordinance. how does the decision considered intersect with meeting the goals of the CRO? Will you as our elected representatives ask staff to investigate how Amazon affects Eugene's climate recovery ordinance? Could the CRO be used to stop Amazon?

>> thank you, Debbie. next speakers are Alan Hancock followed by Josh Easterland. is Alan in the room? Josh Easterland.

>> Hello Councilors, Josh Easterland, equitable access Eugene, asking you to reduce criminal penalties for psychedelics. dear City Council members, microdosing has changed my life, I'm a ruminator, the hamster has a hard time getting off the wheel in my head. when I ruminate about, is causing me anxiety or depression or both. I need four new tires, how will you afford. This my car isn't running right, my car isn't running right over and over again. or perhaps a negative comment someone made thinking to myself that was Shitty, that was SHITTY, what a jerk. over and over again. when really sometimes I just want to do the dishes instead of wash the thing. if I'm caught up in my head thinking about something over and over again I'm not present with the task at hand, I I'm washing the thing and getting worked up inside, anxious or depressed. how am I going to offered the new tires. that was a SHITTY comment, anxiety distracts me from my to do list. at the end of the day tasks not accomplished I'm bummed out, depressed, I have anxiety about everything that rolls over. when the hamster can get off the wheel, when I am focused on the task right in front of me I go on to the next thing on my list for the day, not caught up in my head, not getting anxious. suddenly I have taken care of my anxiety, depression, and seemingly by ADHD. I just keep clipping through my day from a microdose. having the opportunity to grow, gather and/or gift this life changing supplement without rue percussions is imperative inform my well-being and others trying to do the same thing. thank you, anonymous. see you next time.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you. one last call for Alan Hancock. Martha was your final speaker. thank you. I now close the public comment R there any comments from the City Council? Seeing none I will -- oh, sorry, Councilor YEH.

>> Yeh: It's okay. I guess -- first I'll start with I know as myself and a lot of colleagues have talked to staff about the Amazon warehouse individually and in meetings. so I know we have gotten a lot of information that way. clearly this is a complicated conversation. there are a lot of technical things going on. this conversation is not and information is not flowing with our community obviously, we have a lot of the same questions over and over again. my question is for the assistant city manager who is here tonight, and maybe our Council leadership, whether there is time on the agenda to have even just a short discussion where we can go through these points and have staff be able to explain them a little more deeply. so folks have all of the same information that we have access to. I know our schedule is tight.

>> I think in the short run one of the things we've been trying to put a lot of information out on our website that answer as lot of the questions that are coming up. one resource available. then we work with the Mayor and the city manager to schedule agenda topics, we can discuss that.

>> That is an opportunity to discuss and see if it can fit in. I would appreciate that.

>> Mayor Knudson: Councilor Zelenka.

>> Zelenka: There was good news today. two things actually. The RFP for cahoots type service is going out on Friday, YAY. I.C.E. commander Greg BROVINO was fired today.

>> Thank you for sharing those updates.

>> Mayor Knudson: Any other comments from Council? I want to check Councilor Evans and Councilor Clark, not seeing either of you, a little tricky to see. then with that said I'll thank everyone for attending this evening and giving public comment and also appreciations to Council and to our staff and everyone working very hard on a lot of fronts. I now close the January 26, 2026 City Council meeting. we are adjourned.